

Atchison Native Wins His Own Business

(KAIR) -- An Atchison man is one of three alumni of Missouri Western State University awarded the opportunity to own and operate their own businesses through an applied entrepreneurship class in Missouri Western's Craig School of Business.

Scott Lassen will operate a Fresca's Mexican Grill in Woodburn, Oregon, currently owned by Steve Craig, founder and president of Craig Realty Group and benefactor of the Craig School of Business.

Two other alumni, LaTricia Adkins and Leslie Patton, will operate Rocky Mountain Chocolate Factory stores through an existing partnership with the Durango, Colorado-based company.

Adkins, Patton and Lassen were among the students in a senior-level applied entrepreneurship course this spring.

Finalists from the class created business plans for a store and presented their plans to an interview panel made up of Craig, Missouri Western graduates who won franchises in previous years, Missouri Western faculty members, other business leaders and representatives from Rocky Mountain Chocolate Factory, including company founder Frank Crail.

Scott Lassen is the son of Donald and Cynthia Lassen.

He received a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration from Missouri Western in 2010 and a Master of Business Administration from California State University-Long Beach in 2011.

He is currently a department manager at Petco in southern California.

The program is designed to present Missouri Western graduates with this unique opportunity was founded in 2009 by Craig, Rocky Mountain Chocolate Factory and Missouri Western.

The goal is to speed up the training and development of entrepreneurs at the university.

The latest winners join 12 other Missouri Western alumni operating stores in 10 states.

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