Message from the Dean

To the Fall 2016 University of New Mexico School of Engineering Graduates

It is my pleasure to welcome all of you to the Fall 2016 University of New Mexico School of Engineering Convocation.

Today we celebrate the accomplishments of our graduating students. This memorable day is the culmination of all of your hard work, dedication, and perseverance.

We also salute all those who supported you: family, friends, teachers, classmates, colleagues, coworkers, and advisors. This day could not have been made possible without their commitment. Thank you for participating in their lives and sharing in their accomplishments.

In the 110 years since the UNM School of Engineering was established, we have focused on applying knowledge to solve the world’s grand challenges. As our world has changed, the School has also expanded its mission to focus on becoming a powerful engine of economic and social development, fostering innovative ideas and technologies to better society.

You have learned from some of the best in the field, and now it is your turn to apply the knowledge and experience you gained during your studies for the good of the state, nation, and world. We are eager to watch your careers flourish, and we hope that you will always be part of our academic family.

Graduates, we welcome you to the distinguished company of the School of Engineering alumni and wish you every success in your new endeavors.

Joseph L. Cecchi
Jim and Ellen King Dean of Engineering and Computing
The laws of New Mexico provide for a Board of Regents which is responsible for the governance of the University of New Mexico. The Board’s power to govern the University includes fiduciary responsibility for the assets and programs of the University, establishment of goals and policies to guide the University, and oversight of the functioning of the University.

The Board is comprised of seven members who are appointed by the Governor of New Mexico, with the consent of the Senate, for staggered terms of six years except for the student regent, who is appointed for a two-year term. The Governor and the Secretary of Education are designated as ex-officio, non-voting members.

The Regents

Robert M. Doughty III, President
Marron Lee, Vice President
Jack L. Fortner, Secretary-Treasurer
Thomas Clifford
Lieutenant General Bradley C. Hosmer, USAF (Ret.)
Suzanne Quillen
Ryan Berryman, Student Regent

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Convocation Program

Processional

Faculty Marshal
Arup Maji, Professor Emeritus, Civil Engineering

Banner Carrier
Linda Bugge, Nanoscience and Microsystems Engineering

Processional Music
"Pomp and Circumstance March Number 1," Composed by Sir Edward Elgar
"Procession of the Nobles," Composed by Nicolai Rimsky-Korsakov
Performed by The New Mexico Brass Quintet

Master of Ceremonies
Charles B. Fleddermann, Associate Dean for Academic Affairs

Greetings
Joseph L. Cecchi, Jim and Ellen King Dean of Engineering and Computing

Keynote Speaker
Doug Campbell, B.S., M.S., Civil Engineering ’01, ’02,
CEO of Solid Power Inc. and Roccor, LLC

Student Speakers
Mary Casey Hollowell, B.S., Mechanical Engineering ’16
Aaron Olson, Ph.D., Nuclear Engineering ’16

Presentation of Breece Award
Presenter: Charles B. Fleddermann, Associate Dean for Academic Affairs
Awardee: Tomas Babuska, Mechanical Engineering ’16

Presentation of Degree Candidates
Charles B. Fleddermann, Associate Dean for Academic Affairs

Recessional
Platform Party

Distinguished Guests
Lieutenant General Bradley C. Hosmer, USAF (Ret.), Secretary-Treasurer
Gregory Heileman, Associate Provost for Academic Affairs

School of Engineering Administration
Joseph L. Cecchi, Jim and Ellen King Dean of Engineering and Computing
Charles B. Fleddermann, Associate Dean for Academic Affairs
Christos Christodoulou, Associate Dean for Research

Abhaya K. Datye, Chair, Department of Chemical and Biological Engineering
Mahmoud Reda Taha, Chair, Department of Civil Engineering
Darko Stefanovic, Chair, Department of Computer Science
Michael Devetsikiotis, Chair, Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering
Yu-Lin Shen, Interim Chair, Department of Mechanical Engineering
Anil K. Prinja, Chair, Department of Nuclear Engineering

Faculty Marshal
Arup Maji, Professor Emeritus, Civil Engineering

Keynote Speaker
Doug Campbell, B.S., M.S., Civil Engineering '01, '02,
CEO of Solid Power Inc. and Roccor, LLC

Student Speakers
Mary Casey Hollowell, B.S., Mechanical Engineering '16
Aaron Olson, Ph.D., Nuclear Engineering '16
Doug Campbell is an engineer by training, but he considers himself an entrepreneur first.

