



# News Release

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## WESTERN ANNOUNCES FACULTY AND STAFF ACHIEVEMENTS

**St. Joseph, Mo.** — April 30, 2004—Missouri Western State College announces recent achievements of their faculty and staff:

- Jill Miller, professor of criminal justice and department chair, placed third in the professional division at the national conference of the American Criminal Justice Association in the professional division. She, along with student Shelly Fritz and a professional member from California, placed first in crime scene investigation competition at the professional level.
- Dr. Todd Eckdahl, professor of biology, and three faculty from Pomona College and Davidson College were awarded a \$39,640 grant by the National Science Foundation (NSF) to conduct a summer 2004 workshop at Georgetown University in Washington DC to prepare professors from across the country to use micro arrays in their undergraduate teaching and research. The team was previously successful with a \$15,000 workshop proposal and a \$105,390 equipment proposal to NSF.
- Jeff Wilson, coordinator of student employment, received the Award for Excellence in Higher Education from Northland Regional Chamber of Commerce. The Chamber recognizes educators and people in service to education for their outstanding and noteworthy contributions.

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- James Estes, professor of art, has had a ceramic sculpture titled “Spring” chosen for inclusion in the Crafts National 38 exhibition competition at the University Park Gallery at Penn State University.
- Marsha Dolan, assistant professor of nursing and program coordinator for the Health Information Technology Program, was elected president-elect for the Missouri Health Information Management Association (MHIMA). MHIMA is a professional association representing more than 900 specially educated health information management professionals who work throughout the healthcare industry.

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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.*