

Wednesday, Nov. 6, 2024 | Edition #128

Message from the VP



Dear Student Affairs Colleagues,

As we begin to enter the final stretch of the semester, there is quite a lot happening on campus. This week kicks off the [Lobos Thrive Campaign](#) in support of the [Student Emergency Relief Fund](#). This fund is critical for students to receive support for acute emergency financial needs, that if met, can help them stay enrolled. Last week the VPSA office made an initial push towards supporting this fund with our participation in the Scholes Hall Halloween decorating contest. Our theme, Lobo Aid—based on the famous Live Aid concert in the 80's—not only received the best entrance prize, but also successfully raised \$815 dollars for the Student Emergency Relief Fund. Thanks to all who stopped by and supported this worthy (and fun) effort!

As we approach Veteran's Day this Monday, I want to call attention to the [week of events](#) beginning this Friday scheduled by our UNM Veteran and Military Resource Center (VMRC), and highlight the [Veterans Day Celebration and Remembrance](#) which takes place in the Alumni Memorial Chapel on Monday, Nov. 11, at 10 a.m. I have had the opportunity to attend this moving ceremony before and encourage those who are able to join to do so. I also want to take this moment to recognize our incredible Veterans and Military Resource Center team right here in the Division of Student Affairs. Our VMRC staff and their student employees create a welcoming, supportive, and service-oriented environment for student veterans and students who are family of veterans. They also

collaborate closely with other DSA units to ensure a holistic approach to student success at UNM.

As November is [National American Indian Heritage Month](#), I also want to highlight our hardworking and culturally responsive team at American Indian Student Services. Their work at UNM, both presently and historically, has endeavored to create an environment where Indigenous students are able to bring their full selves to campus and receive individualized support aiding their academic success and contributions to UNM.

Next week, I have invited Andrew Yazzie (Diné), our new Director of American Indian Student Services, to write for the Connect in my place to share his perspectives and highlights from AISS. I look forward to reading what Andrew chooses to elevate from this leadership post.

With appreciation,

Eric

Daily Lobo Wins Four New Mexico Press Association Awards

The Daily Lobo was recently recognized with four awards from the New Mexico Press Association Better Newspaper contest. The Daily Lobo is part of the Weekly Class II category which encapsulates weekly newspapers throughout the state with a circulation of less than 6,000. Awards included first and second place for investigative reporting, and two additional second place awards in the news writing and editorial categories.

The investigative articles covered the topics surrounding UNMPD body cameras, the Clery Act, and campus protests. Members from the Nevada Press Association who served as judges for the awards remarked that the investigative pieces were solid explorations into the effects of problematic legislation.

[Read article on Daily Lobo website](#)



American Indian Heritage Month



UNM's American Indian Student Services, Native American Studies, Center for Native American Health, and several chartered student organizations have collaborated to engage the university community in learning and discovering more about the Indigenous experience and perspective. The entire campus community is invited to attend and participate in a variety of public and cost-free educational, social, cultural, and artistic programming initiatives throughout the month of November. Visit the AISS [American Indian Heritage Month events page](#) for a complete schedule.

First-Gen Proud Celebration



This Friday, The University of New Mexico will proudly join hundreds of universities across the nation in [celebrating our First-Generation students](#). UNM President Stokes,

and Vice President for Student Affairs Scott, will host a First Gen Proud Celebration at noon in the SUB Atrium. The celebration marks the 56th anniversary of the Higher Education Act where the term first-generation was first coined which has helped countless low-middle income students become the first in their families to earn college degrees.

Visit the [UNM First Gen Proud website](#) for all the information.

VMRC Veterans Week Events

The graphic is a vertical black banner with white and red text. At the top left is the UNM logo. To its right is the text 'VETERAN & MILITARY RESOURCE CENTER'. Below this is the main title 'VMRC VETERANS WEEK' in large white letters, followed by 'SPECIAL EVENTS LIST' in smaller white letters. The events are listed in six rounded rectangular boxes, each with a date in a white circle on the left and event details on the right. The dates are: Friday 8, Monday 11, Tuesday 12, Wednesday 13, Thursday 14, and Friday 15. At the bottom of the banner is the website 'vrc.unm.edu' and the PAVE logo (Peer Advisors for Veteran Education).

