



LOS ALAMOS

Student Services Newsletter

March 2024

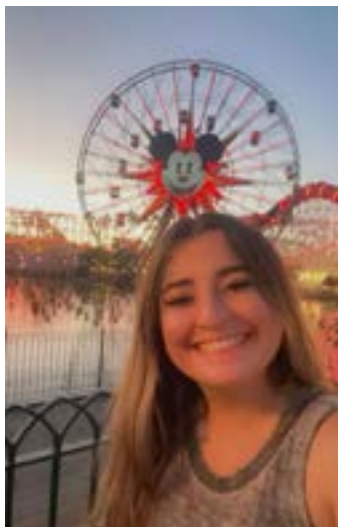
STUDENT LOUNGE UPDATE FROM ALEXANDER X ASHCRAFT

We are excited about the support we have been hearing for the implementation of the student lounge, so we wanted to give an update for everyone on where we are at. For those unaware, we are in the process of converting the previous academic support center at Building 2 into a student lounge to be implemented for general use after the summer break. We are currently coordinating with building management for general renovations during spring break with plans for implementing new furniture as we approach turnover timeframe. A pool table, projector for movie and game use, and a student ID-based keycard for access are examples of features we are planning to implement. As with many initiatives on campus, these things take time to implement, so we at the student government ask for a little patience as we move forward. Look forward to future updates later in the semester

Student Government: gwillert@unm.edu

MEET STUDENT SERVICES' LEANDRA ROMERO

Leandra has been working for UNM – Los Alamos as a student intern for about two years. Leandra is majoring in Mechanical Engineering; she plans to finish her bachelor's degree here, then considering going to graduate school in Albuquerque.



Leandra commutes to Los Alamos from Peñasco. While it is a pleasant drive, it can be treacherous during winter storms. One of the benefits of living in Peñasco, though, is ready access to outdoor activities. Leandra likes to camp, fish, ride ATVs and hunt. While she usually hunts for deer and elk, she aspires to one day bag a big-horn sheep and, possibly, even a mountain lion.

Leandra is an only child, but she has two cousins who are so close to her that they are practically siblings. It was one of these cousins who her to study engineering. When she saw how well he enjoyed the field, she set her mind to follow his example.

Leandra loves listening to music, particularly country. Her current favorite is Cody Johnson. Leandra follows football, and she cheers most consistently for the Broncos. She will root for the 49ers when they are playing. She was particularly sad to see the Chiefs win the Super Bowl again, particularly because she was watching the game with a family of fervent San Francisco fans. Better luck next year, San Francisco!

We at Student Services are lucky to have Leandra helping us. Be sure to say “hi” to her when you come by to meet with your advisor!

FOLLOW US



STUDENT SPOTLIGHT:

KAYLEE SALAZAR

Hometown:
Española NM

High school:
Pojoaque Valley High School

Major: Pre- Engineering

Plans for after graduation:
Be successful in my career and go back to school.

Dream Job:
House Flipper

Hobbies: Being active, playing instruments, chasing my puppy.

Favorite sports teams: I don't have a favorite team, but I enjoy watching women's college volleyball.

Top of my playlist: There's the Sun by Zach Top

Favorite class: Spanish

Red or green: Red

IMPORTANT DATES

March 10 – 17: Spring Break (Campus open)

April 8: Summer / Fall Registration Opens

April 12: Last day to withdraw without approval of Student Services

May 2: Last day to withdraw with approval of Student Services

May 6 –11: Final Examinations

May 9: UNM-Los Alamos Commencement

June 3: Summer Session Begins

August 19: Fall Session Begins



RESUME WORKSHOP
From Template To Application
March 7, 2024
3:00 pm - 4:00 pm
LRC Collaboration Room

THIS IS FOR YOU IF

- You have a template or draft but need to take it to the next level
- You have a solid resume but haven't updated it recently
- You have a solid resume but need to modify it for an application

QUESTIONS? gwillert@unm.edu 505-662-3402

CIC SPRING COHORT



Meet our Spring 2024 CIC Cohort! This semester, UNM-LA placed student interns at the Valles Caldera, Mesa Top Games and Toys, ErgoTech, Village Arts, and our very own Student Services office. This could be you! Stay tuned to learn more about internships that will be available for the Fall Semester. As you think about your classes next semester, consider the CIC opportunity!

