



LOS ALAMOS

Student Services Newsletter

JUNE 2025

2025 UNM-LA GRADUATE SHANTEL SANCHEZ



Shantel participated in the LAECCA program at Los Alamos High School, and she earned her high school diploma and a certificate in business management this year. She plans to start studying at NMSU in the fall, where she will be able to earn a master's degree in three years. She is then planning to pursue her Ph.D. at Texas A&M.

Shantel has deep New Mexico roots. Her father sings for the Blue Ventures, the most famous band based in Española. Shantel herself plays violin, trumpet, piano and guitar.

She lives in Española, but she has gone to school in Los Alamos since pre-K days. In school, she was active in student council, DECA, and sports. When she started high school, she had dreamt of playing basketball, but an injury to her ankle caused her to switch to body building and throwing sports, particularly excelling at the discus and shotput.

Outside of school, Shantel was very active in her church. She also likes spending time with her dogs and her horse, Morita.

Shantel also likes to see the world. She plans to visit her brother in Croatia this summer, and she intends to one day study abroad in Japan.

Shantel's life has been full of accomplishments and activities, and she could not have succeeded alone. She wants to thank God for always being there; her parents, Harold and Kathy Sanchez for believing in her; her brother, Harold, Jr.; and Dr. Hurley, for inspiring her love of business.

GRACE WILLERTON EXPANDS CAREER SERVICES AT UNM-LA



In a significant step toward enhancing career guidance services at UNM - L A , Student Success Specialist, Sr. Grace Willerton has become the first certified facilitator on campus for both the Strong

Interest Inventory® and the Myers-Briggs Type Indicator® (MBTI®). Students and members of the community can take both these assessments for free. They are widely used to help individuals identify career paths that align with their interests and personality traits. If you think that these assessments will help you find a career path that fits your unique interests and your personality, then reach out to Grace by emailing her at gwillert@unm.edu or calling Student Services at 505.662.5919 to set up an appointment. Student Services also offers other services to help you select and pursue a career.

2025 PRIDE MONTH: THERESA CULL



June is Pride Month, and this year we would like to honor Theresa Cull, Chair of the Los Alamos County Council.

Theresa grew up in Pennsylvania and Texas, and she came to Los Alamos right after graduating from Texas A&M. Her entire professional career was at LANL, mostly in the areas of safety and environment.

Theresa never set out to be involved in any cause, but someone who knew she was in a same-sex relationship asked her to speak to the school board about the high school sex education curriculum. The lessons mentioned homosexuality only in relation to sexually transmitted diseases, and some parents wanted more comprehensive instruction, while others wanted even the existing mentions to be eliminated. In the end, neither side got everything they wanted, but Theresa was initiated into the world of activism.

Soon after, Theresa was recruited to advocate for partner benefits at LANL. To some, it seemed like a longshot, but since LANL operated under the aegis of the University of California, the effort was successful.

Although she has occasionally been active in causes, Theresa values relationships over confrontation. She believes that coming out to people gradually and with sensitivity has the best chance of changing their hearts.

Theresa's work with PFLAG (Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays) was the best fit for someone with Theresa's approach. Theresa became involved in this group after being approached by a woman who was struggling with her son's homosexuality. PFLAG provides support for families who have an LGBTQIA+ member, helping them to provide understanding and assistance. Theresa was active with this organization for 20 years.

Theresa is pleased with the advancement that she has seen in the past decades. When her partner died in 2012, they had been living together for 27 years, yet they could not legally marry. Getting both their names on the birth certificates of their children involved navigating a pile of bureaucratic red tape. Now, marriage equality makes that process much easier.

Theresa realizes that there is still work that needs to be done. She touts the work of the Los Alamos County Inclusivity Task Force that is looking into ways people can be included into the public life of the county more completely. The Task Force is not only looking into sexuality and gender inclusion, but also including people based on disability, socio-economic background, ethnic identity, and so on.

UNM-LA would like to thank Theresa Cull for her work making our county a more welcoming place to live.



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.

