The Marshall University community came out to welcome Interim President Gary G. White and his wife, Jo Ann, with a reception Jan. 16.

A businessman and coal mining executive, White graduated from Marshall in 1997 with a Regents Bachelor of Arts degree. He is a former member and past chairman of the university’s Board of Governors, former member and vice president of the West Virginia Board of Education, and former member of the University of Pikeville Board of Trustees.

He has been executive vice president of Blackhawk Mining LLC since October. He was president and chief executive officer of International Industries Inc. for a large part of his career—from 1992 to 2007. He also previously served as president and chief operating officer of International Resource Partners LP, a subsidiary of James River Coal Company, president and chief executive officer of the West Virginia Coal Association, manager of underground mining at Amherst Coal Company and corporate training coordinator at Island Creek Coal Company.

White is on the boards of directors of United Bankshares Inc., ARC Logistics Partners LP, Cabell Huntington Hospital, the Marshall University Foundation, the West Virginia Coal Association and the Larry Joe Harless Community Center Foundation Inc. He also serves on the board of advisors of West Virginia Media Holdings LLC.
He received the 2006 Distinguished Achievement Award from the West Virginia Education Alliance, the 2004 Distinguished Achievement Award from the Marshall University Alumni Association, the City of Hope “Spirit of Life Award” and in 2003 was inducted into the Business Hall of Fame at Marshall. In 2006 and again in 2008, he was named one of the “Fifty Most Influential Individuals in West Virginia” by West Virginia Executive magazine.

*Photo: Maurice Cooley, associate vice president for intercultural affairs, speaks to President and Mrs. White at the reception Jan. 16. Click to view more photos from the event.*

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**Greetings from Interim President White**

Dear Marshall Community,

I write to you today both honored and humbled to have been asked to serve as your interim president.

Thank you for welcoming Jo Ann and me with open arms. The reception we have received has been nothing short of overwhelming, and we appreciate it more than you know. I enjoyed meeting many of you on Friday at the reception and look forward to meeting more of you in the coming weeks and months.

The sudden death of President Kopp left a void that will be impossible to fill, not only because we lost a man with tremendous vision, leadership skills, character and work ethic, but also because many of us lost a close friend. To step into the shoes of a man and a leader like Steve is a somewhat daunting
proposition. It is an awesome responsibility—and one I do not take lightly—to have been asked to lead this university at such a critical time.

The opportunities and challenges we face as an institution are significant and, as interim president, I see my role as more than merely a caretaker. I intend to be fully engaged in rolling up my sleeves and working beside you to make our university better.

Since the legislative session started last week, I have spent the better part of two days at the Capitol in Charleston, meeting with our local delegation and the leadership of both houses. I am encouraged by the support Marshall University has in the legislature and feel confident our voice will be heard as we work with our representatives to address the many challenges faced by higher education.

To that point, I want to assure you that we are moving ahead aggressively on the critical Marshall 2020 strategic planning process started by President Kopp. As you know, work groups last fall made recommendations about how programs and services might be offered more efficiently. These gains in efficiency will position us to operate in the face of ongoing cuts to state funding and will free up resources for investment in university priorities. Yesterday, I participated in a meeting with a group of more than 100 members of the campus community to kick off the implementation phase, about which you’ll be hearing more in the coming days and weeks. I am quite impressed with the work that has been done to date and the willingness of the work group participants to think “outside the box.” They recognize that the very future of Marshall University depends on the work they are doing right now.

I also am getting around to the various constituent groups here on the Huntington campus. I have met with officers of the Student Government Association and with the Classified Staff Council, and will be speaking with the Faculty Senate tomorrow at its first meeting of the semester. I’ll also be meeting with the faculty of each college in the coming weeks. I am encouraged by the tremendous dedication and enthusiasm I see all around me.

In other recent developments, the Board of Governors has begun to formulate a process for the presidential search. As announced, it is anticipated the search will last approximately six to nine months. The board is committed to finding the very best candidate to lead Marshall University, and I am confident that they will do so. I pledge to keep you informed and updated as the search proceeds.

