

## NEWS RELEASE

Feb. 28, 2012

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### **University of Saint Mary Overland Park Campus Presents Free Education Networking Event Featuring Kansas NEA President Dr. Blake West**

*5 p.m. Thursday, March 29, at USM's Overland Park Campus*



**Dr. Blake West**

(Leavenworth, Kan.)—The University of Saint Mary Overland Park Campus is holding the latest in its series of free networking events from 5-7 p.m. Thursday, March 29, at the Overland Park Campus at 11413 Pflumm Road. The latest USM network event is geared towards professionals in education, and features a discussion with Blake West, president of the Kansas National Education Association, titled “Kids and Schools: Are they Both Ready for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century?”

The event is free, but seating is limited. Sign up at [stmary.edu/success](http://stmary.edu/success) or call 913-345-8288.

Attendees will be able to network with other educators and enjoy refreshments and prize drawings.

Participants will also get the chance to learn about how they can advance both their education and their careers with the graduate and degree-completion programs available at USM's Overland Park Campus. USM instructors, financial aid and admissions advisors, and admissions counselors will be on hand to answer questions about the university's accelerated programs.

Dr. West has taught for 30 years, primarily in the Blue Valley School District. He's presented at the regional and national level on technology and leadership, and is the author of the 2003 book *How to Ensure Technology is Not Oversold or Underused*.

“The 21st century learner has shown that the classroom environment is changing rapidly including what information is presented to students and how it is delivered,” said Gwen Landever, Ed.D., director of education programs at USM's OPC. “Blake West's insights on ensuring that our schools and our students are prepared for the changes yet to come is invaluable to local educators.”

USM offers five graduate programs—including the Saint Mary MBA that is now available in a flexible format featuring face-to-face evening classes, online sessions, or a combination of both to fit busy schedules. The Overland Park Campus also offers graduate programs in education and psychology, in addition to five different undergraduate degree-completion programs.

Visit [stmary.edu/success](http://stmary.edu/success) or call 913-345-8288 for more information or to register for the event.

*The University of Saint Mary is a Catholic co-educational applied liberal arts university founded and sponsored by the Sisters of Charity of Leavenworth. The University of Saint Mary is located at 4100 South 4th Street, Leavenworth, Kan., with additional locations in Overland Park and Kansas City, Kan. Visit [www.stmary.edu](http://www.stmary.edu) for more information.*