

Preserving Gold

Missouri Western History 1983-2015



Diane Holtz

PRESERVING GOLD:

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Missouri Western State University

ST. JOSEPH, MO

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FORWARD

Shortly after Missouri Western's president, M.O. Looney, announced his retirement effective June 30, 1983, he asked Frances Flanagan, recently retired English professor, to write the College's history from its beginning as St. Joseph Junior College in 1915 to the present. Flanagan complied, and "Missouri Western State College A History 1915-1983" was the result of her research and work.

In 2008, when Flanagan's book was 25 years old, several people on campus began to talk about the possibility of recording the history of the institution from 1983 forward. In 2009, Library Director Julia Schneider received a Strategic Planning Implementation Fund grant from the University to coordinate the project. Diane Holtz, editor of the University's magazine, agreed to conduct the research and record the history from 1983 to 2015.

1983-1989

“Every college requires a period of adjustment, maturation and growth. Missouri Western has gone through this period and has finally reached collegiate adulthood. Even with adults, however, there is always room for improvement. Western is constantly bettering itself.” – Griffon Yearbook, 1983.

1983 – A SNAPSHOT

In 1983, the community of St. Joseph and the surrounding region could proudly boast of Missouri Western State College: a beautiful 744-acre campus east of Interstate 29 offering not only a high-quality education for its students, but wonderful facilities, wooded areas, ponds, nature trails and fertile farm ground. Seventeen years earlier, in 1966, residents in parts of Andrew, Buchanan, Clay, Clinton and Platte counties had voted to fund a new campus for Missouri Western, and that institution had not disappointed its supporters in the time since.

As the cold winter winds were blowing across campus in January 1983, 4,063 students began the spring semester. They made their way to classes that were held in six buildings: the Evan R. Agenstein Science and Math (SM) Building; the Agriculture and Engineering Technology Building; Fred Eder Student Services/Classroom (SS/C) Building; the Health, Physical Education and Recreation (HPER) Building; the Thompson E. Potter Fine Arts (FA) Center; and the Frank Popplewell Classroom and Administration (A) Building. Because the Potter FA Center didn't have the space, ceramics classes were held in a farmhouse on the east side of campus, off of 50th Street, and spring rains could always be counted on to bring leaking walls and a muddy road leading up to the house with an occasional snake inside.

At its April 1983 meeting, the Board of Regents voted to honor former State Sen. Truman E. Wilson and Missouri Western President M.O. Looney by naming the Truman E. Wilson Agriculture and Engineering Technology Building and the M.O. Looney Health, Physical Education and Recreation Building.

Wilson was recognized because of his support of legislation that provided capital and operational funding to the College, for his leadership in the transfer of 330 acres of state property to Missouri Western in 1972 and for his support which resulted in the state's full-funding bill in 1977.

Looney was honored with the naming before he left Missouri Western at the end of June.

The campus also contained the Nelle Blum College Center (renamed the Nelle Blum Student Union (SU) in 1984), the Warren E. Hearnnes Learning Resources Center (LRC) and three residence halls, known as the 100s, 200s and 400s.

Students and employees in 1983 could have their vehicles repaired for free by Department of Automotive Technology students.

Also in 1983, Missouri Western contained a Department of Agriculture and a working farm. Located on the north side of campus, the farm included 440 acres and several buildings. The department even had a cow named Alfie that year that had a plastic window surgically implanted in its stomach wall so students could observe its digestive process.

In the fall of 1983, more than 85 percent of the students commuted to campus, with 589 students living in the three residence halls.

The College also had a well-developed study abroad program, and that year, students traveled to France, Israel and Mexico.

A half-mile nature trail on campus was in the works, and a footpath under the interstate connected the east and west campus (this was filled in in 1989). A skeet and trap range opened on the west campus in the spring of 1983. A fountain graced the center of campus and a reflecting pool was in front of the Eder SS/C Building.

In early 1983, students found both a remodeled space and a new place to gather on campus. A residence hall recreation center in the 100s building opened, with Ms. PacMan® and Donkey Kong® video games and two pinball machines.

The Griffon Place gathering space, with two levels on the first floor of the Blum College Center, was remodeled. The lower level was called the “Lion’s Den,” and the upper level, about three or four feet higher, “Eagle’s Nest” (Looney’s suggestions). There was new furniture and an upgraded menu, and a big-screen TV and a videocassette recorder would be added in the spring of 1984. Pool tables and pinball machines were moved upstairs from the basement “Rathskeller,” which was converted into a four-room conference center.

Students in 1983 could also grab a snack in the Griffon Den, a small, enclosed area with a coffee shop atmosphere that was next to the cafeteria on the first floor of the Blum College Center.

That year, there were 44 clubs and organizations for students and a lot of choices of intramural teams to join in the spring and fall, such as basketball, beach volleyball and track. There was also an intramural all-nighter for students.

By 1983, Missouri Western had an official *alma mater*, thanks to music faculty member Mike Mathews, who wrote the music, and senior Darryl McDermott, whose lyrics won a contest. The *alma mater* had been sung for the first time at the 1982 Homecoming.

Athletic teams in 1983 included football, volleyball, baseball, softball, men’s golf, women’s tennis, and men’s and women’s basketball.

As the spring sports season got underway, the softball team, in its eighth season, was hoping for a repeat of its 1982 national championship under Coach Rhesa Sumrell. It did win the District 16 championship to qualify for the national championship for the second year in a row, but it did not repeat its 1982 top win. The softball team practiced and played its home games at Walnut Park, located at Stockyards Expressway and Fourth Street in St. Joseph, since there was no field on campus. The baseball team practiced and played its home games at Phil Welch Stadium in St. Joseph.

Harold Slater, retired city editor of the St. Joseph News-Press, was the keynote speaker at the 14th annual commencement breakfast in 1983. A reception honoring the approximately 500 graduates was held in the afternoon in the Nelle Blum College Center, and Looney gave the commencement address at the 7 p.m. ceremony.

June 30, 1983 was Looney's last day as president of Missouri Western. During his 16 years, he had transformed the two-year Junior College to a four-year college in 1969 and then secured full funding from the state in 1977. Looney oversaw the move from the downtown campus at 10th and Edmond to land east of Interstate 29, and he was responsible for the construction of 11 campus buildings. Under his tenure, the North Central Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools also removed Missouri Western from academic probation. In the time Looney was president, Missouri Western was known as Missouri Western Junior College, Missouri Western College and Missouri Western State College.

In an article about his departure in the May 1983 issue of the Alumnews alumni newsletter, Looney said, "We have made an excellent beginning at Missouri Western State College, and I am confident that the people of St. Joseph and the citizens of Missouri will go forward with enthusiasm to meet the challenges that lie ahead."

On July 1, 1983, Janet Gorman Murphy began her term as president.

That fall, the volleyball team earned the Central States Intercollegiate Conference title and played in the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics national tournament for the third consecutive year.

In 1983, Spratt Memorial Stadium, home of the Griffon football team, was just four years old. Games had to be played during the day, as there were no lights in the stadium.

After a 2-4 start to their 1983 season, 30 football players shaved their heads hoping to turn their record around. Two weeks later, when the Griffons came into the game as 21-point underdogs against nationally ranked Missouri Southern and beat the Lions 17-10, the players shaved Coach Rob Hicklin's head.

The Homecoming theme that year was Fairyland and Nursery Rhymes, and the Griffons played the University of Nebraska-Kearney Antelopes. One of the more clever Homecoming signs read, "Mother Goose the Antelopes!" Unfortunately, the Griffons lost the Homecoming game 28-14.

As the fall semester drew to a close, the Department of Music hosted its annual Madrigal Feast, and students took their finals and embarked on a well-deserved semester break.

OVERVIEW

The years 1983 through 1989 saw a new president, the reorganization of several departments, both academic and administrative; the accreditation of several programs; the gain and loss of new academic programs; one building addition; a campus daycare center; and an explosion of computers and new technology on campus.

Those years also marked an important milestone in the College's history and its relationship to the community – in 1987, the two bonds that the district had voted in to build the original buildings on the campus and Eder SS/C Building were paid off and ceremoniously burned.

ADMINISTRATION

“When Dr. Murphy came, we were still developing as a college, but she brought us a long way. She had a lot of kinks to work out. Dr. Murphy and Dr. McCarthy did some great things together.”
– John Rushin, biology faculty member, in a 2010 interview.

JANET GORMAN MURPHY

Missouri Western began its search for a new president shortly after President Looney announced his resignation June 30, 1982, to be effective one year later.

After three presidential candidates visited campus, it was announced on Feb. 24, 1983 that Janet Gorman Murphy would be the new president, effective July 1. Hiring her gave Missouri Western the distinction of being the first four-year college in Missouri to have a female president.

In the fall of 1982, about 10 months after the president’s home on campus had been destroyed by fire, the Board of Regents voted not to rebuild a home, but instead to offer a housing allowance to the College president. Murphy purchased a home in the Stonecrest subdivision in St. Joseph shortly after she became president.

Murphy had been president of Lyndon State College in Lyndonville, Vermont since 1977. Prior to that, she had served 13 years in several positions with the Massachusetts State College System. She earned a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science from the University of Massachusetts, a Master of Education in Educational Administration from Boston University, and a Doctorate of Education in Higher Education Administration from the University of Massachusetts.

After she arrived on campus, she faced opposition both on campus and in the community. Her office soon became decorated with witches, as some people referred to her, perhaps not so affectionately, as “the wicked witch of the East.”

“What I didn’t realize was that I was from the East and people in the Midwest have definite ideas about people on the coasts,” Murphy said in an interview after she retired. “It was something I had to work on. They (East Coast and Midwest people) are definitely different.”

“It was a big deal with her being a woman and being from the East. She had a rough time at first,” Dorothy Miriani, a counselor who later became director of the counseling center, said of Murphy in an interview. “She was a loving, sensitive person, but she didn’t get to show it much.”

In the 30th anniversary booklet that was published at the time of her retirement, Murphy related that Francis Kessler, political science faculty member and a member of the presidential search committee, drove her to the Kansas City International Airport after her campus visit and interview. “He

stated he enjoyed meeting me, but it would be the last time he would see me since he didn't believe the board would select a woman. We had a friendly bet of \$5. I still have Dr. Kessler's check," she said in the article.

"Janet came to work every day with the success of students in mind," said Patt Lilly, who served on the Board of Regents when she was president.

Murphy said when she was hired, the Board of Regents gave her three charges: enhance the academic image of the College, secure a four-year nursing degree program, and raise money. By all accounts, she succeeded in achieving all three goals.

In order to enhance Missouri Western's image, Murphy directed all academic departments that had an accrediting association to work on getting national accreditation. During her tenure, several achieved that goal. Most importantly, in 1990, the institution was granted a 10-year re-accreditation by the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools. The re-accreditation was granted for the maximum number of years allowed, and with no stipulations.

She also raised several program admission requirements, and she stiffened graduation requirements.

Shortly before Murphy arrived, the College had been denied a four-year nursing program by the Coordinating Board for Higher Education. "The Board (of Regents) was emphatic that we get a four-year nursing degree," she said in an interview after she retired. "They didn't like being denied." She accomplished that within three years.

And the "raise money" goal? In 1983, the Missouri Western Foundation held \$487,209 in assets. When she retired in 2000, assets were more than \$14.8 million. In fact, in 1988, the College received \$1 million from the David R. Bradley estate, the largest gift it had ever received.

At a Southside Rotary Club meeting in the fall of 1983, Murphy mentioned some of her additional goals for Missouri Western: continue the College's open admissions policy, continue to emphasize high standards, streamline the administration so more money would be available for teaching and equipment, introduce computer programming to all students, provide students and guests better parking facilities and eliminate parking problems, publicize political issues involved in allocations and state funds, and promote student involvement in campus activities.

These were all accomplished with varying degrees of success, although students would probably have argued that the parking problems were never really solved.

During her tenure at Missouri Western, Murphy served on a number of local, state and national boards. In 1987, she was named chair of the Committee on Undergraduate Education for the American Association of State Colleges and Universities. The next year, she was named to the American Council on Education's Commission on Governmental Relations for a four-year term.

And in 1989, Murphy was named to the Coordinating Board for Higher Education's task force on Telecommunications Policy and president of Missouri's Council on Public Higher Education. Additionally, she served on the steering committee for Missourians for Higher Education. Locally, St. Joseph Mayor Glenda Kelly appointed Murphy to the Land Development Authority in 1989 to plan for business development in an industrial park in St. Joseph.

VICE PRESIDENTS

One of Murphy's first changes as Missouri Western's president was to realign the administration. When she arrived on campus, four administrative positions reported directly to the president: Provost (who also served as Vice President of Academic Affairs), Vice President for Development, Vice President for Business Affairs, and Vice President of Student Affairs.

Murphy's plan included changing the Provost position to Vice President for Academic Affairs and eliminating the positions of Vice President of Student Affairs and Vice President for Development to create a new position – Executive Vice President. In August 1983, the Board of Regents approved the new position, and a national search began.

James McCarthy, who had worked with President Murphy at Lyndon State College, was hired as the new Executive Vice President and began working Dec. 1, 1983. As the executive vice president, McCarthy supervised Alumni Affairs, Auxiliary Services, College Relations, Development, Health Services, Institutional Research, Placement and Off-campus Services, Publications, Security, and Student Affairs. He was also the Executive Director of the Foundation and liaison to the Alumni Association.

Robert Nelson had been promoted from Vice President of Academic Affairs to Provost by President Looney in July 1982. However, his contract was not renewed in February 1984. James Roevers replaced Nelson as the Vice President of Academic Affairs in July 1985 and served Missouri Western until he retired in 2004.

George Richmond, Vice President for Development, retired in June 1984, and his duties were absorbed by McCarthy. Nolen Morrison, Vice President of Student Affairs, announced his resignation in September 1983, effective the following June, but he died in December 1983.

Ken Hawk, Vice President of Administrative Affairs, resigned his vice presidential position in 1984 and began teaching in the Department of Business and Economics. Robert Showers was named his replacement, and Earl Milton replaced Showers in 1989.

DEANS

Robert Scott served as the dean of Liberal Arts and Sciences until 1982 when he became the dean of Continuing Education. He served as the Continuing Education dean until Ed Gorsky was hired in 1986. Elizabeth Latosi-Sawin became acting Liberal Arts and Sciences dean and held the position for a year until William Nunez began his duties in July 1983.

Charles Coyne was the dean of Education and Applied Sciences, which covered the Education; Health, Physical Education and Recreation; and Psychology departments. Steve Capelli was the dean of the Division of Career Programs, which covered the vocational and technical programs. When Capelli left in 1984, Coyne took over his responsibilities and his title changed to dean of Professional Studies.

Forrest Hoff became dean of students in 1971 and remained dean until 2000. Helen Wigersma served as the dean of the Hearn's LRC throughout the 1980s, and her responsibilities included Career Planning and Placement, Counseling, the Learning Skills Center, the library and Women's Studies. She left in 1990 after 24 years of service.

STUDENT REGENT

In the fall of 1984, Missouri Gov. John Ashcroft signed a law to allow a student representative on the boards of higher education institutions in the state, and Robert J. Claassen II was appointed to serve on Missouri Western's Board of Regents. Ashcroft appointed Claassen for a one-year term that expired in January 1986, but subsequent student regents were appointed for two-year terms.

"I think it's a great step to make things more cohesive between students and regents," said Claassen, a sophomore chemistry and agronomy major, in an article in the St. Joseph News-Press. "I can see things from a student viewpoint that the regents may not think of, and they have shown me some things from their viewpoint."

The student regent could attend all meetings and participate in discussions, but was not allowed to vote or sit in on closed executive sessions.

A listing of student regents and student governors is in Appendix A. (When Missouri Western became a university in 2005, the board's name was changed to Board of Governors.)

ACADEMICS

“Missouri Western was a junior college for 50 years. We’ve worked hard trying to establish ourselves as a four-year college, but people still sometimes think of us as a junior college. It’s going to take time.” – George Richmond, Vice President for Development, Griffon News, Feb. 17, 1983.

OVERVIEW

Throughout her 17 years as president, President Murphy continually worked to improve the academic quality and reputation of the College. She never wavered in her support of the open admissions policy, but she wanted to ensure that those who graduated had truly earned their degrees.

One way Murphy went about enhancing the reputation of the College was to see that academic departments worked to attain accreditation from national accrediting bodies. By 1986, six programs were accredited: chemistry by the American Chemical Society (1982), music by the National Association of Schools of Music (1984), nursing by the National League of Nursing (1985 - two-year program), social work by the Council on Social Work Education (1979), teacher education by the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education (1974) and the lawyer’s assistant program by the American Bar Association (1986).

In 1985, after a several-months long study, the Board of Regents also approved of Murphy’s plan to stiffen graduation requirements in several programs.

“Educational quality is what it’s all about,” she said in a St. Joseph News-Press article about the more rigorous requirements. “Everyone who holds a Missouri Western degree must feel that it is a valuable credential. There have to be standards if we are going to view getting a degree as worthy of taxpayer support, especially in a time of tight dollars.”

The counseling area had been advising students who had not yet declared a major, but Murphy wanted faculty to advise students. So by the fall of 1985, every student had a faculty advisor. She also changed the policy and now required students to declare a major by the time they were juniors.

With funding from a federal grant, a Small Business Development Center was established on campus to aid area small businesses in 1985. The center was a joint venture between Missouri Western and Northwest Missouri State University, and the two institutions shared grant funds and a director, Dale Maudlin.

Another avenue to stress the importance of academic excellence occurred in 1985, when the first Honors Convocations for both Liberal Arts and Sciences and Professional Studies were held. More than 100 students were honored.

Additionally, in 1986, awards were established to recognize outstanding faculty and staff. When James Mehl, longtime faculty member and chair of the Department of Communication Studies, Theatre and Humanities, died in 1998, the James Mehl Outstanding Faculty Scholar Award was established in his memory. The first recipient was Jinchang Wang in 1999. Faculty and staff award recipients are listed in Appendix B.

An Academic Affairs Roundtable began in the fall of 1987, and several lectures by professors were held over the years as part of the roundtable.

Missouri Western also began requiring all graduating seniors and incoming freshmen to take the tests for the ACT-College Outcomes Measure Program in an effort to give the College a better way to assess its academic programs.

By 1989, several area universities were offering graduate programs on Missouri Western's campus: Northwest Missouri State University, Central Missouri State University, Iowa State University, Kansas State University, University of Missouri-Columbia and University of Missouri-Kansas City. Although some of the courses were offered through telecommunications, most were taught on campus by instructors from the contracted universities.

AGRICULTURE PROGRAM

In almost every discussion of Missouri Western's history, there's a good chance its agriculture program will enter into the conversation. The agriculture program was not eliminated until 1992, but many believe the beginning of the end may have happened in 1984.

Missouri Western's agriculture program began in 1969 as a two-year program. By 1983, there were 150 students in the program and a four-year degree with four emphases. The farm on the north side of campus included 202 acres for crops and 238 acres for livestock production and research, a house, sheep barn, repair shed, hay barn, cattle shed, implement building and project shed. The program offered many research opportunities for the students, and many of their results were published.

Every year, the agriculture program hosted several events: an Ag Olympics for the college students, a livestock-judging contest for high school students and a Farmers Field Day for area farmers. The department operated a soil-testing lab for area farmers, too. There was a student group, the Association of Young Agronomists, and an Agriculture Alumni Association, the first department to have an alumni group.

Because of declining state support for higher education, the Coordinating Board for Higher Education studied program duplications across the state, and in September 1984, it recommended terminating the agriculture program at Missouri Western and three other state institutions by the end of 1986.

Thousands of bumper stickers showed up on cars all over the community that read, "Agriculture Belongs – Missouri Western." Gov. John Ashcroft even publicly supported retaining Missouri

Western's agriculture program, and M.O. Looney, former Missouri Western president, voiced his support for the program in a St. Joseph News-Press article.

In the Griffon News, student staff writer Bill Church, who later became a Missouri Western English instructor, wrote an editorial in support of the agriculture program. "If we, as students and faculty, sit contentedly on our apathetic haunches and watch our ag dept. taken away without a fight, where will the coordinating board begin their search next time they need a college to whack away at?"

On Oct. 17, 1984, a public hearing with the Board of Regents discussed the termination. More than 500 people from the campus and community, including many alumni and area legislators, attended the meeting in the Potter FA Theater in support of the program.

The Student Government Association expressed their support of the program, the St. Joseph City Council and Chamber of Commerce passed resolutions in support of the program, and several area legislators spoke at the meeting supporting it. At times, the discussion became heated.

The issue wasn't resolved until 1985, when an agreement was reached between Missouri Western and Northwest Missouri State University in Maryville, and the Coordinating Board rescinded its recommendation for closure. Among the provisions of the agreement, Missouri Western agreed to discontinue its agriculture associate degrees and its animal science and agronomy emphases of the bachelor's degree. The College would continue to offer its four-year Bachelor of Science degree with general science and agribusiness emphases. Several other emphases were also dropped from other degree programs at Missouri Western as part of the agreement.

At the same time, Northwest agreed to eliminate its four-year nursing program so one could be developed at Missouri Western. Northwest also agreed to eliminate some of its bachelor of science in education programs.

So the agriculture program was safe for now. However, many believe that the threat of closing the program in 1984 led to low enrollment numbers in the years that followed, which eventually led to its elimination in the 1990s.

HONORS PROGRAM

Another effective move in raising the College's academic reputation was the development of an honors program, which began with 45 students in the fall of 1988. Gerald Zweerink, chemistry faculty member, became the program's first director.

The program, which had been in the works for almost three years, was the result of cooperation between all academic departments. Students were offered General Studies Honors, Majors Honors and Interdisciplinary Honors, along with an honors colloquium, which was a two-credit hour seminar experience.

"This is a program which enables the institution to make an academic statement about itself. We have grown academically, and we absolutely need an honors program here at Missouri Western," said William Nunez III, dean of Liberal Arts and Sciences, in a Griffon News article.

Students in the honors program were eligible for the President's and Regents' academic scholarships, and a new scholarship program was developed and funded by the Foundation specifically for honors students. Renewable Insignis Scholarships for five honors students covered tuition, books and room and board.

MERGER TALKS

Another topic of the College's history that is often discussed is a merger of Missouri Western and Northwest Missouri State University in Maryville. It had been raised off and on before 1983, but that year seemed to spark a flurry of activity on campus and an abundance of newspaper articles about the issue.

In early 1983, Missouri Western learned that the Coordinating Board for Higher Education was considering a possible merger between the two institutions as part of its Master Plan III for higher education in the state.

At Missouri Western's February Board of Regents meeting, the board authorized Board President Stanley Dale to form a 50-member task force of campus and community members to study the educational and financial implications of a merger. Northwest suggested that the two institutions conduct a joint study, but Dale disagreed. In a St. Joseph News-Press article, Dale said Missouri Western's board was "not interested in Missouri Western being relegated to a two-year technical/vocational school, and that, of course, is what we are fearful of."

The first meeting of the task force was in July. Shortly after that meeting, the chair of the Coordinating Board said no one was discussing a merger, but in a November St. Joseph News-Press article, State Sen. Roger Wilson said merging was the only solution to the budget problem.

The task force submitted its impact report in March 1984, and it purposely left out two things: one, any mention of Northwest, and two, anything negative.

The "M" word re-emerged in late 1984, when the idea appeared on a list of recommendations from the Coordinating Board, but it was only on a list of several staff suggestions and not a serious proposal from the board. By this time, Missouri Western and Northwest had been engaging in discussions about program duplications because of the talk of eliminating the agriculture program and Missouri Western's push for a baccalaureate degree for nursing.

After that, talk of a merger died down, and wasn't brought up again by either the Coordinating Board or Legislature for several years.

NURSING PROGRAM

Missouri Western received approval from the Coordinating Board for Higher Education in 1986 to begin a four-year Bachelor of Science in Nursing.

The College began its original nursing program when it admitted 15 students into an associate degree program for nursing in the fall of 1971. By 1980, the department had received numerous requests from registered nurses to offer a four-year, Bachelor of Science in Nursing, so the College developed a curriculum and submitted a request to the Coordinating Board for Higher Education in 1981.

According to the Department of Nursing's records, that request was not approved because of poor economic conditions in the state. Also, there were already two nursing programs in the area – Northwest Missouri State University in Maryville offered a four-year nursing program and Missouri Methodist Hospital in St. Joseph offered a hospital-based diploma program. In early 1983, the Coordinating Board asked Missouri Western to withdraw the proposal.

The proposal was resubmitted in 1984. This time, the Coordinating Board requested that Missouri Western work with Northwest Missouri State University because of the program duplication. In 1985, the two institutions agreed that Northwest would eliminate its four-year nursing program and one would be developed at Missouri Western.

Missouri Western agreed to drop some of its agriculture programs in exchange for the four-year nursing program. Additionally, Missouri Methodist Hospital agreed to not accept new students into its program, allow the students who were enrolled in its program to graduate, and then discontinue its nursing diploma program. The last diploma class graduated from Missouri Methodist in May 1987.

The Coordinating Board accepted the agreements and gave its approval for a four-year nursing degree at Missouri Western in February 1986. The first 20 students were accepted into the program that fall.

The College offered both associate and bachelor's degree programs in nursing until the associate degree program graduated its last class in May 1989 and only the four-year program continued. In all, 419 associate degrees in nursing had been awarded from 1971 to 1989.

PRAIRIE LANDS WRITING PROJECT

In 1987, English faculty member Norma Bagnall received a grant of \$10,000 to begin the St. Joseph Writing Project, in which Missouri Western partnered with the St. Joseph School District to offer professional development opportunities for area teachers to improve the writing skills of their students. In 1996, English faculty member Judy Martin became the director of the program when Bagnall retired.

The next year, the name was changed to Prairie Lands Writing Project to reflect that the program was now working with teachers throughout the region and not just in St. Joseph. When Martin became the full-time director of the Center for Excellence in Teaching in 1999, English faculty member Jane Frick took over the directorship of the PLWP.

Frick remained director until she retired in 2012. English faculty member Tom Pankiewicz was director until he retired in 2014 and Susan Martens became the director.

Prairie Lands Writing Project, northwest Missouri's only National Writing Project site, delivers a variety of programs year round to teachers and youth, including teacher learning communities, writing groups and retreats, in-services, youth writing camps and advanced institutes. The summer writing camp for elementary and middle school students, sponsored by PLWP and the St. Joseph School District, has been held for many years and was still being held in 2015.

The program was selected to participate in the National Writing Project's competitively funded U.S. Department of Education i3 (Investing in Innovation) grant and received \$797,000 to develop and deliver professional development related to improving student writing and building teacher leaders at six rural Missouri schools from 2013 through 2016.

STUDENT AND FACULTY/STAFF ACHIEVEMENTS

From 1983-89, Missouri Western students and faculty members earned recognition across the country and published articles and books, which enhanced the College's academic reputation.

In 1987, English faculty member Norma Bagnall was selected for a Fulbright Exchange Scholarship. She spent the 1987-88 school year teaching at Polytechnic in Wales, while Andrew Clark, from Wales, taught at Missouri Western.

The Griffon News earned a first-place rating from a national press association in 1984 and a medalist rating from Columbia Scholastic Press Association in 1986 and 1987. The student newspaper also earned a Gold Crown Award, the highest honor from CSPA, in 1987.

In 1984, the Griffon Yearbook earned three first-place national awards. The 1987 and 1988 yearbooks earned an All-American rating from Associated Collegiate Press, and the 1987 edition also earned a Medalist rating from Columbia Scholastic Press Association. The 1988 book also earned a Gold Crown from CSPA. The 1989 yearbook earned a Silver Crown Award from CSPA and a Pacemaker Award from ACP.

In 1985, freshman Duane Martin earned third place out of 735 participants for his paper at the 17th Student Symposium on the Presidential Center for the Study of Presidents in Washington, D.C. The next year, he helped plan the symposium and Missouri Western student Matt Frost earned third runner up in the national essay contest.

In 1986, the American Chemical Society recognized the Alchemist Club for superior performance, and the Tau Mu chapter of the Sigma Tau Delta National English Honor Society received a national Outstanding Chapter Award. That same year, three members of the Forensics Club qualified for four events at the national tournament, and the next year, five out of eight members qualified.

In 1987, two students, Ruthann Burgess and Pat Schiesel, won first place in the Phi Beta Lambda competition in Missouri and competed at the national level. The following year, three students – Gregg Mrkvicka, Lisa Lynn Taylor and Todd Lehman – were selected to perform at the National American College Theatre Festival because of their performances in Missouri Western's "Children of a Lesser God."

In 1989, student Chris Thomas placed first in the Interstate Oratory Contest, competing against students from much larger universities and being the first student to win from Missouri since 1970. English major Jeff McMillian published a volume of poetry that same year.

WRITING ACROSS THE CURRICULUM/OUTDOOR SEMESTER

In 1984, Missouri Western developed a unique and valuable program – Writing Across the Curriculum – and English faculty member Elizabeth Latosi-Sawin served as its director.

The program was developed to improve student writing skills, regardless of their major or discipline. Through workshops, guest speakers, book discussion groups, on-campus conferences and individual consultations, Latosi-Sawin strived to help faculty reconsider their teaching methods in an effort to improve student writing and critical thinking. In its first semester, 27 professors across 17 departments participated.

Latosi-Sawin organized the first ever off-campus retreat for faculty; hosted the only formal faculty debate about instructional techniques; published *Critical Literacy*, a nationally distributed newsletter, for two years; and conducted the first critical thinking assessment of graduating seniors. Additionally, Writing Across the Curriculum developed guidelines for writing-intensive courses in Liberal Arts and Sciences and conducted several research projects and surveys.

The program became well known when faculty members published and presented papers about it at national conferences.

In 1990, Writing Across the Curriculum held the College's first privately funded faculty chair – the Leah Spratt Chair for Writing Across the Curriculum – with a gift of \$200,000 from Spratt.

In a publication describing the program, Latosi-Sawin said, "Like ripples in a pond, quietly but surely expanding, ideas and practices have been disseminated within and across departments and beyond our campus to national and international audiences."

Latosi-Sawin directed the program until it ended in 2000.

An outgrowth of Writing Across the Curriculum was an interdisciplinary summer program, Interpreting Our Heritage Through Native American Values, offered in 1995, 1996 and 1997. It was taught by Latosi-Sawin; Jim Grechus and James Reidy, both physical education faculty members; and included nine days of travel through Iowa, Nebraska, Minnesota, South Dakota and Wyoming.

That program was a predecessor to Missouri Western's unique Outdoor Semester program, which was developed in 1998. In Outdoor Semester, students took classes together totaling 16 credit hours in the disciplines of writing, literature, outdoor education and geography; in addition to a fifth course that varied from social anthropology to music or psychology. They spent 12 weeks in the classroom and 12-14 days traveling in the Western United States. For several years, two different trips were offered, a northern and southern trek.

“When you combine people, the outdoor environment, travel and community, inquisitive minds cannot help but ask questions and seek answers,” said Grechus, who had accompanied the students in their travels, in the 1999 Griffon Yearbook.

In 2004, the program celebrated the 200th anniversary of Lewis and Clark’s journey by including a three-day canoe trip on the upper Missouri River in Montana that followed the explorers’ path.

The Outdoor Semester program offered trips eight times between 1998 and 2009. For the last trip in 2009, seven students and four faculty members traveled from Missouri to Wyoming with stops in Kansas, Nebraska, Colorado and South Dakota. The theme for that year was “Energy and Life.”

THE CAMPUS GROWS

“We have come from horse and buggy days to a new Cadillac in terms of facilities and equipment,”
– Jim Estes, art faculty member, Friends Say Hello newsletter, Winter 1987.

CHALLENGER MEMORIAL – 1986

On Jan. 28, 1986, the Challenger space shuttle exploded and seven astronauts lost their lives. Russell Schank, an electronics engineering major, had been following the space shuttle program closely. He wanted to plant seven evergreen trees on campus as a memorial to the crew members, which included the first civilian aboard a space shuttle, Christa McAuliffe. He was afraid the trees’ significance would be lost over the years without a marker, so Schank suggested placing a Challenger memorial bench on campus, too.

The Electronic Engineering and Technology Society, a student group to which Schank belonged, raised the money needed to plant the seven evergreen trees, and the Missouri Western Foundation agreed to fund a granite bench with a plaque. The trees, in a semi-circle around the bench, were located near the Wilson Agriculture and Engineering Technology Building, and a dedication ceremony was held in the fall of 1986. The engraving on the plaque includes the names of the seven astronauts and a quotation from their eulogy that was given by President Ronald Reagan.

The bench broke in 2015 and the plaque was placed on a cement stand on the ground. That same year, the seven evergreen trees became diseased and began to die, and plans were made to replace them.

THOMPSON E. POTTER FINE ARTS CENTER (FA) ADDITION -- 1986

When President Murphy was hired, search committee members said that one of her strengths was her ability to work with the state Legislature, and that skill was used quite often during her tenure. A tangible result of her work with legislators was the addition to the Potter Fine Arts Center which came to fruition after years of visits to Jefferson City, Missouri and requests for funding.

According to “Missouri Western State College A History 1915-1983,” by Frances Flanagan, “a slim budget at the time of construction allowed only a limited margin for normal growth” when the Potter FA Center was built in 1971.

That margin of growth was reached in just a few years, and faculty in the building began to talk about an addition to alleviate crowded spaces as early as 1975. The Department of Art had moved its

ceramics studio to an old farmhouse east of campus on South 50th Street to create more space, but conditions there were far from desirable.

A bond election in December 1976 was the College's first attempt to fund the Potter FA Center addition. Missouri Western asked voters to pass a \$4.5 million bond issue for additions to both the Potter FA Center and the Looney HPER Building (which was also crowded) and possible construction of a student commons building near the residence halls.

The rationale behind the bond request was this: On July 1, 1977, which was approximately seven months after this vote, Missouri Western would become fully funded by the state and voters in the district would no longer have to pay 30 cents on a \$100 valuation on their real estate taxes to fund the College. So this bond issue was asking for residents in the district to pay 20 cents per \$100 valuation for the building projects. Despite a lot of positive publicity and students making phone calls in support of the measure, voters turned down the bond issue.

Funding for the Looney HPER Building addition came through from the state in 1979, and that addition was completed in January 1981. But the Potter FA Center continued to make do with its limited space.

The next attempt for funding was in 1980, when Missouri Western requested almost \$4.4 million from the state Legislature for an approximately 67,000 square-foot addition. The Coordinating Board for Higher Education had only recommended \$65,000 in funding for planning the addition, but neither request made it through the Legislature.

By this time, the economy was beginning to slow, and when Gov. Christopher Bond took office in January 1981, he was looking at a very tight state budget. In 1982, Missouri voters did pass a \$600 million bond issue for capital projects, and the College hoped to obtain at least planning funds from that money.

The need for an addition was still very real. From 1976 to 1983, the number of music majors had increased 63 percent, art majors 49 percent and theatre majors 24 percent. Seven music classes were being taught in the Agenstein SM Building to alleviate crowding in the Potter FA Center.

In January 1983, the addition was a priority item on the capital items lists of both the Coordinating Board for Higher Education and the governor. When the Legislature approved more than \$58 million for higher education capital improvement projects in its regular session, Missouri Western was allocated \$174,000 for the Potter FA Center.

That money was used for a partial renovation of the music facilities to improve acoustics, and minor reorganization of the music library and office space. The total cost amounted to \$211,200; the Board of Regents allocated \$37,200 for the project. The College had also requested \$75,000 for planning the addition, but the state did not fund it.

At a special legislative session in the fall of 1983 to determine how part of the \$600 million bond issue would be spent, State Rep. Mark Youngdahl added an amendment to House Bill 2 to authorize the design and planning of the Potter FA Center addition. The amendment was taken out of the final bill. He then requested \$75,000 for the design and planning in House Bill 4, but that bill did not pass

during the special session. Murphy had even addressed both the Senate and House appropriations committees in October.

In the meantime, the conditions of the ceramics house were deteriorating. A leaky roof and walls, poor plumbing and inadequate ventilation made the need for new facilities more apparent each day. The need was especially noticeable in the spring, when heavy rains made the dirt road to the house impassable. The “temporary” ceramics studio had now been in use for 10 years.

In early 1984, Murphy traveled to Jefferson City to make a pitch to the Coordinating Board’s Fiscal Affairs Committee for an allocation of \$1.5 million for the Potter FA Center. She again requested \$75,000 in planning funds.

Murphy finally asked the Board of Regents in April 1984 to approve \$10,000 in College funds to begin planning the addition, and the architectural firm of Ellison, Kirschner and Auxier was hired.

According to a newspaper article at the time, the president said she had a hunch that if the College funded some of the planning, the state might begin to take the funding requests for the building more seriously. In the fall of 1984, she also invited area legislators to tour the ceramics house so they could see the deplorable conditions for themselves.

For the 1985 legislative session, the College requested \$1.4 million for the addition, and Murphy’s hunch was correct. The Missouri General Assembly approved \$1.2 million for a 22,000 square-foot addition. Everyone was pleased, but that was quite a difference from the original \$4.4 million request in 1980 for an approximately 67,400 square-foot addition.

Grace Construction Co. had the winning bid of \$1,128,900. Groundbreaking was held in September 1985, and construction was completed in time for fall 1986 classes.

The new two-story addition on the northeast corner of the Potter FA Center contained sculpture and ceramics studios and offices on first floor, and photography, painting, lithograph studios and a classroom on the second floor. Space was now freed up for an art gallery, and a patio was added to the east side of the building. The ceramics studio featured an 80 cubic-foot kiln built by art faculty member Jim Estes and his students.

For the dedication ceremony on Oct. 27, 1986, art students created a 274’ x 15’ cloth sculpture titled, “From the Ground Up – A Dedication Piece,” that used more than 100 yards of fabric and hung on the outside of the building.

In the almost 30 years since the addition was built, the number of students in art, music and theatre continued to grow, and faculty and administrators had been hoping for more space for more than a decade. In 1998, the theater in the Potter FA Center underwent an approximately \$40,000 renovation using reserve funds. Renovations included new seating, a new stage curtain, wall coverings, carpeting, audio/video equipment and acoustical clouds.

In 2000, a “temporary” modular unit was set up to alleviate crowded music facilities, and it was not retired until 2014 when an addition was built on to Potter Hall for percussion studies (see 2009-2015, *THE CAMPUS GROWS*). Also in 2000, an addition to the Potter FA Center was on the state’s capital priority list, as well as Missouri Western’s priority list, but it was dropped off the state’s list in

2001 and replaced by the science and math facilities project. Once funding for the science and mathematics facilities was achieved in 2007, funding for the Potter addition was again recommended by the Coordinating Board for Higher Education, but the state was not funding higher education capital projects at the time.

The ceramics building off 50th Street, not in use after the 1986 addition, was destroyed in a suspicious fire in 1997.

Y'S KIDS WORLD DAYCARE CENTER – 1989

A new service was offered to nontraditional students when the Y's Kids World Daycare Center opened on campus in the spring of 1989 with 33 children registered. Four years earlier, a student survey had revealed that a daycare center would be a welcome addition, and in 1986, a committee was formed to study the possibility of such a center. In 1987, Executive Vice President McCarthy announced that a center was “not doable” because of licensing issues, but Missouri Western later contracted with the YMCA, and the Board of Regents approved plans for the center in September 1988.

The center opened in the Wilson Agriculture and Engineering Technology Building, where the Department of Automotive Technology garage bay area had been located until it closed in 1987. Physical plant employees performed the approximately \$16,000 renovation, and the Student Government Association bought toys and games.

At first, children of students were given priority, but by the fall, employees also could register their children, and within one year, the center was at capacity, taking care of 66 children, up to 31 at a time. In 1999, the public was invited to use the daycare center.

MONEY MATTERS

“Tuition hike takes up government slack.” – Griffon News headline, April 27, 1989.

OVERVIEW

Fiscal woes, belt tightening and limited budgets seemed to be recurring themes in the state Legislature and on campus from 1983 through 1989.

One of the first challenges President Murphy faced as Missouri Western’s president was dealing with cuts in state funding that had been made before she was hired. In the fall of 1982, Gov. Christopher Bond announced a 5 percent funding cut for the current fiscal year to colleges and universities statewide, which amounted to \$359,647 for Missouri Western. To make up for the shortfall, administrators reluctantly imposed a one-time student surcharge for the spring 1983 semester. Full-time in-state students paid a \$25 fee and out-of-state students paid a \$50 fee. Part-time in-state students were charged an additional \$3 per credit hour and out-of-state students \$6 per hour.

One year later, the College was told by the state to trim 2 percent of its current fiscal year operating budget, which amounted to approximately \$125,000. Gov. Bond said 2 percent would also be cut from the FY1985 budget. Murphy was opposed to a student surcharge, and she also refused to raise tuition for the 1984-85 academic year. Instead, she instructed departments across campus to trim travel and maintenance expenses and carefully monitor purchases of new equipment. In anticipation of the cut, several job openings were not filled that year.

In early 1984, Murphy instructed the Department of Athletics to create a list of recommendations for cuts in the budget for FY1985. She specifically urged the department to look at fee waivers for athletes and operation and personnel costs of the programs.

Although the Department of Athletics offered only one scholarship at the time, its fee waivers amounted to \$267,240 of the College’s \$551,011 waiver budget, which was part of the operating budget. Murphy believed that several of the athletes would be eligible for financial aid and would not need the waivers, and that the funds from the waivers could be better spent on equipment and salaries campus wide.

She also wanted the Department of Athletics to explore external sources to fund more scholarships. Since Athletic Director Charlie Burri had already announced that he was retiring in June 1984, Murphy added a fundraising responsibility to the new athletic director’s job description.

In a Griffon News article regarding the pending cuts, Murphy said, “As with most institutions of higher education, our primary mission is reflected in the academic quality of the institution. A

preliminary assessment of the academic programs, resources and needs leads one to believe that the academic areas should have a larger share of the financial resources of the institution.”

Murphy reluctantly raised tuition for the first time in two years for the 1985-86 academic year. It was a 4.4 percent increase, but only for full-time students, and there was no room and board increase. When she arrived in 1983, Murphy found that Missouri Western’s tuition was the second highest in the state, and she did not want to raise it as often as it had been raised in the past. But the Coordinating Board for Higher Education had recommended that tuition at state institutions should make up approximately 26 percent of the operating budget, and Missouri Western was at 24.7 percent. The tuition increase would put the College closer to the Coordinating Board’s expectation.

While enrollment in fall 1983 was 4,233, student numbers dropped for the next three years, hitting 3,936 in fall 1986. This spelled more funding problems for the College, forcing tuition to increase 12 percent in 1987.

The Coordinating Board for Higher Education told the boards of regents across the state to review their programs and make cuts, or the state would cut funding.

It was announced in February 1987 that the Department of Automotive Technology was to be eliminated in the fall, which included two faculty members. Also, the two sociology majors were dropped, eliminating one staff position. Additionally, three full-time and five part-time faculty positions were eliminated through attrition, and in May 1987, four more staff positions were eliminated.

Murphy told the Board of Regents that the cuts were necessary to enhance academic quality, to attempt to be more competitive with salaries and to avoid a double-digit tuition increase for the FY1988, when it was raised 4.5 percent.

Tuition increased 4.9 percent for FY1989, and the College increased financial assistance for students through internships and work opportunity scholarships.

In mid-1989, administrators were closely following the Supreme Court and their ruling on a tax refund for federal employees in Missouri. The Court ruled against the state, ruling that Missouri had to pay the employees immediately. College administrators knew that meant the state would most likely cut funding to higher education to make up for the payments they had to make. Tuition increased 7 percent for FY1990.

Other colleges and universities across the state had been increasing their tuition, as well, so even with the increases, Missouri Western’s tuition was now among the lowest in the state, rather than near the top when Murphy arrived.

BURNING THE BONDS

In 1966, Missouri Western district voters had approved a \$6.055 million bond that was used to build the first six buildings on the new campus, and in 1974, voters additionally approved a \$2.3 million bond to build the Eder SS/C Building. In March 1987, Missouri Western made its final payment of \$282,817.36 to retire those two building bonds.

When Missouri Western became a four-year college, the Missouri Western District, which consisted of 11 school districts that were located in five counties, continued to fund the first two years. The state financed the junior and senior years, and there were two governing boards – a Board of Trustees and a Board of Regents.

When the College received state funding for all four years in 1977, the district no longer had to pick up the tab for the first two years. The Board of Trustees then continued to meet annually for just one purpose: to set the bond levy until the bonds were paid off. At its July 1986 meeting, the Board of Trustees set the last tax levy – 3 cents per \$100 valuation.

When both bonds were due to be paid off, President Murphy believed it was cause for celebration, and a bond burning ceremony was held on March 1, 1987. Murphy and Evan R. Agenstein, professor emeritus and President of the Board of Trustees, had the honor of burning the bonds on the stage of the Potter FA Center Theater in front of an audience of about 150.

According to the St. Joseph News-Press, Murphy said the voters in the five counties “can be proud to have had a role in such a major development. The buildings at the College are visible examples of this investment in educational excellence.”

Several alumni from Missouri Western’s first four-year graduating class attended the ceremony and were introduced. After the bond burning, the audience saw a performance of the musical, “1940s Radio Hour,” by the music and theatre programs.

SPORTS

“Apathy received a striking blow Monday night at the Division 16 semi-finals basketball game. Students and fans turned out to support the Griffons. It was a history-making event to say the least.”
– Griffon News, March 9, 1989.

OVERVIEW

Between 1983 and 1989, Missouri Western Athletics saw a new director, several new coaches, a new conference, a new national affiliation, and lights in Spratt Memorial Stadium. Some of the teams, especially volleyball and softball, had many great successes during those years.

Ever since Spratt Memorial Stadium was completed in 1979, Simon Rositzky, a friend of Elliot “Bub” Spratt, for whom the stadium was named, had been telling anyone who would listen that the stadium needed lights, and Rositzky even established a lighting fund. In the spring of 1985, he finally spoke to the right person – James McCarthy. Under the executive vice president’s direction, a Stadium Club Lighting Committee was formed and \$160,000 was raised within six weeks.

The first game played under the lights was the Griffons’ season opener on Sept. 4, and Missouri Western beat the University of Missouri-Rolla, 24-15. Fireworks followed the game.

“I’m never surprised at what St. Joseph residents will do when there’s a cause,” Rositzky told the St. Joseph News-Press at the time.

In 1983, the co-captain of Missouri Western’s first football team of the four-year college, Chris Faros, was killed in an airplane crash, and a scholarship and award were established in his memory. In May 1986, the Alumni Association hosted the first alumni football game to raise money for the Chris Faros Memorial Scholarship.

In 1988, the softball team moved its practices and home games from Walnut Field to Bluff Woods Sports Complex, south of St. Joseph.

By 1989, the Gold Coat Club, which had been supporting Missouri Western athletics since 1970, had 440 members.

A list of sports teams’ records, coaches and noteworthy achievements from 1983-2015 is in Appendix I.

ATHLETIC DIRECTOR CHARLIE BURRI

Charlie Burri, the College's first athletic director, retired in 1984. Burri, a basketball player for the St. Joseph Junior College and a 1955 alumnus, was hired in 1966, and also served as basketball and golf coach for several years.

Burri helped create the four-year curriculum for the physical education major and developed six sports that were still on campus in 1984: baseball, women's basketball, football, softball, women's tennis and volleyball. He also developed five men's sports that were short-lived: cross country, swimming, tennis, track and wrestling. (Bob Berger, longtime financial aid director, started his career at Missouri Western as a wrestling coach in 1967.) Burri was also one of the founders of the Central States Intercollegiate Conference in 1976.

He was named a charter member of the Missouri Western Athletics' Hall of Fame in 1984 and was named a member of the NAIA Hall of Fame in 1988. In 1987, Burri became the commissioner of the CSIC.

In 1985, Ed Harris took over the helm of Athletics.

NCAA & MIAA

Missouri Western Athletics had been affiliated with the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics as a Division I school since 1970 and a founding member of the Central States Intercollegiate Conference since 1976. In 1986, the College began to look at changing conferences and joining the Missouri Intercollegiate Athletic Association. Joining that conference would also mean leaving the NAIA and becoming part of the National Collegiate Athletic Association Division II, so Missouri Western first had to apply for admission into the NCAA.

Following its April 1987 application, the College officially became a member of the NCAA in September 1988. The NCAA was known for having higher academic standards for its athletes, and Missouri Western officials believed the change would bring more prestige to the College.

In 1989, the College became a member of the MIAA. Other schools that joined that year were Missouri Southern State College, Joplin; Pittsburg State University, Pittsburg, Kansas; and Washburn University, Topeka, Kansas. (The addition of the two Kansas universities led to the eventual change from "Missouri" to "Mid-America" in 1992.) Other teams in the conference at the time included Central Missouri State University, Warrensburg; Northwest Missouri State University, Maryville; Southwest Baptist University, Bolivar, Missouri; and Northeast Missouri State University, Kirksville.

The new conference gave Missouri Western the opportunity to play more Missouri schools, thus gaining more statewide media coverage. The conference also offered more competition and a more challenging road to national tournaments. In the CSIC, the winner of the District 16 tournament advanced to nationals, but in the MIAA, it was the conference champion that advanced to regional play on the way to the nationals.

STUDENT LIFE

The 1987 Griffon Yearbook staff conducted a survey of 163 residence hall students of all grade levels, and found that the “average” dorm resident

- *Had pizza delivered one or two times a week*
- *Had a car on campus*
- *Did not work off campus or in work study*
- *Went home almost every weekend*
- *Shared a phone with several others*
- *Called home one or two times a week*
- *Studied about two hours four or five days a week*
- *Studied in a dorm room*
- *Listened to Q104-FM*
- *Almost never participated in intramurals*
- *Intended to continue living in the dorms*
- *Would recommend dorm living to new students*

“Hungover and Helpless?” “2 + 2 = Math anxiety,” “Just a pinch between the cheek and gum could give you pleasure or pain,” “All-Night Study – a college tradition.” – Headlines from the Griffon News, April 14, 1983.

BY THE NUMBERS

	Fall 1983	Fall 1989
• Enrollment	4,233	4,338
• Full-time students	2,961	2,904
• Missouri residents	3,971	4,008
• International students	9	8
• Age 25 and older	32%	39%
• Minorities (who reported)	5.3%	5.9%
• Married	1,194	1,323

OVERVIEW

Those viewing student life at Missouri Western in the 1980s would immediately notice the reassuring consistency of traditions. Every fall, students could look forward to Homecoming with its bonfire, pep rally, parade and fun activities. The fall semester also meant Family Day, football, volleyball, marching band, theatre productions and intramurals. Then, with spring came Springfest, another theatre production, music department concerts, spring sports and Greek Week. The 1983 yearbook noted that Greek Week returned after a two-year absence.

For many years, an annual Sweetheart Dance was held in February, sometimes in the cafeteria and sometimes in a local hotel's ballroom, and a Sweetheart Queen was crowned at the event.

Spring also brought the intramural all-nighter, which began in 1981 and continued until the late 1990s. Faye Burchard, director of the intramural program, estimated that 30 percent of the students and faculty participated in intramurals in 1984.

Ken Lee, mathematics faculty member and longtime chair of the Department of Computer Science/Mathematics/Physics, remembers playing against students on a faculty basketball team. "Students loved to beat up on us," he said with a laugh. And, the 1985 Griffon Yearbook refers to a faculty softball team called "Murphy's Magic," which was sponsored by President Murphy.

Parents' Day, which had been a longstanding annual tradition in September, changed its name to Family Day in 1984. According to the 1985 Griffon Yearbook, the name was changed to include the growing number of nontraditional students with children. The 1984 Family Day was deemed a success, as more than 1,400 people turned out that year for the cookout before the football game.

The 1985 admission application at Missouri Western was the first year the application asked for parents' names, and in May 1986, a Parents Council began with 250 members. Missouri Western believed it was the first of its kind in the state. In 1986, a Parents Council meeting became a part of Family Day and that tradition continued for several years.

The Griffon mascot had also been a reliable tradition since 1917-18, but it has had its detractors over the years.

In early 1984, a campaign to change Missouri Western's longtime mascot to the Pony Express was started. This wasn't the first campaign to change the Griffon mascot, and it wasn't even the first to suggest a tie to the Pony Express. In both 1967 and 1969, several students suggested the mascot be changed to reflect the Pony Express enterprise, but the suggestions never really took root.

In a 1984 Griffon News article, several football players were given credit for leading the initiative to change the mascot. They believed that if Missouri Western's mascot reflected something from St. Joseph's history, perhaps the relationship between the College and the community would be enhanced. Additionally, they said they were tired of everyone asking them what a Griffon was.

However, Tom Cook, who wrote the article, noted that "The idea of changing ... from the Griffon to the Pony Express has sent a charge of rage throughout the various organizations on campus."

That was followed by a letter to the Griffon News from Professor Emeritus Frank Popplewell, who had also written a protest letter to Missouri Western's director of public relations when the challenges to the mascot occurred in the late 1960s.

In addition to Popplewell's letter, alumnus Kenneth Hines heard of the campaign and wrote a letter to the editor of the St. Joseph News-Press. Hines wrote, "It (Pony Express) refers to a remote enterprise that lasted less than two years and went bankrupt because it was behind the times soon after it started. So much for glory." He went on to say, "I genuinely like the Griffon, especially shaped into the outline of Missouri."

The Student Government Association set up a committee to research the idea, but apparently it didn't get very far out of the committee. One of the football players, Vince Thomson, broached the idea with another letter to the editor in the Griffon News in 1986, but since then, no real challenges to the mascot have come to light.

SMOKING POLICY

Twenty-five years passed between Missouri Western's first smoking policy and the implementation of the policy that made the campus entirely tobacco-free.

On November 1, 1988, a policy prohibiting smoking in all campus buildings except in designated smoking areas went into effect, but not without a lot of controversy and acrimony.

Originally, the ban was to be enforced by fellow students, with the administrators hoping peer pressure would send smokers to the designated areas. However, a small group of protesters continued to smoke outside of the designated areas, blowing smoke in students' faces and putting their cigarettes out on the carpets. One student was shoved by another student when she tried to pass out brochures about classes to help smokers quit.

A Griffon News letter to the editor from seven students summed up the conflict: "What started as a simple ruling has escalated to guerilla warfare."

So the College judiciary board set disciplinary actions such as probation, suspension and expulsion for those who refused to comply, and the protestors began to follow the rules.

However, student smokers still complained at a student government meeting that the smoking areas lacked proper ventilation, tables, chairs and an adequate supply of ashtrays. They also claimed that the designated smoking areas were the coldest areas in the buildings.

Administrators listened to the complaints and installed clean air units and furniture in the smoking areas. After awhile, the furor seemed to die down.

A second, stricter smoking policy was introduced three years later in February 1991, when buildings on campus became totally smoke-free.

Then, in 2011, an initiative for a smoke-free campus started when a committee of employees and students began looking into the issue. That same year, students voted on whether or not to have a smoke-free campus, but it fell slightly short of the required two-thirds majority it needed to pass.

At the April 2012 Board of Governors meeting, the Board passed a resolution that supported further research into becoming a tobacco-free campus, and the Office of Human Resources and the University's Wellness Committee drafted a policy. With the support of the Student Government Association, the Faculty Senate and the Staff Senate, the proposal was recommended by Missouri Western's Governance Advisory Council and signed by President Vartabedian in October 2012.

The policy took effect July 2013.

STUDENT SERVICES

A student survey conducted by the Office of Career Planning, Placement and Counseling identified students' top three problems in 1985. A little more than half said their top problem was "feeling rushed all the time," followed by "unmotivated to study," and "unsure of future career choices." To address the survey results, the counseling staff conducted stress management and time management courses, and biofeedback tests were offered to help students cope with their stressors.

A peer counseling group, Peers Reaching Others, began with Counselor Chris Turek as its first director in early 1987. That first year, more than 25 students attended a workshop and a retreat and enrolled in a peer counseling continuing education class. When Counselor Tim Crowley was hired in 1988, he became the director of the group. Dorothy Miriani, director of the counseling center, said the program was very successful. The group disbanded in 1997, but peer counselors were still available in the counseling center.

In 1986, the Board of Regents voted to place the operation of the College bookstore out for bid, allowing a private firm to lease the space on campus. The following January, it awarded the bid to Barnes and Noble with a five-year contract. Barnes and Noble also agreed to fund some remodeling of the store, located in the student union. The bookstore was still run by Barnes and Noble in 2015.

In 1987, the Women's Studies Office changed to the Women's Educational Resource Center, and its focus changed from integrating women's studies and relevant content into the curriculum to assisting the female nontraditional students, since that number continued to grow. In 1989, a self-study for accreditation noted that the fastest growing student population at Missouri Western was nontraditional, re-entry women.

By 1989, there were 55 recognized student organizations on campus, up from 44 in 1983.

TECHNOLOGY

“The computer is taking over and we all need to be better informed about it.” – Don Kearns, Griffon News, 1983.

OVERVIEW

Despite budget constraints, President Murphy was committed to ensuring that the campus was technologically up to date. When she became president in 1983, Missouri Western had a computer lab for computer science courses that contained 15 Radio Shack TRS-80 computers. Because they had no internal memory, students could not save any information on the computer. Other academic departments had a computer here and there, and earlier in the year, computer terminals had been installed in the Admissions and Records Office to aid registration and update records. Plans were underway to computerize transcripts, financial aid records and class schedules.

Shortly after she arrived, Murphy set up a committee to study campus computer needs and hired EDUCOM, a New Jersey-based computer consultant.

In January 1984, EDUCOM reported that it would cost more than \$500,000 to bring the campus “to a point where it is competing sufficiently with other regional schools,” said Richard Mann, one of the consultants. EDUCOM said the highest priority was to purchase a second Hewlett-Packard mainframe computer, since the one in place since 1981 was already considered outdated. The Business Office, Registrar’s Office and Financial Aid were using that mainframe computer. Recommendations also included purchasing several more computers for both academic and administrative departments.

But the big question was, how was the College going to pay for it all? In an interview after she retired, President Murphy said that when she arrived on campus, the College was holding bake sales to raise money for computers, and she knew she had to find a better way if Missouri Western was going to become technologically up-to-date.

In 1984, the St. Joseph News-Press reported that \$200,000 from the College’s cash reserves was allocated for “academic and administrative computing equipment.” Also, the Alumni Association began an annual fund and held its first Phonathon in March 1985, with proceeds used for both scholarships and academic equipment. Raising money for computer equipment was also one of the goals of the 1984-85 capital campaign, “Partners in Pride.” Additionally, the state allocated funding for computers for FY1986.

In late 1984 and early 1985, three microcomputer (personal computers) labs opened on campus, and students were armed with floppy disks to save their work. The Student Government Association bought three computers for students to use in the Blum SU. A new mainframe computer was also installed and the older one, which could accommodate 64 users, was being used by academic departments. The new mainframe could accommodate 128 users.

Also in the fall of 1984, the secretarial science program developed a new two-year corresponding secretary program, and students completed work for campus departments as part of their word processing practicum.

A big technological leap came in the spring of 1985 when students pre-registered for their fall classes on computer terminals in the Registrar's Office, eliminating long lines for the first time. Registrar Bob Hines told the Griffon News that the only complaint from students about registering for classes on computers was not being able to do it in previous years.

Also in 1985, Missouri Western offered its first televised course, Introduction to Data Processing. The class was filmed when it was in session and shown later on St. Joseph Cablevision.

In early 1986, the library began the task of computerizing its card catalog and circulation, acquisitions, and cataloguing process, including bar coding books, using a \$355,000 allocation from the state.

