

Wednesday, May 29 | Edition #113

Message from the VP



VP Scott visiting the Gila Cliff Dwellings

Dear Student Affairs Colleagues,

I hope your summer is off to a great start. I'm taking some of my time this summer to explore our beautiful state and learn more about the diverse lands, culture, people, and history of this special place. Recently I had the opportunity to explore the <u>Gila Cliff Dwellings</u> and the stunning Gila River and Wilderness—America's first designated wilderness. Seeing a different part of our state made me excited to connect with students and families from places like Hatch, Deming, Silver City, Reserve, and Magdalena at our first in-person new student orientation this week.

Orientation is one of the most important moments in a student's transition to college and I am grateful for the team from the College Enrichment Program, our collaborating Student Affairs units, and our partners from across campus who work to make campus a welcoming and vibrant place during this nearly weekly summer event.

Finally, I am happy to share that next week we will hold the first of our Student Affairs unit annual planning sessions. These sessions, supported by annual planning documents developed by our unit directors, will cover opportunities for critical advancements in topics such as goal setting, fiscal planning, strategic staff planning, professional development, assessment and evaluation, alignment with UNM 2040, and more. I am excited about this important step that will streamline planning and solidify our culture of continuous improvement in support of student success.

With appreciation,

Eric

The Louie Awards are Materializing



Tyler Sovelove scans Louie bobblehead for printing

The traditional golden Lobo Louie bobblehead award is getting a new look.

For the past 15years, Student Affairs has been recognizing and celebrating staff, faculty, departments, and student employees at the annual Louie Awards ceremony—a themed event complete with decorations, food, and a golden Lobo Louie bobblehead for the winners. This year, the coveted awards are materializing thanks to ARTSLab, an interdisciplinary makerspace within the College of Fine Arts (CFA) whose pillars are Art, Research, Technology and Science.

Each year, Natalie Brigance, executive assistant to the vice president for Student Affairs (VPSA), and Louie ceremony coordinator, digs into Student Affairs' Lobo Louie bobblehead stash, breaks out her gold spray paint, and prepares the sought-after statue for its yearly appearance.

This year, due to a shortage in the stash, an extremely limited restocking option to buy 500 in bulk, and a price increase, the VPSA office is teaming up with ARTSLab to create a one-of-a-kind golden Louie—minus the bobble— that will make its debut at the award ceremony.

"Because buying the bobbleheads in bulk was neither ideal nor cost effective, we decided to look at other options that were similar and still conveyed the look and feel of the traditional golden Louie statue award," Brigance said.

Coincidentally, Dr. Florencio Olguin, director of operations for Student Affairs, and former academic operations officer in the CFA Dean's Office, had an idea and a connection. He suggested Brigance work with ARTSLab to print the Louie on their 3D printer.

"Professor Stewart Copeland and his team at ARTSLab had previously used 3D printing technology to create a life-size Lobo for CFA's inaugural ArtsSplash event in 2022," Olguin said. "So, I knew they could help us with our conundrum and that it would be a great way for Student Affairs to collaborate with CFA faculty to showcase their incredible work."

Read full story

See You at the Louies



UNM Student Support Services-TRIO Alumnus Receives Achievement Award



Demetrius Gloster, UNM Student Support Services-TRIO (SSS-TRIO) and Ronald E. McNair alumnus, was recently honored with the TRIO Achiever award at this year's TRIO New Mexico conference. The award is given each year to an exemplary TRIO alum who has made outstanding civic, community, and professional contributions.

Gloster will now represent New Mexico, alongside award recipients from each state, at the 2024 fall regional Southwest Association of Student Assistance Programs TRIO-based conference in Little Rock, AK, where he may be selected for the national TRIO Achiever award. "The national award is a big honor," said Dawn Blue-Sky Hill, SSS-TRIO program manager. "The last TRIO Achiever who made the national list was state attorney Hector Balderas in 2017."

Gloster earned both his Bachelor's and Master of Business Administration from The University of New Mexico Anderson School of Management. He currently serves as a senior human resource specialist for the Corporate Senior Executive Management Office, HR and Administration/Operations, Security and Preparedness for the U.S. Department of Veteran Affairs.

Blue-Sky Hill remembers Gloster as a freshman who came to UNM from Denver as a Daniels Fund Scholarship recipient and demonstrated academic excellence and the TRIO spirit of resilience.

"As an undergraduate, Demetrius served as a project assistant for SSS," Blue-Sky Hill said. "During that time, he helped organize culturally-relevant educational events including the City of Albuquerque Make a Difference Day by volunteering at the Roadrunner Food Bank, and participating at the UNM Spring Storm event at Watermelon Ranch."



Professional Opportunities



AISS is seeking a creative and talented recent UNM graduate to join their team and gain professional experience working in higher ed. Apply via: unmjobs.unm.edu by Thursday, May 31 for best consideration.

The Women's Resource Center is looking for a Social Media and Outreach Coordinator. This is a student position, workstudy, able to work at least 10 hours a week.





