AFRL Scholar Creates Winning Design (by Jeanne Dailey)

Air Force Research Laboratory Space Scholar Daniel Osuna finds that hard work pays off in amazing ways. Last summer as an intern with the AFRL Scholars program his project was to design a new entrance for the AFRL Phillips Space Conference Center. To Osuna’s delight, the Kirtland’s Civil Engineer Division approved his design. Construction on the building began in January.

Osuna will receive his Master’s Degree in Architecture from the University of New Mexico this coming May. “My goal was to create a more inviting and functional entryway,” said Osuna. “I am grateful to my mentor Michael Gallegos for his confidence in my skills and giving me the opportunity to create a winning design.”

Gallegos chief of the Kirtland AFRL Infrastructure Management Branch is so impressed with Osuna that that he recently hired him for an engineer/architect intern position. “Daniel did a comprehensive study of the Americans with Disabilities Act in creating his design,” said Gallegos. “He designed a beautiful and fully accessible entry that will allow anyone easy access to the facility. It offers a notable sense of arrival to all who enter the building.”

“I would tell students interested in the AFRL Scholars program that it is a great opportunity,” stated Osuna. “It is important to work hard and ask a ton of questions. Every single mentor is there to help you. The Scholars program allows students to get a glimpse of the important role AFRL researchers play in service and protection of our nation.”
Air Force Research Laboratory Scholar Daniel Osuna exhibits his winning design at the AFRL Scholars poster review last summer. Kirtland’s Civil Engineer Division approved his design for construction of a new entryway for the AFRL Phillips Space Conference Center. (Photo: Anita Collins, AFRL)

Air Force Research Laboratory Scholar Daniel Osuna’s design for the renovated entryway of the AFRL Phillips Space Conference Center. Kirtland’s Civil Engineer Division began construction on the new entryway in January. (Photo: AFRL)