



PRESIDENT'S WEEKLY PERSPECTIVE



January 22, 2024

Good afternoon, Lobos --

The Spring 2024 semester is officially underway, and it's been wonderful to see our students back on campus again after the extended winter break. Here's to a successful Spring together! If you need some help getting back into your routine, we've been hosting our regular Welcome Back Days events, with the next one coming up on January 31. Come out to the SUB Atrium to learn more about what UNM has to offer and how to make the most of your campus experience.

Be sure also to check in regularly with the [Student Activities Center](#) to see what [events are planned for the semester](#), from weekly movies at the SUB to career symposiums. And remember that as students, [your admission to most Lobo athletic events--as well as your admittance to most recreational facilities--is free](#). From men's and women's basketball to track and field and swimming, [plenty of our Lobo student-athletes are already back in action](#).

This is also a good time to reflect on some of the many notable accomplishments at The University of New Mexico over the last year. I hope you'll take some time to review the [inspiring stories and successes of the last year](#), along with a look at our [innovative achievements in research](#) and the outstanding health care services provided by our caregivers at [UNM Health Sciences](#).

My thanks to all of you for being part of the extraordinary Lobo community. Here's to a terrific Spring semester.

New Dean at Anderson School of Management

Our business school is under new management as Provost Holloway has [named Alina Chircu as the next dean of the Anderson School of Management \(ASM\)](#), effective April 8. Chircu is currently a professor in the Computer Information Systems department at Bentley University and will bring us her extensive experience in business education and strategic leadership. We are fortunate to have her taking the helm at ASM, and I look forward to welcoming her when she arrives in early April.

UNM Doctor Provides Senate Testimony on Long COVID

Dr. Michelle Harkins, a Professor of Medicine at UNM's School of Medicine, played a crucial role in a recent [U.S. Senate HELP Committee hearing](#) as she [advised the committee members on the many challenges faced by Long COVID patients](#). As an expert in pulmonary medicine, Dr. Harkins emphasized both physical and mental health aspects of Long COVID in [her testimony](#), and shed light on patient struggles as she advocated for improved access to care and support. UNM remains at the forefront of healthcare research, contributing valuable insights to address complex challenges like Long COVID, and it was a privilege to have Dr. Harkins share our expertise and experiences with the Congress. Bravo on your Congressional appearance, Dr. Harkins—the entire Lobo community is proud of you.

Dean Riley Honored as NM Women in Tech Awardee

While Donna Riley has served as our Jim and Ellen King Dean of Engineering and Computing for less than a year, she's already winning accolades from our state and local leaders for her innovation and excellence. This March, she's set to be honored by the [New Mexico Technology Council](#) as a recipient of one of its prestigious Women in Tech Awards, presented to women in our state who are driving innovation and excellence in their tech-related fields and inspiring and empowering others to pursue careers in the tech industry. Riley, the first female dean of UNM's School of Engineering, [will be recognized alongside seven others at the 2024 Women in Tech Awards on March 13](#) at the Hotel Albuquerque. Congratulations to Dean Riley on this well-deserved distinction.

UNM to Host 25th American Indian Studies Association Conference

The University of New Mexico is proud to be serving as the host of the [25th annual American Indian Studies Association Conference](#). More than a celebration of Indigenous culture, the conference is a crucial platform for ongoing research and community engagement. Organized by UNM's [Native American Studies](#) Department and [Institute for American Indian Research](#), the conference will feature over 30 sessions, including panels, films, workshops, and creative performances. The conference will be held in the Student Union Building on February 1 and 2, and registration is still [open](#).

UNM Valencia Gets ENROLL Funding

Good things are happening at our Valencia campus as the U.S. Department of Education has [provided UNM-Valencia with a \\$2.2 million, four-year grant to establish its ENROLL Program](#). The ENROLL Program—Early, Non-academic, Revitalize, Outreach, Learning support, and Learning—will offer services like Early College Summer Camps, non-academic support, and revitalization of career and technical education programs, with a focus on increasing underserved students' enrollment and completion of postsecondary education programs. This will also support the kinds of current workforce investment initiatives UNM-Valencia does so well, providing additional services and resources to ensure a comprehensive system of support with industry and K-12 education.

Sign Up for the President's Traveling Office Hours

I always enjoy the opportunity to talk about The University for New Mexico with those who really understand it best: you. During the school year, I regularly hold traveling office hours, which provide me with the privilege of coming directly to you to learn more about your concerns and aspirations for our university. I'm always inspired by the opportunity for a meaningful conversation about life as Lobos.

Depending on the week, traveling office hours happen on Tuesdays or Wednesdays from 10:30 to 11:30 a.m., and if you'd like to invite me to come visit your department, [please submit a request to my office](#). Slots tend to go fast, so I encourage you to get your request in as soon as possible. I'm looking forward to our conversation!

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

Garnett S. Stokes
President