Missouri Western made another great technological advance when it installed a \$25,000 satellite dish atop the Hearnest LRC in August 1986, only the second dish like it to be installed on a college campus in the United States. The Microdyne dish, paid for by funds from the Partners in Pride capital campaign, gave the College the capability to receive educational television programming that was produced worldwide.

Max Schlesinger, director of the Instructional Media Center, said in an interview that the dish was the most sophisticated, capable and reliable that could be bought at the time. The dish was in almost constant use, Schlesinger said, offering videoconferences, live broadcasts, classes and teleconferences for both the campus and the community.

By 1988, just five years after Murphy arrived, there were computer labs in 10 academic departments. Also, there were labs in the Blum SU, one of the dormitories (not common on campuses at the time), the library, the Learning Skills Center and the Computer Center. By then, all offices had computers, as well, including the Alumni Office that had nicknamed its computer "Alice."

Throughout her tenure, Murphy continued to ensure that Missouri Western was not only up-to-date technologically, but many times ahead of other Missouri higher education institutions. Her commitment to all technology—academic-content specific, instructional and computer infrastructure—is one of her legacies.

TOWN AND GOWN

“It was almost like there was a wall around Missouri Western, and the average person wouldn’t come on campus. We decided to try to break down the barriers between the town and the college.”

– Ed Gorsky, dean of Continuing Education, hired in 1986.

OVERVIEW

Missouri Western and the St. Joseph community have worked together and benefited each other since the College’s beginnings. Missouri Western’s predecessor, St. Joseph Junior College, began with community support when it became a part of the St. Joseph School District in 1915. In 1966 and again in 1974, the community and region showed their support of the College when they passed bond issues for buildings on the new campus. A 1984 economic impact study reported that Missouri Western’s economic impact on the community was \$50.3 million.

Additionally, St. Joseph’s residents continually enjoyed the use of College facilities and activities, students and employees have always volunteered in the community, proud alumni work in the community, and partnerships have flourished between “town and gown.”

One partnership that continued through 2015 was formed in the fall of 1983, when Semyon Vekshtein was hired as the part-time conductor for the St. Joseph Symphony and part-time music faculty member at Missouri Western. Since then, the symphony conductor has always been a faculty member at the College.

In 1988, Pass the Power, an adult literacy program, began as a partnership between the St. Joseph News-Press/Gazette, Southwestern Bell and Missouri Western. When the program started, adults learned how to read using the News-Press/Gazette. The program was originally located in the Learning Skills Center in the Hearnest LRC on campus, and was believed to be the first private/public partnership in the state to promote literacy.

Pass the Power started holding an annual Literacy Luncheon in the early 1990s and began awarding the Roy Blunt Literacy Citation to an individual whose volunteer literacy activities benefit the community or Northwest Missouri in a substantial, important or unique way. Missouri Western ended its operation of Pass the Power in October 2013.

The annual Madrigal Christmas Feast was a popular tradition that drew many community members each year. The first Madrigal event was held in 1980 as a dinner for Missouri Western employees only, but the next year President Looney suggested holding a second event for the community

as a fundraiser for the Department of Music. Dorsey Looney, the president's wife, coordinated the creation of more than 80 banners that were hung throughout the room for the Madrigal Feasts.

The feasts were quite successful; in 1982, more than 750 attended five celebrations (two for employees, two for the community and one for visiting first-year legislators). In December 1983, more than 60 students, faculty and community members entertained guests and transported them back to 17th century England in the Blum College Center cafeteria. The last Madrigal dinner on campus around that time was held in 1986, but in 2002, the Department of Music held a Madrigal Feast at the Moila Shrine Ballroom.

In 2009, Laurel Vartabedian, wife of President Robert Vartabedian, revived the campus Madrigal event and called it the "Lights and Tights Renaissance Feast," making it a fundraiser for the campus music and theatre programs. Several of Dorsey Looney's banners from the original feasts were pulled from storage and hung for the event in the Fulkerson Center. It was renamed Madrigal Feaste in 2014 and was still being held in 2015.

In April 1988, a new event drew many community members to campus –the Western 100K –a bicycle relay race. Twenty-five teams of four in four age groups pedaled 48 laps around Downs Drive, and the first place team was Allied Aerospace with a time of 2:44:40. The event was called a success, and organizer Roger Gaither, Director of Publications, hoped to repeat it, but he left Missouri Western the following year and it was not held again.

In the fall of 1988, the Missouri Western Foundation began hosting an event that drew both campus and community members – Eggs and Issues. The first one was held in the Blum SU and was attended by 20 people: 10 students, five community members and five faculty members. The topic of discussion was students working while they were attending college, "The Changing Patterns of the Work Ethic." It was sponsored by the United Missouri Bank NW, and Vice President McCarthy served as moderator.

In the beginning, Eggs and Issues breakfasts were held for small, invited groups of students, faculty and community members several times each semester. In the early 2000s, the format changed to where Eggs and Issues featured a guest speaker rather than a debate or discussion, and it was open to anyone on campus or in the community who wanted to attend. It has been held both off- and on-campus over the years, and as little as two and as many as eight per year have been offered. Two things about the program have not changed – a free breakfast is still served to all who attend, and it still begins at 7 a.m.

A fall 2006 presentation, "The Face Behind the Veil: The Extraordinary Lives of Muslim Women in America," by Donna Gehrke-White, features writer for The Miami Herald, drew the largest crowd to date for an Eggs and Issues presentation – close to 200. That record was broken in 2012 when alumna Esther George, president of the Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City, spoke to more than 250 about the Bank.

Two events for the community began in the 1980s, and one is still being held. Every year, the Department of Health, Physical Education and Recreation holds the Golden Age Games. College

students plan games, such as fly-swatter volleyball with a balloon, ring toss and mini golf, in the M.O. Looney Complex arena, and nursing home residents from throughout the area return year after year for the fun. The other longtime event was the Gospel Extravaganza, an afternoon of Gospel music from church choirs throughout the region, in honor of Black History Month. The extravaganzas continued for more than two decades.

The community has always enjoyed Missouri Western's theatre productions. In 1983, "Elephant Man" took the main stage, and in 1984, "God's Favorite," by Neil Simon, was a big hit. The College thespians even took it on the road to area high schools. In the fall, they produced the first musical in nine years, "A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum."

In the spring of 1985, a Missouri Western attendance record was set when 730 people watched three performances of "Barefoot in the Park." That summer, the theatre program partnered with St. Joseph's Robidoux Resident Theatre to produce "Tartuffe." In 1987 and 1989, the College produced two more musicals, "Sweeney Todd" and "Godspell." Missouri Western produced several shows each year, many directed by students.

Guest speakers on campus over the years 1983-89 included Yolanda King, daughter of Martin Luther King, Jr.; Larry Linville, an actor from the popular M.A.S.H. series; Eugene "Mercury" Morris, a Miami Dolphins player; William Armstrong, author of "Sunder;" Juan Williams, columnist and reporter for the Washington Post; and a host of magicians and comedians. Steve Walsh, who grew up in St. Joseph, Missouri and was a member of the band Kansas, performed on campus in the fall of 1983.

Continuing Education programs have served the region well since the department was developed around the time Missouri Western became a four-year institution. However, when Ed Gorsky was hired as director in 1986, he was given the charge to build up the department and increase its offerings.

Continuing Education, which consisted of Gorsky and a secretary in a small office in the Eder SS/C Building when he was hired, began its expansion by offering more weekend and evening classes for credit. There were also very few noncredit classes offered when Gorsky started, so he began expanding those.

In 1987, the College offered its first off-campus classes at the high school in Cameron, Missouri. Three credit courses were offered – Computer Assisted Instruction, Principles of Marketing, and Writing Workshop – along with five noncredit courses. That same year, the Community Arts program began, offering art, music and drama classes to youth.

In 1988, the division added a three-credit-hour intersession between the spring semester and the summer session. They expected about 100 students to sign up for the initial intersession and were pleasantly surprised when 184 enrolled in the eight classes. The next year, the summer session added two four-week sessions along with its one eight-week session.

When Gorsky was hired in 1986, fewer than 1,000 people were enrolled in continuing education classes. By the fall of 1987, 2,000 were enrolled in 97 classes, and by the next year, it was up to 3,000 in 130 classes.

In 1989, Continuing Education became responsible for conferences, which had been under the Student Affairs Division, and there were four full-time employees.

ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

In October 1983, in conjunction with Homecoming, the Alumni Association held its first Alumni-Faculty Awards Banquet at the St. Joseph Country Club. Distinguished Alumni Award recipients were Alvin M. Liberman '36, president of Haskins Laboratories and professor of linguistics at Yale University; Christel E. Marquardt '70, a partner in the law firm of Cosgrove, Webb and Oman, Topeka, Kansas; W. Dale Maudlin '71, president of First Midwest Bancorp Inc., St. Joseph; David H. Morton '42, senior partner in the law firm of Morton, Reed and Counts, St. Joseph; and Blaine J. Yarrington '37, retired vice president of Standard Oil Company of Indiana. Distinguished Faculty Award recipient was Francis Kessler, Missouri Western political science faculty member. All recipients through 2015 are listed in Appendix B.

John Byrne Logan, longtime member of the Alumni Association and a member of the Board of Directors, pioneered the idea for the awards program and served as chair of the first awards committee.

In 1985, the Alumni Association celebrated the 70th anniversary of the St. Joseph Junior College with an anniversary ball and dinner, an open house of the campus and a brunch on the lawn by the Blum SU.

AMBASSADORS

The Ambassadors group is another example of strong connections between the campus and community. The Ambassadors was formed in 1975 when two women from the community, Barbara Sprong and Shirley Bradley, approached President Looney about starting a group that would provide a bridge between the campus and community. The Ambassadors, open to campus and community women, was not active for a few years in the early 1980s, but was revived in 1985 at the request of President Murphy.

The Ambassadors' goal was to increase the community's awareness of the educational, cultural and financial benefits that Missouri Western brought to the community. Sylvie Richards, Director of College Relations, served as the College liaison to the group until 1988.

The Ambassadors helped host a variety of events, including a reception for graduates with honors in Murphy's home and receptions for guest speakers. They served pancakes at the annual faculty and staff appreciation breakfast, and started a Befriend a Scholar program, where Ambassadors were paired with the recipients of the President's and Regents' scholarships.

In 1989, the Ambassadors began fundraising for scholarships for nontraditional students. The first two scholarships were for \$400 each. They held a Casino Night for three years to raise funds until they began their annual Night at the Ritz in 1994. That event was still being held in 2015.

CAMPUS EVENTS FOR YOUTH

One important part of Missouri Western's history has always been its commitment to programs for high school, middle school and elementary school students, and the tradition continued between 1983 and 1989.

In 1986, the marching band hosted 11 area high school bands for the first Tournament of Champions in the football stadium, and in 1987, the History Bowl began, giving area high school students a chance to show off their knowledge of history. Both were still being held in 2015.

A popular event that began in 1978 was Communication Day, an annual event that drew between 450 and 600 area high school students. For many years, it featured nationally known speakers from the communication field such as NBC Executive Edward Fohy in 1985 and journalist Donald Kaul in 1986. High School Writing Day began in 1985 for students from St. Joseph high schools. Both Communication Day and High School Writing Day were held for several years, but Communication Day was no longer held by the mid-1990s. The High School Writing Day was still being held annually in 2015 for students in northwest Missouri schools.

In 1988, the Alchemist Club began their annual Merit Badge Day, and in 1989, more than 750 Boy Scouts attended. Also, in 1989, two biology student organizations helped 250 Girl Scouts earn badges. The College has also hosted the Mid-America Regional Science and Engineering Fair for middle school students since 1979, and Artscape, an opportunity for youth to experience a variety of arts in a week, began in 1988. The Department of Chemistry also hosted the Advanced Chemistry Education Seminar in the summer for high school students for several years.

For many years, education majors helped the Buchanan County Progressive Board with a seven-week summer camp for mentally disabled children. The College also hosted an honors colloquium for high school students and a summer camp for gifted middle schoolers.

Two of the longest-running events for youth are the Department of Chemistry's Chemathon and the Department of Health, Physical Education and Recreation's Lifetime Sports Academy. The Chemathon has been held every year since 1977, usually bringing in as many as 600 students from high schools across the region to campus. The Lifetime Sports Academy began in 1973 and has been held for elementary-school children every year since, with about 150 attending.

CONCLUSION

In 1989, Murphy had been president of Missouri Western for six years. She had succeeded in meeting several of her original goals and was making headway on many more. Despite facing tight budgets each year, the College became technologically up-to-date, and art and music faculty and students were thrilled with a new addition to their building. Missouri Western was ready for the 1990s.

1990-1999

OVERVIEW

The years 1990-99 saw the receipt of the College's largest gift in its history and tremendous campus expansion. At the start of the decade, the Board of Regents created a new master plan and a refined mission statement for Missouri Western. The mission statement stressed the quality of the institution and its role in the metropolitan community. (The full text of the mission statement is in Appendix F.)

Features of the campus master plan included additional parking, upgrading the reflecting pool, expanding sidewalks and moving back the entrance sign in anticipation of the state expanding Mitchell Avenue. President Murphy noted that the College had just completed a successful capital campaign with great support from area businesses and individuals, so the Legislature needed to fund some of these projects.

The year 1990 was supposed to kick off with Missouri Western featured on national television, at least for a few seconds. In November 1989, a large group of students and faculty gathered around the campus entrance sign on Mitchell Avenue and yelled, "Good morning, America!" for that program. The greeting was taped by KQ2, the local television station and ABC affiliate, and was scheduled to air in January. However, the tape was temporarily lost and the greeting was not aired until November 1990.

From fall 1990 to fall 1999, enrollment increased every year except two, and the growing number of students was the reason behind several events and initiatives that marked the 1990s: new construction projects, adding a winter intersession and more weekend and evening classes, and adding a fall commencement ceremony. The official enrollment figure for the fall of 1992 revealed that Missouri Western had topped 5,000 students, a goal of both Presidents Looney and Murphy.

Unfortunately, the early 1990s also brought budgetary challenges, which led to the elimination of several programs and positions to save money.

In 1995, a consulting forester inventoried the trees on campus and reported that there were 795 trees of 40 different species and 166 planting locations, but that number did not take into account the trees lining the jogging trail. Additionally, ground squirrels were so abundant across campus throughout the 1990s that they earned the affectionate nickname Griffrats.

ADMINISTRATION

“I think I’d like to be remembered for the fact that I was a student-centered president who worked hard to provide academic quality at Missouri Western.” – Janet Murphy, in an Aug. 19, 1993 Griffon News article about her 10th anniversary as president.

OVERVIEW

Throughout the 1990s, President Murphy remained committed to her objectives of raising the academic quality of Missouri Western and ensuring that the College was technologically up-to-date.

As Missouri Western’s president, Murphy held a number of state and national positions throughout the 1990s. She served as president of the Coordinating Board for Higher Education’s Advisory Commission, chair of the Presidential Advisory Council to the Coordinating Board for Higher Education, the steering committee of Missourians for Higher Education, the State Government Issues Committee, the President’s Commission on Teacher Education of the American Association of State Colleges and Universities, and secretary of the Council on Public Higher Education, to name a few. She also served on several local boards.

In March 1995, Northwest Missouri Community College in St. Joseph (formerly Platt College and Platt Junior College) announced that it was closing. In order to help the approximately 500 students earn credit for the spring semester, Missouri Western personnel and Gov. Mel Carnahan developed a plan to assist the students in receiving credit for the current term and enabling approximately 90 students to graduate. McCarthy was named acting president of the community college and served in that position until it closed in May.

Charles Wilcox, who had served as Missouri Western’s attorney for almost 31 years, retired in 1995. Local attorney Steve Briggs replaced him later that year and was still in that position in 2015.

Cordelia Esry, chair of the Department of Nursing and a 21-year employee, retired in 1996, and the student health center was named in her honor. She was chair of the department when the College began the four-year nursing degree.

At the November 1999 Board of Regents meeting, Murphy announced her retirement, to be effective June 30, 2000.

VICE PRESIDENTS

All three vice presidents on Murphy's cabinet remained throughout the decade – James Roevers, Academic Affairs; James McCarthy, Executive Vice President; and Earl Milton, who joined Missouri Western in 1989, Financial Planning.

DEANS

Nelle Blum, longtime dean of the St. Joseph Junior College, died at the age of 101 in 1991. She had retired in 1957 from the Junior College and remained in St. Joseph until her death.

In 1992, two of Missouri Western's deans left: William Nunez, Liberal Arts and Sciences, and Charles Coyne, Professional Studies dean, who had been with the College since 1968. Martin Johnson, who was chair of the Department of Psychology, was hired for the Liberal Arts and Sciences position; and Charles Perkins, chair of the Department of Business and Economics, took over as Professional Studies dean. Perkins resigned in 1997, and was replaced by Jeanne Daffron, who had been serving as chair of the Department of Nursing. Ed Gorsky continued as dean of Continuing Education throughout the 1990s.

ACADEMICS

“Although the admission requirements may be minimal, staying here is an entirely different matter. This College does have a high quality academic program. It may not compete with Yale or Harvard for prestige, but it does turn out highly qualified graduates.” – Griffon News editorial, Jan. 30, 1992.

“We need to continually re-think the ways that students can learn successfully. We must be willing to continue the transformation from the lecture/fountain of knowledge to highly skilled teacher/student interacting methods, mentoring and advising.” – Janet Murphy, Plan Days Speech, 1995.

OVERVIEW

Throughout the 1990s, Missouri Western offered a variety of educational experiences for its students, always with the goal of preparing them well for their careers. Several programs continued to grow and new academic programs were developed, including graduate degree courses from other institutions that were held on campus.

In 1991, William Nunez, dean of Liberal Arts and Sciences, developed the Undergraduate Summer Research Institute to encourage faculty and students to work together on research projects, and the Missouri Western Foundation funded the program. The first year, nine students participated. In 2015, the Multidisciplinary Research day, which gives students the opportunity to showcase their research from the past year at a poster session, 190 students participated with 75 projects.

“It was designed to provide talented students with meaningful investigational experiences and strengthen their confidence and independence,” Nunez said in a Griffon News article at the time.

The Department of Engineering Technology purchased eight work stations for a computer-aided drafting and design (CADD) system in 1991, thanks to funding from the 1990 capital campaign. The fund drive for the system was spearheaded by William Herzog of Herzog Contracting Corp.

The Honors Program, which increased from 45 students its first year in 1988 to 150 just four years later, received a financial boost in 1992, when Missouri Western received the largest gift in its history to date. That was a \$1.6 million endowment from the Marie Corby-Hardman Trust, which had been created by Marie and her husband, Cloyd Hardman. The gift was given in memory of the couple’s only child, Donald, who died in a car accident in 1965 when he was a student at the St. Joseph Junior College.

The interest income from the Corby-Hardman Trust was earmarked for academic needs, mainly for scholarships for students in the Honors Program. The program was officially named the Donald E. Hardman Honors Program.

With a gift of \$175,000 in 1994, Missouri Western supporters Simon and Monya Rositzky established the Monya and Simon Rositzky Biology Chair in honor of biology faculty member John Rushin. Funds from the gift were distributed over four years, and some of the funds were used for Rushin to be reassigned time to develop a conservation/wildlife emphasis for the biology degree.

Several new degree programs at Missouri Western also began in the 1990s. The Associate of Applied Science degree for Health Information Management began in the fall of 1994 and graduated its first class in 1996. It was supported by Heartland Regional Medical Center, which paid half the salary of the coordinator. The program was accredited in 1997 by the American Health Information Management Association, and Marsha Dolan was named coordinator of the program that year. The program's name changed to Health Information Technology in 1999. In fall 2010, Missouri Western began offering a Bachelor of Science in Health Informatics and Information Management education. The associate degree program was phased out, accepting no more students after December 2010.

In fall 1996, a Bachelor of Interdisciplinary Studies program and a two-year Physical Therapist Assistant program began. Because of lack of space on campus, classes for the Physical Therapist Assistant program were held at Heartland Regional Medical Center until the Janet Gorman Murphy Academic Center (JGM) opened in 2000. Bill Copeland was the program's first director.

A state focus on technical education prompted Missouri Western to work more closely with Hillyard Area Vocational and Technical School in St. Joseph in the mid-1990s. In 1997, the College developed a cooperative program with Hillyard, including a new Associate of Applied Science in Manufacturing Engineering Technology that was taught by both Missouri Western and Hillyard faculty, with lab classes held at Hillyard. In 1999, the College constructed an interactive television classroom with two-way video equipment at Hillyard.

Missouri Western's program of offering courses for graduate degrees from other universities continued to expand throughout the 1990s with agreements with several institutions. Some of the institutions that awarded the degrees had professors give live lectures on campus, but many courses were now offered via video. Over the years, area students had the opportunity to earn 14 graduate degrees from six universities.

Several interesting classes were offered throughout the 1990s, as well. In the fall of 1992, the Department of Business and Economics held London Viewpoint, an international business course that included both classroom work and a trip to London. The viewpoint program had begun in 1987 with New York Viewpoint and the course, later called Global Viewpoint, was held every other year. Along with New York and London, the class featured travel to Ecuador, Finland, Germany, New Zealand, Poland, Scotland and Sweden.

Stanley Harrison, a 1955 Junior College alumnus who owned an acting studio in New York City, returned to campus in 1992 to offer a two-week acting workshop for students. He had agreed to star

in a play at St. Joseph's Ice House Theater and offered to hold the workshop on campus while he was in town. Also that year, biology faculty member David Ashley started a caving class which gave students had the opportunity to explore caves in southern Missouri.

Charles Perkins, dean of Professional Studies, offered a sailing class on Smithville Lake in 1994. That same year, 10 students spent three weeks in a study program at the University of Oxford in England. In 1999, students were offered a study abroad trip to Germany for the first time, thanks to Tim Holian, German faculty member.

In the summer of 1999, 35 students enrolled in the theatre program's summer theatre workshop and helped produce a historical narrative, "To Cross a River," a film that included more than 100 community members. It was directed by James Buglewicz, and Don Lillie was the associate producer, art and technical director. Both were faculty members at Missouri Western.

An interesting, long-running event started in September 1997, when the first Banned Book Reading was held on campus as part of National Banned Book Week. Mike Cadden, English faculty member; Julia Schneider, library director; and Michael Smith, education faculty member; organized it. Excerpts from the following books were read aloud that first year by Missouri Western students and professors, area educators and librarians: "The Handmaid's Tale," by Margaret Atwood; "Matilda," by Roald Dahl; "James and the Giant Peach," by Roald Dahl; "The Great Gilly Hopkins," by Katherine Paterson; "Bridge to Terabithia," by Katherine Paterson; "The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn," by Mark Twain; "The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe," by C.S. Lewis; "Romeo and Juliet," by William Shakespeare; and "The Catcher in the Rye," by J.D. Salinger. The annual event was still being held in 2015.

In 1997, the U.S. Department of Justice awarded the Department of Criminal Justice/Legal Studies a \$933,000 one-year grant to develop a Regional Community Policing Institute on campus to offer training and technical assistance to law enforcement personnel across the country. It opened on the first floor of the Hearnes LRC and later moved to Wilson PS. Between 1997 and 2012, the Institute received federal grants totaling \$7,214,114.

Alice Chandler, former president of State University of New York at New Paltz, was hired as a consultant for Missouri Western, and in September 1997, President Murphy submitted a letter outlining Chandler's report to the Board of Regents. Chandler reported that the "College had extraordinary sensitivity to student needs, not only the under-prepared but the exceptionally talented students, too."

She lauded the Access Plus program, but noted that the College must find a way to decrease student absenteeism. Chandler also opined that Missouri Western had stringent requirements for entrance into the nursing and education programs, considering it was an open admissions institution.

Finally, she noted, "If the national complaint is that faculty spend too little time with their students, Missouri Western offers a shining exception to that fault."

In 1998, Missouri Western's ROTC program signed cross-enrollment agreements with William Jewell College in Liberty, Missouri, which meant Missouri Western would provide military science classes for William Jewell students. At the time of the signing, Missouri Western already had

cross-enrollment agreements with University of Missouri-Kansas City, Rockhurst University, Park College, Avila College and Benedictine College. Northwest Missouri State University signed an agreement in 1999, and Calvary Bible College became affiliated with the Pony Express Battalion in 2006.

As enrollment grew throughout the 1990s, the number of students required to take developmental math courses also grew. Ken Lee, who served as department chair, said in an interview that it was becoming more and more difficult to teach the developmental course as a regular lecture because of the a huge variance in the skill levels of the students in the classes. So in the spring of 1993, a self-paced developmental math course began, which proved to be very successful.

In the fall of 1998, the Center for Excellence in Teaching opened in the library, using funds from the Access Plus program and Share the Success capital campaign. The purpose of the center was to provide professional development for faculty members, and it sponsored several faculty workshops and an all-campus colloquium. The center also offered technological services, instruction and resources to faculty members.

When it opened, Judith Martin, director of the Prairie Lands Writing Project, was named interim director of the center, a half-time position. In May 1999, she became the center's full-time director.

The idea for the center dated back to the late 1980s, but tight budgets delayed it for several years. Unfortunately, tight budgets also led to its closing in 2003.

In 1997, the Coordinating Board for Higher Education adopted the goals of the Task Force on Critical Choices for Higher Education. One of the goals required that 90 percent of the students admitted to the teacher education program attained an enhanced ACT composite score in the 66th percentile or a score of 265 on the C-Base exam. By that fall, Missouri Western was only one of three state institutions to reach that goal. The other two were Truman State University and University of Missouri-Columbia.

In 1998, the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education asked three colleges that it considered to be on the forefront of performance-based assessment to address the general assembly, and Missouri Western was chosen because of its collaboration between its Department of Education and the Division of Liberal Arts and Sciences, and its assessment of qualification of candidates with its junior interview process.

By the mid-1990s, students and staff began to talk about the need for a commencement ceremony in December because of the crowded arena at the one ceremony in the spring. To alleviate the crowding at the spring ceremony, the Instructional Media Center staff had begun taping the ceremony in 1996, playing it on a screen to overflow crowds in the Potter FA Theater.

At the May 1998 spring commencement ceremony, an overflow crowd of 4,500 in the arena saw approximately 760 graduates earn their degrees, and administrators decided it was time to add a second commencement ceremony. The first December commencement ceremony was held in 1998 for summer and fall graduates, and approximately 200 graduates participated. Steve Gaw, Speaker for the Missouri House of Representatives, was the guest speaker. (A second spring ceremony was added

in 2002 because of continued overcrowding in the arena. In 2014, one spring ceremony was held in Spratt Memorial Stadium.)

Steady enrollment increases were also the impetus behind the creation of the weekend college program in 1991 that began with seven, three-credit courses, and a creation of a winter intersession that started between the 1993 fall and 1994 spring semesters. It was offered in addition to the intersession between spring and summer semesters that had begun in 1988.

A+ SCHOOLS PROGRAM

The A+ Schools program was created in 1993 in Missouri as an incentive for improving the state's high schools. The primary goal of the program was to ensure that all students who graduated from Missouri public high schools were well prepared to pursue advanced education and/or employment. If high schools students met certain criteria, they could qualify to receive two years of tuition at a Missouri community college or junior college. Lafayette High School in St. Joseph was one of the schools designated in the A+ program.

In 1999, House Bill 547 was created to allow A+ students to use their benefits for four-year institutions that offered associate degree programs, if students resided nearer a four-year institution than any community college. That was good news for Missouri Western, since it could now attract A+ program students. The first group of 67 enrolled in the fall of 2000.

In 2011, Missouri Western was notified that the Missouri Department of Higher Education was going to phase out Missouri Western's A+ program. Students in the 2012 graduating classes at eligible high schools had two years to use the funds at Missouri Western. However, for fall 2013, Missouri Western expanded its scholarship program, making it available to A+ recipients for up to four years if they maintain a GPA of at least 3.25, instead of just two years.

Additionally, the expansion gave graduates of high schools in Andrew and Buchanan counties \$2,000 per year under the scholarship program and recipients from other A+ high schools in Missouri \$1,500 per year.

ACCESS PLUS

In 1993, state colleges and universities were required to submit a mission declaration to the Coordinating Board for Higher Education regarding their admissions policies. Missouri Western's Mission and Long-Range Planning Task Force recommended to administrators that it remain an open admissions institution, at least for the next three years. The Faculty Senate voted in favor of the College changing its admissions standards to moderately selective, but the task force noted that had Missouri Western been moderately selective in the fall of 1992, half of its students would not have been admitted.

President Murphy was committed to the open admissions policy, but she realized the challenges of helping underprepared students succeed. She began requesting funding from the state so Missouri Western could provide programs for its at-risk students.

“A commitment to open access must be linked to a commitment to enhanced learning competencies and success in navigating through the academic requirements of the institution,” she told the Board of Regents. “With the commitment of open admissions comes the responsibility to work with students to succeed.”

In early 1995, House Bill 442 was filed by Rep. Gary Witt, Rep. Charlie Shields, Rep. Dan Hegeman and Rep. Glenda Kelly to provide Missouri Western \$2.2 million over three years to assist the College in enhancing its mission and improve retention and graduation rates. Sen. Sydney Johnson and Sen. Marvin Singleton filed a companion bill, SB 320. Gov. Mel Carnahan signed the mission enhancement bill to fund Access Plus at Missouri Western for fiscal years 1997, 1998 and 1999. Prior to FY 1999, the state reduced the amount of funding for it that year and extended the program for a fourth year, FY 2000. Over the program’s four years, the money funded 28 new faculty members, 22 staff positions, technology support, telecommunications equipment and several new initiatives.

In the summer of 1996, as part of Access Plus, the College opened the Freshman Year Office, and Judy Grimes was hired as its director. The office staff’s responsibilities included training advisors specifically for freshmen, enhancing the current orientation programs and developing courses to target problem areas among incoming freshmen.

That fall, as part of Access Plus, faculty member Diane Gorcyca was named coordinator of the Freshman Interest Group program, where up to 20 freshmen took the same three courses that were taught around a common theme. In the first year, more than 250 freshmen enrolled in a FIG, and in the second year, more than 400 enrolled. FIGs were the predecessor to Learning Communities, which were developed in the early 2000s.

Additionally, College 101, a freshman seminar course that had begun in 1988, was expanded from an eight-week, two-credit-hour course to a full semester, three-credit-hour course. The Center for Academic Support also increased its tutoring in math, reading and writing, and added tutors for biology, geology, chemistry, political science and foreign languages.

English 100, the developmental writing course, was redesigned and was now taught by only full-time professors. Introductory courses in the Division of Professional Studies, such as Introduction to Business, were specially designed and staffed through Access Plus.

Missouri Western had always held an orientation program for new students, but Access Plus funds were used to make the program more comprehensive. In 1995, before Access Plus, a program was held for students who were going to live on campus, but in 1996, it became Griffon Edge, a one-credit hour, two-day orientation course, open to all new students. Approximately 500 attended the first year, and in the fall of 1999, more than 800 new students participated.

Also, as part of Access Plus, Missouri Western developed a high school outreach program to ensure that high school students were prepared for college, and it signed 14 program agreements with technical schools throughout the region. Access Plus also helped fund Growing Griffs, which offered academic assistance to student athletes.

Intensive advising was another focus of the program. Nearly 150 faculty and staff advisors received advisement training and resources, and they maintained a relationship with their advisees throughout the semester.

“The reality of the situation is that Missouri Western is an open-admission institution and some of our students need an additional foundation,” Murphy said in a speech to faculty and staff at the start of the 1996 academic year. “Therefore, I believe that we have an obligation to do more than merely accept tuition and fees from students, wish them well and stand back.”

In its third year, 1998-99, Access Plus funded the hiring of a special needs coordinator and an adaptive technology specialist, a Unity Services Center director and a night program/tutor coordinator for the Center for Academic Support. The program also added extra tutoring courses.

Funding in its fourth year, 1999-2000, provided additional faculty, the enhancement of the Center for Excellence in Teaching, the development of a website to assist in advising students, more outreach to high school students and more operating and computer support for the program. The Freshman Year Office changed its name to Student Success Programs/Freshman Year Experience. They also opened a satellite office in Logan Hall and established evening hours to be more accessible to students.

Quantitative measures revealed that Access Plus was a success over its four years: There was a 10 percent increase in freshman to sophomore retention, a 13 percent decrease in academic probation for freshmen, a 6 percent decrease in freshman suspension, a 27 percent increase in Freshman Seminar Enrollment and a 55 percent increase in Griffon Edge enrollment. Additionally, the number of hours that students used the Academic Support Center increased nearly 60 percent from 1995.

The College received three national awards for the Access Plus program, including being recognized as one of America’s top 100 effective programs by the American Association of State Colleges and Universities. Murphy was honored for the Access Plus program in 1999 with National Academic Advising Association’s Pacesetter Award, which is given to just one college administrator each year. Also in 1999, the College was one of five American Association of State Colleges and Universities institutions presented with a Retention Excellence Award at the National Conference on Student Retention. The program was also featured in a national newsletter on first-year experience, and the Missouri House, Senate and governor made proclamations about the program in 1999.

In 2000, the London School of Economics requested Access Plus materials from Missouri Western, which were reviewed to assist policy makers in formulating new higher education initiatives for the United Kingdom. Murphy and Judy Grimes, director of Student Success Programs, also made a presentation on Access Plus to the 2000 American Higher Education Conference.

ACCREDITATION

In March 1990, Missouri Western received re-accreditation from the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools for 10 years, the maximum amount allotted. Additionally, no stipulations were attached to the re-accreditation.

“This assessment represents to us a positive endorsement of our fine College,” said President Murphy in an article in the alumni newsletter. “To me this reflects the excellent faculty and staff and the quality academic programs and services available at Missouri Western.”

In a 1990 Griffon Yearbook article, Berta Dargen, administrative associate to the Vice President of Academic Affairs, said that a seven-year accreditation had been the mean for the commission in the past two years, and that a 10-year accreditation was reserved only for exemplary programs. It was also rare, she said, to have no stipulations.

According to James Roevers, Vice President of Academic Affairs, strengths in the report included a knowledgeable and strong Board of Regents, faculty who were committed to quality teaching, sound advising, support for faculty development and an attractive campus. The report also stated that the College is active in the affairs of the surrounding community and the community is supportive of the College.

Initial program accreditations in the 1990s included five-year accreditation from the National League of Nursing for the nursing bachelor’s degree program in 1991. Additionally, the Department of Engineering Technology earned initial accreditation for its construction engineering technology and electronics engineering technology programs from the Technology Accreditation Commission of the American Board of Engineering and Technology in 1992. Missouri Western was the only public higher education institution in the state to earn accreditation for these engineering technology programs.

Midland Empire Community Arts received full accreditation from the National Guild of Community Schools of the Arts in 1996. Also, the American Health Information Management Association accredited the Health Information Management associate degree program in 1997, and the Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education in 1998 accredited the Physical Therapist Assistant program.

LAW ENFORCEMENT ACADEMY – 1995

The idea for a law enforcement academy on campus actually dates back to President Looney’s term, when a committee drew up design plans in 1979 for an 18,800 square-foot \$1.13 million Law Enforcement Academy building on campus. The design was for an earthen shelter built partially underground, but the plans did not develop into a building.

In early 1995, Ed Gorsky from Continuing Education and Larry Andrews of the Department of Criminal Justice/Legal Studies met with personnel from the Peace Officer Standards and Training program to put in a bid to transfer the Police Training Academy from the St. Joseph Police Department

to Missouri Western. The state was increasing the training requirement, and the St. Joseph Police Department was planning to discontinue its academy.

Gorsky and Andrews received permission, and an advisory board that included representatives from the St. Joseph Police Department, the Buchanan County Sheriff's Department, Missouri Western's Department of Criminal Justice/Legal Studies and Continuing Education oversaw the development of the academy.

The Law Enforcement Academy held its first class in September 1995 with 21 students. Andrews was the academy director, and 25-30 regional law enforcement specialists from area agencies taught specialist subjects to the cadets. It became licensed in 1996 from the Missouri Peace Officers Standards and Training commission. The first session was three months long. POST required 470 hours of training, but the academy was 600 hours. It increased its hours to 900 hours in January 1999.

In 2007, LEA classes moved to the College's downtown center at 6th and Robidoux streets, across from St. Joseph's Law Enforcement Center, but moved back to Wilson Hall on campus in 2011 when Missouri Western closed its downtown center. The academy began offering a part-time evening academy in 2010.

By September 2015, 973 had graduated from the academy.

STUDENT AND FACULTY/STAFF ACHIEVEMENTS

As Missouri Western continued to improve its academic quality and reputation, faculty, staff and students continued to distinguish themselves locally, regionally and nationally throughout the 1990s. Some of the College's greatest recognition came through its Access Plus program and the national awards it garnered in the late 1990s (see *Access Plus*).

Many employees were named to national boards and task forces, state boards and commissions. Several faculty published books, earned grants to study and teach abroad, or to attend institutes across the country.

In 1990, student Donald Andorfer won first place in the Essay and Criticism category in the Rolling Stones College Journalism Competition.

In 1991, Lane Cowsert, chair of the Department of Agriculture, was selected to visit the International Maize and Wheat Improvement Center in Mexico as one of three representatives of the American Association of State Colleges of Agriculture and Renewable Resources.

Political science faculty member Francis Kessler served as a political education and tab coordinator for the 1992 presidential election for Missouri for the News Election Service Consortium, which included ABC, CBS, AP and CNN.

Also in 1992, it was noted that in the past 10 years that Missouri Western students had competed in a national research essay contest for the Center for the Study of the Presidency, at least one student had been in the top 10 every year. Only one other school in the nation – Stanford University –

could claim that in the center's 20-year history. That same year, David Ashley of the Department of Biology received the first Missouri Governor's Excellence in Teaching Award.

In 1993, student Deborah Davidson Harris was selected as one of only three to receive the National Collegiate Honors Council PORTZ Scholars Award. The next year, Kathryn Mackey, a senior commercial art major, designed the "Twist and Twirl," a toy that was selected for exhibition at the Toys Designed by Artists national competition.

The Griffon Yearbook and Griffon News continued to bring home national awards throughout the 1990s; the 1994 yearbook received the highest rating from the Associated Collegiate Press for the seventh year in a row.

Student Allison Holcomb completed a Rotary Youth Exchange program in South Africa in 1995, and Diana Silvers received more than \$20,000 from a Rotary Scholarship for graduate studies the same year. In 1996, Micky Mayes, who was a student regent, was named to the Honorable Mention All-Academic Team by USA Today.

In 1997, Wendy Howard, who had graduated in 1995, was one of three nationally to earn a U.S. Army Professions Scholarship. She was first in her class at the University of Missouri College of Veterinary Medicine.

Music students continued to excel throughout the 1990s, as well. Thirty-five members of the concert chorale, directed by music faculty member Frank Thomas, performed in Europe at the Anglo-American Choral International Music Festival in 1990, and in 1995, the drum line of the marching band, under the direction of music faculty member Dennis Rogers and student Clif Walker, earned second place in the national Bands of America competition in Indianapolis. Two years earlier, Walker had won first place at the Percussion Arts Society International Convention.

In 1996, student Angela Bettis was selected as Female Vocalist of the Year in the four-state Country Music Awards sponsored by the Central Country Music Magazine. The next year, Jazz Ensemble I, directed by music faculty member Richard Yeager, was one of eight ensembles selected for the National Collegiate Jazz Festival. At the festival, students Paul Gomez, Steve Meyer and Chris Wallace received Outstanding Performance Awards, and Meyer received Outstanding Brass Soloist.

In 1999, the percussion band under the direction of Rogers was in New York City's St. Patrick's Day parade and received second place in the college division.

In 1998, Jill Miller, criminal justice faculty member, received the Star Member Award from the American Criminal Justice Association-Lambda Alpha Epsilon, the highest award given to a member.

THE CAMPUS GROWS

“Legislators realize Missouri Western is an up and coming institution, therefore it doesn’t take much arm twisting to secure money.” – State Sen. Sidney Johnson, Griffon News, Oct. 27, 1998.

OVERVIEW

From 1990-99, Missouri Western experienced tremendous growth of and changes to its physical facilities: an addition to the Hearnnes Learning Resources Center, two new residence halls, a new Department of Conservation building, a new fitness center, improvements to recreational facilities, renovations to the Blum Student Union, a new classroom building and a clock tower.

CAMPUS MEMORIALS

A rose garden by the reflecting pool south of the Eder SS/C Building was established as a memorial to Edith Brown in June 1990. Brown had been the secretary in the Counseling and Testing Center for 21 years when she died in November 1989.

In May 1993, Department of Art personnel created a memorial garden by the Potter FA Center for Amy Singleton, who died in September 1992. She had served as the department’s secretary for 15 years. A scholarship was also established in her name.

A tree was planted and a plaque was placed in the grassy area in the corner of the Popplewell Administration Building nearest the administrative parking lot in the early 1990s in memory of Laura Head, who had worked as an administrative assistant in several departments at Missouri Western since 1977.

WARREN E. HEARNES LEARNING RESOURCES CENTER (LRC) ADDITION – 1990

A grand opening ceremony to celebrate the 30,000 square-foot addition to the Hearnnes LRC was held in April 1990 as part of the College’s 20th anniversary celebration.

When Lawhon Construction Company’s \$2,322,900 bid was accepted in December 1988, the company began work on the addition, and a groundbreaking ceremony was held in January 1989. The three-story addition, named the Shirley and David R. Bradley Wing, added approximately 10,000 square feet to each floor of the Hearnnes LRC, benefiting the library, the Instructional Media Center, Continuing Education, the Computer Center and the Learning Skills Center. That same year, Shirley

Bradley was named the Missouri Western Foundation's first Life Member for her many years of service to the Foundation.

The Learning Skills Center, which had moved from the Eder SS/C Building to the second floor of the Hearnese LRC in 1985, now gained a lot more space and a separate entrance on the north side of the building. Its name changed to the Center for Academic Support in July 1990.

The Instructional Media Center's space increased from 3,300 square feet to 7,400 square feet. It now had room for a video production studio, which President Murphy had wanted since she arrived on campus. (See *Television Studio* under TECHNOLOGY.)

The library, which gained approximately two-thirds of the addition's square footage, now estimated that it had space for 250,000 volumes (it contained approximately 180,000 volumes in 1986). The addition also included study rooms, a student lounge area, an instruction room, and a special collections room with separate temperature, lighting and humidity controls.

Receiving funding for the addition marked the end of the College's long and hard-fought battle in the Missouri Legislature in a time of tight state budgets.

The first mention of a funding request at the state level for the Hearnese LRC addition came in 1980, when the Coordinating Board for Higher Education decided not to recommend \$75,000 for planning funds to the 1981 legislative session. For the next few years, College officials decided to focus their efforts in the Legislature on the Potter FA Center addition.

In the spring of 1986, when that addition was well underway and scheduled for completion that summer, President Murphy requested \$10,000 from the Board of Regents so the College architects could begin planning the Hearnese LRC addition. At the July Board of Regents meeting, Murphy called the addition the College's most critical need.

In August 1986, after the addition to the Potter FA Center was completed, Missouri Western officials met with the Coordinating Board for Higher Education's Fiscal Affairs Committee to request \$2.8 million for the Hearnese LRC addition, but the Coordinating Board put the plans on hold.

Missouri Western again asked for funds in 1987, and the Coordinating Board approved \$1.9 million for the addition. However, the funding did not make it through the Legislature.

The next year, Murphy testified before the House Budget Committee, asking for funding. When it looked like the addition had the support of the Coordinating Board, Murphy asked members of the Student Government Association to write letters to Gov. John Ashcroft, requesting his support. The local Chamber of Commerce even sent a letter of support to the governor.

The \$1.9 million appropriation was in HB 1019 and was signed by Gov. Ashcroft on July 27, 1988.

One reason the funding may have finally gone through was because the College Foundation agreed to finance \$500,000 of the cost of the addition. In 1987, Missouri Western had received \$300,000 from David and Shirley Bradley for the library development fund, and the gift was earmarked for the addition. The \$200,000 balance was from donors to the 1984 Partners in Pride capital campaign.

"That really showed that the local people were behind the project and were willing to support it," said Helen Wiggersma, dean of the Hearnese LRC, in an article in the 1989 Griffon Yearbook.

Additionally, funds from the 1989 Share the Success capital campaign were used for furnishings and equipment.

In September 1990, a meeting room in the library was named the Monya Rositzky Chautauqua Room to honor Rositzky's many years of service to and support of Missouri Western. A Chautauqua Lecture Series, based on the popular movement in the late 19th and early 20th centuries in the United States, was started that November and was coordinated by John Tapia, communication studies faculty member; and Denise Bartles, business faculty member. The first lectures were given by Missouri Secretary of State Roy Blunt, who talked about Mark Twain; and Tapia, whose presentation was on the Chautauqua movement.

Some popular performers who returned to campus for several Chautauqua presentations were Sister Jean the Ragtime Queen and Laundry Fat (Jean and Paul Huling) and Stephanie van Reigersberg, who was chief White House diplomatic interpreter in French and Spanish. Other speakers included singer Juliet King and author William Lutz. In 1993, St. Joseph's Cole Woodbury presented, "Images of St. Joseph: A Postcard Reflection," at a Chautauqua event. The presentations often filled the Potter FA Center theater, Tapia said.

In 1997, Tapia published a book, "Circuit Chautauqua, From Rural Education to Popular Entertainment in Early Twentieth Century America," and it received the Governor's Book Award in 2001. Tapia produced a video directed by his department colleague, Robert Nulph, and titled, "Circuit Chautauqua: A Bridge Between Two Centuries." It was selected for the 2001 New York International Independent Film and Video Festival and placed in the top 15 percent of documentaries. In all, the video earned five national awards.

By the time the Chautauqua series ended in 2002, more than 5,000 had attended the programs.

LEAVERTON DORMITORY – 1991

Within four years of moving to its present campus, Missouri Western had built three residence halls, known as the 100s, 200s and 400s. (A 300s residence hall was in the original plan, but never materialized.) In 1973, when the third hall was being built, the College's 3,161 enrollment was comprised mainly of commuter students, and the three halls' capacity of 576 was adequate.

But throughout the 1970s, the Admissions Office expanded its recruiting efforts to students who lived too far away to commute, including Joplin, Missouri; Hannibal, Missouri; the St. Louis area; and high schools in Iowa, Kansas and Nebraska. By 1980, the three residence halls had had a waiting list every year for several years.

In 1980, with enrollment at 4,061, the College entered into an agreement with Broadmoor Apartments in St. Joseph in an effort to alleviate the housing crunch. Missouri Western agreed to sublet the apartments for its students, and the College would pay their electric bills. The agreement was discontinued in 1986 because administrators thought it was becoming too expensive to maintain.

In the fall of 1985, enrollment dropped slightly from the year before, dipped again the next year and remained somewhat level in 1986 and 1987 before it increased again, but the number of those requesting on-campus housing remained steady.

As enrollment again began to rise in 1988, talk of a new dormitory was renewed. There was a little hesitancy to build, however, because enrollment projections for the future showed decreasing numbers. But in January 1989, President Murphy submitted a dormitory study to the Board of Regents that determined there was sufficient demand to build.

When school began in the fall of 1989, there was a waiting list of 109 students in the residence halls.

In September, Vice President James McCarthy proposed to the Board a plan for a four-story building adjacent to the Blum SU that would include dormitory space, classrooms, a conference center and offices, and even a clock tower on top of it. But the Board was reluctant to build more than a dormitory, since office space would not be funded by revenue bonds or produce any revenue.

At the October 1989 meeting, the Board voted to conduct a feasibility study for a building and an architect's study of needs, design and project costs.

In June 1990, a demographic feasibility study reported that enrollment trends would support 200 more rooms. Administrators probably realized the need for another dormitory even without the study because although it was only June, 170 students were already on the dormitory waiting list for the coming fall.

For the first time, the College began compiling a directory of community members willing to house students on the waiting list. By August, because of cancellations, the number had dropped to 120 students, still the most ever by that date, and a record 4,647 students were enrolled for the fall semester. Rooms were made into triples to increase the dormitory capacity to 662.

That same month, the Board of Regents approved an architectural firm, Ellison-Auxier Architects Inc., to draw up plans for a new dormitory. The Board also voted to hire an investment banker to sell the revenue bonds for the new building and to retire the debt on the original dorms for a total of approximately \$7.1 million, about \$4 million of which was for the new dormitory.

Although a location on the northeast side of campus was considered, it was decided that the new dorm would be built slightly to the southeast of the original three. The plans were approved in November 1990. The Board also voted that if dormitory occupancy was less than 89 percent in the fall of 1991, Missouri Western would require freshmen to live on campus in the fall of 1992. (That didn't prove necessary. By the fall of 1992, all the dormitories were full and 80 were on the waiting list.) Bids were opened in December 1990, and Lawhon Construction Co. was awarded the bid.

In January 1991, the United States entered the Persian Gulf War, which shut down the bond markets and delayed the dormitory project.

Construction finally began Feb. 1. Although the contractors were hopeful that they could still meet the fall semester deadline, by June, College officials were told that the building wouldn't be completed in time. Administrators began to make plans for the students who would be displaced in the fall.

Missouri Western rented rooms at the Pony Express Motel, which was located just north of the intersection of Belt Highway and Frederick Boulevard, and made plans to provide a shuttle bus for students who would be living there temporarily.

The east wing of the dormitory was completed when classes started Aug. 16, 1991, so 120 students were able to move in. However, the west wing wasn't finished, and 80 students and three housing staff members were temporarily quartered at the motel until their campus rooms were ready. The College hired security to monitor the motel overnight.

Students at the motel were not happy. "I thought it would be something like the Hilton, but it turned out to be the Bates Motel," said Lee Weir in the 1992 Griffon Yearbook

"We've got a cowboy bar right out our front window," Rebecca Williams told the Griffon News.

Students also complained that the shuttle bus took too much time, they were crowded in their rooms, and the showers and toilets tended to back up. Plus, it didn't help that students were initially told the temporary accommodations would last about two weeks, and the dormitory wasn't completed for six. Students finally moved on campus Sept. 21.

The new dormitory featured 50 apartment-style suites for 200 students. Each suite included two bedrooms for four people, and a common living room with a refrigerator and microwave. Unlike the original three dormitories, this one did not have balconies. The facility contained a basement laundry, offices for dormitory personnel and a new parking lot. At a cost of approximately \$4.1 million, there was now room for 854 students to live on campus.

"It was worth waiting for. The new dorms are awesome," student Adrienne Sturdivant told the 1992 Griffon Yearbook.

The dormitory was not named until 1995, a couple months shy of the completion of the College's fifth dormitory. In June of that year, a ceremony was held to name the hall in honor of the Leaverton family.

Ralph R. Leaverton had founded Leaverton Auto Supply Co. in 1920 in St. Joseph and Barbara Leaverton, who spoke at the ceremony, was the retired president of the company. The family had been supportive of Missouri Western for many years, including helping to fund the College's adult literacy program, Pass the Power.

MISSOURI DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION PUBLIC SERVICE CENTER – 1992

When the regional headquarters for the Missouri Department of Conservation was dedicated in May 1992, it represented a unique partnership between a higher education institution and a state agency.

The 13,240 square-foot, \$1.645 million building on the northeast side of campus was adjacent to a biology study area that had been established in 1971. The combination of the new building with the study area brought about many opportunities for a wide variety of uses for the campus, area schools and the entire region.

The 25-acre biology study area was created with a trail leading to the creek that runs through campus. Between 1981 and 1983, the Missouri Department of Conservation and the Missouri Western Foundation helped fund the development of a self-guided trail, an outdoor amphitheater, an interpretive booklet for the trail, a set of conservation activities for school-aged children and the re-establishment of a tallgrass prairie habitat. The student biology clubs were charged with the construction projects, development of the materials and maintenance of the trails.

John Rushin, biology faculty member who joined Missouri Western in 1979, said in an interview that from the time the study area had been established, biology faculty members had visions of a field station building in the study area. By 1985, they began to talk about constructing a storage shed by the study area, which soon turned into talk of the need for additional laboratory space and outreach conservation programs. In 1988, Vice President McCarthy allocated \$5,000 from the Missouri Western Foundation to develop architectural plans for a biology field station, and Rushin and biology faculty members David Ashley and Richard Boutwell worked with architect Bill Brunner.

The College also requested funding from the state in 1988, but the Coordinating Board for Higher Education did not recommend it.

When the plans came in for a two-story building much larger than McCarthy had envisioned, he suggested working with the Department of Conservation to jointly fund and share a building.

In July 1989, the Department of Conservation, whose regional headquarters were on Ashland Avenue in St. Joseph at the time, accepted Missouri Western's proposal and agreed to build its regional headquarters on Missouri Western's campus. As part of the agreement, the Department of Conservation would fund an estimated \$1.2 million and Missouri Western would contribute funds for the project from its Share the Success capital campaign. Also, Missouri Gov. John Ashcroft authorized the College to turn over 8.2 acres of its campus to the Department of Conservation in 1990. Ellison-Auxier Architects Inc. was the selected architectural firm, and a groundbreaking ceremony was held in April 1991.

The new building included offices, meeting rooms, a reception area, exhibit area and a research lab for the Department of Conservation; and two fully equipped classrooms/labs, four faculty/student research labs and a biology teaching preparation room for Missouri Western. An 81-space parking lot was also built. It was the only conservation service center in the state on a college campus.

In 1993, the campus' Land Use Committee requested that the Board of Regents establish an approximately 180-acre protected greenbelt area along the creek as part of the biology study area. The acreage had been part of the College's farm, and the Land Use Committee was established to determine the usage of the farm since the agriculture program was being phased out. The Land Use Committee determined that if anyone wanted to build trails or any building in the area, the requests would go through the College's Environmental Impact Committee.

In 1995, the interpretive trail was extended by approximately a quarter mile and a walking bridge was constructed over the creek to connect the re-established tallgrass prairie with the rest of the interpretive trail. The bridge was named "Eddie's Bridge," in honor of Edward Hirsch, a Junior College

alumnus who was an active community member and a recipient of a Distinguished Alumni Award from the Alumni Association.

The student biology club named the creek running through the area Otoe Creek, in honor of the Otoe Indians, and the biology study area was named the Otoe Creek Nature Area in 2000. Students also met with members of the Potawatomi Indian tribe to find names for the ponds on campus, so all the ponds in the area have both Indian and English names.

A new amphitheater that seats approximately 80 was built in 2002 behind the conservation building to replace the one Rushin and his students had built in the early 1980s. It was named the Bill Bennett Memorial Amphitheater. Bennett was a longtime outdoors writer for the St. Joseph-Press.

In 1997, the Department of Biology developed a natural history collection that is housed in the Department of Conservation building and maintained by biology faculty members. It was named the Joseph L. Gray Natural History Collection in 2011, in honor of Gray, a longtime supporter of the Department of Biology.

FITNESS CENTER AND RECREATIONAL FACILITY IMPROVEMENTS – 1994

Beginning in early 1994, recreational facilities were upgraded and a fitness center was built, thanks to a student vote in December 1993 for a 15-year athletic facilities improvement fee of \$2 per credit hour/maximum of \$20 per semester.

Improvements and upgrades, which were estimated at \$1.5 million, included tearing out and replacing the tennis courts by the Looney HPER Building and resurfacing the tennis courts by the dorms, improving the multipurpose court by the residence halls, building an eight-lane track around the football field, improving the jogging trail, repairing and updating the exercise stations along the trail, making repairs to the swimming pool, and replacing the floor in the Looney HPER arena. The current basketball playing area of the arena floor was three inches higher than the rest of the arena, and the new floor would be all one level.

In 1995, the improvements also brought the softball team home to campus. A new football practice field was developed north of the stadium, and the old practice field, which was located south of the stadium, was converted to two lighted softball fields.

The fee also funded a 12,000 square-foot building southeast of the stadium which featured a 4,000 square-foot fitness center, a locker room for football players and offices for football coaches. Ground was broken in March 1994, and it opened in September at a cost of \$760,889. Brooner Construction Co. was the contractor. Prior to the new fitness center, students had access to fitness equipment in the Looney HPER Building.

The fitness center was renovated and expanded in 1999, with the work completed in January 2000. A wall of windows in the addition now gave stationary bicyclists and those on treadmills a view of the woods as they exercised. A bid of \$493,790 from Jim Walters Construction Co. Inc. was approved for the project and was funded by refinancing the housing revenue bonds.

In 2000, the Board of Regents voted to name the fitness center the Baker Family Fitness Center after the Cecil and Ruth Baker and the Jack and Betty Baker families because of their longtime support of Missouri Western students and Athletics. The Baker Education Fund had been recently established from the estate of Betty Baker, where half of the fund was designated to provide for education and the remainder for capital improvements of athletic facilities. A dedication ceremony was held in May 2001.

NELLE BLUM STUDENT UNION (SU) REMODELING PROJECTS – 1990-99 & ST. JOSEPH JUNIOR COLLEGE ROOM – 1995

No space on campus has probably been changed, remodeled, added on to or renovated more than the Blum Student Union, and the 1990s was no exception.

In 1992, an elevator was installed for better access to the conference center that was in the basement of the building. The cafeteria was remodeled and new furniture for it was purchased between the fall 1993 and spring 1994 semesters. In 1994, the Griffon Place, a student gathering space and snack bar on the first floor, was renovated.

One major building change occurred in 1992, when the original second floor mezzanine was eliminated and a ceiling was built over the lounge area of the first floor. Before the construction began, people on the second floor could look over a railing and see students playing ping pong or watching television on the first floor. In fact, the Department of Military Science even rappelled through the opening, using a two-story brick pillar in the lounge.

But personnel in second floor offices were subjected to a lot of noise from the lounge area below, so a ceiling/floor was built, creating approximately 1,200 square feet of new space on the second floor.

In 1994, Vice President McCarthy suggested creating a conference room in the space to honor the alumni of the St. Joseph Junior College. Junior College alumni donated \$30,000 for the room, and a 24' x 6' mural on one wall was painted to represent the history of the Junior College. Junior College alumnus Al Kost designed it, and several volunteers helped him paint it.

The St. Joseph Junior College Room, a little bigger than the original open area, held a grand opening celebration on May 7, 1995, in conjunction with the College's 25th anniversary events, and more than 200 attended. The room contains glass display cases that showcase memorabilia from the St. Joseph Junior College and a statue of Minerva, the Roman goddess of poetry and wisdom and the inventor of music that was in the Junior College building at 10th and Edmond.

"The Junior College is our history; without it Missouri Western would not exist," said Elizabeth Castle, Junior College alumna and chair of the Junior College Alumni Committee, in a 1995 Griffon Yearbook article. "I think the conference room is a fitting tribute to the St. Joseph Junior College and its graduates."

In 1997, the student union underwent more remodeling. The dark woodwork was painted a lighter color, the glass doors leading to the Griffon Place were removed and new furniture was purchased for

a second floor lounge and meeting rooms. Glass doors replaced the wooden doors of the game room, and windows were added to the room. Also, a new case replaced an older one that held the eagle and lion by the bookstore. The two awnings on the south outside doors were added at that time, too.

In 1999, a recreation center opened in the Blum SU basement, since the new Leah Spratt Multipurpose Classroom Building replaced the conference rooms there. It soon closed due to lack of use by students, and the basement has not been open to the public since then. Ten years later, it was noted in a Board of Governor's report that the director of the physical plant met with architects and others to discuss the possible renovation of the basement, but nothing developed from the talks.

In 1999, perhaps the greatest change to the student union was in the works, when construction began on a new 35,000 square-foot, two-story addition (see 2000-2008, THE CAMPUS GROWS).

VASELAKOS RESIDENCE HALL – 1995

In October 1993, an article written by Marker Jones in the Griffon News noted that Northwest Missouri State University in Maryville was fining students who called their residence halls “dorms.” Although Jones wrote that calling them anything but dorms was silly, it was just 11 months later when Missouri Western's Dorm Council changed its name to Residence Council and declared the word “dorm” outdated. At that time, Arnell Joiner, assistant housing coordinator, told the Griffon News that dorms were now more than just places to sleep.

