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MU NEWSLETTER

MARSHALL UNIVERSITY • OFFICE OF UNIVERSITY RELATIONS • HUNTINGTON, WEST VIRGINIA 25755 • July 10, 1997

MU Graduate College fully accredited

One of the many questions arising as a result of the July 1 merger of West Virginia Graduate College with Marshall University, creating the new Marshall University Graduate College, has been answered. Marshall's accreditation by the Commission on Higher Education of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools has been extended to cover the new institution and its students.

In a letter to MU President J. Wade Gilley, the Commission's associate director, Mary B. Breslin, said: "Be assured that all students of the former West Virginia Graduate College continuing their programs of study will become Marshall University students as of July 1, 1997. The accreditation of Marshall University is extended to encompass these students and that site, which is now part of the university."

Yeager Scholar announced

Three Cabell-Midland High School graduates have been accepted into the freshman class of Yeager Scholars at Marshall University, according to Martha Woodward, executive director of the university's John R. Hall Center for Academic Excellence.

"The Society of Yeager Scholars is pleased to announce the addition of Molly Harbour Bassett to the incoming Class of 2001," Woodward said. "Molly brings the number of Cabell-Midland graduates to three, an unprecedented accomplishment in the history of the Yeager Scholars program."

Bassett joins former Cabell-Midland classmates Jennifer Rae Dailey and James William "Billy" Jones, who were announced as Yeager Scholars on June 3, as part of the 11th class of Yeager Scholars.

"Our 11th class continues the high academic quality and wide range of extracurricular activities characteristic of the previous classes," Woodward said.

Bassett is one of five students from West Virginia to be accepted into the Yeager Class of 2001. She is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Roger W. Bassett, Jr. and granddaughter of Mr. and Mrs. Tommy Harbour of Milton, Cabell County.

As a Yeager Scholar, Bassett will receive tuition and fees, an allowance for textbooks and supplies, half of her housing costs and a \$4,000 stipend that will allow her to study in a foreign country.

The scholars program is named in honor of General Charles E. "Chuck" Yeager, the West Virginian who pioneered America's manned space exploration efforts by breaking the "sound barrier" in 1947.

For more information about the Society of Yeager Scholars at Marshall University and its Class of 2001, contact the Yeager Scholars office at (304) 696-6763.



Bassett

Marshall has been accredited continuously by North Central since 1928. That accreditation was renewed Feb. 23, 1996 with the next comprehensive evaluation scheduled for 2005-06. The West Virginia Graduate College, headquartered in South Charleston, had been scheduled for a comprehensive North Central Association evaluation this year but the merger has eliminated that need.

A follow-up visit focused on the merger will be conducted next spring by an evaluation team, Ms. Breslin told Gilley.

"We're obviously pleased with North Central's response to our query," Gilley said, "and we expect next spring's evaluation visit to have a very positive outcome."

The merger of the two institutions was approved unanimously during the 1997 session of the Legislature and endorsed by Gov. Cecil H. Underwood. It is expected to result in significant savings in terms of operating costs and to expand graduate education opportunities, particularly in southern West Virginia.

Former Theatre director dies

Clayton R. Page, Jr., for whom the Clayton Page Theatre Award at Marshall University was named, died Friday, July 4, at his home. He was 85.

Funeral arrangements were not available at News Letter press time.

Page was Marshall University Theatre director for 31 years, from 1946 until his retirement in 1977. While at MU, he directed countless productions and set the standard of theatre at Marshall.

The Old Main Auditorium served as home for the Theatre Department during Page's tenure. In 1984 the auditorium's Green Room was renamed in his honor.

When the Theatre Department discontinued use of the auditorium, Page's connection with the department was maintained with the establishment of the Clayton R. Page Theatre Award.

"The Clayton R. Page Theatre Award is given annually to the graduating senior theatre major who made the greatest contribution to the Theatre Department," said Jeffrey Elwell, chair of Marshall's Department of Theatre/Dance.

During his tenure, Page served the Marshall faculty as a professor of speech.

Born Sept. 25, 1911 in Neville Island, Pennsylvania, he attended Coraopolis High School.

In 1934, Page received a bachelor's degree in art and letters from Pennsylvania State University. He received two master's degrees, one in drama from Pennsylvania State University in 1939 and another in speech from Baylor University in 1940.

Before coming to Marshall in 1946, Page taught at Baylor University from 1938-42 and at Army Air Force from 1942-46. He also held a fellowship at the Pasadena School of Theatre.

Page is survived by two children, Clayton III, and Martha Lee.



Page

Resident fellows join Appalachian Center

Three resident fellows will join the Center for the Study of Ethnicity and Gender in Appalachia at Marshall University during the 1997-98 academic year.