The president and CEO of Solid Power Inc. and Roccor, LLC, both based in Colorado, said the technical background he received at UNM’s Department of Civil Engineering (he earned both a bachelor’s and master’s from the department) has been invaluable in his career, but his personality pushed him more toward the business world.

“I worked as an aerospace engineer for a brief time, but I quickly realized I was a ‘close enough’ engineer,” he said. “Engineers like to answer ‘How?’, but I like to answer the question, ‘Why?’ ”

Both companies have grown rapidly since their 2011 founding with the former having been named the fastest-growing privately-held company in the Boulder Valley. Campbell’s particular entrepreneurial passion is on market opportunities with highly-disruptive potential, and both of his businesses clearly reflect this. Solid Power, a developer of advanced solid-state rechargeable batteries, is focused on enabling commercially-viable electric vehicles, thereby transforming the transportation economy. Roccor, a manufacturer of high-performance and low-cost space satellite components, is supporting the recent emergence of large-volume commercial satellite constellations with the potential to transform the communication economy via world-wide, space-based broadcasted Internet, phone service, and other means.

Campbell, an Albuquerque native, chose UNM because it was nearby, but he stayed around for graduate school because of the connections he made both in the School of Engineering and in the nearby technical community. He worked on structural mechanics and aerospace-related projects with Arup Maji in Civil Engineering, who connected him with the Air Force Research Laboratory (AFRL), where he worked while a graduate student.

"The thing that I really liked about UNM was the fairly close-knit community in Civil Engineering, which is possible because the class sizes are fairly small," he said. "Also, the proximity to AFRL and Sandia provided a great opportunity to gain experience and get off campus."

Campbell loves his job as an entrepreneur, saying, "I've ruined myself for regular employment."

"I love the sink-or-swim environment," he said. "For some people, that's immensely terrifying, but for me, it's immensely gratifying."

Next for Campbell will be growing and likely spinning off his start-ups, possibly starting new companies, along with continuing his consulting role in technology transfer with national laboratories, and some day investing in technologies himself.

A former New Mexico-based professional mountain biker, Campbell still enjoys biking, as well as skiing, camping and traveling, and attending his children's soccer activities.
Mary Casey Hollowell
B.S., Mechanical Engineering, ’16

For Mary Casey Hollowell, engineering ran in the family, so it wasn’t a stretch that she would aspire to be one herself. The Albuquerque native and youngest of eight children, including four engineers, remembers from an early age playing in her dad’s garage.

“I liked to get my hands on things and see how to fix things,” she said.

Because of her interest and talent in fixing things, she majored in mechanical engineering and became involved in the Formula SAE program, where she learned how to fix cars, so much so that she does work on her own car. She said she would like to own a sports car in the future and perform maintenance on that.

In addition to FSAE, Hollowell had a variety of internships during her time at UNM, including ones at Toyota, Tesla and SpaceX.

Her hobbies include car maintenance, snowboarding and bicycling. In January, Hollowell will start a job with Toyota in San Antonio, Texas.

Aaron Olson
Ph.D., Nuclear Engineering, ’16

Aaron Olson isn’t a typical engineer. In the words of his industrial psychologist grandmother: “I’ve never met an engineer who is an ENFP [Myers-Briggs personality type].” The Missouri native earned his undergraduate degree in nuclear engineering from Missouri University of Science and Technology, then took an atypical educational route and earned a master's degree in pastoral counseling from John Brown University in Arkansas.

“My curiosity of the world we live in extends beyond the sciences and includes my faith and the soft side of how people work,” Olson said. He said the deviation from an engineering discipline was beneficial to his career: “It gave me practice at written and verbal communication and helped me understand people better, skills that are so valuable in collaboration and professional communication.”

