



News Release

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FORMER WESTERN PROFESSOR WELL KNOWN IN FIELD

St. Joseph, Mo. —Aug. 27, 2004—When Dr. Leo Galloway began teaching at Missouri Western State College in 1972, there were a few plants in a display in a little cabinet in the biology department, and he decided the college needed a better collection of plants of northwest Missouri.

So Dr. Galloway, now professor emeritus of biology, created the college's internationally registered herbarium that today bears his name. "The herbarium was important. It was nice to have a collection site for plants so a person could document plants in a given area."

Dr. John Rushin, chair of the biology department, said the herbarium is still widely used in botany classes, and he is glad the collection bears Dr. Galloway's name.

Dr. Galloway, who retired in 1980, is also well known in the botany field for his research. An 11-page work of his was published last year in "Flora of North America," a 12-volume reference book for botanists.

"Contributions (to the book) were by invitation only," said Dr. Galloway. "They chose people who had done their research and were considered experts." His section in the book covers 19 species of the flower *Abronia*, which he has researched for over 30 years.

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Page 2 of 2 - Galloway

In fact, in 1972, he named and described one species of *Abronia* found in an area of south Texas that is on the rare and endangered list.

But despite his research success and renown in the botany field, Dr. Galloway fondly remembers his work in the classroom. “I miss the classroom. I had good rapport with the students, and I enjoyed that so much. I feel like I’ve inspired several students. Those are my greatest accomplishments.”

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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.