



News Release

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WESTERN SORORITY RECEIVES NATIONAL HONORS

St. Joseph, Mo. — Oct. 10, 2003—Zeta Tau, Western’s chapter of Sigma Sigma Sigma (Tri Sigma), recently received a national award for having the number one new member orientation program out of over 100 chapters, and it also received national recognition for its recruitment program.

The recruitment award was based on the success of the chapter’s recruitment process, which included meeting the goals set by Zeta Tau’s recruitment director, Molly Basinger of Lee’s Summit, Mo. The new member orientation program recognition was based on its high retention rate of the new members and overall success of the new member program.

To prepare for the recruitment process, Zeta Tau holds meetings in the summer and workshops at the beginning of the school year to plan for each night of recruitment. Once new members are chosen, the sorority focuses on them until initiation. The new members are taught national and local history and traditions of the sorority.

“This program is so important to us as a chapter because this is when they (new members) learn what it means to be a Tri Sigma,” said Zeta Tau President Becky Jackson of Camdenton, Mo. “We aren’t just a Greek letter. We believe in community service, philanthropy, sisterhood and scholarship, just to name a few.”

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Before the foundation of Western’s Tri Sigma chapter on April 1, 1995, the sorority’s local chapter was Sigma Delta Xi, which was the first national sorority on campus. According to Jackson, many alumnae remain active in not only the local chapter, but the national chapter, as well. Jackson attributes the honors received to both the current members and the alumnae for their hard work to make Zeta Tau succeed.

“I have always known that this sorority was a remarkable chapter,” Jackson said. “To receive an award from your national president as she is bragging about your chapter still seems surreal and has only solidified what I already believed! I am very honored and proud of all our members. We wouldn’t have received these awards if it weren’t for all of their hard work and dedication to the sorority.”

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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.