

## Message from the VP



Dear Student Affairs Colleagues,

Welcome back! Following a successful move-in, convocation, and beginning of welcome weeks, campus is once again a lively place full of connection, exploration, learning, and growth. My many thanks go to the numerous individuals and teams that have made the opening of this year successful and full of happiness. For those hosting events and tabling around the Duck Pond this week, a special reminder to stay hydrated and look out for each other as we continue to deal with late summer heat.

As I enter my third academic year at UNM, I am feeling joy, gratitude, and optimism held up by a foundational belief that, through our work in Student Affairs, UNM truly is a place where our students can find *Opportunity Defined*. One priority for this year will be continuing and completing our divisional strategic planning process which will guide us through the next five years of our growth and development as an organization. Please be on the lookout for additional ways to contribute, including participation in upcoming focus groups themed around our six strategic priorities. Your experiences and perspectives are critical to fully capturing our division's diverse and meaningful work.

See you on campus for green chile stew!

With appreciation,

Eric

## Yazzie Named Director for American Indian Student Services



After a competitive nationwide search, Andrew Yazzie (Diné) has been named director for American Indian Student Services (AISS). Yazzie takes over the helm after long-time director, Pam Agoyo (Cochiti, Kewa, Ohkay Owingeh), was promoted to executive director for Student Support in July 2023.

With the start of a new fall semester, it is fitting that Yazzie – who earned both his Master of Public Administration and bachelor's degree in Family Studies from The University of New Mexico and utilized Yazzie credits his fourteen years of service in AISS, and the groundwork laid by Agoyo as the best preparation for his new role. "Throughout my time at AISS, I've had the opportunity to develop connections across campus every day via partnerships and collaborations and by serving on a number of committees," he said. "I understand the importance of utilizing Indigenous student development

theories to inform the ways in which we support student success and oversee all aspects of AISS advisement and student support services.”

“Andrew is incredibly committed to Indigenous student success and will continue to bring strong levels of advocacy, empowerment, and equitable learning opportunities to the forefront of their UNM experience,” Agoyo said. “He brings a wealth of knowledge and innovative practices to the director role and I’m extremely excited about being in a position to support Andrew’s insight and vision for advancing American Indian Student Services.”

Dr. Eric Scott, vice president for Student Affairs, said that he has been moved and inspired by Yazzie’s passion to serve, which is consistently held up by deep and strong professional foundations. “He is a remarkable leader and poised to continue an ongoing trajectory of success for AISS,” Scott said.

[Read more...](#)

## Fall Welcome Back Days Continue



### [Campus Communities Day - Green Chile Stew](#)

Wednesday, Aug. 21, 10 a.m.

Duck Pond

### [North Campus Day](#)

Wednesday, Aug. 21, 11:30 a.m.

HSC Courtyard

### [Student Organization Day - Dion’s Pizza](#)

Thursday, Aug. 22, 10 a.m.

Duck Pond

### [Campus Employment and Community Service](#)

Friday, Aug. 23, 9 a.m.

Ortega Hall

## Johnson Center Hosts Convocation Ceremony



On Sunday, new Lobos flooded into Johnson Center for the fall First Year Convocation ceremony. The venue for the treasured tradition had already been changed due to the unavailability of Popejoy Hall, and there was a real possibility that it might have to be moved again or even cancelled. Thankfully, that didn’t happen due to the efforts of Recreational Services staff.

Photo credit: Hyunju Blemel

# Thank you Rec Services Staff!

## Custodial Staff

Joseph Chavez  
Jessie Garcia  
Roy Kenny  
Norma Marrufo  
Amelia Miron-Diaz  
Elizabeth Rivera Vasquez  
Francesca Salvatierra  
Humberto Sanchez  
Leilany Rodriguez- Sotelo  
Michael Tracy  
Rosetta Yazzie

## Rec Staff

Jim Todd  
Naomi Barnhart  
Brooke Martinez  
Thomas Shiparski  
Donald Sollami

## UNM Children's Campus Parent Social



UNM Children's Campus parents are invited to a campus parent social on Friday, Aug. 30, from 6-8 p.m. in the SUB Ballroom A. Parents will enjoy appetizers and have a chance to meet one another, visit UNM resource booths to learn all about campus offerings, and could win prizes. Free childcare and dinner will be offered from 6-8 p.m. upstairs from the event.

## Mark your Calendars

FREE FOOD, LIVE DJ  
& PERFORMANCES!

**WELCOME  
BACK BBQ**

Pick up your ticket in AASS!

August 22 | 5:00 PM | Mesa Vista Courtyard

BLACK EDUCATION ACT



**Welcome Back Lobos!**

**2024  
RAZA JUNTA**

Join us as we kick off the new academic year with *danza, música y comida!*  
Meals will be limited,  
first-come first-served!

**¡Para Adelante Raza!**

Wed. Aug. 28 | 11:30am - 1:30pm  
Mesa Vista Hall, Ethnic Center Courtyard

elcentro@unm.edu  
elcentro.unm.edu  
(505) 277-5020

@elcentrounm

**2024  
AISS Welcome Back**

Thursday, August 29, 2024  
12:00pm - 2:00pm  
Mesa Vista Hall Southwest Courtyard

VISIT AISS (1119 MESA VISTA HALL)  
TO PICK UP A TICKET!

AMERICAN INDIAN  
STUDENT SERVICES