Despite his extra-engineering interests, he is invested in his profession. He met Anil Prinja, chair of the Department of Nuclear Engineering, while on an internship at Sandia National Laboratories, and soon thereafter became his graduate student under a Department of Energy fellowship studying uncertainty quantification in radiation transport applications.

He is currently a postdoctoral researcher at Sandia National Laboratories and hopes to continue there in a permanent position.

In his spare time, Olson keeps busy at home. He and his wife Ashley have two children, ages 3 years and 11 months. He also enjoys riding his bike, Major League Baseball, and fantasy football.
George E. Breece Award

The George E. Breece Award was established in 1921 to honor the UNM School of Engineering senior from each graduating class with the highest grade-point average over the last two years of the curriculum. The recipients of this award consistently have grade-point averages higher than 4.0, reflecting a majority of A+ grades throughout their undergraduate courses.

Tomas Babuska
B.S., Mechanical Engineering, ’16

Tomas Babuska took an early interest in engineering through a love of remote-controlled planes as a child. That led to a fascination with airplanes, and learning to fly when he was 14. He got his pilot license right after he got his driver’s license at 16.

The Virginia native who moved to Albuquerque when he was 6 had such a strong interest in engineering, he couldn’t even wait to become an official college student to start taking classes. He began taking courses at UNM as a senior in high school, which allowed him to enter the mechanical engineering program as a sophomore.

Getting a jump start on college made it easier for him to get involved career-enhancing activities, such as the Formula SAE program. He said that being a part of that program helped him become life-ready in many ways.

“In FSAE, you get to know your teammates really well, and you learn how to work in a large-scale team with a cost and time restriction, which is very applicable to the real world,” Babuska said.

Through FSAE, he also made a lot of friends and learned the invaluable practice of how to balance school life with a personal life. His time-management skills came in handy while also balancing a part-time job at Sandia National Laboratories.

He said working at Sandia has been a great experience because the job is flexible and has allowed him to take advantage of opportunities such as presenting at professional conferences.

His hobbies include skiing, traveling (including the Czech Republic, where his father is from), and flying gliders.

Babuska is now applying to graduate school, planning to pursue a Ph.D. in mechanical engineering in the fall. After that, he is leaving his options open for either a position in academia or at a national laboratory.
Convocation Traditions

Throughout their long and proud history, universities have retained and cherished strong ties to their ceremonial roots. When English universities were taking form in the 12th and 13th centuries, scholars were also clerics. They adopted robes similar to those of their monastic orders. Caps were a necessity in the drafty buildings and copes, or capes with hoods attached, were needed for warmth.

School of Engineering Convocation

The School of Engineering Convocation pays tribute to the history and traditions of graduations throughout the ages. The bachelor’s gown is red, has long sleeves, and is worn closed. The master’s and doctor’s gowns are black. The cap, originally round, is now a square mortarboard and is the same for all degrees. Caps are traditionally black with a long tassel fastened to the mid-point. The tassel is worn on the right side until the degree has been conferred; it is then worn on the left. The hood indicates the type of degree and the official color or colors of the university conferring the degree. For example, the color orange represents engineering, and that color is used on the velvet binding or edging of the hood. The official University of New Mexico colors are cherry and silver, so the hood is lined with silver gray with a chevron of cherry red.

The Convocation begins and ends with a colorful academic procession, led by a staff member carrying a banner in front of the School of Engineering degree candidates. The faculty marshal is usually selected from School of Engineering emeritus faculty, an honorary title for retired full-time faculty. The faculty marshal carries a mace or ceremonial staff and leads the platform party, composed of School of Engineering academic leadership, UNM regents and dignitaries, and convocation speakers.

