



President's Report

A report to the University of New Mexico Board of Regents from the Office of the President

Message from David J. Schmidly

What a delight it is to have all of our students and faculty back for the fall semester! It seems more crowded than usual on campus because we've been blessed with a record-breaking number of new beginning freshmen – nearly 10 percent more have enrolled than did last fall.

In addition, we've seen remarkable increases in our enrollment of National Merit Scholars (up 275 percent) and National Hispanic Scholars (up 140 percent). I see this as a vote of confidence in the University of New Mexico by our state's young people and their parents who see UNM as their best opportunity for success and academic excellence.

I see another vote of confidence from the wonderful donors who are investing in the future of New Mexico and its people by making an investment in UNM. UNM fundraising totals for the past year have reached a record-breaking \$85.5 million, which is double what UNM raised just four years ago. This is a testament to the hard work of our fundraising team and to the generosity of our donors.

On Aug. 29, I joined CNM President Kathie Winograd and APS Superintendent Winston Brooks – along with about 30 future CNM/UNM students now attending kindergarten at the Sombra del Monte Elementary School in Albuquerque – to announce a ground-breaking new educational partnership between APS, CNM and UNM. Last year, we launched a bold new partnership with CNM to help students move seamlessly from New Mexico's largest community college into the state's flagship university. Now we've taken the next logical step, extending the partnership to include Albuquerque Public Schools.

To me, it all comes down to breaking down artificial barriers so we can all work together to improve the lives of every child in this community. Ultimately, this historic agreement will create the most seamless, easy-to-navigate system of public education in the Southwest, from kindergarten all the way through graduate school. I hope and trust this will improve the lives of young people in Albuquerque for generations to come.

CNM will begin developing a call center that'll give parents, students and guidance counselors access to accurate and timely information about all three systems. Here at UNM, we'll broaden existing programs that enable APS principals and other aspiring educational leaders to access and utilize educational expertise at both CNM and UNM. In addition, students at all three institutions



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will have access to our soon-to-be-opened Student Success and Veterans Outreach Centers (the Student Success Center will provide tutoring and advisement support, while the Veterans Outreach Center will help meet the educational and other needs of our returning veterans and their families.) We hope both centers are ready to open early next year.

Finally, UNM has been honored by the New Mexico Association of Energy Engineers with the 2008 Energy Leadership Award. This recognition underscores our continuing efforts to become an energy and water neutral campus that is truly sustainable. Our students expect and demand that we be good stewards of the environment and so that will be our primary goal. As part of these efforts, we are launching several fast-track energy and transportation initiatives that will reduce energy use for our campus and also help our faculty, staff and students do the same. We look forward to reporting to you on our progress.

David J. Schmidly



UNM breaks record for new students



UNM is seeing a surge in new freshman enrollment this fall. On the first day of the fall semester, 3,190 freshmen were signed up for classes. That's a 9.85 percent increase over last fall and a record setting number of beginning freshmen.

This year more students than ever are also living in the dorms. UNM residential housing holds about 2,400 students, and this year it is full. ■

UNM faculty, students receive Fulbrights

The following faculty have received the prestigious Fulbright award for 2007-08: Justine Marie Andrews, assistant professor, Department of Art and Art History; Ruth G. Trinidad, assistant professor, Department of Language, Literacy and Sociocultural Studies; and Les Field, professor, Department of Anthropology. They will serve in Cyprus, Ecuador and Columbia, respectively. Michael Morris, research professor, College of Education Administration, is a Fulbright New Century Scholar,



focusing investigations in Spain. Doctoral student Albert Palma and bachelor's graduate Zachery Watkins are also Fulbright scholars, serving in Brazil and Germany. John Smeltzer, who graduated UNM with a bachelor's degree, also received a Fulbright grant. He died while traveling in Spain this summer. ■

UNM enrolls more National Merit, National Hispanic Scholars

UNM has 15 National Merit Scholars and 24 National Hispanic Scholars in the freshman class this fall. That is a major increase from 2007, when the university had four National Merit and ten National Hispanic Scholars.

Students qualifying as National Merit or National Hispanic Scholars take a PSAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test. Universities are notified of the students with the highest scores. At UNM all National Merit and National Hispanic Scholars are on full scholarship. ■



At a recent reception, UNM President David Schmidly and Provost Suzanne Ortega visit with new faculty members Melinda Benson, geography, and husband Reed Benson, School of Law.



New students and their families in Clovis gathered with alumni and parents of current students at UNM's first Summer Sendoff. The sendoffs, organized by UNM's Parent Relations and Alumni Relations, were also held in Gallup, Hobbs, Las Cruces and Santa Fe.