In closing, let me say I’m extremely proud to be here. I look working with you to keep Marshall moving swiftly forward, focused on the welfare and education of our students.

We Are…Marshall!

Sincerely,

Gary
Gary G. White
Interim President
Reminder: Applications sought for next year’s Hedrick Faculty Teaching Fellow

The Center for Teaching and Learning has opened the application period for a fellowship opportunity for Marshall University faculty. Made possible by a gift from Charles B. and Mary Jo Locke Hedrick, the $5,000 fellowship will give a full-time faculty member the opportunity to pursue a Scholarship of Teaching and Learning (SoTL) project, collaborate with the CTL staff in shaping the strategic plan for campus-wide faculty development, and develop a niche area of expertise in faculty development, thus adding to the programming regularly offered by the center.

Eligibility: Full-time faculty on a 3-year term appointment, tenure-track appointment, or tenured appointment are eligible to apply. (Term faculty must apply during the first or second year of the 3-year term.)

Term: The appointment to become a Hedrick Faculty Teaching Fellow is for one year and runs from August 17, 2015, to August 16, 2016. In addition to a $5,000 stipend, the Fellow will receive a 3-credit course reassignment or equivalent during the fall semester of the appointment and is expected to be “in residence” in the Center for Teaching and Learning an average of 9 hours per week during the Fall 2015 semester, 3 hours per week during the Spring 2016 semester, and 9 hours per week during one Summer 2016 session (Fellow’s choice). The Fellow will also present at the iPED: Inquiring Pedagogies Fall Teaching Conference in August 2016 (8th annual).

Outcomes: The Hedrick Faculty Teaching Fellowship Program aims to make leadership positions in faculty development available to full-time faculty. In collaborating with CTL staff to shape the Center’s strategic plan for campus-wide faculty development, the Fellow will also develop a niche area of faculty development expertise and build his or her profile in the scholarship of teaching and learning (SoTL). The Fellow will design, facilitate and promote a variety of high-impact instructional development programming initiatives for Marshall faculty, including but not limited to the following:

- Facilitate a Faculty Learning Community (FLC) on a topic related to the Fellow’s SoTL research interests;
- Design and deliver a suite of professional development opportunities for faculty which are informed by assessment data and other research on student learning;
- Design and facilitate teaching and learning forums that assist faculty in addressing one or more of the MU Baccalaureate Degree Profile outcomes in courses in the major, or non-CT courses.

Deadline: Proposals are due by February 2, 2015.

Faculty members may visit http://www.marshall.edu/ctl/faculty-awards-and-grants/hedrick-faculty-teaching-fellow for additional information and to submit their applications. Application questions should be directed to Dr. Karen McComas, Interim Executive Director, CTL; 6-2983 (mccomas@marshall.edu).
Marshall to test MU Alert emergency messaging system

Marshall University communications officials will conduct a test of the MU Alert emergency messaging system at 10 a.m. Wednesday, Jan. 28.

Marshall community members who are subscribed to MU Alert are asked to be sure that they have received the message that morning. If a message has not been received by noon, a subscriber should review and update his or her contact information in the myMU/MU Alert Web interface. If this contact information was already correct, but a message was still not received, then he or she should send an e-mail to mualert@marshall.edu with details on which contact method (text, e-mail, voice) did not work as expected.

“We never know when a communication of this kind will be needed,” said Jim Terry, director of public safety for the university. “As always, our primary concern is protecting the safety and health of university community members.”

The most recent test of the system occurred Sept. 10.

The MU Alert system, which is operated by Marshall and delivered thru the Blackboard Connect service, allows Marshall students, faculty and staff to provide several methods for the university to use when making emergency contacts. Most common are text messages, cell phone calls and e-mail. Those who would like to subscribe or update their information for this test are asked to visit the myMU page at http://www.marshall.edu/MyMU, log in, click on the MU Alert red triangle and complete their subscription or update by 5 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 27. Others external to the campuses or centers (i.e. news media, alumni, campus neighbors) should watch other outlets, such as the Marshall website, Twitter, Facebook, etc., for relevant news releases.
Bob Hall, IT Consultant Senior for Information Technology Service Desk, has been named the Marshall University Employee of the Month for November, according to the Employee of the Month Committee.

