



Missouri Western

The magazine of Missouri Western State University | Spring 2016

**Take our
reader survey,
page 33**

**Victoria Byerley '15,
p. 18**

GRIFFONS are great **STUDENT EMPLOYEES**

We appreciate our 700+ students who work on campus!



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| *President's Perspective* |

Dear Friends,
Missouri Western has a long history of working within the region to determine the workforce needs that can be addressed by the University and build partnerships to effectively respond to those needs.
In the past, community partners have included Heartland Health, now Mosaic Life Care, to develop an accelerated Bachelor of Science in Business Administration degree for their employees; the 139th Airlift Wing of the Missouri Air National Guard to assist personnel in completing their college degrees; and Truman Medical Center in Kansas City, Missouri to help RNs earn their BSNs.

Additionally, the University collaborates in multiple workforce readiness activities with regional businesses, including the use of a \$1 million grant to help employees earn degrees while participating in company-sponsored workforce readiness activities.

Recently, Missouri Western partnered with the St. Joseph School District, the St. Joseph Chamber of Commerce, United Way of Greater St. Joseph and area businesses to offer a course for prospective manufacturing employees. An article about it is on p. 13.

I am proud of our workforce readiness efforts to date, and I know Missouri Western personnel will continue to find ways to provide the skilled, knowledgeable workforce critical to today's 21st century economy.

On a related note, the Missouri State General Assembly's 2016 legislative session will end shortly. Missouri Western presented two legislative priorities to the legislators throughout this session: 1) Increase Missouri Western's operating appropriation by 6 percent, allowing the University to freeze in-state undergraduate tuition and invest in science, technology,

engineering, arts and mathematics programs; and 2) Appropriate \$5 million in capital funds for Potter Hall, allowing Missouri Western to meet the immediate needs of classroom space for our fine arts programs through an addition and renovation.

As this issue goes to press, we don't know the final results of our efforts in the Legislature, but I wanted to share the University's priorities with our alumni and supporters. We will continue to work with the community, region, state and beyond to ensure that Missouri Western remains true to its workforce readiness mission as we embark on our second century.

Sincerely,
Robert A. Vartabedian
Robert A. Vartabedian
President,
Missouri Western State University



Dr. Vartabedian and Steve Craig at the ground-breaking for Spratt Memorial Stadium's new video scoreboard in December.

ON THE COVER | Victoria Byerley '15 completed an internship at Disney World.

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The Missouri Western Magazine is a publication of the University Advancement Office for alumni and friends of Missouri Western State University and its predecessor institutions.

SPRING 2016
VOLUME 14
NUMBER 2

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MISSOURI WESTERN MAGAZINE

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Missouri Western State University is an equal opportunity institution.

Convocation speaker set

Political commentator Cokie Roberts will be the featured speaker at the 23rd R. Dan Boulware Convocation on Critical Issues this fall. The Convocation is at 10 a.m. Tuesday, Sept. 13 in the Looney Complex Arena, and it is free and open to the public.

In addition to the Convocation, Roberts will be the guest of honor at the annual Convocation luncheon at noon Sept. 13 in the Fulkerson Center. Cost and sponsorship information for the luncheon will be announced at a later date.

Roberts is a political commentator for ABC News and NPR. From 1996 to 2002, she and Sam Donaldson (who was the Convocation speaker in 2007) co-anchored the weekly interview program "This Week." In her more than 40 years of broadcasting, she has won countless awards, including three Emmys. She has been inducted into the Broadcasting and Cable Hall of Fame, and was cited by the American Women in Radio and Television as one of the 50 greatest women in the history of broadcasting.



Cokie Roberts

Roberts holds more than 20 honorary degrees, serves on the boards of several nonprofit institutions, and on the President's Commission on Service and Civic Participation. In 2008, the Library of Congress named her a "Living Legend," one of the very few Americans to have attained that honor.

In addition to her appearances on the airwaves, Roberts and her husband, Steve Roberts, write a weekly column syndicated in newspapers around the country by United Media. They are also contributing editors to USA Weekend Magazine, and together they wrote "From this Day Forward," an account of their more than 40-year marriage and other marriages in American history. The book immediately went onto The New York Times Bestseller list, following Cokie Roberts' number one bestseller, "We Are Our Mothers' Daughters," an account of women's roles and relationships throughout American history. Her earlier books, "Founding Mothers" and "Ladies of Liberty" (published in 2004 and 2008 respectively), also became instant bestsellers.

For more information, go to missouriwestern.edu/convocation. ■

President testifies in Jefferson City

Dr. Robert Vartabedian, Missouri Western's president, provided expert testimony in support of two bills related to suicide prevention before a Missouri Senate committee in January.

The Senate Education Committee heard testimony on Senate Bill 646, which requires the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education to develop training guidelines and school districts to adopt a policy for youth suicide awareness and prevention education, sponsored by Sen. Jill Schupp of St. Louis; and Senate Bill 627, which requires each public institution of higher education to develop and implement a policy to advise students and staff on available suicide prevention programs, sponsored by Sen. Jamilah Nasheed of St. Louis.

As a professor of speech communication in 1988, Dr. Vartabedian delivered a paper to the National Communication Association titled "The Dialogue of Desperation: Toward a Communication Perspective on Suicide." After a student committed suicide in 2013, Dr. Vartabedian created a chart titled "A Model of Suicidal Communication," which has been used by staff members at Missouri Western to better understand the communicated signs and possible responses to suicidal communication. ■

Student Theatre | Left, Students Abby Sexton and Charles Skyles perform in "The Marriage of Figaro" in February; pictured right are students from "The Complete Works of William Shakespeare Abridged": Antonio Daniels-Braziel, Ronald Baker and Riley Bayer.



Colorado third-graders discover Missouri Western

They may only be 9 or 10 years old, but Nichole Chavez's third-graders at Eva Baca Elementary School in Pueblo, Colorado can tell you what a Griffon is and the meaning behind it, what sports are played at Missouri Western, some of the degrees the University offers, and all about St. Joseph. Many of them will also tell you that they plan to attend college here, and it's all thanks to a collaboration between Chavez and Missouri Western, led by Shana Meyer, vice president of student affairs.

It started with a graduate student and her mom. At about the time Pueblo native Haley Robinson applied for admission into Missouri Western's graduate degree program in sport and fitness management, Chavez asked her classroom volunteer if she knew of any out-of-state universities that the class might partner with for a new program at the school, No Excuses University. The volunteer happened to be Robinson's mom, Deanna, and she suggested Missouri Western.

No Excuses University, according to its website, was founded in 2004 based on the belief that every student has the right to be educated in a way that prepares them for college. Chavez had attended a conference



about NEU in the spring of 2015, and her school became the first in Colorado to be approved to participate in the program in the fall.

"It all starts with a plan. We give them all the (post-high school) options and tell them to find something they really love and set goals," she said of her third-graders. "Even though it's years away, they can start working toward it."

Chavez sent a letter to Missouri Western in August 2015 to see if the University would be interested in partnering, and Meyer immediately jumped on board.

"I was intrigued by the opportunity because Missouri Western truly does transform lives, and that is the focus of No Excuses University," Meyer said.

"What made me fall in love with Missouri Western was the motto, 'Everything is Possible,'" Chavez said. "That's exactly our message. And the meaning behind

the Griffon (mythical guardian of the precious treasure of education) is cool, too."

Last fall, Meyer packed a box of t-shirts, pennants, trinkets and pens and sent it to Chavez's class. Chavez decorated her classroom with a Missouri Western motif and created a Missouri Western reading nook. Her third-graders wear their Missouri Western t-shirts every Monday and use their pens to write in their homework planner once a day.

Meyer followed the first package with more mailings: videos, photos, Missouri Western publications, sunglasses, letters from college students, and a stuffed baby Griffon for each student. The vice president and a group of freshmen Skyped with Chavez's class, and Meyer gave the third-graders a virtual campus tour. Robinson sent a photo of the golf team.

The class of 26 students, in turn, conducted research not only on Missouri Western, but on St. Joseph, and they learned the University's fight song.

"Shana's been everything I hoped for. We've been spoiled and we are grateful," Chavez said.



"When I signed up for the program, I thought we could provide a nice service to students in another state, and that it might be a way to spread the word about Missouri Western," Meyer said. "But the partnership has resulted in so much more. The third-graders have made us laugh; have shown us what a University looks like from a third-grader's perspective; and asked some amazing questions. It has also instilled a sense of pride in our freshmen. When children rave about your mascot, events like the foam party, or how cool the clock tower is, you are proud!"

Each classroom and the school office at the elementary school partnered with a different university this past school year, and the hallways and classrooms were adorned with college gear. Throughout the year, the older students heard guest speakers talk about their careers and what they did to prepare for them.

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Haley Robinson: from Pueblo to St. Joe



Graduate student Haley Robinson was the catalyst in a partnership between Missouri Western and Nichole Chavez's third-grade class at Eva Baca Elementary, but you might wonder how Robinson came to attend graduate school at Missouri Western.

The answer lies with Golf Coach Greg Dillon, who joined Missouri Western in 2014 after coaching four years at Colorado State University-Pueblo. Robinson, who graduated from there in 2012, had played golf under him, and when he needed

