



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

Our efforts to improve UNM's marketing and outreach to prospective students are beginning to pay off. It's clear that UNM is generating greater interest among college applicants. Freshman applications for the fall are up 27 percent from last year at this time, and admissions are up 15 percent.

Our efforts to reach across state lines are also showing signs of success. Nonresident freshman applications for fall are up 31 percent over last year, with admissions up 29 percent.

I'm also happy to report that our improved collaboration with community colleges is likewise having an impact: applications by transfer students at two-year colleges are up 23 percent and admissions 32 percent.

You'd expect applications to increase during times of high unemployment, but these numbers are far higher than could be explained even by the current recession. UNM has always had a great story to tell. Clearly, we're telling it more effectively, thanks to efforts by our new Division of Enrollment Management, not to mention University Communication and Marketing and our Alumni and Parent Associations.

Members of the New Mexico State Legislature faced some tough decisions during the session that just ended, with a projected 10 percent decline in revenues. The 2.5 percent tuition credit and decrease in Instruction and General Funds confronts us with some difficult and painful choices. But UNM has been far more fortunate than many of our peer institutions. We should be grateful that while some have been forced to lay off faculty (200 at Arizona State alone), here at UNM we're in the process of adding 43 new tenure-track faculty.

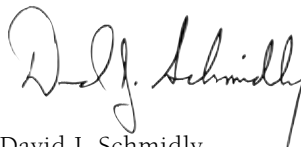
On a positive note, UNM received capital outlay funds for some important projects, including \$2 million for the Engineering Nano-Bio Tech Center, \$4 million for the Film and Digital Media Center and \$800,000 for UNM-Taos' Early Childhood Care Center. These forward-thinking projects will

help New Mexicans train for high-demand, high-paying jobs and help people with children return to school. Needless to say, the construction jobs generated by these projects will also provide a badly-needed shot in the arm for our local economy.

During times like these, I believe it's vitally important to keep everyone apprised of financial developments. That's why we've launched a Budget Impact Web site where students, parents, employees and alumni can get reliable information, share cost-saving ideas and track down rumors.

A special note of thanks is owed to the 383 faculty and staff who recently celebrated 15, 20, 25, 30, 35 and 40 years of service to the university. I particularly commend the lifelong commitment of three employees marking their 40th anniversary with us: Susan Dellinger, Daniel Finley and Ramon Renteria.

Congratulations are also in order to seven graduating seniors who received the Clauve Outstanding Senior Awards: Desbah Ahtsoaq Bill Benally, Michaela Brown, Chris Chaves, Joseph Dworak, Ashley Fate, Molly Maguire-Marshall and Alex Riebli.



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UNM President David J. Schmidly





Associated Students of UNM President Ashley Fate explains the layout of the proposed Student Recreation Center. Students had an opportunity to give feedback on the plan.

UNM-Gallup gives away books to promote literacy

People at UNM-Gallup want local kids to read more, and they're giving away free books to make sure it happens. Last fall, the Transitional Studies program sponsored a book give-away, distributing books bundled by reading level, age appropriateness, theme and language through the department's developmental reading classes. At the Zuni campus, dozens of locals gathered for the first Book Extravaganza, where more than 700 books for all ages were given away. ■



Kurt Voss, science instructor, reads to children at the recent Book Extravaganza.

Linnell named acting dean for College of Fine Arts

James Linnell has been appointed as acting dean of the College of Fine Arts. Prior to this appointment, he served as CFA senior associate dean.

Linnell, a writer and director, has taught at UNM since 1975 and previously at Northwestern University. As chair of the Department of Theatre and Dance, he helped establish the Master of Fine Arts in dramatic writing. He received a doctorate in directing at the University of California at Berkeley.

CFA Dean Christopher Mead is taking sabbatical leave this semester and will step down as dean at the end of July.



James Linnell

UNM names Outstanding Seniors

The winners of the 2009 Clauve Outstanding Senior Awards are Desbah Ahtsoaq, Bill Benally, Michaela Brown, Chris Chaves, Joseph Dworak, Ashley Fate, Molly Maguire-Marshall and Alex Riebli.

Clauve Awards are given to UNM seniors who have at least a 3.0 cumulative grade point average. This year's honorees have held a number of leadership roles in student organizations and have volunteered for community organizations including Big Brothers Big Sisters, Girl Scouts of America, Albuquerque Public Schools, African Refugee Well-Being Program, La Raza Unida and Roadrunner Food Bank.

Benally is a chemistry major, Brown a psychology major, Chaves a mechanical engineering major, Dworak a political science (pre-law) major, Fate a marketing major, Maguire-Marshall a speech and hearing and women studies double major, and Riebli a finance and marketing major. ■

Cecchi elected vice chair of national board of engineering deans

Joseph Cecchi, dean of the UNM School of Engineering, has been elected to a two-year term as vice chair and chair-elect of the Engineering Deans Council executive board. He previously served as a director on the executive board.



