



PRESIDENT'S WEEKLY PERSPECTIVE



April 11, 2022

Good afternoon, Lobos --

"Life's most persistent and urgent question is, 'What are you doing for others?'" -- Martin Luther King, Jr.

Over the weekend, I had the pleasure of joining ASUNM in Johnson Gym to help [kick off its annual Spring Storm](#), back in person after two years. Spring Storm is part of [ASUNM's Community Experience](#), which supports acts of community service across our campus and across our region. Spring Storm is traditionally one of ASUNM's largest community projects--and while it, like other programs, is recovering from COVID-related challenges, what this weekend's event may not have had in numbers, it more than made up for in enthusiasm and in civic pride.

Community service is one of our foundational values as Lobos and it gives me considerable pride to see our students out in area neighborhoods so wonderfully representing The University of New Mexico. Whether they were picking up trash or volunteering to help the less fortunate, our Lobos were leading by example and, through their actions, inspiring others to do the same.

In fact, there's never been a better time to follow their lead and give back to the community. [National Volunteer Week](#) begins this coming Saturday, April 17, providing all of us with the opportunity to lend a hand and make a difference. And if you're looking for a good cause, it's a perfect opportunity to do your part to [commemorate April as Keep America Beautiful Month](#).

Please volunteer. It's the toughest work you'll ever love.

Celebrate the World at GEO's International Festival

The University of New Mexico is proud to be home to countless international students from every corner of the planet and, as one of only 35 Fulbright Hispanic Serving Institutions in the nation, embraces its role as a leader in the global community. Each year, UNM's Global Education Office (GEO) celebrates and supports international fellowship by hosting its [International Festival, which returns to campus on Thursday, April 14, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Cornell Mall](#). The festival is free and open to the public, so come celebrate with live performances, cultural presentations, and plenty of terrific international cuisines from which to choose.

Check The Pulse

With so much going on at UNM's Health Sciences Center—whether it's breakthroughs in research, innovative approaches to education, or the latest in compassionate clinical care—it can be hard to keep track of the latest news and information. Fortunately, UNM HSC regularly features some of its leading stories and trends in [its annual digital magazine, The Pulse](#), covering news across a wide variety of fields and expertise. And when you've finished reading The Pulse, I hope you'll continue to visit the [UNM HSC Newsroom](#) for regular updates on the amazing things coming out of our globally recognized Health Sciences Center.

Longtime Lobo Leader Retiring

Ava Lovell, HSC Senior Executive Officer for Finance & Administration and one of UNM's longest-serving leaders, recently [announced her retirement at the end of the year](#), after nearly 28 years of service to The University of New Mexico. Ava began her career at UNM in 1994, rising through various leadership positions—including Project Director for Banner Finance and Associate Vice President for Financial Services at the UNM Health Sciences Center—on her way to accepting her current position in 2012. “Doing the work and being a part of something that makes a difference is where the fun is,” Ava has said, and it is her dedication and enthusiasm that have made her one of UNM's most memorable Lobo leaders. Congratulations are in order on a well-deserved retirement, Ava, but I hope you know how much we'll miss you come 2023.

Registration Week Begins

It doesn't seem that long ago that I was welcoming you to the beginning of the Spring 2022 semester--and now here I am to remind you that [registration week for the Summer and Fall 2022 semesters begins today](#). Check your [LoboWeb account for your specific registration appointment](#) date; you can register on that date, or any day afterwards. The registration portal is open 24 hours a day, seven days a week, making your [registration process](#) as convenient as possible. And if you need assistance creating your schedule, you can access the [College Scheduler](#) planning tool.

I also want to thank you for helping to make the Spring 2022 semester such a safe and successful one. Thanks to your diligence, we're approaching the final weeks of the semester with eased COVID-19 protocols and [a continued 7-day-trailing average of about 1.3 cases](#). We've safely gathered for athletic events, dances, and fundraisers, and we'll be holding an entirely in-person commencement for the Class of 2022. That UNM remains safe and open is entirely due to all of you, so keep looking out for yourselves and your fellow Lobos.

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

Regards,

Garnett S. Stokes
President