Partnership could boost rural economy.

Northwest forms partnership with high-tech firm

A new partnership between the University and Ventria Bioscience, a company that grows genetically modified crops containing proteins and other materials used in the manufacture of pharmaceuticals, is an exciting development for scientists, farmers, economic development officials and anyone with a stake in the future of Northwest.

A Memorandum of Understanding signed by Ventria and the University states that the Sacramento, Calif., company will relocate in headquarters and all personnel to Maryville within the next year.

Plant-made pharmaceutical technology, also known as PMP, holds great promise for producing low-cost medicines that may soon be used to treat diseases ranging from cystic fibrosis to osteoporosis.

“We have a number of exciting products in the pipeline, and Northwest Missouri State University and the state of Missouri have worked with us to develop the infrastructure and facilities necessary to bring these products to market for the benefit of global health,” said Scott Duerer, Ventria president and chief executive officer.

Ventria plans to grow self-pollinating rice and barley in northwest Missouri and other parts of the state from which therapeutic proteins and peptides can be extracted. Shared resources from the state preserve freedom and genetic engineering of our students will learn how to work in the areas of molecular biology and genetic engineering. Our students will learn how to work in the areas of molecular biology and complete degrees with molecular emphasis.”

Mel Booth ’67, recently retired president and chief operating officer of MedImmune Inc., a leading biotechnology company, is spearheading the PMP effort.

Booth said he is excited about the possibilities for the University and the region created by introducing plant-made pharmaceutical production to northwest Missouri.

“We have something that can push Northwest to new levels,” Booth said. “I’m looking forward to this journey. It’s amazing what can be done when you put great minds together.”

Northwest: One Hundred Years Young

The history books tell the story. It is March 25, 1905, and the bill creating the Fifth District Normal School of Missouri is signed by Gov. Joseph Folk. Less than three months later, the bill becomes a law. On June 11, 1906, Eliza Munn is the first student enrolled in the new school in Maryville.

The faces have changed; the name has changed, but for 100 years, Maryville has been the home to thousands of young people like Eliza Munn who have a thirst for knowledge, a sense of adventure and a desire to succeed.

Maryville is the future of Northwest alumni, students, employees and friends have been working on exciting projects and events for the 2005-2006 centennial celebration. For example, the finishing touches currently are being placed on an impressive coffee table book with hundreds of photographs and historical accounts from Northwest’s 100 years. A time capsule buried 25 years ago was opened in March and its contents will be on display throughout the next year.

During the football game versus Truman State on Saturday, Sept. 10, the Bearcats will wear throw-back jerseys representing the days when the Old Hickory Stink rivalry was in its infancy. Also on that day, a bronze sculpture will be unveiled just east of the J.W. Jones Student Union. In addition, the centennial garden will be open in the area formerly occupied by the Qada and will include beautiful landscaping, gathering areas, walkways, a fire pit and water features.

A centennial-themed musical composition has been commissioned and will be performed during the year, and a formal centennial gala is slated for March 2006. In July 2006, descendants of Northwest’s first graduating class will be welcomed to campus and recognized during the commencement ceremony.

The official centennial calendar of events will be available online at www.nwmissouri.edu. Make your plans today to return to Maryville to take part in exciting array of events, celebrations, times to remember and opportunities to learn, connect and step proudly into our second century.
Northwest officially began celebrating its 100th birthday in December when the Board of Regents gave the nod to a new institutional logo.

Now the official graphic symbol of the institution, the logo features a bold, stylized “N,” the right-hand vertical bar of which forms an image of one of the Administration Building’s landmark towers. The paw print will continue to be used to represent athletics.

Discussion about the logo began more than two years ago, when members of the President’s Cabinet suggested the centennial would be a good time to introduce a new design. The previous logo had been in use since 1990.

The University’s publications staff, led by Director of Publications and Web Services Dennis Esser ’96, went through dozens of designs and revisions, sharing ideas with many members of the University community before presenting the final effort to the Regents.

Much of the hands-on design responsibility went to two students, Jeremie Picard and Brad Elliott, both of whom worked in the University Relations office before graduating in 2004.

“We really wanted something that, essentially, was designed by our students,” Esser said. “It certainly speaks well for the institution that we develop talent of this caliber.”

New Logo Marks Northwest Centennial

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Test Your Northwest Knowledge

1. Whose tombstone can be found just east of the Administration building?
2. What words are stiled above the main entrance of the Administration Building?
3. Who lives at the Thomas Gant House?
4. Which University president was also a Northwest student body president?
5. What was The Academic Analyst?
6. For whom is Perrin Hall named?
7. How did Northwest become known as the Bearcats?

