

4-24-1997

## MU NewsLetter, April 24, 1997

Office of University Relations

Follow this and additional works at: [http://mds.marshall.edu/oldmu\\_newsletter](http://mds.marshall.edu/oldmu_newsletter)

---

### Recommended Citation

Office of University Relations, "MU NewsLetter, April 24, 1997" (1997). *MU NewsLetter 1987-1999*. Paper 232.  
[http://mds.marshall.edu/oldmu\\_newsletter/232](http://mds.marshall.edu/oldmu_newsletter/232)

This Article is brought to you for free and open access by the Marshall Publications at Marshall Digital Scholar. It has been accepted for inclusion in MU NewsLetter 1987-1999 by an authorized administrator of Marshall Digital Scholar. For more information, please contact [zhangj@marshall.edu](mailto:zhangj@marshall.edu), [martj@marshall.edu](mailto:martj@marshall.edu).

# Marshall faculty and staff achievements

KAY THOMPSON and DREMA STRINGER, instructors in the Community and Technical College, attended a ceremony at the West Virginia Capitol during which Governor Cecil Underwood designated April 23 as Developmental Education Day. Executive board members of the West Virginia Association for Developmental Education (WVADE) attended the ceremony designed to focus attention on the accomplishments and goals of those working in the developmental education field. THOMPSON and STRINGER are members of the WVADE executive board.

Dr. WILLIAM DENMAN, professor and chair of the Department of Communication Studies; Dr. EDWARD WOODS, assistant professor in the department, and graduate students NINA PERSI and ANGIE VAUGHN attended the Eastern Communication Association (ECA) convention held April 10-13 in Baltimore. DENMAN will serve as second vice president for ECA in 1999 and will be in charge of local arrangements for the 1999 ECA convention being held in Charleston. PERSI and DENMAN co-authored a research paper titled "Civic Responsibility as a Justification for the Teaching of Public: An Analysis of Basic Course Textbooks" presented at the convention. WOODS presented three research papers: "Associations of Nonverbal Decoding Ability within Indices of Interaction Involvement, Attentiveness, and Person-Centered Communicative Ability," "Interpersonal Knowledge and Verbal Communication Ability as Predictors of Verbal Adaptiveness and the Nonverbal Projection of Concern in Persuasive Interaction" and "Associations of Interaction Involvement and Attentiveness with Indices of Person-Centered Communicative Functioning."

Dr. BARBARA A. DAVIS, professor in the School of Nursing, and Dr. STUART THOMAS, professor in the Department of Psychology, with Dr. Helen A. Bush, professor emerita at Texas Woman's University, have had a manuscript titled "Measuring

## Returning students can get assistance at forum

Marshall University will hold an information gathering forum for non-traditional and returning students Wednesday, April 30, from noon to 2 p.m. in Memorial Student Center Room 2W37.

The program will help the university better address the specific needs of non-traditional and returning students, according to Leah Tolliver of the Office of Women's and Returning Students' Programs.

Non-traditional and returning students are defined as being 25 years of age or older, people returning to school after an extended period of time or those who are juggling family, work and school responsibilities.

"Marshall University recognizes that non-traditional and returning students bring to our campus an array of life experiences and insight," said Tolliver. "We also recognize that returning students may have vastly different needs than those of our traditional age students. We want to better assess how to respond to those needs."

The forum is being sponsored by Marshall's Office of Women's and Returning Students' Programs. All interested students are encouraged to attend. Registration is not required.

To obtain further details contact the Office of Women's and Returning Students' Programs, 696-3338, or the Marshall University Student Affairs Office, 696-6422.

Consumer Satisfaction with Emergency Department Nursing Care" accepted for publication in the Journal of Nursing Science.

SANDRA CLEMENTS, coordinator of educational support programs; Dr. DONNALEE COCKRILLE, dean of student affairs, and PAULA KELLY, police officer, participated in a woman's symposium titled "Diverse Women: Making a Connection, Finding Common Ground" held April 12 in Huntington. The symposium was sponsored by the First Baptist Church Women's Organization.

Dr. MADONNA COMBS, professor in the School of Nursing, presented her research titled "Maternal Learning Needs in Early Postpartum: An Instrument Development Study" at the ninth annual National Rural Nursing Research Conference held April 12-13 at the University of Northern Colorado in Greeley, Colo.

