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President's Weekly Perspective, 8/20/2007

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Monday Morning Message
August 20, 2007

Good morning and welcome back!

I'm looking forward to joining everyone for Welcome Back Days activities all week. We kicked it off in grand style yesterday with the Freshman Family Day event. Today, my team and I will be dishing up ice cream out by the Duck Pond. Come by between 11:45 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. I'll look forward to meeting as many of you as I can.

This is my 81st day on the job and there are several documents my leadership team and I have been working on since day one. Now they are ready to share with the entire University community. You can find them on the President's page on the UNM website at www.unm.edu/president.

One is a **vision document for UNM**, which we're calling "UNM in the 21st Century – A New President's Vision." You can see what my team and I view as the future of this great university and how we're going to get there.

At their regular meeting last week, the UNM Regents approved an ambitious **set of goals and major milestones** for my first year. We've already made progress on some of these goals, such as last week's signing of the new partnership with CNM. It's important to note that the work plan imbedded in this document will be the basis for my annual evaluation and in turn the evaluations of the leadership team and their staffs. When it comes to the goals and deliverables for the university, we are all in this together.

With the data and expertise of the office of Institutional Research, we've developed a **five-year academic ledger** for the university, which gives everyone direct access to information about how UNM is doing in key areas. A similar one is currently being developed for the Health Sciences Center. We're also posting the **President's Report** that is prepared for each meeting of the UNM Regents. It's my update for them on the operations and activities of this university.

I encourage everyone to take a look at these documents and offer your comments and suggestions by emailing me at unmpres@unm.edu. I look forward to learning your take on the promises and challenges of this coming year.

I'm developing a good working relationship with the UNM Retiree Association and have recommended that the Regents add the retirees' president to their list of advisors. The Regents agreed that this addition will bring a wealth of institutional knowledge to their meetings.

Finally, it was wonderful joining the students Friday night when we turned on the lights at Johnson Field. Congratulations to our student leaders past and present for their work and perseverance.

Have a great week.
David J. Schmidly