

Room 433 - State Capitol Bldg. - Jefferson City, MO 65101 - Phone: (573) 751-2306

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE April 19, 2004

For additional information contact: Barbara Mustoe (573) 751-2306

## MSSU'S HEARTLAND PTAC RECEIVES OUTSTANDING CENTER AWARD FROM NATIONAL ASSOCIATION

JEFFERSON CITY – Sen. Gary Nodler, R-Joplin, has announced that Missouri Southern State University's Heartland Procurement Technical Assistance Center received the Outstanding Center Award this year at the annual conference conducted by the Association of Procurement Technical Assistance Centers.

"This center provides a valuable service to businesses in our area," said Nodler. "Heartland PTAC has succeeded in generating millions of dollars for Southwest Missouri."

PTACs are funded in part by the Department of Defense and by their host institutions. A host institution may be a university, state or local government college or not-for-profit organization. There are 94 PTACs throughout the United States.

The Association of Procurement Technical Assistance Centers is the national organization for the majority of procurement centers across the nation.

Heartland PTAC is an outreach program at MSSU that provides assistance to businesses with their federal, state and local government contracting efforts. Last year, Heartland PTAC assisted more than 256 clients in obtaining 201 contracts totaling \$16,875,142.

Services provided by Heartland PTAC include a bid-searching system which is done electronically; help in bid preparation by assisting businesses in understanding forms, regulations, clauses, representations and certifications; assists with the various government registrations; provides price histories; conducts training such as conferences and workshops; and provides military specifications and standards.

Since its inception in 1995, Heartland PTAC has assisted with \$167,724,515 in contracts for its clients.