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President's Weekly Perspective, 2008_01_22

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Tuesday Morning Message
January 22, 2008

Good morning.

Hello students and welcome back for the spring semester! It's great to have everyone on campus once again. I want all of us - students, faculty and staff - to take a moment to think about the coming semester and commit to working together to ensure student success. There is no more important goal for any of us. Let's work hard and have fun as we look forward to the next several months.

I'm delighted to start out the semester with some terrific news that should be a point of pride for all of you. UNM set an ambitious United Way goal of \$515,000 for 2007 and we've exceeded it. At last count, university contributors are responsible for \$568,199 that will go toward making our community a better place to live and work for all of its citizens. Special thanks to honorary campus co-chairs Paul Krebs and Vi Florez, campaign coordinator Connie Beimer and the campus executive cabinet for their tireless work on behalf of United Way. Most of all, thanks to all of you for stepping up to the plate for your community. You should be proud.

More good news for students: ABQ Ride reps will be on campus at the SUB today and tomorrow to distribute bus pass stickers to new students and those who've yet to participate in this wonderful program. You can find ABQ Ride downstairs next to the Lobo Card office. Bring your student ID and take advantage of free bus rides this semester.

The New Mexico Legislature has been in session for almost a week and is occupying a lot of our time and thought. My message to our legislative team and to everyone from UNM who will be going up to Santa Fe is to stay focused, trust each other and please work as a team. We'll work through difficulties and get a lot more accomplished that way.

Again, welcome back for the spring semester. Go to class, participate in campus activities, root on the Lobos and remember to have fun.

Have a great week.
David J. Schmidly