

The Acting Provost's Weekly Brief

March 29, 2017

Hello, I hope your week is going well. Thank you for your patience as we work through this period of uncertainty with the budget, the presidential search and other issues. You all are continuing to do a great job in furthering the mission of research, teaching, and service. Just within the past week, I received a very positive academic program review report for the Department of Mathematics and Statistics, and encouraging news regarding the direction of student retention and graduation rates. I'll pass along more details on the latter as the numbers are finalized.

There is other positive news on campus. I've included a sample in the topics I've highlighted below. I may have to cheat sometime with gold spray paint and a lobo bobble head and make my own Golden Lobo trophy (see the picture below). As always, if you have any questions or comments, please let me know.

Presidential search committee update

Regent Doughty announced yesterday that the presidential search process would be extended into the fall. The full announcement and more information about the search process can be found here:

<http://presidentialexam.unm.edu>.

Human Research Protections Program Receives Accreditation

The Human Research Protections Program (HRPP) provides regulatory and ethical reviews for human research at both main and branch campuses. Earlier this week [they announced](#) that they received full accreditation from the Association for the Accreditation of Human Research Protections Programs (AAHRPP). This is great news to have an official seal of approval from an external accreditor, and reflects the hard work and diligence of the HRPP, including the Institutional Review Board and UNM researchers.

Town Hall with Acting President Abdallah

Acting President Chaouki Abdallah held a Town Hall gathering yesterday in a packed SUB Lobo A&B. Questions were submitted to unmpres@unm.edu ahead of time, and he also took questions from audience members during the event. The Town Hall was live-streamed, and a recording of the event can be found on the [UNM FaceBook](#) page.

The True Face of the Banned Countries Exhibition

The School of architecture recently hosted a photographic exhibition titled "The True Face of the Banned Countries." UNM students presented personal views of their home countries (see the photo below for a further description), including samples of New Year celebrations, and other parts of their culture and heritage. The university is a better place for the diversity of our student body.



The True Face of the Banned Countries Student Photography Exhibition

The True Face of the Banned Countries is a photography exhibition created by students of the School of Architecture and Planning to show their experiences of the countries they come from. With the recent executive order seeking to halt all immigration from Iran, Syria, Libya, Somalia, Sudan and Yemen, we feel it is important to look past the superficial and into the daily lives, beauty and cultures that these six countries represent.

This show is a collection of photos submitted by students from Iran, Sudan and Syria. Each photo tells a story not seen in the mass media about the places so often mentioned but rarely approached with depth and understanding. The students' photos provide a link to these countries, showing history, architecture, quiet beauty and most importantly a clear representation of place, as curated by the students themselves.

By providing a space for these photos, the students of the School of Architecture and Planning hope to support our friends and their families who are impacted by this ban. We also hope that through this exhibition more Americans can look past the rhetoric about these six countries and celebrate our friends, peers and families in the community during this time of reckless hate and distortions.



Countries Listed in the Executive Order



The University of New Mexico currently has 106 students and 4 scholars who were impacted by the initial ban, which covered all seven countries.

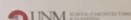
These students are an important part of our community and their careers, families and futures are all in limbo during this period of uncertainty as the news is changing daily.

Overall, nearly 60,000 visas were revoked and over 700 travelers were detained during the initial ban implementation.

While seemingly abstract numbers, each of these are people who were traveling to see family or friends, reunite with loved ones, visiting to see their children graduate from college, or UNM students returning to start the spring semester.

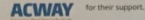
The people and families impacted are an integral part of our community at the School of Architecture and Planning and the University of New Mexico and we hope that these photos help to educate and change the discussion in our community towards deeper understanding and respect.

Special thanks to the



Special thanks to Amy Johnson and the UNM Department of Art - Photography Area

Special thanks to



2017 Louie Awards

Each year, Student Affairs recognizes the service of outstanding employees with the Louie Awards. [This year](#) the event sported a 1920's theme, the "Roaring Louies." The golden Louie trophies were awarded to: Brian Malone, Jacqueline Paul, Pablo Torres, Danielle Gilliam, Aaron Hilf, Lisa Lindquist, Aaron Ochoa, Leonel Diaz, and Consul Efen Nicolas Leyva Acevedo. Congratulations to the deserving winners!



The Chaouki Challenge

In case you missed it, Miracle Child Emma from UNM Children's Hospital [kissed President Abdallah in the face](#) (scroll down for the video) after the UNM community raised over \$1,889 (in honor of UNM's founding year) for the Children's Hospital in response to the "[Chaouki Challenge](#)."

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.