



News Release

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WESTERN'S FOUNDATION ANNUAL FUND UNDERWAY

St. Joseph, Mo. — Oct. 7, 2003 —The Missouri Western State College Foundation Annual Fund is underway. The campaign kicked off with the distribution of the fall issue of the Western magazine, where alumni, donors and friends were invited to contribute. The goal of this year's annual fund is \$125,000.

“The Annual Fund is a critical source of revenue that enables us to support many special programs that are not funded through the regular college budget,” said James Roevers, executive director of the Foundation. “This has become increasingly important in light of the significant decline in state funds allocated to support the college.”

Programs supported by last year's Annual Fund included guest artists, guest speakers, summer research programs, faculty and staff development and the purchase of reference resources for the library. Through the Foundation's Student Excellence Fund, several students received financial assistance to attend conferences and participate in the college's Study Abroad programs.

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The Annual Fund also supports the annual Convocation on Critical Issues. Western inaugurated the Convocation program in 1993 as part of an overall commitment to offer enriching experiences to students while bringing together the college and community. Last year's speaker was Joseph Nye, dean of Harvard University's School of Government. This year, presidential advisor David Gergen will speak on Oct. 22. His topic is "Eyewitness to Power: the Essence of Leadership."

Those wishing to contribute to the Annual Fund may call Western's Development Office at (816) 271-5647. Donations may also be made online at www.mwsc.edu/foundation/donation. All donations are tax deductible.

"Last year's Annual Fund was a wonderful success," said Roever. "We appreciate our donors' generosity and their support of the college and its programs."

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Missouri Western State College is a four-year public institution providing a blend of traditional liberal arts and professional degree programs. The college offers student-centered, high quality instruction that focuses on experience-based learning, community service, and state-of-the-art technology. Western is located in St. Joseph, Mo. and is committed to the educational, economic, cultural and social development of the region it serves.