Students graduate because UNM supports them: We smooth the path to graduation with a dedicated research and teaching faculty, a team of undergraduate advisors (advisor to student ratio is 1:185), and a full menu of student support services—like our nationally recognized peer tutoring and student health services. We analyze what we do so that we can keep getting better at serving our students and community. Our improvement in graduation rates is among the best in the nation. UNM’s 2018 four-year graduation rate of 34.5% is the best in the state.

Jennifer Jung began her journey in education in 2005 when she enrolled in the Pre-Business program at UNM-Los Alamos. She had three young children, ages 2, 5 and 7 at the time and was working full-time for a government contractor. Because of her work and family schedule, Jennifer could only take two classes each semester. She graduated from UNM-Los Alamos with an Associate of Arts in Pre-Business in 2011. Jennifer continued her education at the UNM-Albuquerque campus and graduated two years later with a Bachelor’s Degree in Business Administration, Summa Cum Laude, from the Anderson School of Management. In 2015, she was promoted to a Contracting Officer at her employment. In 2016, she began an MBA, Masters of Business Administration program, and was promoted to a Level III Contracting Officer in 2017. Jennifer completed her MBA in the Summer of 2018 with a 4.0 grade point average.

The UNM Student Advantage: The UNM system offers 300 degree and certificate programs and educates 30,000 students per year. In 2017, UNM graduates earned roughly $2.3 billion more than they would have had they not gone to college. Students can begin with a branch campus associate’s degree, in an area such as business or nursing, and then complete the bachelor’s degree on main campus. A UNM education equips students with the habits of mind that are necessary for negotiating a 21st-century economy and a complex world.

Joe Elliot Nez is originally from Yatahey, NM and currently resides in Gallup, NM. In May 2014 he received an Associate of Applied Science in General Business from UNM-Gallup, and in May 2018 he earned his Bachelor of Business Administration with a concentration in Management Information Systems from Anderson School of Management. While working toward his Bachelor’s degree, Joe was employed with the UNM-Gallup Information Technology department as an IT Support Tech II; the support he provided in this role was critical to campus functions. Upon receiving his BBA, Joe embarked on the path to realizing his long-time goal of owning his own business. He is now the current owner/operator of Nez Techno Logics LLC, which provides professional consulting and development services in computer integrations, repairs, and graphic/web designs for new and existing business implementations.

Jake Danemann took EMT Basic during his spring semester of senior year in concurrent status at UNM-Taos. Jake had also been a previous dual credit student with UNM-Taos. He completed the EMT Basic program prior to entering UNM in the fall of 2017. He will be receiving his EMT Basic certificate from UNM-Taos this fall. He is currently enrolled in the EMS BA program at UNM. He is the youngest student in his paramedic course at UNM because of his early start in EMS at UNM-Taos. He is also pursuing a second major in Chemistry or Biology. He is a recipient of the Presidential Scholarship at UNM. He worked for Taos County EMS prior to coming to UNM and works there on his breaks as well. He plans to return to TCEMS full-time when he completes his Paramedic program at UNM.

Araceli Garcia’s educational career began at UNM-Valencia in August 2013. In December of 2014, she received two associate degrees -- in Criminology and General Studies. She then transferred to UNM-Main and in December 2016 with a double major in Criminology and Chicana/o Studies with a concentration in Transnational Perspectives. She is now working in the community for the Children’s Youth and Family Department at Juvenile Justice Services at Camino Nuevo Youth Center, where she is a Youth Care Specialist (YCS). As a YCS, she works with incarcerated juveniles, supervising them in the facility and serving as their case worker. Monthly team meetings are held to track progress in their treatment and prepare the clients to go up for their parole hearing. In hopes of being successfully discharged into the community.