



LOS ALAMOS

Student Services Newsletter

November 2023

MEET CAMERON DREHER

Email: dreher@unm.edu



Student Services would like to welcome Cameron Dreher as our new Branch Recruitment Specialist. You are certain to see her around campus or at UNM-LA events, so please say hi when you see her or stop by the office to introduce yourself. Cameron has a wide variety of interests, and you are sure to find something interesting to talk to her about.

Cameron has distinguished herself as a scholar, athlete, and advising professional. She will oversee our outreach to local high school students to demonstrate that beginning their studies here in Los Alamos is the best option for many of them.

Cameron comes from Connecticut by way of upstate New York. She earned her B.A. from Union College—the alma mater of US President Chester A. Arthur and the oldest non-denominational college in the United States—with a double-major in Economics and Sociology. She wrote a research-based thesis on race and retention in different types of institutions. Her M.S. in Organizational Management is from Russell Sage College.

Cameron is a talented athlete who currently coaches basketball at Los Alamos High School. At her own high school, Stonington High in Pawcatuck, Connecticut, Cameron distinguished herself in softball and basketball, but most of all as an all-state athlete in field hockey. (Since field hockey is not an extramural sport in New Mexico, it is interesting to note that it is more popular than tennis, golf, or baseball worldwide). Cameron is interested in pretty much every sport, and she is a skilled player of many of them.

Cameron has eclectic musical tastes, but country music is her favorite; Zach Bryan holds the top spot on her playlist.

Most of Cameron’s professional experience is in higher education. After graduating from Russell Sage, Cameron took a job there as recruiter. She had a wide recruiting field, and she often spent days on the road visiting schools. She looks forward to using her knowledge of higher education and her ability to connect with students to help UNM-LA grow and prosper.

Cameron is excited to get to know more about Los Alamos and to assist students. Come by to meet her in her office in Student Services.



FOLLOW US



STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

Name: Elisa Esquibel

Hometown & High school:
Española / Española Valley
High School

Major: General Studies

Plans for after graduation:

Continue working at LANL

Dream Job: Be my own boss

Hobbies: Journaling, reading, fishing, camping, anything outdoors with my dog!

Favorite sports teams:

UNM Lobos

Top of my playlist: Ocean Eyes (Jesus version) by Hannah Barr

Favorite class: Human Anatomy and Physiology

Red or green: Red all the way



COMMUNITY COLLEGE INTERNSHIPS WITH DOE (LANL OR SANDIA)



If you're interested in an internship with Los Alamos National Labs, the CCI program is an excellent way to get your foot in the door. CCI is a paid internship opportunity sponsored and managed by the DOE in collaboration with DOE laboratories/facilities, including LANL and Sandia. Students participate in a 10-week summer internship (May–August) or in 10-week internship during the semester (August–December or January–May). Learn more, including eligibility requirements by going to: <https://science.osti.gov/wdts/cci>

CANVAS HELP AND DIGITAL SKILLS WORKSHOPS

Canvas Help and Digital Skills Workshops for Fall 2023 semester are available for students taking online classes or classes with an online component to it. If you need help signing into/navigating Canvas, getting registered for online learning software, or digital skills help (Scanning and uploading written work, communicating online with your instructor, finding scholarly sources, using Lockdown browser), please visit Kevin Rosenberger through Zoom.

You may also email with questions or schedule an appointment to meet on Zoom at a time different than the times listed below.

Times Available: Monday - Friday: 11 AM - 12 Noon (or by appointment)

Zoom Link: <https://unm.zoom.us/j/95136136380>

UPDATED FAFSA ANNOUNCED



The 2024–2025 FAFSA will open in December (exact date TBA). There are some changes to the Better FAFSA Better Future.

The 2024–25 Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA®) includes unprecedented changes to how students and families apply for federal student aid and how we determine eligibility, giving students a better and simpler experience with the FAFSA form. Improvements include a direct data exchange with the IRS for income data elements, a new “Who’s My Parent?” wizard, and a single consolidated portal for all FAFSA help resources.

UNM-LA will be holding a FAFSA night on January 22, 2024. Flyer will be available soon. For more information go to studentaid.gov

Contact Jenny Duran with question: jenduran@unm.edu

CIC: MEET OUR CIC COHORT

Brittany Carpenter, brcarpenter@unm.edu



Top Row: Ash Stevens, Kristian Godt, Michael Thornton, James Bourguet
Bottom Row: Brittany Carpenter, Christal Valdez, Maia Dominguez, Dylan Atencio, Professor Montana Walsh

Meet our Fall 2023 CIC Cohort! This semester our students have internships at The Family YMCA, Attack Research, PEEC, Village Arts, the Los Alamos Arts Council, and the Los Alamos Commerce & Development Corporation. Next semester, this could be you! Come by Student Services and speak with Internship Coordinator Brittany Carpenter.

