



PRESIDENT'S WEEKLY PERSPECTIVE



April 1, 2024

Good afternoon, Lobos --

At The University of New Mexico, we know that preparing students for the future isn't always just about success in the classroom; many times, practical experience can make a world of difference. That's why UNM is proud to make internships and [cooperative education](#) opportunities available to Lobo students. Whether it's in [management](#) or [engineering, research](#) or [nursing](#)--to name just a few--our [Office of Career Services](#) can help you find an internship that's right for you.

We're also fortunate to have generous private donors who help us make some of these opportunities possible. Last week I mentioned a [new endowment to fund internships in our Department of Economics and School of Public Administration](#); this week, we are pleased to announce a new gift from Fred Harris and Margaret Elliston that will establish the Endowed UNM Fred Harris Congressional Internship Program Fund. This endowment will support the existing [Fred Harris Congressional Internship](#) and make the program even more accessible to students who want to intern with New Mexico's congressional delegation in Washington, D.C. and experience first-hand how federal policy is created and enacted. We are grateful for the generosity that makes this special program possible for our students.

If you're interested in pursuing an internship or cooperative education program, talk with your advisor about options available in your field of study, and then visit the Office of Career Services for even more information. When you're ready to look for an opportunity, we're ready to help.

Conference Showcases the Best of Undergraduate Research

As New Mexico's premiere Research 1 institution, Lobo students have regular opportunities to work closely with faculty mentors on groundbreaking research across an ever-widening variety of disciplines. Next Friday, April 12, you can learn more about the remarkable work of our undergraduate researchers as part of [UNM's annual Undergraduate Research Opportunity Conference](#) (UROC), a free, campus-wide event to showcase UNM's student research projects. Organized by the [Undergraduate Research, Arts & Design Network](#) (URAD), UROC will feature our students presenting their research in a number of formats, from 10-minute oral presentations to three-minute elevator pitches. Look for presentations in [locations around the SUB](#), beginning at 9 a.m. and running until 3:30 p.m.

Global Education Celebrates Sixty

In August 1964, The University of New Mexico officially opened its Office of the Foreign Student Advisor, supporting 205 students from 65 countries. Six decades later, our [Global Education Office](#) (GEO) is now serving 1,366 students from 96 countries. [GEO invites you to reflect on the past and celebrate the future](#) of global education by joining them at their Sixty Years (and Still Counting) Anniversary celebration at the University Club, on Thursday, April 25, from 4 to 6 p.m. This event is free, but [please RSVP](#) to let GEO know you're coming. Congratulations to GEO on hitting your diamond anniversary, and here's to another successful sixty.

Three Lobos Selected as Goldwater Scholars

I was delighted to learn that [three Lobo students have been selected as 2024-2025 Goldwater Scholars](#). Goldwater Foundation awards are among the most prestigious national honors presented to students; they are given to those who intend to pursue careers in the fields of science, math, or engineering, and recipients are chosen based on academic and research credentials. In the current cycle, 438 new scholars were chosen from over 1,300 nominees from 446 institutions. Congratulations to our three outstanding Lobo winners: **Mia Baca**, a junior majoring in chemical engineering with a minor in mathematics who is also a McNair Scholar and the recipient of a UNM Regents' Scholarship; **Victoria Nisoli**, who is majoring in chemistry and minoring in art studio and honors interdisciplinary liberal arts; and **Ariana Pritha**, a junior majoring in biochemistry and psychology. The entire Lobo community is proud of the three of you and celebrates your remarkable achievements.

Building Connected Communities for Sexual Assault Awareness Month

One of the best ways we can increase awareness of sexual assault on our campus is by coming together as a community. April is Sexual Assault Awareness Month (SAAM), and [The University of New Mexico is joining with other institutions across the nation to support this year's national theme, "Building Connected Communities."](#) There are several events being hosted this month by the [LoboRESPECT Advocacy Center](#) to spread knowledge about sexual violence and raise awareness for sexual assault survivors—we have [many resources and advocates available](#) to support all Lobos.

On April 9, LoboRESPECT will [create an art installation on Smith Plaza titled "Sole Survivor"](#) displaying shoes to represent the [more than 463,000 people who are sexually assaulted in the United States every year](#). To create this work, LoboRESPECT will be [collecting shoes from several donation boxes around campus](#) through April 5. Other events will include the Consent Fair and Day of Action in the SUB Atrium on April 2, a Jewelry Jam for assault survivors on April 16, and a presentation of the [audience participatory program Sex Signals](#) in the SUB Theater on April 30.

Lobo Runner Named Conference Male Athlete of the Year

First-year Lobo runner Habtom Samuel has added yet another major honor to his already lengthy list of accomplishments, as he has been [named the Mountain West Indoor Track & Field Male Athlete of the Year](#). Given his performance at the [Mountain West indoor championships in February](#), the award should come as no surprise: he won titles in both the 5,000 m and the 3,000 m, breaking championship records in both races. He's also been awarded three First Team All-American trophies and qualified for the Olympics. It has indeed been, as our Athletic Department calls it, "The Year of Habtom." Congratulations on another fantastic showing and on achieving such a [major honor from the Mountain West Conference](#).

Summer/Fall Registration Begins April 8

While it doesn't seem all that long ago that I was welcoming you to the beginning of the Spring 2024 semester, it's already time to remind you that [registration week for the Summer and Fall 2024 semesters begins next Monday, April 8](#). Please check your LoboWeb account for your *specific* registration date; you can register on that day, or any day after. The [registration portal is open 24 hours a day, seven days a week](#), making your registration process as convenient as possible.

And Finally . . .

Don't forget [there's a total solar eclipse coming up a week from today, on Monday, April 8](#). While we're not directly in the path of the total eclipse as we were for the October 2023 annular solar eclipse, [New Mexicans will still see 78 percent of the eclipse at its peak](#), around 12:30 p.m. But to look at it safely, you'll need special glasses with ISO-certified filters. If you didn't hold onto your glasses from the last eclipse, you can [pick some up from the Physics & Astronomy Department](#). Glasses are free, but donations for planning a new campus observatory are always appreciated.

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

Garnett S. Stokes
President