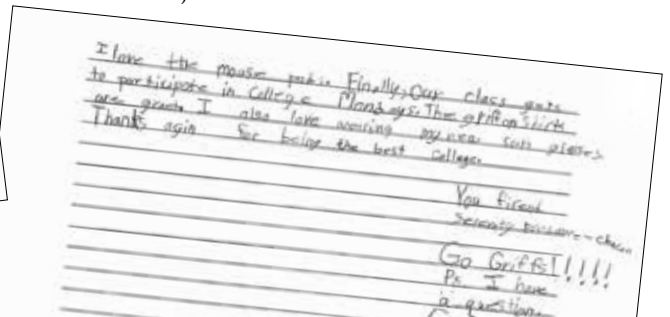
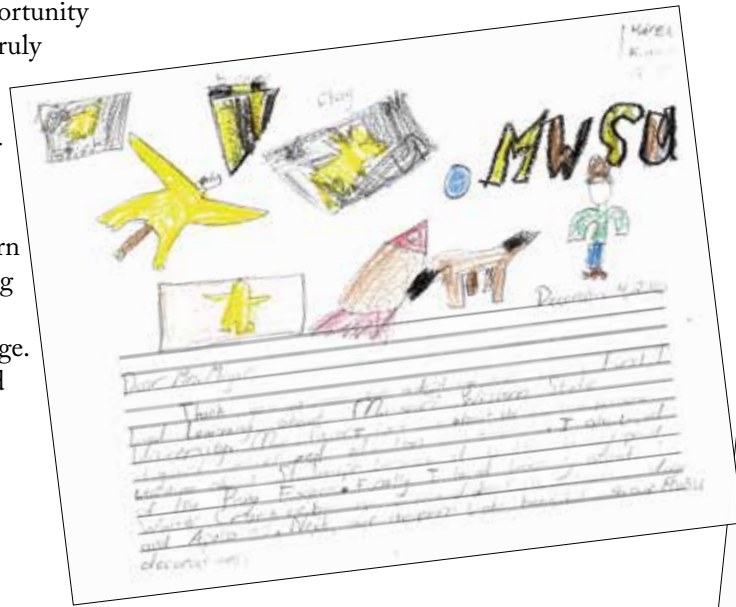
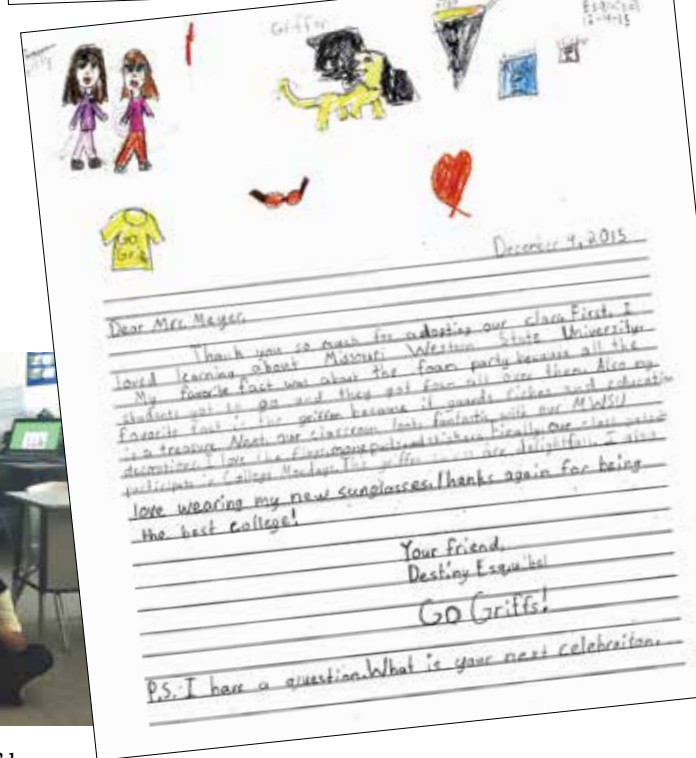
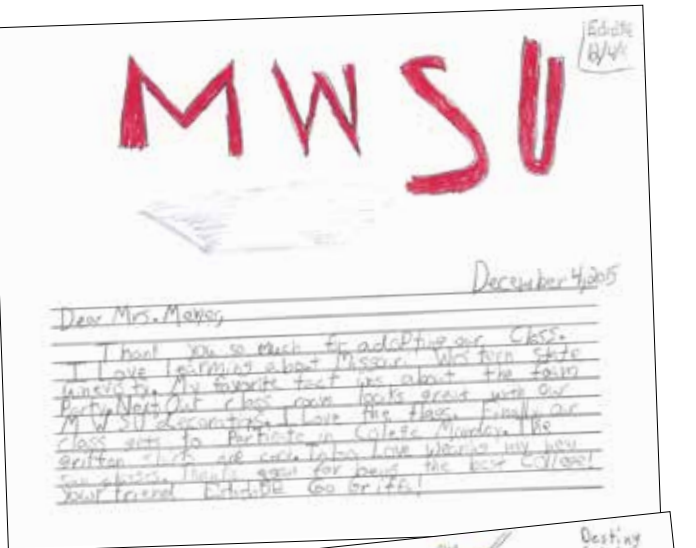
an assistant, he asked her if she'd consider coming to Missouri Western for graduate school.

She was accepted into the program and began her studies in the fall of 2015. Robinson serves as the assistant coach for the men's and women's golf programs and will graduate with her Master of Applied Science in Sport and Fitness Management in May 2017.

"It's been an amazing experience," she said. "These are some of the nicest people I've ever met."

She had been working as an assistant golf pro in Pueblo when Dillon called her. The graduate program, she says, is bridging the gap between her passion and the business world. When she graduates, she would like to become a golf coach for an NCAA school.

"The athletics staff at Missouri Western is top-notch. I work with great people." ■



Colorado third-graders discover Missouri Western

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“The whole school culture is focused on universal achievement,” Chavez said. “We want to make sure everyone

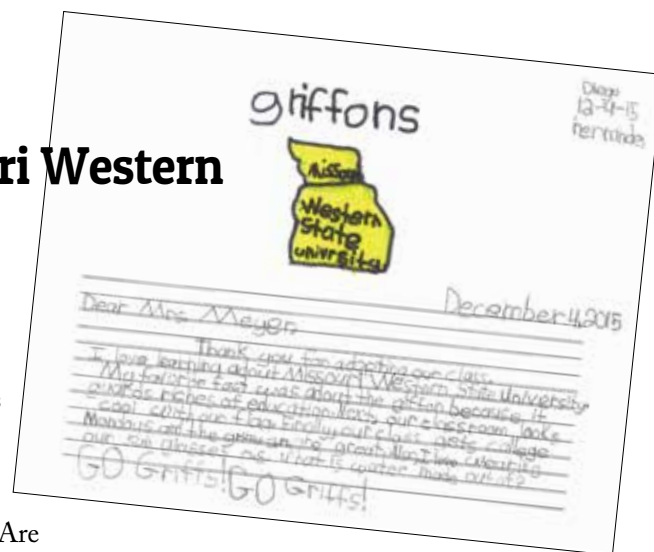


knows the opportunities out there. We believe, as No Excuses University does, that all students deserve and should be educated in a way that prepares them for college after high school, and it is our job as elementary educators to do just that.”

Robinson visited the class when she was home in October. “Are you really from Missouri?” one of the third-graders asked her. “Oh, my gosh, she’s a real Griffon!” others said.

The students stumped her with a lot of questions about Missouri Western and St. Joseph, but they really already knew all the answers.

“The thing that’s really neat is that they are only in third grade,” she said.



“I wish I could’ve bottled their excitement.”

“It’s been an awesome partnership because it motivates them (the third-graders) to do their best,” Chavez says. “I tell them it’s no excuses. If you set your mind to it, you can do it.” ■

Campus Kudos

• **David Liechti**, a member of the Board of Governors; and **Pat Dillon**, a member of the MWSU Foundation Board of Directors; were selected for Ingram’s Magazine’s “50 Missourians You Should Know.” The Kansas City magazine’s list highlights leaders in business, education, nonprofits, arts and other areas.

• **Dr. Mike Ducey**, professor of chemistry and department chair, was named 2016 Volunteer of the Year for the Kansas City Section of the American Chemical Society. Last fall, the department of chemistry hosted the American Chemical Society regional meeting for the Kansas City Section on campus.

Additionally, Missouri Western’s student chapter of the American Chemical Society, the **Alchemist Club**, received a Commendable Award for its 2014-15 academic year activities. This is the second highest award a student chapter can receive.

• The Golden Griffon Marching Band led Rudolph’s Holly Jolly Christmas Light Parade through Silver Dollar City in Branson, Missouri in December. The band is directed by **Nathan Gay**.

• **Natasha Oakes**, associate director of Athletics for internal operations/senior woman administrator, has been selected to participate in a year-long mentoring program for women and ethnic minorities that is designed to partner individuals with current Division II athletics directors for the purpose of enhancing career development. Only 10 are chosen each year. Oakes will participate in the program throughout the 2016-17 academic year.

• Two students received awards at the Region V Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival: **Christopher Rayle** received runner-

up for his sound design of “Three Days of Rain.” **Michael Hadley** received a Distinguished Recognition for his operating of projections in “Urinetown.” Additionally, **Abby Sexton** was accepted into the Open Jar Institute in New York City for summer 2016. According to its website, the Open Jar Institute is New York City’s most Broadway-integrated actor training program.

• The **Craig School of Business** maintained its business accreditation by AACSB International. The accreditation has been earned by fewer than five percent of the world’s business programs.

• Community member **Drew Brown**, faculty member **Dawn Terrick** and student **Roderic Byrd** received the 2016 Drum Major for Justice Awards from Missouri Western. ■

Student garners historic first for Missouri Western

When Ian Watson graduates this month, he will hold the distinction of being the first student at Missouri Western to have passed two actuarial exams before graduation, according to Dr. Steve Klassen, associate professor of mathematics who has been at Missouri Western since 1995.

“Since setting an actuarial career as his goal, Ian has never wavered,” Dr. Klassen said.

And, it is not an easy path. “Studying for actuarial exams makes nearly any student doubt themselves because the exams are challenging and are known to have a low pass rate. In addition to being totally prepared, students need to be able to work quickly, confidently and accurately.”

Watson, a native of Victoria, British Columbia, Canada, passed his first actuarial exam in June 2015, and his second this past January. He estimates he studied about 300 hours before each exam. For the first exam, he was one of only 45.2 percent of candidates that received a passing score.

Although this distinction makes Watson stand out, it’s really only

mentioning his wife and in-laws. “I attribute a lot of my success to hard work, but also to a lot of help along the way.”

“He is the most driven, hard-working, self-motivated student I’ve had the pleasure of working with,” Dr. Klassen said.

“He fully deserves the rewards I’m sure he will soon enjoy.”

Actuaries use mathematics, statistics and financial theory to assess risk. They calculate rates and dividends, and provide other statistical information for insurance companies. Most insurance companies require applicants to have passed one actuarial exam, and prefer two passed exams, before they hire a candidate. There are a total of 10 exams that actuaries may take throughout their careers.

Dr. Klassen said no specialized degree is required to be an actuary, but three semesters of calculus and two semester of calculus-based probability and statistics prepare the student for the exams and an actuarial career. Students can also arrange an independent study course with Dr. Klassen to prepare for the exam, which Watson did. Dr. Klassen took the first two exams and passed, so he has a good idea of how students need to prepare.

Students who are interested in an actuarial career also take courses in Macro- and Micro-economics, Financial Management I and II, and Business and Economic Forecasting. Upon completion of those courses, students will have satisfied the Validation by Education Experience requirements



Ian Watson

which, along with the exams, are part of the requirements for the actuarial credentials.

Dr. Klassen has had several successful actuarial candidates. In the past, Missouri Western students who attended actuary career fairs at the University of Central Missouri in Warrensburg have secured summer internships. For some, that led to full-time jobs. Watson said he spoke with one alumnus from the program, Jeremy Benson ’94, a local actuary, who gave him good advice.

Watson enrolled with an engineering technology major in mind in 2011, but realized he loved the mathematics classes more. After speaking with a couple of mathematics professors, he started working with Dr. Klassen to pursue the actuary path.

“The mathematics department has been phenomenal,” Watson said. “You really get to know the professors, and it is easy to get help.”

He said he enjoyed the small class sizes because students were able to use project-based learning and work on real-world situations.

And what’s next for Watson after graduation, you ask? Why, study for the next exam, of course. ■

“He is the most driven, hard-working, self-motivated student I’ve had the pleasure of working with. He fully deserves the rewards I’m sure he will soon enjoy.”

— Dr. Steve Klassen, speaking about Ian Watson

half the story. Not only is he a full-time student, but he has held down a 48-hour-per-week job his entire college career at Missouri Western, and he has a wife and two children.

“I couldn’t have done it without my great support system,” Watson said,

Debaters rank 18th nationwide

In its first year with a full-time director, the parliamentary debate program has made a name for itself both statewide and nationally, thanks to two debaters.



Chris Miles and Mike Smith

When Jason Edgar, communication studies instructor, was hired as the program's coach last fall, he inherited the parliamentary debate team of Chris Miles and Mike Smith, juniors from Independence, Missouri. The men had debated in high school and at Kansas City, Kansas Community College before they both transferred to Missouri Western and became a team.

This past year, they were ranked second in Missouri and 18th nationwide, holding that place for more than 15 tournaments. For their efforts, Miles and Smith received a first-round bid to the National Parliamentary Tournament of Excellence in March, where they advanced to the Sweet 16.

