A rare opportunity

No leader of an organization can last forever. As we all know, for the last 25 years there has not been a change of leadership at Northwest. Not surprisingly, this has been a topic of great attention and hours of work during the last year. Many individuals, groups and committees have been dedicated to identify, cultivate, prepare and plan for this change. Now that the University has successfully completed that stage of the process, it is now time to begin the transition.

Through all transitions there is an opportunity for the organization and its stakeholders to renew their commitment to the institution’s mission. Furthermore, with new leadership there comes an opportunity to have a fresh perspective of what we, as a University and as a Foundation, are doing and how we are doing it. I look forward to working with our stakeholders and maximizing this rare opportunity at Northwest. Our mutual goal should be to continue to fulfill our mission in a changing environment.

The future success of Northwest’s new leader, Dr. John Jasinski, is not solely dependent upon the individual, but instead upon the individuals around him and our support of the new leader.

Best Wishes,

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

A message from the president

Several weeks ago, Dr. John Jasinski became the University’s 10th president. He will bring his own unique style and approach to the job, but will have the same goal as his predecessors: to maintain and build upon the superb educational experience Northwest has been able to offer its students.

The Northwest Foundation looks forward to being a partner with Dr. Jasinski in pursuing that never-ending goal. There are numerous ways a foundation can support its university, and we have played roles from arts to academics to athletics, and from capital projects to program support; but a priority mission will always be scholarships.

Why scholarships? One of Northwest’s core values is that of offering a high-quality but affordable education to our students, nearly half of whom are the first generation of their family to attend college. We serve students across the economic spectrum, but it is on the whole a solidly middle class student body, not wealthy enough to make college tuition easy and not poor enough to qualify for government grants.

Foundation staff may cringe at my use of the term, but I view scholarships awarded as a type of “hamburger helper” that makes paying for college a bit more palatable. For the 2009-2010 academic year, we are projecting to award more than 900 merit- and need-based scholarships for a total of about $580,000.

What is the true need? That’s difficult to say. But from the time I joined the Foundation’s board, I’ve wanted to see us build to a level of scholarship support averaging 5 percent of total tuition. That goal will require us to more than double the scholarship endowment in the next decade. A better investment environment will help us to get there, as will new and existing planned giving. Most of the Foundation’s $25.6 million of present planned giving commitments, which will be realized over the next several decades, are earmarked for scholarships.

The fundamental purpose of the Northwest Foundation is to give each new generation the opportunity, through education, to make the most of their talents, allowing them to contribute to society at a higher level. We thank the many friends and alumni who have so generously helped us strive toward that goal.

Sincerely,

Mike Faust ’74
President, Northwest Foundation
College of Education and Human Services

The Department of Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance has expanded the Mozingo Outdoor Education Recreation Area by adding a new Odyssey Course. The enhanced high-ropes challenge course adds to the adventure and experience for groups that use the space for leadership and team-building activities each year. The new challenge course enables facilitators to have 48 people “in the air” at once (as opposed to 12 people, previously), therefore accommodating much larger groups. In addition to the new Odyssey Course, MOERA is home to a 50-foot alpine climbing tower, a low elements course, canoeing, kayaking, a trap range and a field and target archery range. The $134,000 Odyssey project is possible through a $64,000 grant coupled with funding from the University.

Two new scholarships have been established within the College of Education and Human Services. The Jim Williams Memorial Scholarship has been created by friends and relatives of Williams, a 1970 alumnus, upon his passing in February. The scholarship has received about $15,000 in gifts, which include proceeds from a golf tournament held in his memory. A scholarship also has been established in memory of the late JoAnn Marion, who taught first grade at Horace Mann Lab School for 37 years.