MEET STUDENT GOVERNMENT REP BRI WILLIAMS

Bri has been a member of student government only since November, but she has already helped to design the agenda cover.



Bri is an accomplished illustrator who intends to pursue game design. She is currently enrolled in three branch campuses to get the classes she wants, and she hopes to transfer to Albuquerque in the fall.

Bri keeps busy by working on her classes, and she is starting an internship at ErgoTech soon. She expects to work on a wiki, design posters, and help to update their website.

Bri maintains a low-key presence on campus, but she is award-winning Latin student. She has moved on from Latin, and she has been studying German for a few years now. She has an authentic love for the language, so wish her Guten Tag if her see her around campus. Her language skills came in handy at St. Cecilia Academy near Nashville, her alma mater. She says she was raised $\frac{1}{2}$ in Nashville and $\frac{1}{2}$ Oak Ridge, but we are glad that she is here in Los Alamos now.

Bri has a diverse taste in music (from a-ha and Alphaville to bluegrass), but her most fascinating interest is collecting classic Garfield memorabilia.

She has all sorts of Garfield items, most of them from the 80s. She even has the coveted Garfield phone!



Welcome to UNM-LA and thanks for your service to Student Government, Bri!

WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH

March 8 is International Women's Day, and March is Women's History Month in the United States, Australia and Canada. According to the Presidential Proclamation of February 29, 2024, "Though their stories too often go untold, all of us stand on the shoulders of these sung and unsung trailblazers — from the women who took a stand as suffragists, abolitionists, and labor leaders to pioneering scientists and engineers, groundbreaking artists, proud public servants, and brave members of our Armed Forces."



This year, we would like to focus on the contributions of women who are pioneers in the sciences, such as Dr. Shohini Ghose, Professor of Physics and Computer Science at Wilfrid Laurier University. Dr. Ghose, who earned her Ph.D. in physics from The University of New Mexico in 2003, focuses her research on quantum physics. She worked with Poul Jessen of the University of Arizona to make the first observation of individual cesium atoms to the effect of chaos on quantum entanglement.

In addition to her ground-breaking research, Dr. Ghose has also worked on communicating science to the public and providing resources for women in the sciences. Her TED talk "A beginner's guide to quantum computing" has received more than two million views, and she has served as the director of the Laurier Centre for Women in Science. Dr. Ghose works to bring recognition to women who were scientists in the past, but also to promote organizations that provide assistance to women who are exploring careers in the sciences.

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.

KAREN WILLIAMS OF THE UNM FOUNDATION

Hers is a very visible face on campus, but few people know what she does. Her name is Karen Williams, and she was hired by the UNM Foundation to raise money for UNM Los Alamos.

Most people do not know that UNM Los Alamos is a self-funding institution; we are not supported by Albuquerque. Like any institution of higher learning, we have a variety of revenue sources. Unlike many other schools, though, we don't have an endowment, and so we have to rely on contributions of generous members of our community. For those who don't know the best way to contribute, Karen's job is to help show you.



Karen started her career in fundraising with the United Way in San Antonio. She was impressed with the generosity of the donors to the United Way, particularly those who are not earning very much, but who perceive the need to help out and rise to the occasion.

Karen's experience at her alma mater, St. Edmund's in Austin, was "so great...actually mind-blowing," that she dreamed of working in higher education to find ways to give that experience to others. She says that programs that help people attend college can transform lives, not only for those who receive the degree, but for their families and their communities.

Karen worked at two colleges before coming here: Pomona College and Trinity University. She saw the importance of programs to increase diversity and to provide opportunities for all students.

