



# News Release

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## WESTERN ALUMNI, STUDENTS THANK LEGISLATORS

**St. Joseph, Mo.** —March 17, 2005—Alumni and students from Missouri Western State College will converge on the Missouri Capitol later this month, not to seek some new law, but to thank legislators for something they have already accomplished.

“At the Capitol Day” will be March 30 in Jefferson City, expressing appreciation for new legislation elevating Western from college to university status. All Western alumni are invited to participate.

“This is a good opportunity for alumni and students to thank our legislators for the work they have done in helping us to attain university status,” pointed out Julie Fiedler, director of alumni services at Western.

Alumni and students will meet at 10 a.m. March 30 in hearing room 3 at the Capitol. Lunch will be at 11:30 a.m., and “thank you” gifts will be presented to legislators at 12:30 p.m. Later there will be group recognition in the Senate and/or House, followed by an alumni reception at 5 p.m. at Madison’s Café, 216 Madison St.

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The law designating Western as a university becomes effective Aug. 28. The bill was approved by the Missouri Legislature March 1 and signed by Gov. Matt Blunt March 17.

Dr. James Scanlon, Western’s president, pointed out that university status will provide many benefits for students and the region that Western serves. He said the designation will make Western a stronger partner in the economic development of the region.

Reservations for “At the Capitol Day” and/or the alumni reception should be made by March 23 by calling 816-271-5646, or e-mailing [mwalumni@mwsc.edu](mailto:mwalumni@mwsc.edu).

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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.*