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

Golden Years Society Reunion
- Friday, Oct. 23, 9 a.m.
- Alumni House
- Honoring the Class of 1959
COST: $20 per person

Presidential Inauguration
- Friday, Oct. 23, 10:30 a.m.
- Ron Houston Center for the Performing Arts

Homecoming Golf Classic
- Friday, Oct. 23
- Two-person scramble, tee times begin at noon
- Mozingo Lake Golf Course
COST: $45 per person (includes 18 holes, cart, range balls, prizes)

M-Club Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony
- Friday, Oct. 23, 7 p.m.
- J.W. Jones Student Union Ballroom
- NOTE: new format, free

Homecoming Welcome
- Saturday, Oct. 24, 8 a.m.
- Alumni House
- Free refreshments

Homecoming Parade
- Saturday, Oct. 24, 9 a.m.

Homecoming Barbecue
- Saturday, Oct. 24, 11:30 a.m.
- College Park
COST: $6

Football vs. Washburn
- Saturday, Oct. 24, 1:30 p.m.
- Bearcat Stadium
COST: $12 reserved

Order Tickets
- Football and Variety Show tickets may be purchased online at www.nwmissouri.edu/tickets or via check, made payable to Northwest Missouri State University and mailed to Student Services Center, 800 University Dr., Maryville, MO 64468. (Checks must be received at Northwest by Thursday, Oct. 22.)
- Call (660) 562-1248 or visit www.nwmissouri.edu/alumni/events to register for the Golf Classic or the Golden Years Society Reunion.
Northwest students received a glimpse of European culture firsthand. Ten Northwest students, most of them marketing and management majors, and a Northwest faculty member attended a three-week course this spring titled Experience the Spirit of Europe. The students learned about the European Union’s systems, economics, politics and cultural differences between Europe and the United States.

The course is designed for students participating in the Magellan Exchange study abroad program, which is a partnership between Northwest and 12 universities in 10 countries. Northwest students attend classes overseas and pay the same tuition as they would if they were studying on campus in Maryville, although they have to pay living expenses and travel expenses to and from their destination.

The Magellan Exchange program is offered primarily to students with a business-related major.

Northwest’s Booth College of Business and Professional Studies hopes to build the endowment for the Study Abroad Scholarship Fund to allow more students to participate without financial need being an issue. The current goal is $2.5 million.

For more information, contact Polly Howard at pollyh@nwmissouri.edu.

Ron Houston, a former member of the Northwest Foundation and president of J.L. Houston Co., has given Northwest a $1.3 million gift, and the institution’s performing arts complex is now named in his honor.

The Ron Houston Center for the Performing Arts includes the Mary Linn Auditorium, constructed in 1984, and the Studio Theatre, a 5,500-square-foot facility completed in 2008. A sign bearing the new name was unveiled at a ribbon-cutting ceremony in March prior to the student performance of the Broadway hit musical “Celebration.”

In April, a group of Tibetan monks from southwest India visited the Northwest campus where they created a sand mandala, a complex concentric image signifying the completion or essence of all things. The symbol has had spiritual and ritual significance in both Buddhism and Hinduism for centuries.

The week-long residency of the monks was made possible through support of a Culture of Quality grant, Student Senate, the Department of History, Humanities, Philosophy and Political Science as well as Northwest alumni and friends.

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

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Booth College of Business and Professional Studies

Tourin’ Bearcats

- The Tourin’ Bearcats just returned from an exciting trip to Alaska.
- Visit www.nwmissouri.edu/alumni/photoalbum to view additional photos from the trip.
- Information will be available soon about the annual Colorado ski trip and other upcoming excursions.
Several corporations and foundations have provided continuous support to Northwest over the last several years, and the following are just a few of those that have displayed a strong commitment to the University.

DST Systems has generously supported Theatre Northwest initiatives; US Bank supports the American Dream Grant on an annual basis; the CHS Foundation provides three $1,000 scholarships to students majoring in agribusiness each year; Kawasaki gives generously to the Melvin D. and Valorie G. Booth College of Business and Professional Studies with funds earmarked for the study abroad program and the Visiting Writers Series; and Aramark contributes unrestricted funds to Northwest each year. There are many more corporations and foundations contributing to the success of Northwest students, all of which are immensely appreciated.

