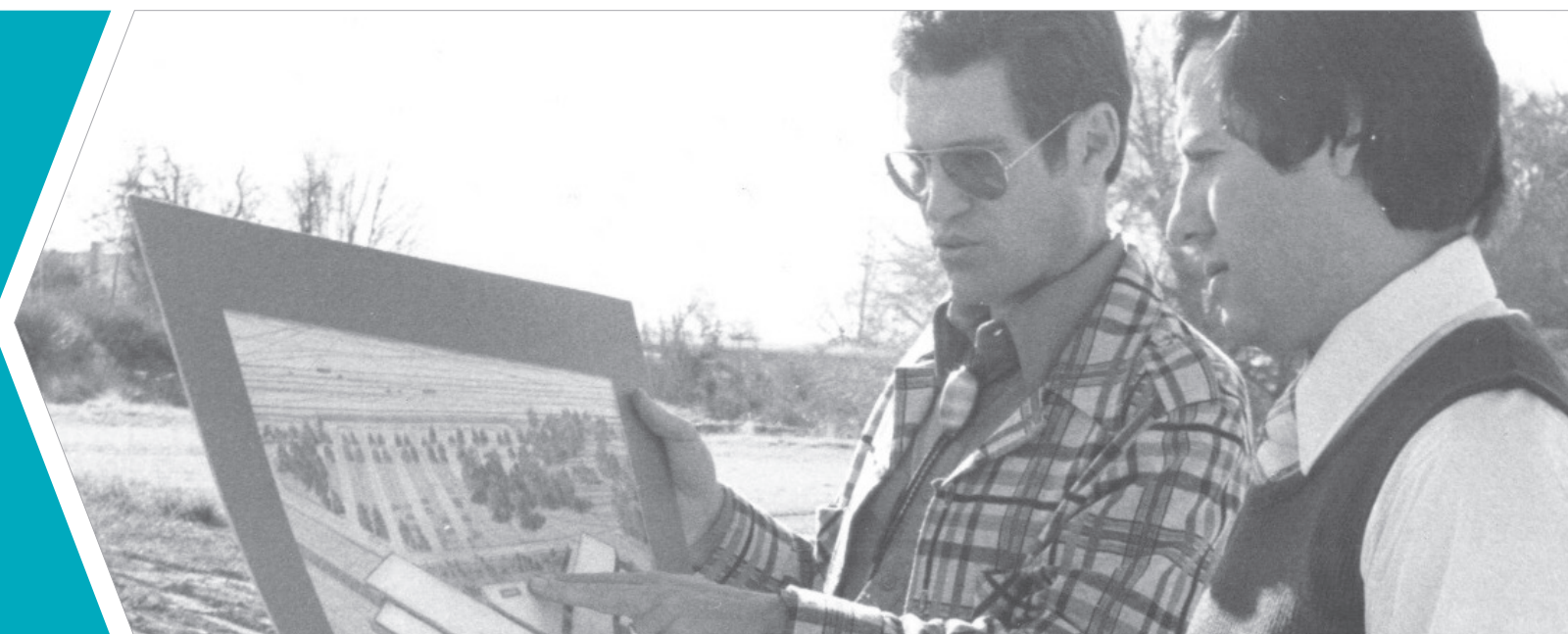


DACC

*Celebrates
50 years*



July 2023

THE LAS CRUCES
Bulletin

DACC **NM STATE**

1973-2023

Cover



Doña Ana Community College (DACC) President Dr. Mónica Torres, along with Vice President for Strategic Initiatives and Relationships Kristi Martin, look at plans for the future site of the Creative Media Technology facility. This building, estimated to be complete by 2024, will hold space for the film and digital media programs such as graphic and web design, game design, virtual reality and animation, and cinematography and photography.



Director of the Doña Ana County Occupational Education Branch (DACOEB) Dr. Alex Sanchez looks at plans for the community college's new 41,000 sq. ft. facility now known as the Espina campus. Many courses had been housed at New Mexico State University at the old Mechem House which was located on the northwest corner of University and Espina Streets. This new building for the college was called the Trades Building which was completed in 1978.

Message from the President

Dr. Monica Torres



This month, Doña Ana Community College (DACC) launched a year-long celebration of 50 years of service to the people of Doña Ana County. Founded in 1973 in collaboration with local school districts to support what was then called “occupational education,” DACC has evolved into a multi-faceted institution that provides transformative educational opportunities to meet the needs of people living in communities across the county. Over the last 50 years, the college has developed a wide range of educational offerings including adult education courses, general and transfer education options, career technical education certificates and degrees, and small business assistance through individual consultations and workshops.

