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Marshall University News Letter, August 31, 1979

Office of University Relations

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Dean appoints two as department chairman

Two new department chairmen have been appointed in the College of Liberal Arts, according to Dean George J. Harbold.

Dr. Paul A. Balshaw, professor of music and MU choirs director, has been named Music Department chairman, and Dr. Charles Kay Mabee, formerly on the Radford (Va.) College faculty, is the new Bible and Religion Department chairman.

Balshaw, a member of the faculty since 1965, succeeds Dr. Wendell Kimmel, professor of music, who resigned the chairmanship to return to teaching, Harbold said.

A native of Brooklyn, N.Y., Balshaw attended the Eastern School of Music where he earned his Bachelor of Music degree, and Saint Louis College where he received his Master of Music degree and Doctor of Musical Arts degree.

He has taught postdoctoral work at the University of Maryland and the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

A 1978 National Endowment for the Humanities Summer Grant recipient, Balshaw has received research awards from the Benjamin Franklin and Marshall Foundations.

A baritone, Balshaw has performed before various Tri-State Area groups and has worked with the Huntington Musical Arts Society since 1977.

Balshaw, who has been married for nearly two decades, has undergone a major revamping to enhance intellectual stimulation of both the academic and the musical arts.

"We have," said the musicologist, "taken out the old system of administration and replaced it with a more efficient one. It's like a newly-appointed coach, my first concern is one of teamwork. When I saw the new university's commitment to the arts, I knew I could succeed."

Mr. McWhorter is a native of Brooklyn, N.Y., Balshaw attended the Eastman School of Music where he earned his Bachelor of Music degree, and Saint Louis College where he received his Master of Music degree and Doctor of Musical Arts degree.

"Any musician, whether a student, a faculty or staff member at the university, or Tri-State Area resident, who wants to play in the Marshall University choirs should call me. I can be reached at my office in Smith Music Hall, 696-3137, or at my home, 736-9534," said Balshaw.

New conductor named for MU Community Symphony

James R. McWhorter, cellist and former conductor of the Tucson (Ariz.) Civic Ballet, has been appointed as conductor of the Marshall University Community Symphony, and instructor of cello, according to Dr. Paul A. Balshaw, MU Department of Music chairman.

McWhorter, who has studied under the noted cellist Gordon Ellerson, has played with the Tucson Symphony and the Arizona Opera Company. For five years, he was a member of the U.S. Marine Corps Band, "White House Orchestra."

"Jim McWhorter's appointment marks the first time we have been able to employ a cellist as a full-time faculty member. This gives us the opportunity to further develop the Marshall University Community Symphony. It will also allow us to build Marshall's music education program," according to Bonnie Childs, graphics supervisor.

"I'd appreciate it if everyone would see if they have an extra key or another department's key and return it to Graphic Services, so we can restore it to its correct owner," Mrs. Childs said.

KEY CHECK

Have you checked your copier key lately? During the summer, several offices reported missing copier keys, according to Bonnie Childs, graphics supervisor.

"I'd appreciate it if everyone would see if they have an extra key or another department's key and return it to Graphic Services, so we can restore it to its correct owner," Mrs. Childs said.

Old parking permits

to become invalid today

Faculty and staff members are reminded that their parking permits must be renewed for the 1979-80 academic year, according to Bonnie Lytle, MU Security administrative assistant and coordinator traffic/parking.

"Last year's permits expire today," she said. Permits will be available in Old Main 7-8 from 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. on Tuesday through Thursday, Sept. 4-6. At least half of the parking fee must be paid at the time the permit is issued.

JAMES McWHORTER

A doctoral degree candidate at the University of Arizona, McWhorter earned his Bachelor of Music degree from there and his Master of Music degree from Catholic University in Washington, D.C. He spent a year studying cello in Tokyo in 1962. He is the head of the Cello Department.

"By expanding the existing nucleus of players-students, faculty and community members," McWhorter said, "we will be able to provide a quality program for Marshall faculty, students and community members alike."

"Just like a newly-appointed coach, my first concern is one of recruitment. I'm looking for musicians—particularly string players," McWhorter said. "We do have scholarships available for students interested in the Symphony," he said.

"Any musician, whether a student, a faculty or staff member at the university, or Tri-State Area resident, who wants to play in the Marshall University Community Symphony may call me. I can be reached at my office in Smith Music Hall, 696-3137, or at my home, 736-9534," he said.

INVITATION

President and Mrs. Robert B. Hayes cordially invite all current and former faculty and staff members and their guests to the Annual Faculty-Staff Party for the evening of visiting with friends, a light buffet and music by The Gentleman III on Friday, Sept. 14, from 8 to 10 p.m. in Memorial Student Center's Multi-Purpose Room.

MARSHALL UNIVERSITY
NEWS LETTER
August 31, 1979

OFFICE OF UNIVERSITY RELATIONS • NEWS BUREAU • MARSHALL UNIVERSITY • HUNTINGTON, WEST VIRGINIA 25701

Our program strengthened, expanded

Marshall University's Honors Program will be strengthened and expanded with the appointment of Provost Olen E. Jones Jr. and Dr. Michael J. Galgano, Honors Professor of Music, announced Dr. Robert B. Hayes, Provost of Marshall University.

