



News Release

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WESTERN BOARD OF REGENTS APPROVE PLANS FOR FULKERSON ALUMNI TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT CENTER

St. Joseph, Mo. —May 30, 2003— The Missouri Western State College Board of Regents approved plans to construct the Fulkerson Alumni and Training Development Center. The plan was brought to the Board of Regents after the Missouri Western Foundation Board of Directors approved the plan in April, according to Dr. James Roever, executive director of the Foundation.

By building the center adjacent to the Leah Spratt Multipurpose Classroom Building, the Fulkerson Center will be able to meet the original goals of the project for a cost of no more than \$1.2 million. The center will include a large conference room that will seat up to 500 individuals, as well as split into three smaller rooms. The east wing of the Leah Spratt building will include breakout rooms, a training and assessment center, alumni services offices and institutional advancement offices. Some renovations will be required.

The alumni and development center will be named in honor of Marie Fulkerson, and her late husband, Lyman Fulkerson. “Mrs. Fulkerson is a generous supporter of the college and St. Joseph community. This center will a greatly enhance the opportunities for workforce development and training in the region and will provide space to showcase the successes of college alumni,” added Dr. Roever.

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In 2000, the Board of Regents approved a plan for the Fulkerson Center that would have cost \$3.2 million. To accomplish this goal, the “Our Promise” capital campaign raised \$1.2 million for the center. Additional funding included a \$1 million gift that was dependent on receiving the state capital funds appropriation of \$1 million. The appropriation, along with other capital funds, was not released.

“Initially, we were hopeful that the state economy would recover, allowing the state funds to be released,” said Dr. Roever. “However, we have adopted an innovative solution that will allow us to fulfill the goals of the center with the contributions we have received.”

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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.