



# LOS ALAMOS

## Student Services Newsletter

JULY 2025

### MEET ACADEMIC DEAN BRENT PICKETT



Student Services would like to welcome UNM-LA's new academic dean, Dr. Brent Pickett, who will assume his new role in August.

Dr. Pickett was raised in Kansas, but he came to the West when he studied for his MA and PhD at

the University of Colorado at Boulder. He fell in love with the Rockies, and he decided he wanted to live in our mountains for the rest of his life.

Dr. Pickett has published three books and 10 peer-reviewed articles. He had originally planned to teach, and he started his academic career as a teaching professor, but he moved into administration after having been appointed associate dean at the University of Wyoming. He saw that administrators can help students get the education they want and prepare for their future by improving the programs, faculty, and facilities that the university provides.

Dr. Pickett is most proud of the programs that he helped establish, such as the Medical Laboratory Science program, which offers a Bachelor of Science degree for students who want to enter the medical field in laboratory settings. He is committed to supporting the continued growth of UNM-Los Alamos and helping to expand degree programs to suit the needs of our students and to provide well-prepared workers to local communities.

Dr. Pickett loves to camp and hike, but his specialty is fly fishing. He has caught at least one trout on a fly rod every month for the last 28 ½ years. He no longer ties his own flies, but he does enjoy collecting them. He estimates that he has well over 1,000 of them.

Dr. Pickett and his family are excited about moving to Los Alamos. He says, "I really am looking forward to joining UNM-Los Alamos. My family and I are dedicated to becoming active members in the community."

### IMPORTANT DATES

**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



### 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.

## 2025 DISABILITY PRIDE MONTH: ALL INDIVIDUALS FIRST

July is Disability Pride Month, and this year we would like to celebrate by featuring All Individuals First, a day program for adults with developmental disabilities. They are currently located in the lower level of Trinity on the Hill Episcopal Church.

All Individuals First was founded 11 years ago by Doris Roberts, who had previously spent 27 years as a special education teacher. Doris was raised by deaf parents, and she was the only one of her siblings to dedicate herself to sign language interpretation and the education of the deaf. She became a certified sign language interpreter and sought her teaching certificate at the New Mexico School for the Deaf. They told her that she would end up teaching elementary, high school, and special education, but she ended up dedicating herself to special education throughout her career.



All Individuals First spends about half of their time out in the community. They visit the swimming pool, go bowling, and sometimes even visit museums in Santa Fe or the zoo and aquarium in Albuquerque. Recently, they visited a ranch to learn about branding and caring for cattle. They all had a chance to try their hand at roping.

Doris sees educating the public as part of the mission of the company. She says she has seen improvements in how people with developmental disabilities are treated, particularly by the police. Doris says, "We are



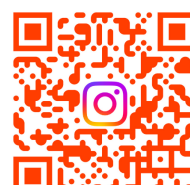
all human beings, and we can treat each other with respect."

All Individuals First serves 16 clients of various ages and abilities. The company employs seven people, which gives them adequate resources to help clients who need individualized attention. All Individuals First has a gift shop where you can find a variety of handcrafted objects made by individuals in the program. If you are looking for a unique present for someone's birthday or for a holiday, All Individuals First is a good place to start. It is generally open to the public from 8 am to 5 pm on Wednesdays, and you may find the shop open at other times, too.

If you have any questions, you can contact Doris at [allindividualsfirst@gmail.com](mailto:allindividualsfirst@gmail.com) or visit their website at [www.allindividualsfirst.org](http://www.allindividualsfirst.org).



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## MEET ESL TEACHER VIRGINIA JONES



Please welcome ESL teacher Virginia Jones to our campus. She has 44 years of teaching experience, most of it in the Four Corners region. She has taught elementary, middle, high school, and college.

Virginia was originally from New York, and she earned her BA in sociology from the University at Buffalo. She then came to the West to earn her MA in special education from Adams State University in Alamosa. She has also studied music and American Sign Language (ASL).

When she was teaching in the Four Corners, Virginia would sometimes come to White Rock to visit family. She decided that this would be a good place to live, so she took a job teaching pre-K at Bilingual Montessori School. This was her first time working with kids who were so little. She enjoyed doing this, but she feels that her strength lies in working with adults, so she sought a job at UNM-LA.

Among the things she loves most about Los Alamos is our vibrant musical culture. She recently joined the Hill Stompers, where she plays “auxiliary percussion,” which includes claves, maracas, a tambourine, and so on. Since the Hill Stompers are always on their feet, she has been experimenting with ways to make her ungainly set of instruments more portable. Even though she has been with them only a

short time, she has already played five gigs – with a different costume for each!

When she is not teaching or playing, Virginia spends time with her 75 lb. German shepherd/golden retriever mix or visiting her 13 grandchildren, aged 7 (almost) to 24.

If you want to ask Virginia about teaching or playing music, you can email her at [vjones19@unm.edu](mailto:vjones19@unm.edu).

## 2025 Taos Pueblo Pow Wow

This year, the Taos Pueblo Pow Wow will be held from July 11-13 at Buffalo Pasture Rd. in Taos. This event is open to everybody, and admission is free. Be sure to bring plenty of money for the vendors!