Susan Eacker, professor of history at Morehead State University in Morehead, Ky., and Geoff Eacker, director of the Art Center at Miami University in Oxford, Ohio, were chosen as the center's first resident fellows.

The Eackers will begin their project "Black Men, White Ladies, and Bluegrass Boys: A Gendered History of the Banjo in West Virginia and Eastern Kentucky" in the fall semester. This project traces the origins of the banjo from West Africa to the United States, and examines its cultural influence in Appalachia.

Employee achievements

Dr. VICTOR FET, assistant professor in the Department of Biological Sciences, had an article titled "A note on *Euscorpium carpathicus* (Scorpiones, Chactidae) from the Crimea" published in the Journal of Arachnology (vol. 21, No. 1), a publication of the American Arachnological Society. Dr. Fet also served as a Russian-English translator of documents on Antarctic environmental issues for the international Antarctic Treaty Consultative Meeting held in May at Christchurch, New Zealand.

Dr. CHRISTOPHER L. DOLMETSCH, professor of modern languages, has contributed a review of Marie-Thérèse Kerschbaumer's "Woman's Face of Resistance: Sever Reports," translated by Lowell A. Bangerter (Ariadne Press: Riverside CA, 1996) to the May 1997 issue of CHOICE (Vol. 34, No. 9).

Dr. IGOR N. SERGEEV, research assistant professor in the Department of Anatomy, Cell and Neurobiology at the School of Medicine presented two papers titled "1,25-Dihydroxyvitamin D3 and Apoptosis in Breast Cancer Cells" at the Tenth International Workshop on Vitamin D held May 24-29 in Strasbourg, France. The papers summarized research conducted by Dr. WILLIAM B. RHOTEN, professor and chairperson, Department of Anatomy, Cell and Neurobiology, Dr. A.W. NORMAN, professor, Department of Biochemistry, University of California-Riverside and SERGEEV. This research is supported by a National Institutes of Health grant issued to SERGEEV.

Volunteer hours needed

Linda McComas, a MU Physical Plant staff member, has qualified to receive a home from the Habitat for Humanity organization. However, in order to satisfy requirements, 250 volunteer hours in conjunction with the organization must be completed in her name by January 1, 1998. If you or your organization would like to help Linda, contact Habitat for Humanity at (304) 523-4822 for details.

Student art exhibited

Artwork by Keith Sarver, graduate student in the Art Department, is on exhibition in the Birke Art Gallery until July 17. Recent paintings, drawings and research featuring masks and mythological themes are the focus of the exhibition.

The general public is welcome to attend. The Birke Art Gallery is open Monday through Friday from noon to 4 p.m. For more information, contact the Art Department at 696-6760.

Linda Tate, professor of English at Shepherd College in Shepherdstown, will join the Marshall faculty as a resident fellow in January. Tate will utilize the center's resources to complete *Blessed Assurance*, a nonfiction book that contributes to academic and theoretical dialogue about Appalachian and Cherokee culture.

These fellowships, established in 1996 through a \$250,000 Rockefeller Foundation Grant for the Humanities, are the first of their kind endowed by a higher education institution in West Virginia. They are designed to help the center reach its goal of filling the void in research pertaining to race and gender in the Appalachian region.

For more information about the fellowship recipients or the Center for the Study of Ethnicity and Gender in Appalachia, contact Sharon Brescoach at 696-3348.

Lieutenant Colonel joins Military Science faculty

The Department of Military Science has added a new department chair, Lieutenant Colonel Stephen A. Redmond.

Redmond was commissioned at Columbus College in Columbus, Ga. He received an MBA from Aubrey-Riddle Aeronautical University of Florida. His assignments have included Fort Carson, Colo., company commander at Fort Campbell, Ky., and most recently at MacDill Air Force Base in Florida.

Redmond replaces Lieutenant Colonel Thomas R. Noreen, who has been reassigned to the War College at Carlisle, Pa., to prepare for his promotion to colonel.

Preschool program offered

Marshall University Autism Training Center and Cabell County Schools are offering a summer preschool program for children 3-6 years of age. The preschool is looking for children to serve as role models for children with autism. The program provides a typical preschool curriculum including crafts, music, outdoor play and field trips to community settings.

The program is \$150 and is offered Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to noon or from noon to 3 p.m. June 16 - August 8. For more information, contact Dr. Jennifer McFarland or Eddie Harbert at 696-2332 or 696-3189.

Letter of appreciation

"...I was a stranger, and you took me in;"

Matthew 25:35

The family of Victor Hamilton III thanks our Marshall University extended family for the generous outpouring that has helped to sustain us in the tragic loss of our loved one.

Grace and peace to you,
Pamela Casto Hamilton