"Good debaters have a strong dedication to being up-to-date with current events and being determined readers of philosophy, and they have to be really good at critical thinking," Edgar said. He noted that along with possessing those traits, Miles

and Smith, longtime friends, excel at working together as a team.

Miles, with a double major of history and communications, wants to continue his education in graduate school and eventually coach debate. Smith, a philosophy major, plans to attend law school after he graduates.

"Debate is unique to other academic challenges," Miles said. "It's very competitive and operates like a game. It's more like a chess game of words."

Parliamentary debaters don't know their topic or which side they will argue until they arrive at the competition, and then they only have 15 minutes to prepare. Debate topics in the past year, Edgar said, have included genetically modified

trees, tax plans of the presidential candidates, how to deter ISIS and space exploration.

Last fall, along with accolades for Miles and Smith, Madison Lantz was named Top Speaker in a novice parliamentary debate at Webster

University in St. Louis. And in February 2016, the team of Miles and Casey Huffman posted an undefeated 10 straight matches and were named the 2016 State Champions in parliamentary debate. Edgar was named Coach of the Year at the state event, as well.

Edgar, who was a speech instructor and director of forensics at Crowder Community College in Neosho, Missouri for six years before coming to Missouri Western, focused on debate for his first semester at Missouri Western since that was the strongest aspect of the program, but a speech student joined the program in the spring semester. Edgar is recruiting for both debate and speech for this fall, and he judges at many high school events so he can tell students about Missouri Western's program. The University offers scholarships for both speech and debate.

The program hosted the Golden Griffon Invitational, a high school speech contest and student congress, on campus in February, and Missouri Western students and employees served as judges. ■

Super Science Saturday

Children and families once again filled Remington and Agenstein halls for the St. Joseph Museums' Super Science Saturday.



Alumnus buys St. Joseph Golden Corral

A 2013 participant in Missouri Western's applied entrepreneurship program purchased the Golden Corral in St. Joseph, Missouri. Scott Lassen '10, who was awarded a Fresca's Mexican Grill in Woodburn, Oregon in the 2013 competition, sold that restaurant to another Missouri Western alum and moved to St. Joseph to operate the Golden Corral.

Lassen received a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration from Missouri Western and an MBA from California State University-Long Beach. In 2013, he enrolled in the applied entrepreneurship class in the Craig School of Business. Although he was living in California, he was able to participate in the class via Skype.

At the end of the class he was awarded the Fresca's restaurant that was owned by Steve Craig, benefactor of Missouri Western and for whom the Craig School of Business is named.



New owner Scott Lassen '10 at the Golden Corral in St. Joseph.

Lassen had great success at Fresca's and sold it to Mindy Schimming '14, a participant in the applied entrepreneurship program in 2015.

The Golden Corral in St. Joseph is about four times bigger than Fresca's in revenue and staff size.

"Scott is one of the stars of our program," said Pam Klaus '03, director of franchise programs in the Craig School

of Business. "By turning around a small business, he's earned the opportunity to own and manage a much larger business, and he has ambitions to go even further."

In addition to owning a restaurant, Lassen develops smart phone apps, including one to

help people learn to speak, read and write Arabic.

"This is one of the best examples of the vision of the program's architect, Steve Craig," said Dr. Michael Lane, dean of the Craig School of Business. "We provide the winners with a minimal risk opportunity to assume ownership of their first franchise so they can prove themselves and move into more complex business opportunities." ■

New academic school established

Missouri Western established a new School of Nursing and Health Professions in February.

The School of Nursing and Health Professions will be housed within the College of Professional Studies and will be led by an associate dean. The School will include Missouri Western's master's degree programs in nursing and undergraduate programs for nursing, health information management, physical therapist assistant and the new population health management degree, established by a gift from Mosaic Life Care. Of the five programs in the new school, four have achieved national program accreditation. Because the population health management

program is unique, there is currently not an opportunity for accreditation.

"Our health-related programs are extremely well respected and warrant a 'school' designation," said Dr. Robert Vartabedian, Missouri Western's president. "The change recognizes the important role these programs have at Missouri Western, and will enhance the already strong external relationships our nursing and health professions programs have with Mosaic Life Care and other health industry organizations."

Dr. Jeanne Daffron '75, provost and vice president for academic affairs, noted that the number of faculty, students, and graduates annually from programs in the existing Department of Nursing and Allied Health are similar to the numbers

in the current Craig School of Business and the School of Fine Arts.

Dr. Kathleen O'Connor, dean of professional studies, says the programs in the School of Nursing and Health Professions are complex and require extensive management.

"School designation will help us recruit an effective leader for the associate dean position who can provide strong oversight of the student admissions processes, regulatory expectations, clinical affiliations, and other factors that make these programs unique," Dr. O'Connor said.

The search for the first associate dean of nursing and health professions was expected to begin immediately. ■

Community supports international students

When Fumi Cheever, a native of Japan, was an undergraduate student at the University of Nevada-Reno, she didn't have a lot of interaction with the Reno community. So when she was working on her master's degree at Grand Valley State University in Allendale, Michigan, she sought out volunteer opportunities in the community, and even got international undergraduate students involved.

"I realized how important it was and how it benefits both ways," she said of the community service.

That community involvement is because of Christy Gregory, whose husband is pastor at Brookdale.

When they moved to St. Joseph last year, Gregory said she realized that community members wanted to be involved with the international students, and the International Student Services Office wanted the community to be involved, "but no one knew how to go about it."

Gregory initiated conversations with the Missouri Western office and with her fellow church members, and the program took off from there.

Brookdale members hosted a breakfast for international student orientation at the beginning of both the fall and spring semesters, held a bonfire, invited students into their homes for Thanksgiving, decorated cookies for Christmas, celebrated Easter, and went ice skating and bowling. Additionally, many community members attended international student events on campus throughout the academic year.

Gregory noted that community members don't have to be a member of Brookdale if they want to get involved. It's as simple as getting on her email list and choosing the activities you want to be a part of.

"It's the perfect thing for busy people. There's no commitment, and they can get involved only as much as they want," she said.

Cheever said it has been wonderful for the international students.

"International students are connected to campus, but it's very important and valuable to them to learn about American family life and how



Americans celebrate holidays. They (community members) offer experiences that a college campus can't necessarily provide."

"It starts with an event, but it branches into deeper relationships," Gregory said. "Students really get to know people off campus."

She noted that some in her group have even become English partners for the international students, helping them get a better grasp of the language.

"It helps overcome stereotypes and misconceptions," Cheever said. "It's been a very positive relationship with Brookdale."

To get involved, email Christy at gregory_christy@hotmail.com. ■



Left, international students enjoy breakfast provided by Brookdale Presbyterian Church members; top, Missouri Western students participate in a speed-meeting event hosted by International Student Services; and bottom, Drew and Fumi Cheever were one of three couples who shared their experiences at an Intercultural Relationship Session on campus.

For that reason, she was pleased to see that, when she arrived on campus last September, Missouri Western's International Student Services Office had already developed a relationship with community members. Her first week on the job, members of Brookdale Presbyterian Church in St. Joseph hosted an ice cream social for international students and to welcome her to Missouri Western.

Attention, youth: Adventure awaits

For Gerald Small, instructor of health, physical education and recreation, it's all about getting youth outside and doing things they might not normally get to do. That was why he started Missouri Western's Adventure Sports Academy last year and is offering it for a second time next month.

Last year, ASA was held the same week as the Department of Health, Physical Education and Recreation's long-running Lifetime Sports Academy, and the two will run concurrently again this year. While the Lifetime Sports Academy is for children 8 to 12 years old, Small's academy is for youth finishing sixth-grade through eighth-grade. Missouri Western students will again help run both academies.



Participants in the 2015 Adventure Sports Academy enjoyed scuba diving, a cardboard regatta race and martial arts lessons, among a host of other fun activities.

Small said most of the activities from the first ASA were a big hit, and he will repeat the most popular ones this year, including SCUBA diving in the University pool, the ropes challenge course at William Jewell College, skeet shooting, canoeing, lacrosse and a handmade cardboard regatta race.

Last year, rain spoiled plans for a campout, but the group improvised by using the Griffon Indoor Sports Complex for flashlight games and sleeping, and the nearby Chris Faros Pavilion to cook out.

This year, Small hopes they can hold their campout outside and maybe add paddleboarding to their activity list.

Small said the ASA not only gives participants the opportunity to try new activities, but also helps youth learn about themselves and develop leadership skills. "They find out about their strengths, their weaknesses and their passions, and they overcome fears. Kids begin to say, 'hey, I can do this.'"

"They find out about their strengths, their weaknesses and their passions, and they overcome fears. Kids begin to say, 'hey, I can do this.'"

— Gerald Small, HPER instructor

He noted that most youth believe that if they don't play an organized sport, they are not an athlete, or are not athletic. "That's just not true," Small said. "A lot of times, the best ones in these activities were never in organized sports." ■

Adventure Sports Academy and Lifetime Sports Academy will be held June 6-10. For more information, go to missouriwestern.edu/hper and click on Adventure Sports Academy or call (816) 271-4991.



New to the U: Dr. Paul Orscheln

Dr. Paul Orscheln is Missouri Western's associate vice president for enrollment management, a newly created position. He started at the University in February. In this role, Dr. Orscheln will oversee the offices of Admissions, Registrar, and ATLAS (Advising, Tutoring, Learning and Academic Support), which includes the Center for Student Success and Advising, and the Center for Academic Support.

Before joining Missouri Western, Dr. Orscheln was the vice president, Student Services and Enrollment Management at Colorado State University-Pueblo.

He earned bachelor's and master's degrees from the University of Central Missouri, and a doctorate in educational leadership and policy analysis from the University of Missouri-Columbia. ■



Dr. Paul Orscheln

Bradley family establishes loan program

A St. Joseph family has established a fund to help students and alumni acquire financing to start or purchase a business. The Bradley family, owners of the News-Press & Gazette Company, pledged \$300,000 to the MWSU Foundation to create the Bradley Entrepreneurship Loan Program.

"The Bradley family has long supported Missouri Western, and we are very appreciative of this latest example of their generosity," said Dr. Robert Vartabedian, Missouri Western's president. "The program will provide very meaningful assistance to our students and alumni who are interested in owning their own business."

The loan program will provide up to \$100,000 to guarantee loans from banks or other lenders. It will be administered by the Center for Entrepreneurship within the Craig School of Business.

"The Bradley Entrepreneurship Loan

Program fits very well with the Center's mission to train, mentor and support business owners and entrepreneurs in the St. Joseph area," said Dr. Mike Lane, dean of the Craig School of Business. "Financing can be one of the biggest challenges for those starting out as a business owner, and this program will help us address that."

Applicants will be required to develop and submit a comprehensive business plan to the Center for Entrepreneurship. A committee made up of Dr. Lane and representatives from the CSB Advisory Council and the MWSU Foundation Board will review the application. If approved, the Craig School of Business will work with the entrepreneur to identify an appropriate lender to participate in the program. The MWSU Foundation will then provide the bank with a certificate of deposit as collateral for the loan.

Preference will be given to businesses in Buchanan County. The program can help establish a new business or it can assist businesses transitioning from family ownership to new ownership.

Annette Weeks, director of the Center for Entrepreneurship, said she will be able to identify good prospects for the loan program from among students and alumni. She believes that being able to assist prospective buyers through this program and connecting them with owners wanting to retire will prevent long-time businesses from closing.

