

Student Services Newsletter

DECEMBER 2022

THOUGHTS FROM THE CHANCELLOR

We recently had our first snowfall on campus, which serves to remind me that we are well into the fall semester. As my first semester at UNM-Los Alamos comes to a close, I cannot help but reflect on all that has happened on campus this fall.

Our enrollments for fall are higher than they were in Fall 2021! Sometimes the campus still feels emptier than it should with many students still taking online courses, but I look forward to having more students coming to campus in the coming semesters. Online classes can be a convenient way to access education but they are not a substitute for the community that is created on campus when people are here in person. If you are exclusively an online student, but live near UNM-LA, I encourage you to come to campus and partake in our activities and student support, such as our Academic Success Center, Learning Resource Center, or clubs such as Student Government.

On November 8, UNM celebrated first-generation (First Gen) college students. As a First Gen student myself, I can understand the additional challenges our students face in trying to navigate higher educational systems without someone in their household to help them. For all of who you are also the first in your family to attend college, know that you are not alone and that our UNM-LA faculty and staff are here to assist you in your educational journey. Do not be afraid to reach out and ask for help or advice.

Good luck on finals, and have a wonderful Winter Break!

—Dr. Mike Holtzclaw, Chancellor

CELEBRATING FIRST-GENERATION COLLEGE STUDENTS

On November 8, first-generation UNM-LA faculty, staff, and students gathered to celebrate their achievements and participate in a nationwide recognition of first-generation college students. Are you the first in your family to go to college? If so, we would like to invite you to celebrate your accomplishments with us! UNM has provided free t-shirts for you to show that you are "First Gen Proud." If you would like one, please fill out the form at firstgen.unm.edu. You may pick up your t-shirt in the Student Services office in Building 1 any time during work hours. If you are willing, please also take a few minutes to write down your story and share it with us. Email your story to Grace Willerton: gwillert@unm.edu. We are honored that you have chosen to start your college education at UNM-LA. We are proud of you!



IMPORTANT DATES FOR FALL & SPRING

Be sure to note these important dates below. Contact an advisor if you need assistance.

December 9: Last day to drop a course with permission (contact an advisor).

December 12–17: Final exams.

December 23–January 2: Winter Break, campus closed.

January 17: Spring semester begins.

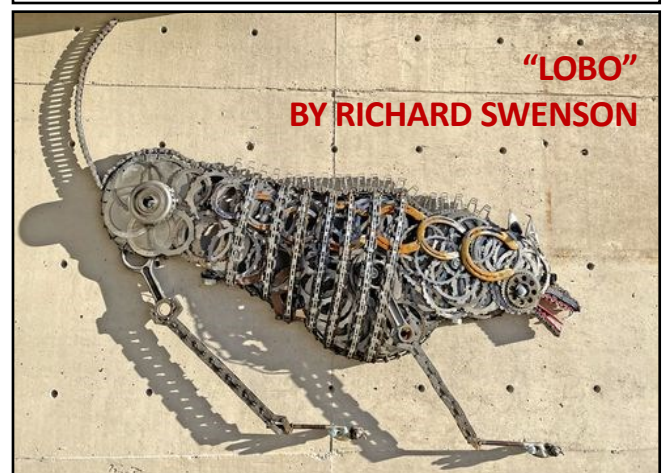
January 27: Late registration ends.

February 3: Last day to drop and receive 100% refund; last day to drop without a grade or W.

March 12–19: Spring Break; campus open.

April 14: Last day to drop via LoboWeb.

May 5: Last day to drop a course with permission (contact an advisor).



STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

Name: Nathane Salazar
Hometown: I grew up between my home located in San Pedro and my grandparents in Santa Clara Pueblo



High School: Espanola Valley High School and Victory Faith

Major: IT/Cybersecurity

Favorite Class: Hard to pick just one, I really enjoyed Welding, Exploratory Data Analytics, Scripting for Network Defense, and Technical Analysis Operations in Intelligence Services

Dream Job: My Dream Job would be a mattress tester, I would go to work, fall asleep, then wake up and start my day. Ironically, a dream job where I could dream. Need me to work some overtime? No problem!

Plans for After Graduation: After I graduate I will most likely continue working at Los Alamos National Laboratory, of course with a position and pay bump

Hobbies: I have so many it's easy to lose count and equally difficult to find time for them all. To name a few: cooking, drawing, digital art, painting, music, motorcycles, skiing, welding, carpentry, electrical, flying drones, exercising (intermittently), fishing, hiking, pottery, saltwater fish and coral aquariums, gaming, etc.

Favorite Team: UNM Lobos of course!

