FY07 fundraising goal exceeded

We’ve reached the end of another outstanding fiscal year for the Office of University Advancement, and during the past year there has been a continued outpouring of support for Northwest. With less than a month left in the fiscal year, our office had surpassed its fundraising goal of $4 million. In addition, we have seen substantial growth in the areas of communication and alumni event participation.

In May, the Office of University Advancement’s annual staff retreat took place at Northwest’s new Kansas City Center in Liberty. During the retreat, we worked together to develop departmental goals as well as strategies to accomplish these goals. At the same time, we developed a better understanding of each team member’s responsibilities and how we all work together.

With another successful year behind us and our planning and goal setting completed for next year, we are exited about what the future holds for the Office of University Advancement, the Northwest Foundation and our fine University.

Best wishes,

Orrie Covert
Vice President for University Advancement
Executive Director, Northwest Foundation

A message from the president

When you look at the Northwest Foundation, what do you see?

As stakeholders in our Foundation, our individual and collective answer to this question is important. Do you see a fledgling Foundation in its early stages of development, the Foundation as it exists today, or the Foundation that we desire to become in order to fulfill our mission to Northwest, its students, alumni, donors and friends?

So, what will our Foundation look like in the future?

To help us bring that future time horizon into focus, let’s look at where we’ve been by using a six-year time frame for reference – the designated length of a director’s tenure on the Foundation Board. During the six-year period ending with the 2006 fiscal year, our Foundation saw its total invested assets grow by more than 62 percent, planned giving commitments increased over four times and total giving per year rose more than 3.5 times from the level that existed just six years prior.

It is highly probable that our most recent incoming class of board members will be managing a $50 million Foundation by the completion of their six-year tenure. This conservative projection does not include new funds generated from a major capital campaign nor does it include dollars being realized from legacy gifts.

The planning and preparation for this projected growth is under way through the enhancement of our operational processes and procedures while making provision for the personnel, facilities and resources to accommodate this increased level of activity. It is inherent upon all of us as stakeholders to envision what our Foundation can become, to consider the long-term implications of the decisions we are making today and their resulting impact on our ability to fulfill our mission successfully.

The greatest waste in the world is the difference between what we are and what we could become. As one stakeholder to another, I encourage each of us to envision what this Foundation can and needs to become to maximize our potential and then personally ask how we can make this vision a reality.

Sincerely,

Jim Blackford
President, Northwest Foundation

MISSION
The Northwest Foundation promotes the welfare, goals and programs of Northwest Missouri State University. Its mission is to encourage, receive, invest, manage, steward and disburse private support on behalf of Northwest’s donors, for the benefit of the University, its students, faculty, staff and alumni. Established in 1971, the Foundation operates independently of the state institution as a separate 501(c)3 not-for-profit corporation governed by its own board of directors.
The artificial field and lights at Bearcat Stadium currently are being installed, and as that project rolls along, we try to pick up speed on the new baseball facility, which is much needed and long overdue.

Two other key areas of immediate need are renovated women’s locker facilities and the Degree Completion Program/Redd Awards. The women’s facilities are becoming more outdated by the day, and space and aesthetics are key issues for the women’s programs and their appeal to future student-athletes. Because this project is in the initial stages, a dollar amount has not been determined.

The Degree Completion Program could see its reserved funds exhausted in the next year with the amount of continuing education support needed. This has been a pass-through fund for some time, but the priority is only gaining more interest. A $250,000 endowment is being created that can help provide this sort of scholarship support to Northwest athletes for years to come.

For more information, contact Mark Stewart at stew@nwmissouri.edu.

Roger Bundridge, general manager of Northwest Missouri Cellular in Maryville, presents a $20,000 check to Coach Mel Tjeerdsma for renovations to Bearcat Stadium. The stadium improvement project is expected to be completed in time for the Bearcats’ Aug. 23 home opener versus Arkansas Tech.

Athletics

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**Golf Classic**
- Friday, Oct. 26, 11:00 a.m.
- Two-person scramble, tee times beginning at noon
- Mozingo Lake Golf Course
- COST: $45 per person

**M-Club Hall of Fame Athletics Banquet**
- Friday, Oct. 26, 6:30 p.m.
- J.W. Jones Student Union Ballroom
- COST: $17

**Welcome**
- Saturday, Oct. 27, 8 a.m.
- Alumni House
- Free refreshments

**Parade**
- Saturday, Oct. 27, 9 a.m.
The College of Arts and Sciences is finalizing plans for a studio theatre made possible from an anonymous $1 million donation. Northwest also is providing a 2:1 match for the project, bringing the project’s total cost to $3.4 million. The project should be completed by November 2008. The 200-seat studio theatre will be located on the south side of the Performing Arts Center (see illustration), connected to the existing building. There will be several prominent donor recognition opportunities in the form of naming entrances, the main lobby, the tech room, classrooms and dressing areas. These naming opportunities range from $10,000 to $50,000.

