



PRESIDENT'S WEEKLY PERSPECTIVE



August 16, 2021

Good afternoon, Lobos —

The University of New Mexico has a unique role as one of the most accessible and diverse research-intensive universities in the nation. While our success is well-documented, it's also hard-earned, and due largely to the incredible work of our faculty, who come here because they are intrigued by the opportunity to contribute to UNM's comprehensive mission: conducting top-tier research at an R1 university; providing exceptional and compassionate health services; and ensuring access to a quality higher education for our wonderfully diverse student body.

Each year, we ask our faculty to let us know who inspires them, both as colleagues and as scholars. It's an admittedly tough question, as we have so many faculty who are extraordinarily inspiring and talented—but every year, after a rigorous nomination and review process, [a select number of professors are honored by The University of New Mexico with the title of Distinguished Professor](#). The title is awarded to those who have demonstrated outstanding achievements and are nationally and internationally renowned as scholars. It is, in fact, the highest distinction that we bestow upon our faculty.

This year, we have the honor of elevating 10 faculty to these elite ranks, representing a wide and colorful variety of knowledge, expertise, and experience from across our colleges and campuses. I am delighted to congratulate the following professors: from the College of Arts and Sciences, **Lisa Broidy, Alexander Buium, Joseph Cook, Laura Crossey, and Jeremy Edwards**; from the School of Engineering, **Fernando Garzon and Kerry Howe**; and from the UNM Health Sciences Center **Mary Ann Osley, Nina Wallerstein, and Douglas Ziedonis**.

Congratulations to our 2021 honorees. You are an inspiration to The University of New Mexico community and a credit to Lobos everywhere.

Welcome Back Days Begin August 20

Although classes don't begin for another week, our students are already starting to arrive on campus and will begin arriving in force on our move-in days, which officially begin on Thursday, August 19. Look for traffic delays on the roads around student housing, and please slow down—there's certain to be plenty of foot traffic in the area. [Welcome Back Days events start on Friday, August 20](#) as we formally welcome our first-year Lobos to the UNM experience, as well as celebrate the arrival of our returning students. There are plenty of opportunities to meet friends, both old and new, and to readjust to campus life—and I hope you'll take a moment to drop by the President's Ice Cream Social, on Monday, August 23, from 11:45 a.m. to 1 p.m., where I'll be serving up ice cream under the tent at the northwestern corner of Zimmerman. Come get a scoop of ice cream, as well as the scoop on UNM's colleges, schools and departments.

Anderson School of Management Invests in Diversity

UNM's Anderson School of Management recently received a [multi-year \\$200,000 grant from Bank of](#)

[America to support diversity, equity, and inclusion initiatives across the state](#), consistent with our ongoing mission to stimulate our state's economy and support the growth of local, minority-owned businesses. Funding from this grant will be used to create opportunities for faculty and students to engage with local start-ups, and to support businesses in diverse communities around our state. As we continue to drive the state's economic engine, the work being done by the Anderson School of Management to empower diversity, equity, and inclusion is helping to ensure a more prosperous post-COVID-19 economy for every New Mexican.

Maxwell Museum Opens Tuesday for First Post-Shutdown Exhibit

Last spring, the Maxwell Museum of Anthropology was preparing to open an important exhibit honoring the National Museum of Brazil, which had seen nearly 20 million priceless artifacts lost in a 2018 fire. But as much of our campus closed in 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic, so, too, did the Maxwell Museum, which closed its doors and packed away the exhibit. As our campus reopens, however, the staff at the Maxwell have unpacked and reassembled the exhibit, Heartbreak: A Love Letter to the Lost National Museum of Brazil, just in time for [the museum's reopening on Tuesday, August 17](#). The exhibition features roughly two dozen items, including personal adornment such as feather headdresses and necklaces, and utilitarian objects with symbolic decorations, in deference both to the National Museum of Brazil and to the Brazilian people and culture. I encourage you to visit; while the exhibit is small, you're certain to come away with plenty to think about.

Finally, this is your reminder that all [faculty, staff, and students must be fully vaccinated](#) no later than September 30. Look for [a vaccination site near you](#), or take advantage of our convenient on-site clinic in the SUB Atrium, open daily through August 27 from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m., as well as on Saturday, August 21. Lobo Village is also hosting a clinic on August 20 and 23.

Please remember also that [UNM requires masks to be worn indoors by all individuals, vaccinated and unvaccinated](#), at all locations on the UNM Albuquerque, Gallup, McKinley, Taos, and Valencia campuses, as well as at our regional site in Sandoval County.

Have a good week, and let's go, Lobos!

Regards,

Garnett S. Stokes
President