So when administrators started talking about a new building for students to live in on campus after one had just opened in 1991, they referred to it as a dormitory. But by the time the new facility opened in 1995, it was called a residence hall.

Although the dormitory that had been built in 1991 increased campus residential capacity by 200, enrollment and waiting lists continued to climb each following year. In fall 1991, enrollment was 4,891. The 1992 fall enrollment topped 5,000, and the 1993 fall enrollment was 5,121. That fall, there were 100 students on the waiting list for dorms.

In late 1993, administrators visited several campuses to explore different types of student housing. By February 1994, with an 854-person housing capacity, 616 current students and 467 incoming freshmen had already signed up for housing for fall 1994. At the February Board meeting, Vice President McCarthy introduced the idea of building another dormitory, noting that an earlier feasibility study showed sufficient demand for a 200-bed dorm. At its March meeting, the Board gave the go-ahead to build a new dorm and approved an architect, Ellison-Auxier Architects Inc.

Construction began in July 1994 on a site south of the 1991 residence hall and was completed in time for the students' arrival in August 1995. In general, both the 1991 and 1995 residence halls utilized the same floor plan – 50 four-student suites and two handicapped suites with two beds each, small kitchens and a lounge area. However, the new hall featured balconies on each floor. The estimated cost was \$4.5 million and was funded through revenue bonds.

The building was dedicated in August 1995 and named in honor of John Vaselakos and his late wife, Betty. The couple had owned three St. Joseph McDonald's restaurants with John's brother, Pete, and they were very active and involved in a number of organizations in the community. John Vaselakos was a charter member of Missouri Western's Gold Coat Club and served on the campaign for the lighting of Spratt Memorial Stadium. When the residence hall was dedicated, he was serving on the Missouri Western Foundation Board.

The total resident capacity on campus was now 1,054. The addition of 200 students put a strain on the food service facilities, and administrators now began looking at expanding the cafeteria. Additionally, a new position, assistant director of housing, was created to better serve the increased number of students living on campus.

LEAH SPRATT MULTIPURPOSE/CLASSROOM BUILDING (MC) – 1997

When the Spratt Multipurpose Classroom Building opened in January 1997, a headline in the St. Joseph News-Press about the building read, "Where nature and technology meet: The Leah Spratt Building." The building, which contained trees in the two-story atrium, was called "sophisticated," "high-tech," and "state-of-the-art" in media accounts of its opening.

The two-story, 50,000 square-foot building featured four standard classrooms, two holding 32 students and two holding 40; three lecture halls, two with a capacity of 64 and one of 88; three collaborative classrooms; two seminar rooms; and an atrium. A breezeway was also built between the new building and the Blum SU. A 232-seat recital hall was named in honor of Crosby and Bebe Kemper, and a multipurpose room that seated 200 and could be divided into two separate rooms was named the W.F. Enright Jr. Community Room.

Every room in the building contained state-of-the-art presentation technology, which included audio and video equipment, a video projector, a document camera, a compact disc player, a slide projector and computer terminals.

Because enrollment had been steadily increasing every year – by 30 percent between 1988 and 1995 –and the College had added no additional classroom space in that time, administrators had been talking about building a new classroom building for several years. They had already added a winter intersession and more weekend, evening and summer courses, but they felt more classroom space was necessary.

Electronic presentation systems were just beginning to be used in classrooms around the state, and President Murphy wanted the new building to contain such technology.

In January 1993, the Board of Regents voted to seek an architect for the new classroom building, and in August, it selected Ellison-Auxier Architects Inc. Although some people were talking about building another dormitory, Murphy noted at the August meeting that classroom space was the highest priority, not dormitories. As it happened, Vaselakos Hall did end up being built before the classroom building because dormitories could be funded with revenue bonds.

In the fall of 1993, the Coordinating Board for Higher Education recommended \$5 million from state funds for a classroom building for Missouri Western, and the following spring, the College requested that amount from the state Legislature. The estimated cost of the building was \$6 million, but Missouri Western administrators proposed that it would raise \$1 million of the cost through private donations because it had just kicked off its capital campaign, Benchmark XXV.

Missouri voters approved a bond issue in 1994 that provided funding for, among other things, capital projects for state colleges and universities. In August 1994, Missouri Western received a \$4.7 million appropriation from that for the classroom building, with the stipulation that the College raise \$1 million in private funds.

Groundbreaking was held in June 1995. At that ceremony, Murphy announced that the new building would be named in honor of Leah Spratt, a 1921 St. Joseph Junior College alumna who had been a great supporter of the College. Spratt had taught school after she graduated from college and then joined Spratt Realty and Investment Co., a family business. She was very involved in the community and was the first woman to serve on the YMCA Board.

In 1990, she had donated \$200,000 to establish Missouri Western's first faculty chair for Elizabeth Latosi-Sawin's Writing Across the Curriculum program. She also pledged a leadership gift in the capital campaign that raised funds for the classroom building.

"The Spratt family has been a longtime supporter of MWSC," Murphy said in the Griffalum News. "The building honors Leah's commitment to higher education."

Construction on the building began the same month as the groundbreaking. It was scheduled to open for the fall 1996 semester, but was delayed until the spring semester 1997. A combination of factors, including weather, a labor shortage, the unique design of the building and its technological features all led to the delay. In fact, it was still quite a push and a lot of long hours in order for the classrooms to be ready on the first day of the spring semester.

A dedication ceremony was held March 26 and an open house for the public was in April.

GLENN E. MARION MEMORIAL CLOCK TOWER – 1997

There had been a couple of attempts to get a clock tower on Missouri Western's campus before it finally came to be in 1997.

In 1982, Kendell Misemer, who was the president of the student body, persuaded architect Gary Ellison to draw up plans for a 90-foot bell tower with a sound system for chimes. At the March Board of Regents meeting, the Board told Misemer if he could find the funding for his \$250,000 idea, the Board would support it. Misemer asked alumni for contributions in the alumni newsletter, but very little was generated by the time Misemer graduated that May.

Seven years later, Vice President McCarthy presented a proposal for a new four-story building on campus to house both student dormitories and classrooms, and the proposal included a clock tower on top of the building. Leaverton Hall was built instead, with no clock tower.

But in 1996, shortly after Glenn Marion died, his son, Norman, approached McCarthy to talk about a campus clock tower, which Norman said was a longtime dream of his father's. Norman Marion pledged \$50,000 to kick off a fundraising drive for one.

In March 1997, the College announced plans to build a 74-foot clock tower and name it in memory of Glenn E. Marion. The Student Government Association also created a new award for student groups – the Glenn Marion Community Service Award.

Everyone agreed that honoring Marion with a structure that would enhance the beauty of the campus was a great idea and totally appropriate.

Marion began teaching engineering at the St. Joseph Junior College in 1944 and served as department chair for a time. As soon as Missouri Western moved to its new campus in 1969, he started talking to President Looney about landscaping plans for the campus. Marion developed a planting design for the entire campus and worked tirelessly for many years, planning and planting.

He retired from full-time teaching in 1974, but continued to work on the campus' landscaping until 1983. In 1991, he told the St. Joseph News-Press/Gazette that he had planted 400 trees and shrubs on campus.

The entire clock tower project, which cost approximately \$250,000, was funded by donations from more than 300 businesses and individuals. Donors purchased more than 300 bricks to form a wall around the base of the clock tower in honor of or in memory of someone. The Foundation designated \$100,000 from the Joseph Bushman estate for the clock tower and plaza around it, and the plaza was named in honor of Joseph and Bess Bushman.

"Glenn Marion was a vital force in achieving the overall look of the campus," said Bob Berger, director of Financial Aid and the chair of the Clock Tower Committee, in the Griffalum News. "We have a beautiful college and we owe much of that to him and his planning."

An article in the Griffon News at the time noted that the clock tower design blended the architecture of the St. Joseph Junior College with the current campus so it could serve as a link between the two. The arches, columns and white stone were meant to represent the Junior College building at 10th and Edmond.

Construction began in June 1997 at the center of campus where a fountain had been since the campus' earliest days.

The clock tower was dedicated November 15, 1997, but the ceremony had to be held inside because of cold weather. Ron Auxier, an alumnus who had been a student of Marion's, was emcee of the dedication ceremony that more than 150 people attended. Work continued on the plaza area around the clock tower and was completed in the summer of 1998.

SUSAN ROTH GREENHOUSE – 1999

The Campus Beautification Committee that was so active prior to the 25th anniversary celebration in 1995 continued to plant flowers all across campus for many years after the anniversary. In 1998, the

College decided to build a greenhouse on campus property west of Interstate 29 and south of Mitchell Avenue, so Missouri Western could grow much of its own flowers and provide additional courses in horticulture. The Missouri Western Foundation funded it.

In January 1999, the Board of Regents approved President Murphy's recommendation to name the greenhouse in honor of Susan Roth, who was chair of the Campus Beautification Committee. It was dedicated in April.

"Being involved with the beautification committee gives me a chance to enjoy seeing everyone's pride in the campus," Roth said in an article in *The Blueprint*, a newsletter of the Missouri Western Foundation. "Students are excited about our efforts."

Missouri Western's physical plant personnel still use the greenhouse to grow flowers for the flowerbeds across campus.

MONEY MATTERS

“A somber group of faculty and staff members sat in the back of the Fine Arts theater Monday morning to listen to the fate of their jobs, colleagues and programs.” – Rita McElhany, staff writer, Griffon News, March 19, 1992.

OVERVIEW

Just as in the 1980s, the 1990s began with tight state budgets which affected Missouri Western’s appropriations. Faculty and staff raises that had been approved in the spring of 1991 for fiscal year 1992 were rescinded in the fall because the state lowered its projected appropriation for Missouri Western.

Additionally, in March 1992, the Board of Regents approved cuts that eliminated several programs and positions (see *Elimination of Programs*). President Murphy reported in a May 1992 Parents Council newsletter that state funding had decreased from 69.9 percent of the operating budget for FY1987 to 61.8 percent for FY1992, and that did not account for the additional withholding that occurred each year.

The national economy slowly began to move out of a recession in 1993 and for FY1994, Missouri Western received a 2.9 percent increase in state appropriations over FY1993. Additionally, the College received almost \$132,000 for improvements it needed to comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act. State appropriations continued to increase each year, although FY2000 was just a 2 percent increase. However, that year, Missouri Western also received its fourth year of Access Plus funds and \$180,000 to support a summer program on campus offering technical education courses for eighth-, ninth- and 10th-graders. The College also received \$3.9 million to technologically upgrade classrooms (see TECHNOLOGY, *“Smart” Classrooms*).

Although tuition increased every year from 1990 to 1999, sometimes in double digits, Missouri Western continued to offer among the lowest tuition costs in the state.

In 1995, the state distributed \$2 million to colleges and universities through its Funding for Results initiative, and Missouri Western received \$101,600 of that amount.

ELIMINATION OF PROGRAMS

In 1991, Gov. John Ashcroft cut \$71 million out of the FY 1992 state budget because of a court-ordered payment to the federal government due to the Kansas City School District’s desegrega-

tion policy. Missouri Western administrators knew that some of that cut would affect the College's state appropriation.

To try to make up for the shortfall, Missouri voters had the opportunity to pass Proposition B in the fall of 1991. That proposition proposed a three-eighth-cent sales tax increase and a 1.5 percent tax on corporate income tax over \$100,000, a five-cent cigarette tax and a 10 percent sales tax on tobacco products. All of the proceeds were earmarked for education, some of it to be used for changes and improvements to the state's college system.

Student groups and administrators worked tirelessly to help the measure pass. President Murphy spoke to more than 50 community organizations about the proposition, and students registered approximately 600 students, faculty and staff to vote. But the proposition failed, and Missouri Western administrators braced for cuts in state appropriations.

The hit to Missouri Western was more than \$1.1 million out of its \$12.8 million budget for FY1992. Murphy told the Board of Regents that the administration would review all academic programs and all nonfaculty positions to find ways to cut spending and reallocate resources for high-priority programs and services.

Because of the state's required payments to the federal government, the financial picture looked bleak for at least the next three years, and the United States was also in a recession, so Murphy was looking for savings that would continue beyond the current fiscal year.

A plan was announced several months later to eliminate four degree programs – agriculture, business education, office information systems, and theatre. The plan also included increasing faculty's teaching load from 23 to 25 credit hours per academic year, and having Continuing Education absorb the cost of its operation with the exception of the Continuing Education dean's salary.

Additionally, two positions were eliminated in the Development/College Relations area, one position in the Esry Health Services Center, a three-quarters position in the library, one position in the Business Office, two positions in the physical plant area, and one position in Communication Studies. Also, the coordinators of math and English in the Academic Support Center were reassigned to teaching duties.

The Department of Athletics lost \$86,200, half through scholarship reduction and the balance through personnel changes. Cutting sports programs was not an option for Athletics, because it had to maintain eight sports to remain in the NCAA Division II. Athletics set up a scholarship system where its sports were placed in two different levels to determine scholarship funding.

The plan also eliminated the Summer Scholars and Summer Success programs, and reduced the president's operating budget by \$15,000.

Total savings over the next three years were figured at approximately \$945,000.

More than 100 people attended a public meeting with the Board of Regents to discuss the cuts. Students circulated petitions in support of the programs that were slated for elimination, and Board President Dan Boulware said the Regents had received stacks of letters and many phone calls about the cuts.

Alumni Association Board President Kendell Misemer, who had graduated with an agriculture degree, told the Board of Regents that closing the agriculture program would have a negative impact on Northwest Missouri.

Murphy met with the College community to announce the cuts, and the Board of Regents approved the cuts later at its March 1992 meeting. The Griffon News reported that Boulware called it the lowest point in the five years he had been on the Board.

“It became clear,” Murphy said at the meeting, “that Missouri Western would, of necessity, have to define itself in a more focused way. We could no longer be everything to everyone. I know what I am recommending is demanded of Missouri Western if it is to thrive and flourish.”

“It was terribly disappointing (when it closed),” Misemer said of the agriculture program in an interview. “I never heard anyone say it was a good deal. Everybody was really upset and hurt.”

The agriculture program, which had dropped from 71 majors in 1986 to 35 in 1992, was phased out over three years at a savings of \$232,000. Lane Cowser, who had been chair of the Department of Agriculture for 11 years and had been at the College since 1981, left Missouri Western in January 1994. At that time, there were 20 students and one faculty member left. The College added an agriculture concentration to a degree in the Department of Business and Economics.

The theatre degree that was eliminated would later be replaced with a video production performance degree.

Later in 1992, a 10-member Land Use Committee was formed to decide what to do with the agriculture program’s 434 acres, and in 1993, the committee recommended that an approximately 180-acre greenbelt be set aside along the creek that ran through the campus.

The committee also said people could submit proposals for the rest of the land, approximately 240 acres, as long as it supported the College’s educational mission, reflected a commitment to preserving campus beauty and had some relationship to the College’s agriculture heritage. No proposals came to light, and in 1994, it was determined that a farm manager, Dave Herkleman, would continue to oversee the crops and the remaining livestock. Over the years, all but one of the original buildings have been torn down, and by 1996, all the cropland had been converted to grasses. That same year, the College farmhouse that was still standing was converted to offices and a training facility for the state’s Department of Corrections. That house was torn down in 2005.

The campus building that housed the Department of Agriculture removed “Agriculture” from its name and became the Truman Wilson Engineering Technology Building, but in 1994, the name was changed again to the Truman Wilson Professional Studies Building. That year, a criminalistics lab opened in the space that had been an agriculture laboratory.

“I feel I have done the best thing for the long term for Missouri Western. I am trying to improve the quality of our academic offerings and make more courses available that our students need,” Murphy said in a Griffon News article at the time of the cuts.

HANCOCK AMENDMENT

In April 1994, Alicia Stutterheim, assistant news editor for the Griffon News, wrote in an article, “The new Hancock II amendment is stirring up quite an uproar and it hasn’t even gotten on the ballot yet.”

That amendment, Amendment 7, was dubbed Hancock II after its author, U.S. Representative Mel Hancock from Missouri’s 7th District, who created the original Hancock Amendment that was passed by voters in Missouri in 1980. Hancock II was meant to set state government and spending limits and would require most tax and fee raises to be approved by the voters. The required 130,000 signatures got the amendment on the November 1994 ballot. Those opposing it, including President Murphy, feared it would cause large cuts in education.

In September, the Board of Regents voted to oppose Hancock II, and a student speakers bureau was formed to go out in the community to speak against its passage. Their efforts were successful – the amendment did not pass.

SPORTS

“The longest standing tradition at our College was the rivalry with Northwest Missouri State University. Northwest was much older and their school officials felt threatened when Missouri Western was built so close. Thus, the rivalry began.” – Randy Myers, Griffon Yearbook, 1991.

OVERVIEW

Throughout the 1990s, Missouri Western Athletics was led by three directors: Ed Harris, Don Kaverman and Pete Chapman. Harris, who had been at Missouri Western since 1985, left in 1995 and Kaverman was hired as his replacement. He stayed four years. Chapman, the College’s fourth athletic director, was hired in 1999. Chapman was serving as athletic director when he died in 2003.

In the early 1990s, under new Head Coach Tom Smith, men’s basketball enjoyed much success. Women’s basketball and the golf team had some noteworthy seasons throughout the 1990s, as well.

In 1996, the mascot changed from Sam the Griffon to Sampson the Griffon, and was now “less amusing and more ferocious,” according to the 1996 Griffon Yearbook. That led to a new half-time game – “Grab the Griffon,” where a blindfolded contestant tried to find Sampson on the football field.

The close of the 1990s brought yet another mascot to Missouri Western – Lil’ Griff, an eight-foot inflatable “ambassador” for Athletics. Although children loved him, students weren’t so enamored.

The Gold Coat Club athletic boosters continued to grow from 1990-1999. In 1991, there were 460 members, and \$134,000 was raised in its annual fund drive. In 1999, \$362,742 cash and gifts-in-kind were raised in the fund drive, and there were 532 members and 25 corporate sponsors.

In 1999, Doug Minnis, Missouri Western’s first baseball coach, retired with 682 wins in 30 years of coaching the Griffons.

There were also some changes in the Mid-America Intercollegiate Athletics Association conference from 1990-99. Southeast Missouri State University, Cape Girardeau, left the conference after the 1990-91 season and was replaced by Emporia State University, Emporia, Kansas the next season. The University of Missouri-St. Louis departed in 1996 and Lincoln University in Jefferson City, Missouri forfeited its membership in 1999.

Although many changes occurred in athletics over the years, one constant remained – the ongoing rivalry between Missouri Western and its neighbors to the north, Northwest Missouri State University in Maryville. Games and matches between the two were always guaranteed to draw a crowd, and Griffon victories over Northwest on the field or court were always extra sweet.

In 1995, vandals defaced the gravel “MWSC” on the hillside facing Interstate 29 by painting “CATS” in green spray paint over it. Since one of Northwest’s colors was green and its mascot is a Bearcat, most people believed someone from Northwest was behind the vandalism. Needless to say, the green gravel was quickly replaced with white so “MWSC” could be seen again.

A complete list of sports teams’ records, coaches and noteworthy achievements from 1983-2015 is in Appendix I.

ATHLETICS HALL OF FAME

In 1990, the Department of Athletics created an Athletics Hall of Fame and inducted three members into it at a banquet at the Ramada Inn in St. Joseph – Larry “Gator” Rivers, Jeff Brown and Tom O’Brien.

Since it was the first Department of Athletics Hall of Fame induction, athletes, coaches and trainers who had been inducted into the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA) Hall of Fame in prior years were automatically inducted into the Missouri Western Department of Athletics Hall of Fame. That included Doug Minnis, baseball coach; Rhessa Sumrell, softball, basketball and volleyball coach, and coordinator of women’s athletics; and Gary Hazelrigg, head athletic trainer.

Additionally, six players and a coach had been inducted into Missouri Western’s Football Hall of Fame, and these were folded into the department’s new Hall of Fame: Coach Harold Cagle, and players Zack Workman, Chris Faros, Dave Hedrick, Bob Heimbaugh, George Blakley and Tim Hoskins.

Longtime Athletic Director Charlie Burri had been named a charter member by President Murphy when Burri retired in 1984, and he was the emcee at the induction ceremony. M.O. Looney, Missouri Western’s president from 1967-1983, gave the keynote address at the ceremony and was inducted into the Hall of Fame for meritorious service.

Warren Chelline, who served as faculty athletic representative for many years, was inducted the following year. Athletics Hall of Fame inductions were not held again until 2000.

All Athletics Hall of Fame inductees are listed in Appendix B.

STUDENT LIFE

“MWSC: A college with a personal touch.” – Griffon News headline, article by Bruce Thompson, Feb. 8, 1990.

Q: What did you realize that you needed after you got to college that you didn’t think of before?
A: Power strips, junk food, answering machine, girlfriend.

Q: What was one thing you made absolutely sure you didn’t forget?
A: Refrigerator, checkbook, curling iron. – 1991 Griffon Yearbook

“Just about any poor college students would jump at an opportunity to work for \$5 per hour.”
– R. Faulk, 1995 Griffon Yearbook

BY THE NUMBERS

	Fall 1990	Fall 1999
• Enrollment	4,647	5,200
• Full-time students	2,995	3,900
• Missouri residents	4,275	4,732
• International students	15	17
• Age 25 and older	39%	25%
• Minorities (who reported)	7%	12%

OVERVIEW

Student activities from 1990-99 included grand entrances for Homecoming queen candidates, new Homecoming traditions, a resurgence of Greek life and a leadership program for students that continues today.

In 1990, the Women’s Educational Resource Center changed its name to the Non-traditional Student Center to reflect the growing number of nontraditional students. “Considering College” seminars had been held frequently on campus for many years for nontraditional women who were thinking about enrolling in college, and in 1991, the seminar was open to men for the first time.

In the fall of 1992, the director position of the center changed from part-time to full-time, and Ellen Smither was named full-time director. The center hosted a national conference for nontraditional students on campus in 1997.

January 1991 saw the start of the Persian Gulf War, and students supported those serving with Red, White and Blue Fridays and Red, White and Blue Night at a basketball game. Before each basketball game all season, there was a moment of silence for those serving in the war.

Students also signed friends and loved ones' names on an Operation Desert Storm Prayer board outside the cafeteria in the Blum SU, and weekly nondenominational prayer meetings were held at the Newman Center.

By the time war was officially declared on Jan. 17, 1991, 31 students and two staff members had been deployed, and a full-page ad in the Griffon News listed the students who were serving. Student groups sent care packages, and yellow ribbons hung on posts around campus to honor U.S. military personnel in the Middle East.

That same year, there were not very many sororities or fraternities on campus, but an article in the 1995 Griffon News noted that the past two years had seen an increase of both, and there were a total of 11 that year. In 1994, an Inter-Greek Council was formed and Greek Week was revived.

Phi Sigma Kappa fraternity, on campus since 1980 and Missouri Western's oldest existing national chapter, earned a Most Improved Chapter award at its national convention in 1994. For the next three years, the Phi Sigs earned their fraternity's highest national award, the Herbert L. Brown Outstanding Chapter Award.

Also, Homecomings in the 1990s created some memorable events.

With almost 35 percent of students considered nontraditional at Missouri Western in 1991, it probably wasn't much of a surprise when Sandy Smith, a married mother of three, was named the Homecoming queen that year. She was active in several organizations and had been nominated by the Student Honors Organization.

"It had to be a miracle for someone 40 and fat to be queen," she said in an article in the 1992 Griffon Yearbook.

In 1997, Homecoming queen candidate Carina Miller made a grand entrance into Spratt Memorial Stadium in a helicopter piloted by a Kansas City television station's meteorologist. The Griffon News said at the time that that topped one of the queen candidates arriving on a Harley Davidson motorcycle for an earlier Homecoming.

Homecoming 1998 (with the theme MWSC Goes Primetime) brought two firsts to campus – students voted for their queen on computers, using the same computers that were used for registration each semester; and the Homecoming parade was held on campus.

Floats lined up at the American Family Insurance parking lot across from the campus on Mitchell Avenue, paraded in the main entrance and rolled clockwise around Downs Drive. Although there were a few traffic problems, the parade was deemed a success.

By the 1999 Homecoming (MWSC Celebrates the Century), however, the campus was disrupted with the construction of the JGM Academic Center and the addition to the Blum SU, so the parade went back to downtown St. Joseph. The following year, Faraon Street past the north entrance of campus was being repaired, so the parade couldn't be held on campus that year, either. Although the idea of returning the parade to campus was brought up several times since, the 1998 Homecoming parade was the one and only held on campus.

Several new student traditions beyond Homecoming also began in the 1990s. One that began in the fall of 1991 and continues today is Western Warmup, where student organizations and community businesses set up display tables on campus one day during the first week of the new school year.

In 1991, for the first time, a king, Brian Boyer, accompanied the queen, Angie Griffith, at the Campus Activities Board's annual Sweetheart Dance in February.

For Halloween 1993, the Dorm Council began a popular tradition that continues today – the community was invited to bring their children to the residence halls for trick or treating.

Another tradition began in 1998 – the first Mr. MWSC contest, with swimwear, formal wear and talent competitions. When students first starting talking about holding a contest several months earlier, a Mr. and Ms. MWSC was mentioned, but by the time the event was held, the contest was only for men. The first Mr. MWSC was Skylar Jorgensen. The annual event became a fundraiser for Alpha Gamma Delta Sorority's charity.

The college's female pompon squad that performed at halftimes of football and basketball games was part of a longtime tradition. The group went by several different names over the years –Glitter Girls, Griffonettes, Griffettes, Golden Griffon Girls and Golden Girls. It disbanded in 1993 but re-emerged in the fall of 1996 as the Mystic Dancers. They acquired new uniforms, and Kayla Hinton became the director.

In 1992, the first Barbara Sprong Leadership Challenge was held to help students develop leadership skills. The first leadership challenge, for 24 students, featured guest speakers at seven weekly meetings and ended with a weekend retreat. (The retreat was moved to the beginning of the leadership challenge the next year.) The program, funded in part by the Missouri Western Foundation, was named for Barbara Sprong, who had served as president of the Board of Regents.

"I am honored that the leadership challenge was named on my behalf," Sprong said in a Griffon News article. "Education has always been at the forefront of my community involvement, and I hope this program will allow these students to enhance their skills so that they may assume leadership roles while in college and later in life."

The presenters for the first leadership challenge included Missouri Western personnel Brenda Blessing, James Grechus, Francis Kessler, Vice President McCarthy, Mark Mikkelsen, Joseph Ripple, John Tapia and Randy Williams; and community members Lee Keith and Barbara Wurtzler.

Although the following excerpt from the 1998 Griffon Yearbook is referring to the 1997 Homecoming theme, "MWSC Goes Retro," it also might reflect student feelings as the next decade neared:

“What was the state of student life in 1998? Extreme! There was no in-between for Generation Next. Campus pride dropped in with a trippy retro bang! Fierce fashions were born again. Eating and sleeping were the usual obstacles. Credit debt had students pounding the pavement for employment. Internet junkies got plugged in. Charity was abundant. What was left for this generation to achieve? Everything.”

TECHNOLOGY

“Our main goal is to bridge the gap between teaching and technology.” – Max Schlesinger, director of the Instructional Media Center, Griffon News, Oct. 18, 1990.

“In the computer age, a student’s worst nightmare is a malfunctioning disk with no back-up disk or an improper saving procedure.” – 1992 Griffon Yearbook

“It is the computer age, and Missouri Western is keeping up.” – Griffon News article by Jenny Davis, Sept. 26, 1996.

OVERVIEW

Throughout the 1990s, Missouri Western continued to open new computer labs, update its technology and train faculty and staff on computer programs. The administration was committed to making sure both its graduates and employees were computer literate, and that faculty had the latest instructional technology in their classrooms.

In April 1990, the Board of Regents approved a \$2 per credit hour/\$24 maximum computer user fee for students to cover the cost of continually updating software, purchasing more hardware, and improving the capabilities of the computers across campus. Missouri Western also received money from the state’s Video Instructional Development and Educational Opportunity (from a tax on video rentals) for several years, which helped fund the installation of the campus video network, additional satellite dishes, and equipment to support two-way, interactive video events.

Also in 1990, the campus signed on to a new electronic mail system called email, and as the years passed, more and more students and faculty joined the list and began using the system. By 1993, more than 800 students and employees were using it, and the computer center was holding workshops to teach students how to use email and the Internet. One year later, the system had almost 1,850 users and that number was growing daily. By June 1995, there were 5,000 users. At the student orientation session in 1997, every student was given an email account.

By 1992, an Instructional Technology Task Force had been formed to help the campus remain technologically up-to-date. The task force’s goal was to have 100 percent of the faculty capable of accessing the student database, using email and word processing, and using discipline-specific software. In January 1994, it was reported that approximately 90 percent of the faculty had had some type of computer training, and faculty were using laptop computers by 1999.

In 1991, Missouri Western became a charter member of the Missouri Research and Education Network (MOREnet) consortium. The consortium was originally formed to electronically link Missouri's 13 four-year, state-funded colleges and universities and to provide access to electronic mail, libraries, databases, electronic magazines and conferences. Also, MOBIUS, a state organization originally made up of academic libraries whose purpose is to share library materials, information, and services, began in 1998, and Missouri Western was a founding member.

Missouri Western took a great technological leap when it signed an agreement with the University of Missouri-Kansas City to operate a 300-foot television relay tower in Trimble, Missouri in 1991. The agreement meant that Missouri Western's Instructional Media Center could now receive programs, including graduate courses, from UMKC's Instructional Video Network. In turn, Missouri Western's IMC could feed these programs to all campus classrooms and to the community, because a fiber optic feed from the IMC to St. Joseph Cablevision had already been established.

Simultaneously, as the Trimble site was being prepared for use, IMC director Max Schlesinger applied to the Federal Communications Commission to license an Instructional Television Fixed Service (ITFS) in St. Joseph to transmit programming that the IMC received or produced to viewing sites in the outlying region. He also authored and was awarded a grant from the Department of Commerce, National Telecommunications Information Administration to fund the installation of the four-channel ITFS system.

Beginning in 1993, about 25 regional business, industry, educational, and healthcare sites participated in this proprietary television service. Between the IMC's feed to St. Joseph Cablevision and ITFS, the region was enriched with educational television programming, Schlesinger said. Around 1996, advances in technology allowed higher education institutions to connect directly via fiber optic services, and the need for the Trimble relay lessened over time. It was decommissioned in 2000 and sold in 2002.

The College and St. Joseph Cablevision shared in the success of Missouri Western's instructional television offerings. Over many years, the IMC and St. Joseph Cablevision maintained a special partnership. Schlesinger said in an interview after he retired that St. Joseph Cablevision was a leader in the nation's cable television industry, and their foresight, system and generosity were the backbone of the IMC's excellence in providing programming to the region.

In October 1992, a news release noted that Missouri Western made history when the IMC received, via satellite, a videoconference from St. Louis of the Missouri candidates for lieutenant governor and attorney general, which was simultaneously sent to St. Joseph Cablevision and aired to the community on channel 36.

The next year, Missouri Western offered its first telecourse. The Public Broadcasting System-produced "Oceanus" replayed directly to St. Joseph Cablevision viewers from videotape in the IMC. Before that, the IMC staff had to physically take videocassettes to St. Joseph Cablevision to be aired.

In the spring of 1996, Len Archer, chemistry faculty member, taught an Internet course, Environmental and Industrial Chemistry. More than 100 students (five from Missouri Western) from

more than 20 schools across the country were enrolled. The course was designed by Catawba College in North Carolina and sponsored by the American Chemical Society. Missouri Western students co-authored one of the top two papers to be discussed as part of the course.

In 1996, technology had advanced enough that students were able to register for their spring 1997 classes on computers all across campus, not just in the Registrar's Office.

Ever mindful of Missouri Western's role in the region, another of President Murphy's goals was to have the College produce live video-based distance education courses for St. Joseph and outlying communities in northwest Missouri. So in fall 1997, the first class, *Perspectives in Music*, was produced by the IMC and aired via St. Joseph Cablevision and Missouri Western's ITFS system. Matt Gilmour, faculty member in the Department of Music, taught it. Two more classes that were produced by PBS and facilitated by Missouri Western, *General Psychology* and *Literary Visions*, were also offered that fall. By the spring semester 1998, six more teleclasses were produced by the College and broadcast live.

Schlesinger noted that Missouri Western was one of a handful of institutions in the state at the time that was capable of producing televised courses that met PBS broadcast station requirements.

Some of the courses were aired over KCPT PBS, Channel 19 in Kansas City, Missouri. After several channel changes, Missouri Western Television channel 39 debuted on St. Joseph Cablevision in 1998.

In the meantime, the Internet, or World Wide Web as it was known, was becoming more prominent and popular. Mike Lee noted in the March 16, 1995, issue of the *Griffon News* that "People are choosing to spend hours on their computer terminals, thus forgetting about their lives. A certain few of us do lose ourselves in these Internet programs."

By the end of 1994, most of the computer labs on campus had access to the Internet, and by 1996, students could purchase a network card to have access to it if they had a computer in their residence hall room.

By 1996, several departments had their own separate web pages, so the College developed a home page and created a comprehensive web site. In 1998, fine arts major Tonya Tippit re-designed Missouri Western's web site, making it more user friendly. By then, there were 100 individual pages on the College's site. On Feb. 1, 1999, Missouri Western's home page counter noted that 112,313 users had visited it since it was created in 1996. A campus web team also started up that year, and a lead web programmer was hired in August 1999 to maintain the web site. In the fall of 1999, a new web-based email software system was introduced to campus.

Throughout 1999, the Computer Center was busy making sure Missouri Western's computers weren't affected when the year 2000 arrived. They had actually been preparing for it for three years, but planning began in earnest in early 1999. A committee met every two weeks, and the Computer Center worked on creating software patches to avoid problems.

And it wasn't just the Computer Center that was busy with "Y2K" preparation. The physical plant requested written assurances from various suppliers of essential services, such as utili-

ties, that the College's services would not be disrupted due to problems associated with the year 2000. They wanted written documentation in case legal problems resulted from disruption of services as the new year came in. Fortunately, there were no disruptions as the year 2000 dawned.

“SMART” CLASSROOMS

When the Spratt MC Building opened in January 1997, all of its rooms contained equipment capable of electronic multimedia presentations. But while the Spratt MC building was still in the planning stages, the Instructional Media Center suggested technologically upgrading all classrooms across campus to match the new building's technology.

To this purpose, President Murphy and Vice President Earl Milton requested funding from the state for the classroom renovations for several years, and their persistence paid off in 1999, when Missouri Western was awarded \$3,968,679. The College technologically updated every classroom - 91 in six buildings - and every meeting room on campus between 1999 and 2001. Updated room lighting, lighting controls, acoustics, and proper viewing angles to projection screens were foremost in the renovations, along with state-of-the art presentation equipment.

Faculty who designed courses for electronic presentation could now teach the same way in any room on campus, and there was no longer a waiting list to teach in the Spratt MC Building.

“We were recognized for having advanced classrooms,” Max Schlesinger, director of the Instructional Media Center, said in an interview later. “We were one of the first college campuses in the country to have every classroom equipped. This campus was top notch.”

TELEVISION STUDIO

A television studio on campus was an important goal for President Murphy because she wanted to give students the opportunity to be television-production literate regardless of their majors. She saw it as a great communications tool, and a plus for any graduate seeking employment.

Space for a television studio was part of the Hearnest LRC addition that was completed in 1990, but it was a few years before the studio was fully outfitted and functioning.

In 1993, Kansas City's WDAF television station was installing a new news set in its studio, and WDAF personnel said they would donate their old set to Missouri Western if the College would dismantle and remove it. There was a catch – Missouri Western personnel had to arrive after the last evening news broadcast and have the set removed by 6 a.m. the next morning.

Max Schlesinger, the director of the Instructional Media Center, said he and several Missouri Western employees and students arrived at the station at midnight on the appointed day with tools,

dismantled the entire set and loaded it into a moving van. It took them practically all night, but the job was completed by the deadline.

The set included two news desks with backdrops, the weather set, and a green screen. “They were very good to us,” Schlesinger said in an interview. “It was a very expensive set.” Additionally, the Missouri Western Foundation contributed approximately \$250,000 to equip the studio and studio control rooms with the necessary television production equipment.

In October 1994, the first program, “Western Weekly,” debuted in the new studio with student Colleen Williams as the anchor. It was directed, reported, anchored, recorded, and edited entirely by students. “Western Weekly” aired until 2000. It was revived as “Griffon Update” in 2015.

Over many years, television programming was created for the campus community, St. Joseph Cablevision viewers, and the Instructional Television Fixed Service sites. It was a training ground for video communications majors and other students, and they were indeed gaining the experience envisioned by President Murphy and Vice President McCarthy.

TOWN AND GOWN

“Missouri Western demonstrated excellence far beyond my expectations. This college was a friend prior to the disaster. When the chips were down, they were truly a savior.” – Col. Steven R. McCamy, Commander of the Missouri Air National Guard, Griffalum News article on the 1993 flood.

OVERVIEW

Throughout the 1990s, Missouri Western continued its commitment to be an active community partner, serving St. Joseph and the surrounding region.

That commitment was evident in 1991, when William Nunez, Liberal Arts and Sciences dean, and Vice President McCarthy created the Community Service Scholarship. Funded by the Missouri Western Foundation, it gave five students \$5,000 each semester to work 15-20 hours per week for local nonprofit organizations in the community.

Additionally, in 1993, the Foundation instituted the Presidential Service program, which provided stipends for students to serve as tutors at Neely Elementary School in St. Joseph. That program served Neely School for many years. In May 1999, Missouri Western hosted Neely School Day, and 350 Neely students visited campus for breakfast and lunch, exercise, swimming and games. In 2001, the program was named the Julia Rupp Student Service Program in honor of Rupp, who had served six years on the Board of Regents.

Students and student organizations on campus also continued their community service focus from 1990-99, volunteering for nonprofit groups throughout the community. In fact, in 1995, student Lindy Ohrnell was selected from 59 nominees and named Missouri Volunteer of the Year for her more than 500 hours of volunteer service to the St. Joseph School District.

Choices, a student improvisational acting group that promoted wise decisions and healthy choices, visited area schools for many years to spread its message. In 1992, it was reported to the Board of Regents that the group had performed at 17 different area schools for 2,500 youth.

In the late 1990s, the Department of Music began a program that has benefited the community ever since. Music faculty member Frank Thomas began a monthly noontime concert series at the First Presbyterian Church in downtown St. Joseph. Almost every concert has a connection to Missouri Western, with performances by a faculty member, current student or alumni.

Missouri Western also continued to open its facilities to groups across the country for workshops and conferences throughout the 1990s. Harmony College, for barbershop quartet members, had been holding its summer workshop on campus since 1975. In 1992, its members allowed women to at-

tend its conference for the first time. The barbershoppers continued to hold their weeklong workshop on campus every year but one through 2013, entertaining employees as they rehearsed their songs throughout the campus.

In 1997, the College hosted the National Police Dog Championship on campus. Two years later, Missouri Western hosted a crusade on campus for the Billy Graham Association, and approximately 8,000 to 10,000 people filled Spratt Memorial Stadium throughout the five-day event.

A study in 1990 reported that the College's economic impact on the region was \$96.7 million, and by 1997, it had increased to \$118.2 million.

Several well-known speakers and performers visited campus throughout the decade, including comedians Carrot Top and Chris Rock. Jane Elliott, the diversity trainer known for the Blue Eyes, Brown Eyes exercise, spoke on campus in 1997, and the next year, Titanic expert Michael Rudd was a guest speaker. The Convocation on Critical Issues began in 1993, hosting a well known speaker each year (see *Convocation on Critical Issues*).

For many years, the Missouri Western Dance Company held an annual recital for the public, and community members were also always welcome to attend the two major theatre performances each year at Missouri Western. Productions throughout the 1990s included "The Three Musketeers," "The Madwoman of Chaillot," "Dracula," "Frankenstein," "HMS Pinafore," "Deathtrap," "The Mikado" and "Fantasticks."

ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

The Alumni Association was quite active throughout the 1990s. The fifth annual alumni football game in 1990 drew the largest number of participants to date, as 74 former Griffons helped raise money for the Chris Faros Memorial Scholarship. An alumni basketball game in 1990 saw the return of Larry "Gator" Rivers, who had played for Missouri Western and went on to play for the Harlem Globetrotters.

At the 1991 Alumni Association Awards Banquet, 18 of the original members of the a cappella choir that performed at the 1940 World's Fair in New York attended. The group's director, Raymond Elliott, was honored with a special award for his musical achievements.

In 1992, a committee was formed in an effort to coordinate events specifically for St. Joseph Junior College alumni, and the first event, held in March 1993, was a reception to honor faculty and administrators from the Junior College. The group then began hosting annual brunches.

History was made in 1993 when Robert Roth, who graduated in 1973, was the first alumnus to be appointed to the Missouri Western Board of Regents.

In 1993, the Alumni Association established a chapter in Kansas City, Missouri. At its first event in May, more than 85 people attended a dinner. In 1997, the Kansas City alumni chapter gathered for a lunch and a Royals game, and more than 40 attended.

A report in 1996 noted the following alumni numbers from an alumni base of approximately 14,000:

Andrew County - 293

Buchanan County - 4,113

Clay County - 492

Clinton County - 209

Platte County - 186

Missouri - 8,669

ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS

Missouri Western rolled out the red carpet and invited the campus and community to help celebrate its 20th anniversary as a four-year institution in 1990 and its 25th anniversary in 1995.

For the 20th anniversary, held April 1-8, 1990, the celebration included a dinner at the Moila Country Club, hosted by the Alumni Association, and a concert on campus that featured the St. Joseph Symphony, the St. Joseph Community Chorus, the MWSC Concert Chorale and the choirs from Tarkio and Benedictine colleges. Composer Daniel Gawthrop was commissioned to compose a special piece of music for the anniversary celebration which was also performed at the concert.

Missouri Western also held a dedication ceremony for the addition to the Hearnese LRC as part of the anniversary celebration, and the students' annual Springfest and several other annual events were held during the anniversary week.

The 20th anniversary of the four-year college coincided with the St. Joseph Junior College's 75th anniversary, so a reception for Junior College faculty and alumni was held before the anniversary dinner. A second reception for Junior College alumni was held following dedication of the Hearnese LRC addition, and an anniversary ball and Brunch in the Park on the student union lawn for the Junior College was held in May.

Student organizations and offices across campus were invited to contribute items for a 30-year time capsule that was buried behind the Eder SS/C Building. The capsule, the brainchild of the Alpha Chi Sorority, contains a videotape of a talk by President Murphy, buttons, a yearbook and student newspaper, a housing contract, photographs and more.

The capsule had to be dug up and moved in 1998 when construction began on the JGM Academic Center. It was re-buried on campus and will be opened in 2020.

In an effort to spruce up the campus for the 25th anniversary, a beautification committee made up of campus and community members was formed. Funds were designated for each campus building, and that building's occupants determined how the money would be spent for beautification.

Many volunteers planted flowers around their buildings, but the departments in the Agenstein SM Building decided to build a sundial in front of their building with their designated funds. Jerry Wilkerson, mathematics faculty member, designed the sundial, and physical plant personnel con-

structed it. Although the College funds only covered the cost of the concrete base, benches and flowers, Hausman Metal Works in St. Joseph donated the stainless steel for the project. The sundial graced the east lawn of the building until Remington Hall was built in 2009. It was then moved to the south side of the building by the new greenhouse.

The Alumni Association donated funds to fix the reflecting pool in front of the Eder SS/C Building, which had been empty and in a state of disrepair for quite a while. The Association funded two fountains, lights and five benches that were placed around the pool.

Several ornamental trees that had been planted at the campus' north entrance in anticipation of the anniversary celebration were destroyed in a December 1994 ice storm, and new ones had to be planted. After the campus held a planting day in April to plant flowers across campus, they didn't want to risk losing them, too, so a "Frost Watch" team headed by KQ2 Meteorologist Mike Bracciano was formed to take care of the newly planted flowers in case of frost.

Anniversary activities May 1-7, 1995 included an anniversary/capital campaign victory dinner, an art show, and Springfest for students. A Chautauqua presentation, "The MWSC Story: This is Your Life, 1969-1995," was held on May 4. A concert in Spratt Memorial Stadium featuring the Air Force Band and Drill Team, River City Saints Jazz Band, Fresh Cut Grass, Missouri Western's Steel Drum Band and Western Legacies was held on May 6, followed by fireworks. The week closed with a brunch and reunion for St. Joseph Junior College alumni and the dedication of the new Junior College Room in the Blum SU.

CAMPUS EVENTS FOR YOUTH

There was no shortage of programs for area youth at Missouri Western throughout the 1990s. No matter their interest or skill set, youth could always find something to do on campus both during the summer and throughout the school year.

Several longtime annual events for youth continued from 1990-99, including High School Writing Day, Chemathon, Foreign Language Day, History Bowl, Lifetime Sports Academy and Tournament of Champions (for high school bands).

The Missouri Western Parents' Council sponsored a circus in 1992 on a grassy field where Vaselakos Hall would later be built, and Vice President James Roevers was the guest ringmaster. Don Willis, who was associate dean of Student Affairs at the time, said because the circus was enclosed in a tent, most of the audience didn't realize that severe storms were brewing in the area, but he was afraid they would have to evacuate the tent. Although the storm didn't hit the area and the circus was not interrupted, "Forrest (Hoff, dean of students) and I aged 25 years in one night," Don said with a laugh. It was the only time a circus was held on campus.

An enrichment college for youth was held in the summer of 1990, and out of 130 high school students, 60 were from Kansas City-area magnet schools.

Continuing Education offered a variety of camps for youth throughout the 1990s, including Bushwhackers Kids Club; Up, Up, and Away Airplane Camp; The Gift of a Whale; Calculus Academy; Engineering Camp and Utility Camp; Percussion Camp; and 10 one-week enrichment camps for youth in 1993.

In 1995, the Department of Music hosted 300 high school students for a solo and small ensemble clinic, and every year, Engineering Technology Career Day brought hundreds of area middle schoolers and high schoolers to campus.

In the summer of 1999, Missouri Western partnered with the St. Joseph School District to offer a weeklong summer enrichment camp. Students spent the morning in local schools and then were bused to the College for the afternoon.

CONTINUING EDUCATION

From 1990-99, Continuing Education was responsible for all noncredit courses; evening, weekend and intersession courses; distance education; and conferences. The numbers of those enrolled in its programs continued to grow.

In the early 1990s, Continuing Education began offering dual credit courses to give high school students an opportunity to earn college credit. Two were held at St. Joseph high schools: Calculus at Bishop LeBlond and Composition at Lafayette. Additionally, a Music Theory course was held on campus for Benton and Lafayette students. In 1994, 139 students from seven high schools were enrolled in dual credit courses. Just five years later, there were 447 students in 11 high schools, and in 2004, 529 students were enrolled in 13 courses at 26 high schools. By fall 2015, 973 were enrolled from 43 schools.

The first dual credit teleclass was held in 1998 at Mid-Buchanan R-IV High School – Current Issues in the Economy. It was taught by Patrick McMurry, faculty member in the Department of Business and Economics, and 10 students were enrolled.

In 1997, Continuing Education received a grant of almost \$1 million to teach General Educational Development (GED) classes in the Crossroads Correction Center in Cameron, Missouri. In a partnership with the St. Joseph School District and Missouri Department of Corrections, 10 full-time and 10 part-time teachers were hired, along with several other positions.

Two years later, the College was awarded a \$2.7 million contract to administer educational diagnostic services, academic and special education services and vocational educational services to the Western Regional Diagnostic and Correctional Center in St. Joseph. Over six months, 35 full-time employees plus some part-time were hired, and Continuing Education coordinated it.

A 1996 report noted that 4,927 people had enrolled in noncredit courses in addition to a 1,445 enrollment in Midland Empire Community Arts programs.

CONVOCATION ON CRITICAL ISSUES/YOUTH CONVOCATION/BUSINESS CONVOCATION

One of President Murphy's ongoing goals from the beginning of her tenure was to improve the connection between the College and community. She had instituted a number of successful initiatives toward that goal since 1983, but perhaps one of her best known and longstanding was the Convocation on Critical Issues.

In an interview after she retired, Murphy said convocations were a tradition on many campuses, and she wanted Missouri Western to establish that tradition. She also believed convocations would be an enriching experience for students, and she was proud of the success of the program.

The College's first Convocation on Critical Issues in 1993 featured Arthur M. Schlesinger Jr., a two-time Pulitzer Prize winning author and historian. His topic was "The Disuniting of America," and it drew approximately 3,000 to the M.O. Looney HPER arena.

Murphy recalled that right before the procession into the arena, Schlesinger turned to her and said, "There's 2,000 to 3,000 people in there!" She turned to him and said, "Well, I didn't know how many would come."

The Convocation on Critical Issues was named in recognition of R. Dan Boulware, former Regent president. The following is an excerpt from Boulware's talk at the first Convocation on Critical Issues:

Today we start what we hope will become a tradition at Missouri Western – a tradition of annual Convocations. These Convocations are intended to bring in learned and prominent national speakers to focus upon critical issues of our time, stimulate thought and foster debate – to cause us to open our minds and consider for a moment, that which we may not have pondered and expand the horizons of our thought and knowledge.

And in so doing, may we challenge one another to lift the educational process at this College to yet greater heights. Hopefully, these Convocations will become a focal point of our academic year for years to come and serve as a source of enlightenment to our entire community.

The Convocation has been held every year since 1993 except 1995. That year, Gen. Colin Powell, Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff from 1989-1993, canceled 12 days before the event. He said he needed to free up his schedule so that he had time to decide whether or not he was going to run for president in 1996 (he didn't run).

Powell promised he would return, and he did in 1997, speaking to a record crowd of about 4,500. That year, a Convocation dinner featuring Powell was held for about 400 the evening before, and the dinner tradition continued every year until 2012. In 2000, a private reception was added to the Convocation activities. The private reception was not held in 2012 or 2013 due to the schedule of the speakers, but returned in 2014 and 2015.

In 2012, because of speaker T. Boone Pickens' schedule, a lunch was held following his presentation. The lunch, which filled the Fulkerson Center to capacity, continued in 2013, 2014 and 2015.

Ironically, as Pickens was wrapping up his presentation on energy in the M.O. Looney arena, lightning struck a transformer on Mitchell Avenue and every building on campus lost power.

A list of Convocation on Critical Issues speakers since 1993 is in Appendix E.

A Youth Convocation that was co-sponsored by the Missouri Western Foundation was held at the Missouri Theater in downtown St. Joseph in 1999. The Convocation featured Tony Compolo, who had founded an organization that served underprivileged youth in urban America. His topic was, "You Can Make a Difference." Compolo also spoke at an Eggs and Issues at Wyatt Park Baptist Church. Unlike other Eggs and Issues presentations, this one charged admission to raise money for Compolo's organization.

A Business Convocation and luncheon was held for the first time in the spring of 1999, and 127 attended. George Ditomassi Jr., chair of the Milton Bradley Co., was the speaker, and his topic was, "Changes in Corporate Culture."

The Business Convocation was held each spring for the next four years, featuring Jack Stack, CEO of Springfield Remanufacturing, in 2000; Donald Phillips, leadership lecturer and author of seven books, in 2001; Alexis Herman, former Secretary of Labor, in 2002; and Karl Eberle, vice president and general manager of Harley-Davidson in Kansas City, Missouri, in 2003.

FLOOD OF 1993

The summer of 1993 brought record rainfall amounts and record flooding throughout the Midwest, and Missouri Western offered its facilities and personnel to support the community as it struggled with the flooding.

On July 23, Elwood, Kansas was evacuated, and the campus became the temporary home for the Missouri Air National Guard. They established a command center in the Blum SU and the Hearn's LRC, using the College's computers and software. Air Guard and Missouri Army National Guard members stayed in campus dormitories.

College parking lots were utilized for water trucks, jeeps and other military vehicles, storage for portable toilets and helicopter landings. Missouri Western staff coordinated security for the helicopter landings.

Additionally, the American Red Cross set up a shelter in the lobby of the Potter FA Center, and 30 evacuees from Elwood were housed there for five nights.

On July 24, a sandbagging crew of students and staff was organized to help save St. Joseph's water treatment plant, but the plant was overtaken by high water and St. Joseph residents were without water for a week. The Missouri River at St. Joseph reached a crest of 32.07 feet on July 26, 15.07 feet above flood stage.

At that time, the Instructional Media Center aired Federal Emergency Management Agency broadcasts to television stations and to more than a million homes on a special channel set up during the flood.

The College received a certificate of appreciation from the St. Joseph City Council for “generous and compassionate efforts on behalf of the people of St. Joseph, Mo. and surrounding communities who were affected by the Great Flood of 1993.”

When classes began in the fall, students held a sale and raised more than \$1,100 for flood victims, and 29 flood victims were given clothing from the sale. The Student Government Association also rounded up 110 students for a clean-up day at Lewis and Clark Village south of St. Joseph.

“As part of the St. Joseph community, Missouri Western was happy to help in any way with the flood relief efforts,” President Murphy said in the Griffalum News.

RESIDENCE HALL NAMING

After more than two decades of being known as just numbers, a ceremony on May 21, 1997, finally gave names to the 100s, 200s and 400s residence halls.

“The halls are named for individuals who are the kind of students we would like to see graduate from Missouri Western, ones who go into the community and work for the betterment of greater St. Joseph,” President Murphy said in a News-Press article covering the ceremony. She noted that students had requested that the buildings be named.

The 100s hall was named in honor of the John Sublett Logan Family. John Sublett Logan had five children: John Sublett Logan III, John Byrne Logan, Mary Louise Logan, Thomas Ashton Logan and Sheridan A. Logan. John Byrne Logan helped bring the Air National Guard to St. Joseph and pioneered the idea for the Missouri Western Alumni Association awards program. Sheridan Logan was a banker in New York and wrote “Old St. Jo, Gateway to the West, 1779-1932.” He also served as a member of the Missouri Western Foundation Board of Directors. Sheridan and Thomas Logan established the John Sublett Logan Business Fellowship Program at Missouri Western in honor of their father. The program funds scholarships for students pursuing graduate studies in business, law, accounting and economics.

The 200s hall was named in honor of Kelsy B. Beshears, a teacher and an advocate for civil rights in St. Joseph and the state. Beshears moved to St. Joseph in 1946 and served as president of state and local chapters of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People and as a coordinator of the regional chapter of the NAACP. As president of the NAACP Missouri chapter from 1956 to 1962, she helped organize boycotts of segregated lunch counters, movie theaters and hotels while addressing other discriminatory concerns. She also served as the state’s human rights coordinator and on the Missouri Development Corporation.

The 400s hall was named for Peggy Juda and her late husband, Eugene. The couple was honored for their devotion to nontraditional students, as Peggy had established the Eugene S. Juda Family

Scholarship for Nontraditional Students. She was active in the community and had been involved in the Performing Arts Association, United Way, Open Door Food Kitchen and Temple Adath Joseph.

The naming ceremony was held in the courtyard of the residence halls, and Kelsy Beshears, Peggy Juda and Sheridan Logan attended.

CONCLUSION

As 1999 came to a close, administrators, faculty, staff and students at Missouri Western realized change was in store in the coming years.

At the Nov. 18, 1999, Board of Regents meeting, Murphy, who had been president since 1983, submitted a letter of resignation, announcing her intention to retire on June 30, 2000.

“Many believe the most difficult decision of my professional life was to accept the presidency of Missouri Western State College,” she wrote in the letter. “It was not. The decision to leave Missouri Western State College has certainly been the most difficult.”

As 1999 came to a close, campus personnel and community members began a search to find a replacement for their longtime president.

2000-2008

OVERVIEW

At Missouri Western, the years 2000-08 saw three presidents, an interim president, five new campus buildings, two building remodels and a new University Plaza. Although the years brought diminishing funding from the state, leading to tight budgets, Missouri Western continued to offer high quality academic programs, which resulted in national recognition. It took its role as an educational leader in the region seriously.

Two strategic plans were developed in this time period as well – The Western Advantage in 2002 and Building the New American Regional University in 2007.

One of the most exciting events during these years was the designation of university status for Missouri Western, the culmination of many years of efforts from legislators, Missouri Western administrators, employees, students, alumni and community members.

Except for a dip in 2003, enrollment steadily increased each year from 2000 to 2008. Those increasing numbers made it necessary to add a second spring commencement ceremony in 2002 to accommodate the large crowds that were filling the M.O. Looney Complex arena and expand the evening, weekend and online courses.

ADMINISTRATION

“We’ve always had the right president at the right time. We’ve been fortunate.”— Patt Lilly, who served on the Board of Regents and Board of Governors under Presidents Murphy, Scanlon and Vartabedian.

JANET GORMAN MURPHY

Janet Gorman Murphy ended her 17-year tenure as Missouri Western’s president on June 30, 2000, and James McCarthy, executive vice president, was named interim president until James Scanlon became the new president Feb. 28, 2001.

A look around campus in mid-2000 would reveal many of Murphy’s tangible accomplishments since 1983: a fitness center, Leaverton and Vaselakos residence halls, the Janet Gorman Murphy Academic Center, the Missouri Department of Conservation Regional Headquarters, the Leah Spratt Multipurpose Classroom Building and the Glenn E. Marion Memorial Clock Tower, along with additions to the Potter Fine Arts Center, Hearn Learning Resource Center and the Nelle Blum Student Union.

Throughout her tenure, Murphy, who was a member of several local, state and national organizations and boards, also strived to improve the College’s academic quality and reputation. One of her most successful academic initiatives was Access Plus, a mission enhancement program that garnered Missouri Western national awards and recognition. Murphy also secured \$3.9 million from the state to place state-of-the-art presentation technology in every classroom on campus. She developed an honors program, and cooperative graduate programs with six universities.

Two new academic programs began, Health Information Management and Physical Therapist Assistant, along with the new Law Enforcement Academy.

“The growth and standard of excellence our College has achieved in the last 17 years is an outstanding achievement,” said Bill Hurley, Board of Regents president at the time of her retirement. “Dr. Murphy will be sorely missed not only in the College but also in the community.”

“I have sincerely enjoyed my work here and will miss the students, faculty and staff who have developed a great atmosphere in which to work,” Murphy said in the Griffalum News at the time of her retirement. “I will forever be grateful to the Board of Regents who hired me and the following Board of Regents for their support. I want to thank the community of St. Joseph for their concern and support during my tenure as president.”

The College's 30th anniversary celebration in April 2000 served as a farewell for Murphy. She was also honored as the Grand Marshal in St. Joseph's Apple Blossom Parade in May, and the Board of Regents named her President Emeritus at its June 2000 meeting.

Murphy passed away May 14, 2013.

JAMES J. SCANLON

As soon as President Murphy announced her retirement in November 1999, a national search began to find her replacement. The first search ended in May 2000 when the leading candidate withdrew to accept a presidential appointment at another college, and the Board of Regents decided not to offer a contract to any of the other candidates. That same month, Vice President McCarthy was named interim president, effective July 1. So Murphy retired seven months after her announcement with no permanent replacement named.

When the second presidential search was underway, three candidates visited campus, and James J. Scanlon accepted the position in December 2000. He started at the end of February 2001.

"We are extremely pleased that Dr. Scanlon has chosen to accept the position as Missouri Western's president," said Regent President Krikor Partamian in the Griffalum News. "His leadership style, extensive experience in higher education and proven connection with the communities in which he has worked and lived make him the perfect choice for our president. I believe Dr. Scanlon and his wife, Lauren, will be an invaluable team both on campus and off campus."

