



News Release

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WESTERN BOARD OF GOVERNORS APPROVES RESOLUTION

St. Joseph, Mo. —Feb. 23, 2006—At the Missouri Western State University Board of Governors meeting today, the Board approved a resolution in support of Gov. Matt Blunt’s recent Lewis and Clark Discovery Initiative.

The Initiative involves the sale of some of the assets of the Missouri Higher Education Loan Authority (MOHELA). The proceeds from the sale would support higher education capital projects, including the expansion and renovation of Western’s Evan R. Agenstein Hall, which houses science and math classrooms and labs.

“The resolution affirms and supports the governor’s commitment to improving higher education in the state, specifically the funding of Western’s Agenstein Hall,” said Beth Wheeler, director of external relations. “The Board wants to be actively involved in the support of the Initiative.”

She noted that the Initiative would have an immediate and long-term impact, not only on Western students, but on the entire region.

—end—

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.

RESOLUTION
Concerning Lewis and Clark Discovery Initiative

WHEREAS, Governor Matt Blunt has announced the Lewis and Clark Discovery Initiative which would create a public-private partnership that will reap the maximum value from the sale of some of the assets of the Missouri Higher Education Loan Authority (MOHELA), and invest the proceeds to the benefit of Missouri higher education; and

WHEREAS, institutions of higher education in Missouri, including Missouri Western State University, have and will continue to have a significant contribution to make to the educational, cultural, and economic well-being of the State of Missouri; and

WHEREAS, Missouri Western State University and its students will directly benefit from the Lewis and Clark Discovery Initiative and such benefits would allow Missouri Western State University to continue to improve its contributions to the educational, cultural and economic development of the Northwest region of the State of Missouri, especially through the renovation and expansion of Agenstein Hall, which houses the University's science and mathematics programs; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Governors of Missouri Western State University believes it is in the best interest of Missouri Western State University, as well as all institutions of Missouri higher education, to support Governor Matt Blunt's Lewis and Clark Discovery Initiative.

NOW THEREFORE, Be it Resolved, that the Board of Governors of Missouri Western State University endorses Governor Matt Blunt's Lewis and Clark Discovery Initiative, which would create a public-private partnership that will reap the maximum value from the sale of the Missouri Higher Education Loan Authority (MOHELA), and invest the proceeds to the benefit of Missouri higher education.

Approved this 23rd day of February, 2006.

Carol Moya, Chairperson
Missouri Western State University
Board of Governors

ATTEST: _____
Karen Elifrits, Secretary
Missouri Western State University
Board of Governors