

Public Invited to SWOSU Technology Building Open House on January 20

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The Engineering Technology Department is hosting an open house from 2:30-4 p.m. on Thursday, January 20, for the public to view renovations made to the Technology Stone Building on the campus of Southwestern Oklahoma State University in Weatherford.

The building was recently renovated as part of an Oklahoma Capital Improvement Authority (OCIA) revenue bond which was approved by voters in 2005. The \$2.2 million project began in May of 2009 and was completed in July of 2010. Meyer Architecture in Oklahoma City and Jim Loomis Construction of Weatherford were responsible for the renovation.

The Weatherford Area Chamber of Commerce will hold a ribbon-cutting ceremony at 2:30 p.m. CBS' *Amazing Race* stars Cord and Jet McCoy, who are both SWOSU graduates, will be attending the ceremony. The building is located just south of the Campbell Building on the northeast side of the SWOSU campus.

The original stone structure, built in 1940 as part of the Federal Works Progress Administration, was constructed of native stone quarried from southeast of Hydro. The building is one of the oldest on campus and has housed the manual training, industrial arts, and technology programs through the years. It is now home to the Engineering Technology program at SWOSU.

The project renovation upgraded all existing classroom, laboratory and office spaces while adding an additional 8,000 square feet of education space.

"We are extremely pleased with the building and want to thank the community for their support," said Department of Engineering Technology Chair Brad Bryant. "We are excited about utilizing such a historic building to grow our program, and we want to invite everyone to the open house on January 20."