Scanlon had been serving as provost and professor of English at Youngstown State University in Ohio since 1993. Previous positions included dean of the College of Arts and Sciences at Clarion University in Pennsylvania, and Academic Planning provost and professor of English at Southeast Missouri State University in Cape Girardeau. He came to Missouri Western with more than 30 years of experience in higher education, having also served at the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign; and Brown University in Providence, Rhode Island.

A native of New York, Scanlon earned his doctorate in English from Brown University and his Bachelor of Arts in English from Manhattan College in Riverdale, New York.

Between the time he was hired and when he began his tenure, Scanlon visited campus and stayed overnight in Logan Hall, which greatly impressed the students.

"No matter who we talked to, whether it was students, faculty or staff ... this campus was clearly student centered," he said in the Griffalum News when he was hired. "People didn't simply say this was a campus centered on students, the evidence was everywhere."

Scanlon served more than seven years, and he had several accomplishments despite state funding cuts and tough economic times for several years of his presidency.

In an interview shortly before he retired, Scanlon said he believed one of the greatest accomplishments of his presidency was the designation of university status for Missouri Western in 2005.

Also during his tenure, Missouri Western built a new residence hall, a commons building for the residence halls, the Fulkerson Center and the Christopher S. “Kit” Bond Science and Technology Incubator. Just two months before Scanlon retired, Missouri Western broke ground on the Remington Hall/Agenstein Hall project, which included an approximately 60,000 square-foot addition to Agenstein Hall (Remington Hall), and Agenstein Hall’s complete renovation. Scanlon also oversaw the remodeling of several student spaces around campus, including the library, cafeteria, and study and lounge areas in several buildings.

Scanlon led Missouri Western through the creation and implementation of two strategic plans, involving more than 400 members of the campus and community in the development of each plan. In 2003, the College joined the Academic Quality Improvement Project, an alternative accreditation plan that focused on continuous improvement. The AQIP objectives coincided with Missouri Western’s strategic plans, and the College was recognized nationally for its work with AQIP.

Under his leadership, Missouri Western became a partner in the Institute for Industrial Applied Life Sciences, which led to the new incubator on campus. He also brought national attention to Missouri Western through the American Democracy Project and Missouri Western’s Learning Communities initiative.

Scanlon created two taglines for the institution during his tenure. In 2001, the College began using “The Western Advantage.”

“The ‘Western Advantage’ is the opportunity for students to work very closely with faculty and, for that matter, with staff, who consider the students as their first priority,” Scanlon said in the Griffalum News. “You’re the top priority for people, and people care about you not only as a student or as someone who is working towards a degree, but also as a person. That is part of what yields the ‘Western Advantage.’”

Then, in the spring of 2004, Missouri Western launched “Discover Gold.”

“‘Discover Gold’ is right for Western for many reasons,” said Kristy Hill, director of Public Relations and Marketing at the time. “The school colors are black and gold, its mascot, the Griffon, is the protector of gold and things of value, hence, the value of a quality education is Western’s golden treasure to be discovered and valued. As a brand, we wish to convey that Western is a high value, quality institution of higher education. The gold that one finds here is found in quality programs, quality faculty and staff, and quality students.”

Scanlon also encouraged the campus and community to refer to the institution as “Western,” rather than “Missouri Western.”

In 2005, the Board of Governors named an employee award in his honor –the James J. Scanlon Service Leader of the Year, because of his dedication to community service.

In addition to his duties as president, he served on several local and state boards, including the Council on Public Higher Education, the Coordinating Board for Higher Education’s task force to focus on the development of a new funding formula for public higher education. Scanlon also served on

the Committee on Economic and Workforce Development of the American Association of Colleges and Universities.

In April 2007, Scanlon announced his intention to retire on June 30, 2008.

“I’d like to be remembered as someone who really cared about the people of Western and who cared about our role in the community and region,” he said in an interview shortly before he retired. “It’s been a wonderful experience. I couldn’t think of a better way to finish out my career in higher education.”

“Everything he’s done, he’s done with the highest integrity, transparency and respect. That’s Jim Scanlon,” said Dirck Clark ’85, Chair of the Board of Governors when Scanlon retired. “Every decision he made was based on two things: What’s the right thing to do? What’s the best for the students?”

ROBERT A. VARTABEDIAN

Perhaps because Missouri Western had to conduct two searches before President Scanlon was hired in December 2000, the Board of Governors hired an executive search firm, R.H. Perry & Associates, to serve as a consultant to the presidential screening committee that was charged with finding a new president to replace Scanlon.

The firm spent three days on campus in September 2007 meeting with campus constituents in order to create an executive search profile for prospective candidates. Within two months, candidates were brought to campus, and Robert A. Vartabedian was announced as Missouri Western’s next president in December. He visited campus for the announcement shortly after an ice storm had closed campus for three days.

Vartabedian became president July 1, 2008, the day after Scanlon retired. He and his wife, Laurel, pursued the possibility of building a presidential residence on campus, but decided against it and instead built a house east of St. Joseph.

Vartabedian had been vice president for Academic Affairs at Eastern New Mexico University in Portales, New Mexico since 2005, where he oversaw re-accreditation efforts in six departments.

Previously, Vartabedian was dean of the College of Arts and Sciences at Western Carolina University in Cullowhee, North Carolina from 1999 to 2005, serving eight months as interim vice chancellor for Academic Affairs in 2004.

Previous administrative experience for him included time as a department head and director of Graduate Studies in Communication at West Texas A&M University in Canyon, Texas, and as a division head, coordinator of Graduate Studies in Communication and assistant dean of Graduate Studies at Wichita State University in Wichita, Kansas.

Vartabedian graduated magna cum laude with a Bachelor of Arts in Speech Communication from California State University, Fresno in 1974. He received a Master of Arts in Speech Communication from Wichita State University, and a Doctorate in Communication from the University of Oklahoma.

“My experiences are a good fit for the university,” President Vartabedian said when he was hired. “I welcome the opportunity to shape the future of the University and the region, and to communicate Western’s mission throughout the state.”

For the first time in Missouri Western’s history, inauguration events were held for a new president. On Oct. 17, 2008, a formal installation ceremony for Vartabedian was held in the Looney Complex arena, and Sue Park, dean emerita of West Texas A & M University, was the guest speaker. The ceremony was preceded by a lunch for special guests and followed by a reception for the campus and community. An inaugural ball was also held at the St. Joseph Country Club on Oct. 18.

Shortly after Vartabedian arrived on campus, Missouri Western printed a book authored by the president – “Public Speaking: An Executive Summary” – and all proceeds from the sales of the book fund student scholarships.

VICE PRESIDENTS/SPECIAL ASSISTANTS

James McCarthy retired in July 2001. He had served as Executive Vice President since December 1983 and at the time of his retirement, was responsible for Admissions, Alumni Services, Athletics, Auxiliary Services, Campus Security, Career Services, College Relations, Counseling and Testing, Development, Employee Relations, Institutional Advancement, Nontraditional Student Center, and Student Affairs. He was also executive director of the Missouri Western Foundation.

One month after McCarthy retired, he and former president, Janet Murphy, were married in Massachusetts.

In 2003, a ceremony was held to rename Northeast College Drive, the street between Downs Drive and Faraon Street, James McCarthy Drive, in his honor.

Earl Milton, vice president for Financial Planning and Administration, retired in January 2002. He had been a vice president for Missouri Western since 1989. Ron Olinger was hired for the position later that year and served until 2008. He was replaced by Mel Klinkner, who began his duties in August 2008.

When McCarthy retired, President Scanlon re-structured the administration, effective July 2002. James Roever, who had been serving as vice president of Academic Affairs since 1985, was named vice president for Institutional Advancement, a new position. He also took on the role of executive director of the Missouri Western Foundation and was responsible for Alumni Affairs, Public Relations and Marketing, Development, and Foundation and Alumni Accounting Services. Those offices had previously been the responsibility of McCarthy as executive vice president. Roever agreed to serve in the role for two years until his retirement in 2004. Dan Nicoson was hired as his replacement.

McCarthy had previously administered Student Affairs, but Scanlon changed the position of vice president of Academic Affairs to vice president of academic and student affairs, and David Arnold assumed the role in 2002.

Arnold resigned in 2005 and was replaced by Joseph Bragin in June 2006. At the time Bragin was hired, Scanlon changed the vice president's title to provost and vice president of Academic and Student Affairs, making the position second in responsibility to the president.

Jeanie Crain, faculty member in the Department of English, Foreign Languages and Journalism, became special assistant to the president in 2000 under Interim President McCarthy, and Beth Wheeler became director of external relations in 2001. Both served on Scanlon's cabinet.

DEANS

Along with President Murphy, another longtime administrator retired on June 30, 2000 – Dean of Students Forrest Hoff. A St. Joseph Junior College alumnus, Hoff had been with Missouri Western since 1970 and he became dean in 1971 when the position was created. In Hoff's honor and at the request of the Student Government Association, two rooms that were part of the Blum SU addition, room 218 and 219, were named the Forrest Hoff Conference Rooms. Additionally, the Parents Council Scholarship and an Outstanding Achievement Award for students were named in his honor.

Don Willis, who was the associate dean of students, was named Hoff's replacement and served in that position until 2003, when Bob Klostermeyer, political science faculty member, was named dean. Paul Shang was hired as the dean of Student Development in 2005 and resigned in 2007. Judy Grimes, dean of Student Services, was named interim dean of Student Development.

Longtime dean of Liberal Arts and Sciences Martin Johnson retired in June 2008 and was replaced by Murray Nabors. Jeanne Daffron, who had served as dean of Professional Studies since 1997, became assistant vice president for Academic and Student Affairs in 2004. Cindy Heider, faculty member in the Department of Education, and then Brenda Blessing, chair of the Department of Health, Physical Education and Recreation, served as interim deans until Steve Estes was hired as the new dean of Professional Studies in May 2007.

Ed Gorsky, longtime dean of Continuing Education, announced his retirement in January 2004 and was replaced by Chris Shove in July. At that time, Continuing Education became the Western Institute. Gordon Mapley became the dean and executive director of the Western Institute in 2008 when Shove resigned.

POLICE DEPARTMENT

In 2007, the Board of Governors, upon the recommendation of President Scanlon, voted to arm the commissioned officers in the Department of Public Safety, and the name of the department was changed to the Missouri Western Police Department.

When Missouri Western moved to its new campus in 1969, security officers served the campus. In 2002, the officers became fully commissioned as police officers with all the duties and authority of

any police officer in the state of Missouri. Its name changed from Department of Traffic and Security to the Department of Public Safety to reflect that change.

In 2004, the parking and security unit of the department moved from the second floor of Blum SU to the first floor, next to the bookstore, and the Police Department stayed on the second floor.

Hervey McGaugh became director in 1983 and retired in 1992. Jon Kelley became the director that year and retired as chief of police in 2014. Yvonne Meyer was named chief of police in 2015.

ACADEMICS

“Since becoming a university, we’ve taken even greater strides to improve the environment and education: snazzy new benches in hallways, Quiznos, and now we’re proud to show off our newest babies: graduate programs. Congratulations on another step in the name of progress.”— Editorial in Griffon News, Feb. 6, 2007.

OVERVIEW

During his tenure, President Scanlon continued to improve the academics of Missouri Western and enhance its reputation. His focuses were academic excellence, service learning and applied learning, which offered students meaningful experiences beyond the classroom.

In order to enhance the academic environment for students, Missouri Western began an initiative to establish Learning Communities, where small groups of freshmen took three classes together. The Learning Communities were a successor of Freshman Interest Groups, which were originally developed as part of the Access Plus program in the late 1990s.

In 2002, Missouri Western was chosen as one of 19 colleges and universities to participate in the National Learning Communities Project, which focused on students not only taking classes together, but also living together in a community setting.

Faculty participated in the third National Learning Communities Institute at Evergreen State College in June 2003, and Learning Communities were designed for Logan and Vaselakos Halls for the 2003-04 academic year. In 2005, when the Living/Learning Center was built, it was designed with the concept of Learning Communities in mind.

Another initiative to improve students’ college experiences began in 2003, when Missouri Western was one of 12 colleges and universities chosen nationally from 70 applications to be a founding member of the Foundations of Excellence® program sponsored by the American Association of State Colleges and Universities and the Policy Center for the Study of the First Year of College. As part of that program, the 12 member institutions developed a blueprint of effective programs for freshmen to set a standard for first-year experiences. The goal was to improve learning outcomes, success and persistence of students in their foundational year of college.

In fall 2003, Missouri Western’s retention rate of full-time freshmen was 56.0 percent. In fall 2004, it was 59.5 percent, and the rate spiked in fall 2007 to 67.7 percent.

In 2006, in an effort to offer students the opportunity for healthy dialogue on national issues, Sandie Seeger, biology faculty member, and Steve Morris, philosophy faculty member, coordinated

the first Galileo's Legacy Conference. The first year, the conference featured three nationally known speakers who led a debate on Evolution and Intelligent Design. The conference is held annually and has explored topics such as sustainability, Darwinism and environmental restoration.

Several new degree programs also started at Missouri Western between 2000 and 2008. In 2002, two new associate degrees were developed – an Associate of Science in Electronics and Computer Engineering Technology and an Associate of Applied Science in Paramedic Technology. In 2008, Missouri Western entered into a dual admission agreement with Hillyard Technical Center for students enrolled in the Paramedic Technology program. However, the two associate degree programs accepted no more students after the spring semester of 2009 (see 2009-2015, ACADEMICS).

In 2004, the nursing program increased its number of students accepted from 40 to 50 each semester with financial support from Heartland Health to help pay for extra faculty members. In 2007, the nursing bachelor's degree program reduced the course of study from five to four semesters. Students accepted into the program starting in the spring of 2007 took only nursing courses in the four semesters of their junior and senior years. Previously, they had taken some general studies courses along with the nursing classes, but now nursing students had to have completed their general studies courses before they began the two-year nursing program. In the first two semesters of the change, only 30 students were accepted each semester because of the overlap.

Other new academic programs included a four-year manufacturing engineering technology degree and a bachelor of arts degree in philosophy in the fall of 2007. (A bachelor of science in philosophy was added in fall 2013.)

The Department of Biology began its wildlife conservation and management degree program in 2005, and Ryan Evans was the first graduate of Missouri Western to apply for and receive the associate wildlife biologist certification from The Wildlife Society in 2007.

The Department of Biology was also awarded several grants to fund their research between 2000 and 2008. In 2003, the department was awarded \$100,000 from the National Institutes of Health's National Cancer Institute to fund three years of summer research to better understand how certain drugs turn genes on or off in cancer cells.

Cary Chevalier, biology faculty member, received international certification as a Certified Trainer for Mapping GPS through Trimble Navigation Ltd. Thanks to a grant from the Environmental Systems Research Institute, he began offering five-day GPS training courses on campus, the first in the fall of 2002.

In 2004, Chevalier was awarded a \$135,000 grant from the Environmental Systems Research Institute to purchase Geographic Information Systems software for the program. The software was also used in several Department of Biology courses.

The Department of Biology's synthetic biology research program began in 2006 under Todd Eckdahl, biology faculty member; and Jeff Poet, mathematics faculty member; and their two colleagues from Davidson College in North Carolina. The program was awarded several national grants and recognition (see *Synthetic Biology Research* in the 2009-2015 section).

Additionally, in 2004, Missouri Western, under the guidance of the Department of Biology, entered into agreements with two medical schools, which offered a great benefit to students. An agreement with the Kirksville (Missouri) College of Osteopathic Medicine allows two sophomores per year a guaranteed seat at KCOM upon graduating from Missouri Western. An agreement with the Kansas City University of Medicine and Biosciences allows up to two sophomores each year to matriculate to the medical school following their junior year at Missouri Western. Those students simultaneously complete their first year of medical school and earn a bachelor's degree from Missouri Western.

Missouri Western also entered into a 2+2+2 agreement with Maple Woods Community College and University of Missouri-Kansas City, where students could earn an associate degree from Maple Woods with an education emphasis, a Bachelor of Science in Education from Missouri Western, and a master's in education specialist and doctorate in education from UMKC in a seamless transition. The agreement began in fall 2003 with 15 students in the cohort.

In 2008, Missouri Western established an agreement with Metropolitan Community College in Kansas City, Missouri where MCC students with 24 credit hours could be dually admitted to Missouri Western and have access to the University's advisement, library resources and some athletic events.

Along with agreements with area institutions, Missouri Western explored several off-campus sites. In the fall of 1999, Missouri Western began offering courses in business communications in the Tiffany Springs, Missouri area. The following spring, two manufacturing engineering technology classes were offered at the Northland Career Center's welding facility in Tiffany Springs. In 2004, Missouri Western leased classroom space from the Platte County Resource Center in Kansas City's Northland and signed a two-year lease. When the lease expired in 2006, Missouri Western moved to the Tuileries Plaza, which was farther south of the resource center site. Six years later, the Northland location moved to a new, larger space in the shopping center, which had been renamed the Village at Burlington Creek.

In 2007, Missouri Western opened a second off-campus location when it leased the Scottish Rite Temple at 6th and Robidoux streets in downtown St. Joseph. The site hosted the Law Enforcement Academy, Pass the Power and community arts classes for four years until the lease was discontinued.

ACCREDITATION

In 2000, Missouri Western's institutional accreditation was continued for 10 years with the Higher Learning Commission, a member of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools. The accrediting team that visited campus reported the college strengths as the quality of faculty and academic programs, the determination to meet the educational needs of a diverse student body, the strong, close relationship with the surrounding community, and the potential for assuming leadership in the use of technology for instructional purposes.

In 2003, Missouri Western was accepted into the Academic Quality Improvement Program, an alternative accreditation process based on the principle of continuous improvement, rather than a self-

study once every 10 years. AQIP was established by the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools, and Missouri Western was the first four-year college or university in Missouri to be accepted. When Missouri Western submitted its application in 2003, it was notified that its application was a “model application.”

In the AQIP model, Action Projects are aligned with the institution’s strategic plan goals and objectives. The first set of AQIP three-year Action Projects selected in 2003 included Student Engagement, Applied Learning and Communicating Quality.

Missouri Western submitted its first Systems Portfolio in November 2006 and received its Systems Appraisal in March 2007. Overall, the appraisers described the University as a maturing institution in its continuous quality improvement journey.

The University identified its next three Action Projects for 2006-09 as Building Graduate Programs, Enhancing Academic Quality and Using Measurement and Assessment. These projects were successfully completed.

Programs across campus that hold national accreditation continued to meet standards, and all programs were re-accredited on schedule.

APPLIED LEARNING

When Missouri Western received university designation in 2005, the legislation named it a statewide institution of applied learning. Applied learning refers to any activity outside of the classroom in which students use discipline-specific knowledge, including internships, study away trips, practica, and student/faculty research.

Although the institution had always offered students opportunities for applied learning, the designation created a stronger emphasis on it campus wide.

An example of a long-running applied learning program is the Undergraduate Summer Research Institute, which began in 1991 as an opportunity for faculty members and students to work on research projects together. In addition to those opportunities, a Summer Research Institute began in 2002. SRI was different from URSI in that high school students were invited to be part of research teams with Missouri Western students and faculty members in the SRI.

Both programs successfully offered students numerous research opportunities with faculty for many years before becoming incorporated into PORTAL, the Program of Research, Teaching, and Applied Learning, which began as a pilot project in the Department of Biology in the summer of 2011 and was directed by Todd Eckdahl. When PORTAL expanded campus wide in 2012, Brian Cronk became the director. Missouri Western’s PORTAL serves as an umbrella for all summer applied learning activities, including internships, practica, study away, creative projects and faculty/student research.

Missouri Western has offered study away opportunities for many years, and students have traveled to a number of countries, including Russia in 2006. However, the spring 2004 semester marked the

first time the College participated in an exchange program with a foreign university. Alyesi Bobo and Melina Paden studied at the Universite d'Angers in Angers, France, in spring 2004, and Adeline Moreau from that university spent the 2004-05 academic year at Missouri Western.

Biology faculty member David Ashley often traveled with students to Belize, Central America, to study the coastal ecosystem, and he also took students caving in southern Missouri every year. For his research and his efforts to preserve the Missouri caves' ecosystem, he was awarded the Biodiversity Award from the Missouri Department of Conservation in 2001. In 2004, a new species of a cave invertebrate was named after him – *Brackenridgia ashleyi* – because of his work in monitoring the ecosystem in Missouri's Tumbling Creek Cave, the only place the invertebrate is found.

Another opportunity for applied learning for students was the Griffon International Film Festival. In 2004, the Department of Communication Studies/Theatre hosted the first one to give students a hands-on, applied learning experience. Students reviewed short film entries from all over the world to select those for the festival. Then, for three days in April, participants viewed films and attended classes taught by visiting directors, filmmakers and scriptwriters.

When President Scanlon retired, he and his wife, Lauren, established the Blake K. Scanlon Applied Learning Presentation Grant Award, named for their son, to provide grants to students to present papers or posters, exhibit juried works or make juried performances, at national or international professional venues.

GIFTS: WES AND PATSY REMINGTON AND STEVEN L. CRAIG

In September 2007, Missouri Western received a \$5 million pledge, the largest gift in its history, from Wes and Patsy Remington. The donation was given to help fund an addition and renovation of Agenstein Hall, Missouri Western's science and mathematics facility. The Board of Governors voted at its October 2007 meeting to name the addition Remington Hall in the couple's honor.

Wes Remington had been instrumental in several of St. Joseph's animal health industries. He began working for Anchor Serum (which eventually became Boehringer Ingelheim Vetmedica) and became president of that company in 1968. Wes started up another company for Anchor Serum and went on to found or help found several more companies in the area, all relating to animal health. At the time of the gift, St. Joseph community leaders estimated that Wes' firms or their successors employed 1,200 to 1,500 in the area.

When he and his wife gave the gift, Wes said its purpose was to ensure that workforce development in the animal health and life sciences fields would continue in St. Joseph so the industry could grow even more.

Just six months later, in May 2008, the University broke its giving record when it received a \$5.5 million pledge from Steven L. Craig, owner and president of Craig Realty Group in California. Craig donated the money to establish the Steven L. Craig School of Business at Missouri Western.

As an entrepreneur who grew up near Savannah, Missouri, Craig wanted to emphasize an entrepreneurial focus for the School of Business. “My goal is to create a culture of entrepreneurship at Western by giving students the tools to set out on their own course to accomplish their dreams,” Craig said. “I see this investment in Western as an opportunity to make a very meaningful impact on the community.” (See *Entrepreneurship Program* in the 2009-2015 section about Craig’s unique entrepreneurial initiative in the Craig School of Business.)

Most of the Craig gift was in the form of shares of ownership in Woodburn Company Stores, a shopping center in Woodburn, Ore. When Craig sold that property in 2013, the total value of his gift to Missouri Western soared to \$7,738,589.20, which included more than \$2.5 million in distributions prior to the sale.

GRADUATE DEGREES

As soon as university designation became a reality in 2005, several academic departments across campus began developing plans for Missouri Western’s own graduate degree programs. The graduate degrees were to be Professional Master’s Degrees with an emphasis on applied learning, providing advanced disciplinary knowledge like traditional master’s programs, but also training in business fundamentals, project management and communications.

Jeanne Daffron, who was assistant vice president for academic and student affairs, was named interim dean of Graduate Studies in 2007.

At the May 2007 commencement ceremony, Deb Schwebach became the first person to earn a Missouri Western graduate degree: a Graduate Certificate in the Teaching of Writing. Graduate courses in writing and the teaching of writing had been offered on campus for several years from Northwest Missouri State University through Missouri Western’s Prairie Lands Writing Project.

The first master’s degree programs were approved by the Coordinating Board for Higher Education in January 2007: Master of Applied Science with options in Chemistry, Human Factors and Usability Testing, and Information Technology Management. The programs in Chemistry and Information Technology Management began that fall, and the Human Factors and Usability program began in the fall of 2009.

In the fall of 2008, two more master’s degrees were offered: Master of Applied Science in Assessment with two options, Learning Improvement and Writing; and a Master of Applied Arts in Integrated Media with options in Integrated Media or Convergent Media (the name later changed to a Master of Applied Arts in Digital Media).

SCHOLARSHIPS

Between 2000 and 2008, generous donors created several endowed scholarships. In 2003, a new scholarship for children of St. Joseph Fire Department employees was established when the estate of

alumnus Pete O. Reiplinger gave Missouri Western \$349,000. Fred and Carol Tuttle established the Helene G. Droher Business Development Program with a \$212,000 endowment. Additionally, the Tuttles provided \$50,000 for projects in the Department of Business over three years.

Missouri Western also received a \$294,200 grant from the National Science Foundation in 2004 to fund scholarships for computer science and mathematics majors.

In 2006, the Missouri Western Foundation received more than \$900,000 from the estate of Marian Mitchell, a business faculty member who taught at Missouri Western from 1968-79.

One of President Vartabedian's first meetings after he became Missouri Western's president in 2008 was with Al Landes, who was vice president at Herzog Contracting Corp. in St. Joseph. Landes presented President Vartabedian with a check for \$100,000 from Beavers Inc., a heavy construction professional association. As president of the association that year, Landes was allowed to select which higher education institution would receive \$100,000 from Beavers Inc. Landes chose Missouri Western for scholarships for construction engineering technology students.

STUDENT AND FACULTY/STAFF ACHIEVEMENTS

From 2000 through 2008, students, faculty and staff continued to excel in their fields and earn local, state and national awards. Many employees were named to national boards and task forces, state boards and commissions. Additionally, several faculty members published books, earned grants to study and teach abroad, and attend institutes across the country. Art students and faculty had works selected in national and international exhibitions, and students were selected to present their research at conferences across the country and abroad, often bringing home top awards. At some conferences, Missouri Western students found themselves the only, or one of the few, undergraduates who were presenting.

Missouri Western also established two new award programs of its own in that time. In 2003, the Faculty Active Career Award was started. The name was changed to the Regents Distinguished Professor Award in 2005 and the Governors Distinguished Professor Award in 2006.

A second award program for staff members (the first were the Presidential Citation Awards) began in the 2005-06 academic year: Outstanding Staff Awards and Outstanding Administrator Awards. The Presidential Citation Awards changed their criteria and names in 2007. The awards were now Service to Western Students, Service to Campus Colleagues, and Service to the University.

Award winners for the faculty and staff awards through 2015 are listed in Appendix B.

In 2000, student Katie Power, co-owner of Kris and Kate's ice cream stand on the Belt Highway in St. Joseph, won first place in the 2000 Missouri Collegiate Entrepreneur Awards and advanced to the national competition. Five forensics students also qualified for the National Individual Events Speech Tournament that year.

Also in 2000, English faculty member Mark Hamilton made history when he traversed Lewis and Clark's entire 8,000-mile journey by boat and pack mule, from Pittsburgh to the Pacific Ocean and back, on the explorers' timetable. At the time, he was the only person alive who had accomplished that.

Video faculty member Robert Nulph's "In Search of a Champion: The Young Onset Parkinson's Project" won first place in the 2001 Broadcast Education Association Faculty Production competition and four more national and international awards. Nulph also received the Videographer Award of Excellence. In 2001, he and seven students ran the camera and crewed the QVC Network's NASCAR show with Dale Jarrett at the Kansas City Speedway.

The Griffon Yearbook and Griffon News staffs continued to bring home state and national awards from 2000 through 2008. In 2000, the Missouri College Media Association named student Aaron Steiner Photojournalist of the Year, and the 2001 Griffon Yearbook earned first place Best of Show at the national convention. Every year since 2000, when the Walsworth Publishing Co. began printing the yearbook, Missouri Western's yearbook has been selected into Walsworth's Gallery of Excellence. Less than 1 percent of yearbooks published by the company receive this award.

The Associated College Press named student Rachel Siron, editor of the 2002 Griffon Yearbook, Leader of the Student Press, and the next year, Yearbook Advisor Ann Thorne received the Distinguished Four-Year College Yearbook Advisor Award at the College Media Advisors/National Student Media Convention. Ken Rosenauer, Griffon News advisor, was inducted into the College Media Association Hall of Fame for more than 20 years of service.

In 2001, Kelly Williams, physical education faculty member, served as a personal weightlifting coach for a lifter who won the U.S. Junior and National titles at a competition in Canada. In 2002, he helped coach St. Joseph's Wesley Weightlifters at the Junior National Championships in Los Angeles, and both the male and female teams placed first.

Missouri Western musicians continued to receive prestigious state and national awards. In 2002, Richard Bell, faculty member in the Department of Music, conducted a performance of five high school choirs at Carnegie Hall in New York City. Two years later, music students Jason Baskin and Andrea Stanton were selected to participate in the National String Orchestra in Carnegie Hall.

Music faculty member Lee Harrelson founded the Fountain City Brass Band in 2002. Since its first competition in 2004, the FCBB has won eight U.S. Open Brass Band Championships and five North American Brass Band Championships. In November of 2009 the band became the first American band ever, and the first non-United Kingdom band in over 50 years, to win a major brass band competition on UK soil at the Scottish Open Brass Band Championships.

In 2004, music faculty member Dennis Rogers was a recipient of the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers Award. Anthony Glise, a music instructor, received the 2006 Individual Artist of the Year Award from the Missouri Arts Council, the first time a classical guitarist was honored with the award. Glise was the director of the International Guitar Festival and Competition, which began in 2003 and brought visitors to campus from around the globe.

In 2001, Missouri Western's teacher education program was one of only four programs in the nation and the only program in Missouri chosen by the American Association of Colleges of Teacher Education and the Carnegie Foundation as an exemplary program in the area of assessing student work and using the resulting analyses to improve the program. Additionally, at that time, it was only one of two institutions in the state that met the Missouri Coordinating Board of Higher Education's admissions standards suggestions.

The Developmental Math program received the Award for Outstanding Developmental Education Program from the National Association for Developmental Education in 2002, and its director, Victoria Wacek, received an Outstanding Dissertation Award in 2004. Both the Developmental Writing and the Developmental Math programs were recognized nationally in 2008.

In 2003, graduate Taylor Crouse was accepted into the London School of Economics and Political Science. Students Gabe Wishnie and Brandon Crosser were selected in the top five in a national writing contest in 2004, followed by Adam King and Kathrin Carpenter in the top five in 2005. In 2004, Sharon R. Kipple, an accounting and finance major, earned the Student Achievement Award from The Wall Street Journal, and both Kipple and Missouri Western were listed in an ad in The Wall Street Journal in recognition of the award.

In 2006, psychology student Amanda O'Dell was one of 10 students selected nationally for a summer research program at Buffalo State College in New York. That same year, Todd Mick, business faculty member and director of the Small Business Institute, and four students developed a marketing plan to recruit foster parents for the St. Joseph office of the Missouri Department of Social Services, and state officials adopted the plan for all of its state offices.

In 2007, Carol Roever, business faculty member, received the 2007 Meada Gibbs Outstanding Teaching Award at the annual meeting of the International Association for Business Communication. She delivered the keynote address for the association in 2008.

Two nontraditional students earned prestigious honors in 2007. Ghazala Saleem earned the national Jack Kent Cooke Scholarship. There were 977 applications and only 34 were awarded. Also, Ed Harris was named National Nontraditional Student of the Year at a national conference.

In 2008, the student chapter of the Association of Information Technology Professionals received first place in a web application competition at a national collegiate conference. Bob Bergland, journalism professor, was also selected for a six-week American Press Institute residency in 2008. That same year, student Seth Logston completed an internship in Washington, DC, with Sen. Christopher S. "Kit" Bond.

On the international front, Terry White, criminal justice faculty member, returned in 2002 after spending a year serving on the International Policing mission in Kosovo, and that same year, student Rachel Needham was awarded a \$25,000 Rotary International Scholarship to study in France for a year and earn her master's degree.

In 2005, English faculty member Bob Bergland was selected as a Fulbright scholar to Ukraine and James and Carol Roever spent the fall semester teaching in Istanbul, Turkey. James had retired

as vice president for Institutional Advancement a year earlier, and Carol was a faculty member in the Department of Business.

STUDENT LITERARY MAGAZINES

Student literary magazines have been a part of Missouri Western's curriculum almost throughout its entire history.

The first, *Penny Whistles*, was published at the St. Joseph Junior College from 1929 until the mid-1950s. The next to emerge was *Front Cover*, published in 1970.

That was followed by the *Icarus*, first published during the 1971-72 academic year, and it continued as an outlet for Missouri Western student work through the 1999 edition.

When John Gilgun, longtime English faculty member and editor of *Icarus* retired in 1999, Ruth Ellen Kocher was hired as his replacement and became editor of the literary publication. She changed *Icarus* into a national publication, where it no longer published student work but accepted submissions from all over the country. In spring 2000, the first *Icarus* as a national publication was printed, and there was no longer any publication on campus for student work to be published.

Kocher left after one year and was replaced by Anna Leahy. Leahy decided to keep *Icarus* as a national publication, but change its name. A contest was held, and Sue Ferguson, an alumna, submitted the winning entry, *Mochila Review*. That year, Leahy did allow a few Missouri Western students' works to be published in the *Mochila Review*, although it still accepted submissions nationally. Leahy stayed two years.

In 2002, Bill Church, English faculty member, became editor of the *Mochila Review*. Church, who was a 1989 graduate of Missouri Western, said his first published piece as a student was in the *Icarus*, so he wanted to re-establish a campus publication for student work. Church continued the *Mochila Review* as a publishing venue for writers across the country and guided the creation of *Canvas* in the spring of 2004 for Missouri Western work. Marianne Kunkel became the advisor of *Canvas* and editor of the *Mochila Review* in 2014.

UNIVERSITY DESIGNATION

University designation for Missouri Western in 2005 was the culmination of almost two decades of discussions, legislative bills, and hard work by many legislators, Missouri Western administrators, faculty, staff, students, alumni and community members.

Attempts by state legislators to designate Missouri Western a university date at least as far back as 1988. That year, a name change bill was filed in the state Legislature by Rep. Everett Brown to change the names of regional institutions. Rep. Mark Youngdahl added an amendment that would include a name change to "university" for Missouri Western and Missouri Southern State College in

Joplin and allow both to request to offer graduate programs. However, the bill died in committee and was never voted on by the House membership.

In 1992, according to the Griffon News, the College's Faculty Senate voted to introduce legislation to change Missouri Western's name to Missouri Western State University, arguing that the College fit the criteria of a university. The faculty members believed the name change would help eliminate the community college image, add prestige and pride to the College community, and give added value to degrees.

University status was still on everyone's mind in 1995, when Jonathan Compton, newly elected president of the Student Government Association, said one of his long-term goals was to try to gain university status for Missouri Western.

Alice Chandler, former president of State University of New York at New Paltz, was hired as a consultant for Missouri Western in 1997, and one of her recommendations in the report was to change the name of the College to Missouri Western State University. President Murphy noted to the Board of Regents, "That is a topic that the Legislature does not want to hear."

However, a year later, Rep. Charlie Shields filed legislation to change the "College" in Missouri Western's name to "University," but it was not supported by the Coordinating Board for Higher Education. In a Griffon News article at the time, Julie Stutterheim wrote, "Missouri Western has earned this kind of respect through the quality of its programs, professors and students."

President Scanlon reported at the February 2002 Board of Regents meeting that several name change bills had been introduced in the state's General Assembly, and one or more of the bills could allow Missouri Western to be a university. The House approved one of the bills, and so did the Senate's Committee on Education, but the full Senate did not vote on it. President Scanlon later reported at a Board of Regents meeting that the Senate was too busy focusing on the deterioration of state finances to vote on the university designation bill.

More name change bills were introduced in the 2003 legislative session, which would have allowed Missouri Western and Missouri Southern to become universities. One bill got as far as being considered by the full Senate, but faced opposition and didn't pass.

In 2004, for the third year in a row, a name change bill emerged in the state Legislature. This time, State Sen. Charlie Shields introduced the bill for university designation for Missouri Western. Vice President Arnold and Ryan Sevcik, Student Government Association president in 2002-03, testified before the Senate committee. The Senate committee approved the bill but before it went to the full Senate, it became connected to proposed name changes for other higher education institutions in the state.

Although there was no opposition voiced for Missouri Western's name change, there was opposition to other institution's name changes, so the bill did not pass. "In the 'all or nothing at all environment' that developed in the Senate regarding name changes," Scanlon told the Board of Regents at its May meeting, "'nothing at all' prevailed."

When the 2004 Legislature closed with no university bill passed, Scanlon noted at the May 2004 Board of Regents meeting, “Western has the profile of a university. In most other states, Western would long ago have been designated a university. Only the politics of Missouri and Missouri public higher education stand in the way of university designation for Western. We will continue to work with the politics to bring justice to Western and the region that it serves. Without question, university designation for Western is fundamental to the economic future of this region.”

As the state Legislature prepared for its 2005 session, the Alumni Association Board of Directors passed a resolution supporting Missouri Western’s efforts to obtain university designation, and the College even developed a web page where alumni could express their support. While the legislators were in session, students delivered 1,600 letters to them requesting support for the designation.

The session opened with a lot of activity regarding name change bills. The Senate’s committee on education held hearings on two different bills, one that addressed only Missouri Western, and one that addressed Missouri Western, Missouri Southern in Joplin, Harris Stowe in St. Louis, and Southwest Missouri State in Springfield.

On Feb. 15, after 14 hours of debate, the Senate passed an omnibus bill – Senate Bill 98 – that included the name change provisions for the four institutions, and the bill moved to the House. There it passed on March 1, and Gov. Matt Blunt signed it into law March 17 in Springfield, Missouri. A ceremonial signing was held on Missouri Western’s campus March 19 in the Kemper Recital Hall in Spratt Hall.

“The signing of the bill passed by the Missouri General Assembly is the result of many years of effort by many individuals,” Scanlon said. “The university designation effort was mounted by individuals in the Western family and well beyond the Western family.”

Later that month, several students traveled with Beth Wheeler, director of External Relations, to Jefferson City, visiting offices to thank the state legislators for university designation.

Missouri Western State College officially became Missouri Western State University on August 28, 2005.

“Dr. Scanlon’s leadership in communicating Western’s accomplishments to the state Legislature and community helped promote this change,” Vice President for Institutional Advancement Nicoson said. “He put a lot of pieces in place for that to happen.”

The University hosted a party for the campus and community on Aug. 28, including an unveiling of the Mitchell Avenue entrance sign that now read “Missouri Western State University.” The gravel letters by the pond were also unveiled, since they now said “MWSU,” thanks to the Tau Kappa Epsilon fraternity. (The TKEs had created the original gravel MWSC sign.) A threatening storm cut short the carnival and musical entertainment and postponed the fireworks display that was to close the evening.

A University Academic Convocation was held Aug. 31, where a new seal sporting “university” was unveiled. A mace, ceremonial banners and a presidential medallion, funded by a gift from alumnus Joe Friedman, were used for the first time. Also at the convocation, former presidents Looney

and Murphy received honorary doctorate degrees from Missouri Western. An ice cream social was also held for the campus community.

The Division of Liberal Arts and Sciences and Division of Professional Studies had been renamed “Schools” in 2002, but when Missouri Western became a university, the names were changed to “Colleges.”

The university designation bill, Senate Bill 98, contained four stipulations that affected Missouri Western. Although it was already committed to offering applied learning experiences for its students, Missouri Western was designated as a “statewide institution of applied learning.” It held its first Applied Learning Conference in February 2006, which was attended by 50 Missouri Western faculty and staff members and 80 others from 23 campuses. The first conference was coordinated by Kelly Henry, Director of Applied Learning.

Secondly, SB98 stated that the now University would discontinue by July 1, 2010, any and all associate degree programs unless continuation was approved by the Coordinating Board for Higher Education (See 2009-2015, ACADEMICS). Third, the bill stated that Missouri Western could now develop master’s degree programs (see Graduate Degrees in this chapter).

And fourth, the bill eliminated the Board of Regents and established the Board of Governors, and membership was increased from six to seven voting members (the student member is nonvoting). The bill also stipulated that five voting members be selected from Andrew, Buchanan, Clinton, DeKalb, and Platte counties, and two voting members be selected from anywhere in the state outside of those counties. Additionally, no more than three voting members could be from the same county. Those stipulations were met as the current members’ terms were up, with all conditions met by 2007.

THE CAMPUS GROWS

“The students realized how much this was needed and would improve student life on campus.”
– Kerri Clark, student regent, St. Joseph News-Press, at the Blum Student Union addition groundbreaking in 2000.

OVERVIEW

Several campus projects were completed in 2000-08 in an effort to improve the campus appearance and amenities for students, employees and the community.

As always, landscaping to enhance the beauty of the campus was one of the priorities. In 2001, it was reported that 224 trees and shrubs had been planted, and in 2002, the physical plant purchased 11,613 plugs for annual flowers. Groundskeepers planted approximately 1,500 plants from seeds that year in the Susan Roth Greenhouse for approximately 50 flowerbeds.

Another campus improvement was a multi-year trail project that began in 2000 when two engineering technology students, Dan Smolik and Tom Sisco, designed plans for a new 2,400 ft. asphalt jogging trail to run north from Lot H to Eddie’s Bridge. It was completed in 2001, and the next year, the trail was extended from the bridge to connect to the wood chip biology trail. In 2005, the trail was expanded onto the west side of James McCarthy Drive and around Everyday Pond, which was near the Faraon Street entrance.

Talk of reconstructing Everyday Pond, near the Faraon Street entrance; and South Pond, south of the residence halls near Mitchell Avenue, began in 2000 as part of improving campus. In October of that year, the Board of Regents voted for the College to enter into an agreement with the Missouri Department of Conservation to apply for a community program grant for the ponds renovation project. The grant was received in 2001, and Missouri Western matched \$62,500 of it from its reserves.

Unfortunately, after the reconstruction, the ponds were slow to fill due to several years of low precipitation. But Everyday Pond had filled enough by the summer of 2007, and a floating dock, restrooms, a parking area and a walkway to the dock were installed, and the pond was stocked. Everyday Pond is open to the public, but South Pond, which is also stocked, is reserved for area school children and organizations.

A pavilion built west of Spratt Memorial Stadium in 2002 with donated funds from alumni and businesses provided a new amenity for stadium-goers. At the time it was named the Athletic Alumni Pavilion, but in 2005, alumnus Zack Workman, who had financially supported the project, requested

that the name be changed to the Chris Faros Pavilion. Faros, who graduated in 1973 and was co-captain of Missouri Western's first football team with Workman, was killed in an airplane crash in 1983.

Other improvements included the remodeling of the deli area in the Popplewell A Building in 2002 and other student spaces in 2004 and 2005. The library received the biggest facelift, funded by the David and Shirley Bradley endowment. The rocks and plants that were under the stairwell were removed, and only a sculpture in honor of Frank Smith, Public Relations Director from 1967-80, remained. There were new wall treatments, and shelving was painted. The first floor also received new furniture and carpeting. Java City, a coffee shop run by Aramark Dining Services, also opened on the main floor of the library in the fall of 2005.

The campus gained four large, outdoor sculptures between 2000 and 2008 which greatly enhanced campus aesthetics. A sculpture created by an art student was placed north of the Potter FA Center in the early 2000s. In 2005, a red steel structure was placed east of Wilson Hall, where the Department of Engineering Technology was located. It was donated by the American Institute of Steel Construction as a learning tool for students in those department courses. Midland Steel in Wathena, Kansas fabricated the structure.

Two sculptures were created by art faculty member Jim Estes. In 2006, "Beyond 2010," a 600-pound black metal structure, was placed northeast of Potter Hall. Soon after, he added a 75 foot-long, 3,500 pound multi-colored sculpture, "Passages," between Potter and Popplewell halls.

BUILDING NAME CHANGES – 2005

In 2005, President Scanlon proposed a change to the names of buildings across campus. Most of the buildings would now be known as halls, and the person for whom the building was named would be used when referring to the buildings. Up to this point, the buildings had been called by their functions – Science and Math Building, Administration Building, etc., and only the residence halls had been known as "halls" and commonly referred to by their namesakes.

"Use of the term 'hall' for such buildings is a long tradition in American colleges and universities," Scanlon told the Board of Regents at its January meeting. "Western is now placing itself in that tradition." He also said he felt it was important to honor the buildings' namesakes.

A chart listing the old and new building names is in Appendix G.

BLUM STUDENT UNION (SU) ADDITION AND RENOVATION – 2000 BLUM STUDENT UNION (SU) REMODELING PROJECTS – 2000-08

In April 1998, students approved a \$5 per credit hour, maximum \$60 per semester fee to fund the renovation and addition to the Blum SU at a cost of approximately \$5.7 million. The fee was not added until the building was completed, and it was scheduled to be collected for approximately 20 years.

Groundbreaking was held in October 1998, two days before the groundbreaking for the JGM Academic Center. At the student union groundbreaking, President Murphy noted that the origi-

nal building was constructed for 3,300 students, and Missouri Western currently had more than 5,200 students.

The next month, bids for the Eder SS/C Building renovation and addition, and Blum SU addition, which were all bid as one project, came back too high and the project had to be re-bid with some changes. The second time, contractors were asked to bid on the three projects (Eder renovation, Eder addition, and Blum addition) both separately and together. Lawhon Construction Co. was awarded all three projects with a bid of \$11,685,700.

The student union renovation and addition project included an approximately 35,000 square-foot, two-story addition on the east side of the original building, featuring a food court, student lounges and offices, study rooms, student government offices, a diversity center and meeting rooms. Renovations to the original space included expansion of security and health service offices, a computer lab, a larger cafeteria and kitchen renovation, a game room, and installation of a new plumbing and sewer system. A new 100-car parking lot was also part of the plans (Lot G).

The cafeteria expanded into what had been the Griffon Place, a student gathering space, and the Griffon Place was renamed the Griffon Spot and relocated to the basement of the building, which had been a conference center. Although the space included five video games, four pool tables, a pinball machine, foosball table and air hockey table and a television with a 54" screen, it didn't get much use. Students didn't like that they had to pay to play the video games, and many complained that the games were old. It closed in 2002.

The Blum addition was completed by the end of February 2000, but a ribbon cutting was held in April as part of the 30th anniversary celebration. With the addition, the Board of Regents now had a larger room to hold its meetings. Previously, the board had met in the Blum SU President's Dining Room, but now that the addition was completed, the board met for the first time in the board room (220) on the second floor for its February meeting.

In the summer of 2001, the cafeteria, which was in the original part of the building, underwent a \$600,000 renovation and opened in time for the spring 2002 semester. Students spent the fall semester eating in what they dubbed the "Hallway Café."

In 2004, a Barnes and Noble bookstore renovation, paid for by Barnes and Noble, included new paint, new furniture, and new signage, fixtures and flooring. Additionally, part of the bookstore space was now used for a Parking and Security Office. That office had been located in the Office of Public Safety upstairs.

In 2005, the Student Government Association spent approximately \$85,000 renovating the lounge area on the first floor of the student union. The low brick wall around the lounge's perimeter was removed, the pillars were covered, and the area received new carpeting, furniture and lighting.

The food court was remodeled in the fall of 2006 and spring of 2007, and a Quiznos sandwich shop was added. Over the summer of 2007, a gaming center, a stage, new seating and decorations were added. Two pool tables, a foosball table and two dartboards were also added, along with new

booths and flooring. Those were removed the next year when furniture from the lounge was moved into the Food Court. An information desk in the first floor lounge was also added in 2008.

That same year, the cafeteria doors were moved to the north side of the cafeteria to improve traffic flow. The Student Development Office on the second floor was reconfigured, as well, with a new entrance and a glass-enclosed reception area.

FRED EDER STUDENT SERVICES/CLASSROOM BUILDING (SS/C) ADDITION (JANET GORMAN MURPHY (JGM) ACADEMIC CENTER) – 2000 FRED EDER STUDENT SERVICES/CLASSROOM (SS/C) BUILDING RENOVATION – 2000

When the JGM Academic Center project was first conceived, it was considered an addition to the Eder SS/C Building with the two buildings connected by a covered sidewalk between them. When President Murphy announced her retirement in November 1999, the Board of Regents voted unanimously in January 2000 to name the addition in her honor – the Janet Gorman Murphy Academic Center.

The need for more space was very real when administrators starting talking about adding to the Eder SS/C Building. Enrollment had increased from 3,541 in 1976, when the Eder SS/C Building was built, to 5,230 in 1998. Space was at such a premium that admissions counselors were meeting with prospective students and their parents in storage closets that had been converted to offices.

The Department of Engineering Technology had added a new program, so there was no longer any room in the Wilson PS Building for the Department of Nursing. Additionally, the Physical Therapist Assistant classes were being held off-campus because of space limitations on campus, so plans included space for both Nursing and the Physical Therapist Assistant programs in the new building.

Some classrooms in Eder SS/C Building had also been converted into offices for Access Plus faculty and the Student Success Programs/Freshman Year Experience Office, and the addition would add classrooms to replace those.

In January 1997, Murphy requested \$9.7 million from the state for the addition to and renovation of the Eder SS/C Building, and was awarded \$5 million for phase I of the project (the addition) for fiscal year 1998. However, the money was put on hold until fiscal year 1999 because of the uncertainty regarding federal Medicaid reimbursements. In June 1998, Gov. Carnahan approved an additional \$4.7 million for fiscal year 1999 for phase II (the renovation) of the project.

Ellison-Auxier Architects Inc. had been approved as the architects for the renovation and addition in August 1997.

Groundbreaking was held in October 1998, two days after the Blum SU addition's groundbreaking. At the event, Murphy recognized State Sen. Sydney Johnson in a St. Joseph News-Press story: "His dedication and support to Missouri Western State College and all educational institutions in northwest Missouri are unparalleled."

The renovation and addition to the Eder SS/C Building and the Blum SU addition were bid as one project. When bids were opened in November 1998, they were all too high, so the job had to be re-bid. Contractors were then asked to submit both separate bids for each project and one bid for the entire project. In December, Lawhon Construction Co. was awarded the bid of \$11,685,700 for all three projects (Blum addition, Eder addition and Eder renovation).

The JGM Academic Center was completed in June 2000. The 70,000 square-foot, three-story building featured 34 classrooms, a large computer lab, office areas for Communication Studies, Theatre and Humanities; Health Information Management; Nursing; Physical Therapist Assistant; Psychology; and Education.

The Eder SS/C Building was originally built with movable partition walls and open ceilings above the walls. From the time it opened in 1976, noise between rooms was a big problem, along with difficulty in regulating temperatures throughout the building. So part of the renovation eliminated the partitions and converted the space into offices and classrooms.

First-floor offices were also renovated, and the Business Office moved from the Popplewell A Building into Eder.

Personnel moved out of the Eder SS/C Building into the JGM Academic Center, and renovation work began in mid-June. The project was completed in early 2001.

In 2004, a memorial bench in honor of Financial Aid Director Bob Berger was erected outside Eder SS/C Building, where the Financial Aid Office is located. Berger was a 1960 graduate of St. Joseph Junior College and had been serving as Financial Aid Director at Missouri Western since 1970 when he passed away in 2002.

FULKERSON CENTER – 2005

Perhaps the idea for a new building that would become the Fulkerson Center first came about during the 1990-91 academic year, when the Alumni Association formed a task force to study the feasibility of an alumni center. Although everyone liked the idea, not surprisingly, funding was the major obstacle to achieving this goal.

College administrators also saw a need for more conference space in St. Joseph, and believed Missouri Western could help fill the need with a new building. They began talking to city and county officials and business leaders in the community around 1996 to determine just what was needed.

Three years later, a building named the Alumni Training and Development Center was identified as a need in the 1999 Our Promise capital campaign. Missouri Western hoped to raise \$2.5 million from the campaign for the center, and they requested \$1 million as a challenge grant from the Missouri Legislature.

Plans for the center included facilities to provide training for community businesses, including a computer lab, space for alumni offices and large meeting rooms.

The front cover of the Winter 2000 issue of Griffalum News sported an artist's renditions of a two-story, 30,000 square-foot building to be located on the east side of campus with its own parking lot and a separate entrance off Mitchell Avenue.

In January 2000, Gov. Mel Carnahan included \$1 million in his budget proposal for the center, provided the College raised the matching funds.

At its February 2000 meeting, the Board of Regents voted to name the center in honor of Lyman and Marie Fulkerson. The couple had owned and operated the DeMuth Supply Company in St. Joseph from 1949 until 1972, and Lyman died in 1973. Marie Fulkerson provided a substantial gift to the Our Promise capital campaign that was restricted to construction of the center.

Ellison-Auxier Architects Inc. was selected as architects for the project, and construction was scheduled to begin in fall 2000. However, at that same time, the state was facing lawsuits regarding the Hancock Amendment and indicated that if it lost the lawsuits, it would have to issue refunds to taxpayers instead of releasing \$1 million for the Fulkerson project. Missouri lost the lawsuits, so the College did not receive the promised \$1 million.

By 2003, the College realized the state was not going to help fund the project, so James Roever, now vice president for Institutional Advancement, was charged with coming up with new plans that remained true to Marie Fulkerson and other donors' wishes and still met the need for conference and training space.

Without the \$1 million from the state, Roever's plan was to build a conference center attached to the Spratt MC Building instead of a stand-alone building, and utilize space in Spratt for training facilities.

The first round of bids was too high, but the second round offered a base bid from E. L. Crawford Construction of \$1,458,000 with alternate bids totaling \$229,246.

A groundbreaking ceremony was held and construction began in March 2004.

In March 2005, the 12,000 square-foot Fulkerson Center opened with a conference room that seats 500 and can be divided into three rooms and an alumni room. Additionally, two rooms on the second floor of Spratt Hall were designated as training rooms. The Alumni Services Office had moved to the first floor of Spratt in 2002, so all the components of the original plans were in close proximity, just not quite in the way they were first envisioned as a separate building.

The center was totally funded from private donations, the only building on campus with that distinction to date. Along with the gift from Marie Fulkerson, 43 other donors contributed to the project. Four rooms in the center were named in recognition of donors: the Kemper Room, made possible by a gift from the William T. Kemper Foundation; the MeadWestvaco Room; and the Rochambeau Room in memory of Richard Austin Rochambeau, Sr., from the Leah Spratt Trust; and the Alumni Room in honor of Joseph and Gladys Friedman and Joseph J. Droher.

Along with usage from campus departments, the Fulkerson Center is rented out for conferences and community events year round. Marie Fulkerson died in 2009 at the age of 108.

COMMONS BUILDING – 2004 LIVING/LEARNING CENTER (SCANLON HALL) – 2005

When Vaselakos Hall opened in 1995, the residence halls were able to keep up with the demand for student housing for a few years, but for the fall of 2002, Missouri Western had received 1,387 housing contracts for 1,045 spaces. Also, there had been waiting lists for three of the past five years, and the average annual occupancy of the residence halls had been 95 percent for the past five years. So in the fall of 2002, a request for proposals for a feasibility study for a new residence hall was issued.

At the December 2002 Board of Regents meeting, John Comerford, director of Residential Life, told the board, “Demand for housing is going up faster than the rate of enrollment, which means we’re shifting to more of a traditional school.”

The board approved a proposal to pursue the construction of a new residence hall at the December meeting, and Gould, Evans and Goodman Associates of Kansas City, Missouri was selected as architects.

The 400-bed hall, built south of Vaselakos Hall with a parking lot entrance off 50th Street, was designed for eight to 10 learning communities of 40-50 students each. Each community had its own study room and shared kitchen. The rooms were double and single occupancy, with no more than four students sharing one bathroom.

A commons building for the residence halls was first proposed in 2003, so a new residence hall and commons building, along with upgrades to the existing halls, were all bid as one project that year, not to exceed \$17.5 million. The entire project would be funded with revenue bonds.

The commons building, located on the east side of the residence halls courtyard, contained a lounge, coffee shop/pizza shop/convenience store, a service desk for the residence halls, and office space for Housing and Residential Life.

Upgrades to the existing residence halls included a new fire alarm system, mechanical and ventilation system improvements, and additional electrical outlets and circuiting in the suites of Logan, Beshears and Juda halls.

Lawhon Construction Co. was awarded the \$13,539,500 contract for the entire project, which was well under the College’s set limit of \$17.5 million. Construction began in November 2003, and the commons building opened in November 2004. Although winter weather delayed construction on the residence hall, it opened in time for students in fall 2005 and was named the Living/Learning Center.

Missouri Western also initiated a new policy that freshmen and transfer students who received more than \$2,500 in scholarships per semester were required to live on campus, starting in the fall of 2005. For fall 2006, all freshmen (with some exceptions) were required to live on campus, and the new hall was designated for freshmen only.

At President Scanlon’s retirement dinner in June 2008, it was announced that the Living/Learning Center would be named Scanlon Hall in his honor.

UNIVERSITY PLAZA – 2007

Visitors were greeted by a new campus icon on the east side of campus in 2007 – the University Plaza. A 10-foot tall bronze Griffon statue on a 10-foot black granite base with fountains is surrounded by a plaza and wall, and was built to celebrate Missouri Western’s university designation in 2005.

The plaza was a gift from the John and Julia Comello Charitable Trust in recognition of the James B. Kelley family: James and Jean Kelley, and alumni Jeanie Kelley Grahl, Molly Kelley Pierce, Chris Kelley, and Kelley Meirose.

The statue’s base contains the five names of the institution throughout its history: St. Joseph Junior College, 1915-1965; Missouri Western Junior College, 1965-1967; Missouri Western College, 1967-1977; Missouri Western State College, 1977-2005; and Missouri Western State University, 2005-present.

E.L. Crawford Construction Inc. was awarded the bid for the plaza – \$207,777. A dedication ceremony was held in June 2007 with Kelley family members attending.

CHRISTOPHER S. “KIT” BOND SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY CENTER – 2008

In 2003, Missouri Western, along with several community partners, created the Applied Industrial Life Science Institute to provide leadership and focus in an effort to make St. Joseph the choice location for life science companies. Partners included the St. Joseph Area Chamber of Commerce, the City of St. Joseph, Buchanan County, and area life science companies. The name changed to the Institute for Industrial and Applied Life Sciences by 2005. In 2015, it became known as Innovation Stockyard.

Gary Clapp began part-time as the first President/CEO of the institute in February 2006, but was full-time by April of that year.

Shortly after the group was formed in 2003, it began planning for an incubator on campus that would focus on life science businesses, and some of the analysis and planning was done by Missouri Western students from the Biology and Business departments. In 2005, the University received a \$20,000 grant from the U.S. Economic Development Administration (EDA) to fund a feasibility study for the incubator. From that study, the site was selected on the west side of Interstate 29 and the decision to apply for a construction grant was made. In June 2006, the U.S. Economic Development Administration awarded Missouri Western \$75,000 to conduct architecture and engineering analyses.

Five months later, Missouri Western was awarded a \$2.5 million grant from the EDA for construction of the incubator. The grant was only one of two awarded in Missouri that year from the EDA.

In March 2007, Lee Grover Construction was awarded the low bid of \$2,695,764. The next month, the Board of Governors voted to name the facility the MWSU Christopher S. “Kit” Bond Science and Technology Incubator. Along with the EDA grant, the incubator was funded with \$125,000 from the Institute of Industrial and Applied Life Sciences and \$70,764 from the University’s reserve funds.

A groundbreaking ceremony was held in June 2007, and a dedication ceremony, attended by Sen. Bond, was held in May 2008. When it opened, only the first floor had been completed, and it held offices for the Institute for Industrial and Applied Life Sciences. The second floor was left open and unfinished so it could be outfitted to fit the needs of future tenants.

The incubator was recognized as a Missouri Innovation Center by the Missouri Technology Corporation in 2008 and received funds for operational costs for several years.