For more information on the loan program or to begin the application process, contact Weeks at (816) 271-4283 or aweeks@missouriwestern.edu.

"We are proud to help new and existing businesses grow and prosper in the community," said David Bradley, NPG Co. chairman and CEO. ■



| Great Northwest Days |

Several members of the Student Government Association participated in the Great Northwest Days at the state capitol in Jefferson City, Missouri and visited with several legislators. Great Northwest Days is a cooperative effort among northwest Missouri communities to travel to Jefferson City to meet with legislators. Pictured from left in the Senate chambers are Cierra Edwards, Brad Stanton, SGA executive vice president; Ida Haefner, SGA president; State Sen. Dan Hegeman; Alec Guy; Megan Helt; Haden McDonald; and Shana Meyer, vice president of student affairs.

Manufacturers benefit from partnership

A partnership between Missouri Western's Western Institute, area businesses, the University's Innovation Stockyard, the St. Joseph Chamber of Commerce and the St. Joseph School District has created a workforce development initiative that will provide skilled employees for manufacturing companies in the region.

Last fall, Dr. Gary Clapp, coordinator of workforce development and grants procurement for the Western Institute, began teaching a course at Hillyard Technical Center to students who wanted to earn a Manufacturing Technician Level 1 (MT1) certificate.

For several months prior to the class, area manufacturers, especially those in the animal health industries, had difficulty finding employees for their production positions, Dr. Clapp said.

"Businesses were concerned about their ability to generate interest in critical production positions. How do we address that hole in our workforce? That is a difficult spot to fill."

Cathy Martin, vice president, human resources at Boehringer Ingelheim Vetmedica, had previously worked in Virginia and was familiar with the Virginia Manufacturers Association's manufacturing certificate program

that was created in 2006. She suggested that it be initiated in St. Joseph to help address the manufacturers' workforce needs.

The Western Institute worked with the Hillyard Technical Center to create a cohort for the pilot program. They identified high school seniors who were currently enrolled in classes at Hillyard, and Patt Lilly, Chamber president and CEO, arranged funding for the class from area businesses and the United Way of Greater St. Joseph.

Dr. Clapp enrolled in the MT1 "Train the Trainer" course in July 2015 and subsequently passed the certification exam in August. After certification, Dr. Clapp began teaching the course to the first cohort of 23 students. One of the students passed the tests and earned his MT1 certification in just five weeks.

The certification course consists of 10 modules in three sections: Math for Manufacturing, Mechanical and Spatial Reasoning, and Business Acumen. Additionally, there are three learning objectives of the MT1 Certification: 1) Students will have a greater understanding of modern manufacturing and production processes; 2) Students will be able

to generate a high-level process flow map of a manufacturing process; and 3) Students will be able to describe the type of skills and work behaviors that are required to obtain a job and be successful in a manufacturing company.

The Western Institute was also approved as an assessment center, and two staff members along with Dr. Clapp were approved as exam proctors for those who complete the course.

Area manufacturers, especially those in the Animal Health Corridor, told Dr. Clapp that job applicants who have earned the MT1 certification will be moved to the top of the applicant pool for production positions.

"This (certification) tells employers that this person has the drive and the thought processes, and is trainable. It doesn't guarantee them a job but it can certainly give them many extra tools to be productive on the line," Dr. Clapp said.

The certification program is "a plank in the platform of our education continuum," he added. "This is an awesome program for someone not quite prepared for a two-year or four-year degree. It is a great complement to our education system." ■

Missouri Western's swimming pool stays afloat

After several months of campus and community forums and discussion, Missouri Western's swimming pool will be repaired and remain open. Thanks to a five-year agreement with the City of St. Joseph, the pool will now be open to the public at least 30 hours per week, as well.

In February, the Board of Governors approved the agreement and authorized nearly \$600,000 in pool renovations.

Work, which begins this month, includes renovation of the entire pool shell interior and pool deck, the addition of a new storefront entryway and ticket office, renovation of the locker rooms, and the addition of a family restroom and changing area, among other improvements. The pool will be closed for construction most of the summer.

Under the agreement, the city will make an annual payment to offset part of the pool's operating expenses and provide programming in the pool. The city's aquatic recreation supervisor will also help manage the pool September through March. The city's payment for the first year will be up to \$61,400, with subsequent years based on a percentage of expenses that exceed revenues. ■

CENTENNIAL CAPITAL CAMPAIGN SEES SUCCESS

As the Centennial Capital Campaign moves forward in its second year, excitement is in the air. Spratt Memorial Stadium is nearing completion, resulting in an outstanding stadium building, Stadium Club and concourse; and the largest video scoreboard in Division II.

Jerry Pickman '85, executive director of the Missouri Western Foundation and vice president for University Advancement, said he is pleased with the campaign results to date.

"We have received outstanding pledges and gifts from many generous donors, and we are excited about the future," Pickman said.

When the stadium project was well underway, he said the campaign began to focus on the renovation of Potter Hall, which houses the School of Fine Arts (art, music, and theatre, cinema and dance).

Through the strategic use of reserves, Missouri Western recently added a circle drive, more restrooms and a percussion

space. Thanks to Missouri House Bill 19, the University received \$4.8 million in capital improvements, and \$325,000 is earmarked for ceiling, carpeting and HVAC improvements in Potter Hall.

The Missouri Western Arts Society recently donated its 2015-2016 membership dues totaling \$32,000 to the Potter Hall project, which

will be used to leverage the state funds and be used for work done at the same time as HB19 work.

"The work will make it look 100 percent better," said Dr. Bob Willenbrink, founding dean of the School of Fine Arts. "We hope it will inspire people to give to the Potter Hall project."

Other immediate facility needs in Potter Hall include increased practice, classroom and rehearsal space; graphic design labs; a black box theater and natural-light studios, among other improvements. Cost for these improvements is approximately \$5 million.

Another need is for additional performance space. Currently, the Potter Hall theater seats 430 and is used for both music performances and theatre productions. In the past three years, the number of those performances has increased, and many of the music ensembles must perform off-campus

because of conflicting performance and rehearsal schedules and limited performance spaces.

The results of the campus master planning initiative highlight Missouri Western's need for additional performance space. Performance space at peer universities revealed that Missouri Western

is the only university without a large performance hall. Missouri Western also had the lowest number of performance seating per student of the 10 universities surveyed.

Additionally, a gallery and lobby space will be created near the 800-seat performance center to display the works of internationally known sculptor Brent Collins, who has committed to giving his life's work to Missouri Western on permanent loan. Cost of the performance center and gallery/lobby space is approximately \$10 million.

"The campaign hopes to address as many of the facility needs in Potter Hall as possible," Pickman said. "The renovation work will help us recruit the best and brightest students and serve as one of the region's leading fine and performing arts centers."

To support the Centennial Capital Campaign, call Kim Weddle, director of development, at (816) 271-5648 or email weddle@missouriwestern.edu. ■



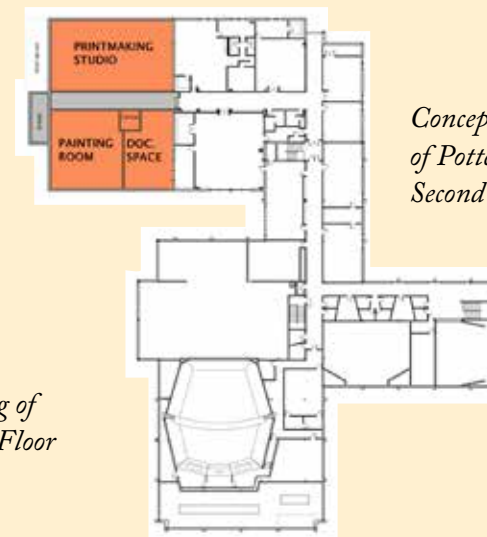
100 YEARS of TRANSFORMING LIVES

POTTER HALL PROJECT
PHASE 1 — \$5 million
investment in expanding the
necessary classroom space.

PHASE 2 — \$10 million
investment in a new perfor-
mance facility and lobby.



Conceptual drawing of
Potter Hall - First Floor



Conceptual drawing
of Potter Hall -
Second Floor

GIFT SUPPORTS CRAIG SCHOOL ENTREPRENEURS

A Savannah, Missouri native who has been involved in the Craig School of Business's Applied Entrepreneurship program pledged \$100,000 to the Centennial Capital Campaign. Tom Payn, a longtime friend of Steve Craig, for whom the School of Business is named, made the gift to support the entrepreneurship program.

The program, which began in 2009 with a partnership between Craig, Rocky Mountain Chocolate Factory and Missouri Western, gives students and alumni of the Craig School of Business the opportunity to compete to own a franchise. In the ensuing years, the program has expanded to include other businesses in addition to RMCF, and by the end of last year, program participants were operating 19 businesses in 11 states.

Payn, who lives in a suburb of Denver, was on the panel of judges that selected the first entrepreneur, Seth

Lyons '08, and Payn has returned to judge every competition since.

"I continue to be a part of the program ultimately because of the great results we have all seen from the graduates and winners," he said. "In addition, it is a pleasure for me to get back 'home' every year and see the number of people who have participated throughout the years. I also hope that my own business background has added some value to the overall program."

The pledge is not the first time Payn has supported the program. In fact, he made business loans to two of the Missouri Western graduates to help them open their businesses, and has contributed funding several times over the years. After the 2015 competition last June, Payn said he decided to make a large pledge to the program.

Payn, who graduated from the University of Denver, opened his first Subway sandwich shop in 1989, and

over the years, has owned 40 stores. In 2013, he owned 33 at one time, employing 325 people and generating about \$18.5 million in sales.

"Looking back, those first few years of working 60-70 hours per week seem so far in the distance," he said. "Today, some of the fruits of the sacrifices I made allow me to invest in other opportunities."

Payn noted that he admires Craig's dedication to the entrepreneurship program. "I don't think even Steve envisioned what the program has become when it started. His commitment and generosity to the program is truly his legacy that he has built for Missouri Western," Payn said. "For me to piggyback even a bit onto this legacy is a privilege. Like everyone else associated with the program, I take a great deal of pride in the successes that the graduates have had." ■

Arizona Visit

Michael Meierhoffer and By Browne '62, and Sherry Trout and Jeannie Pitluck, enjoy a gathering of Missouri Western alumni and supporters at the Tonto Verde Country Club in Rio Verde, Arizona in February. The event was hosted by Steve and Jeannie Pitluck.



Charting a career course

Kay-lynn Taylor became the director of the Career Development Center in the fall of 2013. After she met with several students, she said her first priority became very clear.

"Every student I spoke with didn't know this office existed, so the first step was making sure we had a presence on campus," Taylor said.

In the ensuing months since she arrived, she has indeed made the center more well known, and has launched several initiatives to reach the students and make sure they benefit from the center and its resources.

One of Taylor's first tasks was expanding the Griffons4Hire website and increasing its usage. She increased the number of employers on the site, along with growing the number of students using the site. When Taylor was hired, about 45 students were utilizing the resources on the website. Last semester, more than 3,500 had accessed it.

The website is now packed with career advice, including videos titled "Interview-BEFORE," "The Elevator Pitch," and "Make Your Resume POP;" resume templates and a link to thecampuscareercoach.com.

Her next steps were launching two programs – one for student employees and one to help students with career planning.

