



October 16, 2023

Good afternoon, Lobos --

I hope everyone is off to a terrific start to [Homecoming Week 2023](#). It was great to see so many of you at the Cactus Garden west of Zimmerman Library this afternoon for s'mores and cider, enjoying this beautiful Fall weather along with each other's company. And thanks to the hard work of our students and Facilities Management during the annual Fall Frenzy, our campus is looking great and ready to welcome our alumni.

There are plenty of [great events happening this week](#), including a [tour of a very special exhibit](#) at the Maxwell Museum of Anthropology on Tuesday and an opportunity to attend the open house for the new ROTC Education Complex on Friday, all culminating in the [Homecoming football game against Hawai'i](#) on Saturday afternoon at 4 p.m. And if you need to stock up on your Lobo gear, the UNM Bookstore is offering a [25% discount on all Lobowear and Spirit merchandise all week](#).

Throughout the week, we'll be welcoming Lobos from across the city, state, country and world back to campus, with [plenty of Homecoming events planned for alumni](#)—including [Diner en Rouge on Thursday evening](#), where our popular UNM hot air balloon will make an appearance. This time-honored tradition unites each of us with all of us, blending lasting memories from the past with joyous new ones of being together as Lobos.

Here's to a great Homecoming, Lobos.

Lobo Flamenco Teacher Honored with NEA Fellowship

Hispanic Heritage Month 2023 came to a close over the weekend, which made it a particularly special time to learn that [Eva Encinias, Director of the National Institute of Flamenco \(NIF\) has been honored with the prestigious NEA National Heritage Fellowship](#). Encinias has taught flamenco through UNM for over 40 years and is a Professor Emeritus in our College of Fine Arts. She was recognized by the National Endowment for the Arts for her remarkable contribution to the world of traditional arts and was honored at a ceremony at the Library of Congress in Washington D.C. Congratulations, Eva, on this amazing accomplishment.

UNM Athletics Unveils UNMatched Excellence

Planning for our future is both a vital and never-ending process. This is especially true in the world of intercollegiate athletics, where rules, policies, and regulations can change quickly, often having an immediate impact on even the most careful long-term planning. As The University of New Mexico has worked over the last few years to develop and implement our UNM 2040 multi-year plan, I am pleased our [Department of Athletics has worked to ensure that its own strategic plan, UNMatched Excellence: The Lobo Standard, similarly reflects our institutional values](#). This comprehensive strategy is the result of an inclusive process, which incorporated input from more than 2,000 members of the greater Lobo community. I encourage you to read [UNMatched Excellence](#) to learn more about how UNM Athletics continues to anticipate and support

the needs of The University of New Mexico, the Lobo nation, and most importantly, our Lobo student-athletes.

Honoring This Year's Outstanding Supervisors

At the heart of The University of New Mexico's long-standing mission to provide students with a world-class education, conduct top-tier research, and deliver quality, compassionate health care are our extraordinary and talented employees. Our outstanding staff make every day memorable and successful. This afternoon, I had the pleasure of helping to honor our Outstanding Supervisors of 2023 for their extraordinary service to UNM and the Lobo community. This year's selection was especially tough, as there were a record-breaking 137 nominations.

I am delighted to announce that this year's honorees are **Bonnie Minkus-Holmes**, Manager, Employee and Organizational Development (EOD), and **Dr. Matthias W. Pleil**, Senior Lecturer III & Manager MTTC, Mechanical Engineering. My thanks to UNM Staff Council for its continued leadership in organizing this special award, and my warmest congratulations to this year's winners.

UNM Health Providers Bring Stroke Survivors, Caregivers Together

As one of New Mexico's leading providers of health care, our commitment to stroke survivors and caregivers goes far beyond the boundaries of our campus. Recently, UNM Hospital Neurology Stroke Team member **Felicia McDermott** and UNM Speech & Hearing Sciences Speech-Language pathologist **Jessica Richardson** worked together to [host a United Stroke Alliance's Retreat & Refresh Stroke Camp in New Mexico](#), bringing stroke survivors, caregivers, and family members together at [Glorieta Adventure Camps](#), where they connected and healed through team-building activities and shared experiences. This innovative collaboration embodies UNM's commitment to thinking differently and fostering enduring relationships among patients and caregivers for the health of all New Mexicans.

Student, Faculty Input Sought on IT Experience

The University of New Mexico's IT department has joined with [Educause](#) to conduct [a comprehensive survey, seeking insights into the IT experiences of students and faculty](#). The survey will help tailor IT services to meet the demands of an ever-evolving educational environment. If you receive an invitation from esurvey@unm.edu, you have been selected to be part of a randomized sample of Lobo students and faculty. If selected, I hope you will take part in this survey, as your feedback will be crucial in enhancing UNM's commitment to first-rate IT services.

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

Garnett S. Stokes
President