MARY GRASSELL, associate professor of art, is part of a diverse group show of art works at Tamarack during April. The group is the Main Street Studio in Hurricane. GRASSELL is exhibiting color relief prints consisting of woodblock prints and linoleum prints.

Dr. ALLAN STERN, professor and program coordinator of Safety Technology, attended the Ohio Health and Safety Conference held March 26 in Columbus. He also attended the 48th annual West Virginia Safety and Driver Education Association meeting held March 27 in Charleston.

Dr. JUDITH SORTET, professor and associate dean in the School of Nursing, presented a research paper titled "Health Beliefs of Rural Appalachian Women and their Practice of Breast Self-Examination" at the Southern Nursing Research Society Convention held April 11 in Norfolk, Va. SORTET was appointed the West Virginia state liaison for the SNRS.

Dr. WILLIAM B. RHOTEN, professor and chair of the Department of Anatomy, Cell and Neurobiology at the School of Medicine, presented a paper titled "Sustained Increase in Intracellular Ca<sup>2+</sup> Concentration Induces Apoptosis in Breast Cancer Cells" at the Experimental Biology '97 annual meeting of the Federation of American Societies for Experimental Biology held April 7. The paper summarized research carried out by Dr. IGOR N. SERGEEV, research assistant professor, and RHOTEN. Dr. RUU-TONG WANG, associate professor in the Department of Anatomy, Cell and Neurobiology, presented a paper titled "Synaptogenesis and Retinal Development in the Opossum *Monodelphis domestica*" during the meeting. The paper summarized research carried out by WANG, W. GENG and E.A. WANG.

## Psychology conference scheduled

Ohio Congressman Ted Strickland will be the keynote speaker for the Tri-State Psychology Conference being held Friday, April 25, at Marshall University.

Strickland, a clinical psychologist and professor of psychology, will make a presentation during the conference luncheon.

The Tri-State Psychology Conference is sponsored by Psi Chi national psychology honor society. It recognizes students' achievements and gives them an opportunity to present their research.

Student researchers from West Virginia, Ohio, Kentucky, Pennsylvania and Virginia will be featured during the conference.

To obtain further details contact Dr. Pamela Mulder in Marshall University's Psychology Department, 304-696-2770.

# MU NEWSLETTER

MARSHALL UNIVERSITY • OFFICE OF UNIVERSITY RELATIONS • HUNTINGTON, WEST VIRGINIA 25755 • April 24, 1997



## Governor Okays Graduate College, MU Merger

**Governor Cecil H. Underwood poses with the presidents of Marshall University and the West Virginia Graduate College after signing legislation merging the two institutions. Effective July 1, graduate programs of the two schools will be joined as the Marshall University Graduate College with campuses in Huntington and South Charleston. At left is Marshall President J. Wade Gilley and at right is WVGC President Dennis P. Prisk. Following the merger, Dr. Prisk will become a Marshall senior vice president.**

## Harold Murphy retiring

Dr. Harold T. Murphy, professor and chair of Marshall University's Department of Modern Languages, has announced his retirement from the university effective at the end of this academic year.

A native of Huntington, Murphy received his bachelor's degree cum laude from Marshall in 1954 and received his master's degree from Vanderbilt University in 1955. He did doctoral studies at Case Western Reserve University where he served as a teaching assistant and lecturer and received his Ph.D. from the Universidad Jaime Balmes de Occidente in Mexico in 1977.

Prior to joining the Marshall Spanish faculty in 1960, Murphy served in the United States Army (1955-57) and then accepted the position of commandant of cadets at Columbia Military Academy. He has taught part-time at Ohio University's Portsmouth and Ironton campuses and Ashland (Ky.) Community College.

He has been involved in various organizations and committees at Marshall including the Athletic Committee, Society of Yeager Scholars Steering Committee, Faculty Personnel Committee and College of Liberal Arts Dean's Advisory Committee. (Continued on page 2)



Murphy

## Lewis Business College receives accreditation

Marshall University's Elizabeth McDowell Lewis College of Business has been awarded a highly-prized national accreditation by the Board of Directors of the American Assembly of Collegiate Schools of Business (AACSB). The accreditation covers both baccalaureate and master's degree programs offered by the college.

The announcement was made Sunday, April 13, in Boston. "This represents another milestone in Marshall's history," MU President J. Wade Gilley said. "Dean Cal Kent, Academic Vice President Sarah Denman and the faculty and students in the College of Business have done an outstanding job in preparing the college to attain an even higher level of excellence and they certainly deserve our commendation. It's a great day for Marshall."

