

Message from the VP



Dear Student Affairs Colleagues,

I hope this day finds you with kindness and good feelings. As we celebrate those we care most about, it seems fitting that our Be Kind initiative in the Division of Student Affairs is hosting several events and activities today in the SUB Atrium from 11AM to 1PM. Stop by to see the VPSA office team who will have games, prizes, snacks, and good cheer! Another great BeKind event is the annual Teddy Bear Toss at Lobo basketball games. This year, a record number were collected which will be distributed to first responders, youth services, shelters, and other spaces where young ones may be in need of something cute and soft to hug. I am grateful for the team who puts BeKind together for promoting one of the best possible qualities... kindness.

Kindness itself is a kind of service to community. Last week I had the pleasure of celebrating many students who serve our community at the Lobo Leadership and Involvement Awards hosted by Student Activities. Hearing about the myriad of contributions these students have made, often with support of DSA advisors and programming, was inspiring. We celebrate not only their exceptional leadership qualities, but also the impact they have on our campus community by creating opportunities for engagement and belonging for their peers. If you are looking for an engagement and contribution opportunity, I hope you will consider strategic planning workgroup participation as we shape our collective future grounded in priorities, goals, and values representative of all that we are and can be. Your perspectives are deeply valued.

With appreciation,
Eric

Open Call: DSA Strategic Planning Workgroup

The Division of Student Affairs is seeking interested staff members to contribute to the *Engage to Innovate* strategic planning process. Workgroup members will inform the direction of the division's strategic plan by participating in focused planning sessions to help develop recommendations for DSA's mission, vision, values, strategic priorities, and action plans.

Fill out [this form](#) to demonstrate your interest in serving as a member of the strategic planning team.

Submit by **Friday, February 16, 2024** for best consideration.



BeKind UNM Week

BeKind UNM Week
February 12-16, 2024

BeKind UNM Celebration Schedule

Sunday Jan. 28	Men's Lobo Game Teddy Bear Toss 8 p.m. The Pit
Wednesday Feb. 14	Kindness Carnival 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. SUB Atrium
	Women's Lobo Game Teddy Bear Toss vs. SJSU 7 p.m. The Pit

BeKind UNM Campus Partner Events

Feb. 1-12	CHWI Food Drive to Benefit the Lobo Food Pantry
Feb. 12-15	UNM Valencia Campus BeKind UNM Events
Feb. 13 & 15	UNM Online Listening Sessions

The annual [BeKind UNM celebration](#) is here! All Lobos are invited to help spread kindness this week at the BeKind UNM [Kindness Carnival](#), Teddy Bear Toss at the [women's Lobo basketball game](#), and a number of other events hosted by our campus partners.

This year's Kindness Carnival will also feature a donation drive for the [Lobo Food Pantry](#). Participants can bring a donation for the pantry for their chance to win a one-month parking pass from UNM Parking and Transportation Services.

You can still try your luck at the [women's Lobo basketball game](#). Fans are asked to bring a NEW stuffed animal to the game and participate in the toss at half-time for their chance to one of the grand prize baskets which include one of the following: gift cards from the UNM Bookstore, Dions, Christy Maes, Popejoy tickets, a lobo quilt, and swag from Zia Graphics, UNM Athletics, Children's Campus, Staff Council and other campus departments and partners.

UNM BigGive



Just a reminder that [UNM Big Give](#) is one week away! Starting at 12 a.m. on Wednesday, Feb. 21, for 24 hours you have the opportunity to help our Lobos by participating in UNM Big Give. Please consider giving to [Student Affairs services and programming](#). By investing in Student Affairs, students are empowered to become more resilient, productive, and prosperous degree completers while also experiencing an enhanced sense of purpose and belonging. Any program, or department of your choosing can benefit from your gifts, no matter how large or small.

AASS Black History Month Student Spotlight

As African American Student Services continues their [Black History Month celebration](#), the CONNECT is spotlighting some of our Black student leaders throughout February who have been recognized for their service by both AASS and Africana Studies this year. This week, we feature Kaelyn Moon.

Kaelyn Moon

Kaelyn Moon is a junior majoring in Africana Studies and Sociology. She is a 2021 Summer Bridge Academy Scholar, 2022 Association for Black Cultural Centers Undergraduate of the Year, former UNM Student government ASUNM senator, 2023 Summer Bridge Academy Counselor and Student Success Leader in African American Student Services. She currently serves as the President of the Powerful Movement of Educated Sistas and Vice President of Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Incorporated - Nu Tau Chapter.



To be a productive student leader you have to be able to turn the ordinary into the extraordinary. Kaelyn Moon has shown how you can do that and more with her involvement in African American Student Services. She has exhibited an interest in providing a positive experience for Black students at UNM and done so via her leadership in the Powerful Movement of Educated Sistas. She took the initiative to get on the executive board of PMES and nearly tripled the organization's membership and budget. She has also established signature and collaborative programs for the organization that center safe social experiences for Black students at UNM and centering the voice of Black students. Her work does not go unnoticed as she is called upon by administration for various special projects and initiatives.

Celebrate Women Making History during Women's History Month



In celebration of Women's History Month, The Women's Resource Center is asking the UNM community to help celebrate and acknowledge all the amazing women & femmes on campus by sharing your story of her with them. Click [here](#) to share your video with them. Submissions close on Thursday, Feb. 29 at 11:59 P.M.

FAFSA Completions Assistance



The College Enrichment Program will host FAFSA Tuesdays January through March to help students complete their Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) application. UNM priority date is Friday, March 1, 2024.

El Mezquite Scholarship



Students are encouraged to [apply](#) for The El Mezquite Scholarship. The scholarship is designed to provide financial assistance to students currently enrolled at The University of New Mexico. The

selection committee will base scholarships on educational achievement, leadership qualities, a written essay, and a strong need for financial assistance. Scholarship awards of \$1,000 will be awarded for the spring semester.

Lena Clause Outstanding Senior Award



2024

UNM DEAN OF STUDENTS

**CLAUVE
OUTSTANDING
SENIOR AWARD**

APPLICATIONS ARE
AVAILABLE ONLINE AT :
[GOTO.UNM.EDU/CLAUVE24](https://goto.unm.edu/clauve24)

APPLY NOW 

THE DEADLINE FOR ALL APPLICATION MATERIALS IS MARCH 6,
2024 AT MIDNIGHT (11:59 PM MST). IF YOU HAVE QUESTIONS,
CONTACT DOSO@UNM.EDU

The poster features a photograph of a large, weathered stone sculpture of a hand holding a torch, set against a background of green trees and a blue sky.

This year the Clave Outstanding Senior Award will again be presented to outstanding senior students who have performed well academically and made significant contributions to the general welfare of the campus community through their involvement in student organizations and activities. This award is for undergraduate baccalaureate students from the Albuquerque campus, who are graduating this May or December of 2024.

If you know an outstanding student who you think might be eligible, please encourage them to apply via the [Dean of Students website](#) and directly at <https://goto.unm.edu/clauve24>. Application deadline is Wednesday, March 6 at midnight, and any letters of recommendation are turned in digitally via: CLAUVE@UNM.EDU.

