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MU NewsLetter, January 15, 1998

Office of University Relations

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Volunteer program combats alcohol abuse

A Marshall University volunteer program designed to combat campus-based alcohol abuse has been included in "Promising Practices: Campus Alcohol Strategies," a publication which recognizes exemplary programs developed by colleges and universities throughout the nation.

Submitted by Carla Lapelle, coordinator of the Student Health Education Program at MU, the program encourages groups to participate in community service activities as an alternative to alcohol and drug use.

"Examples of our volunteers' community activities include building a playground for a day care center, painting a youth residential facility and helping an organization's fundraising," Lapelle said. "There is a good core of students participating in the program,

mostly from the Greek community and various university classes.

"Community interest has been high as well," she said. "Our volunteers usually have two or three projects every weekend."

In addition to providing a drug-free environment, the project has helped MU students and community members gain a better understanding of one another, according to Lapelle.

"This project is helping to break the stereotype of college students as party animals," Lapelle said. "Community members are seeing these volunteers as they are — caring, responsible and civic-minded."

Students also benefit from the project, as they are removed from high-risk environments involving alcohol and drugs.

"Through this process, students have the opportunity to form a community without the presence of alcohol or drugs," she said. "It is a viable and important alternative."

The Student Health Education Program also recognizes volunteers for their efforts. A plaque hung in the Memorial Student Center lobby expresses appreciation for service projects and individually lists students and the community organization for which they volunteered.

"That helps to promote pride in the students' accomplishments," Lapelle said. "Thus far over 70 students have volunteered for the various projects. Student interest is exceptionally high, but sometimes it is hard to coordinate everyone's schedule. Hopefully there will be even more volunteers to join the groups before our grant expires in December."

The Student Health Education Volunteer Project is funded by a grant from The Century Council. The council also publishes "Promising Practices: Campus Alcohol Strategies," which is sent to every college president, grant applicant and state education agency in the nation.

For more information about the publication or the Marshall University project, contact Carla Lapelle, 696-4800.

Faculty and staff achievements

Dr. JOHN DROST, professor in the Department of Mathematics, had an article entitled "A Shorter Proof of the Ramanujan Congruence Modulo 5" published in the Dec. 1997 issue of the American Mathematical Monthly.

Dr. LYNDA ANN EWEN, professor in the Department of Sociology/Anthropology, organized and moderated a panel entitled "Oral History of Appalachia: Community Responses and Resistance — Buffalo Creek Beyond Erickson" at the annual meeting of

the Association for Humanist Sociology Nov. 7 in Pittsburgh, Pa. MU graduate students in sociology presenting on the panel were JULIE LEWIS, MATTHEW MOORE and CONNIE ZIRKLE.

Dr. MELANIE J. EARLES, assistant professor in the Division of Accountancy and Legal Environment, had a previously published article entitled "Valuations of Closely Held Businesses and the Tax Court" reproduced by the Commerce Clearing House Financial and Estate Planning Reporter.

Applications available for NASA Graduate Researchers Program

Information on the NASA 1998 Graduate Student Researchers Program is available in the Graduate College Office, Old Main Room 113, according to Leonard Deutsch, dean of the Graduate School.

"Fellowships are awarded for graduate study leading to research based master's degrees in science, math and engineering," Deutsch said. "All applicants must be sponsored by a faculty advisor."

Grants of up to \$22,000 are awarded for one year and are renewable for a total of three years based on satisfactory academic

advancement, research progress and available funding.

A majority of the 160 new awards each year are offered through NASA's Space Science office and the Office of Life & Microgravity Sciences and Applications. These are given in the fields of structure and evolution of the universe, origins of planetary systems, solar system exploration, sun-earth connection and information systems.

Application deadline for the NASA 1998 Graduate Student Researchers Program is Feb. 2, 1998.

AAA Travel service reminder

All state funded travel, in state or out of state, must be processed through the University's AAA Travel Center, according to Karen Kirtley, program coordinator of

Student Center Operations.

The Travel Center is located in the Memorial Student Center, Room BW31. Its telephone number is 696-8747 (TRIP).

Deadline for INCO grant applications set

Deadline for submission of INCO grant applications is 4:30 p.m. Friday, Jan. 30, according to Wylma C. Skean, chair of the Faculty Development Committee.

INCO grants cover projects taking place between April 1, 1998 and Oct. 14, 1998. Application forms are available in the Faculty Senate Office, from your Faculty Development Committee representative, or at: www.marshall.edu/senate/action/inco.html.

Contact Skean, 696-3060, for more information.

Letter of appreciation

Dear Faculty and Staff:

Thank you for the beautiful flowers sent after the death of my mother. Your kindness is deeply appreciated and will always be remembered.

