NWACC IT Ranks Among Top-Rated in United States

College Celebrates National Recognition in Information Technology Services

BENTONVILLE, Ark. (November 1, 2012) – NorthWest Arkansas Community College’s information technology services has been rated among the nation’s Top 10 community colleges, according to Converge Online and e.Republic’s Center for Digital Education.

NWACC ranked second nationally among community colleges in the “Large Colleges” category, which have 10,000 or more students on campus. Last year, NWACC ranked sixth among “Mid-Sized Colleges”.

The College was recognized for its outstanding use and implementation of technology services across campus. This year alone, NWACC IT launched its mobile-themed technologies, upgraded its Blackboard distance learning platform, and added a mobile charging station to its campus resources. Additionally, student, faculty, and staff surveys were utilized to get feedback on the tools and technology resources used and needed across campus.

The recent Educause student survey looked at technology involvement in college curriculum and campus life, specifically documenting use of technology in online admissions processes, distance education, technology training for students and faculty, campus security alerts, use of Web 2.0 social and collaborative capabilities, and online tutoring and advisory services.

“Members of our Information Technology department continue to outdo themselves,” said Dr. Becky Paneitz, NWACC President. “Paige Francis, Associate Vice President for Information Technology, and her team continue to put the user experience as the number one priority and this recognition is a true testament to their hard work.”

“This survey gives great insight into the nation’s Community Colleges’ efforts to advance services to students through new technologies,” said Cathilea Robinett, executive vice president of e.Republic. “The winners in these categories have increased the number of computers and kiosks, automated
labor-intensive processes, improved student portals and increased student online services and more. Congratulations!

NorthWest Arkansas Community College is a smart choice for students wanting to pursue quality higher education. As an accredited institution through The Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association, NWACC is a public two-year institution that serves and strengthens its surrounding communities in Benton and Washington counties by helping our students maximize their potential and exceed expectations. With state-of-the-art facilities, NWACC provides excellent academic instruction and workforce training needed to succeed, offering personalized attention from highly respected faculty, staff, and administrators. For more information, visit www.nwacc.edu.