The MU Graduate College has granted 10 Thesis Research Awards for 1999, according to Dr. Leonard Deustch, dean of the graduate college. These awards afford an opportunity for students to conduct research and make progress in writing their theses.

The following students were recipients of Thesis Research Awards for summer 1999:

**A. Mervin Tyson Award, $500:** Jeffrey A. Murray was the recipient of this award for his thesis entitled "Developmental and Clinical Assessment of Children with Learning Disabilities," which is advised by Dr. Robert Targ, professor in the Department of School Psychology.

**Johnathan Cottone Casto Award, $500:** Tara L. Rose received this award for her research entitled "Distribution of the Sucker Fish in the Ohio River." Dr. Donald Tarter, professor in the Department of Biological Sciences, is the advisor.

**Jarrett-Masalz Award, $500:** Ronald V. Poth received this award for his work on "Lowther Jackson and the Nineteenth Virginia Cavalry (CSA) in Central West Virginia," which is advised by Dr. Robert Bickel, professor in the Department of Educational Leadership. Dr. Evans presented the paper at the 1999 Council for Exceptional Children Annual Conference April 14-17 in Charleston, W.Va. The paper has been accepted for publication in the "Gifted Child Quarterly."" THOMAS A. LOVINS, director of Recreational Sports and Fitness Activities, attended the 50th Annual Conference of the National Intramural Recreational Sports Association April 16-20 in Milwaukee, Wis. Lovins was a presenter in a round table discussion entitled "Affirmative Action Politically Correct Answer?"

**Scott K. and Elizabeth Appell Sheets Award, $500:** Jason A. Morgan received this award for "Food Habits of Senecioide... in Dogwray Fork, W.Va." Dr. Donald Tarter, professor in the Department of Biological Sciences, is the advisor.

**Bernard and Larnise Queen Award, $500:** Randal B. Jarvis was the recipient of this award for "Gender Differences in the Detection of Emotional Accuracy, Cues, and Skepticism." He is advised by Dr. Richard Moore, associate professor in the Department of History.

**James and Mona Hooper Award, $500:** James Hawkes received this award for "Habitat Utilization of Fish Species on the Ohio River: Development of a Multi-Metric Habitat Index." He is advised by Dr. Donald Tarter, professor in the Department of Biological Sciences.

**Elmer and Mary Ashbury Award, $500:** Jeffrey V. Ginger was the recipient of this award for "The Relationship Between Ohio River Bass Tournament Success Rates, Forage Fish Abundance, and Environmental Conditions." Dr. Donald Tarter, professor in the Department of Biological Sciences, is the advisor.

**The 1999 Thesis Research Awards presented at the Spring 1999 Graduate College Research Awards Banquet on May 10 in the IMU will be as follows:**

- **A. Mervin Tyson Award, $500:** Jeffrey A. Murray
- **Johnathan Cottone Casto Award, $500:** Tara L. Rose
- **Jarrett-Masalz Award, $500:** Ronald V. Poth
- **Suff. McKown Award, $500:** Jason A. Morgan
- **Bernard and Larnise Queen Award, $500:** Randal B. Jarvis
- **James and Mona Hooper Award, $500:** James Hawkes
- **Elmer and Mary Ashbury Award, $500:** Jeffrey V. Ginger

**Groundbreaking set for new H.E.L.P. addition**

A groundbreaking ceremony for the Higher Education for Learning Problems (H.E.L.P.) program's new addition to the IMU will take place Monday, June 21 at 2 p.m. at the construction site located at 520 18th St. in Huntington.

"This new addition will provide much needed space for individual tutoring rooms, a new computer lab, expanded counseling services, and medical H.E.L.P. facilities," said Dr. Barbara Guyer, director of the program.

**Letter of appreciation**

**U.S. Sen. Robert C. Byrd (left), MU President J. Wade Gilley (center) and Gov. Cecil H. Underwood (right) unveil a plaque dedicating the Robert C. Byrd Center for Rural Health at a special ceremony in Byrd's honor on June 2. The center serves as the base for Marshall's rural health outreach programs.**

Dr. Terry Shepherd, professor in the Division of Health, Physical Education and Recreation, serves as the advisor.

The Center for Rural Health represents a transformation in the supports for rural health care, according to Dr. Charles H. McKown, Jr., dean of Marshall's School of Medicine.

"The Robert C. Byrd Center for Rural Health represents for this region a dramatic transition in health care and health services and in the impact the medical profession can make on the health and well-being of communities," he said. "Now we can provide services to address problems in a more integrated and functional manner than ever before, while at the same time continuing to improve our ability to educate new physicians.

"Like so many of Senator Byrd's visionary projects, the Center for Rural Health's impact will steadily increase over time, bringing benefits to future generations as well as our own," McKown added. "The Marshall University School of Medicine and the people of rural West Virginia deeply appreciate his support for this important project.

Major projects under way at the Center for Rural Health include diabetes care, smoking cessation, care for rural elders and rural cancer prevention. The center also houses a ultra-modern learning technology center which will be used to support rural providers, as well as offices for two regional positions of the West Virginia Department of Health: the tobacco control office and the community health promotion/disease prevention specialist. In addition, the center contains an auditorium and teleconferencing center, the health sciences library, and administrative offices of the School of Medicine.

