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MU NewsLetter, February 12, 1998

Office of University Relations

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'Of Ebony Embers' presented Feb. 16

Marshall University will continue its celebration of Black History Month with the musical theatre production "Of Ebony Embers" Monday, Feb. 16 at 8 p.m. in Smith Recital Hall, according to Ken Blue, associate vice president for multicultural affairs and international programs.

Presented by the Core Ensemble with Akin Babatunde, "Of Ebony Embers" explores the lives and times of African American poets Langston Hughes, Countee Cullen and Claude McKay.

"These poets were instrumental in shaping the Harlem Renaissance of the 1920's and 1930's and this production is a tribute to their efforts," Blue said. "We are fortunate to have the Core Ensemble with Akin Babatunde to help us learn more about these important historical figures."

Akin Babatunde is an accomplished actor, director and writer whose theatrical experiences encompass the regional, off-Broadway and Broadway stages. He is the recipient of several awards for his work as director and actor including The Dallas Observer Award, Dallas Critics' Forum, D Magazine and Providence Journal Bests of the Best, a Princess Grace Foundation nomination and an Audelco Award nomination.

A nationally acclaimed trio of cello, piano and percussion, The Core Ensemble provides musical foreground and background performing tunes of the Jazz Age including works by African American composers such as Duke Ellington, Jelly Roll Morton and Billy Strayhorn.

The ensemble, which includes Andrew



Akin Babatunde (front) will perform with The Core Ensemble Feb. 16 at 8 p.m. in Smith Recital Hall. Members of The Core Ensemble are, from left: Hugh Hinton, Andrew Mark and Michael Parola.

Mark on cello, Hugh Hinton on piano and Michael Parola on percussion, is about to complete its three year Chamber Music America residency at Palm Beach Community College in Lake Worth, Fla. The trio has twice been in residence at Boston Conservatory's New Music Festivals, Harvard University and the University of

Texas at Austin.

The production of "Of Ebony Embers" is free and open to the public. It is sponsored by the Marshall University's Department of Music, Center for African American Students and Center for Multicultural Affairs and International Programs. Contact Ken Blue, 696-5430, for more information.

MU Theatre offers 'Blithe Spirit' as first production of 1998 season

Marshall University Theatre will open its 1998 season with Noel Coward's "Blithe Spirit" Feb. 18 - 21 at 8 p.m. in the Joan C. Edwards Performing Arts Center, according to Kevin Pauley, marketing director for the MU Theatre Department.

"Eccentricity abounds in this hilarious farce of an author plagued by his wives, both deceased and living," Pauley said. "Filled with poltergeists and pranks, 'Blithe Spirit' is a clever comedy that will raise everyone's spirit."

Tickets are free for full-time MU students, \$10 for adults, \$8 for people under 18, \$8 for senior citizens and \$6 for MU faculty and staff. They are available at the MU

Theatre box office in the Joan C. Edwards Performing Arts Center, or can be ordered by calling 696-ARTS.

"This show will give us a good start to the 1998 season," Pauley said. "It is well produced and extremely entertaining."

"Blithe Spirit" is directed by Dr. N.B. East. Contact the MU Theatre Department, 696-6442, for more information.

"We are looking forward to this season because Blithe Spirit is an excellent show," Pauley said. "Everyone is excited to get the production started and we have a variety of shows scheduled for the spring season."

Marshall University Theatre's next production is entitled "American Buffalo."

Excused absences...

The following students have received university excused absences for Feb. 10, 1998. They are members of the Correctional Institutions 432/201 class, which visited the Federal Prison Camp for Women at Alderson and the Mount Olive State Prison:

Brett Kees, Julie Jarrell, John Looney, Mark Augustine, Shane Meade, Randal B. Jarvis, Monica Johns, Renee Hilleary, Beth Holley, Larry Macek, Tom McCormick, Kenyatta Coleman, Jeremy Tuttle, Russell Greene, Killin Killin, Adrienne Hundemer, Christopher Cardwell, Anthony Dean, John Grace, Javon Jenkins, Patrick Lefebure, Tamika Robertson,

Jerrald Long, Shanna Hamblin, Leia King, Frances Shaffer, Jodi Shaw, Eric Lill, Stacey Brown, Scott Hall, James Bailey, Jennifer Dellayea, Vanessa L. Bowe, Ivy M. Legg, Crystal White, Lakeisha Barron, Julius Lee Boyd, Marie E. Redd, Phyllis Sea, Julie R. Kay and Adrien Scales.

MU NEWSLETTER

MARSHALL UNIVERSITY • OFFICE OF UNIVERSITY RELATIONS • HUNTINGTON, WEST VIRGINIA 25755 • Feb. 12, 1998

MU moves to strengthen computer studies

In a move designed to strengthen its information technology offerings, Marshall University is consolidating six computer-related programs into five, MU President J. Wade Gilley announced Tuesday, Feb. 10.

