



News Release

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WESTERN RECEIVES \$2.5 MILLION TO BUILD INNOVATION INCUBATOR

St. Joseph, Mo. —Nov. 3, 2006— Missouri Western State University received notification from Sen. Kit Bond’s office that the U.S. Economic Development Administration has awarded Western a \$2.5 million grant to construct an innovation incubator on the west side of campus.

“Building this incubator will spur economic development in the region. As a developing prototype of the ‘New American Regional University,’ Western is an active partner in the economic growth of the region,” said Dr. James Scanlon, Western’s president.

The incubator will provide facilities and assistance for new high-technology companies. It will help foster high-technology firms that pay high wages to locate here, according to Dr. Chris Shove, dean of the Western Institute.

The innovation incubator is planned to be a two-story, 25,000 square foot building. Initially only the first floor, 12,500 feet of the total 25,000 feet, will be completed. The second floor will remain in reserve for more firms and research. Ellison-Auxier, teamed with HOK of St. Louis, are the architects for the project. The project will be bid this winter with construction anticipated to begin in early spring and the construction completed by late 2007.

The innovation incubator is designed to accommodate up to 15 firms of a few persons each. Its flexible plan will accommodate a few large firms requiring larger spaces. The incubator will be operated by the Western Institute and offer a laboratory, conference room, operation offices, tenant spaces and capacity for a wet laboratory.

The planning for this project began in July 2004. Much of the analysis and planning for this incubator was done by Western students from biology and business.

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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.