The incubator's first tenant, IMULAN BioTherapeutics LLC, arrived in April 2009. IMULAN developed the only approved treatment aid for feline leukemia virus and feline immunodeficiency virus. DT Search and Designs LLC, a firm that researched and developed products in military telecommunications, animal waste management and other industries, arrived in 2009, also, along with the United States Animal Health Association, a nonprofit organization dedicated to controlling animal disease. Additionally, New Functional Polymers began using lab space in the incubator.

Also in 2009, the incubator received a U. S. Department of Labor Health and Human Services grant in the amount of \$284,743 for laboratory equipment.

In 2010, Boehringer Ingelheim Vetmedica Inc. in St. Joseph moved into the second floor of the incubator, outfitting the 8,000 square feet of space to meet its needs. Sopharmia Inc., a company dedicated to pharmaceutical discoveries in the fight against infectious disease, moved into the incubator in 2011. Method Genetics, LLC, which provides genetic selection tools and decision-making assistance for cattle production, joined the incubator in 2014.

In 2015, Sopharmia Inc. announced the closing of a \$3.3 million Series A venture capital financing round and the formation of Gladius Pharmaceuticals Inc. based in Montreal, Quebec, Canada. Sopharmia's antibiotic technology is now wholly owned by Gladius Pharmaceuticals.

MONEY MATTERS

“The combination of a slowing economy, deep tax cuts and unexpected mandatory expenses has put stress on our state budget.” – Gov. Bob Holden, Griffon News, February 2001.

“The past several years have required continuing sacrifice across the University as we worked to meet our mission and to serve the best interests of students and the larger community, despite inadequate state funding.” – President James Scanlon, Board of Governors meeting, May 2006.

OVERVIEW

As it had in the 1990s, Missouri Western continued to face lean state appropriations into the 2000s. As FY02 approached, McCarthy, who was serving as interim president, said FY02’s state budget was the tightest budget he had seen for a number of years, and the state had a \$300 million shortfall of revenues that was needed to cover its expenses. The Board of Regents passed a 6 percent tuition increase for FY02.

In June 2001, the College was notified that in addition to the usual 3 percent that was withheld each year, the state would withhold an additional 5 percent for FY02, which amounted to approximately \$1 million for Missouri Western. In August, the Board of Regents voted to transfer \$600,000 from reserves to help balance the budget. Then in December 2001, another 2 percent was withheld by the state, which was approximately \$400,000. At that time, the state warned that more could be withheld before the fiscal year was over. That happened in June 2002, when the College was notified that it would receive only 40 percent of the state’s June payment.

Missouri Western added a \$10 per credit hour surcharge to tuition for the spring 2002 semester to help make up for the cuts, and among other cost-cutting measures, instituted a temporary moratorium on most hiring. However, the College still had to draw \$1.5 million from its reserves to meet its obligations. In total, the state withheld \$3.2 million from its FY02 allocation.

President Scanlon later noted that higher education in Missouri shouldered 37 percent of the state cuts in FY02 even though it was only 12 percent of the general revenue budget.

For FY03, Missouri Western braced itself for 10 percent or more in cuts of state funding in addition to the 3 percent that was normally withheld. The cuts totaled more than \$2.1 million. Then, an additional 2.3 percent was withheld during the fiscal year, which was \$459,000 for Missouri Western. In March 2002, the board had approved a \$13 per credit hour tuition increase for FY03, but

as the state budget deteriorated, the board found it needed to approve an additional \$2 per credit hour cost in June. Additionally, there was no salary increase for employees in FY03.

State budget cuts for Missouri Western totaled \$5.9 million in FY02 and FY03.

FY04 began with the 3 percent customary withholding, plus an additional 2.3 percent, so all campus departments faced more cuts. In December, Gov. Bob Holden returned \$190,058 of the \$864,637 that had been withheld in July, and \$610,750 was returned from the withholding in April 2004.

The financial picture looked a little better for FY05, when Missouri Western received \$681,414 more from the state than the year before, and no additional withholding beyond the usual 3 percent. The easing of the budget cuts led administrators to not raise tuition for the first 12 credit hours for FY05 for the second year in a row.

Gov. Matt Blunt proposed flat funding for higher education for FY06, and for the third year, there was no tuition increase for Missouri Western students.

In preparing for FY07, colleges and universities were told to expect a 10-12 percent cut in core funding from FY06, but as it turned out, Missouri Western received a 2 percent increase in state funding.

For FY08, Blunt proposed increased funding to state higher education institutions over the next three years, and Missouri Western received a 5.5 percent increase in funding from the year before. The University raised tuition 3.2 percent. In FY09, the University increased tuition 4 percent and received a 5.5 percent increase in state funding over FY08.

Throughout the years of major cuts from the state and very tight budgets, Scanlon was committed to making sure all employees remained working, so he looked for other ways to cut expenses and did not lay off any staff or faculty during his tenure.

EQUITY FUNDING

One initiative of President Scanlon's was to pursue equity in the funding of Missouri's higher education institutions. In 2001, the Coordinating Board for Higher Education was working on a new funding formula based on cost of living increases, performance-based funding and enrollment growth, but Scanlon wanted to see the equity issue addressed before the state developed a new funding formula.

At a June 2001 Board of Regents meeting, Scanlon noted that Missouri Western received \$5,444 per full-time student from the state, which was \$1,567 below the average of funding per student of all state public higher education institutions. He noted that he was requesting a \$6,327,546 adjustment to Missouri Western's core budget in FY 02 to bring the College's allocation per student up to the state average.

In FY03, Scanlon again requested a little over \$4 million be added to the core budget for equity funding. The Coordinating Board of Higher Education voted to add \$1.5 million to the core budget to address the equity issue, and the House proposed adding \$750,000 to Missouri Western's core budget that year, but none of the proposals succeeded.

Unfortunately, 2000-08 saw mostly higher education funding cuts from the state and no resolution of the equity issue for Missouri Western students. At the time of his retirement, Scanlon noted that not making progress on this initiative was a disappointment in his career at Missouri Western.

SPORTS

“The lives of college students are so diverse. We each come from such unique backgrounds, but while on campus, we all have something in common. We are all students. We are all Griffons.”—
2000 Griffon Yearbook

OVERVIEW

Amidst exciting games and many stellar athletes, the years 2000-08 found the Department of Athletics with three different athletic directors, two new sports, changes in the makeup of the conference, and a new look for the Griffon mascot.

The first banquet to honor student athletes was held in 2000, co-sponsored by the St. Joseph News-Press. Nikki Glasgo, women’s tennis, and Rick Moeckel, football, were named Student-Athletes of the Year. Bill Grigsby, “Voice of the Kansas City Chiefs,” was the guest speaker for the audience of more than 300. A special valor award was given to Jeff Holland, a football player and 1985 graduate who had been shot in the line of duty as an Omaha, Nebraska police officer.

Athletics also purchased a new football scoreboard and sound system for Spratt Memorial Stadium, and a new scoreboard was installed in the Looney HPER Building arena. In 2001, a large electronic sign was installed in front of the building by Downs Drive.

In 2001, Director of Athletics Pete Chapman initiated the process to license those vendors who wanted to produce merchandise with the College’s Griffon logo and/or wordmarks and to register Missouri Western’s logos and trademarks with the U.S. Patent Office. By 2015, Missouri Western had two marks (the Griffon and Max) and “Missouri Western State University” and “Missouri Western” registered with the U.S. Patent Office. It also had trademarks on “MWSU,” “Griffons,” “Missouri Western Griffons,” “Missouri Western Athletics,” and “Griffon Athletics.”

Missouri Western also added two sports to its lineup between 2000 and 2008. In 2002, the NCAA had increased the minimum number of sports for Division II schools from eight to 10, requiring colleges to meet the number by 2005. Women’s golf was added in the spring of 2003 with Randy McGohan as the coach, and women’s soccer was added in fall 2005, with Leroy “Chip” Wiggins as its first coach.

There were also changes of membership in the Mid-America Intercollegiate Athletics Conference. In 2005, the University of Missouri-Rolla left the conference and Fort Hays State University (Hays, Kansas) joined in 2006. The University of Nebraska-Omaha joined the conference in 2008.

Chapman, who had been director of Athletics since 1999, died in January 2003, and Mark Linder became director later that year. Dave Williams became the director in April 2008 after Linder resigned in 2007.

The year 2004 brought a new mascot to Missouri Western to replace Lil' Griff. Lil' Griff, meant to be a goodwill ambassador to attract children, took a lot of grief from students who wanted a more robust representation of the sports teams. An October 2003 Griffon News editorial noted, "We insist on our mascot being a misproportioned (sic), prepubescent little boy called Lil' Griff. Lil' Griff's reign of terror is over. Let's bring on the next mascot for Missouri Western."

A new Griffon mascot costume was purchased, one with the wings of an eagle and feet and tail of a lion. It was named Max the Griffon in honor of Max Grooms, who was a longtime supporter of Missouri Western athletics. Scott Johnson, a graphic arts coordinator at Missouri Western, designed a graphic version of Max the Griffon in 2005 that became a registered trademark for the University. (Johnson was also one of three finalists out of 11,000 entries for a Photoshop Guru Award at the Photoshop World Conference, for his editing of a photo of Spratt Memorial Stadium.)

A complete list of sports teams' records, coaches and noteworthy achievements from 1983-2015 is in Appendix I.

MAX EXPERIENCE

Throughout the summer of 2005, Athletics, under the guidance of Director Mark Linder, held a series of focus groups in an effort to evaluate the state of Missouri Western athletics and how it could improve. One result of the meetings was the Max Experience, a proposal to charge students a fee that would pay for athletic facilities improvements and benefits that would enrich students' experiences with athletics. In March 2006, 75 percent of the students who voted approved a \$5 per credit hour Max Experience fee.

Since the fee was instituted, Spratt Memorial Stadium received a new artificial turf playing surface (2006), the M.O. Looney Complex received a new floor (2007), the stadium's visitor side was upgraded with new bleachers, and a building for restrooms and concessions was built (2009), and the baseball stadium in the Spring Sports Complex (2011) was funded.

Additionally, through the Max Experience, students receive several benefits at athletic events, including free concessions and bus trips to away games.

STUDENT LIFE

“New trends for students: organic foods, fitness (Pilates), reality TV blossomed, cellular phones.”
– 2004 Griffon Yearbook

“Ah, parking ... this must be the most over discussed topic in the history of Griffon News rants. However, we persist because this issue does.” – Griffon News editorial, November 2004.

“Social Network service Facebook cause for controversy; some students still prefer Myspace”
“Many suffer from Internet addiction” – Headlines in the Griffon News, fall 2006.

BY THE NUMBERS

	Fall 2000	Fall 2008
• Undergraduate Enrollment	5,118	5,470
• Full-time students	3,815	3,825
• Missouri residents	4,627	5,055
• International students	18	8
• Undergraduates age 25 and older	24%	22%
• Minorities (who reported)	12%	14%

OVERVIEW

The years 2000-08 saw many traditions continue for students, along with several new ones created – spring concerts, Light Up Western and a Homecoming king, to name a few.

Homecoming themes from 2000 to 2008 included MWSC Hits the Big Screen, Let the Games Begin, Griffons to the Rescue and Gold Rush. The 2005 Homecoming theme was University Studios, a nod to the College’s newly designated university status.

The 2001 Homecoming featured a first – a Homecoming king. Alongside Queen Michelle Figg, senior Stan Pearson was crowned Missouri Western’s first Homecoming king. The election and announcement were held the week before Homecoming, which was also a change, so that the king and queen could reign over activities throughout the week.

The traditions of Family Day and Springfest continued through 2008. “Basically, it’s a hurrah for all the work we have done all year in one week,” Campus Activities Board President Quinton

Howard said in 2002, describing Springfest. In 2004, Springfest grew a larger crowd than the previous few years. Called “Pardi Gras,” it included activities such as a laser tag maze, a Velcro wall and fireworks.

In 2000, there were 12 Greek social organizations in the Inter-Greek Council, and the 2007 Griffon Yearbook listed a total of 11 fraternities and sororities on campus.

Greek Week was held all but two years from 2000 to 2008. The 2001 Greek Week was dubbed “Greek Streak” and included athletic events, a talent show and yes, Greeks running around wrapped in towels. In 2002, the Greeks raised \$1,700 for Habitat for Humanity during the week.

The Phi Sigma Kappa fraternity had owned a house across the street from campus on Mitchell Avenue since 1996, but in 2006, the fraternity sold the house, and it was torn down.

In 2003, at their national conventions, Phi Sigma Kappa fraternity received the Herbert L. Brown Most Outstanding Chapter Award, and Sigma Sigma Sigma Sorority received national awards for its new-member-orientation program and its recruitment program. The next year, Sigma Sigma Sigma again received a recruitment award at their national convention. Also in 2004, the Tau Kappa Epsilon fraternity earned a national award – Most Improved Chapter, and Alpha Sigma Alpha fraternity was one of 13 out of 75 chapters to receive a four-star chapter award at its convention.

A big change in student life came in 2003 when students voted to raise the fee of the Student Government Association from \$15 per semester (in place since 1982) to \$50 per semester for full-time students, significantly increasing the SGA budget. This, in turn, led to an increase in the number of activities offered to students each year.

The increased fee supported the Student Senate, Residence Council and the Campus Activities Board (named changed to Western Activities Council in 2007), the Unity Services Office (name changed to Center for Multicultural Education in 2003), and several more student clubs and organizations’ activities.

One promised benefit of increasing the student fee was to bring a big name to St. Joseph for a concert each spring. The first was held in April 2004 with Hoobastank, Ima Robot and Lost Prophets at the Civic Arena downtown. Prior to the concert, a party with the MTV Campus Invasion Tour was held in the Blum Student Union parking lot. The genres rotated between rock, hip hop and country each year and have included Twista in 2005, Chely Wright and Emerson Drive in 2006, Switchfoot in 2007, Rick Ross and Yung Joc in 2008, Blake Shelton in 2009, Puddle of Mudd and Saliva in 2010, J. Cole in 2011, Sara Evans in 2012, 3OH!3, XV and Sammy Adams in 2013, B.O.B. and SOMO in 2014, and Ludacris and Bryce Vine in 2015.

Shelton’s concert, which included a surprise performance by Miranda Lambert, drew the largest spring concert crowd – 2,730. In 2011, SGA passed a resolution to not limit the concert to the three genres and to not rotate between the three anymore.

Other speakers and entertainers from 2000-08, some funded by the increased fees, included Country Western singer Josh Turner, Dating Doctor David Coleman, Dennis Haskins, who played Mr. Belding on television’s “Saved by the Bell,” Judy Shepard, mother of murder victim Matt Shepard;

comedians Steve Bryne and Dat Phan; Brian Brushwood, a magician; John Jordan “Buck” O’Neil, baseball player and manager; poet Black Ice; Andrew W.K., a musician and motivational speaker; Lidia Ramirez, actress; and Step Afrika, a professional stepping troupe.

The new fee also allowed SGA to purchase holiday lights for the Glenn E. Marion Memorial Clock Tower and for four evergreen trees near the clock tower in 2006. Light Up Western, which included carols and storytelling, kicked off the holiday season that November. Afterwards, students gathered in the Blum Union for hot cocoa and treats and enjoyed displays of holiday celebrations around the world. They also decorated trees in the first floor lounge area of the student union.

When the Kelley Commons gathering space opened in 2013, it was decorated with lights for the holiday season and became the focal point of Light Up Western. That year, several new activities were added, including an iceless skating rink in the Fulkerson Center. The students hosted children from the Noyes Home, and Santa Claus even attended.

Students also became quite involved in the national presidential elections in both 2004 and 2008, when the Center for Multicultural Education held Vote or Shut Up voter registration rallies in the fall. Free t-shirts were given to those who registered to vote. MTV’s Real World/Road Rules stars visited campus for a Rock the Vote event in 2004. In both election years, Joanne Katz, legal studies faculty member, held an Election Law class, and students from the class helped at polling places on election day.

A visit to campus by vice presidential candidate Joe Biden in October 2008 also helped raise student awareness of the upcoming election. Biden spoke to a packed house in the M.O. Looney Complex gym.

Two significant student services were developed between 2000 and 2008. In 2001, a grand opening was held for the Nontraditional Student Center (later named the Nontraditional and Commuter Student Center) lounge in the Eder SS/C Building, and a new Center for Student Engagement opened in 2006 on the second floor of the Blum Union. The center, open to all recognized student organizations, provides meeting and lounge areas and resources such as a copier, fax machine, a button maker and art supplies. Two students were hired part-time to assist organizations with graphic design and web page design. At the time of the center’s opening, there were approximately 70 recognized student organizations on campus. In 2014, the name changed to Center for Student Involvement.

TECHNOLOGY

“Cellular phones are seen just as much as student textbooks on this campus. It is almost like a necessity for a college student.”— Kelley Wallace, 2000 Griffon Yearbook

“The technology available was cell phones, VCRs & DVD players ... At Western, students had the opportunity to take classes online, use the internet in class, take notes from an overhead projector and look at digital images during lectures.” – 2004 Griffon Yearbook

OVERVIEW

Missouri Western started the year 2000 by continuing to upgrade its classrooms with state-of-the-art presentation technology, part of an initiative that began in 1999 (see 1990-99 – TECHNOLOGY). The College then spent 2000-08 attempting to keep up with the continuing rapid changes in technology.

During the 1999-2000 academic year, training programs for faculty and staff included Creating Web Pages, Dial-up Networking and Palm Pilot III. For students, lessons included word processing, spreadsheets and email/Internet.

In 2000, there were 23 public telephones across campus, but as cell phones became more and more popular, those public phones began to disappear.

Internet usage increased more and more each year, as well. The College revamped its website in 2000 to make it more user-friendly, and at a June 2000 Board of Regents meeting, Vice President McCarthy noted that the Admissions Office received more than 1,550 online inquiries from prospective students.

“During this past year, it has become increasingly apparent that the website serves as a valuable tool to assist recruitment efforts and to promote the image of the College,” McCarthy said.

By fall 2006, it was noted that 90 percent of all students who applied for admission had applied online.

Blackboard’s WebCT (Course Tools), Missouri Western’s online learning management system, emerged in 2000. One of its capabilities was that students could take quizzes and tests online, and professors could post content from their courses on the site. The 2002 Griffon Yearbook reported that approximately 100 students enrolled in television or online courses each semester, and as more and more online courses were offered over the years, WebCT’s usage increased.

Missouri Western joined the Kansas City Regional Access Consortium of Higher Education in 2001, which was a partnership with Kansas City Public Television and area colleges and universities. That allowed the college to offer several more distance learning options to students.

In 2001, the College explored the possibility of creating a hotspot in the library for a wireless connection for students with laptop computers, but it was determined that it wasn't worth the cost since so few students owned laptops. But that had changed so much by 2005 that hotspots began being installed in several buildings across campus.

Students could apply online for scholarships beginning in 2002, but the process became much easier and streamlined in 2006. The next year, the Admissions Office began offering OneStop, which gave prospective students the capability to apply for admission, financial aid, housing, competitive scholarships and the honors program all at one website.

In 2002, students for the first time checked their semester grades online, and their grade reports were no longer mailed to them. The 2002 Student Government Association elections were also web-based for the first time, and students could vote from any computer. Technology made it possible for students to register for classes from any computer, either on- or off-campus. A headline in a March 2002 issue of the Griffon News read, "Web-based system allows students to enroll for classes in their underwear."

In December 2002, Missouri Western was notified by Hewlett Packard that the company would discontinue technical support for the College's computer hardware and software after Dec. 31, 2006, so the College began to investigate an integrated, web-based system for the entire campus. They selected the SCT Banner system. The switch-over began in 2004, and students registered for the first time using the new Banner system in the fall of 2005.

In 2008, the Instructional Media Center coordinated the first audio/video web chat using Skype, between Cynthia Jeney, English faculty member, and a faculty member from Webster University.

TOWN AND GOWN

“Growing up within the St. Joseph community, we’ve had many opportunities to take. Now it’s our turn to give back.” – Noel Sanger, 2000 Griffon Yearbook.

“It would be difficult to overstate the importance of Western to this community.” – Editorial, St. Joseph News-Press, May 3, 2000.

OVERVIEW

From the very beginning of Scanlon’s presidency, he stressed the large and important role that Missouri Western played in the community and the region.

In 2001, the College purchased a 35-foot mobile classroom trainer for Continuing Education personnel to train employees at corporations throughout the area. The unit held 10 students and was primarily designed for maintenance personnel courses such as programmable logic controllers, electrical safety and mechanical maintenance training. It could also be used for computer training. Funding for the training unit was from the Regional Technology in Education Consortium of the U.S. Department of Education.

Scanlon also developed a five-year strategic plan for the College that focused on serving the community and the region. The plan, which was implemented in January 2002, created a new mission statement, a new vision statement and a set of six values; developed goals and objectives; and aligned the campus planning with community planning. As a reflection of that alignment, the last sentence of the new mission statement stated, “Western is committed to the educational, economic, cultural, and social development of the people and the region it serves through applied research and professional and voluntary service.”

As part of the strategic plan, named “The Western Advantage,” \$350,000 was allocated to a Strategic Planning Implementation Fund for FY03, and departments could apply for SPIF grants to help meet the goals and objectives of the plan. That first year, grants were awarded for website equipment upgrades, consulting services for integrated computing, an automated facilities scheduling process, the development of an enrollment management plan, and the creation of a brand strategy.

A new five-year strategic plan, “Building the New American Regional University,” was in place in 2007. As with the 2002 plan, SPIF grants that coincided with the AQIP (Missouri Western’s accreditation initiative) Action Plans were awarded to help meet the goals and objectives of the plan.

According to Scanlon, a new American regional university brought together private good and public good. The focus was on the application of the University's resources for the good of the student and the good of the people that it serves in the community, region, state and nation. Community partnerships and community service were very important to the mission of a new American regional university.

Goals for the 2002, 2007 and 2012 strategic plans, and the mission, vision and values statements that were created in 2002, 2007 and 2012 are in Appendix F.

One result of Scanlon's focus was the creation of the Western Institute. Ed Gorsky, longtime dean of Continuing Education, announced his retirement in January 2004 and was replaced by Chris Shove that July. Shove broadened the focus of the Continuing Education Office, and the name changed to the Western Institute in August 2004. Among other initiatives, the institute now offered research services to regional businesses and organizations.

The institute still offered noncredit continuing education classes and dual credit courses, and those numbers continued to grow. For the 1999-2000 school year, 20 high schools and approximately 500 students were enrolled in dual credit courses throughout the area. In the

2008-09 school year, those numbers had increased to 28 high schools and 800 students.

Gordon Mapley became the dean and executive director of the Western Institute in 2008.

In another effort to respond to a community need, the Western Institute began offering Command Spanish® classes. The courses, usually just 16 to 24 hours, were nongrammar-based and directed at oral Spanish in the workplace. In one year, more than 300 people in nine different career fields enrolled in the classes.

Along with the Western Institute's programs, many offices and departments across campus offered their resources to serve the region from 2000-08.

In 2000, the College joined with the St. Joseph School District, the St. Joseph Area Chamber of Commerce, the Private Industry Council, and the St. Joseph Youth Alliance for a Workforce Development Summit. The event, which focused on skills applicable for the 21st century, drew 1,000 participants.

The City of St. Joseph and Missouri Western Athletics collaborated to bring the NCAA women's Elite 8 basketball tournament to the Civic Arena in 2003 and 2004, which brought in thousands of dollars to the community.

A study in 2002 noted that Missouri Western had a \$120 million economic impact on the region. By 2006, the impact was \$160.9 million.

In 2000, the "Man of LaMancha" drew approximately 1,000, and in the fall of 2003, "Grease" performed to packed houses every show. Other theatre performances from 2000 to 2008 included "Harvey," "Glass Menagerie," "Lion in Winter," "Cat on a Hot Tin Roof," "Blithe Spirit," "Romeo and Juliet," "Rocky Horror Picture Show," and "Night of the Living Dead."

Deny Staggs, a theatre faculty member, collaborated with St. Joseph's Robidoux Resident Theatre in 2007 to produce "Beauty and the Beast" at the Missouri Theater in downtown St. Joseph. Staggs was the director, and several Missouri Western students and alumni performed in the show.

Along with concerts featuring the Department of Music's ensembles, music faculty member Dennis Rogers started an annual eXtreme Percussion concert, which gave his percussion students an opportunity to showcase their skills to the campus and community.

In 2008, when Walter Barga was named Missouri's first poet laureate, David Benz of the Department of Music, alumna Mary Ann Haenni and Barga founded Verses and Voices, where middle and high school students interpret the state poet laureate's work through art, music and readings in the classroom, and then showcase their work at festivals. First Lady Georgeanne Nixon became the honorary chair of Verses and Voices.

The first festival featured three local high schools and 700 people in attendance. The next year featured 10 schools and 1,600 people attending. In 2010, four high school choirs (three were directed by Missouri Western alumni) and Missouri Western's Concert Chorale performed in the capitol rotunda in Jefferson City, Missouri. The choirs sang the premiere of one of Barga's poems, "Hall of Waters," that was set to music. Each choir performed two songs, one by a Missouri composer and one poem by a Missouri poet that was set to music.

In an effort to bring more people to campus to learn what Missouri Western had to offer the region, the Office of Public Relations and Marketing coordinated in 2005 Experience Western: Discover the Treasure. It was a day of fun and information for families, and the event drew between 1,500 and 2,000 people.

Activities included an information fair of academic departments, student entertainment, presentations and a display of student research projects. Several campus and community organizations set up games and activities for children, and there was also a car show, a fire safety display and a car seat safety check.

ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

Four directors served the Alumni Association between 2000 and 2008. In 2000, one of the responsibilities of Director of Institutional Advancement Lynn Snyder was serving as Director of Alumni Affairs. Peggy Evans took on the role for a short time in 2001, and Julie Lawrence became the Director of Alumni Services in 2003. She was succeeded by Colleen Kowich in 2006.

Alumni activities throughout the 1999-2000 school year included several traditions – a winter social, Griffon Warm-up at Homecoming, the annual commencement breakfast for graduating seniors, and the annual awards banquet, where distinguished alumni and faculty members were honored. For the first time in 2002, Alumni Association scholarship recipients were also honored at the annual banquet.

To kick off the annual Phonathon in 2000, almost 100 faculty, staff, students and alumni made phone calls from East Hills Shopping Center for three days in view of shoppers to raise money for student scholarships. The kickoff was held there again in 2001.

The Junior College Brunch was an annual tradition that had begun in the 1990s. At the 2000 brunch, Algalee Adams' portrait was hung in the Junior College Room of the Blum SU. Adams, a 1939 graduate of the St. Joseph Junior College and higher education administrator, was a great supporter of the College.

At the 2001 brunch, a ceremony was held in the Junior College Room in the Blum SU as a tribute to Al Kost, the creator of the mural in that room. His photo was hung near the mural at the ceremony.

The 2005 brunch celebrated the 90th anniversary of the St. Joseph Junior College, and at the 2006 brunch, Peggy Iffert and Edna Pumphrey, longtime Alumni Association volunteers, were honored for their dedication and commitment to Missouri Western and to the Alumni Association. Both Iffert and Pumphrey were tireless volunteers for the Alumni Association for many years.

Two Alumni Association activities for several years were Alumni Night at the Drive-in when the Horseshoe Lake Drive-in east of the city on Highway 6 was in operation, and Alumni Nights at the St. Joseph Saints baseball games. New in 2007 was Griffs on the Bayou, a Mardi Gras celebration at Boudreaux's Louisiana Seafood and Steaks in St. Joseph. And in 2008, the first Alumni Day at the K was held when the Kansas City Royals played the St. Louis Cardinals at Kauffman Stadium.

In addition to its annual scholarship for current students, the Alumni Association created the Alumni Family Scholarship in 2001 for incoming freshmen who had one or both parents who were alumni. That competitive scholarship remained in place until 2012, when it was replaced by the noncompetitive Legacy Scholarship. The Legacy Scholarship, which is supported by the Admissions Office, Provost's Office and the Alumni Association, allowed more incoming freshmen who had at least one parent that is an alumnus/a to receive funds.

In 2007, the Alumni Association created a new award, the Herb '35 and Peggy Iffert Award for Outstanding Service to the University. The award is given to an alumnus/alumna, retiree, or other friend of the University who shows continuous commitment to Missouri Western and its mission, vision and legacy. The recipient must serve as a positive liaison between the University and the region of northwest Missouri, and must show consistent dedication to the advancement and preservation of Missouri Western in the spirit for whom this award is named. The first recipient was George Richmond, and subsequent years' recipients are listed in Appendix B.

ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

The 30th anniversary celebration, named the Diamond Jubilee Celebration, was held April 24-30, 2000. It marked not only the 30th anniversary of the four-year campus, but also served as a means to honor retiring president President Murphy and to celebrate the success of the Our Promise capital campaign. The week coincided with the students' annual Springfest.

The first event to commemorate the anniversary was a presidents dinner for all current and past presidents of Faculty Senate, Student Government Association, Professional Staff Association, and Support Staff Association, followed by a dinner for past and present Foundation, Regents and Alumni board members.

Events throughout the rest of the week included an Ambassadors luncheon, ribbon cutting and dedication ceremonies for the Blum SU and JGM Academic Center, and an alumni football game. A new sign at the Mitchell Avenue entrance featuring a Griffon and “Missouri Western State College” was also dedicated. The sign, black granite with gold leafing, was designed with separate panels so it could easily be updated to read “university” instead of “college,” if necessary. And that is just what happened in 2005 when Missouri Western earned university designation.

A 30th anniversary/capital campaign victory dinner attended by approximately 600 was held April 29 at the Civic Arena in St. Joseph, and the week ended on April 30 with a Junior College brunch in the afternoon and a concert and fireworks that evening.

CAMPUS EVENTS FOR YOUTH

Missouri Western offered several activities specifically for area youth between 2000 and 2008.

Nannette Wolford, physical education faculty member, hosted home-schooled children on campus for several weeks each semester, and her students planned physical education classes for them. The department also hosted several hundred elementary students on campus each year for the American Heart Association’s Jump Rope for Heart.

In 2002, Evelyn Brooks of the Department of Nursing initiated the Healthy Buddy program, where nursing students were paired up with elementary school students. College students visited their healthy buddies once a week, talking to them about healthy choices and behaviors and playing games with them. At the end of the semester, the elementary students visited campus and ate lunch with their Healthy Buddies in the cafeteria.

The program, which started with one elementary school and 33 nursing students, was so successful that by the next year, there were 150 college students from six academic departments visiting 180 students at six elementary schools. By 2007, 231 college students were involved.

Continuing Education hosted activities such as an information technology camp for high schoolers, a TechnoGriffs Jr. camp for middle schoolers and Dinosaur Madness, a summer community arts class. In the summer of 2004, 629 youth came on campus for arts and cultural enrichment courses.

That same year, the Admissions Office initiated Ready Set Go, a program to teach eighth-graders in the region how to prepare for college during their high school years. In the first year, more than 450 eighth-graders visited campus as part of the program.

In the summer of 2007, Los Angeles filmmaker Tara Veneruso coordinated a month-long program on campus for at-risk middle school girls. Her project, “RISK: At-risk Girls Behind the Camera,”

offered 13 girls a month-long opportunity to learn about filmmaking from Veneruso and other industry professionals.

At the end of the program, Hollywood 10 Theaters in St. Joseph featured the films that the girls had produced, and the teen-age filmmakers entered the theater on a red carpet in an Academy-Award ceremony atmosphere.

COMMUNITY SERVICE

One of President Scanlon's focuses during his tenure was community service, and students stepped up and participated in a number of service projects throughout St. Joseph and the area. In fact, Missouri Western received the 2002 Humanitarian Award at the Mayors Thanksgiving Dinner for its volunteer service in the community.

In 2000, the Department of Music created Lingering Melodies, a group of student musicians who performed for the terminally ill, and the program was awarded the Mayor's Award for Arts Projects the next year. In the fall of 2001, the Unity Services Office initiated a day of community service for students called the Big Event, and Scanlon and his wife, Lauren, participated in several.

In an effort to stress the importance of community service to students from the start of their college careers, the Griffon Edge new student orientation added a service component to its program in 2003. On the last day of the orientation, hundreds of Missouri Western students spread throughout the community for several hours to volunteer for various organizations, and that was still a part of the program in 2015.

Students also started Party at the Clock Tower as part of Greek Week in 2004 to raise money for St. Jude's Children's Research Hospital. The next year, Party-a-Thon, a seven-hour concert with several bands in Spratt Memorial Stadium, raised money for the hospital. In 2007, students raised \$8,000 for the hospital through their Up-Till-Dawn event.

After the tsunami in Indonesia in 2004, Phi Delta Theta fraternity held two donation drives for the victims, and the men of the fraternity sent money, clothes, toys and food to areas that were hit. Tau Kappa Epsilon fraternity members also began their annual "TKE in a Box" in 2004, where they camped out in large refrigerator boxes in front of the Hy-Vee Food Store in St. Joseph to raise money for the community food bank.

Students and the Missouri Western community again stepped up after Hurricane Katrina in August 2005. When the Griffons played Northwest Missouri State University on Sept. 17 that year, \$10,000 for hurricane victims was raised through ticket proceeds and the two universities' TKEs' Rivals for Relief. That was a variation of the TKEs' annual fundraiser for the Alzheimer's Association – Running Past the Rivalry. The Phi Sigma Kappa fraternity held Kampout for Katrina to collect food, clothing and money. Additionally, 24 students from Campus Crusade for Christ spent spring break 2006 in New Orleans to help with the clean up.

Missouri Western also created an aid plan for students displaced by Hurricane Katrina, allowing those students to enroll late, receive in-state tuition rates and live in the residence halls at no cost.

When student Brad Landrum mentioned to his professor, Jim Grechus, that 32 members of his family who were displaced by Katrina were coming to St. Joseph, Grechus mobilized the collection of 16 bags of clothing for Landrum's family members. The Missouri Western Foundation donated free evening meals in the cafeteria for family members, and St. Joseph's Ramada Inn offered free rooms to the families.

Missouri Western received national attention for one of its service projects in 2007 when it participated in ABC Television's "Extreme Makeover: Home Edition." More than 200 students and employees volunteered to help build a house for the Jacobo family in Kansas City, Missouri over spring break that year. Additionally, the Missouri Western Foundation awarded full tuition and room and board scholarships to the nine children in the family, ranging in ages 6 months to 18 years.

JOHN DOWNS AND RONALD REED JR.

State Sen. John E. Downs, a 1937 alumnus and one of the College's most ardent supporters in the Missouri Legislature when Missouri Western was established as a four-year institution, passed away on Nov. 9, 2003, at the age of 86. A memorial service was held on campus, as Downs had requested before he died. Rev. Neil Blair officiated the service, and Sen. Thomas Eagleton gave the eulogy.

Downs served in the state Legislature from 1960-70, and along with the four-year status, he also played a large role in the College's current location.

"Sen. Downs was very important to Missouri Western and its history. He was truly a man of vision and courage," President Scanlon said at the December 2003 Board of Regents meeting.

Downs earned the Distinguished Alumni Award from Missouri Western in 1984, and was awarded an honorary doctorate from Missouri Western in 2002. The main drive around campus is also named in his honor.

In 2008, the Board of Governors voted to rename the main entrance between Mitchell Avenue and Downs Drive as Ronald S. Reed Jr. Way. Reed had served in the House of Representatives from 1965-70 and had a great impact on Missouri Western becoming a four-year institution.

In the summer of 2008, a ceremony was held on campus to honor Reed, and at the ceremony, participants lined up to have him sign a monograph he had written about the legislative struggle for Missouri Western to become a four-year college – "Reflections on the Founding of Missouri Western State University."

Reed died Nov. 19, 2010.

SEPTEMBER 11, 2001

As it did across the nation, the terrorist attacks on Sept. 11, 2001 shook the Missouri Western community, and students found ways to show their patriotism and help the victims.

More than 3,000 students, employees and community members gathered the evening of Sept. 11 for a prayer service in the Looney HPER Building arena. On Sept. 14, when a National Day of Prayer and Remembrance was declared by President George W. Bush, the campus held a service at the clock tower.

Phi Delta Theta fraternity opened an account named “American Pride” at a local bank, and all funds raised by student organizations on Family Day later that month went to 9-11 victims. Alpha Gamma Delta sorority sold bumper stickers that read, “Our Thoughts Are With You 9-11-01.” And a previously planned blood drive held eight days after the attacks drew a larger than normal number of participants.

CONCLUSION

Mid-year 2008, Missouri Western bid a fond farewell to one president, James Scanlon, and gave a warm welcome to Robert Vartabedian, its new president. Campus and community members were looking forward to learning what changes and priorities a new president would bring to the institution as a new era began.

2009-2015

OVERVIEW

From 2009 through 2015, there were several academic achievements and national recognition for the University, the establishment of a unique entrepreneurship program, and record-breaking gifts to Missouri Western. The number of graduate programs and graduate school enrollment continued to grow, as did online courses and international student enrollment. The years also saw several noteworthy achievements for Griffon sports teams.

The campus gained three new buildings, and several amenities were added to campus as part of an outdoor beautification initiative. In those years, Missouri Western also became the summer home of the Kansas City Chiefs and the home of the Walter Cronkite Memorial, a tribute to St. Joseph's native son.

ADMINISTRATION

“In 1918, we chose the Griffon as our mascot ... With this history and tradition in mind, and all the wonderful things yet to come, let us roar like a lion, let us soar like an eagle, and let us always protect the treasure of higher education.” – Robert Vartabedian in his 2008 presidential inaugural address, 2009 Griffon Yearbook.

ROBERT A. VARTABEDIAN

Robert A. Vartabedian began his duties as Missouri Western’s president on July 1, 2008.

In an interview for the *Western Magazine* in 2009, Vartabedian said his vision for Missouri Western focused on four main areas – enhancing academics, campus beautification, improved athletic facilities, and growth of the student population.

As part of his plan to enhance academics, Vartabedian said he wanted to establish a School of Fine Arts with its own dean and strengthen Missouri Western’s relationships with community art museums and performing arts organizations. That School of Fine Arts was established in 2013, and Robert Willenbrink was named the founding dean.

Additionally, a new strategic plan established in 2012 contained several initiatives to strengthen academics, including increasing student persistence to graduation and implementing degree attainment initiatives (see Appendix F).

Toward his campus beautification goal, between 2009 and 2015, the campus gained new building signs, fountains for three campus ponds, a permanent sign at the Faraon Street entrance, and several new outdoor sculptures. Vartabedian also developed an initiative for more evergreen and maple trees to be planted on campus.

Regarding improving athletics facilities, Vartabedian oversaw the renovation of the visitor side of Spratt Memorial Stadium (2009), the construction of the Griffon Indoor Sports Complex (2010), the construction of the Spring Sports Complex for baseball and softball (2011), and the renovation of Spratt Memorial Stadium (2015).

The president offered three strategies to increase enrollment: internationalization of the student population, increased graduate education and more distance education (online) courses.

In fall 2008, seven international students were enrolled. An International Student Office was created in 2008, and Huey Shi Chew was hired as the first international student coordinator. By fall 2015, there were 120 international students from 37 countries. When the International Student

Office and international students hosted the annual international fair in fall 2015, more than 600 people attended.

The number of graduate programs continued to grow, as well. When Vartabedian joined Missouri Western in July 2008, a Master of Applied Science with options in Chemistry and Information Technology Management, and a Graduate Certificate in the Teaching of Writing were being offered, and two more degrees with two options each were scheduled to begin in fall 2008. By the fall of 2015, Missouri Western offered 16 graduate degrees and five graduate certificates.

The president also succeeded in increasing distance education options through online courses. When he began at Missouri Western, 32 online courses were offered. By fall 2015, the online inventory boasted 144 sections of courses and 125 unique titles. Additionally, more than 3,100 students were enrolled in online courses.

Also under Vartabedian's guidance, the Walter Cronkite Memorial opened on campus in 2013 (see *THE CAMPUS GROWS – Walter Cronkite Memorial*).

In December 2012, the Board of Governors extended Vartabedian's contract, which would have expired June 30, 2013, for five years until June 30, 2018.

Vartabedian has served on several local boards throughout his tenure, including the St. Joseph Chamber of Commerce, United Way of Greater St. Joseph, Innovation Stockyard (formerly the Institute for Industrial and Applied Life Sciences), and the Community Alliance. He was honored as the Grand Marshal of St. Joseph's Apple Blossom Parade in 2011.

VICE PRESIDENTS/ASSOCIATE VICE PRESIDENTS/SPECIAL ASSISTANTS

Joseph Bragin, who became provost and vice president of Academic and Student Affairs in 2006, left Missouri Western in June 2009, and Jeanne Daffron, assistant vice president for Academic and Student Affairs, assumed the position two months later. Cindy Heider became the associate provost and associate vice president for Academic Affairs in 2009 and served in that position until she retired in 2014. Douglas Davenport was hired as associate provost of Research, Planning and Institutional Effectiveness to replace Heider and began in January 2015.

In the fall of 2008, Vartabedian announced that he was reinstating the vice president of Student Affairs position. That position existed under M.O. Looney, Missouri Western's president from 1967-83, but former president Janet Murphy eliminated the position to create an executive vice president position when she arrived in 1983. Under President Scanlon, the position was vice president of Academic and Student Affairs.

A national search for the vice president began in 2009, and Esther Perález was hired and began her duties in January 2010.

Perález left in January 2012, but because of tight budgets and looming state funding cuts from the state, the position was not immediately filled. Jeanne Daffron, provost and vice president of Academic Affairs, resumed the Student Affairs duties with the assistance of Judy Grimes, associate

vice president for Student Affairs and dean of students. In April 2012, Grimes was named interim vice president of Student Affairs. Shana Meyer was named vice president of Student Affairs and began at Missouri Western in April 2013.

Dan Nicoson, vice president for University Advancement, retired in June 2012 after eight years of service, and Jonathan Yordy was named his replacement. In April 2013, Jerry Pickman, who was named associate vice president for University Advancement earlier in the year, was named interim vice president for University Advancement after Yordy resigned. Pickman became vice president for University Advancement in June 2013.

Mel Klinkner, vice president for Financial Planning and Administration since 2008, resigned in August 2012, and Rick Gilmore, who was associate vice president for Financial Planning and Administration, was named interim vice president. The position was filled in January 2013 by Cale Fessler. Carey McMillian was named associate vice president for Financial Planning and Administration when Gilmore retired.

Jeanie Crain continued as special assistant to the president until 2009, at which time she served briefly as assistant provost before returning to teach in the Department of English, Foreign Languages and Journalism.

Beth Wheeler, director of External Relations, served as Missouri Western's liaison to the state Legislature. She retired in 2012 and the position was filled by Ann Pearce, whose title became special assistant to the president. Pearce retired in 2015 and Brandt Shields was hired with the title of director of external relations.

DEANS

Philip Nitse was named the first permanent dean of the Craig School of Business and started in July 2010, replacing Carol Roever, who had been serving as interim dean. In 2010, Steve Estes resigned as dean of Professional Studies. Brenda Blessing, chair of the Department of Health, Physical Education and Recreation, served as interim dean until that role was added to Nitse's position in 2011.

Nitse stepped down as dean of both the CSB and Professional Studies in October 2012. Roever resumed the duties as interim dean of the CSB until Michael Lane was hired as the dean in August 2013. In July 2013, Kathleen O'Connor, formerly the chair of the Department of Nursing and Allied Health, became the dean of Professional Studies.

In 2011, Howard McCauley, director of Admissions, assumed additional responsibilities and his title changed to dean of Enrollment Management. Brian Cronk, faculty member in the Department of Psychology, was named dean of the Graduate School in 2009 and served as associate provost 2011-12. Cronk served as Graduate School dean until Ben Caldwell, Department of Chemistry chair, assumed the role in 2012.

Murray Nabors continued as dean of Liberal Arts and Sciences through 2015 and Gordon Mapley remained dean and executive director of the Western Institute.

When the School of Fine Arts was established in 2013, Bob Willenbrink was named the founding dean and began at Missouri Western in August of that year.

ACADEMICS

“I take great pride in my education I receive here at Western.” – Alison Norris, president of the Student Government Association, at a student rally in June 2011.

OVERVIEW

Missouri Western earned regional and national recognition for several of its academic initiatives and programs between 2009 and 2015. Several purchases and gifts also enhanced the University’s academic quality.

The new Koenig-Simmons Trading Room in the Craig School of Business opened on the third floor of Popplewell Hall in 2009 as a result of gifts from Steven Koenig, a former Griffon football player, and alumnus Jeremy Simmons. The room, designed to replicate a real trading room, features a large-screen television that runs a ticker of trading information and 14 computers with financial trading system software.

In 2009, the Department of Criminal Justice/Legal Studies hosted its 30th annual Criminal Justice Week, which featured a career fair and several guest speakers.

In February 2010, Missouri Western celebrated its designation as an All-Steinway School, one of approximately 100 at the time. In November 2009, the Board of Governors had approved a 10-year lease/purchase agreement for 13 Steinway pianos and instruments for a digital keyboard lab. In April of that year, it was announced that alumnus Brent Porlier pledged funds to purchase a Steinway nine-foot grand piano for the Potter Hall Theater.

The Department of Nursing remodeled to expand its Simulation Lab in 2009 and purchased SimMan 3G, a state-of-the-art interactive manikin and teaching tool, in 2010. In 2011, the department purchased Noelle, a medical surgical and birthing simulator which included a newborn Hal simulator.

The Department of Communication Studies, Theatre and Cinema purchased \$200,000 worth of cinema equipment for students in that program in 2012, including 15 new high-definition cameras, new lighting and audio equipment, a crane, dolly and Steadicam. That same year, the Department of Art and the Department of Engineering Technology teamed up to purchase a 3-D printer. Neil Lawley, art faculty member, and Aaron Stutterheim, engineering technology faculty member, used the state-of-the-art rapid prototyping machine in a new course they developed, 3-D Modeling and Design Processes.

The University received approval in 2012 to offer a Bachelor of General Studies degree for individuals who have a significant number of completed college hours but have not completed a degree.

The new degree played a role in a \$1 million Innovation Campus grant from the state that Missouri Western, along with the St. Joseph Metro Chamber and several area businesses, received in August 2012. The grant's purpose was to help employees and potential employees in high-demand businesses and industries complete post-secondary degrees. Two years after the BGS degree began, 55 students had graduated with the degree and 80 more were enrolled in the program.

In 2010, the Missouri Department of Higher Education asked all universities in Missouri to review all academic programs, particularly regarding program productivity. Nineteen of Missouri Western's programs fell below the productivity level of an average of 10 graduates per year for the past three years.

As a result of the study, the Bachelor of Arts in Art was eliminated and the University revised the curriculum in the bachelor's degrees of computer science and computer information systems to form one degree instead of two. These changes were implemented in the fall of 2012. The state recommended that three programs be retained but reviewed again in three years – Bachelor of Science in Computer Science, Bachelor of Arts in French, and Bachelor of Science in English Education. In 2013, when those programs were reviewed, the University's recommendation to the Missouri Department of Higher Education was to continue the three programs.

A law passed by the 2012 state Legislature attempted to make it easier for college students to earn degrees. By July 1, 2014, one of the provisions required the creation of a statewide core transfer library of at least 25 lower division courses that would be transferable among all Missouri public higher education institutions. It also required the development of a policy to grant degrees through reverse transfer opportunities for students who transfer from a two-year institution to a four-year institution. That means that if transfer students earn enough credits for an associate degree while at Missouri Western, they can subsequently earn the associate degree from their previous two-year institution.

Missouri Western had been working on a reverse transfer policy for some time prior to the law, so representatives from the University provided assistance to Missouri Department of Higher Education staff and personnel from other institutions regarding reverse transfer procedures.

In the fall of 2013, a parliamentary debate and forensics program was revived under the guidance of President Vartabedian, who began his career as a college debate coach. Seven students signed up and began competing in events in October of that year. After a 13-year absence, the program held a debate and forensics tournament on campus for high school students in the fall of 2014.

The original forensics club had hosted a Pony Express High School Speech and Debate Tournament annually from 1973 to 2001. Additionally, under the direction of Jessica Leonard, communication studies faculty member, forensics students qualified for the national tournament almost every year from 1990-99. Additionally, in 1998 and 1999, Missouri Western hosted a college-level forensic tournament.

In fall 2015, Jason Edgar was hired as director of speech and debate and instructor in the Department of Communication and Journalism, making him the first full-time employee to serve as debate coach for the resurrected program. In October, two debaters, Mike Smith and Chris Miles, advanced to the quarterfinals of the Golden Gate Invitational parliamentary debate tournament at the University of

California-Berkeley. They were ranked 18th in the nation. In December, Madison Lantz was named Top Speaker in a novice parliamentary debate tournament at Webster University in St. Louis.

Beginning fall 2015, the University offered its first accelerated bachelor's to master's degree program, where students had the opportunity to earn a Bachelor of Science in Chemistry/Natural Science/Chemical Business and a Master of Applied Science in Chemistry in five years instead of six.

A new tradition for spring commencement began in 2014 when the two ceremonies usually held in the Looney Complex were combined into one and held in Spratt Memorial Stadium. Commencement ceremonies had not been held in the stadium for more than 30 years. Spring 2015 commencement ceremonies were once again held in the Looney Complex because stadium renovations were underway, but plans were to hold the spring 2016 and subsequent spring ceremonies in the stadium.

ACCREDITATION

Throughout 2009-15, Missouri Western continued its institutional accreditation process with the Academic Quality Improvement Program. Its first AQIP Quality Checkup was in October 2008, and Missouri Western received Reaffirmation of Accreditation from the Higher Learning Commission in 2010. The University then entered into a second seven-year cycle of continuous quality improvement and institutional accreditation.

There were three AQIP Action Projects from 2009-12: Preserving Gold – Researching, Writing, and Publication of an MWSU history sequel to “Missouri Western State College History 1915-83 (this book);” Building Financial Literacy – Money Matters for Life; and Building an Effective Course Delivery System – Enhancing Learning Through Distance Education. The latter two projects were successfully completed and received high praise from AQIP reviewers.

Three more AQIP Action Projects began in 2012 and were completed by 2015: Baccalaureate Degree Completion Initiative, Internationalization of the Missouri Western Student Population and Increasing Graduate Degree Access and Options.

More than a decade of work resulted in the accreditation of the Craig School of Business by the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business (AACSB International) in April 2010. At the time it earned its accreditation, only 5 percent of business schools worldwide held the distinction of the AACSB International accreditation, and Missouri Western was one of 12 institutions in Missouri to earn the accreditation, the only one that offered only undergraduate business programs.

Programs that completed accreditation requirements for renewal between 2009 and 2015 received high marks from the accreditation study visitors, and all eligible programs received re-accreditation.

AGREEMENTS AND EXCHANGES

The University signed several agreements with area institutions and universities, and with several international universities between 2009 and 2015.

The Craig School of Business signed an agreement in 2009 with Rockhurst University in Kansas City, Missouri that allowed CSB graduates to pursue a fifth-year MBA in Rockhurst's Helzberg School of Management. If the graduates met the Helzberg School entrance requirements and enrolled within one year of their graduation from Missouri Western, they were able to complete their MBA in 30 credit hours.

The CSB signed an agreement in 2010 with the University of Missouri-Kansas City's Bloch School of Business and Public Administration to make it easier for graduates of Missouri Western's School of Business to pursue an MBA degree and a Master of Science in Accounting degree from UMKC.

In the fall of 2011, Missouri Western signed an agreement with Southeast Missouri State University, Missouri State University, Missouri Southern State University and University of Central Missouri regarding French and German programs. The consortium agreed to offer four upper-level French and German courses on a rotating basis among the schools. The course delivery is a combination of online and interactive television.

Also in 2011, Missouri Western signed an agreement with Heartland Health in St. Joseph (now Mosaic Life Care) and the University of Nebraska Medical Center in Omaha. As part of the agreement, medical technology majors complete three years at Missouri Western, participate in an 11-week student laboratory phase at UNMC in the summer, and then spend the following academic year in Heartland's laboratory while taking online courses through UNMC.

The Department of Engineering Technology also signed agreements with three higher education institutions. An agreement with the UMKC in 2011 allows Missouri Western students to receive dual degrees from the Department of Engineering Technology and UMKC's School of Computing and Engineering. Students in the program are eligible to complete two bachelor of science degrees in five years: the first three years of study is completed in engineering technology at Missouri Western, with two additional years in engineering at UMKC.

In 2012, the department signed an agreement with Southeast Community College in Lincoln, Nebraska that allows its graduates with an Associate of Applied Science Degree in Manufacturing Engineering Technology to transfer and earn a Manufacturing Engineering Technology bachelor's degree at Missouri Western.

A 2015 agreement with John Wood Community College in Quincy, Illinois, allows its students who have earned an Associate of Applied Science in Manufacturing Technology to seamlessly transfer to Missouri Western to work toward earning a Bachelor of Science in Manufacturing Engineering Technology.

A program articulation agreement was established between Missouri Western and Johnson County Community College, starting spring 2013. Students in JCCC's game and animation program who earn an associate degree can transfer it and earn a bachelor's degree in digital animation from Missouri Western.

Also in 2013, the CSB signed an articulation agreement, not with a university, but with the St. Joseph School District. High school students who complete the district's six semester-long courses

in the High School of Business program with at least a B average and then successfully complete a semester at Missouri Western receive three hours of college credit for completing an introductory business course.

In 2014, Missouri Western signed an agreement with Hillyard Technical Center in St. Joseph and North Central Missouri College in Trenton to offer a new Bachelor of Science in Technology concentration in the field of allied health. The agreement allowed students who have earned a radiological technology certificate at Hillyard to continue on to earn an associate's degree from North Central Missouri College and a bachelor's degree from Missouri Western.

Another partnership with Hillyard Technical Center, area businesses and the Western Institute created a workforce development initiative to provide skilled employees for manufacturers in the region.

Beginning in the fall of 2015, Gary Clapp of the Western Institute taught a course to Hillyard students who wanted to earn a Manufacturing Technician Level 1 certificate. The course was based on the Virginia Manufacturers Association's certificate program. Missouri Western also became qualified as an assessment center in order to test students who complete the course.

On the international front, several agreements were signed with foreign universities. In 2009, a Memorandum of Understanding between Missouri Western and the International School of Kabul was signed, and the first student from there enrolled at Missouri Western in fall 2009. The following summer, four faculty members and administrators from the National University of Tainan in Taiwan visited campus to sign an exchange agreement with Missouri Western.

By 2015, Missouri Western had exchange agreements with Université d'Angers, Angers, France; Otto-Friedrich-Universität, Bamberg, Germany; Kyungnam University, Changwon, South Korea; Malmö Högskola, Malmö, Sweden; Universidad de Sevilla, Seville, Spain; Xidian University in Xi'an, People's Republic of China; Jiaying University in Zhejiang, People's Republic of China; Guizhou Normal College in Guizhou, People's Republic of China; and Télécom Saint-Etienne, Université Jean Monnet, Saint-Etienne, France.

In the 2011-12 academic year, students had the opportunity to enroll in a Chinese language class at Missouri Western. Tiantian Zou, who was teaching English majors at Xidian University in Xi'an, China, came to Missouri Western for the year as part of the Fulbright program.

That spring, Missouri Western signed a five-year exchange agreement with Xidian University. Four professors from Xidian University, one each year, taught in 2012-13, 2013-14, 2014-15 and 2015-16 as part of the agreement. In fall 2013, Kay Siebler, faculty member in the Department of English, Foreign Languages and Journalism, was the first from Missouri Western to travel to Xidian University for a year to teach English. Dana Andrews, faculty member in the Department of English, Foreign Languages and Journalism, taught there the next year.

ASSOCIATE DEGREES ELIMINATION

The Missouri Senate bill that designated Missouri Western a university in 2005 stated that by July 1, 2010, Missouri Western would discontinue any and all associate degree programs unless continuation was approved by the Coordinating Board for Higher Education.

In May 2009, Missouri Western signed a memorandum of agreement regarding two-year programs with Metropolitan Community College in Kansas City, Missouri and North Central Missouri College in Trenton, Missouri, and in April of 2010, the Coordinating Board approved an addendum to the original agreement.

The agreement called for the elimination of four of Missouri Western's associate degree programs: construction engineering technology, electronic engineering technology, electronic and computer engineering technology and paramedic technology. No Missouri Western students were allowed to begin these programs after the spring semester of 2009.

Two additional associate degree programs, Health Information Technology and Business, were phased out. The associate HIT program accepted no students after the fall 2010 semester began and Missouri Western began offering a Bachelor of Science in Health Informatics and Information Management in fall 2010. The Business program accepted students until December 2010. All students who had already been accepted in the programs were allowed to complete their degrees.

The agreement allowed Missouri Western to retain four of its associate degree programs: criminal justice, legal assistant, manufacturing engineering technology, and physical therapist assistant.

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN PUBLIC HEALTH MANAGEMENT – FIRST ENDOWED PROFESSORSHIP

At the Centennial Capital Campaign kickoff in January 2015, it was announced that Mosaic Life Care (formerly Heartland Health) gave a leadership gift of \$1.5 million to Missouri Western to establish an endowed professorship, the Mosaic Professorship for Population Health. It was the first endowed professorship in Missouri Western's history.

The University received approval for a new degree, a Bachelor of Science in Population Health Management, and began offering it in fall 2015. When the degree was approved by the Coordinating Board for Higher Education, it was the first bachelor's degree in the field of population management in Missouri.

ENTREPRENEURSHIP PROGRAM

Steve Craig, owner and president/CEO of Craig Realty Group in California, established Missouri Western's Steven L. Craig School of Business with a \$5.5 million gift in 2008. With the goal of a stronger focus on entrepreneurship, Craig initiated a partnership between Missouri Western, Rocky

Mountain Chocolate Factory and himself, in which graduating CSB students had the opportunity to own and operate an RMCF franchise.

Seth Lyons, who had graduated with a finance degree in December 2008, was selected to own an RMCF store in an outlet mall that Craig owned in Silverthorne, Colorado. Craig provided the financial backing for Lyons, and the two created a partnership to purchase the RMCF franchise. The agreement stated that Lyons would pay Craig back within five years and gift a portion of store profits to the CSB.

Encouraged by the success of Lyons, graduating students in the Craig School of Business were given another opportunity to compete to own and operate an RMCF store the following year. Brady Ellis was selected for a store in Vicksburg, Mississippi, which opened in August 2010. In November 2010, Robert Schimming, who was a finalist with Ellis, was selected to operate a store in Lake Elsinore, California.

In 2011 and 2012, six CSB graduates, three each year, were selected for RMCF franchises. Leslie Oberg '11, who was awarded a store in Williamsburg, Iowa in 2011, bought the St. Joseph RMCF and Aspen Leaf Yogurt stores in 2012, and another graduate bought the Iowa store from Oberg. The St. Joseph stores are used as a training ground for students in the Applied Entrepreneurship class. Oberg sold the two St. Joseph stores and opened two different franchises in California in 2015, and Ernest Chamblee, a 2011 graduate, began operating the St. Joseph RMCF and Aspen Leaf Yogurt stores.

At a dinner prior to the June 2012 announcement of the winners, Frank Crail, founder, president and CEO of RMCF, said, "In the 31 years I've been doing this, this is the most exciting thing to happen at Rocky Mountain Chocolate Factory, and there have been a lot of exciting things."

Right from the start, faculty members in the CSB and Craig maintained a relationship with the store owners and served as their advisors, which helped the owners succeed. By 2015, six of the alumni owners had paid back their loans in less than five years, and some of the alumni's stores were showing large sales increases compared to previous owners.

In an August 2012 agreement with Missouri Western, RMCF increased the number of stores that could be purchased and began offering Aspen Leaf Yogurt stores that it owned as part of the program. Additionally, RMCF agreed to provide the financial backing for the CSB graduates instead of Craig.

