

The Luna Light

"The People's College"

Mission Statement: "Creating Opportunities for You!"

Vision Statement: "New Mexico's Premier Community College: Preparing Students for Success"

Visit us at
www.luna.edu
1-800-588-7232

Volume 7 Issue 35

Oct. 13-Oct. 19, 2014

Luna CC student Mark Esquibel gets gig as stunt double for movie star "Sicario" filmed in New Mexico

Luna Community College student Mark Esquibel was recently asked to help in the production of the film *Sicario*. Esquibel was a stunt double for Benicio Del Toro. And Esquibel took advantage of the opportunity.

"I'm part of the Screen Actors Guild/AFTRA Union," said Esquibel. "My agent (A&M Talent House) called me and told me E. G. Casting out of Albuquerque was trying to reach me for a job as a stand in for Benicio Del Toro. When the director noticed I had a resemblance to the actor they told me that I would be doubling in a stunt shootout scene with Josh Brolin (*No Country for Old Men*) and Emily Blunt (*Edge of Tomorrow* with Tom Cruise)."

Esquibel doubled for Del Toro who played the character Alejandro. In the scene, Esquibel had a shootout in an underground drug trafficking tunnel in the U.S./Mexico Border.

"When they dressed me up like Benicio the director

said he couldn't believe the resemblance," said Esquibel. "Benicio's advice to me was 'to do the shootout as smooth as a cat.' After I did the scene and we were at the wrap party after filming, he thanked me for stepping up and helping them finish the film the way I did. He also told me we would be talking later because he liked my speed (Hollywood lingo for style or vibe)."

Del Toro has appeared in such films as: *The Wolfman*, *Usual Suspects*, *The Hunted*, *Traffic* and *Fear and Loathing in Las Vegas*.

Continued on page 2



Mark Esquibel



Luna Community College Admissions and Recruitment Director Moses Marquez (left) leads members of The Higher Learning Commission on a tour early Monday morning. Pictured (left to right) are: Marquez, Lloyd Hammonds (HLC); LCC's Student Services Advisor/Recruiter Erin Lopez; Catherine Kinyon (HLC); LCC student Jose Mondragon; Donna Dare (HLC) and LCC student Davi Mondragon. The Higher Learning Commission is at LCC for a comprehensive evaluation visit.

Mark Esquibel...

Continued from page 1

"I think I did pretty well," said Esquibel. "I did some scenes the actor is too big to do. Every actor has a double in a movie and the stunt double does the dangerous part of the acting the star doesn't want to do."

Esquibel has some acting experience. He played a character demon in the TV show Charmed and assisted the United States Marine Corp playing the role as a terrorist helping the Marines train for combat in the Middle East. He recently worked in Los Angeles on a show called The Bridge playing a role as a cartel gangster.

"You never know what doors it may open for me," said Esquibel. "You help a celebrity and maybe they'll help you someday."

Esquibel is continuing his education both at Luna Community College and Highlands University. He is studying media arts and business.

"Education is important to me," said Esquibel. "As it is I got a late start because of my part in this movie; education is a priority."

If they hadn't stopped filming when they did, Esquibel said he would have come back to school anyway.

"I want to thank the faculty at Luna Community College for allowing me to complete this job," said Esquibel. "I was out for the first week and half of the fall semester."

Eventually, Esquibel said that he would like to open his own business such as a health club with personal training and all the amenities of an elite executive club.

Esquibel was a personal trainer for 15 years in southern California. While in Los Angeles, Esquibel also did roles as an extra in commercials and other films.

"If acting doesn't go the way you hope it would, you always have your education as a foundation," said Esquibel.



Luna Community College student Mark Esquibel is pictured clockwise with: Emily Blunt; Benicio Del Toro; Esquibel in a tactical outfit he wore in a shootout scene and with Josh Brolin. Blunt has acted in films such asLooper and Edge of Tomorrow; Del Toro has acted in films such as The Wolfman and The Usual Suspects while Brolin was an actor in No Country for Old Men filmed in Las Vegas.

Esquibel said there is going to be much more filming in the future out here in Las Vegas.

"You have to get your face out there,

nothing lands on your lap miraculously; get the ball rolling," said Esquibel.

