



News Release

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WESTERN VICE PRESIDENT ACCEPTS PRESIDENCY AT EUREKA COLLEGE

St. Joseph, Mo. —May 19, 2005—Dr. J. David Arnold, vice president for academic and student affairs at Missouri Western State College, has accepted a position as president of Eureka College, Eureka, Ill. Dr. Arnold will begin his position in July.

“Dr. Arnold has worked tirelessly for the good of students and Missouri Western for the past three years. He is highly regarded in our profession,” said Dr. James Scanlon, Western’s president. “During his time here, he has helped Western to emerge as a university well focused on learning outcomes for students, professional development and recognition for faculty, and service to the regional and professional communities. We wish him every success as president of Eureka College.”

Dr. Arnold joined Western as vice president in July 2002. He has been actively involved in Western’s five-year strategic plan. Under his direction, academic and student affairs were united, forging stronger connections between campus life and academics.

Dr. Arnold played a large role in Western’s Foundations of Excellence project, where Western is one of 12 public institutions in the nation developing a blueprint for programs for first-year students. He also supported sending a faculty team to the National Learning Community Project Summer Institute in 2003. Subsequently, Western’s learning community team has established 13 learning communities, where students take classes and study together, and often live together in the residence halls.

Dr. Arnold was actively involved in the American Democracy Project, Western’s initiative to develop students as citizen-scholars. As part of strategic planning, he co-chaired the team that worked to create a comprehensive enrollment management plan for Western.

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“Dr. Scanlon lead a highly successful and participatory strategic planning process that set the stage for the launch of so many initiatives once I arrived in 2002 as Western’s first vice president for both academic and student affairs,” said Dr. Arnold. “All of the noteworthy accomplishments during my tenure at Western were collaborative efforts between faculty, staff, and administration. I am so pleased that Western has so many national affiliations that designate excellence in student development, such as the National Learning Community Project, the American Democracy Project, Foundations of Excellence, and the Academic Quality Improvement Program—these are truly campus-wide achievements.”

Dr. Arnold formerly was provost at St. John Fisher College in Rochester, N.Y., and a dean and grants officer at Clarion University in Clarion, Pa. He was selected as a National Learning Communities Project Fellow for 2000-2004 for his work in creating coherent living-learning opportunities for students.

He began his academic career teaching psychology at St. Lawrence University, Canton, N.Y., where he was awarded tenure and promoted to associate professor and dean for faculty affairs.

Dr. Arnold received a bachelor’s degree in psychology from Bloomsburg University in Bloomsburg, Pa. He received a master’s degree and a Ph.D. in social psychology from the University of New Hampshire. He completed post-doctoral studies at the Institute for Educational Management at Harvard University in 1996.

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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.