Top of My Playlist: I love all different kinds of music, what I listen to the most is probably R&B Soul, Hip-Hop/Rap, Deep House, Dance/Electric, Pop, Alternative Rock, occasionally some lo-fi or chant while doing homework

Red or Green: Christmas, depending on the dish I tend to lean more toward the Red side, but I try to keep balance in the force

PRIORITY DEADLINE FOR FAFSA IS JAN. 5

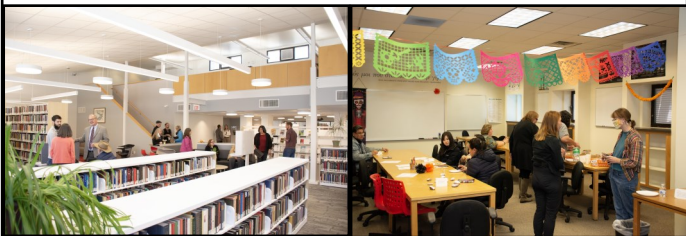
UNM-LA's priority deadline for the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) is January 5, 2023. You may still complete the FAFSA after this date, but some types of aid will be limited. **You must also complete your Financial Aid file by February 1.** Priority aid includes certain types of grants, work study, and certain loan funding. Regardless of the date the FAFSA is submitted students will always be considered for the Pell Grant (if eligible) and Federal Student Loans (if eligible).

Students with the Lottery Scholarship: If you started attending as a freshman in Fall 2021, you will reach your limit of Lottery under an associate's degree this Spring 2023. (You can only receive 3 semesters of Lottery under an associate's degree.) Please talk to your advisor about **transitioning** to Main campus in order to receive your remaining four semesters of Lottery.

For questions or help completing your 2023-2024 FAFSA please call Student Services at 505-662-5919 to set up an appointment with Jenny Duran, or email her: jenduran@unm.edu.

GRAND OPENINGS OF STUDENT FACILITIES

On November 1, UNM-Los Alamos faculty, staff, students, and community members celebrated the openings of two wonderful facilities dedicated to student success: the newly, beautifully renovated Library & Learning Resource Center (LRC), and the Academic Support Center (ASC). Attendees were given a tour of the redesigned LRC, enjoying its versatile, welcoming spaces for study, research, and community. The ASC celebrated its re-opening as well, and encourages students to take advantage of its in-person academic coaching and wonderful study space. Be sure to check them both out!



The University of New Mexico-Los Alamos is committed to the recognition and the proactive pursuit of compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA). The University makes reasonable accommodation for religious observances, national origin practices of a student and to the known physical or mental limitations of a qualified student, unless such accommodations have the end result of fundamentally altering a program or service or placing an undue hardship on the operation of the University. Qualified students with disabilities should contact Student Services for information regarding accommodations in the academic and/or employment setting. If you have a special need and require an auxiliary aide and/or service, please contact Student Services at (505) 662-5919.



CONGRATULATIONS FALL GRADUATES!

Congratulations to the students earning associate degrees and certificates this fall! UNM-Los Alamos holds a commencement ceremony once a year in May. All of you will be invited to participate and we hope that you will join us. There are no fees for participation and regalia are on loan courtesy of your Student Government. Look out for more information or contact Kathryn Vigil, Director of Student Affairs if you have questions about the ceremony in May. Go Lobos!

CAREER SERVICES ADVICE FOR WINTER BREAK

Happy holidays! Winter Break provides a great chance to reconnect and spend time with important people in your life. The ones who care about you also want to see you succeed in college and in your future career. Talk with them about your studies—what you enjoy, what has been more challenging, and what is coming up. Remind them what field you want to pursue as a career. Ask them about people they know who work in that field. Discuss possible opportunities that could help you gain experience before you graduate—shadowing, internships, summer jobs, or volunteering. See what you can set up for the spring semester! If you'd like to explore career pathways or need help with your resume, or just have questions about your next steps, make an appointment with one of our career advisors today. Call Student Services at 505-662-5919 to schedule a meeting with Grace Willerton or Coco Rae.



WINTER PERKS FOR UNM-LA FRESHMEN AT PAJARITO MOUNTAIN

PAJARITO MOUNTAIN IS OFFERING A

FREE SEASON PASS

TO ALL FULL-TIME FRESHMEN
(2022 HIGH SCHOOL/GED GRADUATES)
ATTENDING UNM-LOS ALAMOS

*some restrictions apply

Pick up your pass starting
November 21 at the
Pajarito Season Pass Office
Wednesday - Sunday
8:30 am - 3:30 pm



Questions?

