



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

This is a time of grand celebration at the University of New Mexico, as another semester and academic year come to a conclusion and scores of graduates close one very significant chapter of their lives, take a moment to bask in the accomplishment and then begin again on the rest of their life journeys.

Commencement really is the best time of the academic year. I invite all of you to join UNM's academic family for the ceremony that celebrates our graduates this Saturday, May 16, at 9 a.m. in Tingley Coliseum at Expo New Mexico (State Fairgrounds). The venue has been moved to Tingley while the Pit is renovated. However, the excitement level promises to be just as high and the memories just as meaningful.

The spring commencement speaker is Antonio R. Flores, the president and chief executive officer of the Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities. HACU represents 450 institutions across 37 states and Puerto Rico – collectively serving two-thirds of the more than 2 million Hispanic students in the U.S.

Student success is the cornerstone of all that we do at the University of New Mexico, so these last couple of weeks have been especially gratifying for me and all of my colleagues who have worked so hard to make our vision for enrollment management a reality. We wanted to transform the student experience so that navigating admissions, registration and financial aid, once a nightmare, became a seamless process. The One-Stop Student Service Center in Mesa Vista Hall on main campus has been operating for several weeks and is getting glowing reviews from students who appreciate the easy, efficient and friendly service.

Later this week, Provost Ortega and Vice President for Enrollment Management Carmen Brown will join me in cordially inviting you to the grand opening of UNM's Student Support and Services Center in the old Lockheed-Martin building on the corner of University Boulevard and Avenida Cesar Chavez. In addition to a second One-Stop, the SSSC will feature athletics advisement and compliance, the Center for Academic Program Support Supplemental Tutoring Service, offices for the Enrollment Management Division, Parent Relations and the Parent

Association, the Lobo Ticket Office (as the Pit undergoes renovation) and the Veterans Center. With more veterans rejoining civilian life and expanded educational benefits coming courtesy of a reinvigorated GI Bill, UNM created a center to serve their particular needs and ease their transition. And the added benefit for all of the programs in the SSSC is that parking is plentiful and free.



President David J. Schmidly

The recent global swine flu outbreak has had a number of local implications. We have made the decision to immediately suspend all UNM business- and program-related travel to Mexico at least through the month of May. This decision is due to the increased risks associated with the current H1N1 influenza level five World Health Organization advisory and the current Center for Disease Control travel advisory. This is a precautionary measure against potential exposure to the virus for our staff, faculty and students. We have also advised all UNM faculty, staff and students who are in Mexico for university business or programs to return from Mexico immediately to the United States.

I want to assure everyone that we on main campus, with the expert advice of the state health department, UNM Health Sciences Center and UNM Hospitals, will continue to diligently monitor new developments and information as it becomes available and take appropriate actions.

The summer promises to be productive and fulfilling. May it also be a time for reflection and rejuvenation. That is my wish for you all.

David J. Schmidly





Ursula Shepherd

Campus-wide teaching awards announced

The Faculty Senate Teaching Enhancement Committee and the Office of Support for Effective Teaching annually honor faculty with campus-wide teaching awards. The 2009-11 **Presidential Teaching Fellow** is Ursula Shepherd, University Honors Program. **Outstanding Teachers of the Year** are Sudhakar Prasad, physics and astronomy; Christine Sauer, economics and international studies; and Elizabeth Yeater, psychology. **Adjunct Teachers and Lecturers of the Year** are Janet Howe Gaines, English; Bryan Konefsky, cinematic arts; and Lisa Whalen, chemistry. The **Susan Deese-Roberts Outstanding Teaching Assistant Awards** go to Flor A. Espinoza-Hidalgo, mathematics and statistics; Glenn Hushman, health, exercise and sports science; Michelle Jewett, language, literacy and sociocultural studies; Daniel Sanford, linguistics; and Kelley Sawyer, anthropology. ■

UNM nets 14 N.M. Press Women Awards

UNM brought home 14 prizes from New Mexico Press Women's 2009 Communications Contest. Awardees include Africana Studies Director Sherri Burr and KUNM Associate Producer Megan Kamerick. University Communication and Marketing staff netted nine awards, including four in first place.

In addition, two UNM students, Vanessa Sanchez and Jennifer Vieth, received NMPW scholarships. Two UNM Press books, "Cricket in the Web: The 1949 Unsolved Murder that Unraveled Politics in New Mexico" and "Hiking Alone: Trails Out Trails Home," were honored with NMPW's Zia Awards. ■



Senior Communication Representative Carolyn Gonzales received the most awards, with two in first place, one third place and one honorable mention.

Charnov honored as American Academy of Arts & Sciences fellow

Distinguished Professor of Biology Eric Charnov has been elected a fellow of the American Academy of Arts & Sciences, one of the nation's most prestigious honorary societies. For 30 years Charnov has been



Eric Charnov

a world leader in evolutionary ecology. He received a MacArthur Fellowship in 1997. ■

Arts & Sciences honors teaching excellence

The College of Arts & Sciences announced the recipients of the college's 2009 Awards for Teaching Excellence. They are: Margaret Connell-Szasz, professor of history; Mary Domski, assistant professor of philosophy; Jennifer Richter, teaching assistant, American studies; and Leigh Johnson, teaching assistant, English. ■

Hurd-Knief recognized among '2009 Women of Influence'

Pam Hurd-Knief, senior director of development for the School of Engineering, is among the 2009 Women of Influence named by the New Mexico Business Weekly. The 31 women represent the spectrum of business and industry – trades, law, banking, real estate, banking, arts and education. ■



Pam Hurd-Knief

Students take home Goldwater Scholarships

UNM students Jessica Martin and Anna Vestling snared the coveted Barry M. Goldwater Scholarship. They are among 278 students selected from a pool of 1,097 applicants. In addition, UNM student Abdullah Feroze received an honorable mention.

