



UNM 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

I want to take a minute to reflect on the wonderful generosity of the UNM community. Even in the face of enormous adversity, the UNM family has shown tremendous kindness to those less fortunate.

Last year, when our United Way campaign set a target of \$1 million, people actually called my office to politely suggest that we'd set the bar too high. UNM's United Way campaign had never hit the \$1 million mark, and even then, some very savvy folks were predicting stormy days ahead for our economy.

Well, I don't have to remind you what happened to the economy, but even so, UNM came through. I'm proud to say we achieved our goal, and I want to thank each and every one of you for volunteering your time to help organize the campaign and for giving so generously.

Unless you've been out of town these past few weeks, doubtless you've seen coverage of our Faculty Governance meeting, which concluded in votes of "no confidence" by the faculty against me, Regents President Jamie Koch and Executive Vice President David Harris.

The votes have no legal significance, but they did send a message: we have had a major breakdown in communication here at UNM, and in ensuring that the principle of shared governance is practiced as much as it is revered. Much of the problem has been festering for six years or more. Resolution is long overdue, and I'm determined to bring it about.

As Thelma Domenici put it, there's been all too much talking at UNM, and not enough listening. Listening begins at the top, and I appreciate folks for reminding me of that.

I'm also determined to continue in this job that I love for as long as the regents want me and God lets me do so. One of UNM's greatest problems has been administrative uncertainty. When I was first approached for this job, I learned that I'd be the 6th president in 10 years.

Needless to say, you can't take a fine university like UNM to the next level with a revolving door on the president's office: it just can't be done.

I was hired to improve enrollment, increase graduation and retention rates, expand our services to the fast-growing communities to our north in Rio Rancho, and to achieve a greater degree of diversity within both the faculty and the upper tiers of administration. We're making enormous progress in all these areas, but it's not been without difficulty, as was expected. In any event, I hope to continue.

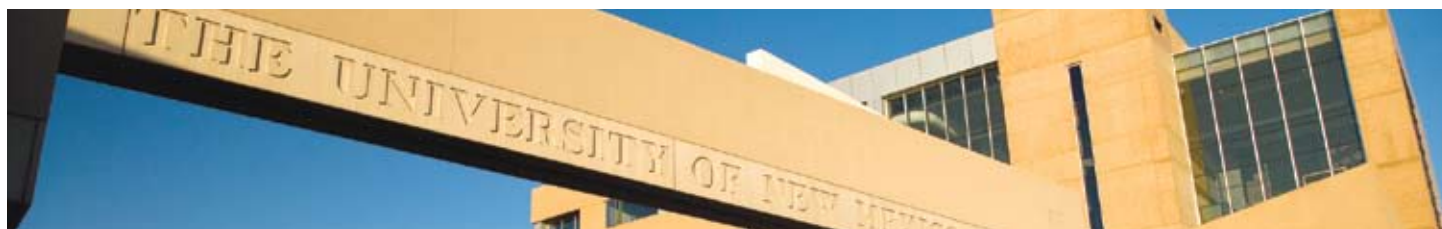


UNM President David J. Schmidly

In fairness, you can't underestimate the impact of the economic meltdown. The speed at which this recession hit public universities – and the need for quick decisions to protect jobs and programs – strained the mechanisms of shared governance not just here, but at universities all over the country. The problem is so pervasive that the Association of Governing Boards, on whose Board of Directors I'm proud to serve, has commissioned a comprehensive review of best practices in this regard. Hopefully, the AGB study will provide some guideposts for us as we evaluate our own mechanisms to reconcile shared decision-making with the need for speed in crisis situations.

Meanwhile, our decision-making has so far enabled us to avoid any layoffs or furloughs for any of our 22,000 employees. That's a far cry from our peer institutions like Arizona State, where 200 faculty have been laid off, or Utah State, where my counterpart may have to furlough 600 faculty and eliminate an entire college. By any measure, that's something for which to be grateful.

