



University Communication and Marketing.

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The New Mexico weather does not disappoint this week — whatever you wanted, you got! Yet within this wild spring variation, there's a constant hum of student activity on campus. Within the last seven days our students have been amazingly busy not just with their formal studies, but also with all the other undertakings that make up a vibrant and engaging student experience.

Last weekend our Honors College students hosted the Western Regional Honors Council Conference, an intellectually exciting regional event designed by, and run by, students. Titled *Revolutions and Constellations: The Dawning of New Paradigms*, the conference hosted sessions that spanned human rights, health and healing, international politics, science, social justice, and more. The Honors Students also launched this year's edition of [Scribendi](#), the student-created literary, arts, and culture magazine with contributions from all over the region. Also last Saturday, our health science students hosted a Health Professions Symposium, packing the SUB with over 1300 participants from across the state to learn about the exciting and important health professions that they might pursue both as rewarding careers and as service to our New Mexico communities. And that same day, ASUNM organized Spring Storm, our annual volunteer community service day. Hundreds of UNM students spread out from Johnson Gym, reaching across Albuquerque and our surrounds to provide service and support for our peoples. And all this was just on the weekend!

Our learners' opportunities are enhanced when our they become creators of knowledge themselves. A week ago, on Thursday the 7th, UNM hosted the Undergraduate Research Opportunity Conference (UROC), providing an opportunity for our undergraduate scholars to share their work as researchers. Then on Monday we hosted a dinner recognizing the McNair and Research Opportunity Program Emerging Scholars. This event celebrated students who have completed undergraduate research projects with faculty from across UNM, and also have attended workshops on the process of applying to graduate school. At the dinner we also welcomed a new cohort of students who will pursue this same program of development during their undergraduate careers. The expanded learning and wisdom that comes from engaging in research will ensure that these are the

future scholars, inventors, leaders, and creators of New Mexico. Many of the dedicated faculty who mentor these students were there also, and displayed the joy of working with bright young minds who, over time, will surpass their mentors. My gratitude to the young researchers, to their faculty mentors, and to the dedicated staff who make these programs happen.

Over the last week our students also showed up for public forums held with the candidates for the Vice President for Student Affairs. They asked great questions, challenged the candidates, and provided rich and well considered feedback on our visitors. I also note with gratitude that this week our new tradition of positive chalking was much in evidence on the sidewalks of our Albuquerque campus, when students, faculty, and staff decorated our walkways with messages of hope and love.

Today our students and others are celebrating global diversity at the International Festival, with games, dances, songs, food, and companionship from around the globe all tucked into Cornell Mall. I hope you have a chance to check it out!

With so much life and engagement on our campuses across the state, the spirit of spring speaks of the capacious heart of the Lobo community, to the excitement of our campuses, and of our drive to make an impact through our actions. Go Lobos!

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