BONUS: What were the teams called before Bearcats?

See answers, page 36.
Submit Names Of War Dead And MIA's

Northwest's Office of University Relations is compiling lists of University students, faculty or staff who died or remain missing in action during the Korean War, Vietnam, Desert Shield/Storm, as well as any deployments or support operations after 9/11 to include, but not limited to, Afghanistan (Enduring Freedom) and Iraq (Iraqi Freedom).

Similar lists exist for World War I and II, and the University would like to add those from the more recent conflicts.

Anyone who knows of these dead or missing soldiers may send the names, rank, division, unit and other pertinent information to Mary Ann Lowary, 215 Administration Building, 800 University Drive, Maryville, MO, 64468.

Walkout Day began in 1918 when two literary societies decided to enact an unscheduled holiday. For years, Walkout Day wasn't part of the calendar as it is now; instead, students waited eagerly for the bugle to sound one October morning so they could walk out of classes and on to Main Street.

In the 1950s and early 70s, a wave of new faculty came to campus, matching the wave of students enrolling during a period of enormous growth for the College. Below, Russ Schmolljohn, who retired from the Department of Art in 2004.

Dr. Robert Porter was president of the College (which became a University during his tenure) from 1964 to 1977. He maintained an open-door policy in his office, and students were welcome to stop by any time.
First Graduates’ Descendants Invited To Commencement

Although the first classes at Northwest didn’t begin until June 1906, it didn’t take long for the new Normal School to hold a commencement. Two months later, on Aug. 6, 1906, graduates received their diplomas and certificates. Because of the omission of mascot Bobby Bearcat and all organizational names of their Northwest ancestors, graduates were asked to contact Mary Ann Lowary, vice president for university relations, no later than May 1, 2006, regarding the number of graduates, their grandchildren, great-grandchildren (direct descendants, children, grandchildren, great- and great-great-grandchildren) to attend the 1906 commencement, is asked to share their photographs with the University’s archives. Electronic images are preferred. Please send as .JPGs of at least 300 dpi to Lowary at the above e-mail address. Please do not mail prints.

The names of the first graduates are listed above.

ELEMENTARY CERTIFICATES (AWARDED AUG. 6, 1906)

Golda Airy
A. H. Cooper
Emma Graham
Althea Miller
Byrd Forrest
Eliza Munn
Rhonda Watts
Sara Thomas

Neil Armesy
Hazel Cunningham
Grace Gray
Rosa Nixon
Georgina Siver
Nellie Shinn
Richard Smith
Bess Stephenson

Arthur J. Baker
Mary Donahue
Myrtle Robbins
Nellie Holland
Nellie Shinn

Maude C. Bechman
Inez Fleming
Ella Jackson
Vernon Kimmins
Pamie Paton
Edna Van

Addie Brown
Blanche Fryar
Gertrude Gray
Maud Partridge

Olive Carr
Ruth Gray
Inez Dillon
Maud Partridge
Edna Van

Edith Glay
Ethel Greaves
Helen Loder
Hazel Perry

or lowary@mail.nwmissouri.edu.

Anyone who has photographs of the early campus, especially of the 1906 commencement, is asked to share their photographs with the University’s archives. Electronic images are preferred. Please send as .JPGs of at least 300 dpi to Lowary at the above e-mail address. Please do not mail prints.

The names of the first graduates are listed above.

Calling All Strollers

If you’re a former Stroller, we’re looking for you.

No, it’s not a ploy by past administrators to reveal your identity and then revoke your diploma.

As a part of the Centennial DVD, I’m trying to identify past Strollers and share some of their favorite stories – either the column itself or stories that resulted from the column.

Being a former Stroller myself, I’d like to meet and reacquaint with some of my esteemed colleagues. So, share your identity, share your stories, and join us in celebrating one of the University’s oldest traditions.

If you’re a former editor and would like to give me the name of the Stroller when you were editor, just drop me their name, and I’ll try to find them through the Alumni Office.

Send your information as soon as you can to lwseys2005@nwmissouri.edu or call me at (660) 562-1365, and thanks for participating. Once I get your name and information, then I’ll get in touch with you.

Sincerely,
Laura Widmer
Assistant Director of Student Publications

Before the terrorist attacks on the United States on Sept. 11, 2001, Northwest students, faculty and staff gathered at the Bell Tower for a campus service. The campus community raised more than $10,000 for the American Red Cross in the days after the attacks, and a tulip tree was planted on campus in memory of the victims.