The modular classrooms used by the Department of History/Humanities/Philosophy/Political Science for several years will no longer be a part of the Northwest campus by the fall trimester. Plans include the addition of six possible classrooms, a seminar classroom, office rooms and a leisure area to be located on the lower level of the Valk Building. This $3.8 million remodeling project also will provide several naming opportunities for donors.

Additional funding opportunities will be available for renovations being made in Wells Hall during the next 12 to 18 months. As part of the $300,000 renovation project, the counseling center is being relocated, and the ESL and Communications, Theatre and Language Department will use that space for offices and classrooms. ✤

For more information, contact Teresa Macias at teresa@nwmissouri.edu.

The priorities of the College of Education and Human Services have remained consistent since the beginning of The Campaign for Northwest, and a new (or extensively renovated) $9 million Horace Mann Lab School/Early Childhood Center tops the list of priorities.

Another priority for Dr. Max Ruhl, dean of the College, is providing international field trips for Horace Mann students. Though still in the early stages, the vision is that every other year a specialist in education degree in educational leadership.

Summer Bash Alumni Reunion set for July 28

Northwest’s Summer Bash Alumni Reunion is returning to the backyard of the Alumni House on Saturday, July 28. The annual event includes a social dinner, music, cash bar and a reunion gift. In addition, there will be a golf outing that morning at Mozingo.

The evening will feature a talent contest for singers and a tribute to alumni and friends who were involved in Northwest’s Greek organizations.

For more information, contact Andrea Wagner at andrea@nwmissouri.edu.
Many great things are happening in the Melvin D. and Valorie G. Booth College of Business and Professional Studies.

We met with the Kauffman Foundation in Kansas City to explore starting an entrepreneurship program at Northwest. We're working out the details on how to implement an entrepreneurship program at Northwest that partners with local communities. Called the Rural Communities Initiative, students would help rural communities work on business plans to help spur economic development.

The study abroad initiative goes before the Northwest Board of Regents in the fall when it will be decided whether to make it mandatory for all marketing/management students to study at least three credit hours overseas. We are working to establish a $2 million endowment to provide students and faculty the financial means to participate in this international opportunity.

Securing new scholarships for current and future students continues to be a top priority. Members of the University Advancement staff inform prospective donors of the importance of scholarship dollars and offer funding options for both outright and planned gifts for the donors’ convenience. We continue to engage direction from the three colleges, athletics, admissions and financial assistance to best achieve each units’ goals while recognizing the University’s emphasis on recruiting and retention efforts.

During FY07, multiple agreements for $10,000 to $20,000 out-right gifts for new endowments were finalized. Furthermore, several estate provisions also were negotiated, including an anonymous provision for $750,000 to assist the American Dream Grant fund.

Efforts continue in the conversion of the Foundation’s scholarships to a decentralized award process. Progress also is being made to centralize the scholarship data to improve the timing and efficiency of the internal and external reports.

Currently, more than 700 Foundation scholarships totaling $461,978 have been processed for 2006-07. The 2007-08 award cycle is under way, with scholarship awards estimated at $521,000.

For more information, contact Polly Howard at pollyh@nwmissouri.edu.
The Northwest Alumni Association continues to increase its number of chapters. The latest chapter, number 13, is the Mid-Missouri Alumni and Friends Chapter and is located in the Columbia, Jefferson City and Lake of the Ozarks area. Chicago, Washington, D.C. and St. Louis are areas we’re pursuing for future chapter locations.

Alumni Association membership is near 5,200, which is about 9.5 percent of Northwest’s total alumni and friends population.

There will be 24 Tourin’ Bearcats traveling to Scotland Aug. 1-9, and the California Wine Country tour is scheduled for Oct. 20-23. The second annual Tourin’ Bearcats ski trip is set for Jan. 2-6. This year’s destination will be Winter Park, Colo. Sign up now for these fun trips.

We’re excited about the concept of a new alumni center, intended to enhance the relationship between Northwest and its alumni, and look forward to exploring the possibilities of this project. ✫

For more information, contact Andrea Wagner at andrea@nwmissouri.edu.

The Mid-Missouri Chapter, chartered in April, received its chapter banner. Pictured are (from left) Chrissy Beck ’02, Ashlee Erwin ’04, Clint Prange ’04, Steve Sutton ’71, director of alumni relations, and Derrick Griffin ’01.

There are many projects from all aspects of the University for which we are researching and seeking the possibility of corporate and foundation support.

A proposal to DST Systems Inc. is in the works for Theatre Northwest. This will be the forth consecutive year we have submitted a proposal for this project to DST, whose headquarters are in Kansas City. Each year our proposal has been funded, and last year was the first time we received the full amount requested – $10,000.

A new scholarship recently was established by the Embarq Corporation, Maryville’s local telephone service provider. The $11,500 gift went toward endowing a scholarship at the $10,000 level for incoming freshmen who reside in an Embarq local telephone service area. The remaining $1,500 will be used to make the first three gifts of $500 per year.