E3 – Exemplary Employee Experience – was created to improve the experience of the more than 700 student employees on campus. The program included training student employee supervisors and creating a manual for them; and getting them familiar with Griffons4Hire. E3 worked with the three offices that manage the student employment areas – Human Resources,

the Business Office and the Financial Aid Office – to improve services for students.

"Student employment is an important part of the learning experience at Missouri Western," Taylor said. "We need to make sure we are offering students a meaningful employment experience, fostering career readiness and developing the skills they will need in the workforce."

Taylor received three awards for E3, two national and one regional – Student Employment Innovation Award, the Regional Innovative Program Award and the National Career Program Award.

In the spring of 2015, Taylor launched her second program, SPARTA (Student Professional and Academic Retention Tracking Assessment). The program consisted of three, one-on-one, one-hour career coaching sessions with Taylor. By the end of the three sessions, participants created a resume, cover letter and elevator speech, and all were critiqued by Taylor. SPARTA, she said, helps students narrow their focus, explore careers and create an individualized career plan. Taylor also makes sure students are aware of all the campus resources regarding academic success. In the fall semester, 77 students participated.

One of those students, Victoria Byerley '15, said the program helped her think about what she really wanted career-wise, and helped her decide to try out for a professional internship at Disney World (see page 18).

"Kay-lynn is a great resource; she is wonderful," Byerley said.

"SPARTA helps students have forethought on how to manage their careers," Taylor said. "We discuss a



Recreation Services
Meagan Bosch
Freshman
Nursing

number of topics, but the focus is on the student. I see light bulbs go off every day."

The center also offers resume boot camps and workshops on how to prepare for internships, including mock interviews; and helping students prepare for career fairs. Additionally, the students who work in the center are trained to serve as career mentors and help review other students' resumes.

In the past year, Taylor also changed the career fair format. Rather than have all-majors career fairs, she changed the fairs to major/discipline specific. Missouri Western will now host seven career fairs throughout the year in different focus areas.

"We want to make sure we are telling all our students what we need to be telling them about the career world. People are hiring, and students have to be prepared," Taylor said. "We want to embed career planning in everything we do for the students." ■

Working Griffs

Brett McKnight worked his way through college when he was a student, and now he's helping Missouri Western students who are on the same road. Since he arrived on campus almost two years ago, the student employment coordinator in the Career Development Center helps students find jobs, keep jobs, enjoy their jobs and learn skills that will help them in their careers.

"National studies have shown that students who work on campus have higher success and persistence rates," he said, adding that the ideal workload is 10-15 hours per week.

Because working on campus makes a big difference in college experiences, the Career Development Center launched E3 – Exemplary Employee Experience – last year to ensure that students have

a good work experience (see article on page 16, Charting a career course). From that initiative, a student employment committee was formed to address issues as they occur.

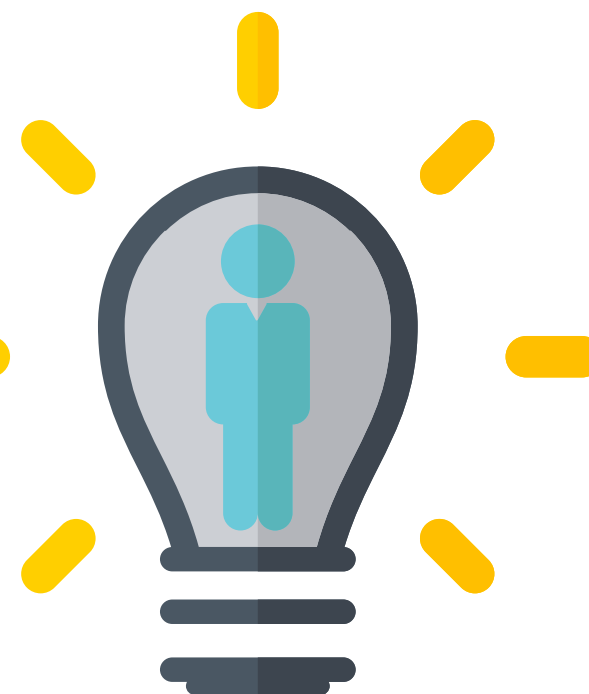
Missouri Western student employees are valued, McKnight said. He noted that for the 2014-15 fiscal year, the University spent more than \$1.7 million on student salaries for more than 200,000 hours of work and 736 students.

Students who work on campus are limited to 20 hours per week, but many hold two on-campus jobs or work another part-time job in the community, all while going to classes and doing homework. And, many students meet the challenge of holding a full-time job while a full-time student.

When students are ready to graduate and are looking for a full-time position in their field, McKnight said employers like to see that students have held a job, any job, during their college careers. Many students, he said, may not work when they are

Career Development Center
Justice Wesley
Sophomore
Psychology

Ryan Knotts
Sophomore
Psychology



"I like when a student connects their job on campus with what they want for a career. I like those Aha! moments."

– Brett McKnight, student employment coordinator

freshmen or sophomores so that they can concentrate on their school work, but by their junior or senior year, they start thinking about what will be on their resume when they graduate.

The last survey taken of Missouri Western students revealed that 75 percent of them had at least one job, and he estimates that most of them work at least 20 hours per week.

"I like when a student connects their job on campus with what they want for a career," McKnight said. "I like those Aha! moments." ■

Victoria Byerley '15: Internship magic

What do you see when you look out your office window? When Victoria Byerley '15 was completing a six-month internship last year, her view was of her "absolutely favorite place in the world," Walt Disney World in Orlando, Florida.

Byerley was selected for a professional internship with Disney after she graduated with a Bachelor of Business Administration in Marketing in May 2015. She worked closely with two Disney employees in the Theme Parks and Resorts pricing from June 10 through Dec. 29, focusing on niche and international pricing.

"I really did feel like I was an important part of the team," she said. "It definitely fulfilled my expectations."

Byerley noted that this Disney internship is different than the internships the company offers to college students, because all the participants in the professional internship are college graduates, and it is very difficult to get accepted into the program. She said of the seven interns who worked in the pricing area, five had earned master's degrees or were in master's degree programs.

One of the perks of the internship, of course, was deeply discounted tickets to Disney World. Byerley estimates she probably visited the parks in her free time at least 70 times.

"It was a lot of fun. It was a good balance of work and play."

The Disney internship fulfilled a longtime dream for Byerley. She had visited Disney World and Disneyland many times with her family over the years, and had always wanted to work there. "If I was saving money to travel, it was always to go to Disney World."



Three years ago, Byerley transferred to Missouri Western from a community college near her hometown of Manteno, Illinois, and immediately got involved in several organizations in an effort to meet people. She believes her involvement in the Student Government Association, Western Appeal A capella, the business fraternity Alpha Kappa Psi, the Craig School of Business Dean's Advisory Council and serving as a student ambassador helped her obtain the Disney internship.

"It really helped me stand out against my peers, and the skills I learned at Missouri Western helped me with my internship."

Byerley said she also appreciated the help she received from the Career

Development Center as a participant in the center's SPARTA (Student Professional and Academic Retention Tracking Assessment) program when she was a student.

Meeting one-on-one with the center's director, Kay-lynn Taylor, gave her the opportunity to really understand her strengths and learn about career options she hadn't considered.

"It helped me realize what I really wanted, and to make a decision about the future. Meeting with Kay-lynn showed me a lot about myself that I hadn't thought about," Byerley said. "It helped me move on to try for the Disney internship."

When she returned from her internship, she began working in the Human Resources Office at H & R Block in Kansas City, Missouri. ■



Victoria Byerley '15 at her favorite place – Walt Disney World.

Sarah Fergione: Houston, we have an intern

After visiting the Remington Hall labs and learning that she could conduct research with Missouri Western professors, Sarah Fergione knew she had found the right place to finish her college education. Fergione, a native of East Lyme, Connecticut, said she moved around a lot and attended several colleges because her husband is in the military, and she was impressed with Missouri Western's science labs.

"There is so much instrumentation here that schools with a much higher population don't have," she said. "And, a lot of places don't put an emphasis on research until your junior or senior year, but (at Missouri Western) they want you to jump right in with research."

That hands-on experience in the labs and her opportunity to conduct research with faculty helped Fergione secure a three-month internship at NASA's Johnson Space Center in Houston during the summer of 2015.

At the space center, Fergione, a senior biochemistry and molecular biology major, mainly worked in the microbiology lab on an independent research project involving water samples and bacteria from the International Space Station. "I was seeing if the

microbes reacted differently to stressors on earth as opposed to in space," she said.

Her internship included rotations in several labs, including an immunology lab and a food lab. (Did you know our taste buds don't work as well in space as they do on earth?)

Fergione said she also worked with a team of engineers on the Orion Spacecraft's condensing heat exchanger, testing it to see if microbes could form on it. Orion is NASA's new human spacecraft that is slated to travel to Mars.

"The most important thing I learned was how important collaboration is. There's not a lab (at Johnson) that works by itself," she said.

Fergione graduates this month and plans to attend graduate school this fall to study biological/biomedical engineering and cancer biology.

"Missouri Western offered a lot of extras through the research," she said. "It's a really good environment." ■



Sarah Fergione completed an internship for NASA.

"There is so much instrumentation here that schools with a much higher population don't have."

- Sarah Fergione, speaking about MWSU's technology



WILD WEST FIREFIGHTERS

Help wanted for a job in the wilderness. Beautiful scenery with camping accommodations and an occasional shower. May be smoky conditions with long days and no days off. Must not mind walking in ash up to your knees and must be able to carry up to 50 pounds. All day. Required to keep an eye out for poison ivy, poison oak and falling trees. And maybe bears or bear traps.

Such an ad doesn't really exist, but if it did, who would answer it? Probably someone like students Tony Schneider and Matthew Gillstrom, whose summer jobs are fighting wildfires in the western United States.

"It's definitely not for someone who can't take a 16-hour day of hiking and

climbing," Gillstrom said. "Our bodies do go through a lot."

The former Marine and health and exercise science major has spent the last two summers fighting wildfires. Gillstrom says he enjoys the firefighting job because he is a lifter, runner, hiker and climber, basically "anything that tests your body. I push my body to the breaking point or until my dog can't run anymore," he said, laughing.

Last year, he recruited Schneider, a criminal justice major who was in the Tau Kappa Epsilon Fraternity with Gillstrom, and this past summer, both completed two 14-day stints (not including travel days), Gillstrom in Arizona, New Mexico and Wyoming; and Schneider in California and Colorado.

Gillstrom enrolled in the wildfire certification course that is held on campus through the Bureau of Indian Affairs in 2013. In order to gain the certification, participants must, among other tests, carry a 45-lb. weighted

vest and walk three miles in under 45 minutes. Schneider earned his certification the next year.

Fighting wildfires usually entails long days, 14 days straight. A normal day starts at 5 a.m. to get everything ready and make sure their tools are sharp. If it's nothing "too crazy," they'll begin the hike back to their campsite around 6 or 7 p.m., eat dinner, hang out a little and talk.

A lot of the work involves clearing trees and creating breaks, usually two to four feet wide, to contain the fire. Or the crew, which is normally comprised of 21 or 22 firefighters, may work in a fire's aftermath, cutting down trees while wading through ash and flames; or spraying down stump holes to put out the fire in the roots. The men said they have to watch out for the widow makers, branches that fall and bring another tree down with them.

"You do worry about debris, snags or trees falling," Schneider said. "But I really thought it was going to be more dangerous."

