

Scanlon accepts MWSC top post

By AMANDA SMITH
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University Provost James Scanlon has been selected as the new president for Missouri Western State College in St. Joseph, Mo. He accepted the post at a Dec. 12 press conference at the Missouri college. He takes the position March 1.

MWSC is a publicly-funded college in the state of Missouri system and has 5,200 students enrolled in its programs, according to the college's Web site (www.mwsc.edu).

According to The Griffon News, MWSC's student newspaper, "Krikor Partamian, the MWSC Board of Regents president, said Scanlon's interest in unifying the college and community made him

stand out above the other two candidates."

Dr. John Yemma, dean of the Bitonte College of Health and Human Services, was appointed interim provost and will begin working with Scanlon as early as the first week of the semester, said Dr. David Sweet, president.

A national search for a permanent provost will begin soon, Sweet said.

Scanlon said he was looking forward to the new position for several reasons. All the classrooms at the university are "smart" classrooms, he said, meaning they all have access to high-technology teaching and learning tools. Also, he said, the university is at a type of crossroads.

"The college is at a point

where they have to ask the question, 'How big do we want to be?'" Scanlon said.

He said that MWSC and YSU, while having their differences, are also comparable in many ways.

"Many of the students at MWSC, like at YSU, are the first generation of their family to attend college, and many of them work very, very hard for the money that helps them go to school," Scanlon said.

During his presidency, Scanlon said he will be helping to shape the face of MWSC in the next few years.

He said he will be helping the college decide how big it will become, how many new programs they might add and what types of students they want to attract.