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UNM News Minute #733 – March 10, 2011

DARKO STEFANOVIC, associate professor of computer science, and computer science Ph.D. students Mark Olah and Oleg Semenov use mathematical and chemical models to explore how molecular spiders move. Working with collaborators at Arizona State and Columbia, Stefanovic and his students attach four strands of DNA enzymes as "legs" on a single molecule to create a molecular walker or "spider." When the spider is placed on a surface coated with a substrate that is complementary to the DNA legs, it moves. <http://news.unm.edu/?p=11640>

THE PROVOST'S OFFICE and the Office of International Programs and Studies advise students traveling abroad for spring break to know that the State Department has a newly designed website. If Mexico is included in your travel plans, read the strong State Department Travel Warning for Mexico from September 10, 2010, which is still in effect. <http://news.unm.edu/?p=11788>

DR. DIANE LIDKE, assistant professor of Pathology at UNM and a member of the UNM Cancer Center, will be honored this month with the prestigious 2011 Margaret Oakley Dayhoff Award for her exceptional work in the field of biophysics. <http://hscapp.unm.edu/calendar/output/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.release&EntryID=9541>

THE UNIVERSITY OF NEW MEXICO has taken a more proactive role when it comes to disaster preparedness. For the past two years, UNM has been developing a Natural Hazard Pre-Disaster Mitigation Plan. This approach to disaster management has led to proven results in the reduction of property damage and risk to life in the case of a natural disaster on other campuses. <http://news.unm.edu/?p=11764>

THE NEWEST COLLEGE of Education classroom building has been selected by the judges of the Associated General Contractor's Best Buildings Awards as a 2011 award recipient. Not only was the building selected as the Best Building in the \$5 million to \$10 million category, but also as the recipient for Best Building in Green Building Technology. <http://news.unm.edu/?p=11880>

A GROUP OF ADMINISTRATORS from Mexican universities visited the University of New Mexico recently to explore ways to provide faculty and student exchanges, as well as identify additional ways UNM can collaborate with the Mexican universities. <http://news.unm.edu/?p=11807>

JOHN STEINER HAS BEEN named program manager for the UNM Campus Office of Substance Abuse Prevention or COSAP announced Barbara McCrady, director, Center on Alcoholism, Substance Abuse, and Addictions. <http://news.unm.edu/?p=11872>

KNOW OF AN OUTSTANDING UNM faculty or staff member who consistently goes above and beyond the call of duty to improve the lives of students? Why not nominate them for the Outstanding Student Service Provider for Faculty and Staff Award? This is a great way to recognize someone for their exceptional contributions to the university community. The deadline to submit nomination is March 21 by 5 p.m. Nominees will be notified and winners will be announced at the Louie Awards reception on April 12 in the SUB. <http://news.unm.edu/?p=10942>

THE UNM RETIREE ASSOCIATION is an officially recognized University association and is one of the campus groups that serve as advisors to the Board of Regents. The UNMRA was established to enhance the quality of life for its members. Retired staff and faculty, as well as those who are eligible to retire but are still employed, may become a member. <http://news.unm.edu/?p=11775>

THE ART EXHIBIT "Women of Peace" by Elaine Cimino is on display through March at the UNM Women's Resource Center, Mesa Vista Hall, room 1160, in honor of Women's History Month and the Center's 39th anniversary. Cimino, a visionary post-surrealistic abstract painter, displays seven portraits of women who have won the Nobel Prize. <http://news.unm.edu/?p=11858>

UNM DISTINGUISHED PROFESSOR of History Paul Hutton is featured on C-SPAN Sunday, March 13 at 3:30 p.m. MDT in "Pulitzer Prize Winner T.J. Stiles in Conversation with Paul Hutton," live from the Tucson Festival of Books. <http://news.unm.edu/?p=11901>

UNM LAW PROFESSOR Paul Biderman will be featured on KOB-TV's weekly political news program, "Eye on New Mexico." The show broadcasts at 10 a.m. Sunday, March 13 on KOB-TV, channel 4. Biderman will be discussing an upcoming forum on economic security from 6-9 p.m. on March 23. The forum, a collaboration between the Institute of Public Law and the Albuquerque Journal, has been a year-long project sponsored by the Kettering Foundation of Dayton, Ohio and is one of over 100 forums taking place nationwide. For more information on the forum, visit <http://ipl.unm.edu/ipp/>.

THIS WEEK MARKS KNME's fifth in a series of partnerships with the community on the new and exciting project titled, "Public Square." This month, as part of New Mexico in Focus, KNME brings together a group of community members for an impassioned and informed discussion about some of the biggest issues facing our children today. KNME's one hour public affairs show 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 KNME's Digital Channel 9.1 on Saturdays at 5 p.m. <http://news.unm.edu/?p=11897>