The mace traces its origins to a medieval weapon and was later carried before kings and high church officials as a ceremonial emblem of authority. The UNM Engineering mace was designed by Dean Joseph L. Cecchi and constructed in 2003 by engineering staff member Penn Davis. The mace handle is connected to a machined aluminum cube with wood panels inscribed with the University Seal and "The School of Engineering 1906," the year the School was founded. The mace is crowned by a wooden sphere.
School of Engineering History

Engineering instruction at The University of New Mexico has a rich tradition, beginning in 1906, with four-year programs in civil, electrical, mechanical, and mining Engineering. The first bachelor of science degree was awarded in June 1912. By 1916, enrollment was at 37 with two or three graduates each year. In 1947, the Department of Chemical Engineering was established, and in 1972 it expanded to the Department of Chemical and Nuclear Engineering. In 2014, the department became two: the Department of Chemical and Biological Engineering and the Department of Nuclear Engineering. Computer science courses were initially offered in the mathematics department and in 1976, the Department of Computer Science was established. With the addition of computer engineering to the Department of Electrical Engineering in 1979, the present-day complement of academic departments was in place.

This fall, the UNM School of Engineering enrolled over 2,300 students in 10 undergraduate degree programs and around 800 students in more than a dozen graduate degree programs. These degrees are offered through the School’s six academic departments and, increasingly, through interdisciplinary and interdepartmental programs. Research is integrated into each degree program in an environment that fosters teamwork, cultural and intellectual diversity, a strong sense of public responsibility, and lifelong learning. An exceptionally active research faculty work in critical and cutting-edge areas, collaborating within UNM and with other universities, the national laboratories, and industry to develop innovative solutions for societal challenges.
Degrees Awarded

Order of Presentation

Department of Computer Science
Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering
Department of Mechanical Engineering
Department of Nuclear Engineering
Department of Chemical and Biological Engineering
Department of Civil Engineering
Biomedical Engineering
Nanoscience and Microsystems
Optical Science and Engineering

Graduate Student Recognition

"Graduating with Distinction" recognizes the exceptional performance of students who graduate with a master’s or doctor of philosophy degree. The status is determined at the time of the final examination through agreement of the examining committee members, with final approval given by the department chair.
Computer Science

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN COMPUTER SCIENCE

Danny Adams
Mason T. Banning
Steven E. Benner
Justin C. Carmichael
David I. Collins
Tess M. Daughton
Connor A. Denman

Truman D. Deyoung
Jayson E. Grace*
Erik Granger
Jameson P. Hansen
Hyunwoo Jung
William B. Knez
Mario V. LoPrinzi

Jeffrey J. Nichol
Robert D. Nicholson*
Thomas A. Otero
Stephen P. Ransom
Troy M. Squillaci

MASTER OF SCIENCE IN COMPUTER SCIENCE

Amritansh Amritansh
Harika Atmala
Sai Gowthami Bojja
Nials C. Chavez*
Manikantam Chitturi*
Sumanth Rao Doddikindi
John C. Ericksen*
Elijah J. Finch
Anirudh Ghomotam
Niranjan Humagain
Vaibhav Isanaka
Wayne A. Just
Aaron Kearns
Karthick Krishnamurthy
Noah J. Lewis*
Brandon Lites

Yung Hsin Liu
Saisanthosh Mamidala*
Omar Momani
Varun Srinivas Chakravarthi Nalluri
Sunil S. Pawar
Jagruth Krishna Peddineni
Gowtham Srim Peketi
Rajeswari Ramasamy
Safeeul B. Safee
Sriranjitha Sankar*
Aman Sawhney*
Cameron Y. Smith
Nishant Sreedharan
Viknesh Thananjeyan
Deepak Velagaleti*

*Summer 2016 Graduate

*Graduating with Distinction
Computer Science

DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY IN COMPUTER SCIENCE

Viktor Chekh*  
George M. Fricke  
Alireza Goudarzi  
Taylor L. Groves  

Rex D. Hjelm†  
Dewan M. Ibtesham  
Dandan Mo*  
Oscar H. Mondragon Martinez*

*Summer 2016 Graduate  †Graduating with Distinction
# Electrical and Computer Engineering

## BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN COMPUTER ENGINEERING

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<td>Jeanfranco I. Araujo</td>
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<td>Leonard J. Graham</td>
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## BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING

