



PRESIDENT'S WEEKLY PERSPECTIVE



April 17, 2023

Good afternoon, Lobos --

Every week brings more inspiring stories of the accomplishments of our incredible and diverse Lobo students who make The University of New Mexico such an extraordinary institution.

I'm incredibly pleased that, for the third year in a row, UNM has a [Truman Scholarship winner](#), one of the most prestigious awards presented to U.S. college students. The entire Lobo community sends its warmest congratulations to [Andrew Schumann, one of only 62 students in the nation selected as a 2023 Truman Scholar](#). Andrew is a senior Honors College student, majoring in history and political science, and I am so impressed with his long list of accomplishments, which includes earning six associate degrees while still in high school! At UNM, he has participated in numerous internship programs—including the [Fred Harris Congressional Internship](#)—as well as serving as the Chief Justice of the Student Court. He plans to pursue a master's degree at UNM, and then a J.D. and a Ph.D. in History. Andrew will participate in the national Truman Scholars Leadership Week in May, and we couldn't be prouder of him.

On Monday, April 24, the national [Youth Advocacy Corps will kick off National Crime Victims' Rights Week by hosting a Town Hall](#) in SUB Ballroom B, featuring a group of panelists led by **Abrianna Morales**, UNM's 2022 Truman Scholar and an advocate for survivors of sexual assault. The University of New Mexico is honored to be one of only five schools selected by the [U.S. Department of Justice's Office of Victims of Crime](#) to participate in the Youth Advocacy Corps, which is designed to empower youth advocates for victim support and assistance. We appreciate having this unique role as we join in commemorating the week of April 23-29 as [National Crime Victims' Rights Week](#), a time to advocate for victims of crimes and to assure them their voices will be heard and supported.

Finally, I am always so glad to see our Lobo students giving back to the community, a benchmark of Lobo pride. Over the weekend, I had the pleasure of participating in the kickoff of [this year's Spring Storm](#), ASUNM's largest and most popular community service program, which sees hundreds of Lobo volunteers fan out across the Albuquerque community to assist with community service projects in the area. A week earlier, I had the honor of taking part in [LoboTHON, our largest student-run philanthropy project](#), which fundraises annually for UNM Children's Hospital. This year's ten-hour dance marathon brought in more than \$47,000, putting the total raised over the last decade at over \$500,000. I truly appreciate the generosity of our students, and the entire Lobo community, who made each of these events such a success.

UNM remains a place where each of us defines all of us-, where we as a pack can celebrate the achievements of our individual students. You are all truly an inspiration.

2023 Legislative Session Final Wrap Up

With the close of the 2023 Regular Legislative Session, I want to express the gratitude of the entire Lobo community to the New Mexico State Legislature and Governor Lujan Grisham for their constant and

continued support of The University of New Mexico's mission, students, faculty, and staff. This year's budget allocates resources for projects and programs across every UNM campus, including funding for research, capital, workforce initiatives, and compensation. We are also very thankful for the continued investment in higher education for students statewide through increases in the Lottery, Opportunity, and new STEM Graduate Scholarships. During the 2023 60-day sessions, significant non-appropriation legislation was also approved, including authorizing the South Campus Tax Incremental Development District (TIDD), a Public-Public collaboration between UNM, the City of Albuquerque, Bernalillo County, and the State of New Mexico to enhance community services, create new jobs and stimulate economic activity.

I would like to thank everyone—especially our student leaders, our Board of Regents, the Council of University Presidents, and the UNM government relations team—who has worked tirelessly on our behalf in Santa Fe. I also appreciate the many Lobos who met with our legislative leaders and provided them with more information on UNM's priorities as they shared how The University of New Mexico continues to make a difference in countless communities across the state.

For a detailed look at the State Legislative Sessions outcomes, a [full report is now available](#) from UNM's [Office of Government & Community Relations](#).

Dr. David Schade Delivers 8th Annual CERL Lecture

One of the highest honors The University of New Mexico can bestow on a faculty member is the [Community Engaged Research Lecture Award](#), which honors Lobo faculty for their community-engaged research or community-engaged creative works. [This year's award will be presented to Dr. David Schade](#), who serves as chief of the Division of Endocrinology & Metabolism at the UNM School of Medicine. Dr. Schade will be presenting his lecture, which is all about preventing heart disease, particularly in diabetic patients, at an April 19 reception at Domenici Auditorium. This event is free, but space is limited, so please [register in advance](#).

Sustainability Expo Kicks Off Thursday Morning

One of the five goals set forth in [UNM 2040](#) is a [commitment to long-term sustainability](#)--that is, ensuring we have the necessary human, financial, and physical resources necessary for the achievement of our aspirations, while protecting the natural environment. It's never too late to learn more about a sustainable environment, and this Thursday, the UNM Office of Sustainability, and others, are hosting the [13th Annual Sustainability Expo](#), from 10:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. on Cornell Mall. Come by to learn more about sustainable practices while enjoying local food and local bands.

UNM Comprehensive Cancer Center Provides Shared Resources for Researchers

The [UNM Comprehensive Cancer Center](#) (UNMCCC) provides a number of state-of-the-art shared facilities that support our scientists and their research goals and drive interactions among the Center's research programs. Consistent with our mission as a Research 1 institution, Lobo scientists thrive on collaboration and willingly support the efforts of those conducting similar or related research. [UNMCCC is pleased to make shared resources available](#) to promote the research efforts of member laboratories and speed the adoption of innovative methods and technologies that advance cancer research at UNM. Resources encompass a wide range of subjects, from [bioinformatics](#) to [fluorescence microscopy and cell imaging](#).

Public Invited to Discuss UNM Accreditation

As part of the [regular process for UNM's continued accreditation](#) by the [Higher Learning Commission](#) (HLC), The University of New Mexico invites the University community to [attend one of three public forums](#) during our evaluation and site visit by the HLC. Public input is a vital component of the accreditation process, so I hope you'll find a moment to attend any or all of the three sessions. Forums are open on April 24 and 25, and [times and locations are available at the link](#); none are more than an hour long, and all are also accessible as live Zoom webinars if you're unable to attend in person.

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

Garnett S. Stokes
President