



# News Release

Missouri Western State College • 4525 Downs Drive • St. Joseph, MO 64507 • 816-271-5649

**Contact:** Kristy Hill

**Phone:** (816)-271-5649

**Title:** Public Relations/Marketing Director

**Email:** [hillk@mwsc.edu](mailto:hillk@mwsc.edu)

## **WESTERN ANNOUNCES: NO TUITION INCREASE FOR 2005-2006**

**St. Joseph, Mo.** —May 26, 2005—Missouri Western State College student Kylie Stewart takes her college education seriously for two reasons: she is a first generation college student, and she very much wants to be a teacher. To make this goal a reality, she works at the college library, she plans to make calls to prospective students this summer in the admissions office, and she receives some help from scholarships and her dad. Knowing her tuition at Western will not increase next fall is great news, she said.

Stewart is one of the over 5,100 reasons Western is not increasing tuition for the 2005-06 year – the students. The Board of Regents approved the recommendation not to increase tuition at its Thursday evening meeting.

“Western is committed to ensuring quality education at the best value possible – affordable excellence,” said Dr. James Scanlon, Western’s president.

Western’s in-state tuition per credit hour will remain \$146, which is \$1,752 for 12 hours. Western’s tuition for out-of-state students will be \$267 per hour, which is \$3,204 for 12 hours. Across the state, the average tuition increase was about four percent.

“Western is committed to putting our students first,” added Dr. Scanlon. “When Western makes any decision its first consideration is to how it impacts students. The decision not to increase tuition is based on that same rationale.”

“That is really exciting; I am ecstatic. With Western becoming a university, everyone expected tuition to increase,” said Kyler Keith, a recreation/sports management major from St. Joseph.

**-more-**

## **Page 2 of 2 – Tuition**

According to Dr. Scanlon, keeping the same tuition rate again this year will benefit the region by helping keep high quality educational opportunities available to individuals in the area. This will foster economic development and help prepare a workforce for the new knowledge based economy.

Dr. Scanlon noted that 2005-2006 will be the third year in a row that Western students will pay the same core tuition of \$146 per credit hour, which means a student who began college in fall 2003 as a freshman will pay the same core tuition rate as a junior.

According to Dr. Scanlon, Western budgets conservatively and continually looks for efficiencies in providing a quality education for our students. In fact 83% of Western's budget directly supports students and student instruction, among the highest in the state. By doing this, Western is able to provide top-quality education without increasing tuition this year.

**—end—**

*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.*