

NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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AL O'MALLEY TO RECEIVE HONORARY DEGREE

Silver City, NM – Al O'Malley will be awarded an honorary doctorate degree during Western New Mexico University's 2011 Spring Commencement Ceremony in recognition of his dedication to WNMU and his contributions as an outstanding alumnus.

A native of Chicago, Illinois, O'Malley graduated from WNMU with a Bachelor of Arts degree in English in 1951.

While at WNMU, O'Malley was a member of Blue Key and Alpha Pi Omega. He lettered in football and tennis. In 1950, O'Malley's tennis team won the doubles conference championship and was the only team to win a conference championship that year. Additionally, he participated in the Playmakers Drama Club and was the editor of *The Mustang*, WNMU's student newspaper.

O'Malley began his business career as a commercial and industrial loan representative in Chicago after graduation. In 1965 he joined the Pullman Banking Group as vice president, was elected vice president of Hyde Park Bank and Trust in 1966, and then named president of Illinois Bancharge, where he developed and promoted the first bank charge card, now known as MasterCard.

He was elected in 1969 as senior vice president of business development for all banks within the Pullman Banking Group and chairman of the board of Heritage Olympia Bank.

O'Malley was elected chairman, chief executive officer, and president of Heritage Standard Bank and Chairman and CEO of Standard Bank and Trust Co. in 1976, and today holds the office of Chairman Emeritus of Standard Bank Shares.

In 1996, O'Malley received the WNMU Outstanding Alumnus award.

Spring commencement is scheduled for Friday, May 13 in Old James Stadium.



Located in Silver City, New Mexico, Western New Mexico University has served the people of the state of New Mexico and its surrounding areas as a comprehensive, regional, rural, public coeducational university since 1893 and caters to a student body diverse in age, culture, language and ethnic background.

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