Sincerely,
Nedra Lowe

MU NEWSLETTER

MARSHALL UNIVERSITY • OFFICE OF UNIVERSITY RELATIONS • HUNTINGTON, WEST VIRGINIA 25755 • Jan. 15, 1998

Marshall-WVGC merger saves \$1.16 million

The merger of Marshall University and the West Virginia Graduate College last summer has yielded savings of \$1,167,517 for the current fiscal year, according to MU President J. Wade Gilley.

Projected over four years — fiscal 1998-2001 — the savings will total more than \$2.4 million, Gilley said in a report submitted to Governor Cecil H. Underwood, Senate President Earl Ray Tomblin and House Speaker Robert S. Kiss.

Legislation approving the merger, creating the Marshall University Graduate College in South Charleston, was approved by the 1997 Legislature and signed into law by Underwood on April 9. It became effective July 1, 1997.

The savings projections are conservative, Gilley noted. "We anticipate additional substantial savings over the next few years as turnover and vacancies provide additional opportunities for consolidation of administrative positions." He said there have been no layoffs to achieve the cost savings.

The report shows savings to date based on elimination of five and one-half positions, elimination of duplicate dues to various educational associations, conversion to a single telephone system serving both the Huntington and South Charleston campuses, elimination of duplicate journal subscriptions and lowering of staff costs through a shared library system.

Purchases of information systems capable of serving both campuses resulted in major savings through cost avoidance, the report indicates.

For the current fiscal year (Fiscal 1998) actual cost savings total \$520,517 while cost avoidance amounts to \$647,000.

"The most specific promise that we made...was that this action (the merger) would result in at least \$500,000 in actual savings in administrative expenses per year," the report says. These savings, it adds, "would be used in the completion of the five-year Senate Bill 547 strategic plan and the improvement of both quality of and access to graduate education over the next several years. We are pleased to report that those savings have been achieved and that more will follow in the years ahead."

Noted geographer joins faculty

Dr. Harm J. de Blij, one of America's most prominent geographers, has joined the Marshall University faculty as John Deaver Drinko Distinguished Professor in the Department of Geography.



De Blij

Announcement of the appointment, effective with the beginning of the Spring Term, was made by Dr. Alan B. Gould, executive director of Marshall's Drinko Academy for American Political Institutions and Civic Culture.

"We are thrilled to be able to add an individual of Harm de Blij's renown to the Marshall faculty," Gould said. "He is, without reservation, one of the pre-eminent individuals in his field and we believe he will make an outstanding contribution to Marshall University and its students."

Under terms of the appointment, de Blij will serve as a visiting professor at Marshall twice each year, once during the Fall Term and once in the Spring Term, Gould said. His first visit is scheduled for April 1998. In addition to lecturing classes, he will ad-

dress local and regional civic and social organizations, make media presentations and conduct workshops.

De Blij was geography editor and ABC's "Good Morning America" for seven years. He joined NBC News as geography analyst in 1996. As television's geographer, he has appeared from locations throughout the world, explaining the geographic background to major events.

He has published more than 30 books, including some which have spent years on the bestseller lists. His publishers include the Smithsonian Institution, the National Geographic Society (of which he is a life member), Rand McNally and John Wiley and Sons. His books have been translated into several languages, including French, Italian, Russian and Chinese.

Born in the Netherlands, de Blij received his early schooling in Europe, his college education in Africa and his advanced degrees in the United States. He specializes in geopolitical and environmental issues and has held a number of academic positions, including those of Distinguished Professor of Political Geography in Georgetown University's School of Foreign Service and Presidential Professor at the Colorado School of Mines.

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Program set for King Symposium

Events for the community's Fifth Annual Martin Luther King Jr. Symposium are set for Jan. 19-21 and will feature a candlelight march and memorial service, according to Dr. Betty J. Cleckley, Marshall University vice president for multicultural affairs and international programs.

"We have scheduled a variety of events and activities to appeal to a wide number of groups," Cleckley said. "The symposium is an effort to broaden knowledge and perspectives about the ideals that Dr. King set forth."

The following is a list of events scheduled for the Martin Luther King Symposium. **Monday, Jan. 19**

10 a.m. to noon — An "Investment in Youth Leadership Forum" coordinated by the Rev. Samuel Moore. The program will provide a platform for open discussion between youth and community leaders and will be held at Simms School Apartments, 1680 11th Ave.

5 p.m. — A traditional candlelight march will begin from the First Baptist Church, 801 Sixth Ave. "The march is an opportune time

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Martin Luther King Jr. Symposium Jan. 19-21

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to remember Dr. King and reflect on his accomplishments," Cleckley said.

6:30 p.m. – A memorial service for Dr. King will be held at the 16th Street Missionary Baptist Church, 1647 Ninth Ave.

