



# LOS ALAMOS

## Student Services Newsletter

APRIL 2025

### MEET HR ADMINISTRATOR II SASCHA GUENTER-SCHLESINGER



Sascha is the newest employee at UNM-Los Alamos. Originally from Bellingham, Washington, she came to Los Alamos about a year and half ago when her partner accepted a job at the Lab. She was surprised to find herself in such an isolated place, but she loves the outdoors and our unique culture. She says, "I have visited a lot of places around the world, but there is no place like Los Alamos."

Sascha spends a lot of time outdoors. She skis, snowboards, paddleboards, and plays golf every weekend. She was disappointed by the amount of snow this winter, but there is always next year. The one thing she loved to do in Washington that she hasn't been able to do here is sail.

Sascha owns two pets, but only her 16-year-old cat Marlee lives with her now. Marlee is definitely a senior citizen, but still gets around and still loves a good snuggle.

Sascha earned her degree in multi-disciplinary

studies, focusing on public relations and marketing, from Western Washington University. Her immediate goal in HR is to hire for open positions. She did talent acquisition for Amazon before coming here, and she is used to filling positions fast. Once we are fully staffed, she may turn her attention to training development for management.

You can find Sascha in the lower level of Building 2, or email her at [guentsas95@unm.edu](mailto:guentsas95@unm.edu). We are lucky to have Sascha working here. Welcome her aboard when you see her on campus.

### TIME TO THINK ABOUT CIC



Class registration begins soon! As you think about fall classes, consider participating in UNM-LA's Community Internship Collaboration (CIC). In September, you could be creating a marketing campaign for Gillian's Flowers, a local floral shop, or developing a website for Dragonfly Playhouse, a local preschool.

These are just a few of the opportunities waiting for you in the fall. Internships provide indispensable experiences to ensure you're on the right track in your educational pursuits. Along the way, you'll earn a course credit and a \$900 stipend.

Speak with Internship Coordinator Brittany Carpenter, [bcarpenter@unm.edu](mailto:bcarpenter@unm.edu), or your academic advisor today!

## ARAB AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH: JOSEPH AND JOHN BUDAGHER



**April is Arab American Appreciation Month. This year, we want to honor Lebanese immigrant Joseph Budagher and his son John.**

Beginning in the 1880s, numerous Lebanese expatriates, many of them Maronite Christians, began immigrating to the American West. This set up a pattern of immigration that continues to enrich our region's culture today. In New Mexico, many prominent families trace their ancestry to this period of immigration. Names such as Maloof, Bellamah, Tabet, Salmon, and Koury are familiar to New Mexicans through street and business names. Lebanese immigrants were mostly merchants, and they found New Mexico a hospitable place to start companies.

### **Joseph Budagher's Journey**

Joseph Budagher arrived in New Mexico in the early 1910s. He settled near Santo Domingo Pueblo and opened a trading post along the nearby highway, now part of Interstate 25. Joseph was disgusted by the exploitative approach of many white traders, so he promised that his family would have only positive connections to Santo Domingo. He insisted that his own children learned Keres, the language of the Pueblo, before they spoke a word of English or Spanish.



### **John Budagher's Legacy**

Eventually, Joseph's son John took over the trading post. He named it "Budaghers" and turned it into the most well-known stop between Albuquerque and Santa Fe. John loved talking to people who stopped by, and he would amaze visitors by remembering their names years later. UNM-LA advisor Jef Bateman says that John once offered his father tea and a place to rest when his car broke down near the store.

### **Continuing the Legacy**

The trading post is gone, but the Budagher family still has a strong presence in New Mexico. Joseph's descendants include doctors, lawyers, ministers, and business owners in the Albuquerque area, many of them educated at The University of New Mexico.

### **Honoring Arab American Contributions**

Arab immigrants from many different countries have contributed to New Mexico's culture and economy. Every year, the UNM Department of Anthropology offers a series of events to celebrate Arab American Heritage Month. Scan the QR code for their homepage to see what events they have planned.



Scan this QR code to go to the Anthropology homepage.

### **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.

## MEET WORK STUDY DEVON LOVATO



Devon is a native of New Mexico, but he spent most of his early years in Alamosa, Colorado, where he graduated from Sangre de Cristo High School. He currently lives in Nambé. He is preparing for a career in secondary education, teaching history and social studies. He was inspired to pursue a career in teaching by some amazing teachers he has had. He looks forward to giving back to the community, and to having summers off.

When he is not working or studying, Devon takes care of his four dachshunds and exercises. His love of dachshunds came about when his fiancée brought one into his life. He had never given the dachshund a second thought, but this one stole his heart. Now, he would not consider having a different type of dog. He began exercising when he started to experience repercussions of his sedentary lifestyle. Now he is stronger, fitter, and has lower blood pressure than he has had in years.

Devon listens to all genres of music. He says, "If you close yourself off from any type music, who knows what amazing experiences you'll miss out on?" His favorite genre, though, is rock and roll. He has been listening to a duo called Royal Blood a lot recently.

Regardless of your taste in music, you will probably find something interesting to discuss with Devon. Come by Student Services to meet him.

## 2025 SPRING JOB FAIR

The 2025 Los Alamos Chamber of Commerce Job Fair will be held at Fuller Lodge, not at the UNM-LA campus. It will be 3:00 pm – 6:00 pm on Thursday, April 10. If you want help with your resume or brushing up on your interviewing skills, contact your advisor or check out our Career Center services and hours by scanning the QR code.



Scan this QR code to access UNM-LA Career Services, including a calendar of our Career Center hours.

## IMPORTANT DATES

**April 7:** Registration for summer and fall opens. Meet with your advisor.

**April 18:** Last day to drop without Dean's permission on LoboWEB. See an advisor

**May 8:** Last day to drop with Dean's permission. See an advisor

**May 12-17:** Final exams

**May 15:** Commencement!

**May 26:** Memorial Day, campus closed

**June 2:** Summer session begins

**June 19:** Juneteenth, campus closed

**July 4:** Independence Day, campus closed

**July 29:** Summer session ends

**August 18:** Fall semester begins



## FOLLOW US





LOS ALAMOS  
CHAMBER  
OF COMMERCE

# CAREER FAIR

Join us at the Career Fair! Hiring  
Businesses can register below.



**THURSDAY**

April 10th, 2025



**TIME**

3.00 PM – 6:00 PM



**Fuller Lodge**

2132 Central Ave.  
Los Alamos, NM



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# 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](https://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.