One program, Computer Science & Software Development (CSD), is being suspended effective April 1, 1998 and no new students will be admitted to the program after that date, Gilley said. However, students currently enrolled in the program will be provided the opportunity to complete the current degree, he added.

The university will strengthen and expand five computer-related education programs with higher graduation rates and assessed as having greater potential for growth: (1)

Management Information Systems in the College of Business, (2) Information Technology in the Integrated Science and Technology program, (3) Computer Technology in the Community and Technical College, (4) Technology Management/Information Technology in the Marshall University Graduate College, and (5) Information Systems, also in the Graduate College.

No faculty members will lose their jobs as a result of the change, Gilley said.

"Each member of the CSD faculty will be offered placement in a department in keeping with his or her preparation," Gilley said. "Each faculty member may continue to be scheduled to teach CSD courses as needed to provide course offerings to

continuing CSD students."

Gilley said the decision was based on a study of the program that covered more than a year and recommendations from Dr. Robert B. Hayes, acting CSD chairman; College of Science Dean Thomas A. Storch; Vice President for Academic Affairs Sarah N. Denman, and an external consultant secured to review Marshall's strategy related to computer and information technology programs.

"Basically, we determined that while significant numbers of freshmen were enrolling in the CSD program, the attrition rate was extremely high and the graduation rate was very low," Gilley said. "Therefore, we decided to emphasize the computer-related programs found to be most viable in terms of enrollment, completion rates and employment potential."

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Safety is first priority during campus emergency situations

By Stephen Hensley
Associate Dean
Student Affairs



Hensley

As many of you most likely know, Marshall University has a long and proud tradition of serving students with disabilities. Accordingly, we have a large number of students with disabilities enrolled and attending classes on the campus. When an accident occurs or an emergency situation arises regarding a disabled student we are all concerned about what we should do.

Most of our buildings are multi-story, so students with mobility impairments may have to utilize elevators in order to get around. In the case of a power outage or an elevator failure, these students will be unable to leave the floor they are on. When this happens, a responsible person should notify the Office of Public Safety, 696-HELP (4357), and should remain with the student until an officer arrives.

In no instance should any non-trained person attempt to carry a disabled student or a wheelchair down the stairs. The Huntington Fire Department or the Marshall EMS staff is trained to accomplish this and should be relied on to carry out this task should it become necessary. In case of an emergency such as a fire, the student with a disability should go immediately to the nearest clear staircase to be evacuated by the fire department.

Our students with disabilities are accustomed to policies such as these and usually tolerate this inconvenience with great patience and understanding. However, an emergency situation can raise everyone's anxiety level and can make a two minute reaction time by emergency personnel seem a lot longer.

It is our responsibility as members of the university community to assure students that we have taken the proper actions to minimize risk to all.

Please feel free to contact the Office of Student Affairs, 696-2271, or the campus safety office, 696-2993, for more information.

'Year of the Book' lecture Feb. 25

Marshall University will continue its "Year of the Book" celebration with a lecture by noted futurist Dr. Francis Fukuyama Wednesday, Feb. 25 at 11 a.m. in the Joan C. Edwards Fine and Performing Arts Center, according to MU President J. Wade Gilley.

"Dr. Fukuyama is a widely respected scholar with a fascinating and unique look at businesses and organizations," Gilley said. "He is an outstanding addition to our Year of the Book lecture series as we celebrate the construction of the John Deaver Drinko Library."

A former senior social scientist with Rand Corporation and currently a professor at George Mason University, Fukuyama has stimulated national discussion with his latest book, "Trust: The Social Virtues and Creation of Prosperity." He is the second speaker in the "Year of the Book" lecture series.

Contact Dr. Keith Spears, special assistant to the president, for more information, 696-4723.

Funeral services held for Clyde C. Perry II

Funeral services were held Feb. 8 for Dr. Clyde C. Perry II, retired professor of sociology.

Perry, who also served as a professor in the College of Business for a short time, devoted most of his life to help improve the Huntington community.

One of the founders of the Black Faculty and Staff Organization at MU, he was also associated with numerous groups in the Tri-State area including Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Critical Issue Committee, United Community Service Inc., Co-Operative Area Manpower Planning System (CAMPS), Tri-

State Planning Commission (KYOVA), Barnett Child Care Center, Ona Youth Center, Owls Social Club, Huntington Professional and Businessmen Club, Mental Health Center, Vocational Rehabilitation, Family Service, NAACP and he was a member of the First Baptist Church.

Although Perry was a native of Cleveland, Ohio, he spent the majority of his last 40 years in Huntington and South Point, Ohio.

He received a bachelor's degree in sociology from West Virginia State College in 1947, a bachelor of laws degree from Cleve-

land Marshall Law School in 1952 and a juris doctorate from Cleveland State University in 1969.