Winners of the Martin Luther King Jr. Scholar Awards Essay Competition will also be presented after the service. "The purpose of the King scholar awards program is to promote research, writing and understanding about the life and times of the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr.," Cleckley said.

Appearing immediately following the presentation will be the Rev. James A. Forbes, Jr., a featured speaker from The Riverside Church in New York City. Dr. Forbes is the first African American to serve as senior

minister in one of the nation's largest multicultural congregations and was recognized by Newsweek magazine as "one of the 12 most effective preachers in the English speaking world" in its March, 1996 issue.

Tuesday, Jan. 20

10 a.m. – The Wheeling YWCA will make a video presentation entitled "A Week Without Violence" in the Joan C. Edwards Performing Arts Center, 1658 Fifth Ave.

Immediately following the video presentation will be "Biff, Bang, Kapowie," a performance by the Saltworks Theatre Company designed for elementary school children.

5:30 p.m. – Greek Lighting Ceremony presented by the Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity and held in the Memorial Student Center.

6:15 p.m. – The Marshall University Chamber Orchestra will present "Quiet Music" and "Elegy – In Memoriam: Martin Luther King Jr." Written and conducted by Dr. Paul Whear, the performance will be held at the Joan C. Edwards Performing Arts Center, 1658 Fifth Ave.

Following the orchestra in the Performing Arts Center will be a roundtable discussion entitled "Why We Can't Wait." Composed of local business, education, religious and media figures, the roundtable will focus on the climate of today's society and the impact that Dr. King made during his lifetime.

Wednesday, Jan. 21

7 p.m. – Dr. Gregory H. Williams, dean and professor of law and political science at The Ohio State University, will be the featured speaker in the Don Morris Room of the MU Memorial Student Center. He is the author of "Life on the Color Line: The True Story of a White Boy Who Discovered He Was Black."

"One of the symposium's objectives is to promote understanding and social justice," Cleckley said. "I believe these events will help us reach that goal."

The theme for the fifth annual symposium is "Replenishing the Dream: Continuing the Legacy Now and Into the Year 2000 and Beyond." It is sponsored by Marshall University, Mayor Jean Dean, City of Huntington, the Cabell County Public Library, the Herald-Dispatch and the Huntington/Cabell County NAACP.

Funeral held for Joseph Soto

Joseph S. Soto, who served as MU vice president for finance from 1961 through 1976, died Dec. 19, 1997 in Wilmington, N.C. He was 86.



Soto

Prior to joining Marshall's administration, Soto served as West Virginia state tax commissioner. He was also secretary of the state Board of Education on a part-time basis during his tenure at MU.

Soto received an associate degree in Education and Liberal Arts from Concord College in 1940, a bachelor's from Morris Harvey (the University of Charleston) in 1947 and a master's degree from MU in 1966.

A teacher and school administrator in Raleigh county before joining the state government, he served in several capacities before becoming state tax commissioner. He was chairman of the State Sinking Fund Commission, business manager of the Charleston Chamber of Commerce and executive vice president of the West Virginia Retailers Association.

Soto was a member of the Chamber of Commerce Executives, the West Virginia Public Accountants Society, the National Association of Tax Administrators and the Federation of Tax Administrators.

During World War II Soto also served in the field artillery division of the US Army.

Survivors include his wife, the former Priscilla Hunter of Wilmington, N.C. who also attended MU, and a son, Joseph L. Soto of Wilmington, N.C.

Construction safety seminar offered

Marshall University will offer an Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) trainer course Feb. 23-26 entitled "Occupational Safety and Health Standards for the Construction Industry," according to Dr. Larry Kyle, director of the MU Institute for Business Development.

The course will be held from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at the Robert C. Byrd Institute Building, 1050 Fourth Ave. Designated OSHA 500, it is developed for persons in the construction industry who are interested in developing safety and health programs in the private sector.

"Using OSHA standards as a guide,

special emphasis is placed on becoming knowledgeable about the most hazardous areas of the construction industry," Kyle said. "In addition, participants will also learn effective safety training techniques."

Successful course completion qualifies participants to teach both a 10 and 30 hour construction safety training course. A prerequisite for attendance is completion of the OSHA 510 course or five years of relevant experience in the safety and health field.

Cost of the course is \$595 per person. Contact Annette Blake in the MU Institute for Business Development for more information, 696-6797 or fax 696-4876.

Noted geographer joins MU faculty

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His work in teaching, research and television has taken him to more than 100 countries.

De Blij has appeared at Marshall several times, Gould noted, serving in the John Deaver and Elizabeth Drinko Distinguished Chair in Liberal Arts in the fall of 1990. He was the university's Commencement speaker in 1991 and was presented the honorary Doctor of Science degree.

