(URBANDALE, Iowa) – The Board of Regents announces the creation of the Southwest Iowa Educational Services Partnership between Iowa Western Community College in Council Bluffs, Southwestern Community College in Creston, and Iowa’s public universities. The purpose of the partnership is to expand the opportunities available to students in southwest Iowa to complete a four-year college degree.

The Board will celebrate this new partnership with a ribbon cutting ceremony on Tuesday, November 5, at 11:00 a.m., at the Student Center on the campus of Iowa Western Community College, 2700 College Boulevard, Council Bluffs. Iowa Congressman Tom Latham, local state legislators and community leaders are expected to attend the ceremony, which is open to the public.

The public is also invited to learn more about the new partnership by participating in a college fair to be held at the Student Center from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. on November 5. Representatives of the University of Iowa, Iowa State University, the University of Northern Iowa, Iowa Western Community College and Southwestern Community College will be available to answer questions.

The Southwest Iowa Educational Services Partnership was developed to expand the distance education opportunities of Iowa’s public universities in accordance with the Board’s Strategic Plan. Additional information on the Partnership is available at this web site www.qualityeducationswia.org/.

The Board of Regents is a group of nine citizen volunteers who govern the state’s three public universities and two special K-12 schools – the Iowa School for the Deaf and the Iowa Braille and Sight Saving School.

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