



# News Release

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## FULKERSON CENTER TO OPEN AT WESTERN

**St. Joseph, Mo.** —March 15—Gleaming, spacious conference and banquet facilities will become available with the formal opening event March 24 of the Fulkerson Center at Missouri Western State College.

U.S. Sen. Christopher “Kit” Bond will be the featured speaker, and a banquet dinner begins at 7 p.m. The Center is located between the Leah Spratt Building and the Nelle Blum Student Union, and is linked to both by enclosed walkways.

The new Center was financed entirely by private funds. Initially, \$1.2 million in private donations were received through the “Our Promise” campaign in 2000. Promised state funding of \$1 million was withheld because of state revenue problems, and plans were revised to complete the project. All original components are included in the plans.

The center is named for Lyman and Marie Fulkerson, who operated the DeMuth Supply Co. in St. Joseph until 1972. It includes a banquet room seating up to 500, and the room can be subdivided into three smaller rooms. There are five special rooms named for donors.

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The five rooms include the Logan Family Educational Resource and Assessment Lab, made possible by the John Sublett Logan Foundation; the Kemper Room, made possible by a gift from the William T. Kemper Foundation; the MeadWestvaco Room; the Rochambeau Room, in memory of Richard Austin Rochambeau Sr., from the Leah Spratt Trust; and the Alumni Room, honoring Dr. and Mrs. Joseph and Gladys Friedman and Joseph J. Droher.

In all, there were 43 donors in addition to Marie Fulkerson and her late husband, Lyman Fulkerson.

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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.*