LCC: "The People's College"



Luna Community College Springer Satellite Temporary Office Manager Tina Gallegos has worked in the medical field for the last 14 years. She has been a resident of Springer for four years and joined the LCC-Springer Satellite team in late August. "I have thoroughly enjoyed my time at LCC; I have enjoyed meeting the students and staff here in Springer and at the main campus. I am excited to learn more about Luna Community College and how to better serve the citizens of Springer and surrounding areas," says Gallegos.



Patience Romero, a resident of Raton, is taking online classes at Luna Community College. She is also a photographer. She photographs children, families and seniors.

Jesse's quick hits

Remember to smile a few times a day. I hope this helps—Jesse

What's a toad after it's six weeks old?
Seven weeks old.

What games do toads play?
Tic tad toad.

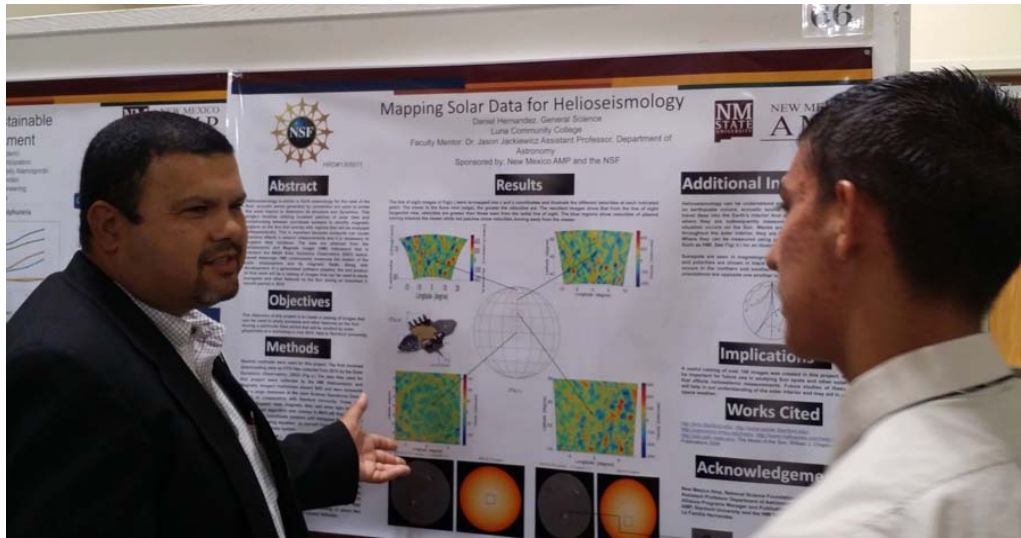
What does a toad wear at a construction site?
Steel-toad boots.

What did the turtle name her daughter?
Shelly.

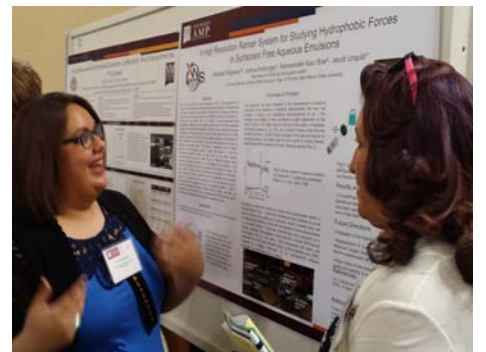
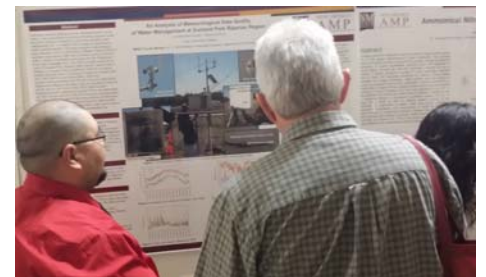
LCC: "The People's College"



The Alliance for Minority Participation Program (AMP) hosts a conference every year for students from around the state who are attending high school, community college or a university. During the summer, students from universities and community colleges apply for internship research positions at New Mexico State University. Luna Community College had students doing research during the summer— Daniel Hernandez, Mercediz Bileen, Nathanael Roybal along with former student Rachel Ridgeway who is presenting for her second year. The students (pictured in top photo) who attended the conference this year from LCC are: Jose Mondragon (pre-engineering); Davi Mondragon (pre-engineering); Bryan Laramie (pre-engineering); George Romero (pre-engineering) and Levi Martinez (computer science). These students represented Luna Community College well at the conference and networked with other students and faculty in their areas of discipline.



