

Maria Cano

Assistant Provost for Academic Budget and Planning

Loyola Marymount University

As the assistant provost for Academic Budgets and Planning at Loyola Marymount University, Maria Cano leads a team of professionals in budget and financial planning. With over 35 years of business management experience in higher education, Assistant Provost Cano has insight into critical issues facing American colleges and universities and strives to find innovative solutions that optimize resources. Assistant Provost Cano's leadership fosters and promotes effective collaboration between academics and business operations. Her key to success is working closely with those impacted by changes in policies and involving them in developing new business practices.

Assistant Provost Cano earned her bachelor's degree in business administration and her M.B.A. in finance from Loyola Marymount University. She has served the LMU community in various capacities including member of the Implicit Bias Task Force, presenter for the President's Leadership Development Program, panelist for the President's Leading Institutional Units program, member of Internal Control Committee, member of the Staff Senate, mentor in the First To Go program, Mexican American Alumni Association class representative, Latino Alumni Association member, and other special committees.



Roberta Espinoza, Ph.D.

Vice Provost for Global-Local Initiatives and Professor of Sociology

Loyola Marymount University

Roberta Espinoza, Ph.D., serves as vice provost for Global-Local Initiatives and professor of sociology at Loyola Marymount University. She draws from 10+ years of professional experience in diverse higher education environments, including at a large, public Hispanic-Serving Institution (California State University, Fullerton) and at a small, highly selective private liberal arts college (Pitzer College). Vice Provost Espinoza earned her B.A. from Pomona College and earned her M.A. and Ph.D. in sociology from the University of California, Berkeley. She has participated in the Executive Leadership Academy at the University of California, Berkeley Center for Studies in Higher Education and the Association of International Education Administrators Leadership Academy for New Senior International Officers at Duke University.



In Global-Local Initiatives, Vice Provost Espinoza's responsibilities include oversight of the Office of Study Abroad, the Office of National and International Fellowships (ONIF), the Center for the Study of Los Angeles (StudyLA), and the Center for Urban Resilience (CUREs). As LMU's inaugural senior international officer, her role is to facilitate collaborations and professional relationships among LMU faculty, staff, alumni, and other institutions on efforts related to comprehensive internalization (global) and strategic community engagement (local).

Prior to joining LMU in 2018, Vice Provost Espinoza served as interim associate dean of Global and Local Programs and director of the Institute for Global/Local Action & Study (IGLAS) at Pitzer College. In these roles, she led successful new initiatives and programs to ensure that global-local engagement and study were a part of the intellectual and psychosocial development of all students. She grew a program called the Global Local Mentorship Program (GLMP) that introduced first-year students via the mentorship of their academic advisors to immersive education abroad experiences in Costa Rica, Botswana, South Africa, Brazil, Italy, and Ecuador as well as local community engagement opportunities in Southern California and the U.S.-Mexico border region. She oversaw the Office of Fellowships and Scholarships that was consistently named a top-producing institution for the Fulbright U.S. Student Scholars Program. Vice Provost Espinoza created and oversaw Pitzer's First-Gen Program to support low-income students who are the first in their family to attend a four-year college. She also served as the faculty academic coordinator for the Claremont Colleges Mellon Mays Undergraduate Program (MMUF) and received the inaugural Claremont Colleges Diversity Teaching Award.

Vice Provost Espinoza's scholarly expertise on higher education access is informed by her own personal experience as a first-generation Latinx student. She has written several books, peer-reviewed journal articles, book chapters, and articles in magazines for educational practitioners on the role of social and cultural capital in the educational advancement and success of first-generation students of color in higher education. She has also published articles on Latino undocumented students and women of color in doctoral education. Vice Provost Espinoza's scholarly work has received funding from the Haynes Foundation and the National Science Foundation.

Rev. Brian Reedy, S.J., Ph.D.

Clinical Assistant Professor of Philosophy

Loyola Marymount University

Father Brian Reedy grew up in Anaheim, although he has lived most of his life in “exile,” he is happy to finally return “home” to Southern California. Father Reedy has always had interests in science and the liberal arts, and enjoys inhabiting the intersection of philosophy, theology, and natural science. He completed a B.S. with distinction in chemistry and theology at East Texas Baptist University in 1995, earning the President’s Award, given to the most promising graduate. He continued his scientific training earning an M.S. in chemistry and biophysics at Texas A&M University in 1999, where he was considered a “master TA” and enjoyed a teaching fellowship. Father Reedy entered the Society of Jesus at St. Charles College, Grand Coteau, Louisiana, in 2001. As part of his Jesuit formation he completed an M.A. in philosophy with a specialization in ethics at Fordham University in 2006, while serving as an adjunct instructor in the chemistry department. He taught chemistry and physics at Strake Jesuit College Preparatory in Houston for three years. Father Reedy then completed an MDiv at Boston College and an STL in ethics at Boston College, both in 2012. Father Reedy taught chemistry and engineering at Cristo Rey Jesuit in Houston Texas for two years and worked with the Center for the Advancement of Science in Space, in conjunction with NASA and SpaceX, to send two experiments to the International Space Station. Father Reedy then moved to Rome and completed his doctorate in ethics (moral theology) at the Pontifical Gregorian University in 2018. During his time in Rome he worked as a tour guide for the Vatican Museums and was a guest on “The Wine Show” (Season 1 Episode 4). His academic interests include military ethics, virtue ethics, Aristotle, Aquinas, virtue epistemology, Medieval manuscripts, Greek, Latin, Medieval art and architecture, and putting the physics back in metaphysics. Father Reedy is also a lieutenant of the United States Navy Chaplain Corps. He currently serves as the Catholic chaplain to the I Marine Expeditionary Force at Camp Pendleton. In 2020, during the Navy’s COVID-19 response, he served as the active duty chaplain for six destroyers home-ported in San Diego and has served on the USS Mount Whitney, USS New York, USS Ronald Reagan, USS Chancellorsville, and on land assignments in Camp Pendleton, Naval Base San Diego, Port Hueneme, CA; Italy; Germany; Japan; France; Greece; and Croatia. He has received three Navy and Marine Corps Achievement medals, two Battle “E” awards, and a Meritorious Unit Commendation, among other minor decorations.



Heather Tarleton, Ph.D.

Associate Dean for Diversity, Equity and Inclusion and Associate Professor of Health and Human Sciences

Loyola Marymount University

Heather Tarleton, Ph.D., is an associate professor in the Department of Health and Human Sciences and the associate dean for Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) for the LMU Frank R. Seaver College of Science and Engineering.

Professor Tarleton is a well-recognized and respected teacher, mentor, scholar and leader. She joined the faculty at LMU in 2012 after holding faculty and administrative positions at UCLA. As a molecular biologist and epidemiologist, she teaches courses in “Chronic Disease Epidemiology,” “Obesity and Behavior,” “Health and Well-Being in Homeless Communities,” “Health Services for Marginalized Populations,” “Health Care Administration,” “Cancer Survivorship,” and “Medical Bioethics.”

Professor Tarleton’s research in cancer epidemiology has focused on health disparities and quality of life among multi-ethnic populations of cancer patients. Since well-being is a complex phenomenon, Professor Tarleton encourages students to become sensitive to diversity of needs, issues with access and availability of city and state services, and interpersonal communication in order to promote humanity and dignity.

Nationally, Professor Tarleton led outreach and diversity initiatives between UCLA’s Graduate Division and Historically Black Colleges and Universities and served as the president of the National Association of Black Women in Higher Education. She continues to serve on the Governing Council for Maternal Mental Health-Now and on the planning committee for the National Institutes of Health - Network of Minority Health Research Investigators.

