

## **RMCC Part of New SouthWest Arkansas Regional Consortium**

Five Community Colleges serving southwest and south Arkansas have established the SouthWest Arkansas Community College Consortium. The agreement unites the resources of these institutions with the mission to create a regional educational and workforce development vision to support economic development. The goal of the Consortium is to combine the resources and expertise of the Consortium members in the pursuit of grants and other funding opportunities to promote innovation in education and workforce development.

Members of the Consortium are Rich Mountain Community College, Mena; Cossatot Community College of the University of Arkansas, DeQueen; South Arkansas Community College, El Dorado; Southern Arkansas University Tech, East Camden; and the University of Arkansas Community College at Hope. The agreement also includes collaboration with the Arkansas Association of Two Year Colleges as a key partner.

The Consortium will serve as a tool for the Two-year Colleges to work together on economic development and job creation approaches that are productive for the entire service region. It is intended that this partnership will also enhance the region's ability to compete and secure federal grant funding that will benefit the students, the communities the institutions serve and the region as a whole.