



PRESIDENT'S WEEKLY PERSPECTIVE



September 26, 2022

Good afternoon, Lobos --

In our role as New Mexico's only Research 1 institution—as well as home to the state's only academic health center—we take very seriously our responsibility as a provider of quality and compassionate health care. We're so committed to the health and wellbeing of New Mexicans, in fact, that we've put it in writing: the first goal listed under [UNM 2040](#), our long-term road map for UNM's future, is [Advance New Mexico](#). We know that a healthy New Mexico is a prosperous New Mexico—and that advancing our state means looking after the physical and mental health of our citizens.

This morning, I had the pleasure of helping celebrate the [groundbreaking for the Behavioral Health Crisis Center](#), a new facility that will go a long way toward addressing our state's critical mental health needs. This nearly 49,000 square foot facility is a partnership between UNM Hospital and Bernalillo County, where its voters generously elected to share half of its costs with us. When the center is completed next year, it will help us address the disparities in behavioral health care in our State and provide services for those who need it the most—truly [delivering more](#), as we lead the way into the healthier, more prosperous future we envision for all of New Mexico.

Fall 2022 Sees Increased Number and Diversity of New Lobos

Our enrollment numbers are in, and if campus seems more crowded and filled with life than usual this semester, that's because it is: [total enrollment at The University of New Mexico is up for Fall 2022](#), the first increase in total enrollment in a decade. The fall first-year class grew by 14 percent this semester, growing for the third straight year and bringing the total increase to 25.8 percent growth since 2020; in fact, this year's 3,509 new first-year students is the third largest incoming class in UNM history, with many opting to live on campus. We've also seen UNM Branch Campus enrollment grow collectively by 5.8 percent, as well as major increases in enrollment for our American Indian, Hispanic, and African American first-year students, making this one of the most diverse classes in UNM's history.

Promoted Faculty Can Add Favorite Books to Permanent Collection

The achievement of tenure and promotion represents the culmination of years of work and excellence by our amazing Lobo faculty. To recognize and honor this significant accomplishment, we're starting a new tradition, coordinated by UNM Libraries and the Provost, by which newly tenured or promoted faculty will have the opportunity to select a book of personal significance to be added to the permanent collections of our libraries. A personalized electronic bookplate will also be added to the University Libraries' catalog, including a brief personal statement explaining to any future readers why the book was selected. Each book will serve as a unique reminder—to readers of today and tomorrow—of the remarkable accomplishments of

the faculty at The University of New Mexico. We are excited to begin this new tradition of honoring the great faculty of this institution.

Lobo Professor Honored by U.S. Department of Energy

The awards just keep coming in for our Lobo faculty, as UNM Physics and Astronomy Research Professor [Andrew Landahl was honored late last week in Washington, D.C., as one of only ten U.S. scientists to receive the prestigious Ernest Orlando Lawrence Award](#) from the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE). Professor Landahl was hailed for his contributions to quantum computing and for creating new methods for quantum error correction and open access quantum computing. He also serves as a member of UNM's Center for Quantum Information and Control and is a Fellow of the American Physical Society. Congratulations to Professor Landahl for his work and for this tremendous honor.

UNM Anthropology Spotlights Hispanic Heritage Month

As we [continue to celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month](#) in New Mexico and across the nation, UNM's Department of Anthropology has compiled [a comprehensive website of resources related to Hispanic Heritage Month](#), including information on UNM Hispanic organizations, Hispanic Heritage Month history, Hispanic scholars, and related news and research. You'll also find more information on events in and around the Lobo community, including a [presentation and discussion on the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Columbia \(FARC\) at the Latin American and Iberian Institute](#) and a [showing of the film adaptation of Rudolfo Anaya's Bless Me, Ultima at the National Hispanic Cultural Center](#).

Domestic Violence Awareness Month Begins October 1

Each year, 10 million people are physically abused by an intimate partner. National Domestic Violence Awareness Month, which begins this Saturday, October 1, is a time to show our support for victims of domestic violence by raising awareness, getting informed, and learning more about vital bystander intervention. This year's campaign theme, #Every1KnowsSome1, strives to highlight how common domestic violence is—and that it is often more than physical violence. Please [visit LoboRESPECT](#) for more information and links to support and resources. For those affected by domestic violence or needing support, [please call the National Domestic Violence Hotline](#) at 1-800-799-7233. If you are unable to speak safely, text START to 88788. All calls are free and confidential.

UNMH Offers Free Flu Shots

[UNM's Health Sciences Center will be offering free flu shot clinics](#) in and around the Albuquerque and Rio Rancho metropolitan areas from September 18 to November 5, including on the UNM Albuquerque campus. [Check to see if there's a convenient time or location near you](#). Anyone six months and older can receive the regular flu vaccine; even better, no appointment is necessary.

This Week's Traveling Office Hours

My traveling office hours continue this Wednesday, September 28, when I'll be at the Latin American and Iberian Institute (LAI) starting at 10:30 a.m. Next week, on October 5, I'll be at the McKinnon Center, Room

4060, at the kind invitation of the Anderson School of Management. As always, Lobo students, faculty, and staff are invited to attend—and I look forward to seeing you there.

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

Garnett S. Stokes
President