Employed since February 2012, he was nominated by JoAnn Black.

In her nomination, Black wrote: “Bob Hall is one of the best service desk employees I have ever had in my eight years as supervisor of the service desk. He is always ready to help in any way possible. He is very dependable and always here. He has excellent customer service skills. He gets the job done and never complains .... He is well liked by his co-workers and the faculty and staff. Once he goes and does a work order for someone they tend to request he come back with any other issues they have. It makes a supervisor’s job so easy when you have employees like Bob Hall. I truly appreciate his hard work and I know he makes a valuable impact here at Marshall University.”

Hall was presented with a plaque and a check for $100 by the late President Stephen J. Kopp.

Photo: Bob Hall (left) receives his Employee of the Month award from the late Dr. Stephen J. Kopp.
Dr. Suzanne Holroyd recognized as one of Castle Connolly’s America’s Top Doctors®

More than 100,000 physicians are nominated each year, with only a select number receiving the official honor. It is based on a foundation of peer nominations.

Holroyd graduated from the University of Virginia School of Medicine and completed a residency in adult psychiatry at Johns Hopkins University followed by a fellowship in geriatric psychiatry at Hopkins as well. She is board-certified in adult psychiatry and geriatric psychiatry.

Holroyd specializes in geriatric psychiatry as well as memory disorders, dementia and behavioral disorders in the elderly and is currently accepting new patients at the Marshall Psychiatry location, 1115 20th St., Suite 205 in Huntington. For more information call 304-691-1500 or visit www.marshallhealth.org.

Other Marshall Health physicians who have the Castle Connolly distinction include Dr. Charles Giangarra, Orthopaedics; Dr. Zeid Khitan, Nephrology; Dr. Ali Oliashirazi, Orthopaedics; Dr. Joseph Shapiro, Nephrology; Dr. Frank Shuler, Orthopaedics; Dr. Rebecca Wolfer, Surgery; Dr. Jacqueline Ray, Pediatrics; and Dr. Deborah Klimek, Pediatric Ophthalmology.
First in new art series now featured at Birke Art Gallery

“Amalgam,” the first in a new series, is on exhibit at the Birke Art Gallery in Smith Hall on the Huntington campus.

Megan Schultz, gallery director and facilities coordinator, said Amalgam is the first in the Foundations Series, a group of exhibitions that will each take a core principle from the foundations courses taught in the School of Art and Design as its central theme.

“Amalgam refers to the combining or melding of materials,” Schultz said. “Invited artists were encouraged to explore the theme of amalgam as it applies to works of mixed media, issues of development and identity, and beyond. As a result we have put together a remarkable show of works ranging in materials from digital video to acrylic sculpture.”

Free and open to the public, the exhibition will be on display until Feb. 18 during the Birke Art Gallery’s normal business hours, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday-Thursday and noon to 4 p.m. Fridays.

For more information about the exhibition, visit www.marshall.edu/cam, e-mail galleries@marshall.edu, or call 304-696-2296.

Annual Soul Food Feast set for Feb. 8

Marshall’s annual Soul Food Feast, sponsored by the Center for African American Students, will take place at 2 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 8, in the John Marshall Dining Room on the second floor of the Memorial Student Center.

Maurice Cooley, Associate Vice President of Intercultural Affairs, said this annual celebration is a time of fellowship.

“It is a joyful time to celebrate in the spirit of love, while enjoying the company and conversation with family, friends, faculty, students and others from throughout the community, enhanced by some of the most appetizing and traditional African American dishes,” Cooley said.

The soulful buffet will include chitterlings, crispy fried chicken, barbeque ribs, mac and cheese, collard greens, candied yams, potato salad, beverages and an assortment of tasty desserts. The cost is $7 for students and $15 for adults.

For more information, or to purchase tickets in advance, call ext.6-6705. Tickets also will be available at the door.
La Bohème to arrive at the Keith-Albee Feb. 10

Giaccomo Puccini’s operatic masterpiece, La Bohème, will weave a tale of love and misery on the stage of the Keith-Albee Performing Arts Center Tuesday, Feb. 10 at 7:30 p.m.

