



PRESIDENT'S WEEKLY PERSPECTIVE



May 2, 2022

Good afternoon, Lobos -

Determining our future as The University for New Mexico starts with our smart and thoughtful multi-year plan, *UNM 2040: Opportunity Defined*. We've worked tirelessly over the last year with an engaged university community and the remarkable individuals tasked with crafting the roadmap to the middle of the 21st century. Just as it took all of us working together - through a challenging and unpredictable time - to create this blueprint for our future, so, too, will it take all of us working together to put our plan into action.

[This Friday, I invite you to come learn more about our ambitious vision and strategy for UNM's future as we officially launch *UNM 2040: Opportunity Defined*](#). As we review our goals, you'll hear from our Goal Champions, who will discuss each of the five *UNM 2040* Goals and, more importantly, convey what they mean to the community and how each of us can help shape the future and direction of the University.

This is your opportunity to engage in the campus-wide collaboration that will make our goals an integral part of the Lobo experience. I'm excited about our future, and what we can accomplish together—and I look forward to seeing everyone in the SUB on Friday afternoon. And for our Lobos who can't make it in person, the Launch will be livestreamed on [our YouTube channel](#).

Fires Devastate Northern New Mexico

The news continues to be horrifying and heartbreaking, as the enormous wildfire in the northern part of our state has now spread well beyond 100,000 acres, forcing the evacuation of countless New Mexicans and impacting many of our students, faculty, and staff. We continue to hold our fellow citizens close in our hearts and think of them at this worrying time.

Provost Names New VP for Student Affairs

After a thorough national search process, I am delighted that [Provost Holloway has named Dr. Eric Scott as UNM's new vice president for Student Affairs](#). Dr. Scott joins us from Boise State University, where he currently serves as the associate vice president for Student Affairs, and he will begin in his new role at UNM on August 1. Dr. Tim E. Gutierrez will continue to serve as the interim vice president of Student Affairs through his June 30 retirement, with Dr. Jenna Crabb serving as interim vice president for the month of July, helping us ensure a smooth transition until the arrival of Dr. Scott. I am grateful to Drs. Gutierrez and Crabb for their leadership and commitment to our Lobo students, and I look forward to welcoming Dr. Scott to the Lobo community.

Making a Difference Every Day - Celebrating Our Nurses and Health Care Workers

It's always the right time to recognize and thank those who put the health and safety of others before their own, and who are on the front lines of our health response. Health Care Workers Week begins on Friday, May 6, which is also National Nurses Day, and continues through Friday, May 13. If you'd like to show your support for their commitment and care, I hope you will [consider making a donation to any of our seven programs](#) that provide

support for nurses and other caregivers across our campuses and throughout our communities. Our health care workers are the face of UNM's health system, providing care to thousands of New Mexicans across our state every day, and we couldn't be prouder to call them Lobos.

Lobo Alum Wins Grammy Award

It's always a pleasure to share the successes of our amazing Lobo alumni. Colonel Jim R. Keene, who graduated from UNM in 1988 with a degree in piano performance, just [won a Grammy for Best Immersive Audio Album for the recording *Soundtrack of the American Soldier*](#), on which he conducted The United States Army Field Band. Col. Keene's achievement marks a first not just for The University of New Mexico, but also for the military, as no military band has ever won a Grammy award. While his career has taken him around the world, Col. Keene remains a Lobo through and through. "New Mexico is my home, no matter how long I have been away," he said. "I will always be a Lobo." Congratulations, Colonel; the entire Lobo family is proud of you.

UNM LGBTQ Resource Center Needs Faculty & Staff Input

The UNM LGBTQ Resource Center and the Division for Equity and Inclusion have recently released the [LGBTQIA Faculty and Staff Needs Assessment Survey](#), which will help capture a snapshot of the experiences of LGBTQIA faculty and staff at all UNM campuses. The online survey is available in both English and Spanish and is open to all UNM LGBTQIAU faculty and staff. The survey should take no more than five to ten minutes to complete and is a valuable tool in our efforts to ensure that UNM remains a safe and supportive environment for our employees. I appreciate your taking the time for it.

This May, Take Care of Your Mental Health

Each year millions of Americans face the reality of living with a mental illness. During May, as part of [National Mental Health Awareness Month](#), The University of New Mexico joins the nationwide movement to raise awareness about mental health and to help change the stigma around its treatment. UNM is proud to provide a wide range of [programs and support services for mental health](#); there's no better time than now to learn more about managing your own mental health and wellness or asking for any help you may need. As always, please take care of yourselves and look out for those around you.

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

Regards,

Garnett S. Stokes

President