

FROM THE DESK OF THE  
**Vice President for Research**

*November 2023*

**Happy Research and Discovery Week, Lobos!**

**Researchers, this week we celebrate you and the creativity, innovation, and sheer genius you put forth in the work that keeps The University of New Mexico at the top and leading in so many diverse research areas.**

**As a vice president for research, what I'm most impressed with is your leadership and willingness to mentor our students. Last month, I released FY23 measures of research excellence for UNM main and branch campuses that included 1,052 student researchers supported last year. That's amazing and a true testament to your dedication to future generations of discoverers, leaders, and creators.**

**Lastly, I encourage everyone to find something that interests you during R&D week, whether that's a workshop, lecture, or a hands-on research activity. There is something for everyone.**



Ellen Fisher, Ph.D.  
Vice President for Research  
Professor of Chemistry

## Research and Discovery Week

Research at UNM is at an all-time high – faculty, staff, and students are ready to put all their work on full display for the annual **2023 Research and Discovery Week**. This week is dedicated to showcasing UNM's entire research enterprise, while promoting resources and opportunities available to all UNM researchers.

We're featuring a lineup of events and opportunities for students, staff, faculty, alumni, and community members. It will be the perfect chance to visit main campus and participate in conferences, workshops, lectures, and open houses all centered around research happening at UNM.

## PI Reception

As part of Research and Discovery Week, join us in recognizing and celebrating the outstanding contributions of researchers across campus during our Principal Investigators Reception!

Registration is open! The reception will be held at the John Sommers Gallery within the UNM Department of Art on Wednesday, Nov. 8, from 5:30 - 7:30 p.m.

## WE Mean Business Conference 2023

Join some of the most influential female entrepreneurs at [Women Entrepreneurs \(WE\) Mean Business](#), a power-packed conference where you'll connect with aspiring entrepreneurs and business owners, hear inspirational stories, and learn valuable strategies you can use in your own company. Women in any and every stage of entrepreneurship—from single idea to established business—are encouraged to attend.

The event will be held at Isleta Resort & Casino, Friday, Nov. 17 10 a.m. – 5 p.m.

## Research Celebrations

### 68<sup>th</sup> Annual Research Lectureship Honoree

University of New Mexico Distinguished Professor Felisa Smith has been named the honoree for the 68th Annual Research Lectureship for Career Achievement award.

The ARL is one of the highest honors the University bestows on its faculty members in recognition of research and/or creative activity of exceptional merit. Each recipient is selected by their peers on the Faculty Senate Research Policy Committee.

Smith is a distinguished professor in the UNM Department of Biology, and her research successes reach far beyond our university community. Smith has a Ph.D. in Ecology and Evolutionary Biology from the University of California Irvine. She is a mammalogist, focusing her research interests on paleoecological and evolutionary research—specifically the effects of current global and past climatic change and biodiversity loss on mammals.

As part of the ARL honor, Smith will present a lecture next semester. She will be recognized at Wednesday's PI reception.

### 2023 Faculty-Mentored Research Award

Yolanda Lin, assistant professor in the Department of Geography and Environmental Studies department, and Anistasia Baca, a Spring 2023 graduate with a degree in Environmental Studies and a minor in Statistics, were selected as the recipients of the 2023 Faculty-Mentored Undergraduate Research Award for their nearly two-year research collaboration, much of which involved working with other university and government partners to help increase flood resiliency in Ohkay Owingeh Pueblo.

### DOE's Science Graduate Student Research Program

I'd like to highlight graduate student in the University of New Mexico's Department of Physics and Astronomy, Kylar Greene. Greene is among 60 students from across the nation selected by the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) for the Office of Science Graduate Student Research (SCGSR) Program's 2023 Solicitation 1 cycle. He will be hosted by Fermi National Accelerator Laboratory (FNAL). His research will be focusing on theoretical and computational research in high energy physics.

Congrats, Kylar!



**Research News?**

**CERL Nominations**

The Faculty Senate Research Policy Committee (RPC) is seeking nominations of faculty from all colleges at UNM for the Annual Community Engaged Research Lectureship Award (CERL). The CERL is one of the highest honors that UNM can bestow upon a faculty member in recognition of exemplary community engaged research and community engaged creative works. The nominee must be an active, full-time professor or exceptional associate professor at the time the nomination is submitted, in the tenure track, research track, or clinician-educator track.

The awardee will receive a \$5,000 honorarium or a funding allocation to be placed in a research-related account and the awardee's name will be included in the UNM Roll of Honor. Nominations are due by Nov. 17.

### Every Letter Counts

Our students are making great strides toward their research goals and impacting their communities as well. UNM Ph.D. [Linguistics](#) student, and Joseph Greenberg Fellow, Sarah Lease has just released an article *A usage-based account of paragogic /e/ in 20th century New Mexican Spanish* in *Hispanic and Lusophone Linguistics*. Lease aims to pinpoint variables that predict when New Mexican Spanish speakers produce a hallmark feature of this dialect and when they do not.

*Great work, Sarah!*

## Did you know?

UNM will host a Veteran's Day event this Friday with honored guest [Hanson Scott](#), retired Brigadier General, USAF.

Brigadier General Scott was a command pilot with more than 5,500 flying hours.