



News Release

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MISSOURI WESTERN DETAILS RESIDENTIAL LIFE PROJECT

St. Joseph, Mo., Feb. 27, 2003 – During the Missouri Western State College Board of Regents meeting, administrators discussed plans to complete a new residence life project on campus. This project will include a new 400-bed residence hall, a residential student commons, and improvements to existing halls.

“This is not your parents’ dormitory; this is a residence hall for the 21st century – a living-learning center that creates 8-10 small communities that will have access to state-of-the-art technology,” says Dr. Arnold, vice-president of academic and student affairs. “Students within these communities will have the option to take classes together in what we call ‘learning communities.’ ”

This building will be a cornerstone for a new learning communities program. The program provides opportunities for first-year students to take classes and live together. According to Dr. Arnold, this naturally enhances first-year students’ academic success.

The new residence hall will offer four-person suites and single occupancy rooms. Each wing of the hall will serve as a community of 40-50 residents with accompanying group meeting and kitchen space. The rooms will have individual control of heating and cooling as well as phone, cable and network connections. By using heavy-frame, durable construction, the residence hall has a life of 50 to 100 years.

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This project will also include improvements to existing facilities and a new residential student commons. Existing halls will receive a new fire alarm system, mechanical and ventilation system improvements, and additional electrical outlets and circuits. A new commons building will feature a residential life service and security desk, and a lounge area with the capacity to include a snack shop.

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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