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NWACC to host first national conference**

BENTONVILLE (Monday, May 21, 2007) – NorthWest Arkansas Community hosts its first national conference the first week in June. The National Coalition of Advanced Technology Centers (NCATC) 2007 Summer Workshop is June 7-8 at the Shewmaker Center for Workforce Technologies on the Bentonville campus.

NWACC expects 75 to 100 educators and business leaders from across the U.S. for the conference, which will showcase technological advances in the business and academic communities.

The workshop theme is “Technology: Shaping The Future,” and will feature presentations from Wal-Mart, J.B. Hunt, Tyson Foods, Crystal Bridges Museum, and St. Mary’s Hospital, as well as the University of Arkansas, University of Arkansas at Fort Smith and NWACC.

College President Dr. Becky Paneitz says the college is looking forward to hosting conference.

“It’s truly a testament to the College and the region that we were invited to host this conference,” she said. “Word is getting out about northwest Arkansas and NWACC. We’re excited to have the opportunity to show the rest of the country what we already know: that northwest Arkansas is a great place to live, work and raise our families.”

NCATC is a network of more than 160 member institutions ranging from colleges and universities to the corporate community throughout the U.S. and Canada.

NCATC advocates and promotes the use of technology applications that enhance economic and workforce development programs and services. The organization provides its members with the means to serve their communities more efficiently and effectively by presenting focused conferences, visits to industry and advanced technology centers, written communications, best practices studies, and access to others across the nation.

For NCATC Summer Workshop details and registration information, visit www.ncatc.org.