About 1,200 of the nation's colleges and universities offer undergraduate business degrees, but only 335 are accredited by AACSB. Of the more than 700 master's degree programs, just 315 are accredited by the organization.

"Achievement of this accreditation is a tribute to our students, faculty, staff, alumni and supporters," College of Business Dean Calvin A. Kent said. "All of them worked very hard to make sure we joined the elite of the nation's business programs. I am very pleased the AACSB has recognized the excellence of our programs. Marshall is the only university in the region to have achieved this honor."

In a letter to Kent, AACSB President Joseph A. Alutto commended Marshall's College of Business for its:

- "clear, precise view of the student population's characteristics, along with strong interest and commitment to their academic needs,
- "highly motivated faculty dedicated to continuously improving the quality of the student's educational experience,
- "enthusiastic students,
- "Outcomes Assessment project and its effect on the learning experience of the students,

(Continued on page 2)

## Enrollment near record

Marshall's 1997 Spring Term enrollment is the second-highest ever, according to figures reported by Michael McGuffey, director of institutional research.

McGuffey said the 11,500 students registered for the current term represent an increase of 449 over last spring, or 4.1 percent. Full-time enrollment, 8,315, is up by 4.8 percent, he noted. Part-time enrollment, 3,185, shows an increase of 2.2 percent.

The only higher Spring Term enrollment came in 1992 when 11,677 students were registered.

Eighty-four percent of the students are West Virginia residents, McGuffey said.

The official figures, as reported to the University System Board of Trustees, are based on April 1 census date.

# Lewis Business College gets accreditation

(Continued from page 1)

- "effective implementation of interactivity within the Huntington and Charleston areas,
- "recent, greatly improved, and enthusiastic business community support for the business school, in general, and Dean Kent, in particular,
- "Center for Business and Economic Research for performing a valuable economic development in the university's service region, and
- "rapidly improving and increasingly important presence in the Huntington and Charleston areas."

AACSB suggested that the college add a computerized classroom and an interactive television classroom in Corbly Hall, add a full-time computer network administrator reporting to the dean,

## Harold Murphy retiring

(Continued from page 1)

He also was a member of the boards of directors of the Marshall Artists Series and the MU Center for International Studies.

During his tenure at Marshall, Murphy directed the university's Language Laboratory, served as West Virginia's representative to the Southern Conference on Language Teaching, was a member of the West Virginia Conference on the Teaching of Foreign Languages Executive Committee and conducted in-service workshops for the West Virginia Department of Education. He has served as chair of Marshall's Modern Languages Department since 1981.

Murphy has been a member of the American Association of Teachers of Spanish and Portuguese, the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages and the West Virginia Foreign Language Teacher's Association. He served as vice president and president of the West Virginia chapter of the American Association of Teachers of Spanish and Portuguese.

He received grants from the C.W. Benedum Foundation and the Marshall Graduate School and obtained funds in the amount of \$44,920 to develop a Japanese language course at Marshall University. He obtained a grant of \$21,000 and a gift of \$7,000 from the Alliance Francaise to renovate the university's Language Laboratory.

Murphy was a member of Pi Sigma Alpha political science honorary, Sigma Delta Pi Spanish honorary, Phi Sigma Iota romance languages honorary, Phi Alpha Theta history honorary and Lambda Chi Alpha fraternity. He received the Lambda Chi Alpha Distinguished Alumnus Award in 1974.

He has had several articles and reviews published in professional and scholarly journals and has made presentations and guest lectures for colleges and organizations throughout the Tri-State.

Murphy has traveled extensively in Europe, Africa and North and South America and lived for a total of two years in Spain and Mexico.

"Dr. Murphy has been a mainstay in the Department of Modern Languages for many years," said Dr. Sarah Denman, vice president for academic affairs at Marshall. "He has been instrumental in the expansion of our language programs and has helped the university keep pace with the increasing emphasis being placed on foreign languages in today's society. He has been a valuable member of the university community. I know the faculty, staff and students will miss him."

implement a plan to enhance faculty research and publications, expand faculty professional development opportunities, and improve the monitoring process for "consistency of prerequisites and junior/senior level requirements through electronic means."

