



PRESIDENT'S WEEKLY PERSPECTIVE



February 27, 2023

Good afternoon, Lobos --

Tuesday, February 28 is Lobo Day, celebrating the date in 1889 when, with the stroke of a pen, the Legislative Assembly for the Territory of New Mexico approved House Bill 186, creating “an Institution of learning to be known as ‘The University of New Mexico’.” This year, [the official celebration of our 134th birthday](#) will begin at 11:45 a.m. on Tuesday at Cornell Mall, with a live band, giveaways, and our annual group birthday photo that will be displayed in the SUB for the rest of the year.

Our birthday week is also an ideal time to celebrate our mutual history as Lobos, reflecting on the things that unite us and enrich our unique Lobo identity. Whether you’re a first-year student or [an alumnus](#), we all have a shared history, shared stories, and shared experiences as Lobos to embrace and enjoy. We’re a pack like no other, so wear your Lobo colors with special pride this week.

I also like to celebrate our birthday each year by delivering my [annual State of the University address](#), where I can note with pride all that we’ve accomplished over the past year, while looking to our future with optimism and excitement. This year, I’d be honored to have you join me for this year’s speech in SUB Ballroom C on March 1 at 11:00 a.m. If you can’t attend in person, you can watch it live on [my website](#) or over on [UNM’s YouTube channel](#).

This year’s Lobo Day will also mark the debut of UNM’s [Big Give campaign](#), our comprehensive fundraising collaboration combining The University of New Mexico Foundation’s (UNMF) Giving Tuesday, Athletics’ Lobos Give Day, and UNMF Faculty and Staff campaigns into a single fundraising effort. The Big Give will officially launch on February 28 at 8 a.m. and will be open for 1,889 minutes. Over that span of 31 hours, Lobo alumni and friends from across the globe will be able to [support various academic, healthcare, athletic, cultural, and student programs](#) that make up The University of New Mexico’s diverse community.

Finally, the UNM Alumni Association will be [honoring eight notable alumni](#) at its annual Alumni Awards tomorrow evening. These remarkable Lobos are recognized for making a positive impact on UNM, their respective fields of expertise, and communities around the world. They make our university, and our world, a better place, and the entire Lobo community celebrates their accomplishments as well.

Happy Lobo Day! Woof woof woof!

A Proud Partnership with Nagasaki University

I am always so grateful for our vibrant international community of students, scholars, researchers, and professionals. Learning and living alongside people from around the world allows us all to develop a deeper understanding of international issues and foreign affairs, as well as affording us opportunities for

cross-cultural experiences. And with more than 100 exchange programs, [UNM Study Abroad](#) in the [Global Education Office](#) can connect Lobos with a transformative international experience.

I recently had the honor of meeting with President Shigeru Kohno of Nagasaki University, one of Japan's most prestigious and respected institutions of higher education, to commemorate our [new international partnership](#). In fact, next month, UNM's College of Pharmacy will have its first Advanced Pharmacy Practice Experience in Nagasaki, where students will learn about the healthcare system in urban and rural areas.

Two Lobos Among Truman Scholarship Finalists

I was delighted to learn that [two Lobo students have been selected as finalists for the 2023 Truman Scholarship](#), marking the fifth consecutive year we've had at least one of our students on the prestigious list of finalists. Presented annually by the Truman Foundation to honor the 33rd President of the United States, the Truman Scholarship is awarded to students who plan to attend graduate school to prepare for careers in public service. I am thrilled to congratulate junior **Lizbeth Olivarez** and senior **Andrew Schumann**. Each will be interviewed by the Truman Foundation later this Spring, and I know the entire UNM community joins me in wishing them both well.

Teaching in the Age of Artificial Intelligences (AIs) Panel Discussion

This week, the UNM College of University Libraries and Learning Sciences (CULLS) is hosting an online panel, [Teaching in the Age of AIs](#). What do AIs like ChatGPT do, and how can we expect to adapt to many more AIs as part of the landscape in which we teach? Is there a way to teach so that AIs are tools rather than substitutes for independent thinking? The panel is offered by CULLS and the Office of the Provost & EVP for Academic Affairs with support from the Center for Teaching and Learning and the Office of Assessment and Academic Program Review. [Register now](#) to join Dean of CULLS Leo Lo, Professor and Chair of Computer Sciences Lydia Tapia and others in this useful and fascinating conversation. More information and resources about AIs in education can be found in the [UL Research Guides](#).

Lobo's Pulitzer Prize Winning Piece Makes Its New Mexico Debut

We are honored to have the Pulitzer Prize winning musical piece Voiceless Mass [make its New Mexico premiere in Albuquerque](#), giving the New Mexico community its first opportunity to hear the remarkable composition of Lobo alumnus, Pulitzer Prize winner, and Diné musician and composer Raven Chacon. The piece will be performed next Saturday morning at The Cathedral of St. John and will be preceded by a conversation with Chacon and Ana Alonso-Minutti, associate professor in the UNM Department of Music. [Tickets to this special event are required, and are available online.](#)

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

Garnett S. Stokes
President