



# News Release

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

**Contact:** Kristy Hill

**Phone:** (816)-271-5649

**Title:** Public Relations/Marketing Director

**Email:** [hillk@missouriwestern.edu](mailto:hillk@missouriwestern.edu)

## WESTERN ANNOUNCES STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS

**St. Joseph, Mo.** —Jan. 9, 2006—Missouri Western State University announces student achievements:

- Karla Buckminster, senior music major from Falls City, Neb.; Susan Riddle, freshman music major from Platte City, Mo., and Mindy Southard, junior music major from St. Joseph, Mo., participated in the Missouri Music Teachers Collegiate Honors Competition. In this statewide competition held at the University of Missouri-Columbia, Southard was named the winner in the upper division, while in the lower division, Riddle was the first runner-up. These students are from the studio of Sharon Gray, associate professor of music.
- Justin Tone-Pah-Hote, senior natural science major from Orrick, Mo., was awarded one of 30 A.T. Anderson Memorial Scholarships. This is a national award presented by the American Indian Science and Engineering Society.
- Delta Phi Upsilon, the student chapter of the American Criminal Justice Association - LAE, attended the region 3 conference in Springfield, Mo. along with 194 other members. They competed in written, crime scene, firearms, and physical agility. In firearms, the team of Mike O'Neil, senior from Cainsville, Mo.; Stuart Brought, junior from Platte City, Mo.; and Travis Roe, freshman from St. Joseph, Mo.; placed first in upper division. In crime scene, the team of Tyler

Davis, junior from Kansas City, Mo., Mindy Swartz, senior from Mooresville, Mo., and Jared Musser, senior from Des Moines Iowa, placed second in upper division.

- Luis Gaytan, senior music major from St. Joseph, Mo., was a participant in the piano division from the studio of Jerry Anderson, associate professor of music.
- Christina Dixon, Karen Calhoon and Rachael McElvain, senior nursing majors, presented a poster entitled “Providing an Evidence-Base for Nursing Practice: Mandatory Staffing Ratios.” This symposium, called “Mind and Heart Together: Celebrating Intellectual Pursuit in Undergraduate Nursing,” was hosted by William Jewell College, Liberty, Mo. Dixon is from Camdenton, Mo., and Calhoon and McElvain are from St. Joseph, Mo.
- Four computer science, mathematics, and physics student interns presented an internship panel discussion for a CSMP Colloquium. Jeff Puckett, senior accounting major from St. Joseph, Mo. (Federal Reserve Bank), Whitney Schell, junior mathematics major from Kansas City, Mo. (Kansas City Life), Robert Smith, senior accounting major from Kansas City, Mo. (Hillyard Industries), and Gavin Taylor, junior computer science major from St. Joseph, Mo. (Boehringer Ingelheim Vetmedica, Inc.) talked about how they obtained their internships, and their associated learning experiences.
- Jo Ann Wann, freshman student from St. Joseph, Mo., and Dr. Teddi Deka, associate professor of psychology, presented a paper entitled “Teaching Together or Apart, Program Changes and Their Effect on Self-Esteem” at the Gifted Association of Missouri conference in Osage Beach, Mo.

- Lisa Miller, senior biology major from Osborn, Mo., and Dr. John Rushin, professor of biology and chair of the department, co-authored a poster for presentation at the Natural Areas Conference in Lincoln, Neb.
- The Western Brass Trio performed for the St. Joseph Area Chamber of Commerce at their 2005 Stars Arrive Member Award Luncheon. The Brass Quintet Chamber Ensemble performed for the St. Joseph Area Chamber of Commerce Award Luncheon.

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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.*