To achieve AACSB accreditation, business programs must satisfy expectations of a wide range of quality standards relating to curriculum, faculty resources, admissions, degree requirements, library and computer facilities, financial resources and intellectual climate, all mission-linked. During the accreditation process, Marshall was visited and evaluated by business school deans, accounting educators and corporate representatives with detailed knowledge of management education, applying standards widely accepted in the educational community.

Kent said he was especially pleased that Marshall had achieved the AACSB accreditation on its first attempt. "That rarely happens," he noted.

AACSB is a not-for-profit organization consisting of more than 800 educational organizations and corporations. Its mission is excellence in management education in colleges and universities. Headquartered in St. Louis, AACSB is considered the premier accrediting agency and service organization for U.S. business schools.

## EPSCoR funds available

The Department of Defense EPSCoR (Experimental Program to Stimulate Competitive Research) program has announced its 1997 grants competition. The DoD plans to award \$16 million in grants.

West Virginia EPSCoR may submit one statewide proposal which requests up to \$5 million of DoD support for a 36-month effort. The proposal may contain up to 15 separate activities. In addition, the proposal must provide an annual minimum non-federal cost share of one-to-two (at least one dollar of matching funds for every two dollars of DoD support).

All proposals must be submitted through the WV EPSCoR State Committee. Awards will be announced on or about Aug. 21.

Those interested in participating must submit a preproposal to the West Virginia EPSCoR Office no later than May 6. Since WV EPSCoR has no funds to support the cost-sharing requirements, all preproposals must include signed verification that provides a commitment to the cost-share.

The complete announcement is available at the following web address: <http://www.aro.ncren.net/research/depesco97.htm>.

To obtain further details contact Dr. Howard Aulick in the Physiology Department of Marshall University's School of Medicine, 696-7330.

## WAC workshops planned

A Writing Across the Curriculum (WAC) faculty development workshop titled "WAC and Internet Resources" will be held Friday, April 25, at 3 p.m. in Harris Hall Room 403. A workshop titled "WAC in Math and Science" will be held Wednesday, April 30, at noon in Harris Hall Room 403.

All faculty members are invited to attend. To obtain further details contact the WAC Office, 696-4650.

# University police sponsoring bicycle rodeo

A free Bicycle Rodeo for all Cabell County children in first through fourth grades will be held Saturday, May 17, beginning at 8:30 a.m. in the Marshall University Stadium parking lot on 20th Street.

The purpose of the event, which will be held rain or shine, is to provide an enjoyable atmosphere where children can learn about bicycle safety, first aid and traffic procedures, according to Sgt. Terry. E. Olson of the Marshall University Police Department. Information about the law requiring the use of safety helmets also will be available to children and adults.

Participants, who must be accompanied by a parent or legal guardian, should have a bicycle and helmet. Extra helmets will be available for use by children if necessary.

Bicycles will be registered by serial number and engraved for safety and theft prevention purposes with permission from the owners. A mechanic will inspect the bicycles to make sure they are in proper working condition.

Participants then will move to various stations where basic riding skills will be taught and tested. "We plan to have four or five stations that will test the riders in situations such as traffic

## Reception planned for Stephenson retirement

Cal Stephenson, trades worker lead for the Residence Services Department in Memorial Student Center, has announced his retirement effective April 30.

A reception will be held in his honor Wednesday, April 30, from 2 to 4 p.m. in the Memorial Student Center Alumni Lounge.

Stephenson started working at Marshall in 1971 in the old Shawkey Student Union and was assigned to Memorial Student Center after its construction. He has been responsible for the maintenance of the building since its completion.

During his years of service, Stephenson virtually designed and constructed a chiller system and public address system for the building, saving the university a large amount in construction costs.

Everyone is invited to attend the reception and congratulate Stephenson on his retirement.

## CATC workshops slated

Three faculty development workshops have been planned by the Computing Across the Curriculum (CATC) program at Marshall University.

The schedule includes the following programs:

—"Integrating Technology to Support Instruction" on Thursday, April 24, from 1 to 3 p.m. in Smith Hall Room 532;

—"First Step: A Beginner's Introduction to the Internet" on Friday, April 25, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. in Smith Hall Room 532;

—"PowerPoint for Beginners and the Forgetful" on Saturday, April 26, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. in Smith Hall Room 532.

Enrollment will be limited to 20 participants in each program. Reference materials will be provided and refreshments will be available beginning at 8:30 a.m. on Friday and Saturday.

