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## MU NewsLetter, January 26, 1999

Office of Marshall University Communications

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# MU NEWSLETTER

MARSHALL UNIVERSITY • OFFICE OF UNIVERSITY COMMUNICATIONS • HUNTINGTON, WV 25755 • Jan. 26, 1999

## 'Year of the Book' generates \$500,000

Marshall University's John Deaver Drinko Library will receive \$500,000 in new books as a result of the university's "Year of the Book" campaign, MU President J. Wade Gilley has announced.

"While we are proud of the advanced technology being used in the Drinko Library, books remain as its key component," Gilley said. "We believe it is essential that we do everything possible to provide a comprehensive, distinctive collection for use by our students, faculty and visiting scholars."

The money, which was generated through private funds, will be available July 1. A plan to spend these funds is currently being developed by the university's library staff, which will then submit the proposal to the Faculty Senate Library Committee and the newly created Library Policy Board.

"The Drinko Library is a tremendous asset to the university, the community and the region," said Dr. Corley Dennison, president of the Faculty Senate. "But, as with any other library, its book collection needs to be constantly updated and expanded. This \$500,000 is a really good start for the new library and, with any luck, this campaign will bring even more support for the library in the future."

## Hesson receives January award

Kay Hesson of Chesapeake, administrative associate in the Office of Admissions, has been selected Marshall University Employee of the Month for January, according to Bill Burdette, chairman of the selection committee.



Hesson

Hesson has been a member of the Marshall staff for 12 years. She was nominated for the award by Jill Chapman, supervisor in the office.

"Kay can do more work in a day than many can do in a week," Chapman said.



**Beginning July 1, the John Deaver Drinko Library will receive \$500,000 for the purchase of new books. This money was raised through the university's "Year of the Book" campaign.**

The "Year of the Book" campaign began Sept. 20, 1997 with a news conference and announcement. Dr. Jean Edward Smith, the university's first John Marshall professor and

"She does many things well – from budgets to hiring people."

Hesson is willing to help in any way possible, according to Chapman. "Kay has taken on so many responsibilities that are not in her job description, she is irreplaceable in our office," Chapman said. "Kay is a joy to work with and a very valued employee in our office."

Hesson will receive a plaque and \$100 for being named Employee of the Month and will be eligible for the Employee of the Year Award.

Marshall University President J. Wade Gilley and his wife, Nanna, provided funds through a grant to establish the Employee of the Month and Employee of the Year program.

author of "John Marshall – Definer of a Nation," was the first distinguished lecturer. Other distinguished guests in the series included: Dr. Francis Fukuyama, author of "Trust: the Social Virtues and the Creation of Prosperity"; Bobbie Ann Mason, author of "Shiloh" and "In Country," and Dr. Norman Graebner, nationally renowned historian and author of "Myth and Reality: The Rhetorical Cold War."

"The Year of the Book has afforded Marshall University the opportunity to highlight the importance of the written word and to focus on the development of our new Drinko library," said Dr. H. Keith Spears, coordinator of the "Year of the Book" campaign. "This is very important to the Marshall community and there has been a great deal of support from the MU faculty, staff and students."

Gilley said the campaign has been a suc-

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# Black History Month events scheduled

Marshall University's observance of Black History Month will include a variety of activities scheduled throughout February, according to Kenneth E. Blue, associate vice president for multicultural affairs. There will also be a couple of Pre-Black History Month events as well.

Activities will include:

## Wednesday, Jan. 27

—"Racial Legacies and Learning: How to Talk About Race," a live videoconference and panel discussion, from 1 to 3 p.m. in the Alumni Lounge of the MU Memorial Student Center.

## Tuesday, Feb. 2

—"Beyond the Dream XI: A Celebration of Black History and Culture," a panel discussion on "The Rising Influence of Black Literature: A Literary Countdown to the New Millennium," from 1 to 3 p.m. in the Alumni

Lounge of the MU Memorial Student Center.

## Wednesday, Feb. 3

—"An Evening with Othello," Marc Ewing, actor and stage/film/screen director, highlights his career and shares what the profession is like and what it can be, at 6:30 p.m. in the Joan C. Edwards Playhouse.

## Sunday, Feb. 7

—"Soul Food Feast," featuring the traditional foods and favorite dishes made in the kitchens of African American families, at 3 p.m. in the Campus Christian Center. Tickets are \$4 for students and \$7 for adults.

## Tuesday, Feb. 11

—Kevin Powell, poet and journalist and one of the first cast members of MTV's "The Real World," will be speaking at 7 p.m. in the Don Morris Room of the MU Memorial Student Center.

## Wednesday-Saturday, Feb. 17-20

—"Othello," by William Shakespeare, will be presented by the Marshall University Theatre Department and will feature Marc Ewing, actor and stage/film/screen director as Othello, at 8 p.m. in the Joan C. Edwards Playhouse.

## Tuesday, Feb. 23

—Dr. Greer Dawson Wilson, developer of the Hampton University Leadership Program and also featured on PBS TV program "Tony Brown's Journal," will speak at 6:30 p.m. in the Alumni Lounge of the MU Memorial Student Center.

More information about Black History Month events may be obtained by contacting the African American Students' Program at 696-6705.

# 'Year of the Book' generates \$500,000

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cess. "We are extremely pleased with the \$500,000 that the Year of the Book campaign has raised for the Drinko Library," Gilley said. "In fact, it was so well received that we have decided to continue the campaign, in order to add even more books to the



Marshall University's book fund will receive a significant boost when the new "Year of the Book" funds become available.

library's collection."

Marshall has always allocated funds for the purchase of new books, but as the cost of books has increased, additional funding has been necessary. "Our paper book fund is consistent from year to year," said Jan Fox, MU associate vice president for information technology. "The additional \$500,000 from the Year of the Book campaign is a definite boost to the fund, as it will allow the Drinko library collection to grow even more."

In addition to funding, a consultant has been hired by the university in order to examine the new facility. Dr. Donald Riggs, former dean of libraries at the University of Michigan, will evaluate the Drinko library and submit a report to Marshall's new Committee on the Future by April 15.

"We are excited to have an expert like Dr. Riggs to come in and evaluate our new library," said Dennison, who is chair of the Committee on the Future of Marshall. "His report will give us a better understanding of how to improve the Drinko library and how to utilize the funding provided by campaigns like the Year of the Book."

Although the \$500,000 is a significant boost to the collection, expansion and improvement is an ongoing process. "This money will allow the collection to continue to grow," Fox said. "But this is a large effort and must be implemented over the long term. It must be done in steps, and this is the first step to providing better service to our community."

## 'Pathways to Wellness' program to sponsor health screenings Feb. 2

The new "Pathways to Wellness" program at MU will provide a free on-campus health screening Tuesday, Feb. 2 to all PEIA insured individuals.

It will take place in the Shawkey Room of the Memorial Student Center from 8-10 a.m., 12 noon to 2 p.m. and 4-6 p.m.

Components of the health screening in-

clude blood profile with instant results, blood pressure measurements, height, weight and a personalized wellness profile.

If you have any questions or would like to pre-register (walk-ins are also welcome), call 696-3668.