

## Search and Screen Committee Members



**Henrietta Maestas**  
**Registrar, Luna Community College**

Henrietta Maestas, is the Registrar at Luna Community College. She brings more than 14 years experience, in higher education. She has experience in Academics, Admissions and Registrar at a 4 year institution and most recently at a 2 year community college.

She has extensive experience in FERPA and student records maintenance. Over the course of her career she has cleared and assisted in the awarding over 5,000 student's degrees. She brings a heartfelt passion to her work in higher education, most specifically targeting those students who remain marginalized and focuses her work and commitment to solving social justice issues in higher education. She has focused her career on making a difference in lives of the people in her community.

Being a first generation Hispanic female she has faced the normative challenges of similar first generation Hispanic females. Her commitment to higher education and to most importantly the successes of the constituents of Luna Community College promotes her motivation and dedication to the profession.

Henrietta remains focused on new and emerging research that can lend to improved processes and supports for the students she serves, while promoting student success. She remains committed to working on retention and completion initiatives and serves on various campus committees that strive to improve the vibrancy of Luna Community College. She has recently had the opportunity to serve on the action planning team to respond to the college's Higher Learning Commission Show Cause Order. This experience has given her the opportunity to promote the new direction that Luna Community College is heading. She co-lead a team of 6 to address Criterion 1 and the Federal Compliance. She is highly motivated and committed to bringing Luna Community College back into good standing with the Higher Learning Commission.

Henrietta, earned a Bachelors in Business Administration with honors from New Mexico Highlands University in 2011, and a Master of Arts in Educational Leadership in 2013. She is currently pursuing her doctorate at New Mexico State University in the Educational Leadership & Administration.



**Francisco Apodaca**  
**Director STEM, Luna Community College**

Francisco Apodaca has been the Director of LCC's STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) program since January of 2015. Francisco has over thirty years of experience in education, public sector administration, and engineering. A graduate of New Mexico Tech, New Mexico Highlands University and the University of New Mexico, he has earned honors for academic leadership and scholarship.

Francisco has a passion for his community and works for the highest levels of achievement for the students, not only in STEM but of, all programs at LCC. His knowledge of organizations and operations management have lent themselves to bringing innovative ideas to the college which have served to benefit students. He has

pioneered moving away from developmental courses, which tend to work against students, and has implemented the Bridge 2 Success program for mathematics at LCC.

He currently serves on the CASA Board of Trustees (Court Appointed Special Advocates), “I am very selective with regard to any board I am asked to serve on, this particular organization serves foster or court appointed children and is something I believe in.” He sits on the New Mexico Highlands University School of Business Advisory Board, and has also served on many community and state boards in areas from community development, land use, to environment. Francisco enjoys spending time with family and friends, fly fishing, and traveling with his wife.



**Jared Serrano**  
**Student, Luna Community College**

Jared Serrano is a student at Luna Community College majoring in Media Arts and Film Technology. In the short span he has spent in adulthood he has been a manager at a general store, brand ambassador for a belt company, designer of things and a musician (on his own time). Everything he has done in life (minus his stint as a store manager) has been in pursuit of his one goal, to make a better life for himself doing what he loves. The years he has spent at Luna Community College has been the culmination of the drive and passion he puts into what he does. Yet he is still pushing his boundaries.

Specializing in graphic design and photography, Jared has been able to successfully design and cooperate on many projects including the logo for the Luna Community College Staff Advisory Senate and being lead designer for the Commencement cover for the 2018 graduating class along with designing flyers and prospective logos for companies. His photos have been featured on Luna’s webpage and even KRQE that one time. He is hoping to expand his horizons soon and put his studying and hard work to the test as he enters into life with renewed hope. His experience stretches across a broad spectrum to include Adobe programs such as Photoshop, Illustrator, InDesign and Premier Pro. He has filmed a few projects including filming Interim President Serna’s address to Luna Community College in regards to Higher Learning Commission.