For me, the key idea here is “transformative” or “transformational.” There is no doubt that the students who leave DACC after completing their studies are not the same people who walked through our doors. When they leave DACC—credential in hand—they leave with new knowledge, new skills, new identities—as dental hygienists and diagnostic medical sonographers, as EMTs and firefighters, as water utilities operators and electrical lineworkers, as computer network specialists or web designers, as early childhood care workers or law enforcement professionals, as people who can succeed in higher education and the workforce.

And with those new skills and identities come advantages. Research tells us people who earn post-secondary credentials tend to have lower unemployment rates, make more money, and access jobs with better benefits than those with high school diplomas. For over 50 years,

DACC has created instructional spaces where residents from the county (and other places) study, develop, transform and launch themselves into new professional opportunities.

But the benefits do not accrue to individual students or graduates alone. I am reminded of this almost every day. It is virtually impossible to conduct business in this community without running into DACC graduates: when we get our blood drawn for laboratory tests, when we need X-rays, when we want plans drawn for a new house or a renovation, when we need automobile repair work, when we need our HVAC systems worked on, when we go to restaurants, when we talk to medical billing offices, when we need help setting up our home networks, etc. In addition, research shows that people with college degrees are more likely to vote, more likely to volunteer, more likely to contribute to their community. Higher education credentials improve the quality of life for those who hold them and for those of us who live in the communities where those graduates work and live.

DACC has been doing this work since 1973. I am proud to be part of this history. I consider myself fortunate to stand with the faculty and staff from across those five decades who have worked so diligently to support student learning and development. I am thankful for so many alumni and community members who have donated from their resources to create scholarships so students could complete their studies. We could not do any of this without the voters, taxpayers, and elected officials in the county (and across the state) who have supported the college so we could support the students. And I am most grateful for the students who walked through DACC's doors in the last 50 years and modeled the art of transformation—for themselves, their families, and our communities.

THE LAS CRUCES

Bulletin

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DESIGN Christy Anchondo

DISTRIBUTION Becky Jimenez

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50 YEARS OF DEDICATION
TO OUR STUDENTS AND
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50TH ANNIVERSARY

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Congratulations

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NMSU Doña Ana Community College

On 50 Years of Excellence!



DACC – 50 years in pictures



One of several buildings used by the community college at its inception in 1973. The college opened as a vocational technical school began in borrowed quarters and established its programs depending on the availability of space such as these barracks.



One of the earliest buildings used by the Doña Ana Community Occupational Education Branch (DACOEB) was in the old Mechem House on the NMSU campus. This housed the DACOEB administrative offices. The Mechem House was most recognizable by its runoff water pond between University Avenue and the front of the old house; the house had been donated to NMSU many years before.



Architectural sketch of the 41,000 sq. ft. new facility which is now located on Espina Street. This campus was completed in February 1978 and cost \$3.1 million to construct.

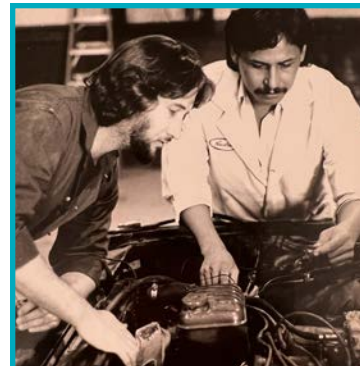


Students use a floppy disk on a computer in 1982.

An unknown DACC student and professor listening to an audiobook on cassette tapes.



Photos courtesy of the DACC External Relations archives



An automotive technology student works on a vehicle in the 1990s.



Annual DACC Golf Tournament typically held in October at the NMSU Golf Course. This tournament raises funds for scholarships for DACC students.

COST OF DACC

DACC is proud to be a college that centers around affordability. The college's tuition rates remain among the most affordable in the southwest region.

DACC Tuition Rates and Fees (2022-2023) Tuition & Fees NMSU

Place of Legal Residency	Full-Time Rate (12–18 credits)	Per-Credit Rate (1–11 and 19+ credits)
Within Doña Ana County (In District)	\$921.00	\$76.75
All Other Counties in New Mexico (Out of District)	\$1119.00	\$93.25
Non-Resident 135-Mile	1221.00	101.75
Outside N.M. or the U.S.	\$2940.00	(1-6 credits) \$114.50 (1-14 credits when enrolled in >6) 245.00

DACC offers a discount for Texas residents who live within 135 miles of Las Cruces.

