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UNM News Minute #313 – May 3, 2006

DUE TO A FIRE in the basement, Zimmerman Library will be closed to the general public as well as to students, faculty and all but authorized staff for the foreseeable future. The university's first priority is to make sure that the building is safe before it can be open for general use. However, with final exams approaching, a number of steps have been taken to minimize the temporary loss of library access allowing students a variety of study alternatives. <http://www.unm.edu/~market/cgi-bin/archives/001216.html#more>

PROVOST REED DASENBROCK is asking faculty to understand that students will not have access to Zimmerman Library for three crucial days of the semester, and limited access thereafter. This may cause a delay in some courses, particularly in the fields covered by Zimmerman - humanities, social sciences, and education - where students may not be able to complete assignments on time. Faculty are asked to be sensitive and understanding to these issues in terms of offering extensions on assignments in cases where access to library materials during these days was crucial for the completion of an assignment.

NEW MEXICO GOVERNOR Bill Richardson will deliver the keynote address at UNM's spring commencement Saturday, May 13, at 9 a.m. in the University Arena. Former member of Congress Manuel Lujan, Jr., former UNM President John Perovich and foremost Jicarilla language linguist Wilhelmina Phone will receive honorary degrees at the ceremony. <http://www.unm.edu/~market/cgi-bin/archives/001221.html#more>

UNM WAS ONE of 11 sites nationwide to participate in the COMBINE study, supported by the National Institutes of Health, that found the medication naltrexone and up to 20 sessions of alcohol counseling by a behavioral specialist are equally effective treatments for alcohol dependence when delivered with structured medical management. <http://www.unm.edu/~market/cgi-bin/archives/001220.html#more>

ASTRONOMERS AT UNM and other researchers using the National Science Foundation's Very Long Baseline Array radio telescope have found the closest pair of supermassive black holes ever discovered in the Universe -- a duo of monsters that together are more than 150 million times more massive than the Sun and closer together than the Earth and the bright star Vega. <http://www.unm.edu/~market/cgi-bin/archives/001219.html#more>

UNM PROFESSOR BRUCE MILNE was selected as the recipient of the 2006 Distinguished Landscape Ecologist Award, the most prestigious honor bestowed by the U.S. Chapter of the International Association for Landscape Ecology. <http://www.unm.edu/~market/cgi-bin/archives/001214.html#more>

THE DIVISION of Student Affairs recently announced its student service awards for the 2005-06 year. Staff members include Ken Carpenter, associate director, Office of International Programs and Studies, and Mary DeWitt, academic advisor in the Physics and Astronomy, while the faculty member is Enrique LaMadrid, associate professor of

Spanish and director of Chicano/Hispano/Mexicano Studies.

<http://www.unm.edu/~market/cgi-bin/archives/001217.html#more>

WITH ENERGY COSTS SOARING, two faculty members see a golden opportunity to once again explore the potential of solar power. Andrea Mammoli and Peter Vorobieff, associate professors of Mechanical Engineering, have received a nearly \$200,000 grant from the New Mexico Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department to breathe new life into a 25-year old solar system at the Mechanical Engineering Building.

<http://www.unm.edu/~market/cgi-bin/archives/001215.html#more>

COMPUTER SCIENCE graduate student Nick Pattengale has been selected as this year's winner of the UNM Student Award for Innovation in Informatics for his paper titled, "A Sublinear-Time Randomized Approximation Scheme for the Robinson-Foulds Metric." The annual award recognizes a graduate or undergraduate student for the best paper describing innovation or research in the field of informatics.

<http://hscapp.unm.edu/calendar/output/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.release&EntryID=4933>

RECOGNIZING THAT MANY students who transfer to UNM's main campus from UNM Gallup struggle to finish their degrees, math department faculty at the two campuses have signed agreements to better prepare students for a mathematics or statistics major. <http://www.unm.edu/~market/cgi-bin/archives/001213.html#more>

IN ORDER TO provide more timely service and to conserve resources, UNM Parking and Transportation Services will close the South, Zia and I parking lots in addition to the South Shuttle Route from May 15 through August 14. These areas are historically underutilized during the summer months, which often lead to longer waits for shuttles and wasted fuel driving empty buses.

<http://www.unm.edu/~market/cgi-bin/archives/001222.html#more>

FACULTY IN THE College of Fine Arts will present a colloquium to highlight their research and creative activity Friday, May 5, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. in the SUB Lobo Rooms A & B. Short research presentations will be delivered throughout the day highlighting critical, historical and creative investigation. Creative presentations will include a look at publications, exhibition and performance.

<http://www.unm.edu/~market/cgi-bin/archives/001218.html#more>

TRAVEL THE STATE and take a look deep into New Mexico's volcanic history on KNME TV's Colores! 'Sleeping Monsters, Sacred Fires: Volcanoes of New Mexico.' See craters, cinder cones, lava flows, rare maar volcanoes and mountains that have blown their tops to reveal stories of our cataclysmic beginning. The show airs Saturday, May 6 at 7:30 p.m.; Sunday, May 7 at 1 p.m.; Wednesday, May 10 at 7:30 p.m. and Saturday, May 13 at 9:30 p.m. <http://www.unm.edu/~market/cgi-bin/archives/001223.html#more>

UNM OFFERS a variety of fun, educational summer programs for children and youth, including camps for sports, recreation, arts and more. Get more information on summer and year-round programs at: <http://www.unm.edu/news/unm4kids/unm4kids.htm>.