Having Graduated from Santa Rosa High School (circa 2015) it was a challenge for Jared to adjust to living in a very different environment. His family (as well as Luna) made him feel welcomed in this new frontier. Building on his pursuit to better himself he has nearly finished with his associates degree in Applied Science. Receiving recognition for Outstanding Achievement in the Media Arts and Film Technology program and having been in National Honors Society he has shown a WANT to be where he is. Spending his free time honing his skills behind the camera, hiking, traveling, torture testing belts and experimenting with his music, he is always in pursuit of perfection.



**Kenneth Bachicha**  
**Faculty, Luna Community College**

Kenneth Bachicha is a full-time faculty member at Luna Community College. He has spent over seven years educating and advising students in the Media Arts & Film Technology program of study. Kenneth is a hometown product having graduated from both West Las Vegas High School and New Mexico

Highlands University. He has had the privilege of giving back to the community and all its service areas by being an educator at Luna Community College.

Kenneth knows how to communicate with people from various walks of life. He has educated students ranging from 14 to 78 years old. Bachicha has had graduates from each northeastern New Mexico district Luna serves. He is a strong believer in retention through repetition, so a majority of his courses allow students hands on experience.

At Luna Community College, Kenneth is currently the Vice Chair of both Faculty Senate and Shared Governance Council. He has been an active member in various other committees throughout campus. Having worked in various roles at the institution he understands the perspective of various employees, especially faculty & adjunct faculty. During his career outside of Luna, as a videographer & photographer, he has had the opportunity to work with individuals from 21 different countries.



**Victor Ramirez**  
**Alumni, Luna Community College**

Victor Ramirez is a cook at El Sombrero Restaurant where he has worked for the last eighteen years. He is currently attending New Mexico Highlands University where he is working on a Bachelor's Degree in Sociology/Anthropology with a concentration in American Indian Studies, and plans on graduating in December of 2018. Currently Victor serves as a Senator for the New Mexico Highlands University Student Senate and will continue to serve at that position for the 2018-2019 academic year.

Victor has continuously listened to the concerns of the people of the community and understands what the people want in a President for Luna Community College. He as listened to the concerns of faculty, staff, students, and community members since he was Student Government President at Luna Community College. Victor has lived in this community for the last forty years and has attended Luna Community College at various times since 1986.

Victor earned his AAS in Business Administration from Luna Community College in May of 2013. During that time, he served as Student Government President for two consecutive academic years, and also served as student member of the Board of Trustees. During that time, Victor felt that his opinions were valued by the board and valued his input.

During his time at Luna Community College, Victor has tried to improve the lives of the Students. He also implanted a few community projects including a winter coat fund drive where the Student Government was able to provide winter clothing for the people who needed it in this community.

Victor ran unsuccessfully for the Board of Trustees but is willing to help to select the best person for the position of Luna Community College President. Victor hope the members of the board will once again value his opinion as they have in the past.



**Joseph M. Salas, Jr.**  
**Satellite Director, Luna Community College**

Joseph M. Salas, Jr. currently serves as the Satellite Director for Luna Community College. Prior to serving for LCC in this capacity, he worked in public education. He began his career in education with the Lovington Municipal Schools as a Music Educator in 1990. In 1996, he took a job with the Santa Rosa Consolidated Schools as a middle school teacher working at the Anton Chico Schools. He became the principal at Santa Rosa Middle School in 2003 until 2014 when he took over the schools in Anton Chico. Mr. Salas retired from public school education in July of 2016. During his tenure as an administrator for the SRCS, Mr. Salas served as the Federal Programs Coordinator, the Testing Coordinator, and the Technology coordinator managing E-rate and the S.T.A.R.S program.

Mr. Salas is a 1977 graduate of Roswell High School in Roswell, NM. After graduating from high school, he went on to serve in the United States Army from 1977 until 1984. He attended Eastern New Mexico University and received both his Bachelor of Music Education and his Master's in Education Administration from there. Mr. Salas is married to Deborah Flores Salas and they are the parents of six children, Joseph, Anthony, Christopher, Theresa, Gabriel and Daniel.



**Pat Leahan**  
**Community Member**

Pat Leahan is the Co-Founder and Co-Director of the Las Vegas Peace & Justice Center. The Center partners with organizations, institutions and individuals in New Mexico to work on issues of social, economic, and environmental justice.

