University receives $1 million gift

Contributions by a nationally-prominent graduate of Marshall University and his wife will permit Marshall to establish its first million-dollar endowment for a distinguished academic chair, according to MU President Dale F. Nitzschke.

Nitzschke said the gift from John D. and Elizabeth G. Drinko of Lyndhurst, Ohio, and Palm Springs, Calif., represents the largest non-corporate contribution in the university's history.

Negotiations currently are underway with a nationally-known political figure to serve as the first visiting professor in "The John Deaver Drinko and Elizabeth G. Drinko Distinguished Chair in Liberal Arts" and an announcement is expected to be made soon, Nitzschke said. He said the arrangements are being handled by Dr. Simon D. Perry, chairman of Marshall's Department of Political Science.

In addition to conducting classes, seminars and workshops for students, the distinguished professor also will have discussions with community organizations in the region, Nitzschke said.

Dr. Keith L. Scott, MU vice president for institutional advancement, said the gift will be invested and proceeds will be used to fund the chair each year. He said Mr. and Mrs. Drinko also will provide an additional $65,000 annually for the chair until a full return is realized from the investments. This is being done, he said, in order to get the program underway immediately.

"This is a classic example of an individual achieving great success at the national and international levels but retaining concern for the area and the people from which he emerged," Nitzschke said.

"John Drinko had the benefit of a quality education, both in the small community of St. Marys and at Marshall College, and he has never ceased to show his appreciation. He and Elizabeth really care about people and they are deeply committed to bringing their resources to bear to help West Virginians achieve a better quality of life. "They have been among Marshall University's most generous and most consistent supporters for many years," he added, "and this latest indication of their concern for Marshall represents a major breakthrough in our ongoing efforts to build upon Marshall's strong academic base. We're deeply grateful."

A native of St. Marys, Drinko was honored last spring with the Distinguished Alumnus Award of St. Marys High School. At that time, the 1939 graduate presented a $10,000 Marshall scholarship to a 1987 St. Marys graduate, Barbara Hovey. In accepting the award he repeated from his own high school commencement address a quotation from William Danforth which he said reflects his own philosophy: "I dare you, whoever you are, to share with others the fruits of your daring. Catch a passion for helping others, and a richer life will come back to you."

Drinko is senior managing partner of Baker & Hostetler, one of the nation's largest law firms with 350

Three MU retirees die

Three prominent Marshall University retirees, Luther E. Bledsoe, Dr. Jack R. Brown and Dr. Raymond Janssen, have been claimed by death during the past week. They spent most of their careers at Marshall.

Mr. Bledsoe had served as director of admissions and registrar; Dr. Brown was professor of English and departmental chairman; Dr. Janssen was professor of geology and chairman of that department.

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University receives $1 million gift

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attorneys. Headquartered in Cleveland, the firm also has offices in Columbus, Washington, D.C., Denver and Orlando.

After receiving his bachelor's degree from Marshall in 1942, Drinko earned his law degree from The Ohio State University in 1944 and completed postgraduate studies at the University of Texas College of Law the same year. He joined Baker & Hostetler in 1945, became a partner in 1955, managing partner in 1959 and now is senior managing partner.

Also prominent in several businesses, he is chairman of the board of Cleveland Institute of Electronics, Inc., chairman of the board of Double D Ranch, Inc. at Coshocton, Ohio, and director of Cloyes Gear and

Soupy Sales will perform here Sept. 19

(Continued from page 1)

entertainer while majoring in journalism at Marshall. He landed a $20 a week job as a script writer for a Huntington radio station and ultimately became the area's top-rated disc jockey. He frequently honed his act with impromptu performances in Marshall's old Shawkey Student Union.

Following graduation, he moved to Cincinnati and his first television show, "Soupy's Soda Shop." He became increasingly successful in Cleveland, Detroit, Los Angeles and New York and his ABC-TV network show introduced the nation to Soupy's trademark pie-in-the-face routine with his guest stars. He's also been the recipient of more than 19,000 pies in the face.

His list of show business credits covers more than four typewritten pages including television shows, record albums, a Broadway play, stock theatre, motion pictures, nightclub acts, comedy clubs and campus appearances.

"Soupy Sales truly is one of America's funniest individuals," Clagg said, "and we're pleased and honored that he has agreed to serve as one of our outstanding Sesquicentennial speakers. I suspect his 'home folks' here are going to be truly delighted with his appearance in Memorial Student Center."

Burl Osborne, president and editor of the Dallas Morning News, will be the final Sesquicentennial speakers series guest on Nov. 6, Clagg said. Earlier speakers were U.S. Army Major General Albin G. Wheeler and Marvin L. Stone, former editor of U.S. News & World Report and currently deputy director of the U.S. Information Agency.

