



News Release

Missouri Western State College • 4525 Downs Drive • St. Joseph, MO 64507 • (816) 271-5649

Contact: Kristy Hill

Phone: (816)-271-5649

Title: Public Relations/Marketing Director

Email: hillk@mwsc.edu

WESTERN HOSTS PUBLIC FORUM ON PATRIOT ACT

St. Joseph, Mo. — Nov. 25, 2003 — Missouri Western State College will host a forum to discuss the U.S. Patriot Act 11 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. Dec. 2 in the Leah Spratt Multipurpose Classroom Building Kemper Recital Hall. The event is free and open to the community.

Featured speakers are Todd Graves, U.S. Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, and Dick Kurtenbach, executive director of the American Civil Liberties Union of Kansas and western Missouri. After two rounds of opening statements, Graves and Kurtenbach will respond to questions from the audience.

“The U.S. Patriot Act is an issue which we know is being discussed in a number of classes on campus, but there seems to be widespread disagreement over exactly what the Act authorizes and how it is being used,” said Dr. Mark Mikkelsen, associate professor of philosophy. “We hope by bringing two distinguished spokesmen on both sides of the issue together we can foster better, more informed public debate of the issue.”

The U.S. Patriot Act became a law in October 2001 in response to the terrorist attacks of Sept.11.

-more-

Page 2 of 2 – Patriot Act

The event is hosted by the Western Political Science Club. For more information, contact Dr. Dan Cox at (816) 271-4344, cox@mwsc.edu, or Mikkelsen at (816)271-4530, mikkelsen@mwsc.edu.

—end—

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.