



PRESIDENT'S WEEKLY PERSPECTIVE



June 3, 2024

Good afternoon, Lobos--

The first week of our summer semester officially begins today, and I'd like to welcome all of you who are joining us for the next eight weeks at UNM's campuses across the state. And to our students and faculty studying, researching, and teaching around the world this summer, I wish you safe travels and look forward to seeing you when you return for the Fall.

UNM Celebrates Pride Month

June is National Pride Month, a time for celebrating the LGBTQ community and allies everywhere while also honoring those who fought for LGBTQ rights in the wake of the raid of the Stonewall Inn in New York in June 1969. UNM will always be a place where the LGBTQ community is loved, accepted, and embraced; we are very fortunate to have an active, compassionate, and supportive [LGBTQ Resource Center](#) that strives to create a welcoming and inclusive atmosphere, as well as a safe zone environment, for all members of UNM and our surrounding community.

All month long, the [UNM LGBTQ Resource Center](#) will be [hosting or supporting celebratory events](#), both on and off our campus, including a [Pride Parade Tailgate this Saturday and "Paletas for Pride" events later this month](#) at UNM Hospital and the Sandoval Regional Medical Center. UNM is proud to stand in solidarity with the LGBTQ community, to work together to advance equity, and to celebrate the mutual love and humanity that brings us together.

UNM's "Divine Nine" Officially Chartered by NPHC

I am so proud to share the news that The University of New Mexico's prestigious "Divine Nine" Black fraternities and sororities have been [officially chartered as part of the National Pan-Hellenic Council](#) (NPHC). This historic milestone marks UNM as the first university in the state with a nationally recognized NPHC collegiate council. This recognition enhances the visibility and resources for our Divine Nine chapters and should spur even greater collaboration among university chapters and alumni. Our Black Greek letter organizations have a rich legacy of leadership and advocacy, and this chartering amplifies their impact on our campus and beyond. Congratulations to all involved for this remarkable achievement.

Center for Memory & Aging Receives \$21.7M for Alzheimer's Research

As New Mexico's premiere Research 1 institution, and home to the state's only academic health center, Lobo researchers are regularly breaking new ground exploring the causes, impacts, and cures of countless diseases. Recently, The University of New Mexico's [Center for Memory & Aging secured a five-year, \\$21.7 million grant from the National Institutes of Health \(NIH\)](#) to fund its Alzheimer's Disease Research Center (ADRC). This grant enhances UNM's ongoing efforts to identify key biomarkers and develop related treatments and will build upon the center's work at the Zuni and Acoma Pueblos, as researchers around the nation strive to focus on serving more diverse populations. This major effort should help make significant strides in understanding and combating cognitive decline, solidifying UNM's role in innovative neurological research.

Maxwell Museum Receives NEA Grant

I was delighted to learn that UNM's [Maxwell Museum of Anthropology has received a \\$36,000 grant from the National Endowment for the Arts](#) to support [ALL REZ: K'éyah, Hooghan, K'é, liná / Land, Home, Kinship, Life](#), an innovative photography exhibition by Diné artist, curator, and UNM alum Rapheal Begay. The project launched over the weekend, with ongoing installations at the Maxwell Museum of Anthropology and in the [Axle Contemporary mobile artspace](#). The kickoff event also celebrated the traveling portion of the exhibition, which will see ALL REZ touring various locations across the Navajo Nation, promoting community storytelling and engagement. We are honored to be a part of this exciting exhibition.

Anderson Team Triumphs at SBA Competition

Some exciting news from UNM's Anderson School of Management, as [Professor Robert DelCampo](#) and his colleague John Chavez, from [New Mexico Startup Factory](#), were recently announced as [Stage One winners of the prestigious U.S. Small Business Administration's 2024 Growth Accelerator Fund competition](#). Their winning entry presentation, *Fueling Inclusive Innovation: A Roadmap for Diverse Participation in New Mexico's Emerging National and Economic Security Ecosystem*, highlighted their commitment to fostering equitable access to entrepreneurship. This remarkable achievement comes with a \$50,000 prize and boosts them to Stage Two of the competition, where they will compete for an additional \$50,000 to \$150,000 and work to transition their research into the marketplace. The work of DelCampo and Chavez underscores their dedication to innovation in our state's entrepreneurial landscape and reaffirms our institution's pivotal role in driving New Mexico's diverse economy.

Samuel Advances to NCAA Outdoor Championships

Best of luck to Lobo runner Habtom Samuel, who [qualified for both the 10,000m and 5,000m at the upcoming NCAA Outdoor Championships](#), which will be held this week at Hayward Field in Eugene, Oregon. Samuel was honored earlier this year as the Mountain West's Indoor Track & Field Athlete of the Year and is hoping to add two more All-America awards to his already lengthy list of amazing freshman year accomplishments. We'll be watching and cheering this week as he wraps up an incredible season. Good luck in Oregon, Habtom!

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

Garnett S. Stokes

President