Sometimes it is. Once, Gillstrom and his crew were eating lunch on a hillside when the lookout radioed, "Get out; run down as fast as you can," because the wildfire was heading their way.

On the first two-week assignment this past summer, Schneider said he was able to take a shower just once throughout the 14 days, and Gillstrom admitted a Wyoming trip allowed only one shower after 12 days.

"Baby wipes are baths, but some guys don't even do that," Gillstrom said with a laugh.

Both like the firefighting job and plan to sign on this coming summer, too. The pay is great, and they enjoy the travel, being outdoors and the excitement; really, they said, they enjoy the entire experience.

Schneider remembers climbing to the top of a mountain and marveling at the scenery below.

"It's a great thing to do in the summer," Gillstrom said. ■

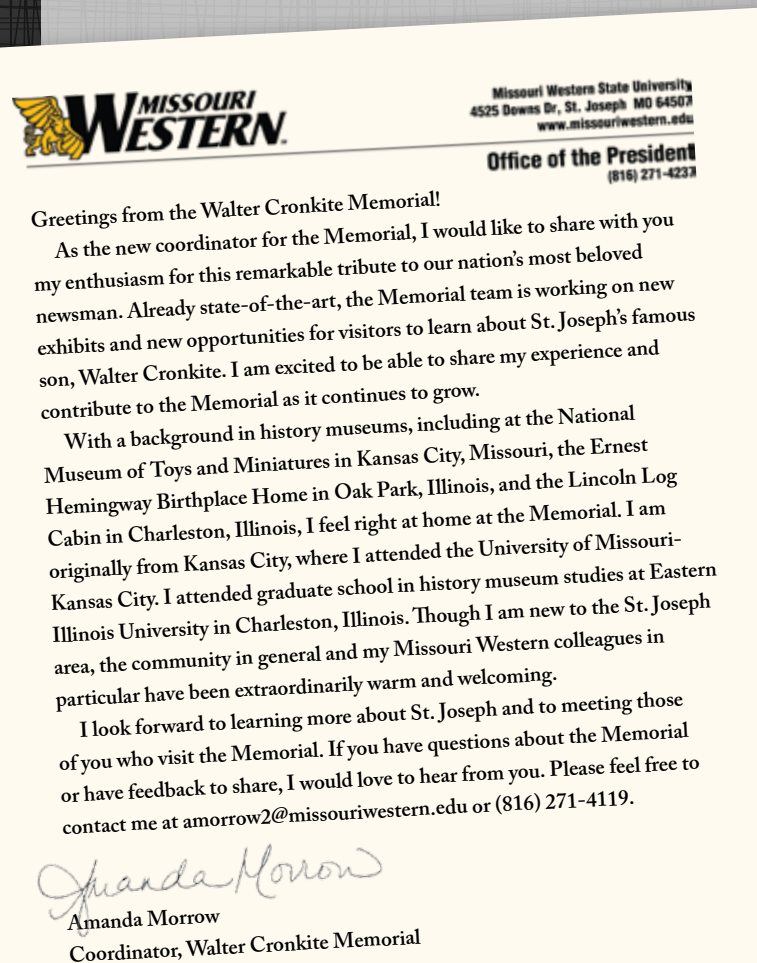
If wildfire fighters like Matthew Gillstrom and Tony Schneider had time to keep a journal, it might read something like this:

JOURNAL

- Day 1. We hiked 45 minutes to the work site.
Day 2. I have six blisters on each foot.
Day 3. The crew came across old bear traps in the mountains today.
Day 4. I woke up feeling like I smoked five packs of cigarettes the day before.
Day 5. I'm with a good crew this time; that makes a big difference.
Day 7. Got back to camp early enough to do an After Action Report - the crew circled up and discussed what the goal was, how we did, what we could have done better.
Day 8. Sometimes you just have to focus on one thing just to get it done.
Day 9. I saw a mountain lion today.
Day 10. I'm starting to count the days until we're done. Our bodies are so tired, so drained.
Day 12. Finally got to take a shower.
Day 13. I'm so sore, I can hardly get up in the morning. We're all hurting so bad. The last two days are the worst.
Day 14. Hiked two hours in to start working. Finally, the last day.
Day 16. I'm home.
Day 17. I want to go back.

WALTER CRONKITE MEMORIAL NEWS

Celebrating the Centennial of Native son Walter Cronkite's Birth



Memorial complimentary letters

Dr. Vartabedian received two complimentary letters from recent visitors to the Walter Cronkite Memorial.

Kurt Graham, director of the Harry S. Truman Presidential Library and Museum in Independence, Missouri, visited the Memorial for a showing of "Harry & Walter: Missouri's Native Sons."

"To say that we were impressed with the Memorial would be a gross understatement," Graham said in his letter. He went on to say that the University's presentation of the Memorial and the programming built around the exhibits "add up to a model other universities and museums would be proud to adopt." Dr. Vartabedian's "personal passion for the subject, [his] students, and the public" is made very clear though the quality of the Memorial.

Bob Slater, former managing editor of the St. Joseph News-Press, visited the Memorial for the November 2015 dedication event. Slater has had the opportunity to interview both Truman and Cronkite in the past and believes that the qualities he saw in them were clearly displayed within the Memorial. He states that the Memorial is a "huge asset" to St. Joseph. Slater compliments the presentation of "Harry & Walter" and "Cronkite" on their "solid, insightful scripts, [and] the choice of some fine actors."

Thank you, Mr. Graham and Mr. Slater for the complimentary words. We are glad you enjoyed your visit to the Memorial!



Dr. Kurt Graham, director of the Harry S. Truman Presidential Library and Museum, visited the Walter Cronkite Memorial last fall. Dr. Robert Vartabedian gave him a tour of the memorial and Dr. Graham attended a performance of "Harry & Walter: Missouri's Native Sons."

WCM Briefs

- Save the date and mark your calendar! Missouri Western and the Walter Cronkite Memorial will celebrate what would have been Cronkite's 100th birthday on Nov. 4, 2016. Planning is underway; visit waltercronkitememorial.org for more details as the date gets closer.
- Thanks to the Dolph Briscoe Center for American History at the University of Texas at Austin for their generous donation to the Walter Cronkite Memorial! The center gave Missouri Western Cronkite's desk and chair from his studio at CBS, and several artifacts that belonged to Cronkite. Missouri Western also acquired several display and document cases, and large murals of Cronkite that the center had used for a temporary exhibit a few years

back. The desk, chair and artifacts will be added to the memorial by the 100th birthday celebration of Cronkite on Nov. 4, 2016.

- Dr. Gary Clapp, coordinator of workforce development and grants procurement for the Western Institute, received a \$2,500 grant from the Missouri Humanities Council to fund "Harry & Walter: Missouri's Native Sons," a live multimedia performance about Walter Cronkite and President Harry S. Truman. This is Dr. Clapp's fourth grant for the production. He has previously received grants from the Missouri Arts Council, The City of St. Joseph and Buchanan County. ■

Live, multimedia performances go on the road

"Harry & Walter: Missouri's Native Sons," a live, multimedia performance produced by Missouri Western, will be performed at 11 a.m. for President Truman's May 8, 2016 birthday celebration at the Truman Presidential Library and Museum, 500 W. U.S. Hwy. 24, Independence, Missouri. Additionally, Missouri Western's artist-in-residence, Eric Fuson, will have an exhibit on the parallel lives of Cronkite and Truman at the Truman Library that will run through May 15.

The role of Cronkite is played by Jim Korinke and the role of Truman is played by Ken Remmert. Both are Kansas

City-area equity actors. Korinke also plays Cronkite in the memorial's live, multimedia production, "Cronkite."

Personnel in the Instructional Media Center are combining the two live shows, and a third one in the works, into one show, "And That's The Way It Is." That show will be performed Sept. 23 at the New York Public Library for the Performing Arts in the Lincoln Center Plaza, and "Cronkite" will be performed Sept. 25 at the Newseum in Washington, D.C. "And That's the Way It Is" will also be performed at Kansas City's Union Station this year, but a date has not yet been set. ■



**Don't miss
"Harry & Walter:
Missouri's Native Sons"
11 a.m., Sunday, May 8
Truman Presidential Library,
Independence, Missouri**

Andrew McCrea, the host of the syndicated radio program, "American Countryside," interviews Dr. Robert Vartabedian, Missouri Western's president, in the Walter Cronkite Memorial for a segment about the Memorial.

Women's basketball revives winning tradition



The MIAA regular season champions.

The Griffon women's basketball team re-wrote the record books with an unforgettable championship season. Missouri Western won the regular-season MIAA Championship for the first time since 2002 and advanced to the NCAA tournament for the first time since 2005. Along the way, the team set new program records for winning streak (18) and regular-season wins (26). The team also broke an MIAA record, winning 20 conference games. The Griffons ended the season with a 27-4 record.

LaQuinta Jefferson was named the MIAA Player of the Year, first-team

All-MIAA and first-team All-Region, and she became the 19th Griffon to reach 1,000 points in her career. Sarafina Handy was named second-team All-MIAA, and Miliakere Koyamainavure and Chelsea Dewey were named Honorable Mention All-MIAA.

The Griffons were nationally ranked as high as No. 5 in the Division II polls during the season. Several games kept fans on the edge of their seats, including a nail-biting comeback 77-75 victory over No. 3 ranked Fort Hays State in January.

The women are coached by Rob Edmisson. ■

Athletes record high GPAs

For the second consecutive fall semester, Missouri Western student athletes achieved the highest recorded GPA for the Department of Athletics.

In fall 2015, all student athletes combined recorded a 3.03 GPA. The highest team GPA was women's golf, which recorded a 3.70. The highest men's sport team GPA was baseball's 3.01.

Coach Cagle passes away

Missouri Western's first football coach, Harold Cagle, passed away Nov. 27, 2015. Cagle, a mentor to many, started the football program in 1969 and coached the team during the first four seasons from 1970-1973. Under his direction, the program improved each year. On Oct. 10, 1970, Cagle led Missouri Western to its first-ever win, a 28-35 victory versus Peru State.

He was inducted into the Griffon Athletics Hall of Fame in 1990. Cagle was also recognized as part of the Centennial celebration at halftime of the Homecoming football game in October 2015. ■

Coach Bagley Trotter reaches milestone

Already the all-time wins leader for Griffon softball, Head Coach Jen Bagley Trotter hit win No. 500 on Jan. 28 when Missouri Western defeated McKendree University 4-3 in Joplin, Missouri.

Trotter reached the milestone in her 15th season at Missouri Western. She has 10 30-win seasons in her time at Missouri Western to go with three MIAA Coach of the Year awards, one MIAA regular season championship, one MIAA Tournament championship and seven NCAA Tournament appearances. ■

Spring Sports

At press time, spring sports teams were seeing great success:

- **Baseball:** 24-11
- **Men's Golf:** finished 17th and 10th in two outings.
- **Softball:** 34-10 record; no. 18 in the NFCA DII Top 25 Coaches Poll and no. 1 in the MIAA.
- **Tennis:** 8-4
- **Women's Golf:** third in the Holiday Inn Express, hosted by Missouri Western. Shi Qing Ong tied for first place individually. ■

2016 Football schedule

Home games for the 2016 football season will be played on the newly renovated Craig Field at Spratt Memorial Stadium. When the season begins Sept. 1, construction is expected to be complete on both the stadium building and video scoreboard. Tickets will go on sale this summer. Check gogriffons.com for updates and ticket packages.

