

## Message from the VP



SUB employees ready for Late Night Breakfast last Sunday night.

Dear Student Affairs Colleagues,

As we move through finals week and towards our spring commencement on Saturday, I am encouraged by the dedication and resilience of our students as they commit to finishing the term strong. It has been my absolute pleasure to spend my time on campus each evening and weekend these past few weeks to celebrate the collective successes of our students and acknowledge the meaningful contributions of our student affairs team in striving for and achieving many of those accomplishments.

Since last week, we have celebrated graduation for members of fraternities and sororities, the UNM Black Graduation and Awards Ceremony, and the Asian American and Pacific Islander Graduation Ceremony. We have celebrated the many cohort programs in El Centro and served a Late Night Breakfast in the SUB. Engaging in these annual traditions brings me both joy and inspiration.

This year I was particularly inspired and moved by a historical moment at UNM. On Saturday, May 4, a National Pan-Hellenic Council was officially chartered and installed at UNM. This council, affectionately known as the "Divine Nine," and composed of historically Black Greek-letter organizations, was originally founded on May 10, 1930. Hosting a council at UNM is the result of over a decade of student and staff investment and advocacy, and signals both the achieved strength and bright future for Black Greek-letter organizations at UNM. I want to share special gratitude and congratulations to all who had a hand in achieving this historical milestone.

This week we will round out our celebratory events with Raza Graduation and American Indian Convocation followed by the formal University Commencement exercises on Saturday, May 11, at The Pit. Congratulations graduates and to all who have supported their arrival on this long journey.

With appreciation,

Eric

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## SUB Director Interviews

**Student Union Director Finalists**

**OPEN FORUMS**

**Wednesday, May 15**  
**Dennis-Ray Armijo**  
Associate Director  
Student Union Building  
The University of New Mexico

**Thursday, May 16**  
**Brent Freeman**  
Director  
Unions, Events & Services  
University of Nebraska-Lincoln

**Friday, May 17**  
**Z Paul Reynolds**  
Director  
Waldron Campus Center  
Gannon University

All forums will be held in  
**SUB Lobo A&B Rooms**  
**2:30 to 3:30 p.m.**  
and via Zoom:

After a competitive search, the search committee has announced three finalists for the position of director for the Student Union Building in the Division of Student Affairs. Each candidate will host forums open to UNM students, faculty and staff to provide information about their experience and engage in open dialogue about why they are interested in the position.

This key role serves as the leader and coordinator of the programs and services of the Student Union Building, and collaborates with student organizations, campus partners and external and internal constituencies to ensure programs and facilities support the needs of the campus community and student body. [Click here](#) to learn more about each candidate, and to view their bios and CVs.

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## Raza Graduation



El Centro de la Raza has experienced and celebrated the graduation of our UNM Raza students since its inception in 1969. To memorialize this day, in 1994, El Centro de la Raza began the tradition to celebrate our graduates and their families. El Centro recognizes that graduating from any academic program is an effort in which the entire family partakes, and they celebrate everyone for the effort and the struggle that “getting an education” entails.

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## American Indian Convocation



This year's recognition will show appreciation for the accomplishments of all American Indian & Indigenous students receiving undergraduate, graduate, and professional degrees from UNM-Main Campus within the following semesters: Fall 2023, Spring 2024, and Summer 2024. It's also an opportunity for graduates to recognize their family, friends, tribal leaders, UNM faculty and staff, and others who have provided support and encouragement during their university experience. This event is a personal and cultural celebration and is intended as an additional avenue to acknowledge this significant educational milestone for American Indian & Indigenous students.

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# Louie Awards Celebration



We hope you are able to join us at this year’s Picnic at the SUB Louie awards celebration as we honor our award winners, show appreciation for our staff, and celebrate the end of the academic year. This year, our Louies will look a little different as we’ve partnered with the UNM ARTS Lab to design and create unique awards for our winners. We will also be recognizing the recipient of our new *Student Affairs Generosity* award, which makes its debut this year. The picnic is sure to be a fun time with games, food, and the chance to visit with colleagues and friends!

