



PRESIDENT'S WEEKLY PERSPECTIVE



June 26, 2023

Good afternoon, Lobos --

Summer has officially arrived, and here on our Albuquerque campus, it definitely looks and feels that way. It's beautiful outside, but with temperatures climbing over 100 degrees, it's also hot. So, as you take some time to enjoy all that our campus and our community have to offer, be sure to look out for yourself in the heat. Maybe consider visiting [Johnson Center Aquatics](#), where your Lobo card provides you with access to a full-size Olympic swimming pool, a lap pool, a therapy pool, and lots of other activities to stay cool.

There are also plenty of other adventures available from [UNM's Recreational Services](#), including [Getaway Adventures](#) to Santa Fe or Nambe Lake, [bike rentals](#), and access to classes and clinics where you can learn about paddleboard yoga or get an open water diver certification. Recreational Services provides a number of [adaptive programs and events](#) to ensure recreational experiences are available to everyone.

Enjoy your summer, Lobos, and take care in that New Mexico heat with these great [summer safety tips](#).

New Dean Selected for College of Arts & Sciences

It is a pleasure to welcome the newest dean for UNM's largest academic unit, as Provost Holloway has recently named [Jennifer Malat as the next dean of the College of Arts & Science](#). Professor Malat comes to UNM from Virginia Commonwealth University (VCU), where she is associate vice president for development and previously served as dean for VCU's College of Humanities & Sciences. Professor Malat will begin her service as our newest dean at the start of the Fall semester on August 21, taking over for Professor Janie Chermak, who I am grateful to have had serving as our interim dean as we completed our national search. Thank you, Professor Chermak, and welcome to UNM, Dean Malat!

COSMIAC Chosen for Elite AFRL/NASA Partnership

As New Mexico's only Research 1 institution, innovation defines the way we look at the universe—and nowhere is this truer than at our [COSMIAC research center](#), a Tier 2 research center at our School of Engineering that promotes aerospace innovation. Recently, COSMIAC was [selected as one of only eight sites to participate in an Air Force Research Laboratory \(AFRL\) and NASA partnership](#) called the Mission Concept Program, which works with students in the development of nanosatellites. UNM and its partnering institutions will work in collaboration with AFRL and NASA to provide students with hands-on experience in mission development and design, including intensive training at Kirtland Air Force Base. Congratulations to our team at COSMIAC on being selected for this exciting initiative.

University Libraries Names Inaugural Winner of Librarianship for Student Success

One of the foundational goals of UNM 2040 is our commitment to an exceptional, transformative student experience, and our team at the College of University Libraries & Learning Sciences (CULLS) is

leading the way when it comes to meaningfully promoting student success. University Libraries assistant professor [Adrienne Warner is the first recipient of the Jim and Mary Lois Friday Hulsman Librarianship for Student Success](#), a three-year endowed position in which the selected librarian will develop and implement projects that directly relate to student success, including improved student employee experience, open and affordable educational resources and textbooks, and an enhanced library user experience. As always, I am grateful to the Hulsmans for their support of The University of New Mexico, and I am pleased CULLS has created this innovative endowment to provide our students, and our librarians, with invaluable resources and support.

Project ECHO Establishes Program for Child and Adolescent Psychiatry Needs

As our state's only academic health center, we're committed to making compassionate, quality health care available to all New Mexicans. That includes ensuring we provide our healthcare professionals with the resources they need to serve children and adolescents with mental health issues, no matter what part of our state they may live in. [Project ECHO recently announced it will be using its videoconferencing model to assist mental health experts across New Mexico](#) in diagnosing and treating mental illness in our youngest citizens, helping providers with screening, triage, assessment, and referrals to specialized behavioral health services for our youngest New Mexicans. At UNM Health, we are truly delivering more for New Mexico's families.

Lobos Named MWC Athletes of the Year, Athletes Score in the Classroom

Some thrilling news from the Mountain West Conference last week as [Lobo runner Amelia Mazza-Downie and Lobo long jumper Lokesh Sathyanathan were named the Mountain West Conference's Athletes of the Year](#) for track and field. This is the first time in conference history that one school has seen both the top men's and women's outdoor winners honored in the same season. Congratulations to both remarkable student-athletes; the entire Lobo community is proud of you.

I also very proud of the showing our Lobo athletes made in the classroom this past semester, [posting an overall GPA of 3.41](#), which makes it 30 straight semesters that our student-athletes have turned in at least a 3.0 GPA, and it is the highest ever recorded in a non-COVID semester. This is a testament not only to the dedication of our extraordinary student-athletes, but also of our coaches, assistants, Athletic Department staff, and faculty who work together to ensure that our student-athletes are as competitive in the classroom as they are in their sports programs. Congratulations on a record-setting semester.

Finally, please remember that although UNM will be closed next Tuesday for the Fourth of July holiday, we will be open on Monday, July 3. I'll see you then.

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

Garnett S. Stokes
President