



February 17, 2025



Good afternoon Lobos –

We continue to navigate the ongoing wave of [executive orders affecting federal funding for higher education](#). Some of the orders threaten to significantly hinder our capacity to drive medical innovations, develop new treatments, and fulfill our social and educational responsibilities to our students and our communities. Please know that our leadership teams are actively reviewing these changes and working with policymakers, higher education associations, and peer institutions to advocate for continued support of our mission.

Our commitment to academic excellence, research innovation, and student success—and most of all, to people—remains unwavering. We are dedicated to ensuring that students receive the assistance they need, that faculty can continue their critical research, and that our programs remain strong and accessible.

We will [keep you informed](#) and provide opportunities for input and engagement. I am particularly grateful to Ellen Fisher, Vice President for Research, and her counterpart at Health Sciences, Vice President Hengameh Raissy, for the ongoing [guidance they are providing regarding federally funded research](#).

We are also acutely aware of the [recent Dear Colleague letter from the U.S. Department of Education regarding institutional “non-discrimination obligations,”](#) and are reviewing its impacts relative to our university programs and community. I’ll have more to say about this in the coming days.

Now, more than ever, we must support one another and stand together as a university community. I thank you for your dedication and resilience.

Black Alumni Chapter Honors 2025 Award Winners

This Saturday, The University of New Mexico Black Alumni Chapter will honor its [2025 recipients of the UNM Black Alumni Trailblazers and Living Legends Awards](#), presented to individuals for their Lobo spirit and contributions to the UNM and broader community. It is my pleasure to congratulate Living Legend Award winners **Michael Carter** and **Yeshemabet Turner**; Trailblazer winner **Edward G. Lloyd**; and the recipient of the Lobo Community Service Award, **Frank Willis Jr.** These honorees truly inspire all of us, and their commitment to their passions, their professions, and their community makes us all proud to be fellow Lobos.



FamilyU Student Parent Fellows Sought

The University of New Mexico is proud to be one of five institutions participating in the 2024 Cohort of FamilyU with Generation Hope, helping colleges and universities create a comprehensive, customized system of support for students who are also parents. I was pleased to join our Lobo team in San Francisco for a session on institutional leadership, sharing our lessons on building awareness of policies supportive of student parents, and understanding the challenges in creating these kinds of family-friendly policies. We're also looking for FamilyU Student Parent Fellows who can help us further enhance the student-parent experience; [applications are being accepted now.](#)

Campus Mobility Survey Seeks Input on Safety and Accessibility

The University of New Mexico is committed to improving pedestrian safety and micromobility access through the Safe Mobility Action Plan—and [your input is essential.](#) Led by UNM Campus Capital & Space Planning in partnership with Pland Collaborative, this initiative aims to enhance campus infrastructure and policies for walkers, cyclists, and micromobility users. The survey gathers insights into mobility challenges and opportunities, helping UNM identify key issues, reduce conflicts in shared spaces, and implement safety improvements. [The seven-minute survey is open through March 10.](#) Your participation is vital to helping us build a safer, more connected campus.



ClinEd Program Prepares Health Care Leaders for Rural Communities

In New Mexico's rural communities, health care is about more than treatment—it's about building relationships and making a difference. Through the [New Mexico Clinical Education Program](#), led by the Communities to Careers team in the UNM Health Sciences Office for Diversity, Equity and Inclusion, [students gain first-hand experience in rural health care settings](#), developing both their clinical skills and a deeper understanding of the challenges these communities face. It's just one more way we train our Lobo brand of quality, compassionate health care providers to ensure families across New Mexico have the support they need and deserve. [Applications are still open](#) for the 2024 summer session, which begins on June 2.

ASM Names 2025 Hall of Fame and Young Alumni Honorees

The UNM Anderson School of Management has announced its [distinguished 2025 Hall of Fame and Young Alumni honorees](#), recognizing outstanding alumni for their professional achievements, community impact, and dedication to education. This year's Hall of Fame inductees include **Aprilyn Chavez Geissler**, First



Executive VP at Gateway Insurance and Financial Services, and **Steve Schroeder**, President and CEO of Real Time Solutions. The Young Alumni Award honors **Amanda Solosky**, Co-founder and Co-CEO of Headshots.com, and **Glover Quin**, Founder and CEO of GQ Frames. Honorees will be celebrated at a special dinner on Thursday, March 6. Congratulations to this year's class of honorees!

**IT'S
(PROBABLY)
NOT
ROCKET
SCIENCE**



And the Winner Is . . . the Latest Podcast

For nearly a century, the Academy Awards have honored acting talent in separate male and female categories. Now, students from UNM's Constitutional Law class are challenging this long-standing tradition with a bold proposal. What started as a final project has evolved into a 99-page presentation urging the Academy to examine the legal and social implications of gender-based awards.

Their work has gained traction, calling for an

official Task Force to explore the issue. [Tune in to UNM's award winning podcast, *It's \(Probably\) Not Rocket Science, for the full story*](#)—available on Spotify, Apple Podcasts, and more.

Sarah Belle Brown Nominations Due This Week

The deadline for nominations for UNM's annual [Sarah Belle Brown Awards](#), honoring outstanding service to the community, is this Wednesday, February 20, at 5 p.m. That means you've still got time to nominate an extraordinary faculty member, staff member, or student, so [get those nominations in as quickly as you can](#).

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

Garnett S. Stokes
President