

12-8-2008

President's Weekly Perspective, 2008_12_08

David Schmidly

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

Recommended Citation

Schmidly, David. "President's Weekly Perspective, 2008_12_08." (2008). https://digitalrepository.unm.edu/schmidly_papers/115

This Article is brought to you for free and open access by the Office of the President at UNM Digital Repository. It has been accepted for inclusion in President Schmidly's Administration by an authorized administrator of UNM Digital Repository. For more information, please contact disc@unm.edu.

Monday Morning Message – December 8, 2008

Good morning.

On behalf of the university, I've sent congratulations to New Mexico Governor Bill Richardson who has been selected by President-elect Obama as Commerce Secretary. It is a pleasure and privilege to work with Governor Richardson and we look forward to doing so until he takes on his new duties in Washington. Likewise it is an honor to work with UNM's great friend and neighbor, Lt. Governor Diane Denish, and we look forward to strengthening that partnership in the years to come. New Mexico has been blessed in its leadership, both executive and legislative, and they will serve us well as we approach the challenges of the upcoming year.

New Mexico's latest revenue projections will be announced today, so we'll have a clearer picture of the economic challenges facing the state as we approach the legislative session. As I've mentioned to you before, the Legislature will determine what actions higher education must take to deal with the downturn. In the meantime, UNM continues to slow spending and conserve money as we prepare for whatever the future may hold. We look forward to sharing with you the latest economic information available this Friday at a town hall scheduled for noon in the SUB Ballroom C.

Last Friday, we reminded UNM supervisors about the Winter Setback Program which is designed to save energy during the winter holiday. The Physical Plant has identified buildings where temperatures can be safely set back without jeopardizing critical research and activities. The savings goal is \$75,000, and working together we can achieve that. So please do what you can to save. You'll soon be getting tips from PPD.

We have more congratulations to pass around. It was announced last week that UNM law professor and former president Louis Caldera has been appointed to head up the White House Military Office. As a former Secretary of the Army, Professor Caldera is no stranger to Washington. We wish him the best in this next stage of his remarkable career.

Congratulations on behalf of the university go to Sandra Ortiz and Gloria Manzanares – our 2008 Gerald May award winners for distinguished service and dedication to UNM. Sandra has been in Physics and Astronomy for more than 20 years, currently supervising admin support. Gloria is an associate director of admissions. I look forward to honoring these two and all of the nominees at 4 p.m. today in SUB ballroom C. Former UNM presidents Gerald May and Chris Garcia will join me. Thanks to the Staff Council Rewards and Recognition Committee for organizing these annual awards.

Kudos to the UNM staff members who worked with Albuquerque Public Schools the past four years to achieve an aligned spring break. That will happen on March 15 – 19, 2010 and it will make life easier for the UNM students and employees who have children attending APS. Thanks also to the UNM Staff Council for keeping this issue on the front burner.

Any of you – faculty, staff or students – who would like an outlet for your creative work should consider submitting it to Conceptions Southwest, UNM's fine art and literature magazine. The deadline for the spring edition is this Friday, December 12. For more information, visit <http://www.unm.edu/~csw> or call 277-5656.

Thanks to all of you who made Friday evening's caroling and luminaria tour so special. Janet and I enjoyed seeing you all at Hanging of the Greens.

Have a good week.

David J. Schmidly

United Way Fact...

Did you know that United Way helps fund several of our most deserving UNM programs? You can designate the UNM Foundation, or any college, school or University program to receive up to 100% of your United Way pledge. Won't you help UNM fulfill its missions of education and research by filling out a pledge form? You can get one by clicking here <http://unitedway.unm.edu/pledgeform.pdf> or by asking your Department Coordinator.