In an effort to broaden the pool of applicants for the program, the University opened the program to all alumni of the CSB, instead of only being available to business majors graduating the semester that the class was offered or the previous semester. Several alumni took advantage of the opportunity, and in December 2012, the store owners who were selected had graduated in 2007, 2009 and 2011.

The entrepreneur program expanded again in 2013 when the CSB received a \$207,000 grant from the Initiative for a Competitive Inner City – Kansas City (Missouri) to create a micro-lending fund for Missouri Western students who want to open franchises in Kansas City's urban core. Isaac Collins, a participant in the entrepreneurship program in 2012, was given a loan from the grant to purchase a Yogurtini in Kansas City.

In May 2013, two alumni were awarded RMCF stores and one alumnus was awarded a Fresca's Mexican Grill in Woodburn, Oregon, which had been owned by Craig. The restaurant was the first non-RMCF store in the program.

In June 2013, it was announced that the value of Craig's 2008 gift to Missouri Western had increased from the original \$5.5 million. Most of the gift in 2008 was in the form of shares of ownership in Woodburn Company Stores, a shopping center in Woodburn, Oregon, and Craig sold the property in June 2013. With the sale of the property, and more than \$2.5 million in distributions prior to the sale, the total value of Craig's gift increased to \$7,738,589.

Additionally, in 2013, the CSB opened a Center for Entrepreneurship, and Annette Weeks was hired as its director. The CSB also developed a minor in entrepreneurship that began being offered in spring 2014.

In May 2014, four new owners were named for RMCF and ALY stores, the most ever in one semester. In 2015, three more were selected for stores.

By the end 2015, thanks to the entrepreneurship program, there were 19 stores in 11 states, and several of the owners had purchased second franchises or other businesses.

GRADUATE DEGREES

Twelve students participated in the University's first hooding ceremony for master's degrees at the spring 2009 commencement ceremonies. Receiving the first master's degrees from Missouri Western were James Blevins, Darcie Elder, Kelly Gant, Kimberly Kallauner, William Kountz, Gregory Lawson, LeeAnn Schuster, Timothy Slominski, Jill Steinmetz, Summer Theus, Deborah Wright and William Wright.

In fall 2009, a Master of Applied Arts in Written Communication with two options – Writing Studies and Technical Communication – began, as well as an option in Human Factors and Usability Testing for the Master of Applied Science degree.

Seven new programs began admitting graduate students in 2010-11: a Master of Applied Science in Forensic Investigations, a Master of Science in Nursing Health Care Leadership, a Master of Applied Science in Engineering Technology Management, a Master of Applied Science in Assessment with an Autism Spectrum Disorders and TESOL (Teachers of English to Speakers of Other Languages) options, and graduate certificates in Autism Spectrum Disorders, Forensic Investigations, and TESOL.

Missouri Western became a full member of the national Council of Graduate Schools in the 2010-11 academic year, and two of the University's graduate programs, the Master of Applied Science in Human Factors and Usability Testing and the Master of Applied Science in Chemistry, were designated as Professional Science Master's by the Council's Professional Science Master's Team.

For two years in a row, graduate students in the Human Factors and Usability Testing program were selected to present their research at a premier international conference. In 2011, the manuscript of Sujoy Kumar Chowdhury and Jody Winn was one of 12 selected from over 60 from around the

world in the Computer-Human Interaction student design competition. In 2012, the manuscript of Tyler Davis, Camie Steinhoff and Mari Teran was one of the top 12.

A Certificate in Professional Skills and a Master of Applied Science Sport and Fitness Management were approved in 2012. The sport and fitness management degree brought three graduate assistants to the Department of Athletics for the first time – one for men’s basketball, one for women’s basketball and one for women’s soccer.

An Industrial Life Sciences option for the Master of Applied Science degree was approved in January 2014 and immediately implemented. Additionally, a Masters of Information Management – Enterprise Resource Planning was approved in February 2014 and began in fall 2014. A Master of Science in Nursing with a Nurse Educator option and a Nurse Educator graduate certificate were approved in June 2014 and began in fall 2014, also.

In the fall of 2009, 70 students were enrolled in graduate-level courses; by the next fall, the number had grown to 129. In the fall of 2015, 219 were enrolled in 16 graduate degree programs and five graduate certificate programs.

HEARTLAND VIRUS RESEARCH

Under biology faculty member David Ashley, Missouri Western partnered with the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services and the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in 2012 to conduct research on a newly described virus, named the Heartland Virus.

The virus was isolated in two patients at Heartland Regional Medical Center from 2009. Based on the history of tick bites in the patients and the timing of their illness, it was suspected that the virus was transmitted by ticks.

Researchers who had isolated the virus at the CDC contacted Ashley to help with research during the tick season of 2012 in Northwest Missouri. Ashley arranged for local laboratory space in the Missouri Department of Conservation building on campus from which the CDC teams based their operations.

Students, Ashley, and state and local health officials helped conduct a large field study focused on the two patients’ farms and nearby properties throughout the summer. Ticks and mosquitoes were collected, along with samples from raccoons and other wildlife that may have been hosts. Students helped with the collection and with processing the samples in the lab.

REGIONAL PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT CENTER

A Regional Professional Development Center opened in the Hearn Center on Missouri Western’s campus in 2009. The state had previously been funding nine centers, but that year, the Legislature voted to open two more, one on Missouri Western’s campus, and one at Missouri Southern State

University in Joplin. The center, operated by Sherry Copeland, offered professional development workshops for teachers in school districts in Buchanan, Clay and Platte counties.

The President's Dining Room in the Blum Union was remodeled and outfitted with state-of-the-art presentation technology in 2010 for the RPDC's use.

Unfortunately, the governor cut RPDC funding one year after it opened. Missouri Western operated its center one more year with federal funding before closing it.

SCHOLARSHIPS

Missouri Western received several gifts and grants for scholarships from 2009-15.

In 2009, the University was notified that it was one of the beneficiaries of the estate of Herb and Peggy Iffert, who had been active volunteers and longtime supporters of Missouri Western. The estate contained approximately \$4 million in a charitable trust, and Missouri Western receives 65 percent of the income generated by the trust annually. Proceeds fund two endowed scholarships, one for business students and one for biology students.

That same year, the Foundation received two bequests from the estate of Marie Fulkerson of \$300,000 each for scholarships in the Craig School of Business. The Fulkerson Center was named for Marie and her husband, Lyman.

Also in 2009, the Foundation received approximately \$500,000 from the John Vaselakos Charitable Remainder Trust. It was designated as unrestricted and could be used at the Foundation's discretion. Vaselakos Hall on campus was named in honor of Vaselakos and his wife, Betty, when it was built in 1995.

In 2010, Missouri Western received a \$599,600 grant from the National Science Foundation for scholarships as part of the Midwest APEX Project: Road MAP for Student Excellence in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics. The grant awarded 84 scholarships of approximately \$5,600 each and 85 MAP Incentive Awards of \$600 over five years.

In 2012, the University established scholarships from two estates worth approximately \$1.5 million each. The estate of longtime music faculty member Roberta Riemer and her husband, Louis, was designated for the strings program and scholarships for string students. The Foundation will also receive income from the estate of alumnus Ed Vincent for scholarships for graduates of Central High School in St. Joseph.

A distribution of almost \$619,000 from the LeRoy and Jeanne Eaton Trust was added to the Western Advantage Scholarship fund in 2012, and Earl and Elmyra "Susie" Euler established an endowed scholarship with a gift of approximately \$474,000.

Wayne and Nanette Chatham notified the Foundation that it would be the beneficiary of 10 percent of their estate, which is estimated to be \$500,000, and Bill Wright pledged nearly \$500,000 from his estate for a scholarship fund for students in the arts programs.

STUDENT AND FACULTY/STAFF ACHIEVEMENTS

From 2009 through 2015, Missouri Western faculty, staff and students continued to enhance the reputation of the University through their accomplishments. They published and presented their research across the country, and art professors' works were selected for prestigious national shows. Several faculty members also published textbooks.

The Department of Music garnered many achievements throughout those years. Faculty member Linda Antas was commissioned by the Experimental Music Studios to produce a composition of multichannel, computer-realized sounds. It was named as part of Soundtrack of the Month by the Electronic Musician Magazine and selected for performance at the International Computer Music Conference in 2008 in Northern Ireland. In 2010, her "Contact," a composition for multi-channel audio, was performed at the 26th Conference of the Society for Electroacoustic Music in Miami.

Faculty member David McIntire and one of his students, Aaron Crawford, were selected to perform original compositions at the Electronic Music Midwest Festival in 2014. Their work was among 45 selected out of more than 200 submissions. In 2015, McIntire and alumnus Jedd Schneider were invited to present a paper at an international conference on minimalist music in Finland.

For several years, Rico McNeela, faculty member, served as performer, teacher and administrator for the eight-week Luzerne Chamber Music Festival in Lake Luzerne, N.Y. Nathanael May founded and continued to serve as artistic director for a festival for new music – SoundSCAPE, held every year in Pavia, Italy. In 2011, May won the American Prize in Piano Performance –Solo Division, a national award.

Piano student Mira Lee was selected from hundreds of applicants from around the country to perform in a master class at the Music Teachers National Association's convention in 2010. And the next year, students Adrienne Collins and Kyle Minx won second place in the National Opera Association's collegiate competition from among more than 50 universities.

Several music students were honored in 2013 when they traveled to Colorado to perform "American Story," a play written by Laurel Vartabedian, wife of President Vartabedian, about the 1914 Ludlow, Colorado massacre. The following year, the students were invited back to perform at a commemoration of the 100th anniversary of the massacre.

Students and faculty from the Department of Art also brought national and international recognition to Missouri Western.

The animated films of faculty member Pete Hriso were accepted into several national and international film festivals and nominated for many awards. And, from 2009-15, faculty member Teresa Harris had her works accepted into exhibitions across the country.

Students Shelby Hughes and Emily Stojevich-Swenson had their work accepted into a national student show and conference in Dallas in 2013. It was a highly selective competition with over 1,200 entries from colleges and universities across the nation.

In 2015, a sculpture design, “Turbine,” by students Heather Lafromboise and Jake Proffit, art faculty member Neil Lawley, and Dustin Lafromboise, was selected by public vote as one of four pieces to be installed as part of the Canoe Imagine Art installation in Ann Arbor, Michigan. Additionally, student Taylor King was just one of 20 students nationwide who had work accepted into the National Student Show and Conference 11, and student Mark Bush Jr. had the only sculpture selected in a national competition to be displayed in front of the Brookings Art Council in Brookings, South Dakota for a year.

Cinema students also garnered many achievements. In 2011, 12 students in the Producing and Directing II course were selected to create music videos of the song “Four Seconds” for the musical group Barenaked Ladies. Five videos created by the class were posted on Barenaked Ladies’ website for fans to pick their choice.

Two years later, several cinema students produced two television commercials for the local Hy-Vee that aired in the St. Joseph area during 2014 Super Bowl. In 2015, three students – Lionel Attawia, Katelyn Canon, and Jeni Swope – were awarded First Place Best TV Promo/PSA in the national Pinnacle College Media Awards for a video they created, “It’s On Us.”

The Department of Nursing and Allied Health was one of only 100 departments in the nation and one of three in the state to be selected by the Arnold P. Gold Foundation to participate in a White Coat ceremony for students in the nursing program. The program is designed to instill a commitment to providing compassionate care among future health professionals. The first ceremony was held in the fall of 2014. Also that year, faculty member Julie Baldwin was only one of four in the nation to receive the Educator with the Nurse’s Touch Award from ATI Nursing Education.

The Griffon Yearbook and Griffon News continued to bring home awards 2009-15, as well. The 2009 yearbook was a finalist for a Pacemaker Award from the Associated Collegiate Press for books its size. In 2012, Missouri Western hosted the Missouri College Media Association convention, and the Griffon News earned 22 awards. Its editor-in-chief, David Hon, was named the top college journalist in the state, Missouri Western’s first recipient since 1998.

In 2015, yearbook staffers earned awards from the Missouri College Media Association: Hardy Ho earned first and second place in Sports Design and Christina Wade received first place in Personality Sketch. Jeni Swope received a Gold Circle Award from the Columbia Scholastic Press Association for a photo in the 2014 yearbook.

In 2009, a team of Craig School of Business students in Introduction to Business won first place for the second year in a row in the Stock Market Stimulation Game, beating out 54 other teams. Teams from Missouri Western also won first place in their field at the International Collegiate Business Strategy Competition in California in both 2013 and 2014. A second team in 2014 placed first in Best Documentation.

Student Joshua Todd was selected for Teach for America and taught at an inner-city school in Kansas City, Missouri for the 2010-11 school year. That year, just 12 percent of 46,000 applicants were selected.

Susan Hennessy, French faculty member and Foreign Language Coordinator, was named Knight of the Order of Academic Palms in 2012, an award given by the government of France to recognize those who make major contributions to the expansion of French culture.

David Tushaus, legal studies faculty member, was selected for a Fulbright Award to conduct research and teach at Banaras Hindu University in Varanasi, India in the fall of 2012.

The Department of Biology's student chapter of The Wildlife Society brought recognition to the University when it was selected from 119 chapters as the 2011 International Student Chapter of the Year, the first chapter from Missouri to be honored with that distinction. The group was again named International Student Chapter of the Year in 2013, and its advisor, faculty member Cary Chevalier, was named International Student Chapter Advisor of the Year. He was the first chapter advisor from a Missouri college or university to earn the international award.

Only five universities in the history of The Wildlife Society have received the international student chapter award more than once, and Missouri Western was the first university to receive the international student chapter and advisor awards in the same year. The chapter, which performs countless hours of volunteer service, was also named Chapter of the Year in its region in 2014, the sixth time in the seven years it was eligible.

Additionally, one of the Department of Biology's faculty members, Kristen Walton, was one of 23 professors selected from across the country to participate in a research residency program, sponsored by the American Society for Microbiology, for the 2010-11 academic year. In 2014, the research of Walton and her student, Erica Pasch, was featured in an article in Parade Magazine, which has a circulation of approximately 33 million.

In February 2015, biology student Justin Turner invented the "Just In Time" Adapter for microscopes which allows students to take photos of specimens on a slide using a smart phone, and the Department of Biology purchased 12 for students to use in labs.

SYNTHETIC BIOLOGY RESEARCH

Two professors brought Missouri Western international recognition, academic prestige and the University's largest research grant in its history through their synthetic biology faculty/student research program.

In 2013, Todd Eckdahl, biology faculty member, and Jeff Poet, mathematics faculty member, along with two colleagues from Davidson College in North Carolina, received \$1,045,965 from the National Science Foundation to fund three years of synthetic biology research with their students. The three-year grant provided 18 undergraduate students on each campus with full-time summer research jobs and summer support for the faculty researchers. It also paid for research supplies and equipment, face-to-face research meetings on each campus and travel to professional conferences.

It all began in 2006, when Eckdahl and Poet began their synthetic biology research with two faculty members from Davidson, Malcolm Campbell and Laurie Heyer. That year, the student teams

from both institutions worked jointly on the same research project, “Solving the Pancake Problem with a Bacterial Computer,” and presented their research and results at the International Genetically Engineered Machines (iGEM) Jamboree at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Of the 32 teams attending, Missouri Western students earned four awards, including first place in Best Oral Presentation. It was quite an accomplishment, considering Missouri Western was only one of three primarily undergraduate institutions at the jamboree. Competition included teams from Princeton, Harvard, MIT and Cambridge in England.

The team had its research results from that competition published in the *Journal of Biological Engineering*, and the article was picked up by newspapers and online sites around the world. National Public Radio also hosted a 20-minute segment about the research. The research paper earned Outstanding Paper of the Year from the journal and stands as the second most accessed paper in its history. The most accessed paper in the journal is a subsequent paper by the Missouri Western and Davidson research group on solving “The Hamiltonian Path Problem” with a bacterial computer. That paper also earned Outstanding Paper of the Year from the journal.

Eckdahl and Poet guided teams to iGEM for the next four years, and they brought home a Gold Medal each year for the quality of oral, poster and website presentations of research results.

In the fall of 2009, Poet was selected to participate in a prestigious “think tank” conference, the National Academies Keck Futures Initiative. He was just one of 153 participants from academia, industry, research, government and funding agencies.

The two Missouri Western faculty members and their colleagues at Davidson College were also awarded \$170,000 in 2008 and \$200,000 in 2011 from the National Science Foundation to fund their research with undergraduate students. In 2011, they received a \$269,700 grant from the National Science Foundation to conduct three summer workshops to train faculty across the country on how to use synthetic biology in undergraduate teaching and research.

THE CAMPUS GROWS

“There have been more twists and turns in the initiative than in the Missouri River when Lewis and Clark originally explored it.” – President Scanlon at a Board of Governors meeting, as reported in the Griffon News, Oct. 3, 2006, speaking of the Lewis and Clark Discovery Initiative to fund the Remington/Agenstein project.

“These improvements will enhance the game-day experience for all of our fans. I think everyone will especially enjoy the fact that the fans will be much closer to the action.” – Kurt McGuffin, director of Athletics, December 2014, referring to the Spratt Memorial Stadium renovation.

OVERVIEW

From 2009 through 2015, the campus gained a new building and a completely renovated building for its science and math facilities, a new residence hall, an indoor sports complex that contains a full-size football field, a new outdoor student gathering space, and upgraded athletic facilities, including a renovated stadium and a new baseball and softball complex. Additionally, the campus gained new sculptures and signage.

In 2009, a brick and concrete sign for the Faraon Street entrance was built from donated funds, and every building on campus gained a new lighted brick and concrete sign, thanks to a \$200,000 anonymous donation. Additionally, fountains were installed in Everyday Pond, which is near the Faraon Street entrance; Canoe Pond, near the gravel letters MWSU; and South Pond, near Scanlon Hall.

The University also began offering memorial benches on campus in 2009. The first two benches, purchased by Jeralee Echterling in memory of her husband, Dennis, a 1986 graduate, were installed by Everyday Pond.

In September 2009, a new sculpture by art faculty member Jim Estes, “In the Beginning,” was dedicated by Potter Hall. When Remington Hall opened in 2010, “Galileo’s Vision,” a sculpture also created by Estes, was placed by the south entrance.

Sculptor Brent Collins from Gower, Missouri, internationally known as a “mathematically driven sculptor,” was commissioned to create two sculptures for Remington Hall, one to hang in the atrium – “Evolving Trefoil” – and one on the lawn north of the building – “Music of the Spheres.” They were installed and dedicated in 2013. The cost for both, \$208,254, was part of the Remington Hall construction budget.

In 2014, Collins announced that he intended to permanently loan his entire artist's estate to Missouri Western.

The food court and dining area in the Blum Union were remodeled in 2009, adding Caliente and Burger Studio in the food court. Five years later, Caliente and Quiznos, which was added in 2007, were replaced with Subway and W.O.K. Chinese. ARAMARK campus dining paid for the remodeling.

In January 2012, a plaque in memory of Dorsey Looney was unveiled at a dedication ceremony in the second floor lounge area of the M.O. Looney Complex. Dorsey was the wife of M.O. Looney, Missouri Western's president from 1967-83. A photo of the Looney family that had been taken in 1982 was also unveiled.

The patio that was north of Spratt Hall and west of the Blum Union received an upgrade in 2013. The area was enlarged adjacent to the Blum Union, and new furniture, landscaping and sun-protection sails turned the patio into an inviting student gathering space. A ribbon cutting was held in the spring of 2014, and the space was officially named Kelley Commons, in honor of the James B. Kelley family. The family donated \$100,000 for the creation of the space.

Additionally, ARAMARK put a Java City in the Blum Union first floor lounge close to the Kelley Commons, and the Student Government Association purchased new furniture for the lounge space.

In 2014, the University's reserve funds were used for renovations in Wilson Hall and the Looney Complex. The project, at an approximately \$115,000 cost, included the renovation of Wilson Hall restrooms on the first and second floors, repairs and upgrades to the HVAC system, and repairs to the exterior masonry and southeastern entrance. In the Looney Complex, the baseball locker room and men's and women's visitor locker rooms were remodeled.

Gov. Jay Nixon visited campus in 2014 and announced that Missouri Western would receive \$4.8 million from the state's Building Affordability Initiative to fund improvements and renovations in common areas in Popplewell, Wilson, Eder and Potter halls, the Hearn Center and the Looney Complex.

REMINGTON HALL CONSTRUCTION – 2010 AND EVAN R. AGENSTEIN HALL RENOVATION – 2011

Agenstein Hall, one of the three original buildings on Missouri Western's new campus in 1969, was in need of an upgrade for many years before it finally came to fruition in 2010 and 2011. Space had been tight, and professors and students had been grappling with outdated infrastructure and equipment for a long time. A little more space was added in 1996, when the building received an addition to its west side for an animal room and chemical storage facilities.

In 2001, the building and renovation project was the top priority on the state's capital funding list, and Missouri Western requested \$25 million for the project to be funded over FY2003 and FY2004, agreeing to the state-required 20 percent match of funds.

The next year, in February 2002, Sen. Christopher “Kit” Bond visited campus to announce that the College had been awarded a \$250,000 federal grant to help in the design and planning of the renovation and new construction.

In a St. Joseph News-Press article about the federal grant, Martin Johnson, dean of Liberal Arts and Sciences, said, “Given the present state of the economy, we’re not looking at starting any time soon.”

Unfortunately, Johnson was correct. The building designs, developed by HOK architects and Project Kaleidoscope/National Science Foundation, gathered dust for several years while Missouri Western waited for state funding to come through for construction.

By the start of FY2005, the project had been near the top of the Coordinating Board for Higher Education and the state’s capital projects lists for four years and was now fourth on the list. Unfortunately, the state had not released any funds for capital projects in those four years. In October 2004, the project moved to third place on the capital priority list, and the CBHE recommended funding in two phases, FY2006 and FY2007. The CBHE recommended issuing state bonds to fund the capital improvements.

Nearly a year later, in September 2005, after no action had been taken in the 2005 state legislative session, members of the Legislative Joint Committee on Capital Improvement and Leasing visited Missouri Western to focus on the renovation and expansion of Agenstein Hall.

In the meantime, the number of majors in the sciences continued to increase every year.

In 2006, Gov. Matt Blunt announced his plan to fund capital improvement projects in the state through the Lewis and Clark Discovery Initiative. Blunt’s plan was to sell some of the Missouri Higher Education Loan Authority (MOHELA) assets, which would amount to approximately \$450 million, and use the money for scholarships and capital projects related to life sciences and economic development. At a campus press conference in January 2006, State Sen. Charlie Shields announced that Missouri Western would receive \$30.4 million for the Agenstein Hall project, provided the University could raise \$2.9 million. However, the proposal had not been approved by the General Assembly at the time of the announcement.

President Scanlon testified three times that year for the Lewis and Clark Discovery Initiative – at the Senate Education Committee, the MOHELA Board of Directors, and the Senate Appropriations Committee. Unfortunately, the initiative failed to pass in the General Assembly in the 2006 legislative session. Blunt noted that he remained committed to the project and was looking for alternatives.

In September 2006, the MOHELA Board of Directors approved the sale of the assets, subject to legislative approval. House Bill 16 and House Bill 17 passed in the 2007 legislative session, providing Missouri Western with \$30,115,000 for its Agenstein Hall project. The Lewis and Clark Discovery Initiative was a provision of Senate Bill 389, which provided authorization to use the funds from MOHELA for capital projects.

However, another delay occurred when two University of Missouri-Columbia students filed a lawsuit, asking for a court injunction to prevent implementation of the Lewis and Clark Discovery

Initiative and prevent MOHELA from transferring the funds, but the money was finally released to Missouri Western in 2007.

In October that year, Missouri Western received the largest gift in its history when Wes and Patsy Remington donated \$5 million to help fund the construction of an addition to and a renovation of Agenstein Hall. The Board of Governors voted at its October meeting to name the addition Remington Hall in the couple's honor.

HOK and Ellison-Auxier Architects Inc. were selected as architects. A groundbreaking ceremony was held in April 2008, and in June, Lawhon Construction Co. was awarded the bid for both the 59,740 square-foot new building and the complete renovation of Agenstein Hall – \$27,355,700 with a 7 percent contingency. Since so much time had passed from when the original plans had been drawn up, new architectural plans were created.

Phase I of the project was building the three-story Remington Hall, which was completed in December 2009 and opened for classes in January 2010. The new space contained labs for biology, chemistry, and physics, and computer labs for computer science classes. Additionally, there were student study spaces, balconies on all three floors, a three-story atrium, and an Einstein Bros. Bagels.

When it was time for Phase II, the Agenstein renovation, most of the faculty and staff in Agenstein Hall moved their offices into modular units in the parking lot, but a few offices were temporarily set up in Remington Hall.

By the time Agenstein Hall opened in January 2011, the building had received new electrical wiring, plumbing, new bathroom fixtures and some new flooring. Most of its original labs had been converted to classrooms conducive to student collaboration. There were now two rooms for student mentoring and student/faculty interaction, a new pedestrian entrance on the east side of building, more windows on the east side, and a reconfiguration of all office space. There was also dedicated space for faculty research and faculty/student research.

Agenstein originally contained a greenhouse on the roof of the building, but a new 640 square-foot state-of-the-art greenhouse was built adjacent to Agenstein.

Members of the family of Evan Agenstein, professor emeritus for whom the building is named, attended a dedication ceremony in January 2011.

Along with the state's \$30.1 million and the \$5 million gift from the Remingtons, another \$2.5 million was funded by private donations as part of the Achieving Greatness capital campaign. The east wing of the first floor of Remington was named the Leah Spratt Wing, thanks to a \$250,000 donation from the Leah Spratt Charitable Trust (Joyce Rochambeau and Rene Rochambeau McCrary, trustees). The third-floor large lecture hall was named the W.T. Kemper Lecture Hall, thanks to a \$150,000 gift from the W.T. Kemper Foundation (Commerce Bank, trustee). The Heartland Foundation gave \$500,000 for scientific equipment in Remington and Agenstein.

When the building was renovated, the animal heads, a donation from Alma Dugdale in 1972 that had lined the second floor hallways in Agenstein Hall, were refurbished, although some were sold.

The plan was to create a display in glass cases on the second floor of Agenstein. The last time the heads had gotten a facelift was in 1997, when students also made plaques to identify the animals.

Missouri Western's science, mathematics and psychology departments had been involved every year in Super Science Saturday that was held at the St. Joseph Museum, but thanks to the completion of the Remington/Agenstein project, the event was now held in Remington and Agenstein halls.

BUSHMAN PLANETARIUM – 2011

The Bushman Planetarium, in the southeast corner of the first floor of Agenstein Hall since it opened in 1969, was gutted and converted to an immersive theater with planetarium shows as part of the renovation project, and it reopened in February 2011.

In the early 1980s, administrators closed the planetarium to save money, but it was re-opened in 1984 and had been in continuous use since.

In 1996, the Joseph R. Bushman estate donated more than 400 acres of farmland, which included three houses, to Missouri Western. Of that amount, \$250,000 from the proceeds of the sale was used to renovate and update the planetarium. The balance, approximately \$380,000, funded a grand piano, new band equipment, classroom equipment in the Leah Spratt Multipurpose Classroom Building, distance education courses and the Glenn E. Marion Memorial Clock Tower plaza, which was named Bushman Plaza.

That renovation included new equipment and technology, new seats, and lighting, and it reopened in September 1997. It was named in honor of Joseph and Bess Bushman, and members of their family attended the dedication ceremony.

At that time, it was estimated more than 50,000 people, including many elementary school groups and Missouri Western astronomy students, had visited the planetarium since it opened in 1969.

Mathematics faculty member Jerry Wilkerson operated the planetarium until 2011, when Chris Godfrey, physics professor, took on the coordination. Wilkerson continued to assist.

GRIFFON INDOOR SPORTS COMPLEX – 2010 (*SEE TOWN AND GOWN – KANSAS CITY CHIEFS TRAINING CAMP*) AND SPRING SPORTS COMPLEX – 2011

Except for its very first game, which was played at Hyde Park in St. Joseph in 1970, the Missouri Western baseball team practiced and played its home games at Phil Welch Stadium in St. Joseph. When softball began at Missouri Western in 1976, the women practiced and played on fields at Walnut Field Park and Bluff Woods in St. Joseph until softball fields were built on campus in 1995.

So the completion of the Spring Sports Complex in the spring of 2011 brought the baseball team to campus for the first time and gave both the men and women upgraded and top-notch facilities.

Building a baseball field on campus was part of the Max Experience initiative when students passed a fee for athletics facilities upgrades and benefits in 2006. The softball fields, which were lo-

cated south of Spratt Memorial Stadium, were converted into a parking lot when the Griffon Indoor Sports Complex was built in 2010, so the funding for the softball field in the Spring Sports Complex came from the Griffon Indoor Sports Complex funds.

In May 2009, a location just south of the Faraon Street entrance was approved by the Board of Governors for the Spring Sports Complex, and the bids for it were combined with the concessions/restroom building on the visitor side of Spratt Memorial Stadium which opened in October 2009. E. L. Crawford Construction Inc. earned both jobs with a bid of \$3,498,000 with a 5 percent contingency.

For the 2010 season, while the Spring Sports Complex construction was underway, the softball team played at Heritage Park in St. Joseph. Construction of the two fields and parking lot was completed in time for most of the home games to be played there in the spring of 2011, and a dedication ceremony was held in April.

The complex includes a baseball field with an infield of artificial turf, a grass softball field, a building adjacent to each field that contains a press box, concession stand and restrooms, bleachers by both fields, hitting cages, and a parking lot. The dugouts contain heating units for early spring games.

A plaque on the softball field building honors the 1982 softball team, Missouri Western's only national championship team to date, and a plaque on the baseball field building honors Doug Minnis, Missouri Western's baseball coach from 1969-99.

GRIFFON HALL – 2011

In the fall of 2008, the Griffon News reported that there was a waiting list for the residence halls for the first time in five years. One year later, it was noted at the August Board of Governors meeting that residence halls were filled to capacity for the fall 2009 semester, as well, and a top priority was to plan for additional student housing.

Ellison-Auxier Architects Inc. was selected as architects in March 2010, and the Office of Residential Life held forums across campus to get input from students for the new residence hall building plans.

By June 2010, 1,174 students had applied for residence hall contracts for that fall, which was over capacity. At its August meeting, the Board of Governors approved a \$12,188,341 bid with an \$848,284 contingency from Brooner and Associates Construction Inc. It was noted at that meeting that there were 53 students on the waiting list for the residence halls. In the second week after the halls opened for the fall semester, 70 students had squeezed in over the preferred occupancy level, and seven were still on the waiting list.

Dirt work on the new hall began in September 2010, and it opened in time for the fall 2011 semester. A ribbon cutting was held in August 2011, and the building was named Griffon Hall.

The hall, with a capacity of 250, was designed for upperclassmen and features apartments with a living room, a full kitchen and four single bedrooms. The building also contains an exercise room, laundry facilities and a community lounge.

BAKER FAMILY FITNESS CENTER REMODEL – 2012

An extensive renovation was undertaken in the Baker Family Fitness Center in 2012, 13 years after its last renovation.

At its May 2012 meeting, the Board of Governors accepted a bid from Brooner and Associates Construction Inc. for \$220,000 for the project. Work began immediately and was completed in August. The project was funded by Max Experience student fees and money set aside for renovation projects in the University's auxiliary budget.

When the Griffon Indoor Sports Complex was completed in 2010, the football team's locker room and the football coaches' offices that were in the fitness center moved there. In the 2012 remodel, the coaches' offices were gutted and the space became a large multipurpose room.

There were also changes to the weight room and cardio workout area. Some walls were taken down to expand the cardio area and give the whole fitness center a more open appearance.

The renovation also included new restrooms and a larger reception area in the front of the building, the locker rooms (for patrons) refurbished with new fixtures and flooring, and the addition of a laundry room in the former football conference room.

The former training room became the locker room for the women's soccer team, the first time the team had a locker room to call its own. What used to be the home football locker room and a laundry room became a new training room and visitors' locker room.

WALTER CRONKITE MEMORIAL – 2013

In November 2013, Missouri Western opened the Walter Cronkite Memorial, a dedication to the life of Cronkite, who was born in St. Joseph, Missouri on Nov. 4, 1916. The permanent memorial in the Spratt Hall atrium is a comprehensive collection of items designed to honor the legendary CBS News anchor.

The Memorial was the vision of President Vartabedian, who wanted to create a tribute to Cronkite, considered "the most trusted man in America."

The centerpiece of the 5,000 square-foot memorial was a display – approximately 21 feet tall by 9 feet wide – of 39 images of world and national news events covered by Cronkite during his time as anchor. The memorial also includes several wall displays that feature all aspects of Cronkite's life. There are three interactive kiosks: one dedicated to his news broadcasts, one for his 1969 speech before the St. Joseph Chamber of Commerce and one containing self-narrated stories about his life. There is also a large-scale model of a WWII Waco Combat Glider that Cronkite used when he covered World War II and memorabilia in cases. Other displays include caricatures of the anchor and a Missouri higher education display to which Cronkite had lent his voice.

The Memorial was funded by the David and Shirley Bradley Endowment.

In 2014, a bronze bust of Cronkite created by Eric Fuson, artist-in-residence, was added to the Memorial, along with a planetarium show narrated by the news anchor.

There was also the addition of “Cronkite,” a live, multimedia presentation, that year. Using professional actor Jim Korinke, the show is a re-enactment of an interview with Walter Cronkite by Larry King on the first anniversary of 9-11, with video, audio and still images added. In the interview, King also invites Cronkite to reflect on his career and the field of journalism. The show was entered in the Pulitzer Prize competition in 2015.

In 2014, more than 100 artifacts were loaned to Missouri Western by Cronkite family members, and two new display cases were added to house the items. In 2015, the Dolph Briscoe Center for American History at the University of Texas-Austin, which houses Cronkite’s personal and professional papers, donated Cronkite’s desk and chair to the Memorial. The Center also donated murals and several display and document cases.

Two new features debuted in November 2015: “Harry & Walter: Missouri’s Native Sons,” a live, multimedia performance; and a replica of Walter Cronkite’s CBS broadcast studio. The performance tells the story of President Harry Truman and Walter Cronkite’s commonalities and how their lives intersected. Jim Korinke again plays Cronkite, and Ken Remmert, a professional actor, plays Truman. Visitors can take a photo of themselves presenting the evening news in the replica studio.

Special guests for the November dedication ceremony included U.S. Sen. Roy Blunt; Don Carleton, executive director of the Briscoe Center for American History; and Leslie Moonves, president and CEO of CBS Corporation.

By the end of 2015, about 10,000 visitors from across the globe had toured the Memorial. The Memorial was the recipient of the Missouri Division of Tourism’s 2014 Spotlight Award and was named a “Midwest Treasure” in the November/December 2014 issue of AAA Midwest Traveler.

POTTER HALL ADDITION – 2014

At its February 2014 meeting, the Board of Governors accepted a bid from Lee Grover Construction Company of St. Joseph to fund a long-overdue project: an addition to Potter Hall, home to the School of Fine Arts. The bid of \$750,509 with a 15 percent contingency also funded renovations to Wilson Hall and the Looney Complex and was paid out of the University’s reserve funds. The Potter Hall addition and renovations amounted to \$635,692 of the total bid.

The one-story, approximately 3,400 square-foot addition to Potter Hall included a new percussion space and restrooms constructed on the south side of the building. The existing restrooms on the first floor were renovated into office space. The project also included the addition of a circle drive in front of Potter.

“This project will address some of our most pressing facility needs,” said Bob Willenbrink, founding dean of the School of Fine Arts. “Our percussion students have been practicing for years in ‘temporary’ modular units, so I’m happy we can provide them with permanent space, and the new

restrooms and circle drive will be much appreciated by the many people who come to Potter Hall for performances and exhibits.”

MASTER PLANNING INITIATIVE – 2014

In June 2014, The Board of Governors accepted a proposal from architectural firm Clark|Huesemann of Lawrence, Kansas to develop a comprehensive campus master plan that could guide Missouri Western’s physical growth. The consultants studied the entire 723-acre campus.

Related to the Master Planning Initiative was the signing of a land lease bill, HB1206, by Gov. Jay Nixon in July 2014. That opened up opportunities for land use options and possible revenue for Missouri Western. Prior to this, the state law included a sunset clause that prevented most universities from leasing their land beyond 2017. The new law opened up the possibility for long-term campus leases, and the master planning initiative addressed those opportunities.

Among other components of the report, the master plan report recommended the renovation of Spratt Memorial Stadium and a separate building for the Craig School of Business. The plan also included additions to the Looney Complex and Baker Family Fitness Center for increased student recreation space, and a recommendation for more student performance space.

SPRATT MEMORIAL STADIUM RENOVATION – 2015 AND CRAIG FIELD NAMING – 2015

When football began at the four-year Missouri Western College in 1970, home games were played at the St. Joseph School District’s Noyes Field by Central High School. It wasn’t until 1979 that a new stadium was built, thanks in part to an estate gift from Elliott “Bub” Spratt.

The stadium’s natural grass field was replaced by ProGrass synthetic field turf in 2006 and the visitors’ grandstand was remodeled and expanded in 2009, but little had been done on the home side since 1979. In late 2014, when master plan consultants recommended demolition of the home side seating and concourse, the project became an urgent priority.

At its December 2014 meeting, the Board of Governors approved a statement of intent to proceed with a \$5.5 million auxiliary system revenue bond issue to pay for improvements to the stadium, and final terms of the bond issue were approved by the Board five months later. Ellison-Auxier Architects Inc. was also selected as architects for the project at the December 2014 meeting.

The lowest bid opened in April 2015 was \$8.288 million, more than \$2 million over the projected budget. Personnel from Missouri Western and Ellison-Auxier worked with the low bidder, E.L. Crawford Construction, to make changes to the original specifications of the bid to lower the cost.

In late April, the Board of Governors approved a bid of \$6,995,108 and a contingency budget of \$209,853. A groundbreaking ceremony was held in May. Along with the revenue bonds, the project was funded by gifts to the Centennial Capital Campaign.

Renovations covered by the bid include demolition of the current concourse, concessions area, restrooms, Stadium Club and press box; construction of a new concourse, concessions area, restrooms, club level (including suites) and press box; repairs and improvements to the home grandstand seating area, including more chair-back seating; removal of the track and relocation of the field closer to the home stands; relocation of the visitors' side grandstands to be closer to the field; and new field turf. The three-story building is approximately 25,000 square feet.

A video board was included in plans for the stadium but was not included in the bid. In August 2015, it was announced that Steve Craig, Missouri Western benefactor for whom the Craig School of Business is named, had pledged \$1.1 million to partially fund a \$2.6 million high-definition, 2,500 square-foot LED video scoreboard. It was the largest individual gift in the history of Missouri Western Athletics, and contributions to the Centennial Capital Campaign covered the balance.

In recognition of the gift and Craig's ongoing support for Missouri Western, the playing surface was named Craig Field at Spratt Memorial Stadium. A groundbreaking ceremony for the video board was held in December 2015.

The field and grandstand components of the project were completed by the fall sports season, and the press box, suites and video scoreboard were scheduled for completion in spring 2016.

MONEY MATTERS

“SB389, whatever its virtues, limits the capacity of public universities to raise revenue through tuition increases, but makes no companion guarantee regarding state support for public universities.” – President James Scanlon, at a May 2007 Board of Governors meeting.

OVERVIEW

An omnibus bill that passed in 2007, the Higher Education Student Funding Act, or Senate Bill 389, led to several financial challenges for Missouri Western for many years.

At the February 2007 Board of Governors meeting, President Scanlon noted that SB 389 was in its 13th version. “Time will tell whether the bill will pass the Senate and whether, on balance, it is a good bill for public higher education,” he said. At the Board meeting one month later, he noted that SB 389 was in its 23rd version.

The bill included provisions to place higher education under the oversight of a Joint Committee on Education, strengthen the Coordinating Board for Higher Education in certain areas and create new authority for the CBHE over the setting of tuition, and expand the funding available for need-based financial aid for students attending public and private colleges and universities in Missouri.

One provision of the bill allowed the approval of the Lewis and Clark Discovery Initiative, which funded the Agenstein and Remington halls’ construction and renovation project.

However, another provision capped increases in tuition and fees at the Midwest Consumer Price Index unless a college or university obtained a waiver from the commissioner of the Missouri Department of Higher Education. If colleges and universities sought to raise more than permitted by SB 389, the Missouri Department of Higher Education could either remit a fine of 5 percent to the state’s general fund or ask the commissioner of Higher Education to waive all or part of the fine. If the commissioner did not approve a waiver, he would recommend the size of the fine to the Coordinating Board of Higher Education.

The first year the bill went into effect, FY2009, no institution asked for a waiver.

By FY2010, Missouri Western had been dealing with many years of cuts in state appropriations and had no tuition increases for FY2004, FY2005 and FY2006, so those circumstances, coupled with having to now cap tuition increases, proved to be a difficult combination. In August 2009, Board of Governors Chair Patt Lilly established a board finance committee so the University could better deal with the financial challenges it faced.

Gov. Jay Nixon made an agreement with the presidents of higher education institutions in the state that if he did not cut state appropriations in FY2010, then the institutions would not raise tuition. In order to balance the budget, President Vartabedian instituted a 20 percent reduction in operating budgets across campus and reduced summer school wages for faculty. Outstanding Faculty, Administrator and Staff awards and sabbaticals were suspended for 2010.

For FY2011, the state cut its appropriation to higher education institutions by 5.2 percent. However, in another agreement with Nixon, higher education institutions agreed to not raise tuition for that fiscal year. Vartabedian cut all operating budgets another 10 percent in order to balance the budget.

Missouri Western would have been allowed a 2.98 percent tuition increase for FY2011 according to the Consumer Price Index, and the governor allowed universities to put that amount on the books, although they could not charge it to students that year.

For FY2012, because of the history of little or no tuition increases coupled with state appropriation cuts over the past several years and an anticipated cut in funding in FY2012, the Board of Governors at its March 2011 meeting voted to raise tuition a total of 9.3 percent and request a waiver from the commissioner of the Missouri Department of Higher Education. This figure included the increase on the books from FY2011. Even with the increase, Missouri Western's tuition would still be among the lowest in the state.

On June 10, 2011, the governor announced that higher education appropriations would be 7 percent less than FY2011 for FY2012, but he tagged on an extra 1.2 percent cut for Missouri Western, saying he believed its proposed tuition increase for FY2012 was too high. The extra 1.2 percent amounted to approximately \$268,000, making the total cut to the University approximately \$1.8 million.

Six days later, Vartabedian received a letter from the commissioner of the Missouri Department of Higher Education encouraging the Board to re-visit its tuition request. So at its June meeting, the Board voted to lower its request to 5.5 percent.

"As an alumnus and member of the Board of Governors, I regret that the Board now has to ask for tuition that is less than what is needed," said Dan Danford at the meeting.

Before the Board meeting, students held a rally in the Blum Union in support of Missouri Western.

One week later and on the last day of FY2011, the Board held a special meeting to approve Missouri Western's budget for FY2012. Part of the budget included an additional 10 percent reduction of all operating budgets, and employee awards were again suspended. Several departments were reorganized in an effort to save money; many positions remained vacant, and for the third year in a row, there were no raises for employees.

For FY2013, Missouri Western's state appropriation increased by about \$250,000.

The General Assembly sent Nixon a higher education spending bill that kept the base operating budget the same as it was last year, while including some additional "equity funding" for seven universities, including Missouri Western. Nixon signed the bill, but withheld 1 percent of the base operating budget and 10 percent of the equity funding. So for Missouri Western, that meant a loss

of about \$201,000 in the base appropriation, but a gain of about \$451,000 in equity funding, or a net gain of about \$250,000. Undergraduate, in-state tuition increased 3.2 percent.

In an effort to alleviate the tight budget situation, the Student Government Association's senators voted in the spring of 2012 to institute an additional fee for students of \$75 for students with 12 credit hours or more per semester, \$50 for those with fewer than 12 credit hours, and \$25 for summer school sessions, effective fall 2012.

The Board of Governors adopted an operating budget of nearly \$48.5 million for FY2013, compared to the \$48.3 million budget for FY2012. The budget included a 2 percent employee pay raise or \$600, whichever was greater, for the first time in three years.

Proposition B, on the ballot in November 2012, was a proposal to increase the current taxes on tobacco products, including a \$0.73 increase in the cigarette tax. Thirty percent of the proceeds would have supported higher education, and Missouri Western could have received approximately \$2 million from it each year. However, it failed to pass.

For FY2014, the Board of Governors agreed to increase in-state undergraduate tuition 1.76 percent. At its June meeting, a 3 percent raise for employees was approved in the budget. However, the day after the meeting, Nixon announced that he would restrict \$400 million from state appropriations in response to additional spending approved by the General Assembly and the possible override of his veto of House Bill 253, the tax cut bill. That restriction was in addition to the normal 3 percent withhold that was factored into Missouri Western's budget and amounted to an additional \$826,000 cut for the University. So the employee salary increase was put on hold.

The governor said if his veto of the tax cut bill was not overturned when the General Assembly returned to Jefferson City for the veto session in September, he would restore the appropriation. Vartabedian said if the governor restored the appropriation, Missouri Western would in turn restore the 3 percent salary increases for faculty and staff approved by the Board of Governors, retroactive to July 1. The bill's veto was not overturned, and employee raises were restored.

A decrease in gaming revenue led to an almost \$400,000 reduction in state appropriations for Missouri Western for FY2014, when the state reduced its May and June payments, and the University used reserves to make up for the shortfall.

For FY2015, a tuition increase of 1.74 percent was approved at the Board of Governors' June 2014 meeting after the governor approved state allocations for the new fiscal year, and a \$51.7 million operating budget was approved. That included a 2 percent raise for faculty and staff.

Nixon withheld \$667,862 from Missouri Western's total state appropriation of \$22,254,114 (including a 3 percent annual withholding) as part of a larger effort to maintain Missouri's fiscal stability. The governor released the money after the General Assembly's September veto session, so in October, the Board of Governors voted to refund to students the 1.74 percent increase charged to in-state, main campus undergraduate students that had been charged to students for fall 2014. Tuition for the spring 2015 semester was also reduced 1.74 percent.

For FY2016, the Board of Governors set tuition at \$197.79 per credit hour for in-state undergraduate students on the St. Joseph campus, an increase of 0.91 percent.

PERFORMANCE FUNDING

In August 2011, Nixon outlined a new funding model for higher education based on institutional performance, and the following May, he signed a bill giving the state Legislature's Joint Committee on Education until Dec. 31, 2013, to come up with a comprehensive funding formula for distributing state aid to higher education, the first higher education funding formula in the state. Five performance measures were chosen. Four of the measures are common to all four-year institutions, and one is selected by each institution to reflect its mission.

The four performance measures are freshman to sophomore retention rate, six-year cohort graduation rates, assessments of general education, and percent of total education and general expenditures expended on the core mission. The fifth, selected by Missouri Western, is the number of students each year who have participated in research, projects or creative activities that have resulted in a peer-reviewed publication, presentation, performance, exhibit or external awards.

Missouri Western met and exceeded all five targets set by the Missouri Department of Higher Education two years in a row, which positively affected the FY2016 state allocation and would positively affect FY2017, as well.

SPORTS

“Western grabs elusive playoff conquest in 3-overtime classic.” – St. Joseph News-Press headline, Nov. 18, 2012.

OVERVIEW

The years 2009-15 brought a new athletic director, milestone wins for four coaches, the retirement of a longtime coach, national fame for two football players and some outstanding seasons for several teams.

A new athletic director, Kurt McGuffin, began his duties in October 2011, replacing Dave Williams.

In 2010, the football team under Coach Jerry Partridge was selected to play in the Division II national playoffs for the first time since 2006 and only the second time in school history. Missouri Western lost to Northwest Missouri State University in the postseason playoffs, the first time the teams had ever met in postseason.

The football team repeated its success in 2011, when it not only beat Northwest Missouri State University in the regular season, but hosted the first playoff game ever at Spratt Memorial Stadium. The Griffons again lost to Northwest in the first postseason game.

The 2012 football season was a record-breaking one for the Griffons. Winning against Northwest in the last game of the regular season gave Missouri Western its first outright MIAA championship. The team then went on to win its first postseason playoff game ever in a triple-overtime win over University of Minnesota-Duluth and advanced to the quarterfinals (top eight) for the first time in Griffon history. The 2012 team broke 40 individual and team records.

The following spring, the baseball team had an outstanding season under Coach Buzz Verduzco, with the team and players shattering several school and conference records and qualifying for their second NCAA Division II baseball championship. Its 40-12 season set a school record for wins in a season, and the team nabbed the first-ever MIAA regular season championship for baseball.

Women’s golfer Natalie Bird also made history for Missouri Western when she became the first player to qualify for the NCAA Division II Central Regional in 2013, held at the St. Joseph Country Club. It was just the third time Missouri Western had hosted a golf regional, but the first time for women’s golf.

In 2014, the softball team under Jen Trotter won the MIAA conference championship and finished with a 39-18 record.

Head coaches for baseball, men's basketball, football and softball all celebrated victory milestones during 2009-15. In April 2010, Baseball Coach Buzz Verduzco earned his 300th career win with a win over Pittsburg State; in May 2013, he won his 400th game against University of Central Oklahoma.

At the 2010 Homecoming football game, Coach Jerry Partridge tallied his 100th career win by beating Truman State University. In February 2011, Softball Coach Jen Bagley won the 300th game in her career by beating University of Missouri-St. Louis, and she won her 400th game in March 2013 against Missouri Southern State University. Tom Smith's men's basketball team earned him his 600th win in the first game of the 2011 season against Fontbonne.

Smith, who had been head men's basketball coach since 1989, retired at the end of the 2012-13 season with 618 wins in his 38 years as a collegiate head coach. He is a member of the Missouri Western Athletics Hall of Fame, Missouri Basketball Coaches Hall of Fame, Valparaiso University Athletics Hall of Fame and the MIAA Hall of Fame. He also received the 2013 Missourian Award.

The years 2009-15 also found several changes in the Mid-America Intercollegiate Athletics Association Conference. Lincoln University in Jefferson City, Missouri, which forfeited its membership in the MIAA in 1999, rejoined in 2010. That same year, the MIAA voted to expand from 11 to 16, starting in the fall of 2012, and extended invitations to Lindenwood University, St. Charles, Missouri; Northeastern State University, Tahlequah, Oklahoma; University of Central Oklahoma, Edmond; and University of Nebraska-Kearney. However, the University of Nebraska-Omaha left the MIAA in the fall of 2011, bringing the number down to 15.

After UNO's departure, the plan was to continue with 15 schools for the 2012-13 and 2013-14 seasons, then look for a 16th team to join the conference. However, in June 2012, Truman State University announced that it was leaving the MIAA conference, effective fall 2013. Currently, 14 teams make up the conference.

Missouri Western and the City of St. Joseph were selected to host national championships in 2010 and 2011. Athletics and the city hosted the NCAA Division II softball national championships at Heritage Park in May 2010 and the NCAA Division II women's basketball Elite 8 in March 2010 and 2011, helping to bring thousands of tourism dollars into the community.

In 2010, two employees in the Department of Athletics, Brett Esely and Ryan Menley, produced the first Griffon Sports Insider, a 30-minute television program about Missouri Western Athletics. The program airs weekly during the sports seasons.

Police officers Dennis Johnson and James Bench received the Meritorious Conduct Award from the department for their efforts in saving the life of sophomore wide receiver's Kyle Knox's grandfather when he suffered a heart attack at the first home football game of the 2010 season. Bench retrieved the department's defibrillator, and Johnson used the defibrillator to bring the man back to life.

More athletics-related lifesavers were recognized in 2011. Two football players, Shane Simpson and Jack Long, were the subjects of a positive news story that was broadcast all over the United States. The two were on their way home from practice on a hot day that fall when they noticed a dis-

tressed woman who had accidentally locked her keys in the car with her two-year-old grandson inside, and she was frantic. Simpson and Long broke out her car window to rescue the child.

Ryan Menley created a video telling the story; the video went viral and was picked up by news stations across the country, including ESPN, CNN, CBS, MSNBC and Fox News.

In May 2011, the Board of Governors voted to rename Stadium Drive, Charlie Burri Drive in honor of Missouri Western's first athletic director and founder of the Gold Coat Club.

The Department of Athletics had three graduate assistants for the first time in 2012 for men's basketball, women's basketball and soccer. The graduate assistants were enrolled in a new graduate degree program, the Master of Applied Science Sport and Fitness Management.

The first full-time head women's tennis coach, Chris Canady, was hired in 2014, but only stayed one year. Canady led the team to an 11-10 overall record, matching the combined win totals from the previous three seasons.

Women's soccer under Chad Edwards had its first winning regular season record and advanced to the postseason tournament for the first time in 2014. They repeated a winning record and postseason berth in 2015.

Because of the Spratt Stadium renovation in 2015, the Stadium Club became a tent near the field, but members continued to support the athletic booster organization. During FY2015, the MWSU Foundation received \$553,055 on behalf of Missouri Western Athletics from Gold Coat members, corporate sponsors, contributions and fundraising activities.

A complete list of sports teams' records, coaches and noteworthy achievements from 1983-2015 is in Appendix I.

STUDENT LIFE

“If MWSU were a person, what would you say to them? Zach Slater – We need Greek housing.” – Griffon News April 23, 2009.

“Using video games to get off the couch,” Keeping on track with fitness apps,” “Work hard, sleep hard.” – Griffon News headlines, March 19, 2015

BY THE NUMBERS

	Fall 2009	Fall 2015
• Undergraduate Enrollment	5,665	5,352
• Graduate students	70	219
• Full-time UG students	4,073	3,636
• Missouri residents	5,200	4,773
• International students	22	120
• UG Age 25 and older	23%	20%
• Minorities (who reported)	15%	11%

OVERVIEW

The years 2009-15 brought a Greek Village to campus; one of the best Homecomings ever, according to the Griffon News; and 1980s-style “big hair, leggings, Guitar Hero and Rock Band,” according to the 2009 yearbook.

Although there had been talk about Greek housing on campus over the years, the topic was revisited when a land use committee and administrators met with student leadership to discuss the concept of a Greek village in 2007. Vice President Olinger conducted a land use survey to determine possible campus sites for a Greek village, and there was talk of using the residence halls as an interim step for Greek housing.

The conversation continued in 2009, when President Vartabedian and Greek organization leaders met to discuss how to improve Greek life on campus. In November of that year, Tom Jelke, a Greek life consultant, was brought to campus for three days. He gave a report in May 2010, where he identified ways the University could have stronger relationships with Greek organizations on campus and

how the Greek community could become more high-performing. He also provided an assessment of the current fraternities and sororities.

From his report, University personnel agreed to form a committee to develop a strategic plan with the goal of creating a more cohesive and productive Greek system, and look into Greek housing on campus.

In the fall of 2010, there were six Greek social organizations on campus, three fraternities and three sororities; and by fall 2012, there were a total of 10. That fall, Greek housing officially came to Missouri Western when nine suites in Juda Hall were reserved for a Greek Village. Five of Missouri Western's 10 Greek organizations reserved space in the village, and banners proudly displaying their Greek letters were hung on the side of Juda Hall.

A Greek plaza was also built over by the residence halls, including benches and a large boulder representing each Greek organization. In 2015, there were four sororities at Missouri Western: Alpha Gamma Delta, Alpha Kappa Alpha, Alpha Sigma Alpha and Sigma Sigma Sigma; and three fraternities: Alpha Phi Alpha, Phi Delta Theta and Tau Kappa Epsilon.

In 2010, the Alpha Sigma Alpha Sorority received the Four Star Chapter Award and Recruitment Excellence Award from the national chapter, and fall 2014 found the largest recruiting class in Missouri Western history for the three Panhellenic sororities.

The 2009 Homecoming, "Back in Time to '69," celebrated the 40th anniversary as a four-year institution, and saw increased participation from not only Greeks, but organizations across campus. But according to the Griffon News, Homecoming 2011, Griffon Pride Keepin' it Real, was one of the more robust Homecomings in recent years and the best ever. The parade route was longer than in previous years, and 31 student organizations were involved throughout the week.

"This year it's finally happening: a homecoming on steroids," said Taylor Kram, the student Homecoming director for the third year in a row, in the newspaper article.

New events throughout the week included Dancing with the Griff contest, with both faculty and students competing; an Amazing Griff Race obstacle course; Griff My Ride vehicle-making contest; and Extreme Griffon Takeover, a clean-up night on campus. Students also searched for clues across campus in an effort to win a 32" television.

"No longer will people be saying, 'Oh, this is homecoming week?'" wrote Christian Mengel in the Griffon News.

Kathy Kelly had been hired by the Student Government Association as a full-time staff member and served as the advisor for the 2011 Homecoming.

In honor of the University's centennial celebration in 2015, the Homecoming theme was "Century Long Griffon Strong."

Student entertainment on campus from 2009 through 2015 included comedians Ant, Josh Blue, Adam Hunter, Cory "Zooman" Miller, Donnell Rawlings, Iliza Schlessinger, Doug Williams and Nema Williams, magician Justin Kredible, motivational speaker Michel Chikwanine, slam poet Taylor Mali, speaker Jonathan Sprinkles and hypnotist Tony Lucro. Performer Timothy Mooney

staged “Moliere than Thou” and “Lot o’ Shakespeare.” A drag show hosted by Pride Alliance returned in 2009 after a hiatus of a few years, and Step Afrika performed on campus in 2010 to an audience of over 400.

Family Day 2011 included a new event: a free pancake breakfast hosted by President Vartabedian, and more than 150 students and family members attended. It became an annual event on Family Day, and attendance at the 2014 breakfast more than doubled from the 2011 event.

A new event in 2012 was Missouri Western’s “The Voice,” based on the television show singing competition, and the first year’s \$1,000 winner was Gavin Morris.

TECHNOLOGY

Top 8 gadgets to survive college:

iPod Nano, 8GB

Plantronics Bluetooth

Blackberry Curve

Haier microwave

Olympus voice recorder

Xbox 360

Dell Laptop

SanDisk Jump Drive

– Griffon News, Aug. 20, 2009

“Students desire leniency with cell phones in classroom.” – Griffon News headline, April 7, 2011.

“OMG, R U Txtting?” – 2011 Griffon Yearbook headline.

“Tweets of the Week.” – Griffon News headline, Feb. 6, 2014.

OVERVIEW

An increase in online courses, a completely wireless campus, a new host server and more opportunities for students to access University services online outlined some technological advances on campus in the years 2009-15.

By fall 2009, there was a comprehensive wireless network system in residence halls and the Commons Building, and by mid-2011, all buildings on campus had wireless access. Also in 2009, only one telephone line was in each room of the residence halls, but all phones were removed from the residence hall rooms, except in special cases, and there were only courtesy phones in the hallways.

For the first time, the class schedules for spring 2010 were available online only with no print version provided. The next year, the University’s learning management system, Blackboard’s WebCT, was replaced by Moodle.

In 2013, the library joined a consortium partnership with EBSCO Information Services, an e-book vendor, in order to expand its offerings of e-books to library users.

When Missouri Western began using the Banner system for its institution-wide hardware and software in 2004, it contracted with SunGard Higher Education (later Ellucian) and purchased a hardware platform to support the system. By 2012, that hardware was nearing the end of its lifespan, and Missouri Western contracted for seven years with Ellucian to provide all the necessary hardware to run the software and to provide application management services. The contract also provided an off-site server in the event the original server stops working.

While the campus continued to stay technologically up-to-date, students in computer science classes were excelling in their field.