*Photo Credit: Visit Taos, New Mexico, [www.taos.org](http://www.taos.org)*





"CREATING CONNECTIONS BETWEEN YOUTH & ELDER"



# TAOS PUEBLO POWWOW & HANDGAME

## JULY 11-13, 2025

Buffalo Pasture Rd, Taos, NM

### FRIDAY, JULY 11

#### **3 MAN TOURNAMENT**

\$75 PER TEAM  
1<sup>ST</sup>, 2<sup>ND</sup>, 3<sup>RD</sup> PLACES  
SINGLE ELIMINATION  
REGISTRATION 3PM- 5PM

### SATURDAY, JULY 12

#### **MAIN TOURNAMENT**

3-5 PLAYERS  
\$150 PER TEAM  
1<sup>ST</sup>, 2<sup>ND</sup>, 3<sup>RD</sup>, 4<sup>TH</sup> PLACES  
DOUBLE ELIMINATION  
REGISTRATION 3PM-5PM

#### **MATERIAL GAME**

JEFFERY WEASELHEAD &  
ALLISON MALOTTE  
-VS-  
MARLON KELLY &  
PAULINA FASTWOLF

#### **PUEBLO STYLE FEED**

HANDGAME ARBOR @ 12PM  
UNTIL FOOD RUNS OUT.

### SUNDAY, JULY 13

OPEN GAMES ALL DAY

### **HEAD STAFF**

**SOUTHERN: BIG THUNDER COMANCHE, OK**

**NORTHERN: BAD CANYON WELLPINIT, WA**

**MC: JAMES EDWARDS, PAWNEE**  
**LESLIE TRUJILLO, TAOS PUEBLO**

**AD: COREY REEDER**

**WICHITA/CHEYENNE/KIOWA/DINE**

**HEADMAN: RONNIE LODGEPOLE, ROCKYBOY, MT**  
**CHIPPEWA CREE**

**HEADLADY: ONTARIA ARROW WHITE, FT. HALL, ID**  
**LEMHI SHOSHONE**



### **FRIDAY, JULY 11**

**GOURD DANCE: 2PM**

**TAOS PUEBLO ROUND DANCE: 5PM**

**GRAND ENTRY: 7PM**

### **SATURDAY, JULY 12**

**GRAND ENTRY 1PM & 7PM**

**SUPPERBREAK**

### **SUNDAY, JULY 13**

**GRAND ENTRY: 1PM**

### **DRUM CONTEST**

**SPLIT NORTHERN & SOUTHERN**  
**1<sup>ST</sup>, 2<sup>ND</sup>, AND 3<sup>RD</sup> PLACES**

**BACK UP SINGING CONTEST**  
**SPLIT NORTHERN & SOUTHERN**  
**"WINNER TAKES ALL"**

### **DANCE CATEGORIES**

**MEN'S NORTHERN TRADITIONAL**

**SOUTHERN STRAIGHT**

**GRASS/CHICKEN**

**FANCY**

**WOMEN'S NORTHERN BUCKSKIN**

**SOUTHERN CLOTH**

**JINGLE**

**FANCY**

**GOLDEN AGE 60+**

**SENIOR ADULT: 40-59 (M/F)**

**JUNIOR ADULT: 18-39 (M/F)**

**TEEN: 13-17 (B/G)**

**JUNIOR: 7-12 (B/G)**

**TINY TOT: 6 & UNDER (B/G)**

### **SPECIALS**

**OLDSTYLE JINGLE-**

**SPONSORED BY ANTHONY/CAROL**

**MIRABAL & FAMILY**

**GRASS -**

**SPONSORED BY RONNIE**

**LODGEPOLE & FAMILY**

**18+ WOMENS JINGLE-**

**SPONSORED BY ONTARIA ARROW**

**WHITE & FAMILY**

**MORE SPECIALS TBA!**

Absolutely NO DRUGS, ALCOHOL, OR FIREARMS allowed. The Taos Pueblo Pow-Wow & Handgame committee are not responsible for lost or stolen items, or short funded travelers.

CAMPING/RV SPACE (No hookups available)

### **FOR MORE INFO CONTACT:**

Taos Pueblo Tourism: 575.758.1028

VENDING - 505.376.3702 or taospowwow@gmail.com

HANDGAME INFO - Samuel J. Smith III: 575.770.2890



# 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.



**Danielle Gonzales**  
Director, Student Affairs  
505-661-4688  
[danigonzales@unm.edu](mailto:danigonzales@unm.edu)



**Coco Rae**  
Student Success Manager  
505-661-4692  
[cocorae@unm.edu](mailto:cocorae@unm.edu)



**Jenny Duran**  
Financial Aid Officer  
505-662-0341  
[jenduran@unm.edu](mailto:jenduran@unm.edu)



**Jef Bateman**  
Sr. Student Success  
Specialist  
505-553-3406  
[jbateman1@unm.edu](mailto:jbateman1@unm.edu)



**Grace Willerton**  
Sr. Student Success  
Specialist  
505-663-3402  
[gwillert@unm.edu](mailto:gwillert@unm.edu)



**Brittany Carpenter**  
Community Internship  
Collaboration (CIC)  
Coordinator  
505-661-4682  
[brcarpenter@unm.edu](mailto:brcarpenter@unm.edu)



**Lori Tepley**  
Branch Registrar  
505-662-0332  
[ltepley@unm.edu](mailto:ltepley@unm.edu)



**Gregory Scargall**  
Branch Recruitment  
Specialist  
505-661-4690  
[gscargall@unm.edu](mailto:gscargall@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](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.