



News Release

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WESTERN'S VP FOR INSTITUTIONAL ADVANCEMENT RETIRES

St. Joseph, Mo. —June 1, 2004—Dr. James Roever, Missouri Western State College's vice president for institutional advancement and executive director of the Western Foundation, will retire effective June 30. He joined Western in 1985 as the vice president for academic affairs, and assumed the institutional advancement role in 2002.

"I am pleased to have been granted the opportunity to participate in an institution that is so dedicated to students," said Dr. Roever. "It's been a privilege to work with students who are learning, developing and maturing, and to participate in the growth of the faculty and staff."

He noted that the college has changed significantly in the 19 years he has been here. "I watched the completion of the transition from St. Joseph Junior College to Missouri Western State College. The institution has matured in both programs and services."

Dr. Roever said one of his proudest accomplishments was to have served on the design team that produced the Leah Spratt Multipurpose Classroom Building. He noted that when it opened in 1998, it was the only building on campus with the advanced teaching technology. Since then, all campus building have been upgraded with state-of-the-art classroom teaching technology.

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In his role as vice president of academic affairs, Dr. Roever coordinated two campus-wide reviews by the North Central Association, both of which resulted in 10-year accreditation for Western. He also worked with teams to plan and develop additions to the Thompson E. Potter Fine Arts Center and the Warren E. Hearnnes Learning Resource Center.

Dr. Roever became executive director of the Foundation and vice president for institutional advancement when Dr. James McCarthy retired from that position. Institutional advancement offices include public relations and marketing, alumni services, campus printing services and development. “We have put together a team of spirited and dedicated individuals who have assumed the responsibility of putting forward to the public the strengths of Western,” Dr. Roever said. “It is a real pleasure to end a 19-year career at Western with such a great team.”

Dr. Roever said he has no definite plans for retirement, although he wants to continue volunteering for the arts in the community. He and his wife, Carol, associate professor of business at Western, plan to stay in St. Joseph. “I’ve been pleased and honored not only to be a part of the college, but the community. We have made this our home and plan to continue to do so.”

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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.