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NEWS RELEASE

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SFCC Groundbreaking Ceremony, 5 p.m., Aug. 14

Santa Fe, NM, Aug. 12, 2009 — Santa Fe Community College holds a public groundbreaking ceremony for its new Trades and Advanced Technology Center and Sustainable Technology Center at 5 p.m., Aug. 14. The ceremony will be held in a tent on the building site, adjacent to the Fine Arts Wing on the SFCC campus, 6401 Richards Ave.

The building is devoted to work force training and education in green construction, plumbing and HVAC, electrical trades, and renewable energy fields including biofuels, smart grid, solar and small wind.

President Sheila Ortego says that as the alternative energy industry grows, SFCC will build on its leadership role in green education and work force training. “The establishment of the Trades and Advanced Technology Center and Sustainable Technologies Center is a tangible and critical step in the goal of educating and training students to become part of the growing renewable energy economy,” said Ortego. “This groundbreaking is an opportunity for the community to come together and witness the beginning of a new standard of green education in Santa Fe.”

Here are some details on the building:

- ∞ The new 45,000-square-foot facility is slated for completion by the fall semester 2010.
- ∞ When fully operational, the center is expected to enroll between 250 to 300 students each year.
- ∞ The \$11.4 million facility will aim for LEED Gold certification and utilize alternative energy sources to power, heat and cool the building.
- ∞ The building is designed by Lloyd & Associates Architects of Santa Fe.

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- ∞ Design features include rainwater catchment; solar systems to provide hot water, electricity, heating and air conditioning; small wind for electricity; and a space for business and technology-specific demonstration and training.

Following the groundbreaking, the college will host a Green Gala in the main courtyard. Tickets are still available for the event, which features a banquet dinner of locally-grown food, Nancy Judd's Recycle Runway fashions, a live auction and a presentation by New Energy Economy Executive Director John Fogarty. Tickets are \$125 and can be purchased through GROW Santa Fe Community College Foundation at 428-1175.

About Santa Fe Community College

For more than 25 years, Santa Fe Community College has been the gateway to success for individuals and the community by providing affordable, high quality educational programs that serve the social, cultural, technological and economic needs of a diverse community. The college serves more than 14,500 students per year in its credit, noncredit and adult basic education programs. For further information, visit www.sfccnm.edu or call (505) 428-1000.

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