



# News Release

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## **CBHE RECOMMENDS STATE APPROPRIATION INCREASE FOR HIGHER EDUCATION**

**St. Joseph, Mo.** —Oct. 30, 2006—The state’s appropriation for Missouri Western State University’s annual operating budget for Fiscal Year 2008 would increase to \$24,680,898 if the Coordinating Board for Higher Education’s (CBHE) budget request to Gov. Matt Blunt is approved. This is according to the report given by Western’s president, Dr. James Scanlon, at the Board of Governors meeting Oct. 26.

Dr. Scanlon told the board that the CBHE met on Oct. 12 and approved its Recommended FY 2008 State Appropriations for Higher Education Institutions, and that the recommended appropriations includes the \$24,680,898 for Western. This is an increase of \$3,483,406 over the university’s current appropriation of \$21,197,492.

The total recommended appropriation for the state’s public four-year institutions (nine regional universities and the University of Missouri System) is \$829,318,166. The appropriation for the current year is \$736,576,881. The recommendation also includes \$157,622,287 for public two-year institutions for a grand total of \$986,940,453.

“It is reassuring to know that the need to address higher education funding in Missouri is being acknowledged,” Dr. Scanlon said. “Since 2002 there have been several cuts in our core budget to the point that it had been reduced to the 1999 level. This year, Gov. Blunt’s budget provided an increase of two percent over FY 2006. Should the CBHE’s recommendation for FY 2008 be approved, FY 2008 will be the first time that our budget has returned to, even exceeded, the FY 2002 level.”

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