

University of New Mexico

UNM Digital Repository

HSC Messages from the Chancellor

HSC Marketing & Communications

Spring 6-2-2020

2020-06-02 A Message from Chancellor Roth

Paul B. Roth

chancellor-roth@salud.unm.edu

Follow this and additional works at: https://digitalrepository.unm.edu/hsc_chancellor



Part of the [Health and Medical Administration Commons](#)

Recommended Citation

Roth, Paul B.. "2020-06-02 A Message from Chancellor Roth." (2020). https://digitalrepository.unm.edu/hsc_chancellor/56

This Brief is brought to you for free and open access by the HSC Marketing & Communications at UNM Digital Repository. It has been accepted for inclusion in HSC Messages from the Chancellor by an authorized administrator of UNM Digital Repository. For more information, please contact amywinter@unm.edu, lsloane@salud.unm.edu, sarahrk@unm.edu.



HEALTH SCIENCES
OFFICE OF THE CHANCELLOR

[View this email in your browser](#)

A Message from Chancellor Roth

Dear Colleagues:

The killing of George Floyd and the persistence of racism in our society are an affront to the conscience, and antithetical to everything we stand for as Americans. I join with [President Stokes](#) and the [Health Sciences leadership](#) in condemning violence and systemic racism directed against African Americans and other people of color. We must do better.

Today, we are participating in [#BlackOutTuesday](#) to share a resource for racial and social justice and to do what is right at UNM Health Sciences. It is an opportunity to listen and learn from one another, to stand up and speak out against all forms of discrimination and to actively advocate for black people.

As we move forward, I believe our actions must be rooted in our common humanity and our shared values of equity and compassion. The many peaceful protests that have been staged around the country in the wake of Mr. Floyd's death are a beautiful example of this. They manifest our fundamental right to freely express ourselves and rectify injustice.

But episodes of violence that have erupted amid or adjacent to some of the protests endanger lives and distract from the work of ensuring that justice is served. We have seen a few such incidents here in our community, all of them condemned by organizers of the local protests. If you choose to protest, I hope you will do so safely and always be mindful of well-being of yourself and others.

Our Health Sciences community has endured a great deal this year, first with the COVID-19

pandemic, which disrupted operations, triggered massive unemployment and has so far claimed more than 100,000 American lives, and now this wave of social unrest. All of these occurrences have impacted the health care community uniquely. Many people understandably feel a generalized sense of anxiety and despair.

Now, more than ever, we must make every effort to treat one another kindly and respectfully, even when we disagree. It will take time, but I know our community will heal. And as an institution whose primary mission is healing, I believe we will have an important role to play in this process.

This week's Well-Being Connection provides some useful strategies to promote healing. Steve Nuanez, LCSW, director of the Employee Well-Being Program at UNM Hospital, will offer a Zoom webinar on Growth Through Adversity tomorrow (Wednesday, June 3) from 12:15 p.m. to 12:45 p.m. We can actively nurture our growth during challenging times such as these. You can join the webinar [here](#).

Warm regards,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Paul B. Roth".

Paul B. Roth, MD, MS
Chancellor for Health Sciences
CEO, UNM Health System
Dean, UNM School of Medicine

Please visit the [New Mexico Department of Health website](#) for the latest COVID-19 updates.