



PRESIDENT'S WEEKLY PERSPECTIVE



July 15, 2024

Good afternoon, Lobos --

Earlier this month, the U.S. Economic Development Administration announced the distribution of nearly \$504 million in implementation grants to [12 Tech Hubs](#)—regional collaboratives that bring together diverse public, private, and academic partners to focus on building thriving technology ecosystems and the workforce of tomorrow. As part of this funding, [\\$40.5 million was awarded to the Elevate Quantum, a Colorado-New Mexico-based Tech Hub specializing in leadership in quantum information technology.](#)

This is an exciting opportunity for The University of New Mexico and our partners in the Mountain West to accelerate our research in quantum information and to advance our nation's global leadership in this growing field. For more than three decades, UNM has been pioneering research and education in Quantum Information Science, and we are eager to continue our groundbreaking work at the [Quantum New Mexico Institute](#), which we launched with Sandia National Laboratories and Los Alamos National Laboratory. Combined with the resources and leadership of our Mountain West colleagues, it is estimated that this new funding will lead to more than 50 quantum startups and 10,000 new jobs across our region.

We are proud to be part of this coalition. As New Mexico's premier Research 1 institution, it is our privilege to put our expertise and leadership to work sparking innovation, advancing the regional economy, and improving the lives of citizens across our region.

Title IX Town Hall

Many thanks to the [Office of Compliance, Ethics & Equal Opportunity](#) (CEEO) for hosting last week's virtual Title IX town hall. An internal panel provided a high-level overview of the key changes articulated in the [final Title IX rule issued by the U.S. Department of Education](#), answered questions, and discussed next steps for UNM as we work to ensure compliance by the August 1, 2024 effective date. I was pleased to be a part of this important and highly informative event, which drew more than 150 attendees. For those who were unable to attend, a [recording of the webinar](#) is available on the Title IX web page.

Advance at UNM Announces 14 Women in STEM Award Winners

The ninth annual Women in STEM awards, hosted by [Advance at UNM](#) in collaboration with the UNM Office of Academic Affairs and the Office of the Vice President for Research, recently announced [the 11 projects—led by 14 Lobo faculty members—that will be honored as 2024 Women in STEM Award winners.](#)

This year's recipients are: **Leah Buechley**, an associate professor in Computer Science, in collaboration with **Maryam Hojati**, an assistant professor in Civil Engineering; **Kate Cartwright**, an associate professor in Public Administration; **Chanee Choi**, an assistant professor in Film and Digital Arts; **Deena Gould**, an assistant professor in Teacher Education, Educational Leadership and Policy; **Natasha Howard**, an assistant professor in Geography and Environmental Sciences; **Elspeth Iralu**, an assistant professor in Community and Regional Planning; **Allyson McGaughey** in collaboration with **Anjali Mulchandani**, both of whom are assistant

professors in Civil, Construction and Environmental Engineering; **Elif Tunc-Ozcan**, an assistant professor in Neurosciences; **Marisa Repasch**, an assistant professor in Earth and Planetary Sciences, in collaboration with **Alex Webster**, an assistant professor in Biology; **Eva Stricker**, a research assistant professor in Biology; and **Kamilla Venner**, an associate professor in Psychology.

I am so proud of these women and their thoughtful proposals that are enhancing our communities and improving our planet. Congratulations to our winners and my thanks, as always, to Julia Fulghum, director of Advance at UNM, for all the work she and her team do to encourage and reward women in science.

Season Tickets Now Available for Popejoy, Lobo Athletics

We're less than seven weeks away from the [Lobo football home opener on August 24](#)—and only four months from the beginning of the [2024-2025 Popejoy Presents theater season](#)—which makes it a perfect time to pick up season tickets for each. [UNM employees receive 50 percent off](#) season tickets for football, men's basketball, and women's basketball, and [discounted tickets for Popejoy](#), including their [Broadway in New Mexico and Ovation series](#). And with the Lobo women's soccer team opening at home on August 22—[the beginning of a five game home stand](#)—you might also want to look into a Lobo Pride Pass, which allows entry to every regular season home event for soccer, volleyball, track & field, baseball, and softball for the 2024-2025 school year.

Be On the Lookout for E-mail Threats

It sounds like I'm not the only one finding odd e-mails in my inbox asking me to review an invoice or edit a Google document. Many times, these messages come in disguise, looking as if they've been sent from colleagues or coworkers. But please remain alert; if a message looks suspicious, it probably is. Most cyber-attacks begin with these so-called phishing e-mails, trying to get you to give up data that can be used to access UNM's infrastructure. [Our Office of the Chief Information Officer](#) has provided some [guidelines for identifying and reporting e-mail-based threats](#). I appreciate your taking a moment to review this material; your attention helps keep our information safe and our campus running smoothly.

Watch Out for Bugs!

With New Mexico's beautiful summer weather, you're probably spending plenty of time enjoying the outdoors with family and friends, as well as a wide variety of insects. While we have our share of biting insects like [mosquitoes](#), it's stinging insects and arachnids like spiders and scorpions that can be especially dangerous. Dr. David Gummin, medical director of the New Mexico Poison & Drug Information Center and professor of Emergency Medicine at UNM's School of Medicine, [offers tips for keeping bugs at bay, as well as guidance for what to do if you've been bitten or stung](#). A little preparation can go a long way, so stay safe—and un-stung—out there.

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

Garnett S. Stokes
President