To register or obtain further details contact Ken Williams in the Marshall University Communication Studies Department, 696-2811, or send E-mail to [williams@marshall.edu](mailto:williams@marshall.edu).

intersections, rules of the road and things of that nature," Olson said.

Emergency medical squad representatives will provide information about types of injuries that can happen on bicycles and provide details about what to do if injuries occur.

Drawings will be held for a number of prizes including helmets and new bicycles donated by the Huntington Mall, Wal-Mart, the Cabell County Fraternal Order of Police Lodge 122, West Virginia Emergency Medical Services and other businesses and organizations.

"We want the children to have a lot of fun but at the same time learn how to safely ride a bicycle," said Olson. "Area businesses and individuals are being very generous in donating prizes, refreshments and funds. We are still planning some of the events and activities and hope more businesses and individuals will make contributions."

Businesses or individuals wanting to make tax deductible contributions can send checks made payable to the MU Foundation for the Bicycle Rodeo to the Marshall University Foundation, 400 Hal Greer Blvd., Huntington, W.Va. 25755.

Olson said sponsors hope to have a stunt-riding exhibition and several mascots such as the Crime Dog and Klondike the bear from the Huntington Blizzard in attendance to entertain children throughout the event. Refreshments also will be provided.

A bicycle safety art contest is being held in conjunction with the Bicycle Rodeo.

Sponsors include the Marshall University Police Department, the Cabell County Sheriff's Department, the Huntington Police Department and the Barboursville Police Department.

To make contributions or obtain further details contact Olson at the Marshall University Police Department, 304-696-4357.

## Move set for bookstore

In an effort to continue uninterrupted service during planned construction and remodeling of the Marshall University Bookstore, the general merchandise, clothing, gifts, trade and medical reference sections from the main floor store will be relocated to the Alumni Lounge and adjacent meeting room on the second floor of Memorial Student Center.

The relocation is planned to begin Monday, May 12, and should be completed in one week. The bookstore office currently located on the main floor will be relocated to the lower level next to the Textbook Department.

The MU Bookstore will operate from this area until construction is completed. Construction is expected to require more than six months. The lower level Textbook Department will not be affected in the May relocation but will be involved later in 1997 as construction progresses.

## MU excused absences...

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

April 9—Jeannie D. Cook, Lance W. Dixon, Jeffrey A. Hendricks, Thomas C. Poling, Monique M. White, Edward D. Youathan, Melissa Betler, Cristy Chapman, Amber Moody, Josh Pray, Joe Remias, Serena Starcher, Allen Thornton.

April 15-18—Douglas D. Clay.

April 16-21—Matthew Turley, Jessica Scott, Danny White, Paula Taylor, Alison Fisher.

# Marshall Research Committee awards grants

(The following report on the April 17 meeting of the Marshall University Research Committee was submitted by Dr. Terry Shepherd, co-chair of the committee.)

The Research Committee met April 17 at 4 p.m. in Memorial Student Center. Minutes from the previous meeting were approved.

The following applications for Quinlan funding were considered: R. Alexander, Y. Elitsur, D. Evans, D. Johnson, A. Khalili,

## *MU symphony to perform*

Violinist Elizabeth Reed Smith will be the featured artist for the Marshall University Symphony Orchestra concert Wednesday, April 30, at 8 p.m. in Smith Recital Hall.

Under the direction of Dr. Paul Balshaw, distinguished professor of music, the symphony will perform compositions by 19th and 20th century Russian masters.

The program will open with the "Overture" to the opera "Prince Igor" by Alexander Borodin. Other selections include "The Adagio of Spartacus and Phrygia" and "The Dance of the Pirates" from the "Spartacus Ballet Suite #2" by Aram Khachaturian and "The Night on Bald Mountain" by Modeste Moussorgsky. The primary featured work will be "Concerto for Violin and Orchestra, op. 82" by Alexander Glazunov.

Smith, associate professor of music at Marshall, previously learned and performed "Concerto for Violin and Orchestra, op. 82" under the direction of the composer. "Thus, the traditions associated with this work will be reflected in this particular performance," said Balshaw.

This event marks the fourth and final program of the Marshall University Symphony for the 1996-97 academic year. The orchestra of 60 players includes university students and faculty along with community musicians from the Tri-State area. Its programs are designed to appeal to a broad variety of musical tastes and interests.

The concert is open to the public free of charge. To obtain further details contact Balshaw in the Marshall University Department of Music, 696-2399.

