



News Release

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WESTERN ANNOUNCES FACULTY AND STAFF ACHIEVEMENTS

St. Joseph, Mo. —May 11, 2006—Missouri Western State University announces faculty and staff achievements:

- Dave Noah, electrician, received the District Award of Merit, the highest award a volunteer can receive, for his work with the Robidoux District of Boy Scouts of America. Only four volunteers received the award from a pool of 800 adult volunteers. Noah, scoutmaster for Troop 230 in St. Joseph, was recognized for his many dedicated years of service. He was also nominated by the leaders in his unit and received the “Spark Plug” award.
- Robin Findlay, associate professor of theatre, was asked to serve on the Performing Arts Association (PPA) Board. The mission of PAA is to provide a diverse selection of performing arts in the St. Joseph area by presenting programs which foster, increase and promote public knowledge and appreciation of music, theatre and dance and lectures on subjects of cultural interest.
- Dr. Patrick McMurry, professor of economics, has been elected executive vice president of the American Academy of Economic Experts. This is one of two national organizations dedicated to the promotion of forensic economics, which is the analysis of economic damages in litigation settings. Dr. McMurry has also been appointed to the Board of Editors of the *Journal of Legal Economics*.
- Dr. Michael Ducey Jr., assistant professor of chemistry, and Dr. Ben Caldwell, associate professor of chemistry, published “Characterization and Analysis of a Product (CAP): A Guided Inquiry Sequence of Instrumentally Based Experiments for Use in General Chemistry” in the March 2006 edition of the *International Center for First-Year Undergraduate Chemistry Education Quarterly*.

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- Dr. Steven Lorimor, associate professor of chemistry, co-authored an article entitled “Room Temperature Observation of p-Xylylenes by H NMR and Evidence for Diradical Intermediates in Their Oligomerization,” which appeared in the March 3, 2006 issue of the American Chemical Society’s *Journal of Organic Chemistry*. The article focuses on a means of preparing and studying a class of highly reactive organic molecules which are used in the preparation of a commercial plastic.
- William Church, professor of English, had a story, “The Refuge,” published in *Coal City Review*, Volume 21: March 2006.
- Lou Fowler, associate professor of accounting, had a manuscript entitled “Active Learning: A Study of The Use of Simulation Games in The Introductory Financial Accounting Class” accepted for publication in *The Academy of Educational Leadership Journal*.

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Missouri Western State University is a four-year public institution providing a blend of traditional liberal arts and professional degree programs. The university 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.