"Our Honors Program, which in its current form has been running for nearly two decades, has undergone a major revamping to expand both the program and the scope of work that we can do for a gifted student and the participating faculty," Jones said.

"We need to give our Honors Program a major shake-up. The new Honors Program will be more focused on the arts," said Galgano, who also is an associate professor of history.

"Administrative approval has been given for released time for faculty and staff members working with these programs. In the past, faculty members have supervised this in addition to teaching," Jones added.

Dr. Fisher Minnesota-bound; Ken Blue named interim head

Kenneth E. Blue, associate dean for student development at Marshall University, has been appointed interim vice president/dean for student affairs, Marshall Provost Glen E. Jones Jr. announced.

Blue will serve in the position until a permanent successor is named for Richard G. Fisher, who announced his resignation effective in early October. Fisher will leave the Marshall post to become the student affairs vice president at Minnesota State University in Minnesota.

"I have decided to take the Minnesota position because of family considerations. I am a native Iowan and own a lakeside cabin in Wisconsin," he said. "In moving back to the Midwest, I will be closer to my parents and closer to other members of my family. The decision to leave Marshall was not difficult, however. I have enjoyed working at Marshall, and it has been a privilege to serve as a member of the MU administration and have been very pleased with the great progress the Student Affairs Division has been able to make."

"I expressed regret at Fisher's decision to take the Minnesota position. Dick Fisher has done an excellent job for Marshall University and we are sorry to see him go," Jones said.

A search committee will be named and the position will be advertised.

"We hope to be able to find a successor by January," Jones said. "Dr. Fisher has agreed to take over the responsibilities of heading the Student Affairs Division on an interim basis. Under his leadership, and with the help of the other members of the very strong," Jones added.

Michael F. Thomas named financial VP

Michael F. Thomas, currently director of financial affairs at the West Virginia College of Graduate Studies in Institute, has been appointed vice president for financial affairs at Marshall University.

The appointment is effective Sept. 1, Marshall President Robert B. Hayes said in making the announcement.

"We are pleased that a person with Mike Thomas' extensive background in financial operations has agreed to join our Marshall University staff," Hayes said. "The role he assumes is of critical importance. His experience in the state system of higher education, particularly that with a medical school, will be of great value in his new position."

Thomas has been responsible for financial operations at the West Virginia College of Graduate Studies since 1977.

"As financial VP, Thomas will be responsible for building Marshall's financial operations in a manner that will meet the needs of the university," Hayes said.

Thomas has been appointed assistant of planning and development at the WVU Medical Center from 1967 to 1968, managing a business office, and director of a medical contract administration office, at the WVU Office of International Programs from 1968 to 1973.

"With his background in financial operations, Thomas will be of great value in his new position," Hayes said.

Thomas has been appointed to the board of directors at the WVU Medical Center from 1967 to 1968, managing a business office, and director of a medical contract administration office, at the WVU Office of International Programs from 1968 to 1973.

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Celebration '79 launches cultural season

The Tri-State Area's 1979-80 cultural season will be launched with Celebration of the Arts '79, Saturday, Sept. 8, and Sunday, Sept. 9. Organizers of the arts events and director of the Marshall Artists Series, Fidler, who recently assumed the position of the Popa Orchestra.

The Wheelering orchestra's visit is being sponsored by the Arts and Humanities Committee of the West Virginia Commission on Foundation with financial assistance from individual donors and organizations. The Wheelering Orchestra and the West Virginia Department of Culture and History, Mrs. Hindley said.

The two-day celebration will open Saturday at noon with dedication of the sculpture "Continuous Ascent," Huntington Center Plaza in front of the Cabell County Library. The final event will be a festival of drama, music and the visual arts to be presented Sunday at 2 p.m. at the 10th Street entrance to Ritter Park by several cultural organizations.

"Continuous Ascent," designed by John Rietta, was funded by the city government, the Cabell County Commission and the Huntington Urban Renewal Authority with contributions of labor and material by Neighbor Construction Co., Criss and Shaver, Inc., and Huntington Alloys, Inc.

Providing "live" entertainment and art displays in the park Sunday will be representatives of Community Players, Huntington Symphony Orchestra, Huntington Galleries, Huntington Chamber Orchestra, the Marshall Music Department, the Marshall Fine Arts Guild of Ashland, Ky., and the Tri-State Arts Association.

All activities of Celebration of the Arts '79 will be free and open to the public.

ProvoSt praises staff (continued from page 1)

"The connection between student success and faculty participation is very important," Provost said.

"The fall 1978 survey was designed to get staff opinions on the subject of student success. The survey was sent to all non-tenure track faculty, and the results have been used to train new faculty members in the area of student success," Provost said.

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Survey forms sought

Staff members who have not returned the Staff Personnel Opinion and Suggestions Survey forms to the Personnel Office are requested to do so by Friday, Sept. 7, according to Ray Niswonger, MU personnel director. Staff members who have not returned the forms will receive," Niswonger said. "The more forms we receive, the better idea we will be able to have of staff concerns."

The forms were distributed in mid-August to all staff members. If you did not receive one and would like to fill out the survey form, contact the Personnel Office, 6485.