Presented by Teatro Lirico D’Europa and Artistic Director Giorgio Lalov, this production is presented in Italian with English supertitles and a full orchestra. This is the romantic, yet poignant story of the poet Rodolfo, the beautiful Mimi, and their friends, set in the garrets of 1830 Paris and the raucous streets of the Latin Quarter.

Mimi, a young seamstress living in the same building as four male roommates—a poet, a painter, a musician and a philosopher—finds herself in a dark room with poet Rodolfo when she comes to ask for spare matches to light her candle. In Rodolfo’s desperation to have more time with the lovely young woman that he quickly finds himself fiercely attracted to, he slips Mimi’s room key into his pocket as she searches for it in her attempt to return home. They exchange stories of their lives, and later when Rodolfo sees Mimi in the glow of moonlight both immediately recognize that they have fallen in love. As their love unfolds and Mimi draws close to Rodolfo and his interesting group of friends, tragedy strikes and Rodolfo is left with a tough choice that he makes in an attempt to save Mimi’s life.

La Bohème premiered worldwide in Turin on February 1896 at the Teatro Regio, conducted by Arturo Toscanini. It went on to become one of the most frequently performed operas around the world. The opera was the inspiration for the Broadway musical, Rent, which opened 100 years later in January 1996. The hit Broadway musical is a modern story loosely based on the themes of the enduring opera.

Theatergoers can arrive early for the pre-show opera discussion to learn more about La Bohème. The discussion will feature opera expert Dr. Larry Stickler, professor of music at Marshall, and Teatro Lirico D’Europa’s Artistic Director Giorgio Lalov as they discuss the opera’s origins and significance in today’s art culture. This pre-show discussion will offer a chance for guests to ask questions about La Bohème and opera in general. The dialogue will begin in the Keith-Albee Performing Arts Center at 6 p.m.

Tickets are available at the Artists Series box office Monday through Friday from noon to 5 p.m. For additional information call ext. 6-.6656 or visit their website at www.marshall.edu/muartser.

Photo: A scene from La Bohème, which will be presented as part of the Marshall Artists Series Feb. 10.
Pitsenbarger chosen as January Resident of the Month

Dr. Jodi M. Pitsenbarger, M.D., a third-year resident in pediatrics, has been selected as January’s Resident of the Month, Dr. Paulette S. Wehner, vice dean for graduate medical education, announced last week.

Pitsenbarger, a West Virginia native, also is currently serving as the chief resident and is the first chief to be selected by peers in pediatrics. Historically, pediatric chief residents have been chosen by faculty.

“We had a lot of fantastic nominees this month,” Wehner said. “It was a difficult decision given the caliber of all of the nominees. But what really set Dr. Pitsenbarger’s nomination apart from the others is that she is such a consummate professional in so many different areas. Her demonstrated leadership as a chief resident and true compassion for her patients deserve recognition and we commend her for her efforts.”

In her nomination of Pitsenbarger, Dr. Susan L. Flesher residency program director for pediatrics, described her as an excellent role model.

“She goes above and beyond in assuring that she is fair to all our residents, taking into account each person’s scheduling request, and then making sure she shows no favoritism. Dr. Pitsenbarger often schedules herself to work undesirable shifts around weekends or holidays in order to fulfill as many scheduling requests as possible. I can always count on her to maintain all sensitive issues in complete confidentiality,” Flesher said.

Pitsenbarger is a 2012 graduate of the Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine and is a native of Franklin, in Pendleton County. She also holds an undergraduate degree in biomedical sciences from Marshall. Pitsenbarger intends to enter general pediatrics upon completion of residency in late June.
As part of her recognition as the January Resident of the Month, Pitsenbarger will receive items including a certificate of recognition and a designated parking spot. Monthly winners also will be automatically entered into the Resident of the Year Award to be announced in May.

