



# News Release

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## WESTERN INTERVIEWING THREE FINALISTS FOR PROVOST POST

**St. Joseph, Mo.** —Nov. 2, 2005—Three candidates for the position of provost and vice president for academic and student affairs have been invited to visit the Missouri Western State University campus for interviews. Dr. Daniel Hall from Hamilton, Ohio will visit on Nov. 7 and 8; Dr. Neil Mathews from Baton Rouge, La. will visit on Nov. 10 and 11, and Dr. Joseph Bragin from Huntington, W.Va. will visit on Nov. 14 and 15. A presentation will be given by each candidate that is open to the community.

The position became vacant in July when Dr. David Arnold resigned as Western's vice president for academic and student affairs to accept the presidency at Eureka College in Eureka, Ill. Western's Board of Governors made the changes in the position title to accurately reflect the duties. A search committee chaired by Dr. Phil Mullins, professor of philosophy, has been accepting applications, and the committee has recommended the finalists to Dr. James Scanlon, Western's president, for consideration.

"This has been a very encouraging process," said Dr. Scanlon. "The search committee has worked diligently, efficiently and effectively. The number and quality of applicants was wonderful and I concur with the committee's recommendations of the finalists. It appears that we have outstanding candidates," he added.

Dr. Hall is currently the executive director of the Miami University of Ohio, Hamilton Campus. He holds the rank of tenured professor of political science at Miami University. He has also served as the chair of the department of criminal justice at the University of Toledo. Prior to that he held positions at the University of Central Florida. Dr. Hall is scheduled to make his public presentation titled "Perspectives on Higher Education" at 3 p.m. on Nov. 7 in the Kemper Recital Hall in Leah Spratt Hall. There will be an opportunity for questions and answers.

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Dr. Mathews is currently the vice chancellor for student life and academic services at Louisiana State University. He has previously held department chair, dean and vice provost positions at LSU. He also served at the University of Connecticut and with the Connecticut State Department of Education. His public presentation, “Uniting Academic and Student Affairs in a Quality Learning Community,” will be at 2 p.m. on Nov. 10, also in the Kemper Recital Hall.

Dr. Bragin is professor of chemistry and recently completed a term as the dean of the College of Science at Marshall University in Huntington, W. Va. He previously held positions at the National Science Foundation while on leave from Cal State University, Los Angeles. At Cal State University he was associate dean of the School of Natural and Social Sciences for 17 years. Dr. Bragin’s public presentation, “Educational and Administrative Philosophy and the Role of Provost,” will be made at 3 p.m. on Nov. 14, also in the Kemper Recital Hall.

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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.*