The other photos in the page show Luna Community College students presenting their research to students and faculty who attended the conference on October 2-4 in Las Cruces. Pictured clockwise are Daniel Hernandez; Nathanael Roybal, Mercediz Bileen and Hernandez; Bileen; Roybal and Rachel Ridgeway with Luna Community College STEM Instructor Betsy Sanchez.



LCC: "The People's College"

LCC students model for billboard campaign



Several Luna Community College students modeled for a billboard campaign that will be launched at the end of the fall semester. Pictured clockwise are: Kendrick Martinez; Alexandria Trujillo and Briana Rivera; Charlotte McDonald; Anthony Martinez; Melissa Nelson and Patricia Rivera.

LCC:
“The People’s College”

L
U
N
A

C
C:

“The
People’s
College”

Fall 2014 SLOA Presentations

DATE: Tuesday, December 9, 2014

TIME: 8:30am — 12:00pm

LOCATION: LRC LECTURE HALL

PRESENTERS:

Aileen Griego — Math

Anita Linson — Business

Sandra Crespín — Education

Donnie Adkins — Welding

Gerald Fresquez — Automotive

Paul Espinoza — CRT

Sequoia Romero — Electronics

Patricia Gonzales — Business

Jeanette Nolan — English

John Lopez — History

Kenneth Bachicha — Mass Media

J.S. Griego — Philosophy

Linda Tapia — Public Speaking

Mimi Overhulser — English

David Muniz — Nursing

Beverly Ann Copper — Nursing

Kevin Lucero — Psychology

Come support our faculty members



One-on-one with Luna CC's LRC Director Lawrence Martinez

The following is a one-on-one interview with Luna Community College Learning Resource Center Director Lawrence Martinez.

Highlight the services you offer.

Computer lab, books, magazines, maps, vertical files, videos and DVD's special library collection (Southwest Room), lecture hall, which has the ability to show DVD's or videos, classes, conferences, workshops. Databases that support our academic classes or vocational programs.

What has been done with funding that the LRC has received?

To pay for books, DVDs, magazines, computers, databases, and library services.

Is there any other resources that you expect?

Just the GO Bond which is used for buying books, DVDs, databases, computers and magazines.

What other libraries does LCC network with?

We have an agreement with our local libraries, Carnegie Library and NMHU Library, and with NMCAL (New Mexico Consortium of Academic Libraries).

How long have you been working at LCC and in what capacity?

I've been working for the Learning Resource Center for 21 years as a librarian and 4 1/2 years as interim director and director since July, 2014.

What is your vision for the future of the Learning Resource Center?

Our computer systems updated. Our Wi-Fi system accessible campus wide. Instructors letting us know what kind of materials they need for the classes (whether it be books, DVDs, magazines, databases, etc.). We need

to hear from these instructors in advance, not when classes are in session, or assuming that we have the material.

Ernest Encinias is my media technician and he helps with conferences, workshops, trainings, set ups for board meetings and for graduation.

Where do you see the LCC Library in five years?

Providing the same services and trying to stay on top of technology for the library.

What plans do you have to ensure that the LCC Library is fully utilized by students, faculty and community members?

Providing computers that can be accessed by students and patrons of the community: Materials (books, magazines, DVDs, databases, etc.), that can be used for classes, research, or hobbies.

What is your favorite part of being a librarian?

Helping students or patrons with their computer or research needs.

How important is a library to an educational institution?

It's very important to the educational system; we are in charge of providing the materials for our academic programs or vocational programs.

What do you believe your role as the college librarian is?

To do all the things I have already mentioned and to stay on top of the new programs coming into the college.

Tell us about the collections that are in place that are important to the success of the LCC Library.

Just look around you—the programs that Luna has—the programs are listed in the Luna Community College Catalog. The library has to provide materials for those programs in that catalog.

How do you like working with students?

I, as well as all of my staff, enjoy working with students—95 percent of the patrons in the library are students.



Lawrence Martinez helps out Luna Community College student Steven Armijo.

What interests you the most about being in the library field?

Just the ability to help students get their class work completed with the right material—and to take their schooling to the next level.

What professional organizations do you belong to that help you in your field of work?

New Mexico Library Association, New Mexico Consortium of Academic Libraries, and American Library Association.

