MU NewsLetter, April 28, 1988

Office of University Relations
President praises Marshall clerical staff

Secretarial and Clerical Staff:
I would like to take this opportunity during National Secretaries' Week to convey my sincere expressions of appreciation to each and every one of you.

For Marshall University to meet its obligations to students, everyone must work very hard. I know you have worked hard and you should be very proud of your performance during this past year.

You often don’t get the recognition you deserve, but you can rest assured that your performance and commitment to the university do not go unnoticed.

I am sure I am speaking for administrators, faculty, staff and students when I say—thank you!

Sincerely,
Dale F. Nitzschke
MU President

Butcher will receive honorary degree

Two-star Admiral Paul D. Butcher, deputy commander of the U.S. Navy’s Atlantic Fleet, will be awarded the honorary Doctor of Humane Letters degree at Marshall University’s 1988 Commencement, according to MU President Dale F. Nitzschke.

Research endowment named for Dr. Tyson

Marshall University’s Graduate Student Association has established a research endowment in honor of Dr. A. Mervin Tyson, a former MU professor and administrator, according to Alvie E. Qualls II, GSA president.

The announcement of the establishment of the Dr. A. Mervin Tyson Graduate Research Endowment was made April 12 during a reception at the home of Marshall President Dale F. Nitzschke.

During the ceremony, Tyson was presented a plaque commemorating the establishment of the endowment in his name and President Nitzschke pledged $500 to the fund.

Qualls said the GSA decided to name the fund in honor of Tyson because he is an individual who has a proven record of being concerned with the overall development of students, as well as academics.

"Dr. Tyson also has a very strong background in academic research and writing, and we felt he was the best individual we could honor through this research endowment," said Qualls.

The fund will be administered by the Graduate Student Association Research Committee in cooperation with the Marshall University Foundation.

Grants will be awarded by the GSA Research Committee to support graduate student research and superior undergraduate research projects.

The Graduate Student Association raised funds for the endowment through a "150 Cents for 150 Years" campaign.

Staff will be honored

Marshall University will hold its fourth annual Service Awards Luncheon for classified staff members on Thursday, May 19, at noon in the W. Don Morris Room in Memorial Student Center.

Marshall employees who complete 15 or 20 years of service as of May 1 will be recognized during the luncheon.

University staff members who will receive awards for 20 years of service are: Helen Bledsoe, Betty Garrett, Pat Garvin, Deborah Hicks, Rosetta Layne, Charles Newsom, Dorman Sargent and Imogene Scott.

Staff members who will be recognized for 15 years of service at the university are: Sue Bell, Mary Caserta, James Davis, Emmett Dean, Carolyn Endicott, Charles Harless, Susan Lewis, Opal Midkiff, Robert Morris, John Morton, Vickie Navy, Fred Price, Ken Reffelt, Opal Turner, Joe Vance, Donald Vaughn and Alan Ward.

Marshall University President Dale F. Nitzschke has granted all classified staff employees release time to attend the luncheon.

(Continued on page 2)
Library Institute will be held here

Marshall University's 15th annual Library Skills Institute will be held May 16-27, according to Dr. Virginia Plumley, professor of educational media and director of the Learning Resources Center at Marshall.

Approximately 100 persons who work in small rural libraries in West Virginia, Ohio and Kentucky are expected to attend the two-week institute.

The program, sponsored by the MU Department of Educational Media and the West Virginia Library Commission, has been designed to improve methods of library management for small and geographically remote public libraries.

Dr. Frederic J. Glazer, director of the West Virginia Library Commission, developed the concept for the institute, which has served as a model for other states.

"Although the program has been copied, this is the only workshop where a university and a state library commission work cooperatively and actually house the participants on campus while they take courses," said Dr. Plumley. "Instruction has been designed specifically for semi-professional librarians and those who can't obtain this type of information anywhere else."

Instructors and professors from various institutions and organizations will teach classes in library science, basic media, media production and utilization, microteaching, source materials, Appalachian culture, accounting and bookkeeping, book selection and the history of libraries.