An avid wine collector, de Blij has written three books on that topic, including the award-winning "Wine: A Geographical Appreciation."

He and his wife, Bonnie, maintain homes in Boca Grande, Fla. and Chatham, Mass.

Best scholarship guide recognizes MU

Marshall University is one of just 93 colleges and universities included in a new national publication, "America's Best College Scholarships 1998-99." The book is published by John Culler & Sons of Camden, S.C. The firm also publishes "America's Best 100 College Buys" which also included Marshall.

The new publication includes two pages about Marshall and describes the university's two top merit-based scholarship programs — the Yeager Scholarships, valued at more than \$10,000 annually, and the John Marshall Scholarships, worth \$7,500 annually.

In a letter to Marshall President J. Wade Gilley, Publisher John Culler said more than 1,650 four-year institutions were surveyed but only 93 qualified for inclusion in the book. He said the programs included had to be based on merit rather than financial need.

Marshall has expanded its academic scholarships program dramatically during the past few years and now has some 1,200 available each year. Most are renewable, based on academic performance. They range in value from the Yeager Scholarships to the \$500 A. Michael Perry Scholarships available to all qualifying incoming

freshmen.

"John Culler & Sons is providing a very useful publication for the serious-minded students of this country," Gilley said. "We are very pleased that Marshall University and its scholarship programs were qualified to be included. We believe this is still another example of Marshall's focus on high quality and accessibility in the academic area."

"America's Best College Scholarships 1998-99" may be obtained at bookstores as well as from the publisher: John Culler and Sons, Post Office Box 1227, Camden, SC 29020.

National Research Council announces programs

The National Research Council has announced its 1998 Postdoctoral and Senior Research Associateship Programs to be conducted on behalf of 120 research laboratories throughout the United States.

Offered by nearly all U.S. Government agencies with research facilities, the programs provide opportunities for Ph.D., Sc.D. or M.D. scientists and engineers to conduct research on problems largely of their own choosing yet compatible with the research interests of the sponsoring laboratory.

Initiated in 1954, the Associateship Programs have contributed to the career development of over 8,000 scientists ranging from recent Ph.D. recipients to distinguished senior scientists.

Approximately 350 new full-time

associateships will be awarded in 1998 on a competitive basis in the following subjects: chemistry; earth and atmospheric sciences; engineering, applied sciences and computer science; life, medical and behavioral sciences; mathematics; space and planetary sciences, and physics.

Awards are made for one or two years, renewable for a maximum of three years. Annual stipends for recent Ph.D.'s for the 1998 program year range from \$30,000 to \$47,000 depending on the sponsoring laboratory. The host laboratory provides facilities, support services, necessary equipment and travel necessary for the program.

Applications submitted directly to the National Research Council are accepted on a continuous basis throughout the year.

Those postmarked no later than April 15 will be reviewed in June, and by August 15 in October.

Information on specific research opportunities and participating federal laboratories, as well as application materials, may be obtained from the National Research Council at the following address:

National Research Council
Associateship Programs (TJ 2114/D2)
2101 Constitution Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20418

Information can also be found on the Internet at: www.nas.edu/rap/welcome.html.

The council can also be contacted by Email at: rap@nas.edu.

Feb. 2 deadline for Dr. Charles E. Hedrick Outstanding Faculty Award

Application deadline is Feb. 2 for the Dr. Charles E. Hedrick Outstanding Faculty Award, according to Frances Hensley, associate vice president for academic affairs.

The award was established through a bequest to Marshall University from Charles B. Hedrick and Mary Jo Locke Hedrick. It is an annual honor given in the amount of \$3,000 to the MU faculty member who meets the following criteria:

- Must be a full-time faculty member.
- Must have a minimum of seven years of teaching experience at MU.
- Must have a record of outstanding classroom teaching (at the undergraduate or graduate level), scholarship, research and creative activities.

By request of the donors, priority will be given to faculty from the Department of History, the Elizabeth McDowell Lewis College of Business and the Family and Consumer Science program.

Nomination forms may be picked up in the Office of Academic Affairs.

Individuals may be nominated by faculty, staff or students by sending a completed nomination form to Dr. Frances Hensley, Office of Academic Affairs, Old Main Room 110. Nominees who meet the criteria will be asked to submit a teaching credentials file, a research/scholarship/creative activities file, a vita and recommendation from three colleagues.

Contact the Office of Academic Affairs for more information, 696-6690.

Morrow Library announces hours

The James E. Morrow Library will be closed Monday, Jan. 19 in observance of Martin Luther King Jr. Day, according to Josephine L. Fidler, director of University Libraries.

Regular library hours will resume on Tuesday, Jan. 20. Contact the library, 696-2320, for more information.