

NMSU-A going green

First Alamogordo LEED certified building officially open

BY ELVA K. ÖSTERREICH
ASSOCIATE NEWS EDITOR

The Allied Health Addition to the Reidlinger Science Center welcomed Alamogordo officials and students to the city's first LEED-certified building Wednesday.

"Did you happen to notice our campus is going green?" New Mexico State University-Alamogordo

President Cheri Jimeno asked the gathered guests.

The new facility will serve NMSU-A's burgeoning nursing and EMT programs, and the building itself is an example of water and energy efficiency.

Jimeno introduced the project's lead architect, Michael Rickenbacker, who talked about Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design

standards.

"We are turning green," Rickenbacker said. "Green means to conserve energy and water. We've designed a building that recognizes New Mexico has 375 days of daylight a year."

The crowd laughed.

Rickenbacker said the building is designed to have great indoor air quality and takes advantage of the

beautiful view of the mountains.

"It's true, if my lecture is boring the students might be staring out window," he said. "They deserve that."

Recycling aspects of the building also become a feature, Rickenbacker said.

"This building is a connector,"

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Above: the staff at New Mexico State University-Alamogordo on Wednesday held a ribbon-cutting ceremony for the new Reidlinger Science Center Allied Health Addition on the NMSU-A campus.



At right: former state Rep. Dr. Terry Marquardt, left, New Mexico State University architect Michael Rickenbacker, center, and NMSU-A Campus Executive Officer Cheri Jimeno cut the ribbon Wednesday at a ceremony.

Starr takes helm of nursing program

BY ELVA K. ÖSTERREICH
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Jan Starr jumped in with both feet as she came to New Mexico State University-Alamogordo to take the helm as director of the nursing program a month ago.

Having worked at NMSU and NMSU-A before, she is glad to be back. Starr said she missed the mountains and the skies of the state.

"This is truly the land of enchantment," she said.

Starr already has three and five-year plans for the college in her head. She is well on her way to creating bridges and partnerships within the community, she said.

She also came in just in time to jump on a Department of Labor grant writing session. The college

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