The Cabell County Public Library in Huntington will serve as the host library for the institute.

"Over the past 15 years, more than $450,000 has been provided by the West Virginia Library Commission to sponsor this program," said Dr. Plumley. "We always look forward to the workshop because the two weeks are filled with classes, fun and extracurricular activities. Shirley Smith, field representative for the library commission, and I have spent the past two months planning the activities."

To obtain further details about the Library Skills Institute contact Dr. Plumley at Marshall University, 696-2904.

Butcher to get degree

(Continued from page 1)

been made as a high-level policy-maker during his six tours of duty in the Pentagon," Nitzschke added.

Butcher is perhaps best known for having a major role in the decision to assign female personnel to the Navy's sea-going ships, including combat vessels. As a result, the Navy now has 45,000 women on its rosters, compared to only 12,000 in 1979.

As deputy commander and chief-of-staff of the Atlantic Fleet, Butcher is serving in a vice admiral's position and is expected to receive his third star as a result of his current assignment.

A graduate of Barboursville High School, Butcher worked as a reporter for the Huntington Herald-Dispatch during his years as a Marshall journalism student. He also served as editor of the Marshall yearbook, managing editor of the student newspaper and president of Lambda Chi Alpha social fraternity. A Dean's List student, he was elected to Omicron Delta Kappa leadership honorary and was listed in "Who's Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges, 1952-53."

He earned his master's degree in international affairs from George Washington University in 1965. As a young commanding officer, he took his ship into one of the most famous naval operations of modern history, participating in the naval quarantine of Cuba during the Cuban missile crisis of October, 1962.

Butcher assumed his current post last September. He frequently credits Marshall University for the success he has achieved in his 40-year naval career, citing the discipline and writing skills he developed as a student journalist.

He is married to the former Phyllis Christian, a Huntington native and Marshall alumna. They are the parents of three children.

Butcher is the second Marshall honorary degree recipient announced for 1988. Last week, Nitzschke said Mrs. Roberta Emerson, retired director of the Huntington Museum of Art, would be awarded an honorary degree.

Dr. Tyson honored

(Continued from page 1)

Medical students get Research Day awards

Six Marshall University School of Medicine students and residents received awards for their presentations at the school's recent Research Day.

First-place winners, who received $200 each, were medical student Gregory Glass of Huntington, who won first place in the clinical research division for a project on respiratory virus illness in families, and graduate student Daniel Todd of Dewitt, Mich., who won first place in the basic research division for a project relating to high blood pressure.

Graduate students Judith Hissom of Saginaw, Mich., and Thomas Bowden of Beckley received the $125 prize for best poster presentation with their project on breast cancer.

Dr. Daniel A. Beals from Concord, W.Va., a resident in the Department of Surgery, placed second in the clinical research category for a project on breast cancer in men. Dr. Mark R. Wilford from Worcester, Mass., a resident in the Department of Medicine, placed second in the basic research category with a project on beta cell function. Beals and Wilford received $100 each.

Results of more than 40 projects were reported at Research Day, which was created to honor students and residents conducting medical research at Marshall.
Alpha Omega Alpha inducts new members

Thirty-two students, alumni, and faculty were inducted into the medical honorary Alpha Omega Alpha at the new chapter’s installation ceremony April 21.

Dr. Jeremiah Barondess, national AOA president, was the evening’s scheduled speaker. Others participating in the dinner, which included presentation of the charter and installation of members, were Marshall President Dale F. Nitzschke, School of Medicine Dean Lester Bryant, Executive Associate Dean Jack Baur, Clinical Professor of Medicine Charles E. Turner, and Vice President for Academic Affairs Carol Ann Smith.

Up to one-sixth of each class can be inducted into the society, providing that each person is in the top 25 percent of his or her class. In addition, the school was permitted in this first installation to induct qualified alumni from the last five graduating classes.