What is your philosophy on teamwork?

Well for the library you have to have a team in order for things to get done and to allow things to travel smoothly.

Who works with you and what are their jobs?

Linda Salazar is my cataloger/office manager. June Lopez is my library technician and she is in charge of the reference department.

Title V Newsletter

“Creating a Pathway to Success in High-Demand Programs” VOLUME 9, ISSUE 12 SEPTEMBER 2014

Year 2 External Evaluation is a Success!

Title V Year 2 Evaluation took place on September 11-12, 2014 with evaluator Dr. David Caffey, observed, reviewed and compiled his report. Dr. Caffey who presented his report during the exit meeting to the Title V Advisory Team. Joining via conference call was the Department of Education program officer.

Strengths of the project were noted as follows:

- *A well-planned project requiring little or no modification*
- *Broad involvement of campus functions and constituencies*
- *Credible leadership, goodwill, teamwork, and shared commitment*
- *Training and support are client-centered*
- *Administration and board interest and support*
- *Dedicated faculty members who are passionate about their programs*
- *Prior Title V Experience.*

Overall, the evaluation went very well and both Dr. Caffey and the Program Officer commended the Title V staff for another productive year.



Pictured above: Evaluator Dr. David Caffey, IT Director Rick Jaramillo, and LCC President Dr. Campos.



Pictured above: Tiffany Young, Moses Marquez, Donna Flores, Evaluator Dr. David Caffey, and Leticia Archuleta

LCC signs Construction Agreement with Franken

The Auto Collision Title V construction contract was signed on September 10, 2014 in the President’s office. Franken Construction’s President James Franken and Franken Construction’s Project Manager Phillip Martinez, brought in the contract for LCC President Dr. Pete Campos and sign to proceed with the start of the project.

Franken Construction Company remains dedicated in providing professional management as per the overview that the Franken team put together to show everyone involved the complete picture of what will take place for the next 30 days of the renovation. The anticipation of the final outcome of the Auto Collision project will be exciting to the students and the faculty who will utilize the facility and its state-of-art equipment. The project should be completed in January, 2015.

Title V Staff

Lorraine Martinez, Director Veronica Jerna, Activity Director • Tiffany Young, Office Manager
Susan Olson-Smith, SimLab Supervisor Larry Paiz, Instructional Designer

Accelerate Program cultivates strategies for northern N.M. students

On Oct. 17, over 100 Accelerate program students from six participating institutions of higher education in Northern New Mexico, will attend an event to cultivate strategies for creating success in college, career and life. The event, hosted by Luna Community College and held at the historic Plaza Hotel, is entitled, “*Make M.O.R.E. Happen!*”.

The Accelerate Technical Training and Job Placement Program is a project of the Regional Development Corporation in collaboration with Santa Fe Community College, Luna Community College, New Mexico Highlands University, Northern New Mexico College, the University of New Mexico - Taos, and the University of New Mexico - Los Alamos. Accelerate aims to increase career readiness, retention, and certificate and two-year technical degree completion of non-traditional students.

Since its inception in 2011, Accelerate has been radically changing student outcomes. In its first year it won a 2012 Gold Award of Excellence from the International Economic Development Council. The program has led to double-digit increases in semester-to-semester retention and graduation when compared to general student populations in the six schools served by Accelerate. Among the 380 students served by the program, 124 have achieved a certificate or associate degree and another 87 are working toward a four-year degree.

Other accomplishments include a unique developmental math program that may be the first in the world to level the playing field for non-traditional students. The program has been studied by educators because it eliminates and even reverses the ethnic achievement gap often found in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) subjects.

