



News Release

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WESTERN HOSTS NATIVE AMERICAN DAY

St. Joseph, Mo. —March 28, 2006—Missouri Western State University will host the third annual Native American Days April 5 and 6. The theme this year is Sovereignty, Rights and Identities. Workshops and speaker presentations are free and open to the community.

Dr. Richmond Clow will give a keynote address at 1 p.m. April 5 in Leah Spratt Hall, room 203. His topic is “Water Rights of the Blackfeet.” Dr. Clow is the professor of Native American studies at the University of Montana. He has written or co-authored four books, and is currently on sabbatical completing a reference guide on sovereignty.

Gayl Edmunds will offer an interactive workshop, “Sovereignty: Walking the Red Road,” at 2:30 p.m. in Leah Spratt Hall, room 203. Edmunds spoke at last year’s Native American Day, and is the president and CEO of Professional Review Network, Inc., which specializes in alcohol and drug abuse rehabilitation and prevention. He is currently the director of Indian Alcoholism Treatment Services in Wichita, Kan. He also works extensively with incarcerated Native Americans.

Classroom visits are scheduled for the two guests in legal studies, education and social work.

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Page 2 of 3 – Native American Day

The agenda for April 5 and 6 is as follows:

April 5

- 9 a.m. Interview with D. Byron, student videographer, Western Library, Hearnes Center: “Sweatlodge Documentary: Native American Spirituality.”
- 11 a.m. Edmunds, Janet Gorman Murphy Hall 113 with Joanie Wallace, instructor of English.
- 1 p.m. Dr. Clow, keynote lecture, Spratt Hall, 203; “First in Time First in Use Unless You’re Blackfeet: Excluding the Tribe from St. Mary’s and Milk River’s Water Diversions, 1885-1921,” with discussion and question and answer to follow.
- 2:30 p.m. Edmunds, interactive workshop, Spratt Hall, 203
“Sovereignty: Walking the Red Road,” with discussion and question and answer to follow.
- 5 p.m. An informal dinner, welcoming our Native American guests to Western, at Boudreaux’s, 224 N. 4th St.

April 6

- 9:30 a.m. Edmunds, Truman E. Wilson Hall, 200A with Frederica Nix, instructor of criminal justice.
- 9:30 a.m. Dr. Clow, Janet Gorman Murphy Hall, 112, with Joanie Wallace, instructor of English.
- 11:40 a.m. Edmunds and Dr. Clow, Frank Popplewell Hall, 207, with Dr. Monica Nandan, associate professor of social work.
- 12:30 p.m. Dr. Clow and Edmunds, Janet Gorman Murphy Hall, 112, with Joanie Wallace, instructor of English.

For more information, contact Mark Hamilton, instructor of English,
at 816-271-4169 or at hamilmb@missouriwestern.edu.

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Page 3 of 3 – Native American Day

This event is sponsored by the co-curricular events committee; center for multicultural education; the nontraditional student center; the department of English, foreign languages and journalism; the Political Science Club; the honors club, and the Scribes and Muses student organization.

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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.