



LOS ALAMOS

Student Services Newsletter

May 2024

MEET STUDENT SERVICES WORK-STUDY: KIERSTEN TEMPLE

You may have talked to Kiersten at the front desk of Student Services, but you probably don't know much about her adventurous life. Kiersten was born in Illinois, but she has lived here for most of her life. She is majoring in Mechanical Engineering, and she hopes one day to work as an engineer at the Lab.

Kiersten loves winning, and this has led her to favor competitive activities like tennis and cosplay. It has been a while since she played tennis competitively, but she has maintained her skills and would probably beat you if you challenged her to a match. To dominate in cosplay competitions, Kiersten has to sew, solder, and build. She has portrayed Present Mic from *My Hero Academia*, Annette from *Fire Emblem Three Houses*, and 9S from *Nier Automata*.



A few years ago, Kiersten had two dogs: Chips and Salsa. When Salsa died, Chips was beside himself with grief. He wouldn't get up or do anything, so they decided to adopt a new dog to be Chips' pet. That's how they got Bennett. The two dogs are spiritual brothers and are inseparable.

Kiersten worked for nine years as a veterinary assistant. She saw some amazing things while there, such as an injured bobcat a co-worker brought in not realizing it was a wild animal and

a dog who had eaten a towel and two gallons of grass. For the record, that is nearly two gallons more grass than most dogs eat at any given time.

Student Services is glad to have Kiersten working for us; come by some time and ask her about her various hobbies.

GRADUATION IS APPROACHING!



UNM-Los Alamos will hold our graduation on Thursday, May 9 at 6:00 pm at Crossroads Bible Church, 97 East Road in Los Alamos. If you are planning to graduate this spring, contact your advisor to guide you through the graduation petition process. If you are not sure whether you qualify for graduation, your advisor can guide you through interpreting your degree audit. Graduation regalia will be loaned by the college.

If you have any questions about graduation, contact Lori Tepley at ltepley@unm.edu.

FOLLOW US



MEET YOUR STUDENT GOVERNMENT: SARAH TURNBERG

Sarah has been in student government for only a short time, but she has already influenced the campus by helping to plan the recent Finish Strong! event and the upcoming Student Center.

Sarah is happy to be living in Los Alamos, which she describes as the coolest place she has ever lived. Her

hometown is Cynthiana, Kentucky, the home of Post-It Notes and Robert Kirkman, creator of The Walking Dead. Before enrolling at UNM-LA, Sarah never attended school. She describes herself as homeschooled/non-schooled. She says she was “practically raised by trees.” She does well in her classes, but it has been a struggle to develop the discipline of turning in work on time.

Sarah has many hobbies, and she is always looking for something new. She sews, gardens, does cosplay, plays guitar, and enjoys all sorts of animation – particularly family-friendly films. The hobby that she seems most excited about is working on her car, a gold/silver Prius she named “King Arthur” for his glittering grandeur.

Sarah dreams of roaming the country in an RV, but for now she loves being here in Los Alamos. Also, there are two friends connecting her to this place: her boyfriend Michael and her cat Toby, a 13-pound Main Coon she rescued from the shelter. Toby is enormous, but he fortunately loves people. Give him a scratch if you ever meet him.

Sarah loves meeting new people, so say hi to her if you see her on campus.



IMPORTANT DATES

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

May 6 –11: Final Examinations

May 9: UNM-Los Alamos Commencement

April 8: Summer Registration Begins

June 3: Summer Semester Begins

June 7: Late Registration Closes

June 14: Last Day to Change Grading Options / Last Day to DROP without “W” Grade and 100% Tuition Refund on LoboWeb

June 19: Juneteenth (Campus Closed/No Classes)

July 4: Independence Day (Campus Closed/No Classes)

July 12: Last Day to Withdraw Without Approval of Student Services

July 25: Last Day to Withdraw With Approval of Student Services

July 30: Last Day of Instruction

August 19: Fall Session Begins



UPCOMING CAMPUS EVENTS

Wednesday, May 1: Fine Arts and Art Studio Faculty/Student/Staff Show. Building 2 Conference Room. The gallery will be open all day, and there will be a special reception in the evening from 5:30 pm to 7:00 pm. Email peninah@unm.edu.

Monday, May 6 - Thursday, May 9: Finals Fuel: grab and go snacks, Building 1 foyer (Student Services building).

May 7: CIC Graduation, Building 2 Conference Room, 4 pm

May 7: College Council Meeting, Building 2 Conference Room, 10:00 am - 11:30 am

Thursday, May 9: -Graduation. 6 pm at Crossroads Bible Church.

VESAK



The Buddhist Festival of Vesak is held on the date of the full moon in May, which falls on May 22 this year. Vesak celebrates the birth, enlightenment, and death of Siddhartha Gautama, known as the Buddha. The holiday is practiced most widely in Southeast Asia, South Asia, and Korea.

Siddhartha was a prince. An astrologer told his father that his son would be a great king or great spiritual leader. Wanting him to choose the path of a great king, Siddhartha's father protected him from seeing suffering, believing that knowledge of grief and pain would draw him to spiritual pursuits. Sneaking out one day, Siddhartha saw old age, disease, and death for the first time. It led him to the conclusion that all life is suffering, and he pledged to sit under a tree (the "Bo Tree") until he knew the remedy for suffering. The revelation of this truth – that following the Eightfold Path will lead to extinguishing of desire and, therefore, of suffering – is known as his "Enlightenment." Buddhists celebrate Buddha's death because this was his final release from "samsara," or the wheel of endless, painful, rebirth.

Vesak is celebrated in different ways around the world, but the best-known Vesak celebration is in Sri Lanka. Here, people hang lanterns outside their houses to represent enlightenment. Slaughterhouses are closed, and captured animals are released in commemoration of the Buddha's liberation and his principle of ahimsa, or non-injury to living things. Food stalls are set up to serve free food and ice cream to all people, Buddhist and non-Buddhist alike. People come from many different countries to watch the parades and join in the celebration.



NATIONAL ASIAN AMERICAN AND PACIFIC ISLANDER MONTH



May is National Asian American and Pacific Islander Month, an annual celebration that recognizes the historical and cultural contributions of individuals and groups of Asian and Pacific Islander descent to the United States.

This year we want to commemorate Dr. Chien-Shiung Wu, "The First Lady of Physics." Remembered in New Mexico for her contribution to the Manhattan Project in the fields of radiation detection and uranium purification, the world at large remembers her for her experimental analysis of parity by measuring beta particles. Although her contributions were crucial to understand asymmetry in weak interactions, she was not included when her team was awarded the Nobel Prize in 1957. Regardless, modern physicists acknowledge her contributions as crucial, and she was awarded the first Wolf Prize in 1978.

You can read more about Dr. Wu in Alexis David's book *Chien-Shiung Wu: First Lady of Physics*.

Contributions from great scientists like Dr. Wu have elevated the culture of the United States and expanded understanding for all people.

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.



LOS ALAMOS

FINALS FUEL

GRAB-N-GO SNACKS

MAY 6 - 9

9:00 AM-3:00 PM

**BUILDING I FOYER
(STUDENT SERVICES OFFICE)**

**FUEL UP ON FREE SNACKS
TO PUSH THROUGH EXAMS!**



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 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.