Pat's professional experience includes decades as a Social Worker, Academician, and Community Advocate. Partnering with United World College students and local youth from San Miguel and Mora Counties is one of Pat's favorite commitments. Teaming up with young people — local kids, international students, middle- and high-schoolers, and home-schooled youth — as they develop their own youth leadership skills and collective empowerment is exciting.

Pat strongly values community, which includes service-to-community. She is a long-time member of the San Miguel County Family and Community Health Council, the San Miguel County HIA Team, Detention Center Citizen Advisory Committee and Reintegration Center Work Group, and other local organizations focused on community health, equity and justice.



**Corrie Darr**  
**Adjunct Faculty, Luna Community College**

Corrie Darr is the sole proprietor and owner of Darr Law Firm. She has nearly ten years of experience practicing law in the State of New Mexico. She started her career as a Public Defender focusing her efforts on Juvenile Defense. She has worked with the State of New Mexico as a Public Defender and as the

Children’s Court Attorney for Children, Youth and Families Department in both Roswell, NM and Las Vegas, NM.

In August 2017, after providing government service for 8 years, she opened Darr Law Firm in Las Vegas, NM. She primarily practices Family Law and handles general civil matters. Ms. Darr provides service to the community by being a volunteer for a pro se clinic hosted by the Fourth Judicial District Court, providing reduced rate representation and pro bono representation to people in the community. Ms. Darr is currently teaching as an Adjunct Professor for the Luna Community College Humanities Department.

Ms. Darr graduated from James Madison University in 2003 with a Bachelor of Arts Degree. She majored in History. She graduated from the Appalachian School of Law in 2006. In the Summer of 2006 she returned to New Mexico after over a decade living on the east coast.



**Sherry Goodyear**  
**Humanities Instructor – Satellite, Luna Community College**

Sherry Goodyear is a Humanities Instructor for Luna Community College. She has been employed at Luna Community College since 2001, first as an adjunct Developmental Studies professor and ultimately as an English and Communications Professor being made Full -time in 2003.

In 2003, Ms. Goodyear piloted her first online English class, and online is currently where she delivers most of the courses she teaches for LCC. Dubbed “Queen of Online” by many of her colleagues, she has a thorough understanding of offering courses online and excels in this venue.

Ms. Goodyear is well-versed in all things English, and she even free-lance writes for the World Journal out of Walsenburg, Colorado. She is always thinking of new, innovative ways to engage students, especially in the online setting, and in Fall 2017, she piloted a Public Speaking Class online which has been very successful.

Ms. Goodyear received her Bachelor of Arts’ Degree from the University of New Mexico in 1991 in Communication with a Minor in History. Then in 2005, she received her Master’s Degree in English from Suffield University. Collectively, she has seventeen years classroom experience and is one of Luna’s “seasoned” instructors. She has been a member of Luna’s Faculty Senate for four different terms, and she volunteers in several organizations in Springer, NM where she lives including the Springer Chamber of Commerce for which she is currently the Vice President, Springer’s Economic Development Committee for which she is the Secretary, and for the Springer Elementary Parent Advisory Committee for which she is currently the Chair. In her spare time, Ms. Goodyear enjoys gardening, reading, photography, writing fiction, spending time with her family, and tending to her many animals including chickens and a rabbit.



**Donna Flores- Medina**  
**Chief Financial Officer, Luna Community College**

Born in Santa Fe, raised in Las Vegas, Donna Flores-Medina has deep roots in northern New Mexico. She graduated from New Mexico Highlands University in 1992 with high honors. Her career has blossomed from an intern at the Office of the State Auditor to her current role as Luna Community College’s Chief Financial Officer.

Donna has over 20 years experience in the government arena and is well versed in the challenges and opportunities a small college faces as she completes 18 years at Luna Community College. Donna is child number seven in a splendid family of thirteen children and along with her wonderful husband Lawrence, she brags of her beautiful daughter Candace and her handsome son Warren.

Donna cherished her Scrabble games with her 90-year-old mother and the precious kids in her Sunday School class. Women’s Bible study and her church, CCLV add to her faith in Jesus which keeps her grounded. Walks with her husband and Zumba bring enjoyable healthy habits to her life.