UNM Graduate Student Fund-United Way: The Graduate Scholarship Fund was set up through the UNM Foundation to help support the education of our UNM graduate students. For some background see: http://chronicle.com/article/Graduate-Student-Debt-Matters/129812/. You can contribute to the fund through the UNM United Way campaign. At the bottom half of the United Way pledge form (obtained from http://unmuw.unm.edu/), in the "Choose Where To Give" section, check the "Other Investment" box, write in the amount you wish to give to the charity or fund, and for the charity or fund name, write: Graduate Scholarship Fund.

Nicholas Kristof: Every year, NY Times columnist Nicholas Kristof chooses someone for his win-a-trip contest. In 2012, he will take a student along on a reporting trip to the developing world to try to shine a light on neglected issues. According to Mr. Kristof, these trips have been life-changing for past winners. Information on how to apply is found on Mr. Kristof’s blog, nytimes.com/ontheground.

Humboldt Award: One of our UNM faculty members, Professor Zachary Sharp of Earth & Planetary Sciences will be going to the Georg-August-Universität Göttingen to work with Professor Andreas Pack on a prestigious Humboldt fellowship. They are going to use a remarkable new heating system where a small silicate bead floats on a gas jet following the Bernoulli principle to understand the volatiles of the lunar material and how it relates to the formation of the moon and volatiles in planets. More information about the Alexander von Humboldt foundation and the fellowship is found at: http://www.avh.de/web/home.html.

Tamarind Institute: The Tamarind Institute is a unique UNM entity that houses the Tamarind Lithography Workshop, Inc. (TLW). The TLW was founded in Los Angeles in 1960 as a means to "rescue" the dying art of lithography. It was funded by the Ford Foundation until it became affiliated with the University of New Mexico in 1970. TLW moved to Albuquerque where it became the Tamarind Institute, a division of the College of Fine Arts of UNM under the directorship of Clinton Adams who served in that capacity until 1985, when Marjorie Devon was appointed director. The Tamarind Institute continues its programs of education, research, and creative projects with partial funding from UNM. For more information about this wonderful UNM resource, please check http://tamarind.unm.edu/.

A History of the World in 6 Glasses is a book by Tom Standage that I have recently discovered. The book notes, “it is possible to divide world history into period dominated by different drinks. Six beverages in particular - beer, wine, spirits, coffee, tea, and cola - chart the flow of world history. Three contain alcohol, and three contain caffeine, but what they all have in common is that each one was the defining drink during a pivotal historical period, from antiquity to the present day.”

A PDF version of this communiqué is available at: http://provost.unm.edu/communique/index.html

Your feedback and input is welcome at: provost@unm.edu

Sincerely,

Chaouki Abdallah, Interim Provost & Executive Vice President.