FOLLOW US



TWO CIC INTERNS OFFERED PAID POSITIONS



Two students who participated in CIC internships this semester have been offered jobs at the companies where they were placed. Daisy Arevalo-Rodriguez was placed with the marketing department of the Los Alamos Arts Council, and she was offered a paid part-time position. Jovanna Blea interned with the Española Valley Fiber Arts Center.

Jovanna offered this reflection:



During my internship at the Española Valley Fiber Arts Center (EVFAC), through UNMLA CIC program, I had the opportunity to work on both the creative and behind-the-scenes sides of the organization. I

helped design promotional flyers, organized event information, created signs for exhibits and classes, and assisted with social media and outreach efforts. I learned a lot about how a community-based arts nonprofit runs from planning and communication to the little details that make events and workshops successful.

Now, I've been offered a role helping lead EVFAC's summer youth program. I'll be supporting and guiding students through hands-on workshops in rigid heddle weaving, screen printing, and sewing. It's exciting to shift from working behind the scenes to helping in the classroom. I'm looking forward to encouraging creativity in others, especially younger participants, and continuing to be part of a place that's all about community, culture, and learning through art.

EVFAC's mission is to cultivate and support multi-generational participation in the fiber arts, and I've seen that mission in action every day. It's been inspiring to contribute to that vision, both through creative expression and by helping behind the scenes. I'm looking forward to deepening my experience and taking on new challenges this summer!

For more information about CIC, contact Brittany Carpenter at bcarpenter@unm.edu and plan to attend the Meet and Greet on September 3.



IMPORTANT DATES

June 2: Summer session begins

June 13: Last day to change grading options / Last day to drop without "W" grade and 100% tuition refund on LoboWeb

June 19: Juneteenth, campus closed

July 4: Independence Day, campus closed

July 11: Last day to drop without approval of Student Services

July 25: Last day to drop with approval of Student Services (contact an advisor)

July 29: Summer session ends

August 18: Fall semester begins

2025 UNM-LA AAS IN BUSINESS GRADUATE ERIC MARTINEZ



Eric is a native of Northern New Mexico, and he still lives on his family's ranch in Medanales. His goal is to study business at Anderson School of Business.

This was his third attempt at completing his degree. His supervisor challenged him to start taking classes, so he came to UNM-Los Alamos determined to finish. Eric wants students to know that "if you keep your mind set to it, you can achieve it. Just be willing to work hard."

There are few people who work harder than Eric. He not only completed his degree while working full time at LANL and managing a cattle ranch, but he sometimes found time to pursue his hobbies: hunting, fishing, camping, and welding. He describes himself as a workaholic who needs to keep busy.

Besides pursuing his education, Eric wants to spend more time outside "to see the amazing beauties of New Mexico." He observes that there are countless adventures a person can have without traveling more than four hours. He hasn't been camping for a while, and he wistfully remembers the time he spent hunting or exploring on horseback.

Eric also enjoys spending time with his family. He has four children, three stepchildren, and seven grandchildren.

Congratulations on earning your degree! We hope you find some time this summer to get out and enjoy the state you love.



LOS ALAMOS PRIDE 2025

WHAT'S

HAPPENING?

PRIDE FESTIVAL

June 13, 3-7 pm,
Central Park Square

MAY 28

Queer Book Club
Samizdat 6-8 pm

JUNE 8

Intergenerational Game Night
Teen Center 4-9 pm

JUNE 9

Tie-dye at the Teen Center
all ages welcome, 1-4pm

JUNE 10

Central Park Pride Concert
Central Park Square 6-8pm

JUNE 11

Art Tunnel Pride Mural Painting
Underpass near Canyon Rim Train 3-6 pm

JUNE 11

Trans Support Group
UU Church 6 pm

JUNE 12

Pride on the Patio
Pig + Fig Cafe 6-8 pm

JUNE 13

Pride Festival
Central Park Square 3-7 pm

JUNE 13

Pride After Dark
Location TBD 7:30-Late

JUNE 15

Unitarian Universalist Church Pride Service
10:30 -11:30 am

JULY 19-20

Queer Camp Out/Cook Out
Ponderosa Camp Grounds

AUGUST 28

Queer Movie Night
SALA 7 pm

✉ BOARD@LOSALAMOSPRIDE.ORG

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 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 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.