For two years in a row, the student group Association of Information Technology Professionals earned first place at a national collegiate competition for web applications that they created. The 2009 entry was developed for the Buchanan County Prosecuting Attorney's Office, and the 2008 application was for the Department of Biology. In 2013, out of nine teams nationwide, Missouri Western teams earned both first and second place for their web applications – one for the Missouri Academy of Science and one for the Boy Scouts of America. In 2015, students won first place in Enterprise Systems and first place in Professional Banner at the collegiate competition.

ONLINE COURSES

Although online classes had been offered for several years at Missouri Western, President Vartabedian began an initiative to increase the inventory of online courses beginning in spring 2009. Incentives, workshops, mentoring, hardware and software were provided to faculty members. By the end of fall 2009, the inventory of online courses had doubled from 32 to 64. By the start of fall 2014 the inventory had grown to 264 courses.

From fall 2008 to fall 2015, enrollment in online courses grew from 661 to 3,137. By fall 2015, 334 students were taking only online courses from the University. Also, 125 unique online courses were offered, and there were enough online courses that students could complete their general studies completely online.

In 2011, Missouri Western offered its first dual credit course internationally to a high school in Honduras – an online Introduction to Archeology.

TOWN AND GOWN

“Missouri Western is a jewel in the community. We’re blessed to have it. I think it is one of the main focal points of the community.” – Gordon Robaska, community member, in a 2011 interview.

OVERVIEW

From 2009 through 2015, Missouri Western continued to serve as a strong partner for St. Joseph, the region and the state. A 2009 study noted that the University had a \$183.5 million economic impact on the region, and it was named the 2011 Outstanding Partner by the United Way of Greater St. Joseph for its strong United Way campaign each year and its employee volunteers.

A new community partnership for Missouri Western began in 2009, when the Engineering Technology Advancement Committee was formed to support the Department of Engineering Technology. The committee was formed by Al Landes, Herzog Contracting Corp.; Zane Brickey, Lawhon Construction Company; Ryan Schultz, RS Electric Construction, LLC; and Ron Auxier, Ellison-Auxier Architects Inc.

The committee, along with the Department of Engineering Technology, held its first awards banquet in April 2011. That year, Matthew Moffitt, a senior construction engineering technology major, received the Engineering Technology Student Excellence Award, and alumnus Eric Bruder received the Engineering Technology Community Excellence Award. The banquet continued annually, and award winners from subsequent years are listed in Appendix B.

The creation of a donor society to support arts programs at Missouri Western in 2011 manifested the outstanding support of the community. Community leader Karen Graves and Laurel Vartabedian, wife of President Vartabedian, served as membership co-chairs for the inaugural year of the Missouri Western Arts Society, which had 261 charter members. Volunteer Bill Wright served as the first chair of the Arts Society Council.

In March of 2009, thanks to the efforts of Sen. Christopher Bond, Missouri Western was awarded a \$950,000 federal grant to outfit a mobile biotechnology lab, nicknamed the Biobus. The bus held up to 16 students. Fran Morgan was hired as a demonstration scientist and began visiting area schools in the fall of 2010. During that school year, 4,087 students conducted experiments in the Biobus. In the 2012-13 school year, the last year for federal funding, 7,231 students participated.

As a strong community partner, Missouri Western students and employees continued to provide volunteer service from 2009-15, as well. In fact, in 2013, for the sixth year in a row, Missouri Western was named to the President’s Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll, the highest

federal recognition a college or university can receive for its commitment to volunteering, service-learning and community engagement.

One example of community service was when a student group, the Association of Information Technology Professionals, held free basic computer workshops for the community. So many attended the first workshop that students held additional ones for the community.

Students also started Murals for Minds in 2010, where they and community members gathered at Mark Twain Elementary School in St. Joseph to paint murals throughout its hallways and in the cafeteria. The program was so well received that the students repeated it the next year at Humboldt Elementary School and at the Riverbend Treatment Center in St. Joseph in 2012. Missouri Western had a prior relationship with the Riverbend center because a student art group had been holding art classes there since 2011.

From 2009-15, the University continued to provide theatre entertainment to the campus and community. Theatre faculty member Don Lillie wrote “Marlowe,” a play about a contemporary of William Shakespeare, and students performed it on campus in the spring of 2009. The next year, the play was selected to be performed at a London theater and at a birthday celebration for Shakespeare in Stratford-upon-Avon in England.

Other campus theatre productions included “Fool for Love” and Neil Simon’s “Laughter on the 23rd Floor.” In the spring of 2011, the musical, “Phantom,” sold out all four performances. The 2011-12 season of “Romeo and Juliet,” (set in Missouri during the Civil War), “A Christmas Carol,” “Arsenic and Old Lace” and “Little Shop of Horrors” drew in more than 7,700 attendees. The 2012-13 season included two musicals, “Annie” and “Sweeney Todd,” and the 2013-14 season included “Midsummer Night’s Dream” and “The Producers.” The 2014-15 season featured “Pirates of Penzance” and “Of Mice and Men,” which was selected to be performed at the regional Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival in Minnesota in January 2015. Fall 2015 productions included “Cabaret” and “The Complete Works of Shakespeare, Abridged.”

In the fall of 2014, Tee Quillin, theatre faculty member, was the director of the Robidoux Resident Theatre’s “Spamalot,” which featured several current students and alumni as performers.

In fall 2011, the Department of Music collaborated with the Department of Art to perform two children’s operas, “Monkey See, Monkey Do,” and “Little Red Riding Hood,” both on campus and at area elementary schools. They performed “Hansel and Gretel” in 2012 and “The Magic Flute” in 2013.

The Western Institute inaugurated a summer theatre program, Western Playhouse, in 2012. The playhouse produced three plays the first year: “You’re a Good Man, Charlie Brown,” “Barefoot in the Park,” and “I Love You, You’re Perfect, Now Change.” In 2013, the playhouse featured “Miss Saigon.” The 2014 lineup included “Music Man” and “Mother Divine,” which was written by Laurel Vartabedian, wife of President Vartabedian. In 2015, the Playhouse featured “Into the Woods” and “The Fantasticks.”

Every year, approximately 8,000 students in elementary, middle and high schools visit campus for clinics, camps, workshops and competitions, and a new event for high schoolers was added in 2012.

That year, the Department of Art hosted Visual Art Day for more than 500 area high school students. The younger students not only displayed their works of art on campus that day but also created new works under the guidance of Missouri Western students and professors. The next year, the event drew more than 900 students from 39 area high schools. It was also held in 2014 and 2015 with similar attendance.

The swimming pool in the Looney Complex faced closure when major leakage was discovered in 2014. The repairs were costly, and coupled with the yearly expense of the pool, many forums for campus and community members were held to decide if the pool should close. By the end of 2015, Missouri Western, the City of St. Joseph and Buchanan County were completing details of a partnership to maintain the pool and keep it open.

ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

Several traditional Alumni Association events, such as the commencement receptions and Griffs on the Bayou (a Mardi Gras celebration), continued from 2009 through 2015, but the association established some new events and new alumni awards.

The first Senior Fair hosted by the Alumni Association was held in April 2009 for those who were graduating from Missouri Western that spring. Seniors had the opportunity to pick up their caps and gowns and visit with area nonprofit organizations about volunteerism. Alumni were also available to review seniors' resumes.

That fall, the first Alumni Day at Arrowhead was held when the Kansas City Chiefs played the Oakland Raiders on Sept. 20. Alumni tailgated before the game with St. Joseph Area Chamber of Commerce Diplomats.

At the 2009 Alumni Association awards banquet during Homecoming week, attendees received a special treat when an alumni choir performed to honor Frank Thomas, music faculty member and the recipient of the Distinguished Faculty Award that year. The choir, directed by alumnus Charles Bruffy, director of the Kansas City Chorale, the Kansas City Symphony Chorus and the Phoenix Chorale; was formed for the purpose of performing at the banquet. The choir, with 50 performers, was organized by alumni Tom Schneider and Mary Ann Haenni.

Also as part of Homecoming 2009, Missouri Western unveiled a plaque on St. Joseph Junior College's former building at 10th and Edmond streets that recognized the Junior College's role in Missouri Western history. Former Missouri Western presidents Looney and Scanlon and current president, Vartabedian, all spoke at the dedication ceremony.

"Missouri Western would not be here without the vision and dedication of the people of St. Joseph who placed a high value on education many years ago, and we're proud to honor them with this tan-

gible reminder of our past,” Vartabedian said at the ceremony. “This building brings back fond memories for hundreds of Junior College alumni who are a valued part of our University family today.”

William Gondring, class of 1956, donated the plaque in memory of Junior College faculty and in honor of his fellow Junior College alumni. He and his wife, Phyllis, also provided funding for a plaque recognizing the St. Joseph Junior College that was set on the University Plaza on campus in 2012.

A new award was given for the first time at the 2010 Alumni Association awards banquet. Natalie Leonard-Redmond and Stanley Pearson II received the GOLD (Graduate of the Last Decade) Award, which recognizes alumni who have had outstanding achievements and accomplishments early in their careers. Leonard-Redmond, a 2000 graduate, was the vice president of member services for the St. Joseph Area Chamber of Commerce; and Pearson, class of 2002, was a diversity and leadership speaker, author and speaker coach.

The Alumni Association also hosted a new event in 2010 – Arts, Beats and Treats. The free family event was held on campus after the Homecoming parade and featured crafts and activities for children. The event was so successful it outgrew its space in the Blum Union within two years and was moved to Remington Hall.

In 2012, Mama Griffs was started by Alumni Association Board members Angie Springs and Brandy Meeks, and several events for alumni and their families were hosted by the group. The events always had great attendance.

Another new alumni event that proved popular was a wine tasting at Stonehaus Winery in Lee’s Summit, hosted by the Kansas City Alumni Chapter.

In 2015, records showed 6,000 alumni in St. Joseph and a total of 10,000 in a 40-mile radius. It was estimated that Missouri Western and the St. Joseph Junior College had graduated 28,000 students between 1915 and 2015.

CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION

In 2011, a centennial committee comprised of employees, alumni and community members was formed to begin preparing for the celebration of Missouri Western’s 100th anniversary in 2015 and plan events for students, alumni, employees and the community. The committee was co-chaired by Alumni Director Colleen Kowich and Public Relations and Marketing Director Mallory Murray, and the centennial theme was “100 Years of Transforming Lives.” Murray left Missouri Western in July of 2015 and Missouri Western Magazine Editor Diane Holtz became co-chair with Kowich.

An employee recognition reception and a student ball ushered in the centennial celebration year in January, along with a kickoff of the Centennial Capital Campaign. The kickoff featured a digital mapping video created by Quixotic in Kansas City, Missouri. Also that evening, campaign chairs announced a \$20 million initial goal and reported that \$16.8 million had already been raised. By the end of 2015, the campaign was very close to its initial goal.

As part of the Centennial Capital Campaign, Missouri Western received the largest gift in its history – a \$10 million pledge to the Foundation’s general endowment fund. The gift was given by an alumnus who lives in St. Joseph and wished to remain anonymous.

In March 2014, Drs. Robert and Laurel Vartabedian founded the President’s Centennial Circle, for those whose lifetime giving to the University totaled \$100,000 or more. The Vartabedians pledged a gift of approximately \$144,000 to be used to resurrect the debate and forensics program and to create an endowment to support the Walter Cronkite Memorial.

A Centennial Arts Series was also part of the campaign to raise funds for Potter Hall renovations and an addition. The first event was held at the Paradox Theatre in downtown St. Joseph in March and featured student art work and entertainment, and a performance by Betty O. The second event in June was a concert by singer/songwriter Melissa Manchester at the Missouri Theater in downtown St. Joseph.

A Black and Gold Gala for the centennial was held in July, followed by a daylong Founders’ Day celebration in September with carnival games and inflatables, live music and planetarium shows, a mega tailgate and a football game.

The Glenn E. Marion Memorial Clock Tower was rededicated in September after receiving new gold accents. At the event, students placed items in a time capsule that was sealed at the fall commencement ceremony. One of the items, a 2015 Griffon Yearbook, was signed by the students who attended the clock tower event. The time capsule will be opened in 2065.

The University also produced a pictorial history book, a video of Missouri Western’s history and a special website as part of the centennial celebration.

In October, a stainless steel sculpture commissioned for the centennial, “The Next 100 Years ...,” by artist Beth Nybeck, was unveiled by the main campus entrance. The sculpture, a Griffon, weighs approximately 600 pounds and stands 12 feet tall, and the four-foot tall base is made of tinted cast concrete.

A commissioned centennial composition, “We Are the Movers and Shakers,” was performed for the first time by the Missouri Western Concert Chorale and Symphonic Winds at the Alumni Association Awards Banquet in October 2015. The piece was composed by Roger Zare, with lyrics by Arthur O’Shaughnessy (1844-1881).

KANSAS CITY CHIEFS TRAINING CAMP – 2010 AND GRIFFON INDOOR SPORTS COMPLEX – 2010

It was in the fall of 2001 that Missouri Western first invited the Kansas City Chiefs to consider holding their training camp on campus, but it was almost a decade before the camp became a reality.

In 2002, the Chiefs were talking about ending their long-term arrangement with the University of Wisconsin-River Falls and finding a new campus to host their annual summer training camp.

Missouri Western, the City of St. Joseph and Buchanan County formed a partnership for the purpose of convincing the Chiefs to consider Missouri Western.

The Chiefs had already committed to River Falls for the 2003 camp, but a group of officials from the Chiefs organization visited Missouri Western and other campuses in November 2002, and Carl Peterson, Chiefs president, returned again in October 2003. Unfortunately, in December that year, the Chiefs announced that they had again signed a one-year agreement with the University of Wisconsin-River Falls to return there in 2004. The agreement consisted of a series of one-year renewal options for up to four years after 2004.

At the time, the Chiefs were still considering four other campuses besides Missouri Western, but Missouri Western administrators agreed to continue to encourage the Chiefs to consider their campus. Talk of building an indoor practice facility for the team began, but otherwise very little was publicly said about the Chiefs moving their camp back to Missouri until late 2006. A delegation from Missouri Western and St. Joseph visited Arrowhead in September, and Chiefs officials then visited campus in February 2007.

In June 2008, the Chiefs held a workout on Missouri Western's campus and owner Clark Hunt and general manager Carl Peterson, who attended, got an idea of fan support in St. Joseph when more than 5,000 fans filled Spratt Memorial Stadium in the middle of a weekday for the workout.

A proposal to give the Chiefs \$25 million in tax credits if they moved their summer training camp back to Missouri was presented to the Missouri Development Finance Board in late 2008. The plan was that the Chiefs would donate some of the tax credits to the Missouri Western State University Foundation to be used to build an indoor practice facility.

In early 2009, Gov. Matt Blunt approved the \$25 million in tax credits, earmarking \$10 million of it for Missouri Western to build a training facility, and the Missouri Development Finance Board approved it shortly after.

At the January 2009 Board of Governors meeting, the bonds for the Max Experience were amended to include funding for an indoor training facility on campus. The estimated cost of hosting the camp, \$15.7 million, included construction of the training facility, architectural fees, furniture and equipment for the facility, relocating the softball fields and replacing the fields with a parking lot, enlarging and improving the current grass practice fields, and training camp equipment. Missouri Western would be responsible for ongoing maintenance of all the facilities.

In addition to the state's commitment of \$10 million, the City of St. Joseph approved \$2.25 million for the project and Buchanan County approved \$1.5 million. The balance was paid through the student-approved Max Experience fee and private donations.

Ellison-Auxier Architects Inc. was selected as architects for the project at the February 2009 Board of Governors meeting. At the June 2009 Board of Governors meeting, Crossland Construction Co. was awarded the base bid of \$9,397,000.

In June 2009, an agreement was signed between the Chiefs and the state of Missouri. The agreement stated that beginning in 2010, the Chiefs would hold their training camp at Missouri Western for at least five years and in the state for a minimum of 10 years.

Groundbreaking for the indoor facility was held June 29, 2009. A little more than a year later, on July 21, 2010, a dedication of the indoor practice facility, now called the Griffon Indoor Sports Complex, was held for the media and Missouri Western employees. The Chiefs arrived on July 29, 2010 for camp, and an opening ceremony was held July 31 in the new facility. About 200 attendees of Harmony University, a weeklong barbershoppers workshop that was held on campus every summer, sang the National Anthem for the building's opening.

A plaque was unveiled at the July 21 ceremony to honor State Sen. Charlie Shields and former Board of Governors Chair Dirck Clark for all their work in securing the training camp on Missouri Western's campus.

The 118,000 square-foot Griffon Indoor Sports Complex contains a full-size indoor football field, a 5,500 square-foot weight room named the Herzog Strength Training Room, a locker room with 121 oversized oak lockers and a training room with two hydrotherapy pools. There are 18 offices, a break room area, seven classrooms, and the KCP&L (Kansas City Power and Light) Lecture Hall with 120 seats that can be divided into two rooms of 60.

Community and regional sports teams and organizations rent the facility year round. In June 2013, the USA Weightlifting's three-day National Youth Weightlifting Championship with approximately 365 competitors was held in the complex.

The first year of the Chiefs camp, attendance was estimated at 60,000. The night practice drew approximately 8,000, and the Family Fun Day brought to campus almost 11,000 people, though some believed it was closer to 12,000. A send-off event was held Aug. 18, and the team left campus the next day. Additionally, an "Evening in Red," a fundraiser for Missouri Western, was held July 31 at the St. Joseph Country Club and featured Chiefs personnel and former players.

Economics faculty member Patrick McMurry developed an economic impact report for the first year's training camp. He reported that of the 60,000 who attended the camp, 50 percent were from out of town, and he estimated the camp had an economic impact between \$20 and \$21 million on the community.

Camp attendance was lower in 2011 than in 2010. Most blamed the smaller crowds on the NFL lockout that ended just days before the camp began. In 2012, attendance numbers improved. That year, Family Day drew more than 7,000 fans and a night practice drew about 5,500. The Chiefs practiced with the Arizona Cardinals for three days at the training camp prior to the two meeting in a preseason game on Aug. 10, and that drew a crowd of approximately 3,000.

In May 2013, when new head coach Andy Reid and new general manager John Dorsey scheduled a tour of Missouri Western's training camp facilities, they agreed to hold a 45-minute question and answer session with the public on campus at Breakfast with the Chiefs, and approximately 400 attended.

That summer, training camp attendance increased from the two prior years. At the first day of camp, more than 3,800 fans showed up, which marked the largest attendance for a practice not conducted at Spratt Memorial Stadium since the training camp started.

The 2014 camp marked the fifth year of the contract, and although all but one of the public practices was held at 8:15 a.m., officials were pleased with the attendance.

In January 2015, the Board of Governors approved a contract amendment that kept the summer training camp on campus for three more years, through 2017. The contract also includes two additional extension terms of one year each at the option of both the Chiefs and Missouri Western.

The contract amendment included provisions for improvements to the practice fields where the Chiefs hold the camp, and the Board of Governors accepted a bid of \$527,685 from MDH Turf of Shawnee, Kansas, with a contingency budget of \$52,768 in March 2015. The project included the replacement of the existing sod, re-grading and expanding the fields, irrigation system improvements, a new sidewalk in front of the fan bleachers on the east side of the fields, additional electrical power to the fields and the addition of kicking nets behind the goalposts.

LOOKING TO THE FUTURE

As Missouri Western wrapped up its centennial year and celebration of 100 years of transforming lives, administrators, employees, alumni and the community looked forward to the future and the University's second century in St. Joseph.

APPENDICES

- Appendix A Governing Bodies Presidents/Chairs
- Appendix B Award Recipients
- Appendix C President/Dean/Professor Emeriti
- Appendix D Commencement Speakers and Honorary Doctorates
- Appendix E R. Dan Boulware Convocation on Critical Issues Speakers
- Appendix F Mission Statements, Vision and Values, and Strategic Plans
- Appendix G Building Names
- Appendix H Full-time Employees on Dec. 31, 2015
- Appendix I Sports Table

APPENDIX A: **GOVERNING BODIES PRESIDENTS/CHAIRS**

Institution Presidents

1967- 1983	M. O. Looney
1983-2000	Janet Gorman Murphy
2001-2008	James J. Scanlon
2008-present	Robert A. Vartabedian

Board of Regents Presidents

1983-2005

Timothy Kelley
 Lawrence J. Schultz
 James F. Summers, Jr.
 Joan Hegeman
 Roy Tewell
 Barbara Sprong
 R. Dan Boulware
 Vickie Bradley
 James McMillen
 Greg Wall
 John Thomas
 Bill Carpenter
 Bob Roth
 Teresa Herzog
 Bill Hurley
 Julia Rupp
 Karen Baker
 Krikor Partamian
 Lynn Watkins
 Patt Lilly
 Susan Colgan
 Carol Moya
 Janet Leachman
 Dirck Clark

Board of Governors

2005-2015

Patt Lilly
 Bill Hurley
 Susan Colgan
 Carol Moya
 Janet Leachman
 Dirck Clark
 Dan Danford
 Tommye Quilty
 Lesley Graves
 Kylee Strough
 Diza Eskridge
 Deborah Smith
 Leo Blakley
 Alfred Purcell
 Gregory Mason
 David Liechti

Student Regents**1985-2005**

R.J. Claassen II
 Rodney Hill
 Melanie Johnson
 Anita Chancey
 Kevin Hayes
 Micky Mayes
 Kwanza Humphrey
 Kerri Clark
 Taylor Crouse
 Kevin Callaway
 Robert Hughes

Student Governors**2005-2015**

Robert Hughes
 Harold Callaway
 Dillon Harp
 Peter Gregory
 Brian Shewell
 Lionel Attawia

Faculty Senate Presidents**1983-2015**

Lee Evinger
 Jill Miller
 John Tapia
 Carl Butcher
 Steven Greiert
 James Grechus
 Norma Bagnall
 Jeanie Crain
 Brenda Blessing
 Diane Gorcyca
 Sally Radmacher
 Mark Mikkelsen
 Robert Klostermeyer
 Steven Greiert
 Barry Nelson
 Larry Andrews
 C. Phil Mullins
 Brenda Blessing
 James Bargar
 Susan Hennessey
 Robert Bergland
 Kevin Anderson
 Jonathan Rhoad
 Britton Johnson

Professional Staff Association Presidents

Support Staff Association Presidents

Staff Association Presidents

1983-2015

Charlie Burri
Dave Carlile
Terri CDeBaca
Donna Clark
Betty Cowsert
Barbara Davis
Annette Diorio
Lynn Duckworth
Dan Eckhoff
Mary Edwards
Steve Elrod
Judy Fields
Roger Gaither
James Green
Wendy Gunn
Marjorie Haage
Dixie Ham
Carol Hare
Rhonda Havens
Stena Hinkle
Sharon Jackson
Sandy Jacobs
Debbie Johnson
Jon Kelley
Kathy Kelly
Rick Leahy
Matt McDonald
Sandy McGuire
Carey McMillian
Dorothy Miriani
Mason Mortimer
Lucie Nelson
Mary Nichols
Jan Norton

Julia Schneider
Max Schlesinger
Lois Smith
Debbie Stahl
Mary Stephenson
Judy Tryon
Don Willis

Student Government Association Presidents**1983-2015**

Jacqueline Kennedy
 Jerry Enyeart
 Mark Bensing
 Scott Schmille
 Duane Martin
 Mike Jung
 William Nunez III
 Toby Cummings
 Cheryl Mock
 Obie Austin
 Johnathan Compton
 Mike Giovanni
 Ben Helt
 Susannah Maudlin
 Aaron Steigler
 Olu Aregbe
 Ryan Sevcik
 Sylvester Brandon
 Elijah Haahr
 Luke Gorham
 Natalie Bailey
 Harold Callaway II
 Joshua Todd
 Dillon Harp
 Alison Norris
 Jacob Scott
 Katy Sisco
 Daniel Hager
 Ida Haefner

Alumni Association Board Presidents**1983-2015**

Sidney I. Naidorf
 Molly Pierce
 Douglas Kean
 Linda Merkling
 Dan Danford
 Bruce Windsor
 Richard Sipe
 Chad Welch
 Dan Kellogg
 Bill McMurray
 Laurel Goforth
 Ralph Schank
 Kristine Smith
 Jason Horn
 Greg VerMulm
 Diane Hook
 Randy Klein
 Robert Sigrist
 Shelby Coxon
 Dave Slater
 Angie Springs

Ambassadors Presidents

1985-2015

Shirley Bradley
Sandra Jones
Judy Schuster
Rita Christgen
Dorothy Weidmaier
Dale Boulware
Mignon DeShon
Sally Carpenter
Jan Pray
Kay Partamian
Sharon Tootle
Norma King
Jeannie Pitluck
Gene Teeter
Becky Garrison
Dixie Ham
Stena Hinkle
Barb Crumley
Mary Shuman

Missouri Western Arts Society Chairs

2011-2015

Bill Wright
Allison Stewart

Capital Campaign Chairs

1983-2015

1984-1985 Partners in Pride

Vickie Bradley and William Enright, Jr., co-chairs

1989-1990 Western: Share the Success

R. Dan Boulware, campaign chair and major gifts
Sharon Evers and Lee Keith, Legacy for Learning
Richard DeShon and Larry Wichmann, corporate/business
Vickie Bradley and Carl Butcher, friends and affiliates
Carol Moya and Ann Ringer, new prospects
Milton Litvak and Simon Rositzky, community organizations

1994-1995 Benchmark XXV: Exceeding Expectations

Bob Roth, chair
Barbara Sprong, major gifts
Bill Hurley and Bill Cole, corporate/business
Dale Boulware and Karen Graves, friends and affiliates

1999-2000 Our Promise

Lynn Watkins and Bob Thedinger, major gifts
Heidi Hornaday and Creath Thorne, professional
Geraldine Lawhon and Bill McMurray, friends and affiliates
Sharon Evers and Roy Tewell, new prospects
Cheryl Bilby and Sally Sanders, corporate

2008 Achieving Greatness

Steve Craig, Dick and Mignon DeShon, Joe and Anne Gray, Wes and Patsy Remington, honorary.
Vice Chairs Linden Black, Evelyn Brooks, Dirck Clark, Mark Cochran, Steve Cotter, Dan Danford, Pat Dillon, Daniel Eckhoff, Jeff Ellison, Steve Estes, Steve Hamilton, Cindy Hausman, Larry Hausman, Kelly Henry, Jason Horn, Linda Kerner, Corky Marquart, Howard McCauley, Ralph Schank, Emil Sechter, Bill Titcomb, Greg VerMulm, Zack Workman.

2015 Transforming Lives: A Campaign for Missouri Western

Steve Craig, honorary
R. Dan and Dale Boulware, Mark and Mary Margaret Laney, co-chairs

Foundation Board Presidents

1983-2015

Richard Meade

Lyman Frick

Bill Hurley

Ann Ringer

Larry Wichmann

Sharon Evers

Mike Poland

Bette Tolbert

Cort Hegarty

Cheryl Bilby

Bill Cole

Stan Hall

Emil Sechter

Alfred Purcell

Jim Carolus

Corky Marquart

Jason Horn

Gold Coat Presidents

1983-2015

(List may be incomplete)

Bill Beasley

Nancy Black

Max Grooms

Stan Hall

Ken Johnston

Bill McKinney

Jerry Myers

Zack Workman

APPENDIX B AWARD RECIPIENTS

Missouri Western Presidential Citation Awards

1986	Elizabeth Castle Velva Hinderks Martin Johnson Larry Pawlowski Patricia View Max Schlesinger Obal Vincent, Jr.	1990	Mary Maker Ruby Mayes
1987	Mary Bennett Deborah Hessemyer Patricia Izer Sandra Jacobs Robert Simpson Joseph Willis	1991	Mary Buckler Dixie Ham Rufus Hernandez Stena Hinkle Elizabeth Keller Joan Lang Tom Smith
1988	Mable Benitz Edith Brown Donna Clark Dorla Gossett Marie Heerlein David Herkelman Nadyne Justin Janet Norton Paul Sweetgall Kendra Wilcoxson	1992	Darcy Burton Steve Elrod Wendy Gunn Wonda Berry-Howe Cindie Murphy Ellen Smither Marion Whitmore
1989	Terri CDeBaca Betty Cowsert Roger Gaither Joyce McMillian Mary Stephenson Melvin Tyler Norma Williams	1993	Betty Akers Pat Graves Alice Lane Harless Mary Nichols Alice Shue Stan Yanits
1990	Billie Gray Alice Guinn Laura Head Richard Leahy	1994	Ralph Bergman Kathy Kountz Jennifer Langlois Rose Ann Pearl Alicia Saunders
		1995	Robert Harris Arlene Smith Jan Stockbauer Don Willis Mary Zacklene
		1996	Marilyn Baker Lonnie Coil
		1996	Annette Diorio Denece Huffman Sharon Jackson
		1997	Tim Crowley

1997	Violet Gorsuch Rosemary Harris Lisa Little John McGaughy Jon Recob	2003	Rhonda Puffer Pat Stillman
1998	Mark Burton Rhonda Havens Orrin Knight Peggy Leland Carey McMillian	2004	Mary Beth Alpers Linda Garlinger Wayne Krause Jerry Partridge
1998	Dorothy Rogers Bill Rainsbarger Jamie Willis	2005	Elaine Bryant Rodema Gnuschke Patty Kuechler Julia Schneider Tomie Walker
1999	George (Marty) Bachman Karen Elifrits Karen Keller Teresa Sherman Judy Stafford	2006	Rosalie Guyer Dennis Johnson Ellen Kisker Tracy Sharp
2000	Mona Bledsoe Virginia Blevins Corla Dawson Debbie Johnson C. Faye Litvak Sue Meadows Larry Muse	2007	Darcy Groce Kathy Kelly Richard Leahy
2001	Dan Eckhoff Dave Hanna Fred Nessler Evelyn Noland Joan Peterson Bruce Whitsell	2008	Barbara Davis Stena Hinkle Michael Ritter
2002	Jacqueline Burns Darcy Groce Danielle Hunt	2009	Dan Eckhoff Kathy Kelly Jeanne Manning Letha Nold
2002	Sandra McGuire Perry Morris	2010	No awards given.
2003	Kurt Claassen Dorothy Dilley	2011	Brett Esely Diane Holtz Tara Stoll
		2012	Elaine Bryant Chad Elifrits Peggy Ellis Cindy Spotts-Conrad
		2013	Cary Chevalier
		2013	Carol Criss Kristin Neeley Jen Trotter Tom Williamson

2014 Brian Harrah
Suzanne Kissonock
Matt McDonald

2015 Eric Kramer
Melissa Kramer
Peggy Leland
Greg Lindsteadt
Jennie McDonald

Outstanding Staff Employee Awards

2005 Jen Bagley
Susan Bracciano
Cori Criger
Barbara Davis
Judy Fields
Jamie Hahn
Alice Harless
Stena Hinkle
Diane Holtz
Sandy McGuire
Carey McMillian
Beverly Payne
Peggy Payne
Job Recob
Sandy Rogers
Victoria Sample
Patsy Smith
Terry Smith
Stacy Turner

2006 Amy Bennett
Mary Dean
Dan Eckhoff
Deana Elder
Kathy Joe

2006 Dennis Johnson
Kendy Jones
Rhonda Rund
Tara Stoll

2006 Tom Williamson

2007 Trevor Brown
Brett Esely
Dawn Hansen
Wonda Berry
Kathy Kelly
Roxanna Lawing
Ken Lewis
Ruby Mayes
R.E. Moore
Jim Mulder
Steve Saffell

2008 Clint Barnes
Angie Beam
Rick Brown
Elaine Bryant
Noël Cross
Stacey Dasta
Rick Dyson
Amy Foley
Darcy Groce
Sherri Hartley
Diane Holtz
Scott Johnson
Peggy Leland
Jennie McDonald
Carey McMillian
Jake Noyd
Victoria Sample
Tay Triggs
Buzz Verduzco

2009 Greg Andriano
Jen Bagley
Sabrina Barnett

2009 Judy Chambers
Cori Criger
Craig Darrough
Corla Dawson

Dan Eckhoff
 Stena Hinkle
 Kathy Joe
 Debbie Johnson
 Dennis Johnson
 Beverly Payne
 Job Recob
 Hawley Rumpf
 Terry Weaver
 Kim Weddle
 Tom Williamson

2010-2015 No awards given.

Outstanding Administrator Awards

2006-2007 Eugene Eulinger
 Mark Linder
 Mark Mabe
 2007 Jeanne Daffron
 Jerry Pickman
 Beth Wheeler
 2008 Jan Aspelund
 Cindy Heider
 2009 Rick Gilmore
 Howard McCauley
 Julia Schneider
 2010-2015 No awards given.

Missouri Governor's Excellence in Teaching Award

1992 – David Ashley
 1993 – Phil Wann
 1994 – James Mehl
 1995 – Nancy Edwards
 1996 – C. Phil Mullins
 1997 – Francis Kessler
 1998 – Joanne Katz
 1999 – Todd Eckdahl
 2000 – Richard Porr
 2001 – Ed Malone
 2002 – Dennis Rogers
 2003 – John Tapia
 2004 – Elizabeth Latosi-Sawin
 2005 – No Award Given
 2006 – Shiva Nandan
 2007 – Ann Thorne
 2008 – Michael Cadden
 2009 – Ben Caldwell
 2010 – Geo Sipp
 2011 – Dave Tushaus
 2012 – Karen Koy
 2013 – Maureen Raffensperger
 2014 – Catherine Kendig
 2015 – Teddi Deka

Burlington Northern Foundation Outstanding Faculty Award

1986 – Norma Bagnall
 1987 – Francis Kessler
 1988 – Phil Wann
 1989 – Jerry Aschermann
 1990 – James Mehl
 1991 – Reza Hamzaee
 1992 – Adam Khan
 1993 – William Eickhorst
 1994 – James Mehl

James V. Mehl Outstanding Faculty Scholar Award

1999 – Jinchang Wang

2000 – David Ashley

2001 – Ed Malone

2002 – Todd Eckdahl

2003 – Kevin Anderson

2004 – Ken Rosenauer

2005 – Michael Cadden

2006 – Reza Hamzaee

2007 – Cynthia Jeney

2008 – Todd Eckdahl

2009 – Stephen Morris

2010 – Not Awarded

2011 – Jeremiah Still

2012 – Shensheng Tang and Matthew Edwards

Missouri Western Foundation James V. Mehl Award for Outstanding Faculty Scholarship

2013 – Catherine Kendig

2014 – Mark Mikkelsen

2015 – Nathanael May

Jesse Lee Myers Excellence in Teaching Awards

1986 William Andresen

Martin Johnson

Patrick McMurry

Elizabeth Latosi Sawin

Virendra Varma

1987 Joseph Castellani

Larry Dobbins

Steven Greiert

Doris Hines

Adam Khan

1988 Larry Andrews

Jeanne Daffron

Jo Duke

1988 Nancy Edwards
William Eickhorst

Jane Frick

Susan Hinrichs

Ken Lee

Irv Parmenter

Rob Shell

1989 Carl Butcher

Richard Crumley

James Grechus

Julia Mullican

John Rushin

1990 David Ashley

Reza Hamzaee

Martin Johnson

Jill Miller

Phil Wann

1991 Bonnie Alsbury

John Gilgun

Matt Gilmour

Sally Radmacher

Diana Winston

1992 Reva Allen

Kathleen Andrews

Jennifer Austin

Thomas Hansen

Mark Mikkelsen

1993 Jeanie Crain

Judith Martin

Carol Roever

Phil Wann

Nannette Wolford

1994 Harold Arnett

Brenda Blessing

Phil Mullins

Virendra Varma

1995 Richard Cluff

Nancy Edwards

1995 Frank Kessler
Diane Gorcyca

1996 Brian Cronk
Lisa Whitacre
Kelly Williams

1997 James Bargar
Joanne Katz
David Stacey

1998 Todd Eckdahl
Shiva Nandan
Anton Wallner

1999 David Bennett
Sue Gille
Carol Roevers

2000 Keith Brandt
Solon Earl Haynes
Dennis Rogers

2001 Evelyn Brooks
Michael Cadden
Michael Smith

2002 Elizabeth Latosi Sawin
John Tapia
Virendra Varma

2003 Alicia de Gregorio
Donald Vestal
Brent Walker

2004 Cindy Heider
Mitchell Haney
Sharon Vestal

2005 Jason Baker
Bonnie Gregory
Kelly Henry
Ann Thorne

2006 Patricia Donaher
Deny Staggs
Kip Wilson

2007 Teddi Deka
Michael Ducey

2007 Susan Hennessy

2008 Deborah Bogle
Kaye Adkins
Stacia Bensyl
Robert Bergland

2009 Suzanne Kiskey
Brett Luthans
George Yang

2010 Not Awarded

2011 Bill Church
Pete Hriso
Pi-Ming Yeh

2012 Cary Chevalier
Mary Still
Daniel Trifan

Missouri Western Foundation Award for Teaching Excellence

2013 Susan Carter
Beverly Payne
Bill Russell

2014 Dawn Drake

2015 Sue Godboldt
Teresa Harris
Kristen Walton

Faculty Active Career Award

2003 Jane Frick
Reza Hamzaee
C. Phil Mullins
Elizabeth Latosi-Sawin
John Tapia
Phil Wann

Regents Distinguished Professor Award

2004 Nancy Edwards
James Estes

2005 David Ashley
Jason Baker
Evelyn Brooks
Michael Cadden
Kelly Henry
Shiva Nandan
Jeffrey Poet
Carol Roevers
Dennis Rogers
Ann Thorne

Governors Distinguished Professor Award

2006 Robert Bergland
Todd Eckdahl
Monica Nandan
Michael Smith

2007 James MacGregor

2008 Brian Cronk
Reza Hamzaee
Ben Caldwell
Marsha Dolan
Geo Sipp
Melissa Daggett
Stephen Morris

Governors Distinguished Professor Award

2009 Joanne Katz
Jason Baker
Kelly Henry
David Tushaus
William Russell
Kristen Walton

2010 No awards given.

2011 Dave Ashley
Todd Eckdahl

2011 Cary Chevalier
Maureen Raffensperger
Karen Koy
Justin Kraft
Durai Sundaroothi

2012 No awards

2013 No awards

Faculty Performance Review Awards

2014 Mike Cadden
Michael Ducey
Susie Hennessy
Ali Kamali
Brett Luthans
Michael Charlton
Lee Harrelson
David Harris
Heather Kendall
Karen Koy
Vivek Madupu
Mark Mills

Alumni Association Distinguished Alumni Award**1983-2015**

Algalee Adams '39
Darrel Ashlock '75
Dennis Atkins '77
Ron Auxier '73
Karen Baker '61
Michael Baltezer '72
Thomas Baumann '34
John P. Beihl '57
John A. Birch '72
Donna Jean Boyer '64
Jean Paden Brown '73
Eric Bruder '93
Charles Bruffy '81
Charlie Burri '55

- | | |
|--------------------------|---------------------------|
| Jerry Chambers '67 | Forrest Hoff '58 |
| Dirck Clark '85 | Keith Hoskins '88 |
| Dan Colgan '66 | Herbert C. Iffert '35 |
| James F. Conant '71 | Matthew James '78 |
| Frank D. Connett Jr. '42 | Jack Jeffers '82 |
| Patrick Conway '73 | Linda Judah '82 & '94 |
| Stephen Cotter '78 | Weldon Judah '72 |
| Robert Couldry '71 | Thomas Kalin '55 |
| Jeanne Daffron '75 | Dan Kampen '81 |
| Chris Danford '78 | Robert W. Keener '55 |
| Dan Danford '78 | Daniel Kellogg '82 |
| Richard DeShon '54 | Glenda Kelly '89 |
| Robert E. Douglas '37 | Cheri Kempf '85 |
| R. Gregory Downing '76 | Steven Koenig '86 |
| Jerome Downs '39 | Sharon Kosek '77 |
| John E. Downs '35 | Albert Kost '32 |
| C. Neil Dubach '48 | Louise Lacy '19 |
| Richard Durst '72 | Al Landes '74 |
| Isador Farber '36 | Charles Larson '88 |
| Mary Jane Fields '47 | Jacqueline Lewin '66 |
| Deam Hunter Ferris '32 | Alvin M. Liberman '36 |
| Frances M. Flanagan '35 | Milton Litvak '38 |
| Roderick Fletcher '48 | Rebecca Mackoy '76 |
| Joe Friedman '39 | Christel E. Marquardt '70 |
| Craig Fuchs '84 | Michael Mastio '95 |
| Clarence Garder '40 | W. Dale Maudlin '71 |
| Esther George '80 | LeRoy Maxwell '72 |
| Helen Gettys '51 | Mark McDonald '73 |
| Herschel Goldberg '31 | Wilbur McDonald '31 |
| William H. Gondring '56 | William McMurray '70 |
| Scott Graham '78 | Joella Mehrhof '75 |
| Joseph Gray '42 | Donald Michel '40 |
| Edward Haffey '62 | Jill Miller '73 |
| Andrew Halter '86 | Hugh Miner '40 |
| James R. Hayes '71 | David H. Morton '42 |
| George Hayward '74 | John Mullican '87 |
| Jeffrey Hillelson '39 | Byron Myers '55 |
| Edward M. Hirsch '33 | Sean Nash '91 |

Thomas Norsworthy '75
Diane Oliver '76
Mike Pankau '84
Mark Pankau '73
Bertha Ann Parker '72
Bernie Patterson '73
Steven Perry '83
Molly Pierce '77
Brent Porlier '82
Tegwin Pulley '63
Edna Swafford Pumphrey '32
Pamela Quiroz '83
Sally Radmacher '81
Patricia Waris Rashid '53
Paul Rhoads '89
Charles K. Richmond '40
Kenneth Rosenauer '74
George Roth '39
Robert Roth '73
Alexandra E. Santa Cruz '73
Harry J. Sauer Jr. '54
Rob Schaaf '79
Julia Schneider '67
Thomas Schneider '64
Dwight Scroggins '76
Robert L. Simpson '51
Richard Sipe '61
Melody Smith '87
Bill Snyder '59
Leah Spratt '21
John S. Stanley '76
Ernest Steinman '42
Larry Stobbs '74
Bob Vecchione '75
Jeanne Webb '71
Maude Wickam Nold '26
Harriet Hutchinson Wingo '36
Joyce Winston '73

Nannette Wolford '73
Mary Claudia Wolters '82
Blaine Yarrington '37
William E. Zimmerman '74

Alumni Association Distinguished Faculty Awards

- 1983 – Frank Kessler, History, Government and Sociology
- 1984 – Nancy Edwards, Education
- 1985 – Gerald Zweerink, Chemistry
- 1986 – Patrick McMurry, Economics
- 1987 – David Ashley, Biology
- 1988 – Elizabeth Latosi-Sawin, English, Foreign Languages and Journalism
- 1989 – Isabel Sparks, English, Foreign Languages and Journalism
- 1990 – Joseph Ripple, History, Government and Sociology
- 1991 – C. Phil Mullins, History, Philosophy and Geography
- 1992 – John Tapia, Communication Studies and Theatre
- 1993 – John Rushin, Biology
- 1994 – Cordelia Esry, Nursing
- 1995 – Charles Erickson, Health, Physical Education and Recreation
- 1996 – Diane Winston, Education
- 1997 – Jeanie Crain, English, Foreign Languages and Journalism
- 1998 – James Grechus, Health, Physical Education and Recreation
- 1999 – Diane Gorecyca, Communication Studies and Theatre
- 2000 – William Andresen, Biology
- 2001 – Matthew Gilmour, Music
- 2002 – Kathleen O'Connor, Nursing
- 2003 – Todd Eckdahl, Biology
- 2004 – Steven Greiert, History, Philosophy, and Geography
- 2005 - Sharon Gray, Music
- 2006 – Richard Crumley, Biology
- 2007 – Dennis Rogers, Music
- 2008 – Carol Roever, Craig School of Business
- 2009 – Frank Thomas, Music
- 2010 – Len Archer, Chemistry
- 2011 – Jane Frick, English, Foreign Languages and Journalism
- 2012 – Roger Voelkel, Nursing and Allied Health
- 2013 – Cary Chevalier, Biology
- 2014 – Susie Hennessy, French
- 2015 – Don Lillie, Theatre (Posthumous)

Alumni Association GOLD (Graduate of the Last Decade) Award

2010 – Natalie Leonard-Redmond '00

Stanley Pearson II '02

2011 – Shannon Brewer '01

Kylee Strough '03

2012 – Jonn-Thomas Casey '02

2013 – Dan Bradford '04

Candice Quarles '05

2014 –John Fabsits '04

2015 – Elijah Haahr '05

Seth '08 and Kelsey '08 Lyons

Alumni Association Herb '35 and Peggy Iffert Award for Outstanding Service to the University

2007 – George Richmond

2008 – Stan and Doris '54 Hall

2009 – Charlie '55 and Patti '55 Burri

2010 – Charlie Shields (Hon. '99)

2011 – Dave Shinneman

2012 – Zack Workman '74

2013 – Barbara Crumley

2014 – Carlos and Carol Moya

2015 – Bill Falkner

Athletics Hall of Fame

1984	Charlie Burri	2003	Greg Kastner
1990	George Blakley		Marc Lewis
	Jeff Brown		Kim Palmer
	Harold Cagle	2004	Jack Burgess
	Chris Faros		Nick Finn
	Gary Hazelrigg		Hillyard Companies –
	Dave Hedrick		J.R. Roth, Bob Roth
	Bob Heimbaugh		Chris Sumrell
	Tim Hoskins		Darrell Van Lengen
	Doug Minnis	2005	1975 Football Team
	Tom O'Brien		Tim Boender
	Larry Rivers		Mark Bradley
	Rhesa Sumrell		Scott Graham
	Zack Workman		Blake Schreck
1991	Warren Chelline	2006	Mike Musser
1992-1999	No inductions		Kinney Redding
2000	Jack Baker		Tom Smith
	Mark Brown		Lynn Umbach
	Arthur Cooks	2007	1975 Baseball Team
	Gary Filbert		Larry Ingram
	Max Grooms		Rickey Lowe
	Cheri Kempf		Becky Reichard
	Robert Newhart		Bill Stevens
	Julie Sherwood-Gallagher	2006	Mike Cornelious
2001	1982 Softball Team		Tony Franklin
	Judy Amos-Ousley		David Lau
	H.L. Childress		Rick Leahy
	Doug Holland		Deena Murphy
	Jerry Myers		Rodney Stephenson
	Jay Randall	2009	1973-74 Men's Basketball Team
2002	Rob Hicklin		Carl Butcher
	David Limbaugh		LeAnn Mertens Francis
	Merrell Masters		David Sego
	Ralph Saucedo		Mike Solomon
	John Waldron		Vince Thompson
2003	Keith Evans		Myron Unzicker
	Ed Harris		Cheryl Williams-Hobbs
		2010	1977 Football Team

- 2010 John Fisher
Tonya Fisher
Steve Marlay
Bob Orf
- 2011 1989-90 Men's Basketball Team
1996-97 Men's Golf Team
Jeff Mittie
Jerry Partridge
Kasey Waterman
- 2012 1993-94 Women's Basketball Team
Bob Alcorn
Jerris Evans
Brice Garnett
Lisa Hughes
Tony Williams
- 2013 1971 Baseball Team
Brooks Barkley
Shelley Lowery
Brad Nurski
Pierre Thomas
Lamont Turner
- 2014 1994-95 Women's Basketball Team
John Chavez
Mitch Mason
Darroll Wright
- 2015 Amy Beverly
Nicole Collier
Eric Walker

Drum Major for Justice Awards

- 2004 Michael Johnson
Joyce Starr
Victoria "Y" Wacek
- 2005 Stacia Bensl
Bill Hedge
LaTasha Thaxton
- 2006 Karl Bell
Judy Grimes
Tierha Jones
- 2007 InterServ
Jennifer Koebel
Ellen Simon
- 2008 Jasmine Pasley
LaVell Rucker
Michael Speros
- 2009 Ivory Duncan
Zulima Lugo-Knapp
Tay Triggs
- 2010 Jamie Grayson
Dave Tushaus
Helen Washington
Ramadhan Washington
Alonzo Weston
- 2011 Kathy Kelly
Dale Rodney
Brittany Taylor
- 2012 Cheryl Barnette-Bey
Susanne Kissock
Chase Peeples
- 2013 No awards given.
- 2014 April Buntin
Geri Dickey
Maurice Martin
- 2015 Pam Clary
Jeanette James
Bre Watkins

Engineering Technology Advancement Committee Awards

Student Excellence Award

2011-2015

- Matthew Moffitt
- Alex Atchity
- Korbin Von Stentzsch
- Ian Micah White
- Lauren Fletcher

Community Excellence Award

2011-2015

- Eric Bruder
- Rick Schultz
- Al Landes
- Don Coleman
- Joe Gray

Homecoming Royalty

1983	Beth Ann Dye
1984	Kristi Kiepe
1985	Tracy Hinton
1986	April Huffman
1987	Kim Foster
1988	Lynnette Baker
1989	Sarah Horn
1990	Brooke Bodenhausen
1991	Sandy Smith
1992	Tiffaney Graham
1993	Jamie Denney
1994	Natalie Veatch
1995	Kristin Hoggatt
1996	Mary Wilford
1997	Dawn Kidwell
1998	Mary Zook
1999	Dusty Jestes
2000	Tai Aregbe
2001	Michelle Figg and Stan Pearson
2002	Monica Lee and Sylvester Brandon
2003	Kristen Neeley and Adrian Gray
2004	DeWanda Weeks and Noah Haahr
2005	Jennifer Jones and Luke Gorham
2006	Jill Johnson and Gijon Robinson
2007	Chemia Woods and Anthony Anderson
2008	Whitney Smith and Bryan Smith and David Wyble (tie)
2009	Kayla Kelder and Luke Akers
2010	Laura Schneider and Dillon Harp
2011	Jordan Carney and Weston Baker
2012	Lauren Upton and Michael Hill
2013	Kaytlyn Fisette and Travis Partridge
2014	Kendra Greer and Tony Daugherty
2015	Ljubica Basic and Connor Samenus

APPENDIX C
PRESIDENT/DEAN/PROFESSOR EMERITI
1983-2015

President Emeriti

Murphy McCarthy, Janet
Scanlon, James J.

Dean Emeritus

Johnson, Martin A.

Professor Emeriti

Anderson, Jerry, Music
Andresen, William, Biology
Archer, Leonard, Chemistry
Aschermann, Jerry, Education
Atkinson, John, Mathematics
Bagnall, Norma, English
Bartles, Denise, Business
Bishop, George, Computer Science
Blessing, Brenda, Health, Physical Education and Recreation
Boutwell, Richard, Biology
Castellani, Joseph, English
Crumley, Richard, Biology
Edwards, Nancy, Education
Eickhorst, William, Art
Erickson, Charles, Health, Physical Education and Recreation
Esry, Cordelia, Nursing
Estes, James, Art
Evinger, Lee, Biology
Fields, Mary Jane, Education
Force, Harry, Biology
Fowler, M. Lou, Business
Frick, M. Jane, English
Galloway, Ruth E., English
Gay, Mary Jo, Nursing
Gilgun, John, English
Gille, Sue, Nursing
Gilmour, F. Matthew, Music
Grechus, James, Health, Physical Education and Recreation
Greene, Bonnie, Health, Physical Education and Recreation

Professor Emeriti

Greenwald, Barry, Business
Gregory, Bonnie, Nursing
Greiert, Steven, History
Hansen, Thomas C., Education
Harmon-Miller, Jeannie, Art
Haynes, Solon Earl, Education
Heckle, Achsah M., Chemistry
Hinrichs, Susan, Computer Science
Hoffmann, Rosemary, Foreign Languages
Hughes, John T., Art
John, David, Mathematics
Johnston, Ernest, Physics
Kessler, Frank, Political Science
Lambing, Larry, Chemistry
Latosi-Sawin, Elizabeth, English
Lawson, Larry, Business
Lee, Kenneth, Mathematics
Lillie, Donald, Theatre (posthumous)
Long, James L., Physical Education
Mack, William G., Director Emeritus of Bands
Magoon, Michael, Foreign Languages
Mahaffy, Don, Mathematics
Mathews, Michael, Music
McCay, Christa, English
McLear, Patrick, History
Mikkelsen, Jon Mark, Philosophy
Miller, Jill, Criminal Justice
Mullican, Julia, Psychology
Mullins, C. Phil, Philosophy
Nelson, G. Barry, Engineering Technology
Owen-Roddy, Gloria, English
Pilgram, Henry, Social Work
Porr, Richard, Education
Radmacher, Sally, Psychology
Robbins, Donald, Biology
Roever, Carol, Business
Rogers, Marcia, Office Information Systems

Professor Emeriti

Rosenauer, Kenneth, English

Rushin, John, Biology

Sauls, Allison, Art

Schmitz, Leo, Mathematics

Schwarz, Richard, Chemistry

Shrout, Ethel H., Business

Smith, Russell, Chemistry

Sparks, Isabel, English

Steiniche, Dave, Political Science

Stutterheim, Keith, Engineering Technology

Thorne, Ann, English

Vargha, Nader, Economics

Wann, Phil, Psychology

Wilkerson, Jerry, Mathematics

Winston, Diana, Education

Wolford, Nannette, Health, Physical Education and Recreation

Zweerink, Gerald, Chemistry

APPENDIX D

COMMENCEMENT SPEAKERS AND HONORARY DOCTORATES 1983-2015

Year	Speaker	Title
1983	M. O. Looney	President, MWSC
1984	Donald E. Walters	Executive Director, State Colleges and Universities for the State of Illinois
1985 – Honorary Doctorate	Kenneth Blanchard	Professor of Leadership and Organization Behavior, University of Massachusetts, Amherst, and author
1986	John Ashcroft	Governor, State of Missouri
1987 - HD	Paul J. Kofmehl	Vice President and Group Executive, IBM Corporation
1988	William Webster	Attorney General, State of Missouri
1989 - HD	Charles J. McClain	President, Northeast Missouri State University, Kirksville
1990	Roy Blunt	Secretary of State, State of Missouri
1991	Samuel F. Pickering, Jr.	The basis for the teacher in “Dead Poet’s Society”
1992 - HD	James Mathewson	Missouri Senate President Pro Tempore
1993 - HD	Pat Danner	U. S. Representative, State of Missouri, 6th District
1994 - HD	Roger Wilson	Lieutenant Governor, State of Missouri
1995 - HD	Thomas S. Haggai	Chairman and CEO, IGA, Inc.
1996 – HD	Kala M. Stroup	Commissioner of Higher Education, Missouri Coordinating Board for Higher Education
1997 – HD	Rebecca McDowell Cook	Missouri Secretary of State
1998 Spring	Stephen L. Hill, Jr.	United States Attorney for the Western District, Missouri
1998 Winter - HD	Steve Gaw	Speaker of the House, Missouri State Legislature
1999 Spring - HD	Glenda Kelly ’89	Missouri State Representative, 27th District
1999 Winter - HD	Charles Shields	Missouri State Representative, 28th District
2000 Spring	Janet Gorman Murphy	President, MWSC
2000 Winter	Jason Luke Clark ’96	Executive Director, America’s Second Harvest of Greater St. Joseph
2001 Spring - HD	Jean Carnahan	U. S. Senator, State of Missouri
2001 Winter - HD	Mark McDonald ’73	President, Hitachi Instruments, Inc.

Year	Speaker	Title
2002 Spring	James Scanlon	President, MWSC
2002 Winter – HD	Sam Graves	U.S. Congressman, State of Missouri, 6th District
2003 Spring	Dennis Rogers	Professor of Music, MWSC
2003 Winter – HD	Kay Barnes	Mayor, Kansas City, Missouri
2004 Spring	Jamel Santa Cruze Bell '00	Academic and Student Affairs Communication Specialist
2004 Winter - HD	Quentin Wilson	Former Commissioner, Missouri Higher Education
2005 Spring - HD	Charles Bruffy '81	Artistic Director, Kansas City Chorale and Phoenix Bach Choir
2005 Winter - HD	Michael Baltezor '72	President, Pharmaceutical Sciences
2006 Spring - HD	John Jordan “Buck” O’Neil	President, Negro League of Baseball Museum
2006 Winter - HD	Michael Mills	Deputy Director, Missouri Department of Economic Development
2007 Spring - HD	Nicholas Saccaro '01	Chief Executive Officer, Care & Share Food Bank
2007 Winter - HD	Gary Nodler	Senator, State of Missouri
2008 Spring – HD	James Scanlon	President, MWSU
2008 Winter - HD	Martin Rucker	Missouri State Representative, 29th District
2009 Spring	Robert Vartabedian	President, MWSU
2009 Winter - HD	Jeremiah (Jay) Nixon	Governor, State of Missouri
2010 Spring	Carol Roever	Interim Dean, Craig School of Business, MWSU
2010 Winter	Lindsey Jackson '11	Student, MWSU
2011 Spring	David Ashley	Professor of Biology, MWSU
2011 Winter	Bridget Janssen '12	Student, MWSU
2012 Spring	Dave Tushaus	Professor of Legal Studies, MWSU
2012 Winter - HD	R. Dan Boulware	Attorney, Polsinelli Shughart PC
2013 Spring	Quincy Hawkins Nicole Kerr	Students, MWSU
2013 Winter	Evelyn Brooks	Professor of Nursing, MWSU
2014 Spring	Derek Thompson	Student, MWSU
2014 Winter HD (Graves)	Brenda Blessing Karen Graves	Professor and chair, HPER, MWSU Community volunteer
2015 Spring HD (George)	Esther George '80 Julie Buescher '15 Kendra Greer '15	President of the Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City Student, MWSU Student, MWSU
2015 Winter	Obie Austin '95	Vice President of General Medicine at KC CARE Clinic

Other Honorary Doctorates Awarded

1988	Shirley Wyeth Bradley
1998	Sen. Sidney Johnson
1998	Stephanie van Reigersberg
2002	John Downs
2005	Former presidents M.O. Looney and Janet Murphy McCarthy at the Academic Convocation to celebrate university designation.
2009 Spring	Steven L. Craig and C. Wesley and Patsy '79 Remington
2011 Winter	Joseph L. Gray '42
2013 Winter	Joe Friedman '39
2014 Spring	Carol Roever

APPENDIX E
R. DAN BOULWARE CONVOCAION ON CRITICAL ISSUES SPEAKERS
1993-2015

1993	Arthur Schlesinger Jr.
1994	Jeane Kirkpatrick
1995	Cancelled
1996	David McCullough
1997	Colin Powell
1998	Bill Bradley
1999	Jerry Linenger
2000	Patricia Schroeder
2001	Daniel Schorr
2002	Joseph Nye
2003	David Gergen
2004	Bob Woodward
2005	J C Watts
2006	Steve Forbes
2007	Sam Donaldson
2008	James Carville and Mary Matalin
2009	Robert F. Kennedy, Jr.
2010	Newt Gingrich
2011	Thomas Friedman
2012	T. Boone Pickens
2013	Doris Kearns Goodwin
2014	Douglas Brinkley
2015	Tom Ridge

APPENDIX F

MISSION STATEMENTS, VISION AND VALUES, AND STRATEGIC PLANS

1990 Mission Statement

Missouri Western State College is a public, state-supported institution providing a blend of traditional liberal arts and sciences and career-oriented degree programs. MWSC is authorized under Missouri statute to offer associate and baccalaureate degrees as well as certificate programs. Professional programs, programs for transfer students, continuing education opportunities, and self-enrichment courses are also offered. The College, based in a metropolitan region, serves both traditional and nontraditional students.

Missouri Western State College continues to honor its tradition of open access, believing that citizens should have the opportunity to pursue higher education. The College is committed to academic excellence and quality teaching, and provides a variety of special offerings, ranging from academic assistance to programs for honors students, all designed to meet the diverse needs of students. All students are expected to grow intellectually to meet the standards of an academic discipline and the College.

