



# News Release

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## WESTERN ANNOUNCES FACULTY AND STAFF ACHIEVEMENTS

**St. Joseph, Mo.** —Jan. 12, 2007— Missouri Western State University announces recent achievements of its faculty and staff:

- Dr. Matrese Benkofske, assistant professor of business, had an invited book chapter entitled *Program Evaluation* accepted for publication in Heppner, P.P., Kivlighan, D.M., Jr., & Wampold, B.E. (2008).
- Teresa Harris, assistant professor of art, had three works chosen for inclusion in the national juried 12th biennial “Oklahoma: Centerfold.” There were 45 works by 29 national artists selected and over 500 entries received. The exhibition will be held at the Leslie Powell Gallery in Lawton, Okla. and the University of Arts and Sciences in Chickasha, Okla.
- Dr. Jinwen Zhu, assistant professor of engineering technology, and Dr. Virendra Varma, professor and chair of engineering technology, co-authored a paper, “Charting a Pathway for Nanotechnology in Engineering Technology Education” for the 2006 International Journal of Modern Engineering (IJME) Conference held at The Kean University in New Jersey. Dr. Zhu presented the paper, and the paper was published in the conference proceedings.

The music department hosted a total of 32 bands involving more than 3,000 people on campus for their two annual fall competitions. Thirteen bands participated in the annual Homecoming parade and marching competition. Bob Long, assistant professor of music, assisted by the music faculty and students, organized the high school band portion of the event. The Grand Champion trophy was awarded for the second year to Belton High School, directed by Chris Sullivan. First place in each category was Stewartsville, North Platte, Cameron and Benton High Schools, respectively. Nineteen bands competed in the Tournament of Champions, which is an invitational field

competition, directed by Jeffrey Hinton, assistant professor of music and director of bands. Grand Champion was Grandview High School with Macon, North Kansas City, Park Hill and Olathe South High Schools all placing first in their respective divisions.

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*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.*