David J. Schmidly

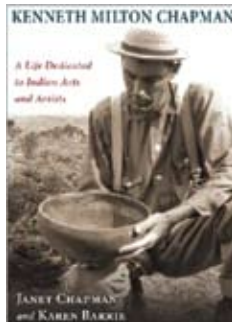
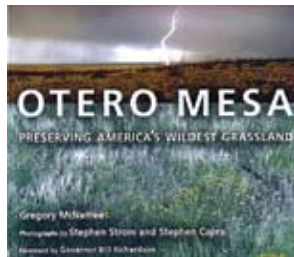
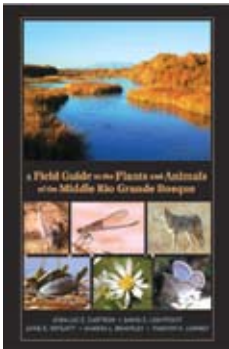




UNM employees and friends break ground on UNM's new campus in Rio Rancho.

UNM Press titles chosen 'Southwest Books of the Year'

Three UNM Press books were selected in the top 35 picks of Tucson-Pima County Public Library's "Southwest Books of the Year," a list of page-turners and must-reads chosen by a distinguished panel of judges. The selected books are "Otero Mesa: Preserving America's Wildest Grassland," "Kenneth Milton Chapman: a Life Dedicated to Indian Arts and Artists" and "A Field Guide to the Plants and Animals of the Middle Rio Grande Bosque." ■



UNMH among 'Top 100 Hospitals to Work For'

UNM Hospitals was selected as one of Nursing Professionals magazine 2009 "Top 100 Hospitals to Work For." UNMH will be featured in a special issue sent to students at more than 1,000 nursing schools.

The results are based on a survey of 25,000 randomly selected hospital nurses throughout the country.

According to Nursing Professionals, UNMH reflects the mission of the magazine by striving to include nurses at all levels within the organizational structure to effectively serve the best interests of its patients. ■

Washburn named dean of UNM School of Law

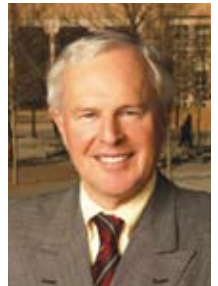
Kevin Washburn will lead the UNM School of Law as its newest dean and full professor of law, beginning June 30. An enrolled member of the Chickasaw Nation of Oklahoma, Washburn is the first American Indian to serve as the dean of UNM's School of Law. He currently serves as the Rosenstiel Distinguished Professor of Law at the University of Arizona's James E. Rogers College of Law. ■



Kevin Washburn

Brown named Anderson School dean

Douglas Brown has been appointed dean of UNM's Anderson School of Management. He begins his position as dean on June 1.



Douglas Brown

Brown has been the principal in Brown and Brown Ventures, LLC. A former UNM regent, Brown was chosen by Governor Bill Richardson to take over as New Mexico State Treasurer in November 2005 and fix a scandal-ridden agency. ■

UNM wins recycling award for pollution prevention

Resource Manager Linda McCormick accepted an award for UNM from the Albuquerque-Bernalillo County Water User Authority in recognition of pollution prevention.

The award recognized the university's extensive recycling and hazardous waste collection and disposal program and recycling events. In addition, the award recognizes campus xeriscaping and the refitting of toilets and showers with low flow devices to save water, as well as the dining facilities' use of biodegradable utensils and dishes. ■

Architecture student designs library for 21st century

Architecture student Mark Paz is the winner in the third annual design competition sponsored by the American Institute of Architecture Students and Kawneer Company, Inc. The competition challenged students to design a library while learning about building materials.

Paz was awarded first place and \$2,500 for his design of the Ocotillo Branch Library, featuring the sustainable component of sun shading. The competition had 441 registrations, making it the largest AIAS student design competition in more than 20 years. ■



Associate Professor Geoffrey Adams, standing, and graduate architecture student Mark Paz.



UNM architecture and planning students traveled to southern New Mexico, where they've taken on a Deming Main Street project as a studio assignment. UNM's Design and Planning Assistance Center helps revitalize downtown districts.