Los Alamos native Martin majors in biology and plans to pursue a doctorate in ecology. Vestling, born in San Diego and raised in Socorro, is a Regents' Scholar majoring in biochemistry, with minors in flamenco and psychology. She plans to pursue a doctorate in cancer biology. Roswell native Feroze majors in biology and economics and plans to pursue a doctorate in neuroimmunology. ■

Jones receives Gilder Lehrman Fellowship

Senior student Ebony Jones is one of 15 scholars nationwide selected to receive a scholarship from the Gilder Lehrman Institute for American History. As a Gilder Lehrman fellow, Jones will spend five weeks in New York City this summer, where she will meet with prominent historians, conduct archival research and prepare primary source documents related to President Abraham Lincoln for publication. ■

Two firsts for UNM pharmacy students

The American Pharmacists Association recognized Kim Neff as the champion in the National Patient Counseling Competition – the first UNM student to win this prestigious award. Neff, who completes a Doctor of Pharmacy degree this spring, bested student pharmacists from 107 other colleges. In the competition, student pharmacists work with mock patients on the appropriate use of a complicated medication regime.

Adriane Irwin, also a pharmacy doctoral student, was installed as president of the American Pharmacists Association Academy of Student Pharmacists – another first for UNM. ■



UNM's animated institutional spot – “Be a Lobo. Be Yourself” – has won the national Council for the Advancement and Support of Education (CASE) Circle of Excellence Gold Medal. This is the highest award that CASE gives for televised commercial spots. Watch the video featuring Sam the Sheep at beyourself.unm.edu.

CDD conducts largest known disability survey

The UNM Center for Development and Disability recently released results from the first independent disability survey of more than 33,000 households. The survey was initiated by the Christopher and Dana Reeve Foundation and conducted by the CDD.

The findings showed that 40 percent more Americans live with paralysis and more than five times the number of Americans live with spinal cord injury than formerly estimated. The survey revealed that 1.3 million have had a spinal cord injury and 5.6 million Americans live with some form of paralysis. ■



A UNM team of chemical and nuclear engineering students won a WERC competition against teams from 20 universities with their project to remove sulfates from mining water. From left: Danielle Rivera, Norma Wells, Shelly Karlin and Toy Carden.



Three Lobos named MWC Players of the Year

Junior Jodi Ewart was named the Mountain West Conference women's golf Player of the Year. The league's co-Player of the Year in 2007 and 2008, Ewart is the first MWC golfer in league history to earn three consecutive Player of the Year honors.

Senior Johnny Parkes was named the MWC men's tennis Player of the Year after compiling a 20-2 spring singles record and a 14-6 doubles record, both at the number one position.

Senior Ola Abou-Zekry was named MWC women's tennis Player of Year. She is the first Lobo to earn the league's top award since 2004.

Lobos bring home second straight MWC golf title

The 24th-ranked UNM women's golf team won its second straight Mountain West Conference championship. The Lobos shot a final round 305 for a 54-hole total of 903. UNM has won six MWC titles in 10 years.

Lobos win MWC Tournament in 4-3 thriller

Senior Miles Bugby notched a three-set, tiebreaker win at the number three singles spot, giving the two-seeded, 43rd-ranked UNM men's tennis team a dramatic 4-3 win over the one-seeded, 38th-ranked TCU Horned Frogs in the MWC Championship match. The Lobos clinched their third MWC tournament title and an automatic bid to the NCAA Team Tournament.



Design model of the 2009 UNM School of Engineering FSAE race car

Sandia Labs gift supports race car program

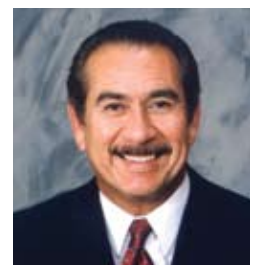
The UNM Foundation announced that Sandia National Laboratories continues to support UNM with its most recent award of \$5,000 for the School of Engineering Formula Society of Automotive Engineers race car program. Since early 2008, Sandia has contributed more than \$80,000 to UNM programs.

Since 1998, more than 125 UNM students have designed and built open-wheel race cars for the FSAE, an annual international collegiate engineering competition. Nationally, UNM's program is one of two offering FSAE participation for academic credit.

Sandia is one of the lead sponsors of the 2009 FSAE team, which competes in June. UNM's annual FSAE costs are \$74,000 – at other universities, costs have ranged as high as \$1.6 million. ■

Former UNM president among Senior Hall of Fame inductees

F. Chris Garcia, former UNM president and distinguished professor emeritus in political science, is among the Silver Horizons New Mexico 2009 Senior Hall of Fame inductees, who will be honored at a luncheon on Thursday, May 21. In 1982, Silver Horizons began the Senior Hall of Fame to honor outstanding individuals over the age of 65 for their lifetime commitments to the community. ■



F. Chris Garcia

Alumni partner with APS for third School Supplies Drive

The UNM Alumni Association partnered with Albuquerque Public Schools for the third annual APS/UNM School Supplies Drive. Last year, as many as 10,000 students needed supplies. In the current economic crisis, that number is expected to double. During an event at University Stadium in July, student athletes will greet families and help distribute backpacks filled with school supplies.