UNM-Los Alamos
Student Services
505-662-5919



Pajarito Mountain
Ron DeVargas: 505-662-5725 or ski@pajarito.ski
Melissa Heidel: 505-662-5725 ext.7411 or mheidel@pajarito.ski



LOS ALAMOS

YOU'RE INVITED TO CELEBRATE THE
**COMMUNITY INTERNSHIP
COLLABORATION**

Graduation Ceremony



Thursday, December 8
5:00 PM - 7:00 PM



2551 Central Avenue, Los Alamos

Join us at SALA to celebrate our CIC Interns' graduation. Presentations will start at 5:15 pm. Refreshments to follow.

COVID-19 INFO & VACCINE APPOINTMENTS

Get the COVID-19 vaccine: Everyone 6 months of age and older is now eligible to get a COVID-19 vaccine. Visit: cwaccine.nmhealth.org.

For current health guidelines, be sure to follow advice from trusted, accurate sources.

CDC: www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-nCoV.

NM Department of Health: cv.nmhealth.org.

If you think you are sick Contact your doctor for medical advice. **Do not** go to a medical clinic until you are instructed to do so, to avoid potentially infecting others. Additionally, please contact Kathryn Vigil, kaguilar@unm.edu.

For testing: Free testing is available at home and around the state. Visit: cvprovider.nmhealth.org/directory.html.

If you are not sick Practice social distancing, wash your hands, cover coughs and sneezes, and disinfect frequently touched surfaces daily. Most importantly, **please** wear a mask. Even asymptomatic or pre-symptomatic people can still spread COVID-19. People who are at higher risk are depending on all of us to help reduce transmission—and save their lives.

STUDY SLAM & FOOD FOR FINALS

Need some extra help before finals? Drop by the ASC December 5, 6, and 8 from 2-4 pm and December 7 from 10 am-12 pm and 1 pm-4:30 pm for help with math, study skills, stress management, time management, and more!

During **finals week (December 12-15)**, wander down the main hallway in Building 6 for some grab-and-go snacks to feed your brain! **Snacks will be available from 9 am-3 pm.** Good luck on finals!

FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA

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lobo-la



Snapchat

STUDENT SERVICES

Student Services is a central hub of information for prospective, current, and former students to find assistance and answers to questions about admissions, financial aid, registration, academic advising, career services, and other resources on campus.



Kathryn Vigil
Director, Student Affairs
505-661-4688
kaguilar@unm.edu



Coco Rae
Student Success Manager
505-661-4692
cocorae@unm.edu



Jenny Duran
Financial Aid Advisor
505-662-0341
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Melissa Torres
Academic Advisor &
Recruitment Specialist
505-661-4690
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Grace Willerton
Student Success Specialist
505-663-3402
gwillert@unm.edu



Lori Tepley
Branch Registrar
505-662-0332
ltepley@unm.edu



Brittany Carpenter
Community Internship
Collaboration (CIC) Director
505-661-4682
brcarpenter@unm.edu

Admissions

The Office of Admissions can help if you have questions or are ready to apply to UNM-Los Alamos. The Office of Admissions can provide application instructions for degree-seeking, non-degree, dual credit/concurrent, international, senior, or transfer students. Complete details can be found on the Admissions page: losalamos.unm.edu/admissions.

Financial Aid

The Office of Financial Aid provides information on financial resources available to degree-seeking students. These resources may include scholarships, grants, and loans from the federal or state government, independent organizations, and/or UNM-LA itself. UNM-LA determines financial aid eligibility from the FAFSA, so please take time to file this document on line every year. Don't assume you are ineligible—there are many opportunities to pursue.

Enrollment Services

The Office of Enrollment Services at UNM-LA processes high school and other college transcripts for admissions and maintains transcripts of current and former students. The registrar can also answer questions about dual credit and concurrent enrollment, VA benefits, and graduation requirements.

Academic Advising & Student Success

Academic advisors can provide guidance through the admission process, degree and course selection, and registration. Advisors also assist with changing a major, following up instructors' early alerts, filing graduation petitions, and planning for baccalaureate work. Advisors can also help resolve registration errors. Degree-seeking students must meet with an advisor before registering for each semester to check that their chosen classes will continue to make progress toward their degrees and to have their advising hold lifted. The Academic Student Success Manager coordinates ADA accommodation services for students, and oversees academic advisement, student retention, and success initiatives.

Career Services

Student Services offers career services to assist students with self-exploration, selecting a major, and opportunities for gaining experience in their chosen fields. Career services also include resume reviews, internship connections, job fairs, quantifying or translating skills, sharing job postings, and building connections between employers and our students.