



News Release

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RESIDENCE HALLS AT WESTERN OFFER MANY BENEFITS

St. Joseph, Mo. — March 23, 2004 — Studies show that college students who live on campus earn higher grade point averages, have higher retention rates and report being more satisfied with their college experience. Missouri Western State College students who sign up this week for a room on campus for fall 2004 will have an extra benefit – a new commons building that features a lounge, wireless Internet café, convenience store and service desk. Construction began on the building in November and is slated to be completed this fall.

“Get a Room” sign up days are March 22, 24 and 25 for current Western students, and prospective students may fill out a housing contract at this time, also. Along with the new commons building, Western’s suites and apartments also offer free local phone service, free Internet access, free cable television and convenient laundry facilities.

“Living on campus always enhances a student’s college experience,” said Bob Klostermeyer, acting dean of student development. “The new commons building will make that experience even better since students will have more opportunities to interact with one another and to build peer relationships.”

Western embarked on a Learning Communities initiative when they were one of 19 colleges and universities last spring to be chosen to participate in a national learning communities project. The commons building and new residence hall that is currently

under construction will serve as the cornerstone for learning communities on campus, giving students the opportunity to live together, and attend classes and study together.

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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.