Reminder: Flu vaccinations tomorrow, Jan. 22

The Cabell Huntington Health Department will be on the Huntington campus on Thursday, Jan. 22, from noon to 2 p.m. in the lobby of the Memorial Student Center to give FREE flu vaccinations. The vaccine is available for everyone—students, faculty, staff, and all community members.

The Centers for Disease Control continue to recommend that unvaccinated people get vaccinated. While some of the viruses spreading this season are different from those in the vaccine, vaccination can still provide protection and might reduce severe outcomes.

For more information, contact Student Health Education Programs at 6-4103.

Faculty Achievement: three criminal justice professors co-author book on West Virginia’s system

Carolina Academic Press has announced the publication of *West Virginia’s Criminal Justice System* by Kimberly A. DeTardo-Bora, Dhruba J. Bora and Samuel L. Dameron, all professors of criminal justice and criminology at Marshall.

The book is a practical examination of crime, process, and policy responses in the Mountain State. The United States allows each state the freedom to develop individualized criminal justice systems to meet the needs of its citizens and, while there are commonalities among the states, there are also vast differences. According to the publisher’s release, this book gives readers an opportunity to closely evaluate these issues as they are relevant to West Virginia. While the text focuses on the three components of the justice system—law enforcement, courts, and corrections—it also includes chapters on the juvenile justice system as well as victim advocacy and victim services.

Other chapters provide an insight into current crime trends, homeland security, and drug and alcohol abuse. In addition, each chapter features a spotlight issue related to that topic, such as computer crime, police training, juvenile waiver to adult court, elder abuse, and the possible need for the state to adopt an intermediate appellate court. In addition, key terms, critical thinking and review questions, and additional resources are included to allow the reader to further explore and analyze each topic on his or her own.
Faculty achievement: Brunty nominated to digital evidence committee

Joshua Brunty, assistant professor of integrated science and technology, was recently nominated as one of 23 members of the newly formed NIST (National Institute of Standards & Technology) Organization for Scientific Area Committee (OSAC) on Digital Evidence.

Since digital evidence plays a growing role in a wide variety of crimes as cell phones, computers, GPS and other digital devices carry increasing amounts of information about everyday lives, in order to support development of standards and guidance for digital forensics, the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) and the U.S. Department of Justice have named 20 experts to the Digital Evidence Subcommittee of the Organization of Scientific Area Committees (OSAC).

NIST launched OSAC earlier this year to coordinate development of standards and guidelines for the forensic science community. The Digital Evidence Subcommittee is the last of four in OSAC’s Digital/Multimedia Scientific Area Committee to be established.

The subcommittee’s experts in digital forensics and technology will develop and vet standards for test methods, techniques and protocols, training and more, all related to evidence stored or transmitted in binary form. The subcommittee will then recommend standards and guidance to the OSAC’s Scientific Area Committees and Forensic Science Standards Board, its governing body. Once approved, the documents will be included in an OSAC Registry of Approved Standards and its Registry of Approved Guidelines.

The new appointees were selected by members of the Digital/Multimedia Scientific Area Committee with the concurrence of NIST, the Justice Department and the Forensic Science Standards Board. Subcommittee members normally will serve three-year terms. Members of this initial group will serve two, three, or four-year terms.

The five Scientific Area Committees will hold public meetings Feb. 16 and 17 during the annual meeting of the American Academy of Forensic Sciences, in Orlando, Florida.
Faculty Achievement: Dr. Thomas Wilson

Dr. Thomas Wilson, professor of physics, has had a manuscript accepted for publication in the *Journal of Micro/Nanolithography, MEMS and MOEMS (JM3)*, ([www.spie.org/x865.xml](http://www.spie.org/x865.xml)) titled “Bilayer lift-off process for aluminum metallization.” Coauthors are Konstantin Korolev, Research Associate, Department of Physics; and Nathaniel Crowe, Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine. The paper describes a safe, robust and novel method for the patterning of thin (100-nm or less) sputtered aluminum films with micron feature sizes on semiconductor substrates.