Inducted into the society were:

Faculty – Doctor Gretchen E. Oley, Department of Medicine (also a graduate of the School of Medicine).


Zill receives grant

Dr. Sasha Zill of the Marshall University School of Medicine has received a $15,600 grant to study how the brain responds to messages from certain sensory receptors in the joints, research which could ultimately help scientists better understand movement and the diseases which impair it.

The funding is part of a Whitehall Foundation grant which runs through 1989 and is expected to total more than $33,000.

“We rely on more than sight to tell us where our bodies are and how they are positioned,” said Zill, an assistant professor of anatomy.

“There are actually sense organs in our joints which send electrical signals to the brain to tell it where our knees or elbows are, for example,” he said. “People such as athletes and ballet dancers seem to rely especially heavily on this input from the joints, but we all use it to some degree.”

Zill wants to find out how the nervous system is "wired up" to act on messages which tell it the joints have moved – where the messages go, and how the nervous system in turn tells muscles how to respond.

“If you trip when you’re walking down the street, your nervous system reacts by telling your muscles to perform a whole series of carefully coordinated actions,” he said. “If we can learn just how that is done, we’ll be in a better position to understand how we perform coordinated movements in other situations as well.”

The human nervous system, with its hundred billion or so neurons, is far too complex for this kind of study, Zill said. He works instead with grasshoppers, whose 10,000 neurons are considerably easier to identify and observe.

“Although the grasshopper’s nervous system is a very simple one, it could give us an interesting model for understanding the basic mechanisms underlying sensory feedback and motor control,” he said.

Workshop planned for adults in transition

A weeklong workshop designed for adults who want to examine their career options, personal strengths and learning skills will be held at Marshall University May 16-20 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. each day.

“Adults in Transition” will be offered free of charge to adults who are unemployed or employed part-time and looking for full-time work, single heads of households who lack job skills, and persons who need employment because of divorce, separation or the death of a spouse, according to Janice McNearney, special projects coordinator in Marshall’s Community College.

“The workshop is ideal for people who are seeking a change but are uncertain where to start,” said Ms. McNearney.

Topics will include career exploration, personal development, educational assessment, computer literacy, study skills and financial assistance.

Although not obligated to enroll in Marshall or any other college or university, participants also will receive orientation to the college environment, introductions to MU faculty and staff, educational advising and counseling.

To register or obtain further details about the workshop contact Ms. McNearney at Marshall University’s Community College, 696-3646.

TIAA meetings set

Bruce Smith, Marshall University’s new TIAA representative, will be on campus Thursday, May 5, to explain the recent changes and new options available to TIAA-CREF policyholders.

The meetings will be held from 10 to 11:30 a.m. and from 2 to 3:30 p.m. in the Memorial Student Center Alumni Lounge. Employees are encouraged to attend one of the sessions.

Preregistration will be required by Wednesday, May 4. To register contact the Training and Development Office, 696-6240.

Smith previously worked the Marshall University territory several years ago. His visit has been scheduled at this time to allow faculty and staff who may not be on campus this summer to attend the program.

To obtain further details contact Nicole Norian, 696-2594.
Sigma Xi recognizes teacher, faculty

A Cabell County science teacher and two Marshall University researchers have been honored by Sigma Xi, the North American Research Society.

Dr. Gary Rankin, chairman of pharmacology and president of the local group, said Amy Varnum of Huntington East High School was recognized as the area's outstanding high school science teacher.

Dr. Ralph Taylor of Marshall's Department of Biological Sciences said the group learned of Varnum's work from her former students.

"All I've heard about in the 17 years I've been here has been Amy Varnum," he said. "The reports from the students were that she was a taskmaster but an excellent teacher. Her students have done very well in the SCORES academic festival here at Marshall. She definitely has had a profound impact on the people who came under her tutelage."

Honored as outstanding researchers were Dr. Carl A. Gruetter and Dr. Steven P. Mewaldt.

