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President's Weekly Perspective, 2008_10_06

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Monday Morning Message - October 6, 2008

Good morning.

Every time we turn on the news or pick up a paper, we hear and read about the financial crisis this country is experiencing. In some way, it will touch someone you know. Maybe a number of people. So now, more than ever, it is time for us to pull together as a community and to help our brothers and sisters in need. Now, more than ever, is the time to support United Way.

Because we believe now is the time to pull together, the UNM United Way campaign has set a bold goal of \$1 million to help those in need in our community. Every penny you contribute goes to the charitable organization you designate or to the Community Fund, which takes care of a number of worthwhile organizations. All employees will be getting their packets with pledge form, return envelope and campaign information this week. Students can pick up pledge forms at the information desk at the SUB. The first 1,000 contributors will receive two tickets to the UNM vs. Utah football game on November 1. So make your decision and return your pledge. We'll be talking about this a lot in the coming weeks.

I've been informing you about the bond issues on the November 4 ballot that are of great importance to UNM. Bond C for Better Health is important to all New Mexicans, because better healthcare requires more than doctors, nurses and health care professionals. New Mexicans also deserve access to modern state-of-the-art facilities where they can get quality care and where the next generation of health care professionals will be trained.

Bond C will provide \$57.8 million for the construction and renovation of twelve healthcare delivery and training facilities in ten New Mexico communities. Bond C contains \$28.5 million for UNM, including funds to complete the construction of the new UNM Cancer Research and Treatment facility, which is the official Cancer Center for the State of New Mexico. Additionally, there are funds for a neurosciences building and for dental facilities. Please take the time to learn about this and the other general obligations bonds at <http://www.unm.edu/gobond/>.

The Great Campus Cleanup commences this week, courtesy of your Physical Plant Department, which will be sending crews out every Friday for the next few months. This is your opportunity to get rid of stuff you don't need, never use, or have forgotten to use. Last year, PPD removed 114,924 pounds of junk, from electronics to shredded paper. They also carted off prosthetic limbs, Super 8 videos and boxes of carbon paper. Anyone remember carbon paper? Buildings around campus are on a schedule, and departments will be notified of their cleanup dates via letter and email. You'll also get information about archiving items and records management. You can contact Adrienne Unfreed at 277-1324 for more details. Time to start cleaning!

Finally, we just got word that Republican Presidential Candidate John McCain will be speaking at the SUB early this afternoon at a ticketed event. Certain areas leading to the SUB will be blocked off and a number of media trucks are expected. So be aware that there will be a lot of activity there today and you may have to find alternate routes to get where you're going.

Have a good week.

David J. Schmidly