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<td>Nahome G. Bete</td>
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<td>Mustafa F. Momani</td>
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## MASTER OF SCIENCE IN COMPUTER ENGINEERING

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<td>Supreeth Kumar Gudipati</td>
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## MASTER OF SCIENCE IN ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING

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<td>Justin B. Campbell*</td>
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<td>Teressa R. Specht*</td>
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<td>Jau-Tzuoo Chen</td>
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<td>Christopher F. De La Cruz*</td>
<td>Aneesha Kondapi*</td>
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<td>Saadat Md. Mishkat Ul Masabih</td>
<td>Xinyi Zhang*</td>
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<td>Francisco A. Echavarria</td>
<td>Juan Samuel Perez Rodriguez*</td>
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*Summer 2016 Graduate
†Graduating with Distinction
Electrical and Computer Engineering

DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY (ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING)

Oktay Agcaoglu
Patricio J. Cruz Davalos*
Mohammadjavad Ghasemibenhangi†
Barnaly Rashid
Mohammad Mohiuddin Uzzal*
Seyedeh Marziyeh Zamiri
Yue Zhang

DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY (COMPUTER ENGINEERING)

Wenjie Che†
Hao He
Ahmad Hussein Slim
Maziar Yaeoubi

*Summer 2016 Graduate  †Graduating with Distinction
# Mechanical Engineering

## Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering

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<td>Jesus R. Perez</td>
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## Master of Science in Mechanical Engineering

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<td>Gabriel T. Ortiz*</td>
<td>Abu Bakar Siddique*</td>
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<td>Mohammad A. Hossain**</td>
<td>Jacob D. Ortiz*</td>
<td>Julia R. Walker*</td>
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<td>Rochelle M. Piatt*</td>
<td>Cody M. Williams*</td>
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## Master of Engineering in Manufacturing Engineering

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<td>Adrian P. Baca</td>
<td>Vikas Cholleti*</td>
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## Doctor of Philosophy in Engineering

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<td>Mohammadhosein Ghasemi Baboly*</td>
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Nuclear Engineering

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN NUCLEAR ENGINEERING

Jamie L. Gerard
Adam D. Molley
Alvaro Pizarro Vallejos

MASTER OF SCIENCE IN NUCLEAR ENGINEERING

James R. Cole
Philip E. Theisen
Nima Fathi
Chelsea L. Weaver*

DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY IN ENGINEERING

Matthew A. Gonzales
Japan K. Patel
Aaron J. Olson
Paul W. Talbot

*Summer 2016 Graduate
†Graduating with Distinction
Chemical and Biological Engineering

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN CHEMICAL AND BIOLOGICAL ENGINEERING

Nicholas A. Abbot*  Jacob G. Letcher  David P. Schafer
Nicole L. Baty*  Ciana L. Lopez*  Mark Wallace
Yvann P Djamen Tchana*  Thao K. Pham*

MASTER OF SCIENCE IN CHEMICAL AND BIOLOGICAL ENGINEERING

Zach I. Armijo  Meifeng L. Harvey
Cami B. Belcher  Md Mosaddek Hossen

DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY IN ENGINEERING

Omar K. Abudayyeh†  Jonathan J. Coleman

*Summer 2016 Graduate  †Graduating with Distinction
Civil Engineering

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN CIVIL ENGINEERING

Saydra Alvarez Moreno*  Samuel W. Klump  Melissa C. Segay*
Shahidul Faisal         Elias M. Medina Guereca  John A. Wilson
Gabriela A. Kemm       Gregory S. Rivara

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT

Nathan M. Bauder       Joshua X. Gonzales
Felicia M. Candelaria  Chadwick A. Reinicke