Lunchbag seminar set

The Marshall University Women's Center will sponsor a lunchbag seminar titled "Returning Women Students" on Wednesday, Sept. 16, from noon to 1 p.m. in Prichard Hall Room 143.

Patricia Matters, coordinator of women's programs at Marshall, will discuss concerns of non-traditional students (25 years of age or older) as they return to school.

To obtain further details contact the Marshall University Women's Center, 696-3112.


He has been awarded honorary Doctor of Laws degrees by Marshall (1980), The Ohio State University (1986) and John Carroll University (1987). He also received the Marshall Alumni Association's Distinguished Alumnus Award in 1968. He was named to the Order of Coif at Ohio State in 1943 and received OSU's Alumni Centennial Award in 1970 and Distinguished Service Award in 1981. He was designated a public member of the Society of Benchers of Case Western Reserve Law School in 1948.

Drinko is a trustee of the Cleveland Institute of Electronics Foundation, the Thomas F. Peterson Foundation, the Philip B. and Celia B. Arnold Foundation, the Mellen Foundation, the Hostetler Foundation, the Marshall University Foundation and The Ohio State University Foundation.

Mr. and Mrs. Drinko also are members of the Presidents Club at Ohio State and the Marshall Foundation's John Marshall Society.

They are the parents of four children: Elizabeth D. Sullivan, Dr. Diana Lynn Drinko, John Randall Drinko and Jay Deaver Drinko.

Nitzschke, who recently spent two days in Cleveland as the guest of Mr. and Mrs. Drinko, said he was impressed not so much with their support of various programs, but their personal involvement with the people they are assisting. "For example," he said, "John is a major supporter of the Mellen Center at Cleveland Clinic, the premier center for research, diagnosis and treatment of multiple sclerosis. He's a very busy man, but he finds time to visit the center frequently. He knows -- and is known by -- not only the staff, but many of the patients.

"I'm proud to have such people associated with Marshall University."

Fulbrights available

Completion is underway for the 1988-89 Fulbright Teacher Awards sponsored by the United States Information Agency, according to Dr. C. Robert Barnett, Marshall University grants officer.

The program features a year-long, one-to-one exchange with faculty members in other countries. This year's program will involve exchanges with teachers from Argentina, Australia, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, Colombia, Denmark, the Federal Republic of Germany, France, Iceland, the Netherlands, Norway, Panama, South Africa, Switzerland and the United Kingdom.

The deadline for applications will be Oct. 15. To obtain further details contact the Fulbright Teacher Exchange Program, E/ASX, United States Information Agency, 301 Fourth Street SW, Washington, D.C. 20547, or contact Dr. Barnett, 696-3094, Dr. Clair W. Matz, Marshall University Center for International Studies, 696-2465, or Dr. Terence McQueeney, associate professor of modern languages, 696-2745.

Excused absences...

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

AUG. 31-SEPT. 3—Donovan L. Combs.
Symposium will focus on Ohio River

An Ohio River Odyssey symposium will be held at the Huntington Museum of Arts on Friday and Saturday, Sept. 18-19.

The symposium is being held in conjunction with the museum’s Ohio River Odyssey exhibit and is designed to share research on a variety of subjects concerning life along the Ohio River.

Topics will include Ohio River archaeology, economics, folklore, geography, history and music, according to Dr. Mack H. Gillenwater, professor of geography at Marshall University.

Activities will begin Friday at 7 p.m. and continue Saturday morning in the museum’s Grace Rardin Doherty Auditorium.

Topics to be discussed Friday evening include:
--“Metals and Manufacturing Since the Civil War in Cincinnati Environ” by Paul F. Erwin of the University of Cincinnati;
--“Taxonomy of the Carex Jamesii-Carex Willdenowii (cypaeaceae) Complex in the Ohio Valley” by Dan Evans of Marshall University;
--“Woodland Archaeology of Gallipolis Locks and Dam” by Robert Maslowski of the United States Corps of Engineers;
--“On Hearing the Boatman’s Dance” by Tom Brown of West Virginia University.

Presentations on Saturday will include:
--“Kentucky’s Lake Landscape-A Dynamic Segment of the Ohio River Basin” by William A. Withington of the University of Kentucky;
--“Highlift Dams on the Ohio River” by Fred Lambert of the United States Corps of Engineers;
--“Clover and the Fort Ancient Indians” by Nicholas Freidin of Marshall University;
--“The River as Interface of Conflict: The Ohio River Indian Frontier, 1774-1784” by James H. O’Donnell III of Marietta College.

