



Experts Panel



Barbara Lynne Clark



Matthew Klipstine



Stephen Miller

## Preparing the Nation's Cybersecurity is Focus of Industry Night Discussion

The nation's cybersecurity and its need for cybersecurity professionals to defend it, were the focus of a ENMU-Ruidoso Industry Night on May 23.

The event was co-hosted by ENMU-Ruidoso and CyberWatch West, a National Cyber Resource Center providing leadership in cybersecurity education and supporting the development and expansion of programs in high schools, colleges and universities throughout the United States.

Keynote speaker was Barbara Lynne Clark, chief of the National Security Association/Department of Homeland Security National Centers of Academic Excellence in Cyber Defense Program Office in Baltimore, Md.

"The nation has a critical shortage of cybersecurity professionals," Clark told the audience. "We need two million more trained professionals within the next five years."

ENMU-Ruidoso is one of only 78 community colleges out of 1,200 colleges designated as a Center for Academic Excellence, in cybersecurity education.

Because its Associate of Applied Science Degree, Information Systems Cybersecurity is NSA and DHS recognized, and because the degree is offered completely online, the Cybersecurity Institute attracts students from across the nation, making it one of the most sought after programs of its type in the nation.

Industry Night featured a panel of educators and cybersecurity experts that included Dr. Lori Liebrock of New Mexico Tech's NM Center for Cybersecurity; Dawn Moore, director of New Mexico IT Apprenticeship Program, Central New Mexico Ingenuity, Inc.; Dr. Jim Miller of Placer Mountain Services; Dr. Venna Parboteeah, assistant dean and professor of Information Systems

at ENMU-Portales, and Matthew Klipstine, network technician and recent ENMU-Ruidoso graduate.

"ENMU-Ruidoso's Cybersecurity program was a game changer for me," Klinefelter said.

Because the program was local, affordable and convenient, Klinefelter completed the online degree and was hired as a network technician at the New Mexico Military Institute in Roswell.

Stephen Miller, director of ENMU-Ruidoso's Cybersecurity Institute, facilitated the panel discussion.

More than 35 invited business leaders and community leaders from Ruidoso and surrounding communities attended the event. For information about ENMU-Ruidoso's Cybersecurity Institute, visit the college's website: [www.enmuruuidoso.edu](http://www.enmuruuidoso.edu), or call 575.257.2120.



## Cybersecurity Program Re-designated a National Center of Excellence

ENMU-Ruidoso has been designated a National Center of Academic Excellence in Cyber Defense Education through academic year 2024 for its Associate of Applied Science in Information Systems (IS) Cybersecurity degree.

Recognition comes from the Center for Academic Excellence, and marks the program as one of the nation's best—and one of only a few completely online community college cybersecurity education programs in the nation.

The recognition gives the ENMU-Ruidoso program an endorsement from the National Security Agency and the Department of Homeland

Security, two departments given oversight and responsibility for all aspects of national safety.

ENMU-Ruidoso was first awarded CAE designation in 2014, the first such community program to earn the distinction in New Mexico and the twelfth in the nation.

"Cybersecurity has become a most important front in personal and national security," said Stephen Miller, director of information Systems at ENMU-Ruidoso and founder of its Cybersecurity Center of Excellence." This designation is not only for the program, but the institution's dedication to Cyber Defense."



Dr. Ryan Carstens, ENMU-Ruidoso president, with Stephen Miller