

## Message from the VP



Dear Student Affairs Colleagues,

Yesterday marked the official start of Lobo Day and UNM Big Give Day here at UNM. The surrounding events celebrate the very essence of what it means to be a Lobo. Whether as a student, a family member, a faculty or staff member, or alumni (and for some all of these at once!), being a Lobo is a true honor and opportunity. I hope that you will take the opportunity to support one or more of our departments, initiatives, or programs, and that you will enthusiastically share these opportunities with those in your life who also value this important work in service to our university community and transitively to our city, state, nation, and world. I enjoyed celebrating with you in the SUB yesterday and thank you for allowing me to be part of this thriving community.

I am excited to announce that this year's Louie Awards will be held at the Pete McDavid Lounge at the Pit to be followed by our division's attendance at the Lobo baseball and softball games where we will have our winners and division recognized over the PA. Student Affairs staff will be given up to 2 tickets

free of charge for either game and will have the opportunity to purchase additional tickets at \$3 each thereafter. Please consider nominating an outstanding colleague for one of our several awards listed below. The winner of the Howling Best Employee award will throw out the first pitch at the baseball game while the winner of the Lobo Star Student Employee will throw out the first pitch at the softball game. Attendees will be invited to go back and forth between the two for a fun afternoon in the sun! Please stay tuned for a calendar invite and more information about this exciting new format for the classic Louie's.

With appreciation,  
Eric

**Nominate Someone for a 2023 Louie Award**



This year's Louie awards are sure to be a grand slam as we head out to the Pete McDavid Lounge for the awards ceremony and the Lobo baseball and softball games to recognize our winners. The [Louie nomination form](#) opens on Friday, March 3 and runs through March 24.

Nominate a deserving someone **who works in the Division of Student Affairs** who always *bats 1000* for one of these awards:

- Howling Best Employee award
- Lobo Star Student Employee award
- Outstanding Pack Department award

Nominate **anyone who works at UNM** who always *comes through in the clutch*:

- Extraordinary **UNM Faculty** Pack Member award
- Extraordinary **UNM Employee** Pack Member award

## March is Women's History Month



The Women's Resource Center and the Division for Equity and Inclusion are hosting several events throughout March in celebration of Women's History Month. On Thursday, March 9, the Women's Resource Center is offering a virtual wellness workshop for Women in STEM at 1 p.m. Interested participants can email [women@unm.edu](mailto:women@unm.edu) for the Zoom link. On Thursday, March 30, the Division for Equity and Inclusion have a reception planned at the University. And throughout the month, the WRC will be doing

many student giveaways throughout the month. Follow [@unm\\_wrc](#) and [@unmdei](#) on Instagram for all the details.

## CEC Receives Food As Medicine Funding



The Community Engagement Center (CEC) has a longstanding history of creating partnerships and opportunities for youth to engage in food justice initiatives through apprenticeships, networks and initiatives, and civic engagement. They recently received funding to help further these efforts.

CEC was awarded a \$227K Food As Medicine grant from the NewSchools Venture Fund (NSVF)—an organization that invests in four key areas: innovate public schools, learning solutions, diverse leaders, and racial equality. Under the learning solutions platform, they plan to develop a comprehensive curriculum including history and practice for use at schools of all grade levels.

The two key outcomes they hope to achieve are creating an online platform that has resources, guides, technical tools, list of services, curriculum, that will help schools adopt a Food as Medicine learning solution; and creating a strategy or coordinated plan for piloting the unique services each of our organizations offers with schools.

“Every culture has a connection to healing foods, but many may not know about that connection or how we got to where we are today,” says CEC director, Dr. Kiran Katira. “We are working with a core group of individuals and organizations to develop a learning solution for anyone and everyone interested in seeing how nutritious traditional food in schools, Indigenized food curriculum, and the history of food justice can help us heal in different ways. The Food as Medicine model goes beyond physical nourishment; it creates opportunities for community/families (who are indigenous/immigrant) to build on their ancestral knowledge of caring and nourishing whole communities in the face of historical oppression.” [Read more...](#)

### Clause Outstanding Senior Award



The Lena Clause Outstanding Senior Award Application is now available through March 5. Applications for graduating seniors completing their degree this May or December, can [submit their application here](#). The Clause Award is named for Dean Emeritus Lena Clause, a UNM music education teacher and the first Dean of Women. She retired in 1961, but remained active on campus until her death at the age of 98 in 1994. The Clause Award is presented to outstanding seniors who have performed well academically and made significant contributions to the campus community through their outstanding leadership and

involvement in student organizations and activities.

### Save the Date for the NASPA New Mexico Drive-In Conference



The NASPA New Mexico Drive-In Conference in Albuquerque, NM taking place on May 25th -26th at the University of New Mexico is a 2 day conference that strives to bring together Student Affairs professionals from across the state. Together, we will learn from one another, discuss the critical issues impacting our field, network with new and established colleagues, and engage with those who are on the cutting edge of innovative student affairs practices.

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