Santanam receives undergraduate student research award

Dr. Nalini Santanam of the department of Pharmacology, Physiology and Toxicology at the Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine, and her team have received the Great Rivers Affiliate Undergraduate Student Research Program Award from the American Heart Association for a program at Marshall scheduled for summer 2015.

The grant encourages promising students from all disciplines, including women and members of minority groups underrepresented in the sciences, to consider research careers while supporting high quality scientific investigation broadly related to cardiovascular disease and stroke.

The peer-reviewed process focuses on evaluation of program organization, training opportunities, science and academic qualifications of faculty, resources and funding available to students and history of student research training.

Doctoral research to investigate motivation to commit fraud

A doctoral student has invited the Marshall University community to participate in her research on what motivates people to commit fraud. Participants in the survey may enter to win an Amazon gift card worth $100. The survey is open to everyone 18 years of age or older. To participate, persons should visit the survey link at [www.surveymonkey.com/s/N3H7SF7](http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/N3H7SF7).

The complete text of the invitation to participate is shown below.
LET YOUR VOICE BE HEARD! Be part of something special and you could win a $100 AMAZON GIFT CARD! Open to everyone 18 years old or older! Just complete an online survey which should only take 45 minutes of your time! Participate in this study to help us learn more about fraud behavior. Participation is completely anonymous! Just connect to the survey with the link shown below. Join us today! Invite your family and friends! The survey will be gone soon!

We would like to find out more about what motivates people to commit fraud. This is not intended to be demeaning or to criticize behavior, but simply to understand the factors which influence these decisions and what we can do to help people in need. Needs fall into many different categories and are often situation-specific. It is the researcher’s hope that this study will provide information which will equip societies and organizations with the tools to help its members.

Research indicates that all of us commit fraud on a fairly regular basis whether it is lying about our age or inflating expenses on a tax return. I need your help in understanding why people are inclined to commit fraud and what society can do to help them. No one will know how you respond individually – not even the researcher. Your answers will become part of a general database. Your participation is greatly appreciated and may make a tremendous contribution to how society can meet the needs of its citizens.

It is very important that participants provide honest and sincere answers. Some of the questions may ask very personal information that may seem invasive, such as whether you have ever committed fraud and information regarding the circumstances. You are free to opt out of this research at any time. These questions are asked in order to understand fraud behavior and are not intended to criticize or judge your actions. Please read the questions carefully.

Participation will be completely anonymous and this research will not be used in any way to detect individual illicit acts. You will be asked to electronically acknowledge an informed consent form. You will then be given the opportunity to participate in this very important study which could have global implications.

You can use a private or public computer. IP addresses will not be recorded by the researcher. You will not be asked for any individual identifying information. Generalized results will be published once the research is completed. Several colleges and universities will be participating which will also increase anonymity. It is vital that you feel free to provide honest responses. Therefore, this research is designed to insure anonymity and confidentiality.

When you are finished, you will be given an email address to register for a $100 AMAZON GIFT CARD. Your email submission cannot be linked to your responses in the survey.

If you are willing to participate in this research project, please click on the link below.

https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/N3H7SF7

THANK YOU FOR YOUR WILLINGNESS TO HELP!
Choral Union rehearsals open to all

The Marshall University Choral Union resumes Monday rehearsals at 7 p.m. Jan. 26 in the Choral Rehearsal Room in Smith Music Hall on Marshall’s Huntington campus.

The Choral Union, open to Marshall students and community members alike, will prepare a set of madrigals, Mozart’s Coronation Mass (K. 317), and selections from Copland’s “Old American Songs,” to be performed one-night-only at 7:30 p.m. Saturday, May 2, in Smith Music’s Recital Hall.

Joining the Choral Union as director is Dr. John W. Campbell, a director of college and university choirs for 25 years before joining Huntington’s Fifth Avenue Baptist Church as full-time minister of music in August 2013.

College credit for participation in the union is available but not required. For more information about the Choral Union, contact Campbell by phone at 859-684-8392 or by e-mail to campbelljo@live.marshall.edu.

The next issue of We Are...Marshall will be distributed Jan. 28, 2015. Please send any materials for consideration to Pat Dickson by 5 p.m. Monday, Jan. 26.