Byrd secured $4.5 million in federal funding for the Center for Rural Health, as well as $2.45 million for the University Physician's Center. The two centers make up the Marshall University Medical Center, which is part of the Cabell Huntington Health sciences campus.

"Don Smith and Cabell Huntington Hospital join those of us at the School of Medicine in offering our thanks to Senator Byrd for his vital support, which was such a catalyst in bringing this extraordinary project to fruition," McKown said.

**Byrd Center for Rural Health dedicated**

**Mamie Cole, an administrative associate in the College of Nursing, has been selected Marshall University Employee of the Month for May, according to Bill Burdette, chair of the selection committee. Cole has been a member of the Marshall staff for 12 years. She was nominated for the award by Dr. Lynne Welch, dean of the College of Nursing and Health Professions, Dr. Giovanna (Continued on page 2)
New Marshall University web site launched

Following an extensive data gathering survey and examination of nearly 500 university and educational sites, Marshall University launched a newly designed web site on June 1. The launching of the new site corresponds with the migration of the MU web site to a more powerful and faster Internet server. "In the past, our server has limited what we could offer our online visitors," said Rob Hartwell, MU Internet designer. "A lot of the applications on the site had to be written from scratch because the server wasn't compatible with the commercial software available. Our new server doesn't have those same limitations." Hartwell said June 1 was chosen as the launch date due to the amount of traffic during the spring and fall semesters. "Summer is the best time for us to launch a new design," he said. "The Marshall web site is used extensively by students and faculty during the spring and fall semesters, so it would be inconvenient to change the site then.

The migration of the web site is scheduled to last until Dec. 31 to allow all MU department and organization web sites to move to the new server. "We want to give the site developers time to familiarize themselves with publishing to the new server before moving their sites," Hartwell said. "Training will be provided through the summer and fall to bring everyone up to date on the changes." The Marshall University web site can be found at www.marshall.edu. Questions about the site can be directed to webmaster@marshall.edu, or contact Rob Hartwell at 696-6670.

Outstanding advisors recognized at ceremony

The Marshall University Graduate College (MUGC) awarded two outstanding advisor awards at the 11th Annual Hooding Ceremony at the Charleston Civic Center. The first to be honored with "The Moore Auto Group Outstanding Advisor Award" was Dr. William Kroesser, professor of Environmental Science.

"Personally, Dr. Kroesser has helped me in more ways than any other instructor or advisor throughout my college years," said Kimberly K. D. Hensley, Kroesser's nominator and an environmental science major. According to Hensley, Kroesser keeps students up to date by inviting them to conferences and finding community examples that relate to the student's field. He also organizes student trips to such places as the Air Quality Testing Center, Sludge Recycling Plant, and Industrial Treatment.

"Overall, I cannot say enough to tell you what a good advisor and friend Dr. Kroesser is to his students," Hensley said. "Dr. Laura Wyatt, professor of Adult and Technical Education, also received "The Moore Auto Group Outstanding Advisor Award." "To me, Dr. Wyatt made all the difference in the world regarding my education," said Jenni Homan Fenton, one of Wyatt's students. "I was and is the motivating force for me to continue with my education and reach for new goals.

Dr. Wyant goes out of her way to meet with any student at the student's convenience," said Jenni Homan Fenton, one of Wyatt's students. "She was and is the motivating force for me to continue with my education and reach for new goals."

"It is only fitting that she receives this professional recognition." Honorees were selected based on nominations. More information may be obtained by contacting Dr. Leonard J. Deutsch, professor and dean of MUGC at 696-2818.

MUGC awards 'Distinguished graduate student alumni'

The Marshall University Graduate College (MUGC) honored two graduate student alumni at its 11th Annual Hooding Ceremony at the Charleston Civic Center. Douglas Maddy and Chris E. Jarrett, both West Virginia natives, earned the status of "Distinguished Graduate Student Alums.

After receiving his bachelor's degree from Concord College and a stint in the U.S. Navy, Maddy received his master's degree in counseling from Marshall University in 1974. Recognized in 1990 by Fayette County as its "Person of the Decade," Maddy served from 1976 to 1989 as president and chief executive officer of the Fayette County Chamber of Commerce and Industrial Development. In the early 1990s, Maddy served as executive director and chief executive officer of the Independent Oil and Gas Association of West Virginia. In 1994, he was appointed vice president and chief operating officer of the West Virginia Banking Association where he is now the CEO of the organization.

Jarrett has been the president of West Virginia-American Water Company since 1994 and has worked for the American Water Works System since 1969. He has also served as chairman of the West Virginia Utilities Association and was chairman of the Board of the West Virginia Chamber of Commerce and Development from 1996-97, and was also appointed by the governor to serve on the Compensation Programs Performance Council.


For 35 Years of Service: James Harless (left), Lola Stratton (center). For 30 Years of Service: Joyce Wright (right).


For 25 Years of Service, front row from left: Carolyn Endicott, Betty Beard, Thelma Blake, Romona Napier, Lesley Harless, Vicki Navy, Lynn Mayfield, Susan Lewis.