One project mentioned in the initial issue of Foundation Focus was support for the Encore Performance Series. Six proposals seeking support to help underwrite and enhance the Encore series have been submitted. ✫

For more information, contact Steve Sutton at ssutton@nwmissouri.edu.

Join the Tourin’ Bearcats and...

Ski Winter Park

Jan. 2-6, 2008 Starting at $465 per person

Includes:
• Roundtrip motorcoach transportation
• 3-day ski lift pass
• 3 nights at Beaver Village Condos
• Short shuttle ride from the steps of the condo to the slopes
• Evening social

If interested, contact the Northwest Alumni Association at alumni@nwmissouri.edu or (660) 562-1248.

Randy Knox (left), public and external affairs manager for Embarq Corporation, presents Northwest President Dr. Dean L. Hubbard a check for an endowed scholarship to benefit Northwest students.
**Upcoming Events**

- **July 28**  Summer Bash, Alumni House
- **Aug. 2**  Summer Commencement, 7 p.m., Bearcat Arena
- **Aug. 1-9**  Tourin’ Bearcats trip to Scotland
- **Aug. 27**  Classes begin
- **Sept. 28**  Alumni Awards Banquet, 6 p.m., J.W. Jones Student Union Ballroom
- **Oct. 1**  Distinguished Lecture: Jeffrey Toobin, Performing Arts Center
- **Oct. 17**  Distinguished Lecture: Andrew Sullivan, Performing Arts Center
- **Oct. 20**  Fourth Annual Powwow, 1-10 p.m., Bearcat Arena
- **Oct. 20-23**  Tourin’ Bearcats trip to California Wine Country
- **Oct. 25-26**  Foundation Board Meetings
- **Oct. 26**  Homecoming Golf Outing, noon, Mozingo Lake Golf Course
- **Oct. 26**  Flagraising Ceremony, 2 p.m., International Plaza
- **Oct. 27**  Homecoming
- **Oct. 27**  Homecoming

For a complete schedule of alumni events, visit www.nwmissouri.edu/alumni or call (660) 562-1248.

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**Northwest news briefs**

**Gov. Blunt signs landmark higher education bill**

Missouri Gov. Matt Blunt smiles as he signs omnibus higher education legislation May 23 on the Northwest campus. Among other things, the bill provides $24.4 million for the University’s Center of Excellence for Plant Biologics.

“The Center of Excellence for Plant Biologics will combine academic and (corporate) resources to ensure that Northwest’s students have a strong background in and understanding of the emerging biotechnology sector,” Blunt said.

Considered one of the most comprehensive higher education measures in years, Senate Bill 389 authorizes the Missouri Higher Education Loan Authority to sell assets valued at $350 million, most of which will go for new construction and renovation projects on campuses statewide. In addition, the legislation approximately doubles funding for need-based scholarships in Missouri.

**Northwest to open facility in St. Joseph**

Courses traditionally offered in St. Joseph through Northwest’s Graduate School will move into a home of their own this fall when the University opens a newly leased 14,000-square-foot facility at Felix and Seventh streets.

Graduate Dean Frances Shipley said Northwest has offered post-baccalaureate courses in St. Joseph for more than 40 years, but always in classrooms provided by Missouri Western State University or local schools.

The new Northwest Center at St. Joseph will include four classrooms, four offices and two small reception areas.

Most of the classes will take place in a traditional face-to-face setting, but at least two are to be blended, meaning instructors will deliver some content via instructional television or other electronic means.

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**Challenge U gives kids college knowledge**

More than 150 students from Kansas City’s urban core participated in a series of week-long sessions this summer at Northwest studying epidemiology, robotics and rockets during Challenge U, a program that encourages youngsters to stay in school and go to college.

This is the fourth year for the program, which Northwest created in cooperation with Kauffman Scholars, a college-access initiative funded through the Ewing Marion Kauffman Foundation.

Challenge U participants stay in a Northwest residence hall along with a team of college-age youth leaders. The program is geared to show middle school and high school students from low-income backgrounds that graduating from college is an achievable goal.

Those who complete the Kauffman Scholars program receive free tuition to the college of their choice within the four-state area provided they graduate from high school, keep their grades up, avoid gang involvement, stay drug free and don’t become parents.

**Northwest Regents approve 6.4 percent tuition increase**

The Northwest Board of Regents approved a 6.4 percent increase in tuition and fees for the 2007-08 academic year. The University’s budget, estimated at $89 million next year, was presented to the Regents for approval on June 28.

In terms of dollars, students will pay $216.35 per credit hour; or $2,596.20 for a 12-hour trimester.

The increase will help cover the cost of a 3 percent salary raise for staff and faculty. The staff increase will be a cost of living allowance; the faculty will be a 2 percent COLA plus 1 percent for market-based adjustments.

Next year, Northwest will receive 47 percent of its revenue from the state; 51 percent from students with the remaining coming from fees, gifts, etc.

Even with the increase in tuition, the dollar cost of attending Northwest remains in the middle of the list of all Missouri institutions of higher learning.