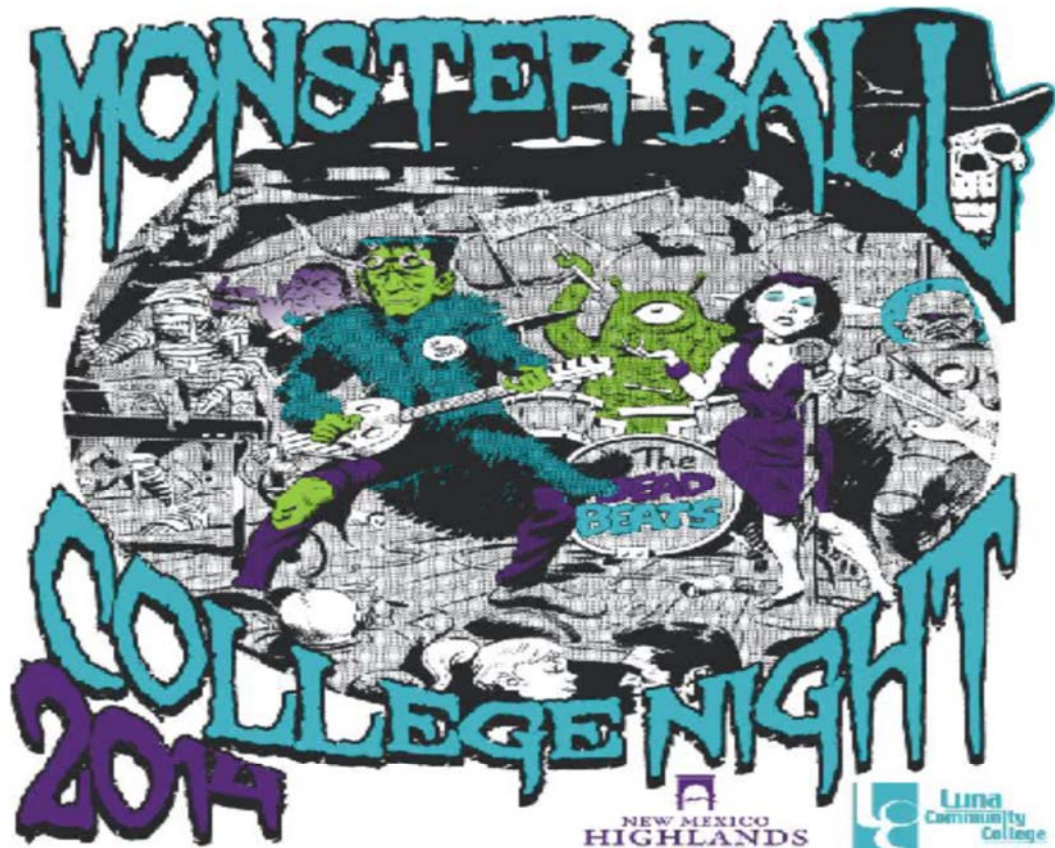
Finally, Accelerate students who pursue internships through the program have a 42 percent job placement rate.

Make M.O.R.E. Happen! is the first in a series of career readiness workshops and classes held by the Accelerate program during the 2014-2015 academic year. Based on the popular *On Course* materials created to help colleges improve success and retention through empowerment and engagement, students will work together on learner-centric activities in order to become more effective lifelong learners through Motivation, Ownership, Responsibility, and Engagement (M.O.R.E.).

The event will be held from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the Ballroom of the Plaza Hotel in Las Vegas, NM. Continental breakfast, lunch, and door prizes will be offered. Students completing this workshop will earn a stipend for their time and participation. For specific details about Accelerate, contact Carla Rachkowski, Accelerate Program Manager, at carla@rdcnm.org, or go to www.acceleratenm.org.



General biology students prepare to conduct a controlled experiment to determine the effects of various herbicides on the growth of plants. Pictured (front, l-r) Brandon Chavez, Kristen Rogers, Nicole Pacheco and Josephine Jaramillo. (Second row, l-r) Joseph Ortiz, Patrick Urioste, Dallas Silva and Angelica Sandoval. Back row, l-r Julio Serna and Miguel Serna.



JOIN LUNA COMMUNITY COLLEGE
& NEW MEXICO HIGHLANDS UNIVERSITY
FOR THE 16TH ANNUAL COLLEGE NIGHT 2014

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2014

5:00PM TO 7:00 PM

NMHU STUDENT UNION BUILDING

For information call 505-454-2550 or 505-454-3593

Grassroots vision, integrity and passion leads to student success

By Dr. Pete Campos
LCC President

I've had the privilege throughout my lifetime to be a part of numerous community organizations and groups that were considered movers and shakers. The characteristics I've observed that every day leaders have in common are that they begin and remain grounded in a grassroots approach and live by a proactive vision, personal integrity, and deep passion to improve life around them.

