



Office of Public Relations
304-929-6727

NEWS RELEASE

Barbara Elliott, Director of Public Relations
221 George Street, Suite 2
Beckley, WV 25801
304-929-6727 (Phone)
304-929-5478 (Fax)
304-520-2135 (Mobile)

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NEW RIVER'S SPRING ENROLLMENT UP 21.6 PERCENT OVER LAST YEAR

[BECKLEY, WV] Spring enrollment at New River Community and Technical College is at an all-time high this year, having increased 21.6 percent over the same time last year, according to Dr. Harry R. Faulk, executive vice president and chief academic officer.

Student head count for the spring semester has grown from 2,143 last year to 2,602 this year. New River experienced a 17 percent increase in enrollment in the fall semester compared to fall 2008. Over the past five years, enrollment at the college has grown more than 60 percent.

"Many colleges have reported increases in enrollment due to the economy," Faulk noted. "The national average enrollment increase from fall 2008 to fall 2009 was 11.4 percent. The phenomenal growth at New River is an indication that we are accomplishing our mission to offer affordable, high-quality post-secondary education that meets the needs of the citizens within our service region."

New River serves Fayette, Greenbrier, Monroe, Mercer, Nicholas, Pocahontas, Raleigh, Summers and Webster Counties. The college has five campuses: the Beckley Campus in the Harper Industrial Park; the Raleigh County Campus at the Public Higher Education Center in

Beaver; the Greenbrier Valley Campus, 101 Church Street in Lewisburg; the Mercer County Campus, 1397 Stafford Drive in Princeton; and the Nicholas County campus, 6101 Webster Road in Summersville. In addition, online and distance learning classes make it possible for students in remote areas to further their education. Further information about New River can be found at www.newriver.edu.

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