Gruetter, who joined the Marshall faculty in 1981, is an associate professor of pharmacology and deputy chairman of that department. His work on the action of blood vessels in the lung area has drawn major grants from the National Institutes of Health, as well as grants from the American Heart Association, the American Lung Association, and the Pharmaceutical Manufacturers Association Foundation.

He is a member of the American Heart Association's Basic Science Council and reviews manuscripts for a number of scientific publications. He also serves on research committees of Marshall, the Huntington veterans Administration Medical Center, and the state affiliate of the American Heart Association.

Mewaldt, a professor of psychology, joined the Marshall faculty in 1975 and received the Meet-the-Scholar Award in fall 1987. His research focuses on human memory and the ways drugs affect human learning and performance. Mewaldt particularly has studied the effect of diazepam, better known by the brand name Valium, on memory. His work has been supported by the Marshall University Research Board and the National Institute of Mental Health.

He is chairman of Marshall's Physical Facilities Committee and serves on the University Technical Advisory Group and the Legislative Liaison Committee. He also has served on the Search Committee on Recruiting Excellent Students, the Research Board and its Awards Committee, and the State Task Force on Office Automation.

Excused absences...

Absences have been excused by the respective college deans for the following:

MARCH 25--Patricia Boling, Angie Martin, Nora Porter and Patti Stolze.

APRIL 15-16--Men's and Women's Track Teams.

APRIL 20-23--Women's Tennis Team.

APRIL 21-23--Men's and Women's Track Teams, Julia Dillon.

APRIL 21-22--ROTC cadets involved in training exercise in preparation for ROTC advanced camp.

APRIL 22--Valerie Wynes, Anissa Henderson, Sheila Copney.

Prize winner announced

Brian Fletcher, a sophomore from Huntington, was the winner of the vending machine prize contest for the month of April, according to Karen Kirtley, administrative coordinator in Memorial Student Center.

Fletcher received a Panasonic AM/FM stereo cassette player and headphones.

Each month an item in one of the campus vending machines is designated as a prize winner. The person receiving that item receives a special gift.

College of Education announces name change

Effective with the fall schedule, the Marshall University Department of Educational Media in the College of Education will be known as the Department of Instructional Technology and Library Science with an alpha designator of ITL.

Dr. Virginia Plumley, coordinator of the department, said the change is being made to more accurately reflect the course offerings in the department, which includes courses in the fields of communications and library media.

For a period of two years, the two names will be cross-referenced in the catalog and the class schedule.
Dr. LESLIE PETTEYS, assistant professor of music, and Dr. DONALD WILLIAMS, chairman of the Music Department, presented a lecture/recital during the national meeting of the Sonneck Society held April 16 at Centre College, Danville, Ky. Their presentation included performance and discussion of works by black American composer George Walker.

Dr. C. ROBERT BARNETT, professor of health, physical education and recreation, recently was the guest speaker at the Huntington High School Honors Assembly. His presentation was titled “Carry That Torch of Learning High: But Don’t Be Afraid To Use It To Look Around.”

Dr. CHRISTOPHER L. DOLMETSCCH, associate professor of modern languages, has contributed a review of “German-American Folklore” (ed. Mac E. Barrick; August House publ.) to the April 1988 issue of Choice (p. 1250). University Relations Director C.T. MITCHELL has been selected for inclusion in the 21st edition of “Who’s Who in the South and Southwest,” scheduled for publication in September.

Dr. CHARLES YANG, assistant professor of chemistry, recently received a 1988 College Grant of $950 from the Spectroscopy Society of Pittsburgh for the purchase of accessories for infrared spectrometers.

Eight students and four faculty members from the Department of Biological Sciences presented 14 papers/posters at the 49th annual meeting of the Association of Southeastern Biologists held April 13-15 at the Gulf Coast Research Center in Biloxi, Miss. Those attending from MU presented more papers that any other college or university from the 13 southeastern states.