A campaign has begun to make upgrades to Northwest’s athletic training room while at the same time recognize Dr. David “DC” Colt ’78 (master’s), former Northwest head athletic trainer, by naming the University’s athletic training room in his honor.

The fundraising initiative aims to garner $100,000 for the Colt Fund, which has been established through the Northwest Foundation. The funds raised will be used solely for upgrades and improvements to the University’s athletic training facility. Furthermore, the David “DC” Colt Athletic Training Room will be unveiled during a Sept. 25 ribbon-cutting ceremony at the training room in the Lamkin Activity Center.

Northwest welcomed the 20th head men’s basketball coach in its history when Ben McCollum ’03, ’05 was named to the position on March 30. McCollum played two seasons and was a graduate assistant for two seasons under former Bearcat Coach Steve Tappmeyer. McCollum served the previous four seasons as an assistant coach for MIAA foe Emporia State University.

Bearcat student-athletes were recognized by the MIAA as having the second highest academic success rate in the conference. Northwest’s 88 percent success rate was second only to Truman State University. The academic success rate information is compiled by the NCAA and includes student-athletes who entered the institution as freshmen or as a transfer and graduate within six years.

For more information, contact Neil Elliott at neile@nwmissouri.edu.
Alumni Relations

The Northwest Alumni Association will honor five deserving recipients on Friday, Sept. 18, at the annual awards banquet. The following are the award recipients:

- Mary Hamilton Purdy ’72, Distinguished Alumni Award
- Dave Snider ’80, ’83, Turret Service Award
- Dr. Mark Corson, Distinguished Faculty Award
- Dr. Frances Shipley ’61, Distinguished Faculty Emeritus Award
- Dr. Elise Gutshall ’00, Young Alumni Award

For more information about the award recipients and the banquet, visit www.nwmissouri.edu/alumni and click “Awards and Recognition.”

The Northwest Alumni Association recently chartered its 16th chapter in Springfield with Mark DeVore ’71, ’75 serving as the chapter’s president. In addition, the national board of directors has two new members: Bill Brooks ’91 of Dearborn and Chrissy Beck ’02 of Jefferson City. Furthermore, Neil Neumeyer ’98 is now president of the Northwest Alumni Association and Amy Harlin ’95 is vice president.

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

Contact Us
Northwest Foundation
Office of University Advancement
(660) 562-1248
advance@nwmissouri.edu
www.nwmissouri.edu/alumni

Scholarship Support

Planned Giving Expectancies

Number of Gifts

Renew your annual membership in the 1905 Society

By providing flexible, unrestricted support, your annual membership in The 1905 Society can help better position Northwest to meet future needs. Whether the needs lie in the form of scholarship support, additional financing for capital projects or the extra bit needed to upgrade technologies across campus, The 1905 Society helps ensure the financial health and wellbeing of the University for years to come.

Northwest alumni and friends can show their faith in Northwest’s promising future through membership in The 1905 Society with any unrestricted annual gift of $1,000 or greater.

For more information, visit www.nwmissouri.edu/alumni/giving/1905society.htm or call (660) 562-1248.
The Northwest Board of Regents approved budgets for the 2009-2010 fiscal year, which began July 1.

The Education and General Budget for FY10 totals $81.5 million, up from $74.9 million last year. In exchange for no state cuts to its base appropriation, Northwest did not raise tuition. Several other income categories are up, however, including the University's technology fee, special fees and private gifts and grants.

Northwest will receive $33.6 million in state appropriations in FY10, the same as last year with the addition of $527,000 in Caring for Missourians funding that will pay costs associated with the University's new bachelor of science in nursing degree completion program.

Auxiliary spending by Northwest is projected to increase by just over $1 million, from $22.7 million to $23.8 million. Faculty and staff salaries will remain unchanged. Northwest's payroll comprises about 750 employees who will collect $31.8 million in wages over the next 12 months.