What brings Karen to New Mexico is the realization that her skill set is so valuable that she can live anywhere she wants, and she fell in love with the area. She has been with us for only a few months, but she has already made an impact.

Karen has a four-fold vision to help improve community involvement in our school, and to help bring in more money.

The first step is to increase staff and faculty contributions. Her initial efforts were quite effective, but her vision is to have at least half of employees donating. A generous member of the community stepped up to match up to the first 10,000 given with this program.

The second step is to increase large contributions. This includes not only sizeable direct donations, but also estate bequests. Colleges and universities around the world usually rely more on large-money donations than UNM Los Alamos has been able to. Karen envisions a future in which the people of Los Alamos take pride in this school as one of the most essential institutions of our community.

The third pillar of her plan is to bring in donations through community events. Along with Chef Laura Cruet, owner of local eateries Pig and Fig, Sugar and Cream Café, and Beef and Leaf, Karen is hosting an invitation-only wine appreciation event at Beef and Leaf in April. This exclusive and elegant event will feature a wine education session, a live auction, a silent auction, and a paddle raise. This will be the place to be seen this spring!

Lastly, Karen plans to develop an alumni association to cultivate school spirit and to help solicit support. Thank you, Karen, for having the energy and vision to help our little school stake out its place in our community!

Is transfer in your future?

TRANSFER ADVISING

What

- Admission Information
- Transition Information
- Academic Advisement

Who

Schedule an appointment in Student Services to meet with:

- Anderson School of Management
- College of Arts & Sciences
- College of Engineering

TUESDAY, APRIL 9
10:00 am - 3:00 pm

Schedule time to meet with a UNM ABQ advisor on Zoom!

For More Info, Contact Student Services
505.662.5919

UNM LOS ALAMOS

MARCH CELEBRATION: HOLI



This is part of our series on festivals and holidays around the world.

Starting as a Hindu festival in India and Pakistan, Holi is now practiced around the world. It is the most colorful of all annual festivals, with participants covering each other with colored powders and dyed water. In many cities where Holi is celebrated, anyone who ventures in public risks being doused with red, yellow, magenta, purple, blue and green powder. Celebrants often ignore social class, and nobody is safe!

Holi is a spring festival that celebrates the love between Radha and Krishna, the renewal of damaged relationships, and the triumph of good over evil. Because the date of celebration is based on a lunar calendar, it will fall on different days on a standard Gregorian calendar. This year, the culminating celebration, known as Rahwali Holi, will take place on March 25.



Photo by Vishma Thapa, distributed under a CC-BY 2.0 license



Photo by Nawab Afriti, distributed under a CC-BY 2.0 license

In India, celebrants typically take to the streets in raucous groups with bags of powder to fill the city with color. Afterwards, they change clothes and get together with family and friends. This day brings participants an opportunity to reconnect with old friends they may have offended or argued with in the past. Spring is a time of renewal and forgiveness.

Holi is originally a Hindu festival, but it now can be enjoyed by all. For example, several US colleges and universities have Holi celebrations that anybody can participate in. The University of New Mexico's Indian Student Association is planning a Holi celebration on April 13. In some parts of India, Sikhs celebrate a similar a similar festival called Hola Moholla, which takes place a day after Holi. It is both a time to renew connections and to watch displays of gatka (stick fighting) and other Sikh martial arts.

The Indian Student Association at UNM is planning a Holi celebration at the main campus on April 15. For more information, email them at isa@unm.edu.

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
kagular@unm.edu



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



Jenny Duran
Financial Aid Officer
505-662-0341
jenduran@unm.edu



Jef Bateman
Sr. Student Success
Specialist
505-553-3406
jbateman1@unm.edu



Grace Willerton
Sr. Student Success
Specialist
505-663-3402
gwillert@unm.edu



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



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



Ingrid Goldsmith
Sr. Student Enrollment
Associate
505-661-4698
lgoldsmith@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 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 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.