The symposium is being sponsored by the Marshall University Department of Geography and the Huntington Museum of Arts and is open to the public free of charge.

To obtain further details contact Dr. Mack H. Gillenwater, Marshall University Department of Geography, 696-2500.

MU Faculty Senate agenda completed

Marshall University’s first Faculty Senate meeting of the semester will be held Thursday, Sept. 17, at 4 p.m. in Corby Hall Room 105, according to Senate President Rainey Duke.

The agenda, as set by the Faculty Senate Executive Committee, will include:
--Approval of minutes;
--Roll taking (method noted);
--Introduction of the parliamentarian and back-up parliamentarian;
--Report from Frances Hensley, Marshall University’s representative to the Advisory Council of Faculty to the Board of Regents;
--Senate involvement in the push for higher education and remarks by Roger Adkins, chairman of the Legislative Affairs Committee;
--Report from subcommittee regarding time being set aside for Senate and other committee meetings;
--By-laws Committee report;
--Vote on by-law relating to voting procedure by general faculty;
--Recommendations to the Senate from standing committees (Faculty Personnel Committee, Student Conduct and Welfare Committee and Academic Planning and Standards);
--Invitations to address the Senate;
--Announcements.
Luther E. Bledsoe, 83, died Sept. 4. He was born Nov. 18, 1903, in Pickens and lived in Huntington for the past 47 years.

He served as registrar and director of admissions at Marshall from 1940 to 1969. He received his bachelor’s and master’s degrees from West Virginia University and served as a teacher and principal in Webster County and taught at Kanawha Valley College in Charleston.

Mr. Bledsoe worked with the National Youth Association, was a member of First United Methodist Church and served as faculty adviser for Sigma Alpha Epsilon.

He also was a member of Omicron Delta Kappa, Phi Eta Sigma, the American College Registrars Association, the Retired Teachers Association, the Highlawn Fishing Club and the MU Emeritus Club.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Edith Williams Bledsoe, in 1976.

Survivors include one daughter, Mrs. Paul (Letha) Douglas of South Charleston; two sisters; one brother; one grandson, and several nieces and nephews.

Dr. Jack R. Brown, 76, died Sept. 7 at his home in Huntington.

He was born March 6, 1911, in St. Louis, Mo. He received his bachelor’s degree from Ohio Wesleyan University and his master’s and doctoral degrees from Northwestern University.

Dr. Brown joined the Marshall faculty in 1948 and served as chairman of the English Department from 1967 to 1974. He was one of the founders of the MU Honors Program and directed the program for two years. He also was one of the founders of the MU Research Board.

Prior to joining the Marshall faculty, he taught at Roanoke College and Baldwin-Wallace College.

He is survived by his wife, Barbara B. Brown, professor of English at Marshall; two sons, Jonathan Treenery Brown of Huntington and Jeffrey Reid Brown of Prestonsburg, Ky.; a brother and sister-in-law, and four grandchildren.

Dr. Raymond Ellsworth Janssen, 83, died Sept. 3, at his home in Huntington.

He was born Nov. 1, 1903, in Springfield, Ill., and received his bachelor’s degree from Northwestern University and his master’s and doctoral degrees from the University of Chicago.

Early in his career, he constructed geological and botanical exhibits at the Field Museum and Museum of Science and History in Chicago, and also designed exhibits for the 1933 Chicago World’s Fair and the 1935 Texas Centennial Exposition.

He was a recognized authority on the origin of coal and coal age fossil plants and established the geology museum at Marshall before his retirement in 1969.

Dr. Janssen came to Huntington in 1942 as an instructor in the Aviation Cadet Training Program at Marshall and remained to become chairman of the Geology Department.

He was the author of eight books and many articles for national journals, magazines and encyclopedias.

He is survived by his wife, Mildred Elliott Janssen; two children, Paul Elliott Janssen of Naperville, Ill., and Margaret Louise McDonald of Huntington; five grandchildren; one sister, and one aunt.

Special lecture set

Dr. Frederick Kapetansky of Ohio State University will deliver the first annual Albert C. Esposito Lectureship at 7:30 p.m. Sept. 16 in the Radisson Hotel.

Kapetansky, an authority on glaucoma, will speak on the topic “Trabeculectomy Revisited.” He is co-director of the glaucoma service at Ohio State, where he is an associate professor of ophthalmology.

He also will present a special lecture at 2:30 p.m. Sept. 16 at St. Mary’s Hospital. His topic will be “The Optic Disc: Where the Action Is.”

The endowed lectureship is designed to bring eminent surgical specialists to the community. It was established by the Cabell County Medical Society to honor Dr. Esposito, who provided strong support for developing the Marshall University School of Medicine.