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## President's Weekly Perspective, 2008\_03\_24

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Monday Morning Message – March 24, 2008

Good morning.

With the legislative session and the budget summit behind us, and our budgeting process well underway, it is now time to refocus on our longer-term vision for UNM's future. Over the next weeks and months, everyone on campus will have the opportunity to learn about and become engaged with the Strategic Framework that will be guiding our work. My goal is to grow a culture that will inspire all of you – faculty, staff, students, alumni and community partners. Together we will connect with UNM's mission, put our core values into action and enthusiastically contribute to achieving our vision. We will do so in the spirit of collegiality and trust. In the coming weeks, I plan to use my Monday morning message to share with you the ways I see us working together to create our future. It is a goal that will require our collective energies.

One of the ways to grow a culture of inspiration and enthusiasm is to celebrate our successes and good work. The Provost's Committee for Staff is taking nominations for the outstanding staff awards – both individuals and work groups that exemplify University values and are dedicated to outstanding service. This is a great opportunity for you to recognize the contributions of your colleagues. Nominations are due by 5 p.m. this Friday, March 28, and should be submitted online at: <http://www.unm.edu/~pcs/>.

UNM Campus Police were recognized last Friday by the U.S. Attorney's Office and local Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms officials for the great work of Ultra, the police dog. Last summer, Ultra helped the agencies find stolen explosives stashed on the West Mesa. Also, more kudos, as New Mexico's Attorney General has selected UNM's domestic violence policy as the model for the state. It has been sent to police departments and communities statewide as a good example to use as they create or modify their own policies.

Another of our Regents' goals has been realized with the formal approval of the UNM Parent Association. Regent President Jamie Koch has signed a memorandum of understanding with the association that gives parents a voice in university governance. Parents have always been one of UNM's key constituencies. Now we are giving them a formal role. To find out more about parent relations, go to: <http://parent.unm.edu/>.

Here's a reminder to mark May 3 on your calendar. UNM Athletics is partnering with the American Cancer Society for the Coaches vs. Cancer Gala at the Embassy Suites. Athletics VP Paul Krebs, Coaches Steve Alford and Don Flanagan and their wives are chairing the event and invite you to join them for a grand evening. More details to come, but call soon to reserve tickets from the American Cancer Society at (505) 260-2105.

Thanks again to Lobo women and men for an exciting basketball season. Thanks also to our wonderful Lobo fans. You really rocked the Pit!

Have a good week.

David J. Schmidly