



News Release

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WESTERN BOARD OF REGENTS HOLDS LAST MEETING OF FISCAL YEAR

St. Joseph, Mo. —June 24, 2005—At the last meeting of the fiscal year, Western’s Board of Regents approved the operating budget and heard updates on a variety of initiatives on campus. The Board of Regents approved a \$41.7 million operating budget for the next fiscal year. This is a \$1.1 million increase over the \$40.6 million budget approved for last year, said Ron Olinger, vice president for financial planning and administration.

“The budget plan outlined will produce a balanced budget for the next fiscal year. It keeps the faith with Western’s mission in serving students, the community and the region,” said Dr. James Scanlon, Western’s president.

Western received the same level of state appropriations, about \$20.1 million, as last year. The approved budget plan includes \$146 per credit hour tuition for next fiscal year. This constitutes no increase in tuition from the current year. “Western is committed to ensuring quality education at the best value possible – affordable excellence. In fact for the third year, Western students will pay the same core tuition,” said Dr. Scanlon.

The Regents also approved an \$8.3 million auxiliary budget. According to Olinger, the increase reflects the costs associated with the new residential hall that will open on campus this fall. Designed to foster connections between academic and residential life, the new hall reflects the newest trends in campus living. It will be open to a mix of students from freshmen through seniors.

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Dr. Scanlon noted that this year is a time of transition and celebration for Western as 2005 is the 90th anniversary of the institution and the year Western becomes a university. As part of the transition, Regents approved the change in the names of the School of Liberal Arts and the School of Professional Studies to the College of Liberal Arts and the College of Professional Studies. This reflects trends of universities across the country.

With Dr. David Arnold, vice president for academic and student affairs, assuming the presidency at Eureka College in Illinois on July 1, Dr. Scanlon reported that a national search will begin in late August. He said he expects a successor will be in place January 2006 or as soon as possible thereafter.

In the interim, Dr. Jeanne Daffron, assistant vice president for academic and student affairs, will assume the additional responsibilities of acting vice president. Also in the interim Dr. Paul Shang, dean of student development, will assume the additional responsibilities of acting assistant vice president for student affairs.

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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.