SPRING SCHEDULE PUBLISHED!

The Spring Schedule has been published! Please take a look at potential classes and then make an appointment with your advisor so you can finalize your schedule and get your hold lifted before registration opens on **Monday, November 6**. Contact Student Services for help: 505-662-5919.

IMPORTANT DATES FOR FALL

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

November 5: Daylight Saving Time ends-set your clocks back one hour.

November 10: Last day to drop without permission on LoboWeb.

November 23—24: Thanksgiving Break; campus closed.

December 7: Last day to drop with permission (contact an advisor).

December 9: Last day of instruction.

December 11—16: Final Exams.

December 22—January 1: Winter Break; campus closed.

January 15: MLK, Jr. Day; campus closed.

January 16: Spring semester begins.



NATIVE AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH

November is Native American Heritage Month, when we celebrate the contributions of indigenous people—past and present—and honor their influence on the advancement of the state and the nation.



This year we would like to particularly honor Secretary Debra Haaland of the Laguna Pueblo, who is serving as the 54th United States Secretary of the Interior. Haaland has three college degrees, two of them (a BA in English and a JD) from The University of New Mexico. She

has served her country in the United States Navy, as a member of the United States House of Representatives (joining Sharice Davids as one of the first two Native American women to be seated in Congress), and as Secretary of the Interior since 2021. She is the first Native American to serve as a Cabinet secretary, and the second to serve in the Cabinet. Before starting her political career, Haaland was the first chairwoman of the Laguna Development Corporation Board of Directors, overseeing the second-largest tribal gaming enterprise in New Mexico.

UNM-LA salutes Secretary Haaland and all Native Americans who have dedicated themselves to lives of service. American Indians and Alaska Natives serve in the United States Armed Forces at five times the national average. Please thank a Native American veteran this month!

Click [here](#) for events sponsored by the UNM Anthropology Department.

MEET ASH STEVENS



If you have spent time on the campus of The University of New Mexico – Los Alamos, you have noticed a tall, stylish young man gliding through the grounds with the self-assured elegance of a spectral Gilded Age railroad tycoon. You may have asked yourself, “Who is that?” (You have asked yourself that, haven’t you?) Well, that is Ash Stevens. His graceful stride was cultivated through years of studying ballet, while his self-possession is a result of his Renaissance mind. Ash is driven by a desire to create, a need to understand, and an intense hunger for wealth.

Ash’s creative pursuits include crocheting and performing music, but the art that most satisfies his craving to generate art is drawing. Ash usually carries a sketchbook full of imaginative creatures – sometimes whimsical, sometimes macabre. He loves showing people his drawings, so a good way to break the ice would be to ask him to show what he has been working on.

Even though art holds the number one spot in his heart, Ash also loves scientific inquiry. He is majoring in physics, a science he became enamored with largely as a result of a high school teacher who shared her passion for the subject with her students. He sees physics as a pursuit that can satisfy his mind and pay the bills, which often is not the case with drawing. Ash doesn’t know where he wants to finish his studies, but he has been researching programs with strong programs and inspiring professors. I trust that Ash will find a way to combine his creativity and his desire to know about the physical forces that shape our world.

Ash is a very rare type of student—he moved to Los Alamos to attend college. His father lives here, so he is taking advantage of the free room (albeit in the basement) to begin his studies here. Even though he wishes there were more to do here, he loves the people and the landscape. He has met a couple of professors he finds particularly compelling, so we should thank the teaching staff for helping us attract such an interesting student.

In true Renaissance fashion, Ash is unapologetic about wanting to earn money. Donatello, Rafael, and Leonardo did not work for nothing, and neither will Ash.

Ash is one of the most original people on campus, so don’t let him glide past you. At the very least, thank him for his service in the UNM-LA Student Government and ask to see one of his drawings.

HEALTH PROFESSIONS SYMPOSIUM



The 8th Annual Health Professions Symposium will be held on Saturday, April 13! UNM is hosting the event to give students interested in the health professions an opportunity to explore their passions, discover various pathways into the field of their choice, and learn about the realities and challenges of a health professions education and a career in healthcare. With many workshops on various topics to choose from, this is a great opportunity to network with individuals and grow professionally.

Click [here](#) to register. The schedule is not set yet, but it is a good idea to register early!

ADA STATEMENT

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.

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.



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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 online 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 Director of Student Affairs 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.