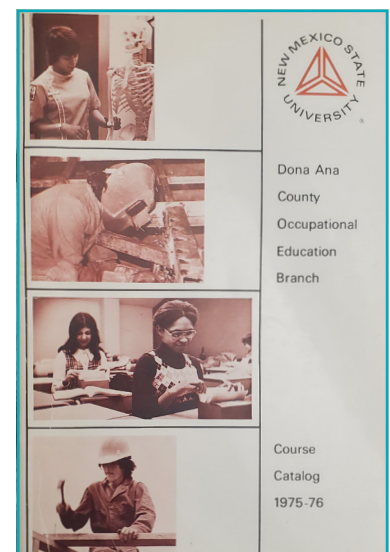
Advisors are available in-person at four of DACC's campuses and centers to assist students with financial aid. Students may also meet with advisors virtually. Advisors offer one-on-one assistance to help students find ways to pay for college. In addition to scholarships, there are many grants and loans available to students nationally, statewide and locally. DACC offers nearly 60 institutional scholarships to its students.

Past & Present: How DACC has grown

Through the years

Doña Ana Community College (DACC) has come a long way in the 50 years since its inception. Originally called the Doña Ana County Occupational Education Branch, DACC has changed not only its name, but in other ways over the years. Let's take a look at how DACC has grown. See more 'Past & Present' on pages 5 and 6.

One of the first course catalogs for DACC was provided only in paper format. Applications, registration and admissions information was all done in-person and on paper only.



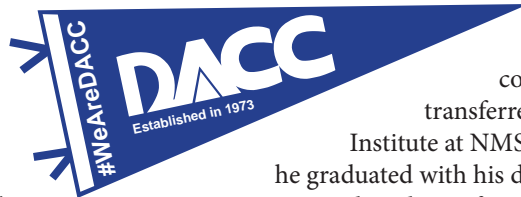
School as a Family

In 2015, DACC took the unusual step of bestowing the Distinguished Alumni award on an entire family, the Salazars. In 2010, Lizet Salazar was the first in her family to inquire about the English as a Second Language and the General Equivalency Diploma programs at the Sunland Park Learning Center. She worked several jobs at a time to pay for everything they needed, even if it meant another part-time job. She is said to have great respect for education and wanted most of all for her son Luis, and nephew Cesar “Max” to get their GEDs and go to college.

Lizet set an example and even started a trend. She became the first in her family to finish her GED, followed by her son Luis, her husband Alejandro, and then, their nephew Max. It was a family of graduates. “He (Max) is remembered for his sacrifices and dedication to attending classes,” said Christy Roye, DACC Sunland Park Center. Christy said he “would take several buses

across the city to arrive at the center, sometimes quite early in the morning because these were the only buses that would get him here on time; he never wanted to be late.” However, Luis and Max didn’t stop there, they’ve both continued on with their education at DACC and NMSU.

After earning his GED, Max set his sights on becoming an animator. After completing common core classes at DACC, he transferred to the Creative Media Institute at NMSU. In the spring of 2016, he graduated with his degree and headed to Juarez, where he co-founded a videogame studio and worked as an art director. Max then sold his studio, moved to Mexico City and worked at Dreamerians. Max currently works as a technical artist at 360 Devlabs, and teaches game art courses at the local university. Looking back, he’s grateful for his journey and excited for what the future continues to hold, “(we) are thankful for what DACC did for our lives, I could not have become who I am without DACC and NMSU.”



Distinguished Alumni: The Salazar Family

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BEST WISHES ON A
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Congratulations on 50 years of educational excellence!
El Paso Electric and DACC, a partnership dedicated to
shaping a brighter future for our community.

A message to DACC Alumni

As part of our 50th Anniversary celebration, Doña Ana Community College has begun a network of our alums. We recognize the deep connection between this institution and the Mesilla Valley and celebrate our unique area and culture.

The goal is to foster a dynamic and active relationship between students, alums, and the community through mutual investment. We want to create value for our alumni that extends beyond education and provide resources to help them continue along the paths to their dreams. Along the way,



we will provide networking opportunities for alums and the community to aid in individual success and civic growth here in the valley. We might even have some fun.

Please join us! Remember, if you have completed a class, a certificate, or a degree at DACC, you are an alum. If you work at DACC, YOU are an alum! There are no fees associated with joining, only opportunities.

