



PRESIDENT'S WEEKLY PERSPECTIVE



February 12, 2024

Good afternoon, Lobos -

Both as a pack and as individuals, we are many things at once. We are remarkably curious, often bold, and constantly strong—and one of our major sources of strength is in the kindness we show to others. All this week, The University of New Mexico Division of Student Affairs is sponsoring its annual [BeKind Week, celebrating kindness across campus and throughout the community](#).

Now in its 15th year, BeKind Week will host its most popular event on Wednesday, February 14, with its [Kindness Carnival at the Student Union Building](#), featuring music, games, a photo booth, and the opportunity to donate to a food drive, with the chance of winning free parking. Later that evening, the Lobo women's basketball game against San Jose State will feature a Teddy Bear Toss, similar to the one at the men's home game against Nevada, where we filled 19 large bags with stuffed animals. All the stuffed animals we collect are donated to the Albuquerque Police Department and Albuquerque Fire Department to distribute to children experiencing trauma.

As always, I appreciate you looking out for our community, and for each other. Thank you for always finding strength in kindness.

Employee Engagement Survey Year Two Coming to Your Inbox

Lobo faculty and staff should be on the lookout for the [2024 UNM Employee Engagement Survey](#), which will be offered for two weeks, from Monday, February 26 through Friday, March 8. This is the survey's second year, which gives [employees an opportunity to make their views known](#) about their workplace experience. The information is confidential—individual responses are never shared—and will be used to help The University of New Mexico strive toward our objectives supporting [Goal 4 of UNM 2040](#), ensuring a sustainable and high-quality workforce.

Acting on the 2023 survey results, which found 48% of employees surveyed considered themselves “actively engaged”—compared with 39% across Higher Education Institutions—UNM Human Resources has launched several key initiatives. These include a revamp of required supervisor training and an enhancement of support resources and partnerships with Staff Council to bolster employee recognition programs. This year's survey is also being conducted earlier in the year so that its results can more easily be incorporated into planning processes before the next academic year.

To participate, an invitation will be sent to your inbox from the [global analytics and data gathering company Gallup](#). Your input is vital for gauging the well-being of our employees and for the efficiency, innovation, and performance of the important work we do at UNM; thank you for taking the time to complete the survey. For more information about the 2023 survey and results visit the [UNM Engagement website](#).

UNM Hospital Critical Care Tower Marks Major Milestone

The Critical Care Tower (CCT) that's becoming such a distinctive part of our UNM skyline is yet another step closer to completion. Final touches are being put on the new adult emergency department (ED), a space designed with New Mexico patients and their safety in mind. The new ED space will measure greater than 58,477 square feet, more than doubling its current square footage, housing state-of-the-art imaging equipment and providing 68 exam rooms. Each year, 7,000 patients are treated at UNM Hospital--the only level I trauma center within 400 miles of Albuquerque in any direction—and the new ED will help us provide our Lobo brand of compassionate care more quickly and effectively. Construction of the CCT is expected to be completed sometime in the spring of 2025.

Happy Lunar New Year!

Our [Asian American Pacific Islander Resource Center](#), in collaboration with the [Residents Hall Association](#), formally celebrated the arrival of the Lunar New Year on Friday evening in the Hokona Ballroom. Happy New Year to all who celebrate, and may the year be filled with joy, peace, and prosperity.

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

Garnett S. Stokes
President