

Monday Morning Message - October 1, 2007

Good morning.

This will be our week to Connect! It's Inauguration Week, which is a celebration of UNM and its students, faculty, staff, alumni and friends. Please take the opportunity to attend and enjoy the many events planned for you by the Inauguration Committee. My special thanks goes to Breda Bova and her talented team for leading the effort.

First, this is a special invitation for all of you to join me for a reception on the lawns at University House tomorrow (Tuesday, October 2) from 3 – 5 p.m. There will be desserts and other refreshments, live music, entertainment and the opportunity to spend time with your UNM friends. If you're at Health Sciences, we'll have another reception for you this Thursday, October 4, from 1 – 3 p.m. on the Domenici Plaza at HSC. I look forward to meeting many more of my UNM colleagues.

The Installation Ceremony, which again is a celebration of the UNM community, is scheduled for Sunday, October 7, at 2:30 p.m. at Popejoy Hall. I invite you to join me for this event and for the reception that will follow at University House. Please pick up free tickets at any UNM ticket office to assure yourself of a seat in Popejoy. I understand a number of the faculty will participate in the processional that opens the installation. I thank you for participating and will be very glad to see you then and also for Explore UNM and Senior Day on Saturday. It's the campus-wide open house for students, parents and the community.

You will have opportunities this entire week to attend symposia in a number of areas that are especially relevant to UNM. I invite the faculty to take their classes to see respected experts in many fields, from Harry Green of Cornell speaking this morning on Natural History, Aesthetics and Conservation, followed by Mike Mares from the University of Oklahoma speaking on the museums and collections of UNM, to NCAA President Myles Brand speaking Friday on Connecting Athletics and Academics. A full listing of these dynamic events can be found at <http://www.unm.edu/inauguration/events.html>. Please take advantage of these wonderful opportunities.

I'm pleased that UNM has been nominated as one of the Best Places to Work in New Mexico. No doubt we'll have some competition from other NM institutions for the best educational institution title, so you can show your support for UNM by completing a Best Places to Work survey and telling folks that UNM is indeed the best institution of higher education in the state. It'll take just five minutes of your time. The survey can be found at <http://www.qmrinc.com/bestplaces/>. Just follow the directions after entering UNM org code: AZYM72489. Thanks in advance.

Finally, thanks again to the Alumni Association, the Homecoming Committee and all of you who worked to make our Homecoming Week a memorable one. In a weekend of upsets, the Lobos almost added one of their own, but not quite.

Make a number of connections this week.

David J. Schmidly