Students presenting papers were: BARBARA SAMPLES, BETSY HENRY, JIM GLOVER, and CAROLYN CULP. Faculty presenting papers were: JIM JOY (two), DONALD TARTER (two), TOM WEAKS, and WAYNE ELMORE.

Dr. JACQUELINE GUTTMANN, assistant professor of French, attended the formal inauguration of the Bicentennial of the French Revolution at the French Embassy in Washington, D.C., April 15. A number of activities will be held throughout the year, with several activities taking place in Huntington. Persons interested in the celebration can contact Dr. GUTTMANN, 696-2747.

Dr. CRAIG MONROE, professor of speech, is the senior author of a training manual titled “Basic Communication Skills for Health Care Professionals.” The manual will be published by the West Virginia State Department of Health in July.

Dr. MARCUS C. WALDRON and Dr. ALAN R. WHITE, assistant professors in the departments of Biological Sciences and Pharmacology, were invited speakers at the University of Kentucky’s Graduate Center for Toxicology on April 4. Their topic was the analysis of chemical mutagens in Kanawha River sediments.

Dr. MAURICE A. MUFSON, professor and chairman of the Department of Medicine, has been appointed to the editorial board of the American Journal of the Medical Sciences, effective April 1988. He also had an article titled “Preparation and Characterization of Monoclonal Antibodies Directed against Five Structural Components of Human Respiratory Syncytial Virus Subgroup B” published in the December 1986 issue of the Journal of General Virology. Co-authors of the article were Dr. Claes Orvell and Dr. Erling Norby of the Karolinska Institute School of Medicine, Stockholm, Sweden.

Dr. CHRISTOPHER L. DOLMETSCCH and Dr. NANCY STUMP, associate professors of modern languages, and SARA HENRY, instructor of modern languages, attended the semi-annual combined meetings of the West Virginia Foreign Language Teachers Association and the state chapters of the American Associations of Teachers of French, Spanish and Portuguese and German held April 22-23 at Fairmont State College. DOLMETSCCH chaired the meeting of the American Association of Teachers of German in his capacity of president of that organization.

Dr. W. BLAKER BOLLING, associate professor of management, received the Alpha Kappa Psi National Professional Business Fraternity Distinguished Service Award at the Eastern Regional Conference held April 14-17 in Lake Placid, N.Y. The Marshall University Zeta Rho chapter, which he advises, won three of the four chapter awards and placed second for the fourth award. Marshall also won the competitive bidding to host the meeting next spring.

Omicron Delta Kappa to rededicate circle

Marshall University’s chapter of Omicron Delta Kappa National Leadership Honorary will hold rededication ceremonies for the ODK Circle on the MU campus on Wednesday, May 4, at noon.

The ODK Circle, located between Old Main and Memorial Student Center, recently was refurbished by this year’s ODK pledge class.

Stephanie Parker, ODK vice president, said contributions for the renovations came from alumni and members. She also noted that the MU Department of Buildings and Grounds helped during the project.

MU President Dale F. Nitzschke will be presented the Omicron Delta Kappa Key during the ceremony.

All Marshall faculty, staff and students are invited to attend the ceremony.

Student presents poster

Julia Dillon, a hospital management major at Marshall University, participated in the Undergraduate Research Conference at the University of North Carolina at Asheville April 21-23.

She displayed a poster titled “Execution at an Early Age,” dealing with her research on the application of capital punishment on juvenile offenders and alternatives to capital punishment for juveniles.

Her participation in the conference was sponsored by the MU President’s Office, the College of Liberal Arts and the College of Business.

Ms. Dillon is the daughter of Paul and Joyce Dillon of Rt. 1, Crown City, Ohio.

Page 5
Medical School offers apprenticeships

The Marshall University School of Medicine is accepting applications from high school students interested in working this summer in the Minority High School Student Apprenticeship Program.

The program, created and funded by the National Institutes of Health, is open to high school students who identify themselves as black, Hispanic, American Indian, Alaska native, Pacific islander, or Asian.