Below is the home game schedule:

Sept. 1 vs. Nebraska-Kearney

Sept. 17 vs. Central Missouri

Family Day

Oct. 1 vs. Northeastern State

Hall of Fame Game

Oct. 15 vs. Pittsburg State

Homecoming

Nov. 5 vs. Emporia State *Senior Day*

Senior football player **Michael Jordan** earned several 2015 post-season honors.

He became a three-time first-team All-MIAA selection, and was the only unanimous pick on the 2015 All-MIAA team. Jordan was also named to the first-team Super Region and the Don Hansen All-Super Region Three team, and he earned four All-American honors for the season: first-team Don Hansen, first-team D2CCA, first-team AP Little and first-team AFCA.

He also received an invitation to the 2016 East-West Shrine Bowl, which was broadcast on the NFL Network.

The senior finished the season with a career-high five interceptions, giving him 16 for his career, the second most in Missouri Western history. Jordan led the MIAA and was third in all of Division II with 22 passes defended. ■

Gold Coat Victory Fund drive

The Gold Coat Club Victory Fund drive is underway. Founded in 1969, the club raises funds to support the endeavors of all 10 sports programs of the University. Membership helps provide coaches and student athletes



with the necessary resources to help our program compete at the highest level of NCAA Division II and is open to anyone with interest in our program.

For more information, log on to gogriffons.com or call Griffon Athletics at (816) 271-4481. ■

Men's basketball ends strong

Griffon men's basketball, coached by Brett Weiberg, ended the season winning six of its final nine games to end the year 12-18 overall and 9-13 in the MIAA. After climbing into the MIAA tournament field in the last weeks of the season, Missouri Western won its first MIAA tournament game since

2010, 70-54 at Washburn University in Topeka, Kansas.

The Griffons also made MIAA history as the lowest seed (11) to ever win an MIAA Tournament game. Guard Aaron Emmanuel was named Honorable Mention All-MIAA. ■



Charity Golf Classic in June

Griffon Athletics and the YWCA invite all to the 14th Annual Missouri Western Charity Golf Classic, June 4 and 6. The weekend begins with the Charity Auction at 6 p.m. June 4 at the St. Jo Frontier Casino. The event features food, beverages and live entertainment. The evening also includes a silent auction.

Golf will be on June 6 at the St. Joseph Country Club. Cost per four-person team is \$1,000. Individual cost is \$250. Each participant receives a player pack that includes apparel, social invitations, a souvenir cup, goodie bag, lunch and unlimited beverages. For more information call (816) 271-5904. ■

Stadium construction update



Spratt Memorial Stadium is close to completion. The top photo at right shows the new suites, the center photo is the video scoreboard construction, and the bottom photo is the concourse area.

Progress continues on the Spratt Memorial Stadium renovation project. Kurt McGuffin, director of Athletics, said the project is on schedule and the spring Commencement ceremony will be held there this month.

He noted that Gold Coat members will be very happy with the new Stadium Club, which is about triple the size of the original one. The project also adds suites, which is a great enhancement for fans on game day.

The renovation project was funded by revenue bonds and several donors to the Centennial Capital Campaign.

The stadium building will be completed before the video scoreboard is finished, but work continues on that project, as well. The scoreboard is a little more than 65 feet wide and 38 feet tall

and is believed to be the largest video display in NCAA Division II.

Donors to the scoreboard include a \$1.1 million pledge from Steve Craig, and pledges from Randy and Mary Herzog, Al and Gracie Landes, Nodaway Valley Bank, O'Malley Beverage and Sunshine Electronic Display.

Work is also underway for the Victory Plaza, part of the stadium renovation and a fund-raiser for the Centennial Capital Campaign. The plaza will contain more than 230 engraved bricks that were purchased by supporters. It is located between the Griffon Indoor Sports Complex and the stadium building. Planning is continuing on a possible sculpture of a tree on the plaza. ■



From the Alumni Association President



Angie Springs '02

Dear Fellow Griffon Family,

It is hard to believe that my time as our Alumni Association President is coming to a close.

It has been an honor to serve our University in this capacity and I look forward to continuing engagement with the University through other opportunities.

This year has been an amazing year for our University. From witnessing construction taking place on campus to better serve the students to celebrating our University's Centennial Year – it's been a great time to

be a Griff! I want to thank all who have contributed to this success – whether you have given your time, talent or treasure.

As life continues us on whatever path we choose to take, I encourage you to always remember where "home" is. And whether attending a sporting event, taking in one of the great performances at Potter Hall or attending one of the many Alumni events throughout the year, I hope that in 2016, you will come see us. The door is always open.

And remember – no matter where you are in life, we all have one thing in common. We are Griffons.

Angie Springs

Angie Springs, '02
President, Alumni Association
Raising Future Griff's
Griffon Strong

| *Alumni Mardi Gras* |

Karen Turner '74, Karen Ward and RT Turner enjoy the annual Mardi Gras for alumni and friends. The event was held at Bourbon Street in downtown St. Joseph.



Coming Events

May 7 | Spring Commencement, 3 p.m., Spratt Memorial Stadium.

May 8 | "Harry & Walter: Missouri's Native Sons," Harry S. Truman Presidential Library and Museum (see p. 23).



May 10 | Nursing and healthcare worker appreciation reception, 4:30 p.m., Remington Hall atrium. Hosted by the St. Joseph Alumni Chapter.

May 30 | Memorial Day, campus closed.

June 11 | Alumni Day at the Mustangs

June 17-26 | Western Playhouse presents "Fiddler on the Roof," Potter Hall theater.



June 25 | Alumni Day at the K, Royals host the Astros.

August 7 | Sunday in the Park, hosted by the Kansas City Alumni Chapter.

September 13 | R. Dan Boulware Convocation on Critical Issues featuring Cokie Roberts, 10:30 a.m., M.O. Looney Complex. Free and open to the public.

September 23 | "And That's the Way It Is" performance in New York City (see p. 23).

September 25 | "Cronkite" performance at Washington, D.C. Newseum (see p. 23).

October 14-15 | Homecoming Weekend: Alumni Awards Banquet, Alpha Phi Alpha 25th Anniversary Reunion and Black Alumni Reunion.



Jerry Myers '71 – Faithful, proud and true

When Jerry Myers '71 was a freshman at Central High School in St. Joseph, the vice principal took a group of students to a St. Joseph Junior College basketball game. Since then, Myers says, he has been a Griffon.

"From then on, there was no question that I was only going to go to the Junior College. I knew there was nowhere else I wanted to be," Myers said.

And that is exactly what he did when he graduated from high school. He competed on the Junior College basketball and track teams, and the track team was undefeated his sophomore year. Myers returned to college when Missouri Western began offering four-year degrees and earned a bachelor's degree in physical education in 1971.

As a high schooler at the Junior College basketball game, one of the players that Myers watched was Charlie Burri '55, who became Missouri Western's first athletic director in 1966. In 1973, when Burri was looking for a sports information director, the college's first, he called Myers.

Myers took him up on the offer and remained in that position for six years.

"It was fun. A lot of it was telling people what a Griffon was," Myers said with a laugh.

His years at Missouri Western saw the first official women's teams, the development of more sports teams and the hiring of more coaches. Myers is credited with creating the Griffon logo in the shape of Missouri because he wanted to use it on letters to out-of-state players that the College was recruiting.

Even after he left the sports information position, he remained a fan. His two children, Jay Myers '89 and Kelley Schenk '92, are Missouri Western alumni.

His son played baseball as a student, and Jerry said he enjoyed going to those

games and other sporting events. Even after Jay graduated, Jerry continued to attend baseball, football, volleyball and basketball games. In fact, he and his wife, Linda, often attended away games, and still do.

"We watched when Jay was playing baseball and have just continued to be Griffons," Jerry said. "The best part is getting to know the kids."

When Jerry left Missouri Western, Dr. Marvin Looney, who was president at the time, made him a lifetime member of the Gold Coat Club, and Jerry served as president of the athletics booster club for several years. He had been a member of the Gold Coat Board for more than 30 years, and just stepped down last year. He remains on the Hall of Fame Committee for Athletics.

In the mid-1990s, when a basketball coach told him they were having trouble finding someone to wear the mascot costume, Jerry stepped up and wore the costume for three or four years.

"I told him I would do it on the condition that nobody knew who it was. But a story in the newspaper blew my cover," Jerry said. "It was a fun thing to do, and just a part of being a black and gold Griffon."

Jerry said one of his greatest moments was being inducted into the Athletics Hall of Fame in 2001.

"I've always been a Griffon. I'm so proud." ■



Every game, Jerry Myers, faithful, proud and true!

Black Alumni Network begins

Dr. James Sanders '84 wants to give back to his alma mater by helping current students. So, the assistant athletic director for the Kansas City Public Schools organized fellow alumni last year to form the Black Alumni Network. The new group has two goals: help black alumni reconnect and help current black students. He chairs the committee that has members from across the United States.

"I see today's students and remember what it was like to be in college," said Sanders, who lives in Parkville, Missouri.

He said the network wants to mentor black students and help them find connections in their career fields when they get ready to graduate.

"We can give them tips and tell them who they need to talk to," he said. "We want to help them achieve their goals."

The network is collaborating with the Center for Multicultural Education

and its coordinator, Latoya Fitzpatrick. She first connected with Sanders when she asked him to speak at the multicultural graduate reception in May 2015.

"I saw such promise in these students," he said. "I told them, 'Missouri Western gives you opportunities a lot of schools won't. They don't care where you came from or what color you are.'"

"The Black Alumni Network provides great role models for current students," Fitzpatrick said. "They can come back to their alma mater, see old friends and connect with current students. They (alumni) can show current students the end goal of graduating and getting a good job."

The network plans to host an event over Homecoming weekend in an effort to recruit new members. The historically black fraternity, Alpha Phi Alpha, is holding a reunion that weekend, and the

network plans to coordinate its gathering with that group. Lai-Monte Hunter '99, a member of the fraternity and a member of the network, is serving as a liaison between the two organizations.

Along with Sanders and Hunter, who lives in New Hampshire, committee members include Chemia Woods '08, in Arkansas, and Rev. Robert '95 and Kimberly '92 Warren, in St. Joseph, Missouri. (An article about the Warrens is on p. 30-31.)

Fitzpatrick said she appreciates that alumni want to help current students. "Seeing where they (students) can be is really impactful for students," she said. "It's great to see mentors outside of the University."

Sanders said he is looking forward to becoming more connected with both students and alumni. "To me, Missouri Western is not just a college, it's a family. It always is and always will be." ■



| Egg Hunt |

Future Griffons race up the Remington Hall stairs to search for eggs at the Mama Griffs Egg Hunt in March. Magician David Sandy also provided entertainment at the event.

Kimberly '92 and Robert '95 Warren: empowering families

Shortly after Robert Warren '96 became a pastor and founded Word of Faith Worship Center in St. Joseph, Missouri, his wife, Kimberly '92, suggested that they open a learning center for children from their church and neighborhood.

"I couldn't even imagine that," Robert said with a laugh. "That was a huge step off the grid and into the deep."

But open a learning center they did, using two buildings, a former school and the mansion of a former state governor; just south of 20th and Messanie Streets. Fifteen years later, MidCity Excellence Community Learning Center is thriving and continuing to meet the needs of an underserved population. Since it began, the Warrens' center has served more than 1,000 youth.