## Library schedule posted

Marshall University's James E. Morrow Library will observe the following summer schedule from May 12 through Aug. 15: Sunday, 1 to 10 p.m.; Monday through Thursday, 7:45 a.m. to 9 p.m.; Friday, 7:45 a.m. to 5 p.m., and closed Saturday.

The library will be closed May 24-26, July 4 and July 12-13.

Separate schedules are maintained by Special Collections (696-2343) and Government Documents (696-2342).

### Letter of appreciation

Dear Marshall Faculty and Staff:

Thank you for your expressions of support when I recently lost my mother.

Your friendship and sympathy have given me much comfort.

Sincerely,  
John H. Mead

J. Sortet, J. Szarek, M. Thompson and D. Woodward. It was moved and seconded to fund these applications. The motion carried.

It was moved and seconded to fund the following Summer Research applications:

Martin Amerikaner, Richard Badenhansen, Ray Blankenship, William "Randy" Bobbitt, Charles Braun, Carl Burrowes, Linda Eikum-Dobbs, Wendell Dobbs, Jane Edwards, Jeffery Elwell, Lee Erickson, Lynda Ewen, Susan Ferrell, Frank Gilliam, Michael Golden, Howard Gordon, Dae Sung Ha, Marcia Harrison, Gwentyth Hood, Majed Khader, Robert Maddox, Deanna Mader, Jeffrey May, Karen McComas, Montserrat Miller, Richard Moore, Mike Norton, Ralph Oberly, Jeffrey Powell, Katharine Rodier, Harold Shaver, Edmund Taft, John Teel, Mark Thompson, Jagan Valluri and John Wallace.

Alternates are Craig Hollingshead and Susan Power. The motion carried.

The following officers were elected for the coming year: Mark Thompson, chair, and Kathleen Bledsoe, secretary.

Dates were set for next year's Quinlan, Reassigned Time and Summer Research applications: Quinlan—Sept. 8, 1997, Dec. 1, 1997, Feb. 2, 1998, and April 6, 1998; Graduate Reassigned Time—Oct. 6, 1997; Summer Research—April 6, 1998.

The Research Committee meeting adjourned at 4:47 p.m.

## MAS 60th season ending

The 60th anniversary season of the Marshall Artists Series will end with a performance by the Louisville Orchestra on Tuesday, April 29, at 8 p.m. in the Keith-Albee Theatre.

Max Bragado-Darman is the orchestra's fifth music director in 59 years. He has been critically acclaimed for his leadership of orchestras throughout Europe and the Americas. Born in Spain, his musical studies began under Carmen Diaz Martin at the Royal Conservatory of Music in Madrid. He received a bachelor's degree in piano and a master's degree in orchestral conducting at the Oberlin Conservatory of Music.

The Louisville Orchestra has received 15 ASCAP (American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers) awards, more than any other American orchestra. It recently had two recordings with Ellen Taafe Zwilich nominated for Grammy awards.

Tickets are \$26 and \$22. Full-time students with valid identification cards will be admitted free. Part-time students, faculty and staff will be admitted for half-price.

To obtain tickets or further details contact the Marshall Artists Series Office, 696-6656.

## *WVNET holding seminars*

Free workshops designed to help faculty and staff members navigate the information superhighway and develop dynamic web pages will be presented by the WVNET Tuesday and Wednesday, April 29-30, at Marshall University.

The schedule includes the following programs: "Internet Demonstrations/Research on the Internet," "Web Page Development" and "Internet/WWW Administration."

To register or obtain further details contact WVNET, 1-800-253-1558. Information also is available on their web site: <http://wvnm.wvnet.edu/~winter>

# MU council meets with WVGC representatives

(The following report on the March 20 meeting of the Marshall University Classified Staff Council was submitted by Connie J. Zirkle, secretary.)

Guests from the West Virginia Graduate College Staff Council included: Martha Pierson, president; Rick Turley, vice president, and Joe Taylor, a member of the advisory board.

The meeting was called to order by President Nina Barrett at 1:03 p.m. Minutes of the February meeting were accepted.

The next item on the agenda was the election of a vice president due to Sharie Altizer's move to North Carolina. Connie Zirkle and Anita Hill were nominated for the post. Joe Wortham formed a tally committee consisting of himself, Jill Chapman and Lisa Allen. There were 19 eligible voters. A paper ballot was taken and Hill was elected vice president.