Apprentices this year may work on such projects as medical-related computer programming or graphics, research into complications of diabetes, or studies of how certain chemicals affect the kidneys.

Students in the program will work from four to 10 weeks and will earn $4 per hour.

"This has been a popular and successful program because it helps students develop an understanding of research and the skills it involves," said Dr. Peter Kasvinsky, director of research development.

"Students get the practical experience and the contact with working scientists that can help them decide whether they would enjoy health-related research as a career," he said.

Participants should have completed a high school biology course before entering the program.

Interested students should apply by May 6, using an application form available from Kasvinsky or from science teachers at local high schools. With their application, students should submit a one-page essay telling why they are interested in the program, explaining their present career goals, and describing their personal background. Applicants also should ask two persons to send letters of reference on their behalf. At least one letter must be from a science teacher at the student's high school.

More information is available from Kasvinsky at 696-7326.

Officers are named by Campus Entertainment

Sherrie Hunt, a Marshall University junior from Walton, has been elected president of the university's Campus Entertainment Unlimited organization.

Campus Entertainment Unlimited is the main student organization responsible for providing contemporary entertainment on the MU campus. Membership in the organization is open to all students.

Other newly elected officers are: Teresa Adkins, a senior from Eleanor, business manager; Kathleen Hall, a sophomore from London, Public Relations Executive; Chrystalle Crabtree, a senior from Wheeling, Cinema Arts Committee; Suzanne Cook, a sophomore from Mullens, and Christi Boyd, a junior from Gary, Travel and Recreation Committee; K.C. Kerns, a Ripley senior, and Jay Wright, a Paden City senior, Homecoming '88 Committee; Tracey Edmonds, a Huntington sophomore, and Mary Scott, a sophomore from Spencer, Contemporary Issues Committee; Kelli Hunt, a sophomore from Walton, and Shawn Ramsey, a sophomore from Reedy, Coffeehouse Committee, and Scott Stover, a senior from Charleston, Special Events Committee.

The new officers and committee heads will take office May 1 and continue in office until May 1, 1989. The Campus Entertainment Unlimited Office is located in Marshall's Memorial Student Center Room 2W38.

Emeritus Club to meet

The Marshall University Emeritus Club will meet Wednesday, May 18, at 12:15 p.m. in the Shawkey Dining Room in Memorial Student Center.

Dr. Carolyn M. Karr of Marshall's College of Education will make a presentation titled "Dr. Henry D. Hatfield: Biographical Highlights."

The meetings are open to all persons holding emeritus status or retired from Marshall University, as well as spouses and guests.

The cost of the luncheon will be $5.75. To make reservations contact Marguerite Spears, 886-6644.

MU Functions Committee discusses commencement

(The following report on the April 18 meeting of the Marshall University Functions Committee was submitted by Laura Lee Wilson, secretary.)

The University Functions Committee met April 15 at 1:30 p.m. with Dr. Carl Johnson, chairman, presiding.

Following a report from the Social Functions Subcommittee, there was a discussion of gifts for this year's retirees.

A motion was passed to present each of this year's retirees with a chair. Presentations were to be made following the April 21 general faculty meeting.

It was agreed among committee members that the reception for graduates and their guests be held at the Civic Center this year rather than Memorial Student Center. Committee members will host the reception.

Dr. Johnson reported on the results of a survey to determine the feeling for a faculty/staff facility. There were 30 percent return of questionnaires from the 370 faculty and 712 staff surveys.

Eighty percent of those responding voted in favor of such a facility. The results will be reported to the Alumni Association.

The Graduation Subcommittee will review the process for the selection of commencement ushers.

Acting on a request for an opinion on a revision of The Greenbook requirement to publish the order of the procession for commencement exercises, the committee voted to retain development and publication of the order of the commencement procession.

The following persons were elected officers of the University Functions Committee for 1988-89: Dr. Carl Johnson of the College of Education, chairman; Dr. James Moloney of the College of Science, secretary, and Laura Lee Wilson of the School of Nursing, treasurer.