



News Release

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WESTERN ANNOUNCES 2003 SPRING COMMENCEMENT

St. Joseph, Mo.—April 25, 2003—Missouri Western State College will hold its spring 2003 Commencement Ceremonies on May 10 in the M. O. Looney Fieldhouse.

The ceremonies will be at 11 a.m. and 3 p.m. Dr. Dennis Rogers, professor of music and director of percussion studies at Western, is the guest speaker for the commencement ceremonies.

The nurses' pinning ceremony will be held at 9 a.m. that day in the Thompson E. Potter Fine Arts Theatre. A reception for graduates, family, faculty and administrators will be held May 9 from 7 – 9 p.m. in the Nelle Blum Student Union room 222-223. For more information about the division of academic departments for the ceremonies call 816-271-4234.

Dr. Rogers has been with Western since 1978 and is the recipient of the 2003 Governor's Award. He taught at the University of Missouri at Kansas City-Conservatory of Music for nine years. He holds five college degrees from the University of Missouri at Kansas City – School of Education, University of Missouri at Kansas City – Conservatory of Music, Colorado State University and Arizona State University. Dr. Rogers has published four books and holds offices and memberships in the Percussive Arts Society on the state and international levels.

As an active performer, Dr. Rogers has traveled to 47 states and extensively through Europe. He is presently the music director and performs with Sticks of Thunder at Kansas City Union Station as well with his own steel drum band.

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.

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