These leaders are right here at Luna Community College. They are the front line instructors, support staff and supervisors who wake up each day, get their families off to a good start, come to work, serve our students and maintain a consistency of professionalism. These people are the fiber of the important services we provide to students, the seasoned experts who share best practices with colleagues, the employees who speak well of one another and the real doers who pass along their knowledge and guidance to others.

We all have a story to tell. Some real life experiences make their way onto the national and world scene through news events or feature stories. Those that come to mind most often are the events in the lives of celebrities. In today's environment we mostly hear about celebrities who break up, who gets custody of the children and how much money the spouse received. We don't hear about the majority of stories that every day leaders have to tell because that may be too boring, considered common or that's what we expect from each other. These every day leaders perform their role and function with grace, persistence and respect. These innate and learned attributes when performed at the grassroots level and collectively by a group have been the root causes for communities, colleges, hospitals, businesses and civic clubs to succeed at

achieving their targeted outcomes.

We all want the same things; good health, a good education, quality in our lives and at the end of our lives to be recognized for our contributions to humankind. These things don't come automatically, we must always work at it! If we want good health, then we must practice good health habits; if we want a good education then we must study and learn all we can; if we want quality in our lives then we must define what that means and set goals to

reach what quality means to us; and, if we want to be recognized for our contributions in life then we must make them. The same is true if we are reckless with our words and actions; our contributions may not be recognized the way we would expect.

I wish to wholeheartedly thank our Luna Com-

munity College family members and the thousands of people who support what we do to improve the lives of students. Whether we are students or employees, we'll always learn something new. The glue that will keep us together and moving forward is the way we believe in and treat each other. There isn't any obstacle we can't overcome if we continue with the grassroots vision, integrity and passion that serves as our common strengths.

All our hard work to prepare our self-study, gather evidence for our resource room and groom our campus sites has been well worth it. Now, the true test of who we are is upon us. Let's all shed our best light on the reaffirmation of accreditation visit taking place today through Wednesday. I am confident that this accreditation process will result in positive changes for the well-being, education and life skills preparation of students. Carl Rogers, American psychologist, said, "The only person who is educated is the one who has learned how to learn and change."

I wish to wholeheartedly thank our Luna Community College family members and the thousands of people who support what we do to improve the lives of students. Whether we are students or employees, we'll always learn something new.

LCC:
"The People's College"

One-on-one with Criminal Justice Instructor Cindy Armijo

Tell us about your professional experience and educational background.

A local high school graduate, I am a proud product of the West Las Vegas School System and graduated from the “We Shine” class of 1979. In 1985, I completed my undergraduate degree in behavioral sciences, focusing on a major in sociology/anthropology and a minor in psychology at New Mexico Highlands University. As a graduate student in public affairs: social and organizational processes (sociology), I served as a graduate teaching assistant, leading discussion sections for the intro to sociology courses and conducting research.

Meanwhile, I also worked part-time as a tutor coordinator with NMHU’s Student Support Services. I eventually began working full-time with SSS holding a variety of positions including Tutor/Peer Mentor Coordinator, Adaptive Needs Counselor and Academic Counselor. I completed my master’s degree in sociology in 1993, obtained a N.M. Counseling Licensure and transferred my professional career track to Luna Community College in 1994 where I served as a Special Needs Counselor for a year and a half and a Student Services Counselor until 2001, during which I taught courses at LCC as an adjunct professor.

In 2001 I was selected to fill the full-time criminal justice professor vacancy and moved from student services to academics. In 2003, I chartered the Beta Mu Nu Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society and continue to serve as the chapter’s lead advisor. In November, 2007, I was appointed to the position of Regional Coordinator of New Mexico, one of Phi Theta Kappa’s highest and most distinguished positions in the Society. I oversee 20 chapters in the N.M. region and have received several international awards and recognitions. I recently completed a year’s service as vice-chair of LCC’s Faculty Senate and I am currently serving as this year’s Faculty Senate Chair.

With over 30 years experience working in higher education, I have gained a wealth of knowledge and have enjoyed a well-rounded professional career. For the most part, my experiences have been rewarding beyond my wildest dreams. While I never set-out to pursue a career in higher education when I began thinking about what I wanted to do with my life, it just seemed as the natural path I would take. I am grateful for the opportunity to inspire and positively impact the lives of students. I never look back at what I could have done with my life because I am doing what I love right now!

Describe your teaching style or teaching philosophy.

