



The Acting Provost's Weekly Brief

March 1, 2017

Greetings! I hope the spring semester is moving along well for you. It is hard for me to believe that we have already made it to March and Spring Break is less than two weeks away. Thank you for all your hard work in implementing the education, research, and service mission of the University. It is a testament to the commitment of our community members that this work goes forward in an outstanding fashion through all contexts, including those of change and uncertainty. To echo the acting president's message on Monday, navigating this uncertainty will require creativity, careful deliberation, and decisive action. To that end, the best solutions will come with the full participation and input of all stakeholders. I hope you will continue to communicate ideas, questions, and concerns to me and our other faculty, staff, and student representatives as we continue to assess and refine our mission.

Lobo Reading Experience and Celebration of Student Writing

The Lobo Reading Experience committee announced their selection for the 2017-18 academic year, and the winner is (I believe I have the right envelope here): "Just Mercy: A Story of Justice and Redemption," by Bryan Stevenson. I encourage everyone to join me in reading the book and participating in LRE events beginning in Fall 2017. I also want to thank the book selection committee, and the committee's co-chairs Cristyn Elder and Katie Denton, for their hard work. The committee performs a great service for the University community each year.

I would like to remind you that the Celebration of Student Writing begins at 10 a.m. today in the Student Union Building. At 2 p.m. in the SUB Ballroom, Daisy Hernández, the author of "A Cup of Water Under My Bed," and this year's Lobo Reading Experience, will participate on a community panel. Her keynote address is this Thursday, from 11-12 p.m., in SUB Ballroom C.

Board of Regents – ASAR Committee

The Board of Regents Academic/Student Affairs and Research Committee meets this Thursday. The agenda topics include an update from the Budget Leadership Team, recommendations on the UNM seal, and the research strategic plan.

Budget Leadership Team

The current budget situation continues to be the subject of discussions in and around Scholes Hall this week. The initial projected gap between Main Campus revenues and expenditures is approximately \$11.7 million for FY18. The Budget Leadership Team will report tomorrow at the ASAR committee meeting, and discussion will include a review of the details of this projection. Committee leaders will also discuss the process for identifying potential operational cost savings, and provide an overview of approaches to align tuition amounts with underlying educational costs.

Keynote on Espionage

Alan Carr, the historian at the Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL), will give a keynote presentation, “Espionage during Project Y,” on Friday, March 10 from noon to 1 p.m. in the Student Union Building. Carr’s research and publications have explored the Manhattan Project, nuclear weapons testing, and the development of LANL during the Cold War years. The event includes a complimentary lunch, which begins at 11:30 a.m. Signups are limited to the first 100 attendees. Faculty, staff and students are welcome. To register, visit [Alan Carr presentation](#).



UNM Birthday Celebration

UNM marks its 128th year with festivities beginning in the SUB Atrium on Tuesday, March 28 at 11 a.m. An official birthday photo will be taken around noon.

Craig White

Acting Provost & Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs

A PDF version of this weekly brief is available on the [Academic Affairs website](#). Your feedback and input are welcome at provost@unm.edu.