



PRESIDENT'S WEEKLY PERSPECTIVE



July 24, 2023

Good afternoon, Lobos --

Welcome to the last full week of the Summer 2023 semester! With the final day of the semester coming up on August 1, most of our Lobo students are likely looking at a week of final exams and final projects. Good luck to everyone—and I want to thank all our extraordinary faculty and staff who made this a successful semester for our students.

As hard as it may be to believe, preparations are already well underway for the Fall 2023 semester, which will be here before you know it. Students start [moving into campus housing on August 11](#), with the first day of classes starting on Monday, August 21.

With the semester ending, I hope everyone enjoys the rest of the summer. Take some time, if you can, to explore some of our incredible state, take a vacation, or just give yourself some much-needed and well-deserved down time before we're back in full swing. And try to stay as cool and well-hydrated as you can—it's still hot out there.

Congratulations to our 2023 summer semester graduates! And remember: if you completed your degree during the summer semester, you can participate in our Fall 2023 commencement, where you'll also be listed in the program as a member of the graduating class.

Lobo Researchers Study Impact of Rising Heat, Lowering Water Supply on Agriculture

At the state's only Research 1 institution, Lobos are constantly aspiring for a better understanding of the world around us, leaning into their natural curiosity to help us look at ways of addressing some of our most pressing issues. In New Mexico, one of our most serious challenges involves the management of one of our most precious commodities: the Rio Grande. In [a new study](#) prepared by David Gutzler, a professor in the Department of Earth & Planetary Sciences, along with UNM students and collaborators at other regional universities, [researchers are exploring ways in which we can better manage our water resources in an increasingly hotter and drier climate](#), as well as the impact evolving water management has on our local agriculture and the legal implications any changes might have on our state's interstate and international obligations. Congratulations to Professor Gutzler and his colleagues for this forward-looking report with far-reaching implications.

UNM Art Museum Unveils Exhibits, Announces New Associate Director of Operations

If you're looking for a respite from the heat and a great way to spend a summer afternoon, [the UNM Art Museum \(UNMAM\) presently has all three of its galleries open](#), featuring a wide range of artists and exhibits, including the ongoing presentation exploring the [relationship between the modernist painters Agnes Pelton](#)

[and Raymond Jonson](#). But don't wait too long—this is also the last week to catch the [first rotation in the ongoing series *Hindsight/Insight 2.0*](#), a unique experimental project that brings new interpretations and narratives to existing artwork in the museum's collection.

In related news, museum director Arif Khan announced that [Devin Geraci has been hired to serve as UNMAM's associate director of operations](#). Geraci began working with the museum in 2018 and earned her Master of Arts in Museum Studies and a Master of Business Administration from UNM in 2022, while still working for the museum full-time. She'll bring that same determination to her new role, where she will oversee the operations of the museum, including communications and marketing, facilities, finance, and human resources.

UNM Spearheads Newly Created MS in Anesthesia Program

With the recent approval of the creation of the state's first Master of Science in Anesthesia program by the New Mexico Higher Education Department, I am pleased that [The UNM Department of Anesthesiology and Critical Care Medicine will serve as the official home for the new initiative](#). The new program will offer a rigorous 28-month curriculum encompassing 116 credit hours, providing students with more than 800 hours of didactic and simulation-based learning, as well as the kind of extensive clinical training that can only be provided by the state's only academic health center. We are excited about participating in this new program and honored to be providing top-tier trained and work-ready Certified Anesthesiologist Assistants for the healthcare system in our state, and beyond.

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

Garnett S. Stokes
President