

## Governor Signs Bill Authorizing Higher Education Center in Rapid City



**PIERRE, S.D. (March 30, 2009)—Gov. Mike Rounds was joined by representatives of the South Dakota Board of Regents and Rapid City area supporters to commemorate the signing of House Bill 1183. The bill authorized construction of a permanent Higher Education Center-West River to meet the region’s current and future higher education needs. Nearly 1,700 students, many who have families and hold down full-time jobs, currently take public university classes at a variety of locations in and around Rapid City. The new facility will provide easy access and a one-stop location to deliver courses and student services. On hand for the signing were (from left): Regents Executive Director Tad Perry; Regent James O. Hansen; Sen. Jeff Haverly, Rapid City, the bill’s prime Senate sponsor; Gov. Rounds; Box Elder Mayor Al Dial; and Pat McElgunn, vice president of government affairs for the Rapid City Area Chamber of Commerce.**