

# The Arkansas Economic Issues Breakfast Series

**A semiannual statewide business and economic discussion via videoconferencing**

The Arkansas Economic Issues Breakfast Series is designed to encourage economic development in Arkansas through the dissemination of high quality information and analysis to business, community, and government leaders. The event links people from across Arkansas via videoconferencing technology and provides an interactive setting for learning about the latest economic trends that affect businesses in Arkansas. This opportunity is the result of collaboration between seven higher education institutions in Arkansas and an understanding that Arkansas citizens must leverage their resources to compete successfully in the global economy.

The videoconference will be hosted simultaneously at venues in seven locations across the state. A panel of statewide economic experts will provide insights about the functioning of the Arkansas economy and how the regional economies within the state contribute to the overall economic picture. After the panel discussion, the individual events will provide time for attendees to participate in conversations about unique local and regional economic opportunities and challenges. The information from each event will be synthesized for all statewide participants so that common goals can be sought and common obstacles faced together.

The Arkansas Economic Issues Breakfast Series will be held twice a year, in the fall and in the spring. Prior to the public videoconferencing events, regional economic focus group sessions will be held as a basis for the discussions that follow.

The series is coordinated by the Institute for Economic Advancement (IEA) at the University of Arkansas at Little Rock in cooperation with the Center for Business and Economic Research at the University of Arkansas, the Delta Center for Economic Development at Arkansas State University, the Economic Research and Development Center at the University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff, the College of Business at the University of Arkansas at Fort Smith, the University of Arkansas at Monticello, and Southern Arkansas University.

The first event of the breakfast series will be held on September 30, 2009, beginning at 7:00 AM and adjourning no later than 9:15AM. Please mark the time on your calendar and make plans to join the business leaders of Arkansas in promoting a prosperous future.