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN CONSTRUCTION ENGINEERING

Aaron S. Larder

MASTER OF SCIENCE IN CIVIL ENGINEERING

Jourdan B. Adair*      Jose A. Gomez Romero Salazar  Jacob G. Mortensen*
Elisa C. Borowski      Md Amanul Hasan*               Laxmi P. Paneru*
Jose de Jesus Del Rio Sanchez  Savannah E. Martinez  Omar A. Ruiz
Joshua R. Ellison*     Jose A. Mena Ortiz              Mohamed Nabil Shaikh*
Rahul Reddy Gade*     Melissa M. Mills*               Nicole B. Trujillo

MASTER OF SCIENCE IN CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT

Matti M. Joyner

DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY IN ENGINEERING

Courtney L. Busch      Patrick D. McLee

*Summer 2016 Graduate  †Graduating with Distinction
Interdisciplinary Programs

Biomedical Engineering

MASTER OF SCIENCE IN BIOMEDICAL ENGINEERING

Terisse A. Brocato
Joseph D. Butner†
Frank A. Fencl
Kevin Fotso Tagne*
Charles E. Harris
Carmen M. Martinez
Florence A. Monge
Priyanka Rawat
Rachel N. Tufaro**

DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY IN BIOMEDICAL ENGINEERING

Paul N. Durfee

Nanoscience and Microsystems Engineering

MASTER OF SCIENCE IN NANOSCIENCE AND MICROSYSTEMS ENGINEERING

Mariella Digna Arcos Padilla
Nicholas J. Brechtel
Monique R. Curley*
Patrick L. Donabedian
Jose Garcia-Galvez
Joan Loughrin

DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY IN NANOSCIENCE AND MICROSYSTEMS ENGINEERING

Vincent M. Cowan
Matthew S. Graus
Clay S. Mayberry*
Harry C. Pappas*

*Summer 2016 Graduate  †Graduating with Distinction
Graduation with Honors
(UNDERGRADUATES)

**Summa Cum Laude**
(GPA 3.90 and above)

Tomas F. Babuska
Hyunwoo Jung
Erik A. Sonnenberg

Joseph R. Bainbridge
Thao K. Pham
Austin T. Von Tom

**Magna Cum Laude**
(GPA 3.75 to 3.89)

Danny Adams
Ciana L. Lopez
Samuel W. Klump

David I. Collins
Genaro V. Montoya

Jayson E. Grace
Fernando M. Sanchez

**Cum Laude**
(GPA 3.50 to 3.74)

Nahome G. Bete
Abeer F. Jihad
Keith M. Pacheco

Felicia M. Candelaria
Elias Medina Guereca
Gregory W. Peacock

Daniel J. Frumkin
Aaron S. Lardner
Zachary B. Thompson

Michael Fry
Mario V. LoPrinzi
Ethan J. Wakefield

Mary C. Hollowell
Robert D. Nicholson
Shaun R. Whetten
Congratulations and Welcome!

Congratulations, graduates! Now that you have graduated, you are automatically a member of the UNM Alumni Association. There are no dues. Visit the UNM Alumni Association Website for information and a complete listing of benefits at http://www.unmalumni.com.

We also welcome you to the School of Engineering alumni family. The UNM School of Engineering strives to keep you connected to the School in the most convenient way possible. As you move forward, please keep us informed regarding address changes, career moves, and significant events in your life. If you are interested in collaborating on an activity to engage fellow alums, let us know. Please contact us at engineeringalumni@unm.edu.
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Guidelines for Graduates and Guests

Cooperation Requested
Family members and guests are encouraged to take photos of the ceremony and the graduates. While taking photos, please be courteous and respectful of the students leaving the stage. The audience may not enter the stage area at any time during the program.

Commencement Photographer
GradImages will take candid photographs of all graduates at their special moment of recognition. Graduates will receive a free proof of this photo via email and regular mail within 5 to 7 days following the ceremony. You may place orders or obtain answers to questions at the GradImages website for graduate photos, www.gradimages.com or by calling 1-800-261-2576

Diplomas
The Office of the University Registrar will mail diplomas (unless the student has specified that it be held for pickup) after grades have been received and recorded, which is usually in mid-February for fall graduates. Diploma-related questions should be directed to the UNM Office of the Registrar at 505-277-8900 or by email to degrees@unm.edu.