Prior to joining the MU faculty, Perry served in the U.S. Air Force from 1943 to 1946. He also worked in the Governor's Office of Ohio as an investigator. Under Harold Frankel's administration he served as Cabell County Sheriff.

Among the survivors are his wife, Newatha Abbott Perry; two brothers, Atty. Leonard Perry of San Diego, Calif. and Roderick Perry of Cleveland, Ohio; a son, Clyde C. Perry III; a daughter, Rhonda Kay Perry Shropshire; their mother, Eleanor Perry; his stepsons, Charles W. Johnson Jr., Keith A. Johnson and Kevin Johnson.

Information Technology programs consolidated

(Continued from page 1)

Michael J. McGuffey, director of institutional research, reported the CSD program had produced just three graduates in 1993-94, four in 1994-95, four in 1995-96 and three in 1996-97. The numbers of students listed as CSD majors during those years were 111, 114, 121 and 129, respectively.

Gilley said the State Legislature's Senate Bill 547 was used as a guide in evaluating the programs. "SB 547 calls for elimination of duplication in programs in higher education and for more cooperative efforts within and between institutions," he noted. "The studies we conducted resulted in the decision to suspend the less-productive program and emphasize the others."

College of Science Dean Storch said the CSD Department will cease to exist on April 1 and the Department of Mathematics then will assume the responsibility of administering all functions related to the former CSD Department.

"Computer-related programs offer many and wide-ranging employment possibilities for our students," Gilley said. "These include information technology, network administration, systems analysis, programming, data entry — and scores of other functions. Marshall's emphasis will be devoted to preparing students for those good, well paid jobs and others which will emerge as we enter the 21st Century and the Information Economy."

Storch said students currently enrolled in the CSD program should meet immediately with Dr. Hayes, the acting chairman, to explore their options and plan their schedules in order to complete the CSD program as it is phased out over the next few semesters.

Variety of computer courses offered

Marshall University's Community and Technical College will offer computer courses this semester for beginner, intermediate and advanced users, according to Pam Hamilton, director of the Continuing Education program at MU.

"There are a wide variety of courses available this semester," Hamilton said. "We try to appeal to computer users of all skill levels."

All computer classes will meet in Room 136 of the Community and Technical College. The following is a list of classes, their cost and the dates and times they will be offered:

Basic Computer Skills — A hands-on introduction to IBM and IBM compatible personal computers for the beginning computer user. Participants will learn simple computer terminology, how to operate the mouse and how to enter commands and run simple programs. Cost for the course is \$66.

Four sections of this course will be offered:

Mondays — Feb. 23 to March 30 from 4:30 to 6:20 p.m.

Wednesdays — Feb. 25 to April 1 from 6:30 to 8:20 p.m.

Tuesdays — March 31 to May 5 from 4:30 to 6:20 p.m.

Fridays — March 20 to May 1 from 5 to 7 p.m.

Intermediate Computer Skills — This course, designed for students who have completed "Basic Computer Skills," will focus on word processing, file management and spreadsheets. Cost for the course is \$52.

Three sections of "Intermediate Computer Skills" will be offered:

Mondays — April 20 to May 11 from 4:30 to 6:20 p.m.

Wednesdays — April 22 to May 13 from 6:30 to 8:20 p.m.

Fridays — May 8 to May 29 from 5 to 7 p.m.

Introduction to Microsoft Word — Create, edit and format documents, arrange text and graphics. Cost for the course is \$78.

Wednesdays — Feb. 25 to April 1 from 4:30 to 6:20 p.m.

Intermediate Microsoft Word — For those who want to develop advanced word processing skills using the program. Cost for the course is \$65.

Wednesdays — April 22 to May 13 from 4:30 to 6:20 p.m.

Introduction to Microsoft Access — Build a database, work with records, retrieve and present data. Cost for the course is \$78.

Tuesdays — March 31 to May 12 (skip April 14) from 6:30 to 8:20 p.m.

Introduction to Excel — Use spreadsheets and charts for problem solving. Cost for the course is \$78.

Mondays — Feb. 23 to March 30 from 6:30 to 8:20 p.m.

Intermediate Excel — This course will focus on complex spreadsheet formulas and graphs. Cost is \$78.

Mondays — April 20 to May 11 from 6:30 to 8:20 p.m.

Introduction to Microsoft Power Point — Produce high quality displays, overhead transparencies and 35 mm slides for presentations. Cost for the course is \$78.

Thursdays — March 5 to April 2 from 4:30 to 6:20 p.m.

Introduction to Windows 95 — This course presents the basic concepts of Windows 95. Participants will tour the desktop, use the start menu, identify the elements of a window, use the file manager and delete files. Cost is \$65.