VMRC VETERANS WEEK
SPECIAL EVENTS LIST

- FRIDAY 8** Annual UNM VMRC Marine Corps Birthday Cake Cutting Ceremony, 1:30 PM
Come by the VMRC to celebrate the Marine Corps birthday with the UNM VMRC and have a slice of cake.
- MONDAY 11** Veterans Day Ceremony at the Alumni Chapel beginning 10:00 am
We will gather at the Alumni Memorial Chapel for a Veterans Day Celebration and Remembrance hosted by the Veterans Alumni Chapter and the Veteran & Military Resource Center. The program will feature guest speaker Paul Blodgett, a UNM graduate and U.S. Navy veteran. Listen to the sounds of the bugle and bagpipes as we honor the bravery of our veterans and pay special recognition to the UNM alumni who made the ultimate sacrifice. We also invite you to a reception with refreshments after the ceremony in the chapel courtyard.
- TUESDAY 12** Represent Your Branch of Service Day & Picnic at 12:00 pm
Please stop by the VMRC dressed to represent the branch of service you are affiliated with for our Veterans Week Picnic. Grab food and network with military-affiliated students and staff from the UNM community.
- WEDNESDAY 13** Open House & VMRC 15-Year Anniversary
Stop by the VMRC between 9:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. to learn about the programs and services provided to UNM Military Affiliated Students.
- THURSDAY 14** Faculty/Staff Recognition Day Luncheon at 12:00 pm
The VMRC would love to include your department in our Faculty/Staff Recognition Day Luncheon. Please email Jesse Preciado at jpreciado@unm.edu with the name of your department veteran(s) or veteran dependent(s) you would like to recognize by November 8th so we can plan accordingly for food and refreshments.
- FRIDAY 15** Red Out Friday
Wear RED on Friday for Remember Everyone Deployed. Show your support for every one deployed by wearing RED.

vrc.unm.edu

PAVE
Peer Advisors for Veteran Education

The Veteran & Military Resource Center is excited to announce upcoming Veterans Week activities, beginning Friday, Nov. 8, and continuing through Friday, Nov. 15. Everyone is

invited to participate in various events to honor our veterans and recognize our faculty and staff.

Lobos Got Talent



For the 17th year, our Lobos will once again be showcasing their talents at the annual Lobos Got Talent Show, Friday, Nov. 8, from 6 to 8 p.m. in the Student Union Building, Ballroom C. Please come out and support our students as they sing, dance, perform comedy, spoken word, and more.



Shrum Awarded 2024 Outstanding Supervisor

Congratulations to James Shrum, Associate Director of Operations, Student Health and Counseling who was recognized with UNM Staff Council 2024 Outstanding Supervisor Award!

Veterans Day Celebration and Remembrance



This Veterans Day, we gather to honor the courage and sacrifices of those who have served in our nation's military. On Monday, Nov. 11, at 10 a.m., the UNM Alumni Association invites you to a Veterans Day ceremony at the Alumni Memorial Chapel. We will reflect on the bravery of our Veterans, paying special tribute to the UNM alumni who

made the ultimate sacrifice. The ceremony will include remarks from Paul Blodgett, a UNM graduate and U.S. Navy Veteran, along with the sounds of bugle and bagpipes. A reception and refreshments will follow the ceremony in the chapel courtyard.

First-Gen Focus Committee



The First Gen Focus Committee is seeking staff members for the 2024-2025 year to continue advancing the division's goals and priorities for UNM's first-generation student population. The committee will identify, track, and encourage the implementation of empirically researched best practices that have been shown to benefit first-generation college students and advance their likelihood of postsecondary student success outcomes. Further, the committee will be responsible for implementing visible and engaging celebrations of the contributions that first-generation students make to the UNM community.

The committee will be chaired by a Division of Student Affairs (DSA) First-Gen Champion. This individual will be selected from a slate of interested individuals by the Student Affairs Executive Leadership team. The First-Gen Champion/Chair will lead the committee in advancing its charge, serve as a visible proponent of first-generation practices, and participate in professional development focused on first-generation supportive practices. Specific responsibilities include serving as lead for best practice research, survey design, and programming and as the institutional representative at monthly NASPA regional meetings.

Those interested in serving on the First-Gen Focus Committee can [apply here](#) by Friday, Nov. 15.

UNM Mandatory Training

MANDATORY TRAINING DEADLINE: DEC. 2



Just a reminder that annual training for all UNM employees is due by Monday, Dec. 2. There are now four required courses, including the new "[Securing the Human](#)" security training.

- MT 2024E or MT 2024S: Prevention of Harassment and Discrimination
- BAST 2024: Basic Annual Safety Training - 2024
- ACSH 2024: Active Shooter on Campus: Run, Hide, Fight - 2024
- SANS Security Awareness Training 2024: Securing the Human

These courses take about two hours and have already been added to your Learning Central training plan. Annual mandatory training is crucial in keeping us informed about important safety issues, from preventing accidents and harassment to knowing what to do in an active shooter scenario.

All UNM employees - including regular and temporary staff, faculty, on-call workers, and student employees - must complete these trainings. Get started on [UNM Learning Central](#).



[Access the DSA-L Home Page and Archives](#)

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