Joseph Cecchi

The EDC is the leadership organization of the American Society for Engineering Education, a nonprofit with more than 10,000 members from academic, government and industrial engineering communities. It includes more than 300 deans of engineering across the United States. ■

Pharmacy students garner national honors

College of Pharmacy students Kim Neff and Mariam Qozi placed in the top 10 out of 97 pharmacy schools at the American Society of Health-System Pharmacists National Clinical Skills Competition.

Each team of two students was given a patient case to solve and completed a written patient care plan. The top 10 finalists presented their patient care plan to a panel of judges.

In addition, pharmacy student Amy Baker was named vice chair of the ASHP Student Forum Executive Committee. ■

Student services staff garner recognition

The National Orientation Director's Association Region III recently recognized several UNM staff and students.



Kiyoko Simmons

Kiyoko Simmons, student affairs specialist in the Dean of Students Office, won the NODA Region III Outstanding Orientation Professional Award. She has worked in New Student Orientation at UNM for five years.

Other honorees at the ceremony included four UNM students that competed in the NODA Case Study competition: Dayra Fallad, Alexandra Roark, Sergio Najera and Jose Villar.

Additionally, Celestina Torres, senior student program advisor with the College Enrichment Program, received the Latino/a Knowledge Community Outstanding New Professional Award from NASPA – Student Affairs Administrators in Higher Education. ■



At a recent luncheon, Dick Garcia, Athletics; Patsy Duphorne, College of Nursing; and Clifford Martinez, Housing Services, were all recognized for 35 years of service to UNM.

Student makes third New Century Scholar for UNM-Valencia

For the third consecutive year, a student from UNM-Valencia will represent New Mexico as the New Century Scholar at the national American Association of Community Colleges conference. Candice Chavez will also be honored as a Bronze Scholar, a first for a UNM-Valencia student.

Chavez is president of the UNM-Valencia Wellness Club and scholarship officer for the campus chapter of Phi Theta Kappa honor society. She graduates this spring with an associate's degree in pharmacy and will apply to the main campus pharmacy program. She plans to complete a doctorate in pharmacy.



Two UNM-Valencia students were named to the All-New Mexico Academic Team and were honored in Santa Fe at the State Roundhouse recently. One of them, Candice Chavez, has since been named a New Century Scholar.



Baseball breaks into national polls

For the first time since 1985, the UNM baseball team has cracked the national polls. The Lobos are ranked or receiving votes in five of the six national collegiate baseball polls.

Baseball America has the Lobos ranked the highest at 18 and Collegiate Baseball has the Lobos ranked at 20. Ping! Baseball has the Lobos ranked at 30, while the NCBWA and the USA Today/ESPN Coaches polls have the Lobos receiving votes.

Challenging football season planned

Fans can look forward to an intense lineup for Lobo football in 2009. This season, opening Sept. 5 at Texas A&M, the Lobos face tough competition, including seven teams that played in a bowl game in 2008. So far, 10 nationally televised games are scheduled. UNM hosts New Mexico State in the 100th meeting between the Lobos and Aggies on Sept. 26.

Alford inducted into Indiana Basketball Hall of Fame

Head Coach Steve Alford was recently inducted into the Indiana Basketball Hall of Fame. Alford is just the eighth honoree to be selected in his first year of eligibility, joining other notable Indiana products Oscar Robertson and Larry Bird.



Alford was also named the 2008-09 Mountain West Conference Coach of the Year after leading the Lobos to a share of the league title.



The Lobos' sweet ride through the Women's National Invitational Tournament came to an end when they fell to Kansas 78-69 at the Santa Ana Star Center.

Foundation honors Presidential Scholarship donors, scholars

The UNM Foundation recently honored 250 donors and their scholars at the 33rd Annual Presidential Scholarship Program dinner. UNM currently has 478 Presidential Scholars, each taking at least 15 hours each semester and maintaining a grade point average of 3.0 or better. This year their average G.P.A. is 3.67.



Steve Stucker, morning anchor and weather forecaster, KOB Eyewitness News 4, emceed the Presidential Scholarship Program banquet.

Each Presidential Scholar is a New Mexico high school graduate who has demonstrated excellence in academics, leadership and community service. The Presidential Scholarship Program's mission is to keep the state's best, brightest and most community-minded students in New Mexico for their education. The program has an 81 percent graduation rate. ■

Storehouse Nursing Clinic receives Walgreens donation

Walgreens donated 30 True Touch Blood Glucose Monitors to help diabetic clients of the Storehouse Nursing Clinic monitor their blood sugar. The UNM College of Nursing holds weekly community health nursing clinics at the Storehouse to provide health screenings, health education and community resource information. The Storehouse, a 43-year-old nonprofit affiliated with the New Mexico Conference of Churches, provides food and clothing to about 100-150 low-income working people. ■