



News Release

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WESTERN HOSTS ANNUAL MATHEMATICS CONFERENCE

St. Joseph, Mo. — March 28, 2005 — Missouri Western State College will host the annual Missouri Section meeting of the Mathematical Association of America (MAA) on April 1 and 2. The MAA is the largest professional society that focuses on undergraduate mathematics education.

The conference will include addresses by two keynote speakers. Dr. Bryan Shader, of the University of Wyoming, will present “Applications of the Smith Normal Form” and Dr. Carl Cowen, of Purdue University, will present “Connections between Mathematics and Biology.” Also, 26 short talks will be given by faculty and students from across the state.

Preceding the conference will be the annual Missouri Collegiate Mathematics Competition where teams of one to three undergraduate students will solve challenging mathematical problems. The competition will be held from 7-10 p.m. March 31 and 8-11 a.m. April 1 in the Blum Union. There will be approximately 25 teams from colleges and universities across Missouri.

“The competition is always very exciting,” said Dr. Sharon Vestal, assistant professor of mathematics.

All events are free and open to the community. For more information about the conference schedule, go to www.mwsc.edu/csmp/maams/schedule.html.

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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.