



News Release

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GROUNDBREAKING FOR FULKERSON CENTER HELD

St. Joseph, Mo. — March 23, 2004 —Groundbreaking was held today for the Fulkerson Center at Missouri Western State College, and construction is scheduled to begin this week. The 12,000 square-foot structure is named for Marie Fulkerson and her late husband, Lyman Fulkerson.

In addition to the gift from Mrs. Fulkerson, 43 other donors contributed to the project, which was part of the “Our Promise” capital campaign. Special recognition will be attached to five rooms: the Logan Family Educational Resource and Assessment Lab, supported by the directors of the John Sublett Logan Foundation; the Kemper Room from the William T. Kemper Foundation; the MeadWesvaco Room; and a room in memory of Richard Austin Rochambeau, Sr. with a gift from the Leah Spratt Trust. A gift from Dr. Joe Friedman established the Alumni Room in honor of Dr. and Mrs. Joseph (Joe) and Gladys Friedman and in honor of Joseph J. Droher.

“Mrs. Fulkerson is a generous supporter of the college. We are grateful for her gift,” said Dr. James Roever, vice president for Institutional Advancement. “This center will greatly enhance the opportunities for workforce development and training in the region and will provide space to showcase the successes of college alumni.”

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The new center will include three large meeting rooms that can be opened, when needed, into one large area that will accommodate up to 500 individuals for large seminars or banquets. There will also be a special room to honor Western alumni.

As part of the Fulkerson Center construction, some renovation will occur in the east wing of the Spratt building to include breakout rooms and a training and assessment center. The training and assessment center personnel will offer local businesses computer training and job assessment. The east wing of the Spratt Building also includes alumni services offices and institutional advancement offices.

The Board of Regents approved a bid of \$1,687,246 from E.L. Crawford Construction for the construction project in February, and work is expected to be completed by the end of the year. Ellison-Auxier Architects designed the building.

Those who turned over the soil at the groundbreaking were Dr. James Scanlon, Western's president; Susan Colgan, Regents president; Ralph Schank, Alumni Association president; Stan Hall, Western Foundation president; Dr. Roever, vice president for institutional advancement; and Dr. Ed Gorsky, dean of continuing education and special programs.

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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.