“The students I have the pleasure of educating are a reflection of me.” As such, I not only offer an analytical approach and foundation in sociology and criminal justice, but I also provide them with

the tools and skills necessary to achieve success whether they continue higher educational pursuits beyond the two-year college or they decide to enter the workforce after graduating with a certificate or associate of arts degree. One way this is accomplished is by constantly challenging students to apply their acquired knowledge to “real-life” situations or events.

Learning opportunities beyond the classroom provide students with opportunities to connect their academic learning experiences with the empirical world around them. In developing language skills, sociology students are asked to apply sociological concepts and principles through the journaling process of observing their social environment. Criminal justice students attend a variety of criminal hearings, develop community resource directories, conduct research and gain knowledge about the complete criminal justice system, from law enforcement through corrections.

What is your favorite part of your current job and why is it your favorite part?

My favorite part of my current job is seeing the knowledge acquisition and then growth my students’ and our Phi Theta Kappa members’ experience. This is my favorite part of my job because I AM AN EDUCATOR! Whether in criminal justice, sociology or Phi Theta Kappa, I set high standards and challenge my students to achieve and surpass my expectations. The foundation I provide our students allows them to acquire and use skills that catapult them beyond their contemporaries, often helping to realize goals they never initially thought they could. Looking back on my career causes me to smile when I think of the tens of thousands of students I have had a part in shaping.

Describe one or two of your proudest professional accomplishments?

Although I am proud of all of my professional accomplishments, I take pride and fulfillment in knowing I have been able to bring international recognition to our college, community and state through our involvement in Phi Theta Kappa.

Continued on next page



Cindy Armijo

Cindy Armijo...

Continued from previous page

As Beta Mu Nu Chapter Advisor and Coordinator for the New Mexico Region, I have mentored and molded “Kappans” into scholar-servant-leaders. Through my commitment, we have received individual, officer, officer team, advisor, administrator and New Mexico region international recognition. This proves we, from Luna Community College, can successfully compete with the best and brightest in the world.

How does your background and experiences strengthen academics at LCC?

As stated before, I am an educator. I use my background and

As stated before, I am an educator. I use my background and experiences to educate and motivate our students. I know where our students come from; but more than that, I know where they can go. I try to inspire our students to develop a solid educational foundation that they can use as productive citizens for advanced degrees and in the workplace.

experiences to educate and motivate our students. I know where our students come from; but more than that, I know where they can go. I try to inspire our students to develop a solid educational foundation that they can use as productive citizens for advanced degrees and in the workplace.

Teaching accountability and challenging our students strengthens what Luna produces. Also, being invested enough to say my students are a reflection of me means I give 100 percent of myself to edu-

cate my students. As with anything, some lessons are easy but sometimes the most valuable lesson comes from experiencing something difficult. I challenge all students to take one, or more, of my classes – and learn.



Luna Community College Angie (Fereshteh) Manafy's science class went to the Las Vegas National Wildlife Refuge to explore the natural world and experience New Mexico's scenic beauty. The group is shown here in front of the Las Vegas National Wildlife Refuge Visitor Center.

2014 Robertson Homecoming Parade





LCC: "The People's College"



LCC School of Business Faculty



Geraldine Romero
Accounting
MA – Business Administration
BA – Accounting, Math,
Secondary Education



Elaine Ortega
Business Administration
MBA – Business Management
BA – MIS Management
AAS – Computer Programming



Dolores Gutierrez
General Business
MBA – Business Administration
BA - Accounting



Brendaleigh Lobato
Adjunct Instructor
MA – Computer Technologies
BA – History/Spanish Minor
AAS – Computer Technologies

The School of Business at LCC offers Associate Degrees in Accounting, Business Administration, General Business and Certificates in Accounting and Small Business Management

“To Graduate

SkilledMotivatedAccomplishedReliableTalented

Students”

Our Goal is:

- To provide quality education through courses, certificates and degrees;
- To prepare students for the workforce;
- To prepare students for transferability to a university; and
- To assist students in professional development



October 24, 2014
3:00pm
Rough Rider Grill
366 Luna Drive
Las Vegas, NM

“Your Input Is Valuable”

Refreshments & Door Prizes

Contact: Amanda Lucero 505.454.2557

alucero@luna.edu

2014 Santa Rosa Homecoming Parade



Photos by
Albert Campos



LCC:
"The People's
College"



LCC: "The People's College"