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DATE: June 4, 2013
TO: All Faculty and Staff
FROM: Garrey Carruthers, President
SUBJECT: DACC leadership

A blue ink signature of Garrey Carruthers, consisting of a stylized 'G' followed by several horizontal strokes.

Today, I am announcing that Andy Burke, vice president for business and finance at New Mexico State University's Dona Ana Community College, will become DACC's interim president and chief executive officer. DACC's former president, Margie Huerta, will become a special assistant to the NMSU President.

I have known Andy Burke for most of his life. He's known for being an outstanding manager and fiscal agent for DACC. At this time, it's important for someone with his experience to focus on the enterprise.

He has served in various positions at Dona Ana Community College for nearly 30 years, including as interim CEO from 1997-1999. He originally started as an accountant at DACC in 1984. He has a master's degree in accounting and a bachelor's in business administration from NMSU. He is also working toward a Ph.D. in educational administration from NMSU.

In her new role, Dr. Huerta will work from Hadley Hall on NMSU's Las Cruces campus. There, she will help with the university's articulation effort to better align class offerings at NMSU's two-year community colleges and those offered at the four-year Las Cruces campus. Strengthening those relationships would make it easier for students to transfer from the community colleges to the Las Cruces campus. She will also work on university development opportunities.

I thank Dr. Huerta for her long service to Dona Ana Community College. She deserves a great deal of credit for the growth DACC has seen. She also has strong connections to the community, which will be helpful in her new role.

Late last year, Dr. Huerta announced she would retire, effective January 31, 2014. This announcement does not impact the current search process for the next DACC president.

Dona Ana Community College is the fourth largest higher education institution in New Mexico. Since 2004, it has become one of the fastest growing community colleges in the nation. The college also added satellite campuses in Gadsden, Chaparral, Hatch and the DACC East Mesa campus.