A balanced curriculum, responsive and evolving, emphasizes a well-planned general studies core, electives and courses in majors. These educational experiences emphasize knowledge as a liberating force in one's life, enabling students to be critical thinkers, productive contributors to their society, and lifelong learners. At Missouri Western State College, learning is viewed as a team process requiring the dedication of the students and the caring, informed guidance of well-qualified faculty and staff in a mutual pursuit of knowledge.

2002-07 Strategic Plan, The Western Advantage

Mission Statement

Missouri Western State College (changed to University in 2005) is a learning community focused on students as individuals and as members of society. Western offers students at all stages of life the opportunity to achieve excellence in the classroom and beyond, as they prepare to be leaders in their work and in their communities. As a leader itself, Western is committed to the educational, economic, cultural, and social development of the people and the region that it serves.

Vision

Missouri Western State College (changed to University in 2005) will set the standard of excellence in student development and community leadership.

Values

In fulfilling our mission and pursuing our vision, we the people of Missouri Western State College (changed to University in 2005) hold in common these values:

- **Service** – We share the common purpose of serving students, one another, and the people of the region.

- **Quality** — We are committed to the quality of our programs, our students, and our partnership with the people in the region.
- **Enthusiasm** — We are enthusiastic about learning and confident that we can make a difference in the lives of students through their learning.
- **Freedom** — We promote the free exchange of ideas that make education liberating and democracy unique.
- **Respect** — We act as individuals and as a campus community with respect for diversity and for the best in human potential.
- **Courage** — We seek the challenge and adventure of shaping the future with an increasingly global perspective.

Academic Affairs and Enrollment Management

1. Develop and implement a comprehensive enrollment management plan.
2. Develop a diverse mix of students with academic potential for completing high-quality programs.
3. Strengthen existing and develop new academic programs, taking into consideration the educational and career needs of students, and the economic, social and cultural needs of the community.
4. Strengthen the retention, graduation, and placement outcomes of students.
5. Improve the functional integration and communication among campus support services.

Experiential Learning

1. Provide students the opportunity to blend academic knowledge and applications in and beyond the classroom.
2. Provide additional opportunities for students to participate in international and/or multicultural experiences.
3. Recognize and expand experiential learning activities in coursework.

Student Development

1. Provide students with co-curricular opportunities to grow and develop to be productive community members.
2. Require all Western graduates to complete an experiential learning experience or student development activity that includes, but is not limited to, internships, practica, faculty/student projects, or some form of co-curricular activity, including student employment.

Information Technology

1. Provide efficient technology support services for faculty, staff and students; improve technical communications within the framework of the campus and community.
2. Establish a funding plan for continual upgrade and replacement of information technologies, electronic library resources, and operational resources to support the activities facilitated by the information technology infrastructure.

3. Use and improve the capabilities of the Western technology infrastructure and the accessibility of digital and electronic information.
4. Provide a centralized location on campus for collaborative technology support and information delivery.

Facilities and Grounds

1. Enhance the grounds to ensure continuity of landscaping, preservation of natural environments, and a welcoming campus for all.
2. Ensure that campus buildings are inviting and aesthetically pleasing and maintain the Western “personal touch” by addressing the existing and potential benefits of our building designs.
3. Address future facilities and infrastructure renovation and construction needs and ensure that preventative maintenance and cleaning of buildings and grounds is adequate to maintain their condition.
4. Address ways in which facilities and grounds may enhance teaching and learning.
5. Enhance student life and campus community through addressing needs in student life and other common areas.

Image Enhancement

1. Prepare a long-range marketing plan for Western.
2. Communicate the “Western Advantage” to existing and new audiences.
3. Market Western as an institution that sets the standard for excellence in student development and community leadership.

Advancement

1. Create a development plan to meet the Foundation and the Alumni short-term and long-term goals. Integrate the mission of the Foundation and the mission of the Alumni Association with our strategic planning process and foster resources associated with these missions.
2. Generate increased financial support and investment through partnerships with businesses, corporations, government agencies, individuals, public foundations, and private foundations.

Community Service and Community Partnerships

1. Provide leadership as an institution for projects and programs that enhance the lives of people of the larger community, especially through integrating the strategic planning processes of the St. Joseph community and the region into institutional planning.
2. Collaborate across campus and with regional, national, and international organizations to provide additional service opportunities for individuals and groups associated with Western.
3. Increase the participation of Western students, faculty, and staff in community service activities.
4. Increase public awareness of college-community partnerships and of the service contribution of Western students, faculty and staff.

Workforce Development

1. Prepare students with the appropriate knowledge, abilities, skills, and ethics necessary for success in the workplace.
2. Participate in workplace development for the region.

Planning

1. Review the Western environment, structure, priorities, and resources to ensure that we remain effective at our mission and adaptive to the forces of change.
2. Develop timetables and processes for planning by all units that will ensure effective planning within units, integration of plans between units, and reliable forecasts of unit physical and financial resource needs.
3. Develop and maintain a management information system that brings together student, staff, and financial data in such a way as to improve policy analysis and development, budgeting, reporting, and decision-making.

Budgeting

1. Pursue core funding commensurate with the current size, mission, and character of Western so that the benefits of our comparative efficiencies can continue to be provided to students without compromising quality.
2. Continue to focus on educational value per dollar.
3. Develop capital revenue sources that will allow continued investment in educational technology, structures, grounds, and equipment and that will protect existing assets through maintenance and modernization.
4. Coordinate the institutional goals and activities to extend and expand our success within.

2007-12 Strategic Plan, Building the New American Regional University

Mission Statement

Missouri Western State University is a learning community focused on students as individuals and as member of society. Western offers students at all stages of life the opportunity to achieve excellence in the classroom and beyond, especially through applied learning, as they prepare to be leaders in their work and in their communities. As a leader itself, Western is committed to the educational, economic, cultural, and social development of the people and the region it serves through applied research and professional and voluntary service.

Vision

Missouri Western State University will set the standard of excellence for the new American regional university focused on the development of students as learners, as persons, and as citizens through applied learning, and on the development of the region through applied research and service.

Values

- **Service** – We share the common purpose of serving students, one another, and the people of the region.

- **Quality** – We are committed to the quality of our programs, our students, and our partnership with the people in the region.
- **Enthusiasm** – We are enthusiastic about learning and confident that we can make a difference in the lives of students through their learning.
- **Freedom** – We promote the free exchange of ideas that make education liberating and democracy unique.
- **Respect** – We act as individuals and as a campus community with respect for diversity and for the best in human potential.
- **Courage** – We seek the challenge and adventure of shaping the future with an increasingly global perspective.

Building Graduate Programs

1. Develop and promote excellent graduate programs aligned with the University mission of applied learning, applied research, and professional service in the community and region.
2. Develop a supportive academic environment for applied graduate study and research.

Enhancing Academic Quality

1. Become a national center of excellence in applied learning and a national model for the new American regional university.
2. Provide a learning environment that encourages substantial academic achievement, connects knowledge and practice, and promotes regional service.
3. Provide student services that are accessible and enhance the quality of students' lives academically, personally, socially, and culturally.
4. Support and recognize faculty excellence in teaching and learning; scholarship; applied research, and creative activity; and service to the region.

Sustaining Institutional Accreditation Priorities

1. Market Western as a prototype for the new American regional university, characterized by applied learning and applied research and service.
2. Strengthen the University-wide initiative to attract, engage, and graduate a diverse student body.
3. Provide all graduates with an experience in applied learning.

Building Connections

1. Engage Western actively in the educational development of the region.
2. Engage Western fully in the economic development of the region.
3. Engage Western extensively in the cultural development of the region.
4. Engage Western directly in addressing the social development of the region.
5. Enhance community connections through parent groups, alumni activities, and athletic events.

Using Measurement and Assessment

1. Develop the framework to support institutional research and assessment.

2. Create and implement a comprehensive University assessment plan focused on student learning and mission effectiveness.

Valuing People

1. Recruit, hire, support, and retain a diverse group of employees with the specific credentials, skills, and values required of excellent faculty, staff, administrators, and student employees.
2. Provide a safe and healthy environment at all campus locations for students, employees, and guests.
3. Promote a respectful and positive work environment where individuals and groups are engaged and recognized for their contributions and respect for diversity.

Building and Managing Resources

1. Leverage resources to meet students' needs and the long-term strategic development of the University.
2. Support institutional strategic initiatives through the expanded use of technology.
3. Capitalize on new funding opportunities for the University's strategic directions.

2012-2017 Strategic Plan Achieving Excellence, Transforming Lives

Mission Statement

Missouri Western State University is a learning community focused on students as individuals and as members of society. Missouri Western offers students at all stages of life the opportunity to achieve excellence in the classroom and beyond, as they prepare to be leaders in their work and in their communities. As a leader itself, Missouri Western is committed to the educational, economic, cultural and social development of the people and the region that it serves.

Vision

Missouri Western State University will set the standard for excellence in student development and community leadership.

Values

- **Service** – We share the common purpose of serving students, one another, and the people of the region.
- **Quality** – We are committed to the quality of our programs, our students, and our partnership with the people of the region.
- **Enthusiasm** – We are enthusiastic about learning and confident that we can make a difference in the lives of students through their learning.
- **Freedom** – We promote the free exchange of ideas that makes education liberating and democracy unique.
- **Respect** – We act as individuals and as a campus community with respect for diversity and for the best in human potential.
- **Courage** – We seek the challenge and adventure of shaping the future with an increasingly global perspective.

Enhancing the Educational Experience

1. Increase student persistence to graduation.
2. Implement recruit-back, reverse transfer, and degree attainment initiatives.

Preparing Graduates for Careers, Graduate Studies and Life Opportunities

1. Increase Western's global engagement
2. Increase Western's leadership in the arts, sciences, and workforce development.
3. Develop processes that will enhance student career information and access to graduate study, employment, and life opportunities.

Increasing and Managing Resources

1. Increase and manage human resources.
2. Increase and manage fiscal resources.
3. Increase and manage physical resources.

APPENDIX G

BUILDING NAMES

Previous Building Name(s)	2015 Building Name
Agenstein Science and Math – SM	Agenstein Hall
Fitness Center	Baker Family Fitness Center
200s Hall	Beshears Hall
College Center/Student Union – SU	Blum Union
Christopher S. “Kit” Bond Science and Technology Center	Christopher S. “Kit” Bond Science and Technology Center
Commons Building	Commons Building
Eder Student Services/Classroom Building – SS/C	Eder Hall
Fulkerson Center	Fulkerson Center
Griffon Hall	Griffon Hall
Griffon Indoor Sports Complex	Griffon Indoor Sports Complex
Hearnes Learning Resources Center – LRC	Hearnes Center
400s Hall	Juda Hall
Leaverton Hall	Leaverton Hall
100s Hall	Logan Hall
Health, Physical Education and Recreation Building – HPER	Looney Complex
Conservation Building	Missouri Department of Conservation Headquarters
Janet Gorman Murphy Academic Center – JGM	Murphy Hall
Popplewell Administration Building – A	Popplewell Hall
Potter Fine Arts Center – FA	Potter Hall
Remington Hall	Remington Hall
Living/Learning Center	Scanlon Hall
Spratt Multipurpose/Classroom Building – MC	Spratt Hall
Vaselakos Hall	Vaselakos Hall
Agriculture and Engineering Technology Building	Engineering Technology Building – ET
Professional Studies Building – PS	Wilson Hall

APPENDIX H

FULL-TIME EMPLOYEES ON DEC. 31, 2015

James Roger Adams
 James George Adkins
 Kaye Elizabeth Adkins
 Patricia Jean Adkisson
 Tara Beth Adwell
 Jessica Lynne Agnew
 Kevin Lee Anderson
 Dana Reno Andrews
 Gregory Alan Andriano
 Sybil Anne Archdekin
 William Francis Arnold
 David C Ashley
 Marilyn Kay Baker
 Jason Cort Baker
 Dawn R Baker
 Julie Lynne Baldwin
 Andrew Randall Ball
 Belinda Kaye Ball
 John Salvatore Balsamo
 Clinton Curtis Barnes
 David Milton Barnes
 Susan R Barnes
 Csengele Barta
 Cynthia H Bartels
 Susan Margaret Bashinski
 Ana Margarita Bausset-Page
 Andrew James Baxley
 Debra Ann Beahler
 Joel S Beard
 Shawn Kyle Becker
 Deborah Becker
 Kim Renee Beckett
 Wesley Ryan Bell
 Jason Duane Bell
 Stacia Lenai Bensyl

Sandi Jane Berg
 Whitney Danielle Bergin
 Robert Patrick Bergland
 Wonda Joyce Berry
 Robert Karl Bidding
 Mollie Mari Bjelland
 Henry Jacob Blacketer
 Melissa Ann Bohon
 Christopher David Bond
 Stacey Lee Bowen
 Susan Vesely Bracciano
 Holly Marie Breuer
 Peter C. Britton
 Connie Louise Brock
 Evelyn Louella Brooks
 Carolyn Dean Brose
 Harold David Brown
 Rhonda Kem Brown
 Ricky Lee Brown
 Trevor Lee Brown
 Shelle L Browning
 Angela Dawn Brunk
 Edith Elaine Bryant
 Jimmy Wayne Bryant
 Brian Keith Bucklein
 Nathan Joseph Buhman
 Jacqueline Joanne Burns
 Mark Duane Burton
 Christa Marie Byer
 Michael Joseph Cadden
 Benjamin Douglas Caldwell
 Jennifer Kay Callow
 Cristi Lynn Campbell
 Sabrina Faye Campbell
 Elizabeth Bell Canon

Gregory Allen Carbin
 Marian Leigh Carbin
 Brandon Michael Card
 Blair Benjamin Carmichael
 Susan Jane Carter
 James Robert Carviou
 Francisco Eduardo Castilla Ortiz
 Angela Marie Caswell
 Judith Evelyn Chambers
 Michael William Charlton
 Fumi Matsumoto Cheever
 Ronda Lynn Chesney
 Cary D Chevalier
 Cheng-Huei Chiao
 Hong Suk Choi
 William Thomas Church
 Martha Susan Claflin
 Joyce Elaine Clark
 Linda Sue Clark
 Michael Thomas Clark
 Pamela L Clary
 Isaiah Collier
 Andrea Dawn Collins Keller
 Aaron Clark Coombs
 Signe Emelia Mueller Coombs
 Stephanie Jean Corder
 Minerva Correa Torres
 Jason Mark Costanzo
 John Mark Courington
 Jeanie C Crain
 Tiffany Lynn Crawford
 Cori Jo Criger
 Deborah Sue Crisler
 Teresa Lynn Crist
 Brian Christopher Cronk
 Noel Christine Cross
 Ryan Dean Culp
 Jeffery Wayne Cunningham

Jeanne Marie Daffron
 Dustin Thomas Daffron
 Melissa Ann Foltz Daggett
 Sunil Jayathunga Dahanayake
 Craig Keith Darrough
 Stacey Ellen Dasta
 Douglas Ray Davenport
 Mary Cecilia Dean
 Galen Leon Deatherage
 Dominic Francis DeBrincat
 Susan Lynn Deering
 Teddi Stepien Deka
 Michelle Lee Diaz
 Gregory Gerard Dillon
 Mary Katherine Dockery
 Regan Kathleen Dodd
 Marsha M Dolan
 Jarrod Ryan Dowell
 Dawn Marie Drake
 Sharon Loetta Driggers
 Michael William Ducey
 Adriann Elizabeth Dunn
 Tamara Sue Durbin
 Todd Thomas Eckdahl
 Jason Ray Edgar
 Robert Dean Edmisson
 Chad Robert Edwards
 Nicholeous J Edwards
 Thomas Matthew Edwards
 Douglas D Eicher
 Chad Forest Elifrits
 Lisa Jo Elliott
 Mark Gregory Ellis
 John A Ellis
 Randy Scott Ellis
 Benjamin David England
 Selcuk Ertekin
 Jay Brett Esely

Pamela Sue Esely
 Jonathan Paul Euchner
 Derek James Evans
 Claudine Parmentier Evans
 Scott Ryan Evans
 Cathy Denice Everett
 Jamie Sue Exline
 Kelly Jeanne Fast
 Cale Edward Fessler
 Stacy Morgan Fisher
 Latoya Annette Fitzpatrick
 Thomas Joseph Flaska
 Amy Colleen Foley
 Rebecca Ellen Foley
 Timothy Lynn Ford
 Susan Florance Fortune
 Roberta Elizabeth Foster
 Charlotte Elizabeth Foster
 Jean C. Foster
 Sara B Freemyer
 Jessica Leeann Frogge
 Jana Rae Frye
 Eric Lee Fuson
 Jennifer Lea Galloway
 Kathy Ann Gammon
 Catherine Sue Gann
 Susan Lucille Garrison
 Jennifer Lynn Gawatz
 Nathan Douglas-Eugene Gay
 Cherie Elaine Gemmell
 Jerry Paul Gentry
 Gregory Stephen George
 Aron Dale Gerhart
 Tamara Sue Glise
 Rodema Joy Gnuschke
 Suzanne M Godboldt
 Christopher Paul Godfrey
 Michelle Renee Graham

Rachel E Graves
 Nancy S Gray
 Jared Lee Greer
 Martha Lynn Greer
 John Michael Gregory
 Brenda Jo Griffith
 Judith W. Grimes
 Scott Michael Groner
 Konrad Erik Gunderson
 Kelsey Cheyenne Guthery
 Angela Catherine Haas
 Michael O Halloran
 Reza Gholi Hamzaee
 Julie Ann Hansbrough
 Robert Hixon Hanson
 Sonia Elizabeth Hanson
 Cosette Mignon Hardwick
 Carol Jean Hare
 Deborah Rae Hargis
 Brian Keith Harrah
 Ronald Lee Harrelson
 Crystal R Harris
 David Craig Harris
 Shawna Gwynne Harris
 Teresa Joan Harris
 Barbara Murray Harris
 Sherri Lea Hartley
 Karma Lynn Hartong
 Steven Carter Hatch
 Billie Sue Hays
 Connie Dee Hecker
 Elizabeth Cheryl Heckman
 Jennifer Sue Hegeman
 Kent Jonathan Heier
 Dana Leigh Heldenbrand
 Susan S Hennessy
 Kelly Bouas Henry
 Lisa Gail Hensley

Elise Marie Hepworth
 Matthew Michael Hepworth
 John Michael Hewitt
 Shauna Lynae Hiley
 Kerri Rene Hill
 Jessica Jean Hills
 Michael James Hindhaugh
 Stena Angelina Hinkle
 Jeffrey H. Hinton
 Ronnie George Hodge
 Travis William Hoffman
 Teresa Renee Holt
 Diane Kathryn Holtz
 John Frederick Hopper
 Peter Michael Hriso
 Denece E Huffman
 Brian Gregory Hughes
 Sara Kristine Hunt
 Marilyn Deubler Hunt
 Deborah Sue Irvine
 Laura Michelle Jacobs
 Roy Lee Jacobs
 Julie Anne Jedlicka
 Deborah Sue Jeffries
 Cynthia L. Jeney
 Adrienne Marie Johnson
 Britton Thaddeus Johnson
 Debra Elaine Johnson
 Kendra S Jones
 Jeremy Logan Jones
 Marla Marie Jones
 David Reed Jones
 Ellen Kaasik
 Ali Kamali
 Meredith Stephen Katchen
 Joanne G. Katz
 Dennis James Keller
 Karen Ann Keller

Jacob Ryan Kelly
 Robin Lou Kelly
 Kathy Jo Kelly
 Heather Michelle Kendall
 Catherine Elizabeth Kendig
 Paul Joseph Kerner
 Aurora Mary Kerns
 Joachim S Kibirige
 Christopher Todd King
 Terry Andrew King
 Krishna Prasad Kisi
 Suzanne Marie Kissock
 Timothy Joseph Kissock
 Steven Dale Klassen
 Pamela Diane Klaus
 Gladys Janet Kline
 Brooksie Lane Kluge
 Orrin LeRoy Knight
 Kevin Michael Kobett
 Melinda Kovacs
 Colleen Ann Kowich
 Karen Ann Koy
 Justin Alan Kraft
 Eric Geoffrey Kramer
 Melissa Lynn Kramer
 Kenneth Gregory Kriewitz
 Blaise D Kriley
 Wilbur Dale Krueger
 Patricia Ann Kuechler
 Marianne Kunkel
 Yipkei Kwok
 Terry Willis Lance
 Cynthia Michelle Lance
 Michael Robert Lane
 Peggy Lea Lane
 Kathryn Diane Lau
 Johnathan Neil Lawley
 Catherine L Lawson

Anne M. Lech
 Emily Ann Lehman
 Peggy Ann Leland
 Stanley Jay Lemanski
 Susan Marie Leslie
 Mark William Lewis
 Kathy Minhsin Liao
 Gregory Alan Lindsteadt
 Janet Elaine Lines
 Sherry Renee Lisenbee
 Anthony Christopher Loeffler
 Matthew Arthur Loehr
 Bob Eugene Long
 Steven Paul Lorimor
 Karen Kay Luke
 Christina Lee Lund
 Shelly Mickele Lundy
 Jacob Ryan Lutes
 Brett Carl Luthans
 Dalong Ma
 Mark Eric Mabe
 Jon Thomas Mandracchia
 Jeanie Ilene Manning
 Gordon Eugene Mapley
 Vincenza Rose Marash
 David Haskell Marble
 Susan Renae Martens
 David Kratz Mathies
 Nathanael Alvin May
 Lisa Diane May
 Howard Junior McCauley
 Sarah Kathryn McCumber
 Lori Anna McCune
 Nicholas Linn McCutcheon
 Dana Lee McDaniel
 Jearl Matthew McDonald
 Jennifer Lynne McDonald
 Kristy Donnell McDonald

Andrew Rider McGarrell
 Hassan Jamal McGaughy
 Kurt M McGuffin
 David Donald McIntire
 Brett Thayer McKnight
 Amy Elizabeth McLarren
 David Travis McMahan
 Carey Jo McMillian
 Patrick H McMurry
 Rico Botta McNeela
 Kevin Jerome McQuirter
 Derin Carroll McQuiston
 David Robert McWilliams
 Hillary Nicole Mellema
 Jonathan Ryan Menley
 Karen D Merritt
 Shana Lea Warkentine Meyer
 Yvonne Ingrid Meyer
 Amy Frances Miller
 Timothy Lynn Miller
 Rhonda Renee Miller
 Toni Leigh Millis
 Louise Elizabeth Mills
 Mark Steven Mills
 Susan Lynn Modlin
 Sergio Lupe Molina
 Susan Kay Montee
 Gaywyn Elizabeth Moore
 Michael Terrance Moore
 Jill Marie Morsbach
 Erin Phoenix Moutray
 James Leland Mulder
 Sue Ellen Myers
 Murray Wayne Nabors
 Kristen Nicole Neeley
 James Wesley Neidel
 Frederick Charles Nesslage
 Jomel Lea Nichols

Frederica Ann Nix
 David Wayne Noah
 Judy Ann Noland
 Letha A Nold
 Jacob Oswald Noyd
 J. Evan Noynaert
 Robert Glenn Nulph
 Natasha Renae Oakes
 Linda Louise Oakleaf
 Kathleen Elizabeth O'Connor
 James Michael Okapal
 Alicia Dawn Otto
 Alexandra Lee Owens
 Anna M Palmer
 Leslie Neil Parnell
 Bruce Alan Parsley
 Gerald Edwin Partridge
 Peggy Marie Payne
 Herschel Kent Pickett
 Germain Edward Pickman
 Suzan Justeen Piercy
 Jeffrey Lawrence Poet
 Steven Michael Potter
 Melanie Louise Potter
 Sandra Louise Prescher
 Kathy Gertrude Prososki-Large
 Long Qiao
 Taylor Sultan Quedensley
 Gretchen E Quenstedt-Moe
 Hiram Talmadge Quillin
 Thomas Eugene Rachow
 Maureen Cloonan Raffensperger
 Norhan Rahmat
 Justin Thomas Ray
 Jon Matthew Recob
 Jonathan Sidney Rhoad
 Glenn Raymond Rice
 Jennifer Lynn Riley

Madeline Ann Rislow
 Michael Roy Ritter
 Michelle Lee Ritter
 Miguel Rivera-Taupier
 Nathan Andrew Roberts
 Ian Ferris Roberts
 Evan Nicholas Roberts
 Dennis G Rogers
 Mary Anne Rogers
 Eric Broughall Root
 Benjamin J Rops
 Hawley Ann Rumpf
 William David Russell
 Steven Louis Saffell
 Victoria Rae Sample
 Robert Franklin Sample
 Cassandra Louise Samuel
 Sally Bridget Sanders
 Autumn Sue Sands
 Laura Jean Sapp
 Stephanie Grace Schartel Dunn
 Carolyn Sue Schindler
 Sherrilyn Sue Schottel
 Shelley Marie Scott
 Michael William Scroggs
 Tracy Renee Sharp
 Daniel Scott Shepherd
 Jenny Dee Sherlock
 Brandt William Shields
 Kay A Siebler
 Helen Machelles Skinner
 Jacob Michael Sloan
 Kelly Leigh Sloan
 Halie Renee Sloan
 Gerald Matthew Small
 Kipton Dale Smilie
 Faye Louise Smith
 Michael S. Smith

Montella Eugene Smith
Deborah May Smith
Jeffrey Dean Smith
Maria Ann Spalding
Cynthia Sue Spotts-Conrad
Daniel J Stasko
Shawna Marie Stephens
Daniel Laverna Stevens
Corey Michael Stewart
Stephanie Rechelle Stewart
Tara Raye Stoll
Jeff Anthony Stover
Aaron Keith Stutterheim
Stanislav Svojanovsky
Jamie Lynn Sweiger
Elliot Glidden Swope
Shensheng Tang
John Edward Tapia
Prashant Kumar Tarun
Kay-lynne S Taylor
Edwin Arthur Taylor
Alecia Ann Taylor
Orion Alexander Teal
Dawn Terrick
Meri Jeannette Thompson
Todd Allen Throckmorton
Yen Mong To
Janelle Lynn Torres y Torres
Deborah Singleton Treat
Daniel D Trifan
Jennifer Bagley Trotter
Reginald Keith Trotter
James William Turner
Stacy Amber Turner
David William Tushaus
Deatra Diana Tyler
Steven Gregory VanDyke
Robert Anthony Vartabedian

Deborah J. Vaughn
Charles Antony Verduzco
Sharon Kay Vest
Tara Lynn Vides
Barbara Gail Voigt
Christina Michelle Waggoner
Dwania Cosmonieke Walker
Kevin Lee Walsh
Kristen Lee Williams Walton
Bin Wang
Christina Ann Washburn
Gavin Joseph Waters
Kimberly Kay Weddle
Annette Marie Weeks
Brett Lee Weiberg
Kristy Lynn Weiberg
Deana Jo Wennihan
Matthew Brian Whipple
Jesse Brandon White
John Bruce Whitsell
Vicky Sue Widner
Roger O'Neil Wiebelt-Smith
Tamela Louise Wiley
Alex David Willemin
Robert Henry Willenbrink
Jena Rae Williams
Anna Marie Williams
Thomas Lee Williamson
Jamie Michelle Willis
Eric Steven Willoughby
Angela Lynn Wilson
Kip B Wilson
Dana Jo Witkowski
Michelle Lynn Wolfe
Jeffrey Neil Woodford
Pamela Kay Woodruff
Betsy Eileen Wright
Baoqiang Yan

Xiaoqing George Yang

Robin Lori Yarnell

Pi-Ming Yeh

Barbara Maria Young

Mathew Lyle Young

William Joseph Youtsey

Kirill M Yurov

Mei Zhang

Zhao Zhang

Jinwen Zhu

Christine J Ziemer

Mark Steven Zuptich

APPENDIX I SPORTS TABLE

Sports 1983 - 2015

Baseball

Year	Record	Coach	Noteworthy Achievements
1983	20-18-1	Doug Minnis	Mike Musser – NAIA All-American; Bruce Reed and Musser – All-Conference 1st Team
1984	24-21	Doug Minnis	Eric Snider and John Kostelac – All-Conference 1st Team
1985	30-32	Doug Minnis	David Lau and Eric Snider – All-Conference 1st Team
1986	26-29	Doug Minnis	David Lau – NAIA All-American and All-Conference 1st Team; Jeff Jennings – All-Conference 1st Team
1987	18-30-1	Doug Minnis	
1988	16-42	Doug Minnis	Minnis – 500th win
1989	19-30	Doug Minnis	Chris Bemont and Maurice Dariso – All-Conference 1st Team
1990	6-30	Doug Minnis	
1991	22-20	Doug Minnis	
1992	17-20	Doug Minnis	Erick Bracero and Marcus Rowe – All-North Division Team
1993	16-12	Doug Minnis	Donnie Crist – Conference Freshman of the Year and All-Conference 1st Team
1994	12-27	Doug Minnis	Minnis – 600th win
1995	18-22	Doug Minnis	
1996	22-25	Doug Minnis	
1997	17-21	Doug Minnis	Jason Crist – All-Conference 1st Team
1998	8-31	Doug Minnis	
1999	12-30	Doug Minnis	Andy Hilbrich selected to represent MWSC at the NCAA Leadership Conference
2000	21-31	Buzz Verduzco	
2001	21-23	Buzz Verduzco	
2002	25-20	Buzz Verduzco	Troy Gustafson – Academic All-American
2003	29-20	Buzz Verduzco	
2004	33-18	Buzz Verduzco	
2005	33-22	Buzz Verduzco	Justin Coffman – single season record in hits and RBIs. Brooks Barkley – All-Conference
2006	31-25	Buzz Verduzco	Qualified for the 1st time for the NCAA DII Central Region Tournament
2007	28-23	Buzz Verduzco	Tommy Bone – All-Conference 1st Team
2008	25-24	Buzz Verduzco	Adam Carolan, Everett Saul, and Ben Toedebusch – All-Conference 1st Team; A.J. Huttenlock – single season win record
2009	34-22	Buzz Verduzco	Andy Hebrard, A.J. Huttenlocker, and Troy Landi – All-Conference 1st Team and single season homerun record
2010	22-23	Buzz Verduzco	Verduzco – 300th win

Year	Record	Coach	Noteworthy Achievements
2011	26-25	Buzz Verduzco	Conference Tournament berth
2012	34-17	Buzz Verduzco	Tony Loeffler - Rawlings/ABCA Gold Glove Team; NCAA DII Defensive Player of the Year; Brandon Simmons and Spencer Shockley - All-Conference 1st Team
2013	40-12	Buzz Verduzco	Verduzco – 400th win, Conference Coach of the Year; Conference champions and qualified for Central Regional Tournament; Michael Schultze – Conference Player of the Year, national and regional Player of the Year, All-American and All-Region 1st Team; Brandon Simmons – Conference Pitcher of the Year; Schultze, Simmons, Bubba Dotson, Grant Fink, Jimmy Smelcer – All-Conference 1st Team; Fink, Dotson, Simmons – All-Region 1st team
2014	32-20	Buzz Verduzco	Played in Conference Championship game; Ryan Degner – All-Central Region 1st Team
2015	29-21	Buzz Verduzco	

Men's Basketball

Year	Record	Coach	Noteworthy Achievements
1982-83	10-18	Skip Shear	Larry Ingram – All-Conference 1st Team
1983-84	21-10	Skip Shear	District Champion; Larry Ingram and Amos Pearcill – All-Conference 1st Team; Ingram – All-District 1st Team
1984-85	10-18	Skip Shear	Arthur Cooks - All-Conference 1st Team, All-District 1st Team and selected to play on NAIA All-star team to play in Israel and Greece; Doniel Gambrell – Conf. Freshman of the Year
1985-86	25-9	Skip Shear	Arthur Cooks – Conference and District Player of the Year and All-American; Cooks and Doniel Gambrell- All-Conference 1st Team
1986-87	10-20	Skip Shear	Doniel Gambrell - All-Conference 1st Team; Jerone Gambrell – Conference Freshman of the Year
1987-88	12-19	Skip Shear	National Tournament; Doniel Gambrell and Greg Starling – All-Conference 1st Team; Gambrell – Conference Player of the Year and All-District 16 1st Team
1988-89	18-15	Tom Smith	District 16 finals; Smith – Conference Coach of the Year; James Morris – All-Conference and All-District 1st Team; Mike Cornelious – All-Conference 1st Team
1989-90	24-7	Tom Smith	Conference Champion, South Central Region Tournament; Smith – Conference Coach of the Year and NABC District Coach of the Year; Mike Cornelious – NABC All-South Central Region Team and All-Conference 1st Team
1990-91	23-8	Tom Smith	South Central Region Tournament
1991-92	22-10	Tom Smith	South Central Region Tournament; Ron Kirkhom – All Conference and All-District 1st Team; Mark Bradley – All-Conference 1st Team, South Central Region All-Tournament Team

Year	Record	Coach	Noteworthy Achievements
1992-93	21-7	Tom Smith	
1993-94	20-9	Tom Smith	South Central Region Tournament
1994-95	26-5	Tom Smith	Conference Champion; South Central Region Tournament
1995-96	17-10	Tom Smith	
1996-97	20-9	Tom Smith	South Central Region Tournament; Eric Keeler – All-Conference 1st Team
1997-98	23-7	Tom Smith	Conference Champion; South Central Region Tournament; Nick Jenkins – All-Conference 1st Team
1998-99	22-7	Tom Smith	South Central Region Tournament; Randy Dickerson and Nick Jenkins – All-Conference 1st Team
1999-00	20-9	Tom Smith	
2000-01	18-9	Tom Smith	
2001-02	23-7	Tom Smith	South Central Region Tournament, Smith – Conference Coach of the Year
2002-03	23-8	Tom Smith	Conference Champion; South Central Region Tournament
2003-04	14-15	Tom Smith	Smith -- 500th career win
2004-05	13-15	Tom Smith	Smith – Missouri Basketball Coaches Association Hall of Fame
2005-06	17-11	Tom Smith	Demarius Bolds – All-Conference 1st Team
2006-07	12-15	Tom Smith	Smith – Missouri Western Athletics Hall of Fame
2007-08	9-18	Tom Smith	
2008-09	14-16	Tom Smith	
2009-10	17-10	Tom Smith	South Central Region Tournament
2010-11	12-16	Tom Smith	
2011-12	9-17	Tom Smith	Smith – 600th career win
2012-13	10-17	Tom Smith	
2013-14	10-18	Brett Weiberg	
2014-15	12-15	Brett Weiberg	

Women's Basketball

Year	Record	Coach	Noteworthy Achievements
1982-83	24-4	Debbie Bumpus	CSIC Champion; Julie Sherwood – All-Conference 1st Team and Conference Player of the Year; Bumpus – Conference Coach of the Year
1983-84	23-11	Debbie Bumpus	District 16 Champion; Cheri Kempf – Conference Player of the Year; Judy Amos and Kempf – All-Conference 1st Team
1984-85	22-8	Debbie Bumpus	Conference Champion; Cheri Kempf – Conference Player of the Year; Judy Amos and Kempf – All-District 1st Team and All-Conference 1st Team

Year	Record	Coach	Noteworthy Achievements
1985-86	17-12	Terry Ellis	Judy Amos – NAIA Frank R. Hesselroth Leadership Award; Amos and Anne Holland – All-Conference 1st Team; Holland – Newcomer of the Year
1986-87	23-11	Terry Ellis	District Champion; Bi-district Tournament; Lori Flaherty, Anne Holland – All-Conference 1st Team
1987-88	15-16	Terry Ellis	National Tournament; Lisa Hughes – All-Conference 1st Team and All-District 1st Team
1988-89	21-8	Terry Ellis	District 16 champions; Linda Frencher and Lisa Hughes – All-District 1st Team
1989-90	19-10	Terry Ellis	Lisa Hughes – All-Conference 1st Team
1990-91	6-20	Terry Ellis	Ellis -- 100th win at MWSC; Kelly Williams – Conference All-Freshman Team
1991-92	5-19	Terry Ellis	
1992-93	16-11	Jeff Mittie (Interim)	
1993-94	29-3	Jeff Mittie	Conference Champion; South Central Regional Champion; National Elite 8 Tournament; Mittie – District and Conference Coach of the Year; Tonya Foster – All-Conference 1st Team, DII Kodak All-American Finalist, All-Conference MVP; Amy Towne – Conference Freshman of the Year
1994-95	31-3	Jeff Mittie	Conference Champion; South Central Region Champion; National Elite 8 Tournament; Amy Towne – Sports Information Directors' All-South Central Region 1st Team, Mittie – Conference Coach of the Year; Tonya Foster and Towne – All-Conference 1st Team
1995-96	16-12	Dave Slifer	
1996-97	24-7	Dave Slifer	Conference Champions; South Central Region Tournament; Slifer – Conference Coach of the Year; Jenny Marr – Conference MVP and All-Conference 1st Team
1997-98	24-9	Dave Slifer	South Central Region Tournament; Annie Heithoff – Conference Freshman of the Year
1998-99	26-5	Dave Slifer	South Central Region Tournament; Becky Reichard – All-time leading scorer in the South Central Region, WBCA/Kodak All-American, All-Conference 1st Team
1999-2000	21-8	Dave Slifer	Conference Champions; South Central Region Tournament
2000-01		Dave Slifer	Conference Champions; Danielle Kneib – All-Conference 1st Team
2001-02	27-3	Dave Slifer	Conference Champions; Ranked No. 1 in USA Today/ESPN/WBCA DII Top 25 and No. 1 in South Central Region; South Central Region Tournament
2002-03	23-8	Dave Slifer	
2003-04	21-9	Dave Slifer	South Central Region Tournament

Year	Record	Coach	Noteworthy Achievements
2004-05	20-9	Josh Keister	Selma Barbosa – All-Conference 1st Team, All-South Central Region 1st Team, All-American; Eldra Paixao – All-Conference 1st Team and Conference Defensive Player of the Year
2005-06	10-12*	Josh Keister	Tiffany Davis – All-Conference 1st Team
2006-07	0-4*	Josh Keister	Keister – Conference Coach of the Year and WBCA Region VI Coach of the Year, Inga Buzoka – All Conference 1st Team and Conference Player of the Year, Daktronics All-South Central Region 1st Team, Kodak-WBCA-DII All-American
2007-08	12-15	Lynn Plett	Jill Johnson – finalist for John Wooden Cup; Yanique Javois – All-Conference 1st Team
2008-09	6-21	Lynn Plett	Jessica Koch – Conference Freshman of the Year
2009-10	7-20	Lynn Plett	
2010-11	14-13	Lynn Plett	
2011-12	7-20	Lynn Plett	Jessica Koch – All-Conference 1st Team; All-South Central Region 2nd Team
2012-13	16-12	Rob Edmisson	
2013-14	10-16	Rob Edmisson	
2014-15	15-12	Rob Edmisson	

*Due to NCAA violations, some wins were vacated.

Football

Year	Record	Coach	Noteworthy Achievements
1983	5-6	Rob Hicklin	Tim Boender and Joe Holder – All-American; Mike Spruill and Jeff Holland – All-District 1st Team, Boender and Holland – All Conference 1st Team
1984	4-6-1	Rob Hicklin	Vince Thomson – All-American and All-Conference 1st Team
1985	3-7	Rob Hicklin	Chris Ball, Mark Jackman – All-American and All-Conference 1st Team
1986	3-8	Dennis Darnell	Bryan Timmermeyer and Jewell Stephenson – All-American; Eric Bond, Stephenson, Timmermeyer and Chris Wright – All-District 1st Team; Wright, Timmermeyer – All-Conference 1st Team
1987	2-8-1	Dennis Darnell	Bryan Timmermeyer – All-American and All-Conference 1st Team
1988	5-6	Dennis Darnell	Steve Sullivan and Barry Waggoner – All-American
1989	7-4	Dennis Darnell	
1990	2-8	Dennis Darnell	Scott Abraham - All-Conference 1st Team
1991	4-7	Stan McGarvey	Terren Adams - All-Conference 1st Team
1992	5-6	Stan McGarvey	Terren Adams, Mark Ramstack, and Kim Sword – All-American and All-Conference 1st Team
1993	8-2-1	Stan McGarvey	Largest margin of victory in school history – 56-0, SBU

Year	Record	Coach	Noteworthy Achievements
1994	8-3	Stan McGarvey	Dess Douglas, Brad Eise, John Fisher, Scott Howell, and Clay Rush – All-American and All-Conference 1st Team
1995	7-3-1	Stan McGarvey	John Fisher, Mitchell Mason, and Matt Williamson – All-American; Fisher – selected to play in Division II All-Star Game; Fisher, Mitchell Mason, and Paulo Vito – All-Conference 1st Team
1996	7-4	Stan McGarvey	Mitchell Mason – All-American; Ryan Johnson, Mason, Michael Sierra, and Matt Williamson – All-Conference 1st Team
1997	5-6	Jerry Partridge	Charles Spencer – Conference Freshman of the Year
1998	5-6	Jerry Partridge	Kasey Waterman – Conference Freshman of the Year, Hamilton Crowder – All-Conference 1st Team
1999	7-4	Jerry Partridge	Brent Burnside and Phillip Nelson – All-Conference 1st Team. Rick Moeckel – Burger King Corporation College Football Scholar Athlete Award. BK donated \$10,000 to Missouri Western for scholarships
2000	8-4	Jerry Partridge	Partridge – Conference Coach of the Year; Mineral Water Bowl; Josh Oyler and Mitch Moeckli – All-Conference 1st Team
2001	8-3	Jerry Partridge	Eric McDowell – All-American; Eric Walker – All-Midwest Region 1st Team; Jerris Evans, Eric McDowell, Walker, and Tyreece White – All-Conference 1st Team; Evans – Offensive MVP
2002	6-5	Jerry Partridge	Eric Walker – All-American; Jason Chancellor and Walker – All-Conference 1st Team
2003	9-3	Jerry Partridge	First nine-win season in history; Mineral Water Bowl; Conference Champion; Eric McDowell and Pierre Thomas – All-American; Wilson Curtis, McDowell, Brett Mingee, and Thomas – All-Conference 1st Team
2004	5-6	Jerry Partridge	Michael Cobbins and Earl Jack – All-Conference 1st Team
2005	9-3	Jerry Partridge	Mineral Water Bowl; Michael Cobbins, Justin Montgomery, Gijon Robinson, and Jeremiah White – All-American; Andre Burns, Greg Carbin, Michael Cobbins, Montgomery, Robinson, Jay White and Jeremiah White – All-Conference 1st Team; Roger Allen – Conference Freshman of the Year
2006	9-3	Jerry Partridge	NCAA DII National Tournament for the first time in school history; Roger Allen, Jarrett Brooks, Michael Cobbins, Dustin Strickler, and Jeremiah White – All-American; Allen, Brooks, Cobbins, John Matthew Fisher, J.R. Graham, and Jamie Hanson – All-Conference 1st Team
2007	9-3	Jerry Partridge	Mineral Water Bowl; Roger Allen – All-American; Allen, J.R. Graham, and Jamie Hanson – All-Conference 1st Team; Drew Newhart – Conference Freshman of the Year
2008	6-6	Jerry Partridge	Mineral Water Bowl; Roger Allen – D2Football.com National DII All-Star Game; Allen, Soane Etu, Jamie Hanson, and Dustin Strickler – All-American; Allen, Etu, and Hanson – All-Conference 1st Team

Year	Record	Coach	Noteworthy Achievements
2009	9-3	Jerry Partridge	Mineral Water Bowl; Cedric Houston and Nathan Martin - All-American and All-Conference 1st Team
2010	8-4	Jerry Partridge	DII National Playoff; Jack Long, Sean Whitters – All-Conference 1st Team
2011	9-3	Jerry Partridge	DII National Playoffs; first time ever at home; Greg Zuerlein – All-American by American Football Coaches Association, Conference Special Teams Player of the Year, D2Football.com Special Teams Player of the Week, Don Hanson First Team All-Super Region Four, Daktronics First Team All-Region; Zuerlein and Bass – Daktronics, “Little” AP, Beyond Sports College Network and D2Football.com All-American; Macon Allan, Bass, Michael Hill, Shane Simpson and Zuerlein – All-Conference 1st team
2012	12-2	Jerry Partridge	Advance to quarterfinals in DII national tournament; more than 40 team and individual records broken; ended season No. 5 in American Football Coaches Association poll. Partridge – Conference Coach of the Year; Mike Jordan – Conference Freshman of the Year; David Bass – finalist for 2012 Gene Upshaw DII Lineman of the Year, selected to play in East-West Shrine Game; Michael Hill – Runner-up for the Harlon Hill Trophy as the DII Player of the Year, Offensive MVP at the Raycom All-Star Classic, Daktronics Super Region Three Offensive Player of the Year, Conference Offensive Player of the Year; Macon Allan, David Bass, Hill, Travis Partridge, Ben Pister – Conference 1st Team. Allan, Bass, Hill, Pister, Colt Schulte – Daktronics Super Region Three 1st Team.
2013	8-3	Jerry Partridge	Scott Groner and Mike Jordan – Conference 1st Team.
2014	7-4	Jerry Partridge	Michael Jordan – AFCA 1st Team, D2Football.com 1st Team; Travis Anderson, Scott Groner, Jordan, Raphael Spencer – All-Conference 1st Team.

Men's Golf

Year	Coach	Noteworthy Achievements
1982-83	Charlie Burri	Stan Papciak and John Leimbach – All-Conference
1983-84	Charlie Burri	National Tournament – Mike Fasching
1984-85	Charlie Burri	National Tournament – Team; Rick Sumpter – All Conference
1985-86	Don Malson	Rick Sumpter – All-Conference
1986-87	Don Malson	National Tournament – Team; Brian Haskell – All-Conference, All-District
1987-88	Don Malson	
1988-89	Steve Shipley	2nd place District 16 golf tournament
1989-90	Steve Shipley	
1990-91	Mike Habermehl	
1991-92	Mike Habermehl	

Year	Coach	Noteworthy Achievements
1992-93	Mike Habermehl	
1993-94	Mike Habermehl	
1994-95	Mike Habermehl	
1995-96	Mike Habermehl	Three tournament titles; ranked 13th nationally; Conference Title for the first time; NCAA Regional Tournament for the first time; Erin Hatcher, Mark Korell and Chris Weddle – All-Conference
1996-97	Mike Habermehl	Team won the NCAA DII West Region Tournament; Played in NCAA finals
1997-98	Mike Habermehl	West Region Tournament finals, Doug Hecker – All-District; Erin Hatcher and Kyle Sinclair – All-Conference
1998-99	Mike Habermehl	Justin Fallein – 1st place Conference Tournament; Brad Nurski and Fallein – All-Conference
1999-00	Mike Habermehl	Brad Nurski – 1st place Conference Tournament and Central Region Tournament; Justin Fallein, Nurski, and Chris Riley – All-Conference
2000-01	Mike Habermehl	
2001-02	Mike Habermehl	
2002-03	Jim Perry	Central Region Tournament; qualified for the NCAA Super Regional; Brice Garnett – Conference Player of the Year
2003-04	Jim Perry	Brice Garnett – 1st place in NCAA Central Regional; qualified for the NCAA Super Regional, All-Conference
2004-05	Jim Perry	NCAA DII Central/Great Lakes Super Regional Golf Tournament; Brice Garnett – National Championship, All-Conference, All-American
2005-06	Jim Perry	Conference Champions, qualified for the NCAA Super Regional, Brice Garnett – won Conference Championship, All-Conference
2006-07	Jim Perry	Perry – Conference Coach of the Year, Aaron Lisenbee – All-Conference and qualified for the NCAA Super Regional
2007-08	Jim Perry	Aaron Lisenbee won the NCAA Central Region Tournament, team finished 3rd and qualified for the NCAA Super Regional
2008-09	Jim Perry	Caleb Carter – All-Conference
2009-10	Jim Perry	Dan Crawford – All-Conference
2010-11	Jim Perry	
2011-12	Jim Perry	Tyler Gast – All-Conference. 3rd place in Conference Championship
2012-13	Jim Perry	
2013-14	Greg Dillon	
2014-15	Greg Dillon	

Women's Golf

Year	Coach	Noteworthy Achievements
2002-03	Randy McGohan	1st place, MWSC Invitational
2003-04	Randy McGohan	
2004-05	Randy McGohan	
2005-06	Randy McGohan	
2006-07	Cathy Habermehl	
2007-08	Cathy Habermehl	
2008-09	Cathy Habermehl	
2009-10	Cathy Habermehl	Natalie Bird – Conference Freshman of the Year, All-Conference and All-Tournament Team
2010-11	Cathy Habermehl	Habermehl – Conference Coach of the Year; Natalie Bird – All-Conference
2011-12		
	Cathy Habermehl	2nd in the All-Conference Tournament; Natalie Bird – All-Conference and All-Tournament Team; 2nd place in Conference Championship
2012 -13	Cathy Habermehl	Natalie Bird – played in regional tournament, a first for women's golf; team took 1st place in UNK Fall Classic and UCM Invitational
2013-14	Greg Dillon	
2014-15	Greg Dillon	

Women's Soccer

Year	Record	Coach	Noteworthy Achievements
2005	3-15-1	L. C. Wiggins	
2006	1-15-3	Jeff Hansen	
2007	4-15	Jeff Hansen	
2008	2-15-3	Jeff Hansen	
2009	8-10-2	Jeff Hansen	
2010	2-10-6	Jeff Hansen	
2011	4-10	Chad Edwards	
2012	6-9-1	Chad Edwards	
2013	2-14-2	Chad Edwards	
2014	9-9-1	Chad Edwards	Postseason play for the first time; more than 20 school records broken
2015		Chad Edwards	

Softball

Year	Record	Coach	Noteworthy Achievements
1983	23-13	Rhesa Sumrell	National Tournament; Cheri Kempf and Julie Sherwood – All-American and All-Conference 1st Team
1984	25-10	Rhesa Sumrell	National Tournament; Cheri Kempf and Deena Murphy – All-American; Mendy Chandler – National All-Tournament Team, Kempf, Murphy and LeAnn Martens – All-District 1st Team, Kempf and Murphy – All-Conference 1st Team
1985	27-14	Rhesa Sumrell	Deena Murphy and Kim Palmer – All-American; Jeannine Christowski and Murphy – All-Conference 1st Team
1986	19-21	Rhesa Sumrell	
1987	28-18	Mary Nichols	Lori Flaherty and Rhonda Lee – All-District 1st Team; Flaherty and Angela Pettitt – All-Conference 1st Team
1988	31-16	Mary Nichols	Sissy Lucking, Angela Pettitt and Rita Rice – All-Conference 1st Team
1989	27-19	Mary Nichols	Penny Grieff and Kris Riviere – All-Conference 1st Team
1990	13-24	Mary Nichols	
1991	21-23	Mary Nichols	Nichols - 100th win at MWSC
1992	19-14	Mary Nichols	Shelbie Dalton, Carol Dawson, Sandy Goodner, and Stacey Coy – All-Conference
1993	29-15	Mary Nichols	Michelle Kessler – Conference Freshman-of-the-Year; Amy Hartzler – All-Conference 1st Team; Cheri Kempf '85 - NAIA Softball Hall of Fame
1994	17-25	Mary Nichols	Holly Hennessey – All-Conference 1st Team
1995	17-24	Mary Nichols	
1996	25-23	Mary Nichols	Shannon Gunn and Monica Henroid – All-Conference 1st Team
1997	31-16	Mary Nichols	
1998	22-23		Shannon Gunn and Tonja Cassity – All-Conference 1st Team
1999	23-23	Jill Bailey (interim)	Shannon Gunn and Jennifer Wehrle – All-Conference 1st Team
2000	21-34	Jill Bailey	
2001	10-27	Jill Bailey	
2002	22-28	Jen Bagley	
2003	18-32	Jen Bagley	
2004	31-19	Jen Bagley	
2005	47-18	Jen Bagley	North Central Regional Tournament; Amy Beverly – All-American; Lindsey Predovich – All-Conference 1st Team
2006	40-20	Jen Bagley	North Central Regional Tournament; Lindsey Predovich – All-Conference 1st Team
2007	34-26	Jen Bagley	North Central Regional Tournament; Lindsey Predovich – All-Conference 1st Team and North Central Regional All-Tournament Team

Year	Record	Coach	Noteworthy Achievements
2008	27-28	Jen Bagley	Allison Jones – Conference Freshman of the Year
2009	47-12	Jen Bagley	South Central Regional Tournament; Bagley – Conference Coach of the Year; Sam Buchanan, Becky Diehl, Brittany Douglas, Allison Jones, and Shannon Pivovar – All-Conference 1st Team
2010	28-28	Jen Bagley	
2011	40-15	Jen Bagley	Bagley – Conference Coach of the Year and 300th win; Jackie Bishop and Brittany Douglas – All-Conference 1st Team; Bishop – Conference Freshman of the Year
2012	42-13	Jen Bagley	NCAA Tournament; Jackie Bishop – Conference and Daktronics All-Region Pitcher of the Year; Maegan Roemmich – All-Conference 1st team
2013	38-16	Jen (Bagley) Trotter	Trotter – 400th win
2014	39-18	Jen Trotter	Conference Champions and qualified for NCAA Tournament; Jackie Bishop – Conference 1st Team and Central Region Pitcher of the Year, All-Region 1st Team; Tiffany Gillaspay – Conference 1st Team and All-Region 1st Team
2015	36-21	Jen Trotter	Tiffany Gillaspay – nominated for NCAA Woman of the Year; first-team All-Central Region by the National Fastpitch Coaches Association (NFCA); first-team All-Conference, Conference Hitter of the Week, NFCA National Player of the Week and top-25 finalist for the NFCA National Player of the Year.

Women's Tennis

Year	Record	Coach	Noteworthy Achievements
1982-83			
1983-84		Debbie Bumpus	
1984-85		Debbie Bumpus	National Tournament
1985-86		Debbie Bumpus	
1986-87		Terry Ellis	Sue Snyders and Malea Ferguson reached quarterfinal rounds in both singles and doubles.
1987-88		Karen Mollus	
1988-89	5-11	Karen Mollus	
1989-90	1-11	Karen Mollus	
1990-91	3-10	Karen Mollus	
1991-92	6-8	Ed Harris	
1992-93	1-9	Geoff Selkirk	
1993-94	1-10		
1994-95	7-9	Patsy McCauley	
1995-96	6-7	Patsy McCauley	
1996-97	10-5	Patsy McCauley	

Year	Record	Coach	Noteworthy Achievements
1997-98	11-8	Patsy (McCauley) Smith	South Central Region Tournament
1998-99	12-8	Patsy Smith	
1999-00	3-10	Patsy Smith	
2000-01	5-11	Patsy Smith	
2001-02	3-12	Shannon Fuller	
2002-03		Tracy Jones	
2003-04	2-16	Josh Keister	
2004-05	12-14	Matt Micheel	
2005-06	5-14	Matt Micheel	
2006-07	3-8	Ron Selkirk	
2007-08	4-16	Ron Selkirk	
2008-09	5-12	Ron Selkirk	
2009-10	3-15	Ron Selkirk	
2010-11	4-12	Ron Selkirk	
2011-12	4-12	Ron Selkirk	
2012-13	6-16	Ron Selkirk	
2013-14	1-14	Tom Smith	
2014-15	11-10	Chris Canady	

Volleyball

Year	Record	Coach	Noteworthy Achievements
1983	59-9	Rhesa Sumrell	Ranked #2 in nation in November; Conference Champion; District Champion; played in National Tournament for the sixth time in seven years; Sumrell – District 16 Coach of the Year; Lynn Umbach – All-National Tournament Team; Shelly Skoch and Umbach – All-Conference 1st Team
1984	48-13	Rhesa Sumrell	District Champion; 4th in National Tournament; Sumrell – District 16 Coach of the Year; Lynn Umbach – All-Conference 1st Team
1985	54-11	Rhesa Sumrell	District Champion; 4th in National Tournament; Sumrell – District 16 Coach of the Year; Lynn Umbach – All-American, All-National Tournament Team, and All-Conference 1st Team; LeAnn Martens – All-Conference 1st Team
1986	40-17	Rhesa Sumrell	District 16 Champion; National Tournament; Sumrell – District 16 Coach of the Year; Cheryl Williams – All-Conference 1st Team

Year	Record	Coach	Noteworthy Achievements
1987	63-6	Mary Nichols	District 16 Champion; National Tournament; Nichols – District 16 Coach of the Year; Cheryl Williams – All-American; Kris Riviere, Williams – All-Conference 1st Team
1988	36-18	Mary Nichols	
1989	32-24	Mary Nichols	Kris Riviere – All Conference 1st Team; Barb Bell – Conference Freshman of the Year
1990	12-27	Mary Nichols	
1991	24-15	Mary Nichols	Shanna Haslett – All-Conference 1st Team
1992	29-13	Mary Nichols	Barb Bell and Tammy Wollschlager – All-Conference 1st Team
1993	7-26	Karen Peterson	
1994	20-20	Karen Peterson	Shelly Lowery – All-Conference 1st Team and Conference MVP
1995	29-9	Karen Peterson	NCAA Tournament; Peterson – Conference Coach of the Year; Shelly Lowery – All-Conference 1st Team, Conference MVP, All-American
1996	4-30	Karen Peterson	Prairie Rickertsen – All-Conference Freshman Newcomer Team
1997	25-8	Cindy Brauck	Sherri Lang and Abby Schaer – All-Conference 1st Team
1998	22-16	Cindy Brauck	Sherri Lang – All-Conference 1st Team
1999	14-8	Cindy Brauck	
2000	20-11	Cindy Brauck	Sarah Ekdahl, Lindsay Palaia and Airon Scofield – All-Conference 1st Team
2001	13-17	Cindy Brauck	
2002	19-8	Cindy Brauck	Lindsay Palaia – Conference MVP
2003	15-13	Cindy Brauck	
2004	13-15	Cindy Brauck	
2005	17-15	Cindy Brauck	Marian Broderick – All-American
2006	16-15	Cindy Brauck/ Kyprian Harasymowycz	
2007	10-22	Tiffany Mastin	
2008	4-32	Tiffany Mastin	
2009	11-22	Cory Frederick	
2010	12-17	Cory Frederick	Stephanie Hattey – Conference Freshman of the Year
2011	14-17	Cory Frederick	
2012	16-16	Cory Frederick	
2013	16-15	Marian Carbin	Erica Rottinghaus – All-Conference 1st Team
2014	22-8	Marian Carbin	Erica Rottinghaus – American Volleyball Coaches Association All-Central Region 1st Team; Jordan Chohon, Jessie Thorup, Rottinghaus –All-Conference 1st-Team
2015		Marian Carbin	

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Diane Beimer Holtz is a study in perseverance. She was born and raised in Fort Madison, Iowa and married her high school sweetheart. After two different colleges, correspondence courses and a lot of writing, she received a bachelor of liberal studies from the University of Iowa in 1993. (It took 12 years to get the last 62 credit hours!) Diane, her husband and three sons moved to St. Joseph, Missouri in 1997 and she began working at Missouri Western State University in 2001. Starting as the Administrative Assistant for Institutional Advancement, Diane steadily moved up from there to her current position as Senior Content Manager and Editor, Missouri Western Magazine. In a 2009 meeting with Library Director Julia Schneider, Diane enthusiastically offered to write the next chapter in the University's history. Five years and approximately 1,000 hours later, "Preserving Gold: Missouri Western History 1983-2015" was completed. The last published work documenting Missouri Western's history was written by Frances Flanagan and covered the time period from its founding in 1915 to 1983. We are so appreciative that Diane picked up where Frances' pen left off, through copious research and dedication, to document the institution's history from that point forward.