Kimberly noted that children who come from families in poverty do not have the option of taking lessons or getting involved in a number of after-school or weekend activities because their families can't afford it. So she and Robert wanted to give children those experiences and keep them busy.

Their center wasn't open very long before the Warrens realized they needed to expand beyond the children and offer something for parents, too. "We had to reach the entire family and empower the family from the top down," Kimberly said. So they added programming for computer training, GED training and helping adults find jobs.

Recently, the center hosted a job fair for Tyson Foods, and 29 people were hired on the spot for full-time employment, and many more were scheduled for interviews.

Today, the center offers programs for all ages in performing arts, computer training, leadership and social justice initiatives, holding after-school, evening



Rev. Robert '96 and Kimberly '92 Warren

and summer programs. Robert recently began a Man-Up program for at-risk teen boys, which offers activities for the teens, along with introducing them to successful male role models from the community.

"The boys want a positive, healthy alternative to risky behavior," Robert said. "They want someone to coach and mentor them."

The center's performing arts groups, which include dance groups and choirs, entertain audiences throughout the community.

"We have to show these kids that they are somebody right now, and they are contributing now; not just when they are adults," Kimberly said. "They need little glimpses of success all along the way."

Kimberly, from St. Joseph, and Robert, from a small town outside of Poplar Bluff, Missouri, met as students at Missouri Western. Both children of ministers, Kimberly was a psychology major and Robert played football and majored in music. They were married in 1992 and both went on to earn master's degrees.

Kimberly is a certified public school district grant writer, and her skills have helped the center operate with grants she has received, along with a lot of collaboration and support from nonprofit organizations throughout the city. Grant funding allowed Robert, who is now the music educator at Carden Park Elementary School in St. Joseph, to work full-time at the center for 10 years.

They have both received numerous community awards for their work, including being inducted into St. Joseph's Black Archives Hall of Fame.

Missouri Western's relationship with the center goes back to its earliest beginnings. When they needed computers to get started, Kimberly found out Missouri Western had several old ones they were not using any more. She called then-president Dr. James Scanlon, and the center got 50 computers. He also gave a presentation to the children at the center.

Additionally, a lot of Missouri Western students volunteer there, new students have helped at the center through the Griffon Edge orientation



Top, Rev. Robert Warren leads participants in his Man-Up program in prayer; bottom, Mid-City Excellence's praise-dance group.

service component, and Dr. Robert Vartabedian, Missouri Western's president, spoke at a Solutions Summit on Martin Luther King, Jr. Day this past January. The Warrens are also members of Missouri Western's Black Alumni Network (see article on p. 29).

Kimberly said one of her favorite Bible quotations (Proverbs 29:18) reflects their work at the center:

"Where there is no vision, the people perish."

"If you don't have a vision, a fire in your gut, you'll live a life without purpose or direction," she says.

So the Warrens help children and adults not only discover their vision, but achieve it. Every day.

"We want to be part of the solution," Kimberly said. ■

1980s

Chuck Kempf '83 was named director of Parks, Recreation and Civic Facilities for the City of St. Joseph, Missouri. He had been working for the city since 2005.

Dr. Robert Newhart '83 was named superintendent of the St. Joseph School District and was given a two-year contract in November 2015.



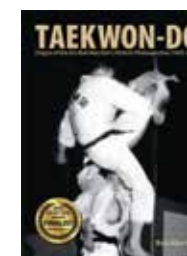
Dr. Donna Stuber '85, professor of human services/psychology at Friends University in Wichita, Kansas, and one of her graduates co-

authored a book chapter, "Research Methods in Social Psychology," in a new textbook, *Critically Thinking in Social Psychology*. This is Dr. Stuber's fifth published book chapter.

Alumnus wins third Grammy

Charles Bruffy '81 won a Grammy Award for best choral performance for a recording of Rachmaninoff's "All-Night Vigil," performed by the two choirs he directs, the Phoenix Chorale and Kansas City Chorale. The award was presented at the Grammy's "Premiere Ceremony" preceding the prime-time broadcast Feb. 15.

Bruffy won a Grammy in 2009 for the Phoenix Chorale's "Spotless Rose: Hymns to the Virgin Mary" and in 2013 for the Kansas City Chorale's "Life & Breath — Choral Works by René Clausen."



Photospective (1955-2015)."

1990s

A book edited by **Mike Swope '92** was recognized as a finalist in the 2015 USA Best Book Awards, "Taekwon-Do: Origins of the Art: Bok Man Kim's Historic

2000s

Dr. Jamel Santa Cruze Bell '00 will serve as interim president of Eureka College in Eureka, Illinois, effective July 1, 2016. Bell joined Eureka in 2014 as the special assistant to the president and currently serves as the vice president for strategic & diversity initiatives. She will serve as interim president until a permanent president is hired to replace Dr. J. David Arnold, who was appointed as chancellor of the college. Dr. Arnold served as Missouri Western's vice president for academic and student affairs from 2002-05.

Chad Dreyer '02 is the activities director/assistant principal at Savannah High School in Savannah, Missouri. He had been the physical education teacher at Minnie Cline Elementary for 14 years.



Charity (Cordray) Banko '05 and her husband, Nick, announce the birth of a daughter, Vivienne Faith, born Oct. 16, 2015. She joins two sisters, Juliette and Penelope.

A film created by **Levi Smock '09**, "Delinquent," was selected by Indiewire, a daily news site for the independent film community, as the project of the day, project of the week and project of the month, and was up for project of the year for 2015. The project of the year winner was given a spot at the Tribeca Film Institute's Filmmaker and Industry Meeting at the Tribeca Film Festival in April. Smock graduated with a major in literature and a minor in film and lives in Los Angeles. Co-writer and director of the film is Kieran Valla.

2010s

Molly Smith '11 traveled to Belize, Central America as part of her masters of biology program and will travel to Namibia, Africa this summer.



Autumn '13 and Ricky '13 Sands announce the birth of their son, Finnegan Allen, born Jan. 16, 2016.

Katalin Bestgen '14 and Richard Hummel were married Sept. 19, 2015 in Cameron, Missouri.



A note from three alumni:

My name is Lee Shepard '04. I wanted to inform you that Missouri Western is represented well in the Kansas City Missouri, Jackson County area. I have the privilege of working alongside two fellow Griffons: Clarissa Hoskins '99 & '03 and Heather Webb '14. We are paralegals who work for the Jackson County Circuit Court. Between the three of us, we assist attorneys by performing specifically delegated substantive legal work involving document preparation, investigation and collection of facts and materials and legal research for the successful litigation of juvenile law cases which involve delinquency, abuse and neglect and termination of parental rights for all of Jackson County. We just want to thank you for helping us find a career that helps serve our community. We are forever grateful.

Oscar Herman Kirschner, Jr. '55, Chicago, Nov. 27, 2015.

Patricia Lee (Dunn) Nauman '86, Palm Springs, California, Oct. 13, 2015.

Jamie Joseph "JJ" Pawlowski '00, Lenexa, Kansas, Jan. 6, 2016.

Andrew Schultz, Jr. '76, St. Joseph, Missouri, March 23, 2015.

Jerry Strong '55, St. Joseph, Missouri, May 19, 2015.

Janice Marie (George) Tolley '09, St. Joseph, Missouri, June 19, 2015.

Thelma L. (Giddens) Walkup '73, Frazier, Missouri, Jan. 18, 2016.

Missouri Western in 2013. When Missouri Western earned university designation in 2005, it was Dr. Friedman who funded the purchase of a ceremonial mace, presidential medallion and processional banners. He also established two scholarships at the University.

Joanne M. (Danner) Garner '88, Kansas City, Missouri, Feb. 4, 2016.

John F. "Jack" Gloggner JC, St. Joseph, Missouri, Oct. 7, 2015.

Sheila R. (Rhodes) Henderson '80, St. Joseph, Missouri, Sept. 13, 2015.

Richard D. Hulme '81, Katy, Texas, Dec. 22, 2015.

Dr. Lois Helene (Merritt) Kraft Mikawa '73, Reno, Nevada, Sept. 28, 2014.

In Memory

We remember those who have passed away. If you want to include someone in this listing, please call (816) 271-5651, mail the information to Diane Holtz, Missouri Western State University, 4525 Downs Drive, St. Joseph, MO 64507, or email holtz@missouriwestern.edu.

Mary Elizabeth (Urban) Borkowski '73, Kimberly, Idaho, June 30, 2015.

Barbara E. (McCartney) Carson '73, Maysville, Missouri, Jan. 26, 2016.

Sandra Dykes '73, St. Joseph, Missouri, Jan. 24, 2016.

Lawrence Ellis '78, Lubbock, Texas, Dec. 8, 2015.

Dr. Joe Friedman '39, of St. Joseph, Missouri, whose lifetime included a career as a podiatrist and a Broadway actor, passed away Feb. 12, 2016. Dr. Friedman was very supportive of Missouri Western. The Alumni Room in the Fulkerson Center is named in honor of him, his wife, Gladys; and Joseph J. Droher; and he received a Distinguished Alumni Award in 1991. He received an honorary doctorate from

Missouri Western Magazine Readership Survey

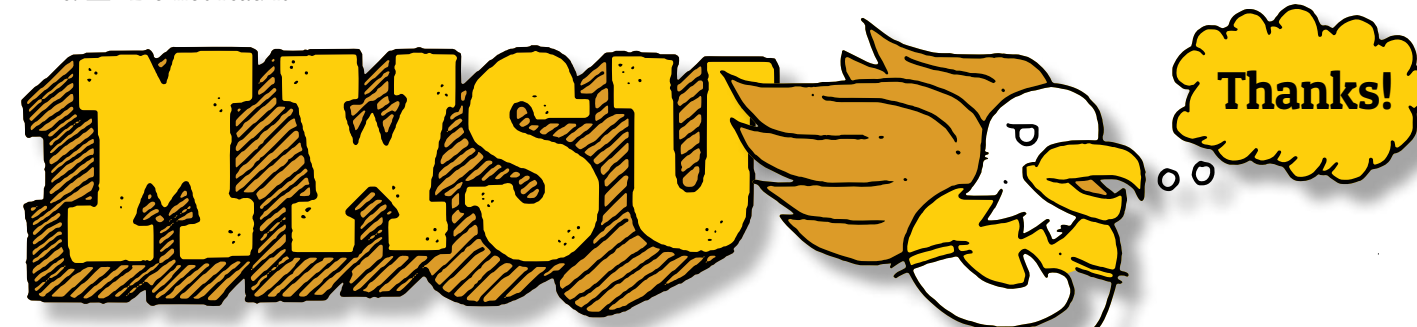
Spring 2016

Please take a few moments to fill out the survey below or take it online at missouriwestern.edu/magazine/survey.
Please mail to Diane Holtz, MWSU, 4525 Downs Drive, St. Joseph, MO 64507.

We want to know your opinions and suggestions so we can best serve your interests. *Thank you!*

- How do you generally acquire information about Missouri Western?

	All information	Most information	Some information	No information	No opinion
Magazine	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Website	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other MWSU publications	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Local or national media	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Word of mouth/other alumni	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Socail Media	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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 - ☐ Most issues
 - ☐ Occasional issues
 - ☐ Never read an issue
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Gold trim was added to the Glenn E. Marion Memorial
Clock Tower as part of the Centennial celebration last year.