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UNM News Minute #723 – February 3, 2011

BECAUSE OF CONTINUED frigid temperatures and noting problems experienced statewide with gas shortages, the University of New Mexico Albuquerque-campus has canceled classes at 3:30 p.m. for the rest of the day and evening. Employees will be released at 4 p.m. so they can go home to deal with any issues caused by the continued cold weather. UNM Parking and Transportation Services is encouraging students, staff and faculty to get to their vehicles at their earliest convenience after the 4 p.m. closure. Shuttles will continue to run until they've identified that most people have made it to their vehicles. http://news.unm.edu/?p=10207

BRIAN HERRERA SAID HE loves teaching theater undergraduates – students who are passionate about performance and production and are usually only taking theater history to fill a requirement – and helping them discover how what they learn in class can be integral to what they do on the stage. He said students sometimes contact him years later and tell him how they're using those concepts in their work. http://news.unm.edu/?p=10193

FELLOW STAFF, FACULTY AND STUDENTS can help support UNM staff member Bonita Ferus in the Santa Ana Star Search talent contest. Ferus is one of 27 contestants competing for \$10,000 in prize money and a chance to work with a Las Vegas talent agent. Staff, faculty and students can help Ferus' cause by voting for her online during the week of Feb. 5-8 following her preliminary round appearance on Saturday, Feb. 5. For more information on Ferus and how to vote visit: http://news.unm.edu/?p=10237

THE DEADLINE TO ENTER UNM's Technology Business Plan competition has been extended until Friday, Feb. 11. Open only to UNM students, this competition fosters entrepreneurial activity and offers exposure to venture capital and angel funders as well as legal, accounting, and banking professionals. Prizes are expected to total \$40,000. To enter, students need to submit an "Intention to Present" form before 5 p.m. Forms, instructions and complete rules can be found at http://techbizplan.mgt.unm.edu.

THE FEBRUARY EDITION of the UNM Student Affairs Update is now available online. Read about Sandrea Gonzales, who retired after 20 years at the Women's Resource Center; learn about Random Acts of Kindness Week; meet the 2011 Student Affairs Fellows; and find out why Kim Kloeppel received the "Staff Hero" award. http://news.unm.edu/?p=10128

WHY ARE THERE still so many unanswered questions about the impact of the film industry on the New Mexico state economy? This week New Mexico in Focus will hear from supporters and opponents of the New Mexico film incentive program as they discuss the pros and cons. New Mexico in Focus airs Fridays at 7 p.m. and Sundays at 6:30 a.m. on KNME, Channel 5.1. The show can also be seen on KMME's Digital Channel 9.1 on Saturdays at 5 p.m. http://news.unm.edu/?p=10209