



News Release

Missouri Western State University • 4525 Downs Drive • St. Joseph, MO 64507 • 816-271-5649

Contact: Kristy Hill

Phone: (816)-271-5649

Title: Public Relations/Marketing Director

Email: hillk@missouriwestern.edu

WESTERN ANNOUNCES FACULTY AND STAFF ACHIEVEMENTS

St. Joseph, Mo. —Aug. 25, 2006— Missouri Western State University announces faculty and staff achievements:

- Dr. Brenda Blessing was selected to receive the 2006 Award of Distinction from The Ohio State University PAES Alumni Society. The award is presented to alumni who have achieved national or international distinction in his/her field of endeavor. Dr. Blessing was nominated by the school of physical activities and educational services, formerly the school of health, education and recreation.
- Marsha Dolan, associate professor of nursing and coordinator of the health information technology program, is the president of the Missouri Health Information Management Association. Under her direction, the Missouri chapter was awarded first place in the diversity programs category in the development and implementation of the second annual American Health Information Management Association's Core Service Achievement Awards.
- Dr. Todd Eckdahl, professor of biology and department chair, received the Beta Beta Beta (National Biology Honor Society) Yokley Faculty Service Award for 2006 for his outstanding service and leadership to Western's chapter and chapters in Missouri, Nebraska and Kansas.
- Dr. Ann Thorne's article, "Developing a Personal Style: Janet Flanner's Literary Journalism," has been published in *American Journalism: A Journal of Media History*.

—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.