Use the QR code here to connect with the Alumni Network and take a look at our 50th Anniversary page. We look forward to talking with you soon!

We are DACC!

dacc.nmsu.edu/about/alumni/

Past & Present: Enrollment, Tuition, Campuses

Enrollment

1973: 500

2023: 5,645*

*Unofficial final count of spring 2023 semester

Cost of Tuition

Associate Degrees*

- \$254/semester for full-time in-state (12 or more credits)
- \$20/credit hour for part-time in-state (11 or fewer credits)
- \$669/semester for full-time non-resident (12 or more credits)
- \$55/credit hour for part-time non-resident (11 or fewer credits)

Workforce Training*

- \$0.25/clock hour* for Doña Ana County residents
 - \$0.78/ clock hour* for out-of-county residents
- *Training certificate completion was based on clock hours. Classes ranged from 10 to 350 clock hours each.

2023

- \$76.75/credit hour for Doña Ana County residents
- \$93.25/credit hour for other counties in New Mexico
- \$101.75/credit hour for out-of-state residents within 135 miles



Campuses/Centers

When DACC was originally founded, it held classes on the New Mexico State University (NMSU) campus. It was one of only four branch colleges of NMSU.

As of 2023, DACC has six campuses and centers located throughout Doña Ana County. A seventh center is currently under construction at 4006 Film St. at the NMSU Arrowhead Park to be completed in 2024. This center will serve as the Creative Media Technology building and is the first phase of the Las Cruces Creative Campus.

- **East Mesa campus** – 2800 Sonoma Ranch
- **Espina campus** – 3400 S. Espina
- **Workforce Center** – 2345 E. Nevada Ave.
- **Gadsden Center** – 1700 E. O'Hara Rd.
- **Sunland Park Center** – 3365 McNutt Rd.
- **Chaparral Center** – 755 Prescott Anthony Dr.

On behalf of the Greater Las Cruces Chamber of Commerce, we congratulate Doña Ana Community College for 50 years of educating and training throughout the Mesilla Valley region.



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Investing in Our Communities

In 2022, DACC, along with Union Pacific, made an investment in the Sunland Park and Santa Teresa communities – creating the Union Pacific Industrial Careers Academy.

This academy, housed at the DACC Sunland Park Center, is a fast-track workforce training academy designed to meet the needs of employers and residents in the south communities. Career training includes logistics, warehousing, transportation, advanced manufacturing, automation, and next-generation digital skills.

Students leave the academy with basic skills and English-language skills and are ensured they will be entry-level and experienced employees. Graduates of the program receive industry-recognized credentials, earn family-supporting salaries, and advance in their careers.

The academy offers the following courses:

- Welding Fast-Track Certificate
- Logistics Technician Certificate
- Truck Driving Academy
- Automated Supply Chain



These machines are used to assist students in Sunland Park with training needed to advance to careers in high-demand in Sunland Park and Santa Teresa. Photo of individuals L to R: Raquel Espinoza and Giovany Danel, Union Pacific; Dr. Mary Ulrich and Laura Watzling, DACC.

- Certified Production Technician 4.0
- Digital Foundations
- OSHA 10 training
- OSHA Forklift training

The academy offers classroom activities along with job-shadowing, workplace observation and internship opportunities. For more information on the academy and to register, go to <https://go.asapconnected.com/?org=5073#CourseGroupID=58328>, call 575-527-7776 or email ctp@nmsu.edu.

Past & Present: Presidents, Degrees, Programs

Presidents Over the Years

1972–1977	Dr. Alex Sánchez Director
1975–1977	Mr. Wade Fredrickson Acting Director
1978–1988	Dr. Patricio G. Quintana Director, Campus Director, Campus President, Provost
1988–1992	Mr. Donaciano E. González Provost and Campus Director
1993–1997	Dr. James McLaughlin Acting Director, Campus Director
1997–1999	Mr. Andrew Burke Acting Director
1999–2002	Dr. Raúl Ramírez Campus Director
2002–2004	Dr. Roy Rodríguez Acting Director
2004–2013	Dr. Margie Huerta Campus Director, Chief Executive Officer, President
2013–2014	Mr. Andrew Burke Interim President
2014–2018	Dr. Renay Scott President
2018–Present	Dr. Monica Torres Interim President, President, Chancellor

Degrees/Certificates Offered

1973:	5 certificates 2 associate degrees
2023:	77 certificates 58 associate degrees Several non-credit programs

Number of Programs

1973:	About 7
2023:	36

*course catalog 1975-1976



Course catalogs in 2023 are now offered virtually. Students apply and register for all courses online. However, face-to-face assistance, either via Zoom or in-person, has remained within DACC to assist students every step of the way.

