



News Release

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WESTERN ANNOUNCES WINTER COMMENCEMENT

St. Joseph, Mo. — Dec. 2, 2005 — Missouri Western State University will hold its winter commencement ceremony for approximately 315 graduates at 4 p.m. Dec. 17 in the M.O. Looney Complex. Dr. Michael J. Baltezor, president of Aptuit, Inc. and Western alumnus, will be the featured speaker.

A pinning ceremony for nursing graduates will be held at 1 p.m. in Thompson E. Potter Hall and an ROTC commissioning ceremony will be held at 2 p.m. in Nelle Blum Union, rooms 218 and 219. Graduates, families, faculty and staff are invited to attend a commencement reception from 1:30-3 p.m. in the Nelle Blum Union, rooms 222 and 223. There will be a short program at 2:30 p.m.

Dr. Baltezor graduated from Western in 1972 with a bachelor's degree in chemistry. He earned his master's and doctorate from the University of Kansas in pharmaceuticals and pharmaceutical chemistry. He has been involved in the management of development of pharmaceutical products for over 25 years. His primary areas of expertise are in formulation, analytical chemistry, quality assurance, project management and other chemistry, manufacturing and controls activities.

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As president of pharmaceutical sciences at Aptuit, Inc., Dr. Baltezor is responsible for all operational and financial responsibilities for the global Aptuit pharmaceutical sciences business. The activities of pharmaceutical sciences include preformulation, formulation development, analytical chemistry, stability, clinical supplies manufacturing and commercial manufacturing. In addition to the direct business responsibilities, Dr. Baltezor coordinates all supporting activities to pharmaceutical sciences including sales, marketing, quality assurance and information technology.

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Missouri Western State University is a four-year public institution providing a blend of traditional liberal arts and professional degree programs. The university 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.