UNM attracts nation's top students

UNM is a contender in the tight competition for the nation's best students. As of Feb. 16, UNM received 152 applications from National Merit Scholars, National Achievement Scholars, National Hispanic Scholars and National American Indian Scholars for fall 2009, about triple the number of applicants in 2008.

To woo these highly sought scholars, UNM's Division of Enrollment, Office of Admissions and Recruitment Services has stepped up recruitment efforts and communications, including campus visits, email blasts and a recruiter assigned to give personal attention and assistance to these students throughout the application and registration process

In addition, applications are up 23 percent overall, including a 24 percent increase in freshman applications and 18 percent for transfer students. ■

UNM, state IT collaboration creates high-speed tech jobs in N.M.

DreamWorks Animation and Cerelink DMG are partnering to render CG 3-D films in New Mexico. UNM and the state made this possible with state-of-the-art technology infrastructure.

As part of this supercomputing project, UNM Information Technology Services worked with the New Mexico Computer Application Center, New Mexico Department of Information Technology, National LambdaRail, Albuquerque Gigapop and Cerelink DMG to successfully establish, test and demonstrate an ultra high-speed link that connects New Mexico to Hollywood.

The project is expected to initially create 65 new jobs in fields such as digital media production and health care, among others. ■



Academic All-MWC honors awarded to 47 Lobos

The Mountain West Conference honored 47 UNM student-athletes with the fall 2008 Academic All-Mountain West Conference Team. The Lobos recorded the third-most honorees among the nine MWC members.

The Lobos also had a record 3.14 combined grade point average for the fall semester. UNM student-athletes have now reached a G.P.A. of 3.00 or better for 12 of the last 13 semesters.

Ewart ties school record with fourth individual title

UNM junior Jodi Ewart shot a 2-under 70 to claim a share of the individual title at the Arizona Wildcat Invitational. Ewart tied with Southern California's Lizette Salas.

It's the fourth individual title for Ewart while at UNM, tying Caroline Keggi's school record.

Lobos win NCAA West Regional/RMISA Championship

The UNM ski team ended a 16-year drought and won the 2009 NCAA West Regional/Rocky Mountain Intercollegiate Ski Association Championships with 565 points. Sophomore Simon Reissmann won the men's 15-kilometer freestyle, while teammates Tor-Hakon Hellebostad and Martin Kaas finished third and fifth.

Lobo swim team records ninth highest G.P.A. in nation

The College Swimming Coaches Association of America recognized UNM's swimming and diving team for recording a 3.45 grade point average for fall 2008, the ninth highest in the country for Division I programs.



New Head Football Coach Mike Locksley, standing, visits with UNM parent Ann McDonald, seated left, who was among the parents, students and family members participating in UNM's first Parent Day at the Pit. UNM's Parent Association hosted a pre-game reception and silent auction in the President's Pavilion at University Stadium in conjunction with athletics and new food services vendor Sodexo to promote parental support of campus life. The association raised \$1,000 for student scholarships at the event.

Diabetes training modules win awards

Diabetes in the 21st Century training modules produced collaboratively by the UNM Health Sciences Center, New Mexico Association for Home and Hospice Care, New Mexico Medical Review Association, and New Mexico Health Care Takes on Diabetes earned a Gold Award in the Ava Awards 2008 competition and an honorable mention in the 2008 MarCom Competition.

Both are international awards recognizing outstanding achievement in marketing and communication. Diabetes in the 21st Century competed with more than 2,200 entries in the Ava Awards and more than 5,000 entries in the MarCom Competition. ■

UNM-Valencia receives \$1.38 million for nursing associate's degree

UNM-Valencia received a \$1.38 million, three-year grant from the U.S. Department of Labor to develop an Associate of Applied Sciences in nursing. The campus will move quickly to have the program up and running by the fall 2010 semester.

The new nursing program is a natural fit for UNM-Valencia, as the campus already offers the bulk of the course work needed to complete an associate's degree in nursing and has a state-of-the-art health sciences facility, complete with a cadaver lab. ■