APS Superintendent Winston Brooks, CNM President Kathie Winograd and UNM President David Schmidly signed an agreement to create a seamless pre-kindergarten through graduate school (P-20) educational environment in the greater Albuquerque area. On hand were future benefactors of this agreement, kindergarten students from Sombra del Monte Elementary School in northeast Albuquerque.



Dance Professor Jennifer Predock-Linnell taught the Lobo football team Pilates during intercession before the fall semester.

Hispanic Business ranks UNM programs in Top 10

The September issue of Hispanic Business, Inc. features the top graduate schools for Hispanics. For the second year, the UNM School of Law ranks first among the top ten law schools. The UNM School of Engineering is ranked third for top engineering schools, up from a sixth place ranking a year ago. The UNM School of Medicine is again ranked sixth for top medical schools. ■



Parish Library opens 24/5

In response to student demand, Parish Library is now open 24 hours a day, five days a week, Sunday through Thursday. Last spring, students requested that one library be kept open 24 hours a day. Parish Library will open Sunday at noon and remain open continuously until 5 p.m. on Fridays. It will be open on Saturdays 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Parish was chosen because it is closer to street parking and can be more easily secured to ensure student safety. Modifications are now underway to provide coffee service. After 10 p.m. a Lobo Card will be required. ■

Think before you ink: Latest ITS green initiative

UNM's Information Technology Services (ITS) recently initiated the Print Release Program in all ITS computer labs and PODs throughout campus. The program is a joint effort between ITS and the Associated Students of UNM, and is aimed at not only improving print job tracking for students, but is also part of UNM's larger initiative to go green and reduce wasted resources such as paper, ink and energy. There is no charge to students, faculty or staff for printing. The Print Release Program holds print jobs until they are released by the user using a Lobo Card, giving users a second chance to consider whether the print job is necessary. ■



UNM, ABQ Ride partner on Shuttle to Games

The City of Albuquerque and UNM have entered into an agreement to provide shuttle service to all UNM Lobo home football games during the 2008 season. The agreement will free up parking, reduce traffic congestion, and provide better access to games.

Special parking lots will be set up and bus riders will be dropped off at the front door of the stadium. The parking shuttle will be at lot T at Lomas and University Boulevards. A representative from UNM will sell tickets for the shuttle for \$3 for each game, or \$12 for a season pass. The bus service will begin two hours before kick-off and will continue until all the fans are gone. ■

Long signs 5-year contract

Head football coach Rocky Long has signed a new five-year contract. The deal was effective July 1 and ends June 30, 2013. Long's previous contract was due to expire Dec. 31, 2009.

Long's annual compensation has been increased to \$750,000 from \$439,000. His new base salary is \$240,000 per year.

A star quarterback at UNM from 1969-71, Long is beginning his 11th season at his alma mater. That ties Roy Johnson (1920-30) for most seasons by a UNM head football coach.

Long is 61-61 overall at UNM, but the Lobos are 49-38 since 2002. The Lobos have also been solid academically under Long's watch. The program's top 15 semester grade point averages have been attained since Long took over. ■

Freshman Family Days



Maria Probasco, president of the UNM Parent Association, greets new families during Freshman Family Day.

College of Nursing receives \$750,000 from Helene Fuld Health Trust

The UNM College of Nursing has received a \$750,000 grant from the Helene Fuld Health Trust, HSBC Bank USA, N.A. Trustee to be used over the next three years for baccalaureate student scholarships. The College of Nursing will use \$450,000 of the total grant to establish a permanent endowment fund for scholarships. ■

Final Foundation count tops \$85 million for 2007-08

UNM and the UNM Foundation raised \$85.5 million, a 17.9 percent increase from last year's high-water mark of \$72.5 million. Donors increased to 20,330 from last year's record total of 19,500.

The combined endowment portfolio of UNM and the UNM Foundation finished the year with a market value in excess of \$325 million and returned 0.7 percent, 10.6 percent and 10.9 percent for the trailing one, three and five-year periods, outperforming the benchmark during each period. ■

HR makes recommendations following compressed work week pilot

The summer compressed work week pilot ended on Aug. 15. More than 2,500 staff responded to the compressed work week survey. Opinions were divided between support for the financial savings and better work+life balance resulting from the compressed work week, and concerns about business requirements and department and personal conflicts.

Given the divergent business needs and input received, the Division of Human Resources has recommended that UNM continue with the current policy on flexible schedules. ■