



News Release

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WESTERN HOLDS CONVOCATION AND ORIENTATION FOR NEW STUDENTS

St. Joseph, Mo. — Aug. 19, 2003 —The 2003 Missouri Western State College Student Convocation for new students will feature keynote speaker Dr. Will Keim, one of the nation's leading authorities on preparing new students for their college experience. It will be held at 5:30 p.m. Aug. 22 in the M.O. Looney Health, Physical Education and Recreation Building arena. The convocation serves as the last session of the three-day Griffon Edge, the new-student orientation program.

In addition to Dr. Keim, there will be brief speeches by Western President Dr. James Scanlon, administrators and Sylvester Brandon, president of the Student Government Association.

Dr. Keim received his bachelor's and master's degrees from University of the Pacific in Stockton, Calif. and his doctorate from Oregon State University in Corvallis. He was named Outstanding Professor of the Year at Oregon State University, has lectured at over 1,000 campuses and to over 2 million students. He has published many articles, books and videos.

The Griffon Edge program is designed to introduce new students to Western's facilities, services, activities, traditions and academic expectations. It also gives them a chance to get to know other new students.

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Session topics include computer usage, the Center for Academic Support, personal finances, student services, organizations, Western traditions and public safety.

The Griffon Edge also includes a Western Fair, where new students have the opportunity to learn about campus organizations.

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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.