\$5 TUESDAY

ANY MOVIE ANY TIME

EVERY TUESDAY

EXCLUDES TUESDAYS THAT FALL ON NATIONAL HOLIDAYS. \$2 SURCHARGE FOR 3D.

NMSU Doña Ana Community College

CONGRATULATIONS ON 50 FABULOUS YEARS!

Congratulations to NMSU and DACC on reaching the impressive milestone of 50 years of excellence in education, paving the way for generations of students to achieve their dreams!

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Spanning the County



East Mesa Campus 2800 Sonoma Ranch Blvd.

The East Mesa Campus is home to the following associate degree and certificate programs: the Associate of Arts Degree program, Business Management, Business Office Technology, Computer and Information Technology, Creative Media Technology, Criminal Justice, Culinary Arts, Drafting and Design Technologies, Early Childhood Education, Education, Emergency Medical Services, Fire Investigations, Fire Science, Health Information Technology, Hospitality and Tourism, Hospitality Services Management, Law Enforcement, Library Science, Paralegal Studies, Pre-Business, and Public Health.

In addition, DACC Student Services is located on this campus, as well as central administration. The campus has a bookstore, library, computer labs, Student Success Center (student tutoring), and a 350-seat auditorium.



Espina Campus 3400 S. Espina St.

Adjacent to New Mexico State University, the Espina Campus is home to the following associate degree and certificate programs: Automotive Technology; Associate of Science Degree program; Dental Assistant; Dental Hygiene; Diagnostic Medical Sonography; Electrical Programs; Electronics Technology; General Engineering; Health Care Assistant; Heating, Ventilation, Air Conditioning and

Refrigeration; Radiologic Technology; Respiratory Therapy; Water Technology; and Welding Technology.

Also on this campus are the library, computer labs, Student Success Center (student tutoring), Academic Readiness Center, and the Quintana Learning Center, which provides adult education and helps prepare students to undertake college-level studies. A full complement of student services is offered on this campus.



Workforce Center 2345 E. Nevada Ave.

The following associate degree and certificate programs are offered at this site: Aerospace Technology, Automation and Manufacturing Technology, Building Construction Technology, and Environmental and Energy Technologies.

The Workforce Center also offers customer-driven, lifelong-learning opportunities, which serve as a bridge between our diverse community and the college. The aim is to be business-solution partners for Doña Ana County. DACC's Customized Training, Small Business Development Center, and Truck Driving Academy currently occupy the Workforce Center. Together, these programs address everything from the start-up needs of small businesses to the larger training needs of established, growing businesses. Many business assessment tools are available, as well as training space and commercial space on a short-term, rental basis for outside organizations.



South County Centers Gadsden Center 1700 E. O'Hara Road, Anthony, NM Sunland Park Center 3365 McNutt Road, Sunland Park, NM

These centers offer freshman- and sophomore-level coursework in vocational, technical, developmental, and general education. A number of DACC certificates and associate degrees are offered, as well. The centers also provide concurrent enrollment (dual credit) programming for the Gadsden School District. ESL, GED, and citizenship classes for the border area are available through the Adult Education program, also housed at the centers. These

centers also provide a Student Success Center (student tutoring), computer labs, and library support services.



Chaparral Center 755 Prescott Anthony Drive, Chaparral, NM

Located in the southeastern corner of Doña Ana County, the Chaparral Center, which opened in Spring 2012, is situated adjacent to Chaparral High School. The 6,200-square-foot center offers freshman- and sophomore-level coursework, including dual-credit courses for high school students. It also is the site of the Adult Education program in Chaparral.



**CONGRATULATIONS TO
NMSU & DACC FOR
ACHIEVING 50 YEARS OF
EXCELLENCE IN EDUCATION
AND LEADING OUR
STUDENTS AND FACULTY TO
SUCCESS!**



**CELEBRATING
50
YEARS!**





**125 N. MAIN ST - LAS CRUCES, NM
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Congratulations

DACC

Doña Ana Community College

on 50 years of service



We celebrate this milestone alongside all whose lives have been positively impacted by DACC's faculty, staff, students and programs. Your commitment to meeting the needs and interests of the community are worthy of recognition.

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New Mexico State University

