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President's Weekly Perspective, 2008_02_25

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Monday Morning Message
February 25, 2008

Good morning.

I want to thank everyone who planned for and participated in last week's emergency preparedness drill on campus. We wanted to test our mass communication systems and find out where the glitches were. We were able to do that and to compile what Police Chief Kathy Guimond calls our "baseline" against which we will measure future drills. What was crystal clear from the exercise was that people who had signed up for services like TextMe were better informed and would be better able to handle a real crisis should it occur.

I will be in Washington for several days this week, working on our federal priorities with the New Mexico Congressional delegation and meeting with donors. I will also join the UNM Alumni Association in hosting our annual Capitol Hill Reception in honor of the Congressional delegation. The university and the state of New Mexico are fortunate to have such a dynamic delegation looking after our interests in Washington. We cannot thank them enough for all they have done for UNM.

We will all be back for the Budget Summit this Friday, February 29. The summit is scheduled for 9 a.m. in the SUB Ballroom. I will speak about our Mission and Priorities: Linking Budgeting, Planning, and Performance. The Executive Vice Presidents will all be presenting overviews from their areas. We will then hear from the leadership of UNM's constituencies. I'm pleased that many of the Regents will attend the Summit, as it will help inform their future decisions on the budget. I invite all of you to attend, either in person or by listening in on a live webcast. You can find out more and link to the webcast from the Budget Summit webpage: <http://www.unm.edu/president/summit.html>

Finally, you're invited to take part in a couple of upcoming events. Tomorrow, a number of our student-athletes will participate in the Mountain West Conference Blood Drive, which will be held from 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. in the SUB Ballroom. They would love to see our faculty, staff and students join them in rolling up their sleeves to benefit United Blood Services here in town. They also want a Lobo win in the competition for collecting the most pints of blood of all the Mountain West schools.

UNM is hosting the NCAA Women's Golf Championships May 20 – 23 and we are asking for your help. More than 200 volunteers will be needed over the course of the week when more than 120 of the nation's top collegiate golfers will be in town. If you love golf and want to help with a great tournament, please sign up. The volunteer form is available on the front page of golobos.com.

Have a good week.

David J. Schmidly