



PRESIDENT'S WEEKLY PERSPECTIVE



August 28, 2023

Good afternoon, Lobos --

While it's easy to get caught up in the excitement that goes with the start of a new semester, we also know that the stress and anxiety associated with new experiences can take a toll on one's physical and mental health.

At The University of New Mexico, we're proud to make a wide range of health services available to our students who may need it—but we also know that looking out for the continued health and wellbeing of our pack means that we constantly gauge the success of the services we provide and examine our capacity for supporting our community. More importantly, once we have assessed our needs, it is vital that we work quickly and compassionately to address them.

As part of our ongoing effort to improve and expand on services that meet the mental and physical health needs of Lobo students, [The University of New Mexico has partnered with TimelyCare](#) to offer students free and equitable access to mental health support, medical care and basic needs assistance, 24 hours a day, seven days a week. This partnership is an extension of our [existing campus health and counseling center resources](#), with a goal of improving student well-being, engagement and retention. A [recent report](#) by Gallup and the Lumina Foundation found that 69% of students in bachelor's degree programs who considered dropping out cited emotional stress as their reason.

While using the TimelyCare app, Lobo students can access a wide range of health-related services from licensed physicians and counselors--including on-demand medical care, mental health and emotional support, basic needs assistance, and health coaching—at no cost, and with no health insurance required. At the same time, faculty and staff have access to support that empowers them to guide students to resources that will help students achieve a sense of well-being, live healthier lifestyles and improve their mental health.

We are proud that the [partnership with TimelyCare will allow the University of New Mexico](#) to deliver a hybrid model of care, in collaboration with on-campus resources, ensuring support is available around the clock, with little wait time, and from providers as diverse as our own student body. The platform is also secure and protects your privacy, giving you the peace of mind you need to discuss your health needs openly and honestly with a licensed, trusted provider.

We are pleased to add TimelyCare to our growing list of services and encourage you to [create an account](#) and rely on it as another tool to support your personal health and well-being.

New Website Highlights Campus AI Presence

Across campus, UNM organizations are tapping into the vast potential of Artificial Intelligence (AI) to enrich the academic experience for students and accelerate research discoveries by faculty. As part of this

effort, [UNM has launched an AI resources website to serve as a central hub for the university's AI efforts, initiatives, and advancements](#). The website, airesources.unm.edu, features dedicated sections tailored to the needs of instructors, students, and researchers. Each group can find information and resources curated for them. The website will also promote upcoming AI trainings and workshops open to the UNM community. For more information and regular updates, [sign up here](#).

Sociology Professor Receives NSF Grant to Advance STEM Equity

Congratulations to Lobo Sociology Professor Nancy López, who has been awarded a [prestigious \\$1.5 million National Science Foundation \(NSF\) grant to advance equity in STEM education](#). The grant will fund a project called the “Intersectionality Hub for STEM Equity,” which will create a space for faculty, administrators, and students from Hispanic-Serving Institutions (HSIs) to come together and share ideas and best practices for increasing the success of underrepresented students in STEM fields.

The Intersectionality Hub for STEM Equity will use a data-driven approach to identify and address the barriers that underrepresented students face in STEM fields. The project will also develop and implement strategies to promote equity in STEM education, such as faculty training, mentoring programs, and curriculum development. This exciting project, which also involves researchers from NMSU, CNM, and multiple branches of the City University of New York (CUNY), will help increase the number of underrepresented students who enroll in, and succeed in, STEM fields.

UNM Community Listening Session Set on Air Quality Regulation Process

UNM is currently engaged in a negotiation process around a proposed new local air quality regulation called [Health, Environment, and Equity Impacts \(HEEI\)](#). In order for our community to comment on or ask questions regarding the current process, the University's involvement, and any potential impacts, we will be holding a [virtual listening session](#) on September 6, 2023 at 11:30 am. The format will be a roundtable of internal experts providing information and fielding questions. Additionally, we would like to receive written comments in advance to inform the discussion, so please [e-mail your comments or questions](#) by September 5 at noon.

Lobo Runner Takes Gold at World Athletics Championships

In case you missed it, there was some exciting news from the Track & Field World Championships in Budapest last week, as former Lobo mid-distance runner [Josh Kerr, running for Team Great Britain, won the gold medal in the men's 1500 meter](#). Josh won his race in dramatic style, passing the current world record holder in the final moments of [the race](#). Congratulations, Josh! It was thrilling to watch you, and I know Lobos everywhere are proud of you and your inspiring run for the gold.

Celebrating Labor Day 2023

Next Monday, September 4, is Labor Day, which means for many of us, we've got a three-day weekend coming up. I want to take a moment to say thank you to all UNM employees across our campuses and our state and acknowledge all your hard work that goes into making us the University *for* New Mexico. I also

know that for many of our essential employees—especially our tireless healthcare providers and staff—Labor Day is another workday. So, a special thanks to all of you for your contributions and dedication to keeping our university and our community a safer, stronger, better place.

My next Monday message will arrive in your inboxes on September 11; until then, enjoy the coming three-day weekend, and let's go, Lobos!

Garnett S. Stokes
President