The guests from WVGC spoke regarding their concerns about the merger with Marshall. A memorandum from MU President J. Wade Gilley was read which included the charge that we begin to identify the issues associated with the merger. That is why the WVGC representatives attended the meeting. The concern was that the faculty of both agencies have committees working with the departments and that "staff were being left out of this process." Their presence at the meeting was to establish a dialogue and try to develop staff input into the merger.

Martha Deel stated that the greatest concern was layoffs, displacements and bumping. She felt that we needed to be informed of the plans and what is going on with the merger rather than staff being left out. She also discussed that the merger is supposed to save \$2.5 million and she would like to see the figures of how that is occurring.

David Cremeans was also concerned about the changing of jobs and the possibility that staff positions would be down graded. He stated that it was "essential that we have input."

Martha Pierson explained that their election of officers would be held the second week of April and they needed to have our input as to how the merger would affect the two councils. Deel stated that she would approach the head of WVGC about a committee that would include council and staff representatives.

Barrett stated that we supported WVGC efforts and that we could not immediately merge the two councils. A period of adjustment needed to be maintained. After discussion, it was concluded that the two council bodies would remain intact for a period of one year while the details of the merger are worked out. The Executive Committee will draft a letter from both councils about a committee to work out the merger. Deel made a motion to accept the committee's writing of a letter. All staff council members were in favor of the motion.

Joe Taylor of WVGC gave a report of the ACCE meeting and discussed the issues that the committee is working on. Future plans to lobby and send letters to the elected officials are included in their plans.

## **Standing Committee Reports:**

**Legislative Affairs**—Terry Olson, chair, said the committee met 3/19/97. He asked for support for the telephone blitz to the legislators. Details will be sent to all staff council members through campus mail. He asked that the council share this information with their groups and encourage people to call and support legislation that is pending that will affect Marshall employees.

Olson said Susan Hubbard was working for Marshall and Plymale supports the merger and \$50 increment. Plymale is also the only one who responded to the committee's letter that was sent at the beginning of the session. The events of the legislature are available daily on the web. In support of the committee's efforts and to encourage members to attend legislative events, Barrett said, "We have to take responsibility and help ourselves."

**Financial Affairs**—Martha Deel, chair, read the recommendation her committee made regarding compensation of exempt university employees for work outside their "normal job duties." The committee asked that the recommendation be approved so that it could be forwarded to the committee. A motion was made and passed. The recommendation will be forwarded to the president's office.

**Membership/Election**—Joe Wortham reported that this committee met but there was not a quorum. Notices will be sent out about the spring election. Several positions are available. The council election will be held in late May or early June.

**Personnel**—Rowena Napier, chair, said she had talked to Bill Burdette about the staff handbook. He said that it had left the personnel office and he would let us know when it is available. Cremeans said that it is currently being printed. Napier also expressed that the "Can they hear your smile?" campaign is unfair to night shift because they are not exposed to the students like day employees are. Her committee will be investigating the issue. She also discussed that the committee is looking into cross-training in the physical plant area to access its purpose and see if it is working.

**Physical Environment**—Anita Hill, chair, reported that the committee met March 12. Three members were present and there was not a quorum. Mr. Allman had notified the committee that they were cutting down two trees and listening to recommendations from the committees. Hill also discussed the Faculty Senate meeting and the parking issue. This issue was tabled until the next meeting because the Faculty Senate will be meeting. Barrett will attend the meeting.

**Service**—Sherry Brooks, chair, reported that she had been contacted by Virginia Keeney and they had lost everything in the recent flood. She and her husband, Bernard, are both Marshall staff members and are requesting help. Sherry said Judi Balzano will be sending out flyers asking for help from staff members. Linda McComas is ready for staff to donate labor for her habitat home. This will be advertised next month. Staff members wishing to donate time on Linda's behalf can sign in under her name at a habitat site. Details will be sent out next month. Brooks also sent a card to Billy Tipton's son. Staff Council was not aware of her death until it was announced in the Newsletter. Brooks once again encouraged council to contact her immediately if someone is in need or a card or flowers should be sent. She also requested that members let her know when they sign up for work for habitat.

**Staff Development**—Kelli Mayes, chair, stated that no committee meeting was held this month. The committee will revisit the blanket release time resolution that was not signed by President Gilley. Balzano said that it was not signed because the president was concerned about understaffed offices or those where only one staff member worked. He thought that this may cause a burden in the office if a staff member were released to attend class.

The meeting adjourned at 2:40 p.m.