This course will be offered in two sessions: Tuesdays — Feb. 24 to March 24 from 4:30 to 6:20 p.m.

Thursdays — April 9 to May 7 from 4:30 to 6:20 p.m.

Introduction to the Internet — A concentrated course for those who want to get on the "Information Superhighway." Participants will be introduced to terminology associated with Internet navigation and will learn to access, download and search for items as well as identify the title and menu bars. Cost is \$84.

Thursdays — Feb. 26 to April 2 from 6:30 to 8:20 p.m.

Frontpage 97 — Designed for beginning or experienced web developers, participants will learn to develop and manage a web site with the graphical tools available with this software. Cost for the course is \$60.

Tuesdays — Feb. 24 to March 17 from 6:30 to 8:20 p.m.

Publishing on the Internet — Publish on the Internet using Frontpage, HTML and other editors. The instructor will cover ftping, news, e-mail, telenet, uuencoding and uu decoding. Cost for the course is \$84.

Thursdays — April 16 to May 21 from 6:30 to 8:20 p.m.

Due to limited enrollment, pre-registration is required for each course. Contact Pam Hamilton, 696-6205, in the MU Department of Continuing Education for more information.

Career Services Center presents 'Operation Native Talent' Job Fair

Marshall University's Career Services Center will host the 12th annual "Operation Native Talent Statewide Job Fair" on Wednesday, Feb. 25 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., according to Patricia Gallagher, recruiting coordinator in the center.

"Operation Native Talent is an ongoing state college recruitment program that is designed to bring employers together with MU seniors and graduate students," Gallagher said. "They will discuss career positions, which will give students a better understanding of the job market and what employers require."

Sixty-two employers will participate in

this year's fair, including: Bank One, Bell Atlantic Yellow Pages, Coca Cola, the Federal Bureau of Investigation and Merrill Lynch.

A complete listing of participants is available in the Career Services Center, located on Fifth Ave.

"This fair is an excellent opportunity to network with potential employers," Gallagher said. "All students and alumni are encouraged to stop by."

The Operation Native Talent Statewide Job Fair is free and open to the public. Contact Patricia Gallagher, 696-2371, for more information.

Very Special Arts needs volunteers for regional festival March 5

Volunteers are needed for the district festival of Very Special Arts, which will be held Thursday, March 5 in the Veterans Memorial Field House on 5th Ave., according to John Hunter, executive director of Very Special Arts West Virginia.

"We need the help of Marshall faculty, staff and students to conduct art activities at the festival," Hunter said. "We also need help with registration, serving drinks, blowing up balloons, hospitality and one-on-one assistance for students with disabilities."

Eight hundred students with disabilities from elementary and middle schools in West Virginia, Kentucky and Ohio will participate in the celebration of the arts.

"Marshall has always been a strong supporter of the festival," Hunter said. "We hope to get the same amount this year."

Programs in visual arts, dance, drama and music will be offered from 9 a.m. to noon. These programs will offer activities including print making, line dancing, story telling, puppetry and singing.

"These activities need to be projects that students can participate for long or short periods of time according to their level of interest and ability," Hunter said. "Please do not feel that you must be there for the entire time."

"If you can organize and conduct an art stop or volunteer your time from one hour to all day, we would love to hear from you. We can use your services for any length of time you can be with us."

Very Special Arts West Virginia is housed at Marshall University., Contact John Hunter, 696-6384, to volunteer or to learn more about the festival.

Community and Technical College offers art classes for children

Marshall University will offer its annual "Art Opportunities for Children" program on Saturdays from 10 a.m. to noon beginning Feb. 28 and continuing through April 4, according to Linda Anderson, director of the program.

"Our program this year will be centered on activities and art that explore both self-expression and creative communication," Anderson said. "We will also examine artistic themes and styles used by different cultures."

The program will be offered in two sections, both to be conducted on the sixth floor of Smith Hall on the MU campus. One sec-

tion will be for students in kindergarten through fifth grade, while another will be offered for students in sixth through eighth grade.

"As always, our lessons are designed for maximum success of each and every student," Anderson said. "We also allow for growth in skill level and uniqueness of each student's interests."

Cost for the "Art Opportunities for Children" program is \$50 per student and pre-registration is required due to limited enrollment. Contact Anderson, 696-6760, to enroll or to learn more about the childrens' art program.

Deadline set for MU News Letter

Deadline for the Marshall University News Letter is Tuesdays at 10 a.m.

All items for the News Letter should be sent to John Winters, News Letter editor, in the Office of University Relations. Longer items should be submitted as early as possible to ensure publication.

The MU News Letter is published weekly

during the Spring and Fall semesters and bi-weekly during the summer terms. It is distributed on Thursdays.

For more information about the MU News Letter, its items or the deadline, contact John Winters in the Office of University Relations, 696-2586, or 696-NEWS (6397).