

RMCC Spring Semester Enrollment Meets and Exceeds Expectations

RMCC 2010 Spring enrollment numbers at the 11 day mark came in at 1069 total headcount. This is compared to 969 at the same time a year ago. Full time equivalent (FTE) is also up this semester with 583.8 on day 11 as opposed to 538 FTE in Spring 2009.

According to Phillip Wilson, RMCC VP for Student Affairs, RMCC spring enrollment is up 10% with FTE up 8.5%. Wilson went on to say the average student is carrying 8.2 hours this semester, and the enrollment of males at RMCC is up 16%.

Wilson stated, "Preliminary indications show that RMCC has improved its retention rate within its fall semester enrolled students. We are excited to see that some of our newly implemented techniques in student retention are paying dividends. We all know in higher education that retaining students is more cost effective than recruiting new students."

Dr. Wayne Hatcher, RMCC President, shared that enrollment seems to be up across the state at community colleges as students look for both quality of educational opportunities as well as the best way to deal with higher education costs.

Dr. Hatcher continued, "Students will often enroll during tough economic times to gain the skills needed to secure good jobs when the economy does pick up." Dr. Hatcher stated, "The economy is just one of various reasons RMCC's numbers are up. A wider range of courses and programs have been added at RMCC in our continued efforts to successfully respond to the needs of west-central Arkansas." Dr. Hatcher shared that RMCC staff and faculty are proud of the reputation they have earned as it concerns working diligently to meet the needs of students with a caring, helpful attitude as more people turn to RMCC for assistance in securing education and training.