MU NewsLetter, August 28, 1997

Office of University Relations

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New Gilley book to aid MU students

The American Council on Education and Oryx Press have published a new book by Marshall University President J. Wade Gilley, "Leaning Forward: A Public University President Confronts the New Realities.”

The book, Gilley’s fifth, is a compilation of his newspaper opinion columns, public addresses and other writings from 1992 to 1997, covering much of his first six years as Marshall’s president. It is being published as part of the American Council on Higher Education Series on Higher Education. Proceeds will be used to provide Marshall scholarships.

Many of the opinion pieces were first published in The Charleston (W.Va.) Gazette and The Huntington (W.Va.) Herald-Dispatch. Topics include concerns about the direction of higher education in the 21st Century, Gilley’s vision and strategy for Marshall University, the relationship between Marshall and the Huntington area community, and the need for Charleston and Huntington to work together in promoting the state’s development, and the state’s higher education needs.

The 167-page book includes forewords by former Virginia Governor Gaston Caperton and George Mason University President Emeritus George W. Johnson.

Gilley, who assumed the Marshall presidency on Aug. 1, 1991, first became a college president in 1967 at the age of 29. He has served as president of four colleges and universities, as secretary of education for Virginia and as senior vice president of George Mason University. He has served on the boards of Southern Regional Education Board, the Education Commission for the States and several other state and federal councils and commissions.

A native of southwestern Virginia, Gilley earned three degrees from Virginia Tech, including a Ph.D. in environmental engineering. He has written widely over the years on such subjects as biotechnology, the environment, economic development, public policy and, of course, education. Two of his books have been translated with one being published in Japanese and another in Chinese. His newspaper columns have appeared in the Washington Post, the New York Times, the Richmond Times Dispatch, the Chronicle of Higher Education and various other newspapers.

Marshall has experienced major progress during Gilley’s tenure, highlighted by nearly $150 million in improvements either (Continued on page 2)

Murdock named August Employee of the Month

Connie Murdock of Proctorville, Ohio, accounts payable manager in the Accounting Office, has been selected Marshall University Employee of the Month for August, according to Bill Burdette, chairman of the selection committee.

She was nominated for the award by the staff of the Accounts Payable Office.

“We feel she deserves this honor because she exhibits a type of leadership which has enabled each of us to fulfill our goals,” the staff said in its letter of nomination.

“If we have a problem, she is there to help us solve it, no matter how busy she is at the time. She knows how to communicate with us in a way that we understand how to get the job done,” the staff said.

Murdock has been at Marshall since March 1, 1996. “In that short time she has made a very positive impact on this office,” the staff stated. “We have found that no job is too trivial, or no job is too big for her to take on. She tackles them all with equal enthusiasm.”

She will receive a plaque and $100 for being named Employee of the Month and will be eligible for the Employee of the Year Award.

Marshall University President J. Wade Gilley and his wife, Nanna, provided funds through a grant to establish the Employee of the Month and Employee of the Year program.

Winters selected as new MU News Letter editor

John Winters, publications coordinator in the Office of Printing Services, has been named editor of this publication, the Marshall University News Letter, according to C.T. Mitchell, director of University Relations.

He has served as interim News Letter editor since late June. Victor Hamilton III, who had edited the News Letter for 12 years, died June 15 when a car hit his motorcycle near Haverhill, Ohio.

Winters was hired as publications coordinator in the Office of Printing Services in May, 1996. As editor of the News Letter, he is now located in the University Relations office and can be reached at 696-2586.

He received a bachelor’s degree in journalism from Marshall in 1993 and a master’s degree in journalism from MU in 1996. As a graduate student, he worked for two years in the MU athletic department as an assistant in the Sports Information Office.

Information for publication in the News Letter can be sent to Winters in the University Relations office, 216 Old Main.
Woodrow Wilson Center Fellowships available

The Office of Academic Affairs encourages Marshall University professors to apply by October 1 for prestigious Woodrow Wilson Center Fellowships during the 1998-99 academic year, according to Dr. Frances Hensley, assistant vice president for academic affairs.

The Woodrow Wilson Center, located in Washington, D.C., accepts applications from candidates in a wide variety of backgrounds including government, the corporate world, the professions, and the academic community.

Approximately 35 fellowships are granted annually in the international competition. They are given to individuals with outstanding project proposals, with a strong emphasis on the humanities and social sciences.

James Morrow library announces fall hours

The James E. Morrow library has announced its fall operating hours, according to Josephine Fidler, director of University Libraries. They are as follows:
- Sunday 1 p.m. to 10 p.m.
- Monday-Thursday 7:45 a.m. to 11 p.m.
- Friday 7:45 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- Saturday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

The library will be closed Sunday, Aug. 30 and Monday, Sept. 1 in observance of the Labor Day holiday.

Student Activities and Organizations Fair set

The Office of Student Activities and Greek Affairs will sponsor a Student Activities and Organizations Fair on Tuesday, Sept. 9 and Wednesday, Sept. 10 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. on the Memorial Student Center Plaza, according to Andy Hermansdorfer, director of Student Activities and Greek Affairs.

"The purpose of the fair is to acquaint students with activities and opportunities that are available to them," Hermansdorfer said.

Representatives from student groups will be able to distribute information about their organizations and recruit new members. "All university organizations and departments are encouraged to participate in the fair," Hermansdorfer said. "This will give the students a better idea of what is available for them."

Special entertainment will be included in the Student Activities and Organizations Fair. On Tuesday, Sept. 9, a "Motion Theater" will provide students with the opportunity to ride some of America's best roller coasters through a simulator.

For further information about the fair, contact the Student Activities and Greek Affairs Office, 696-6770.

Ferrell reception Sept. 4

The College of Education and Human Services will host a retirement reception for Mrs. Barbara Ferrell on Sept. 4 from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. in the Erickson Alumni Center. Everyone is welcome to attend.

Gilley book proceeds to help MU students

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completed, under construction or on the drawing boards. A climactic point was reached earlier this summer with the merger of Marshall and the former West Virginia Graduate College in South Charleston. The university also has initiated "The Marshall Plan" to improve its curriculum and better prepare students for life in the next century and has made technology a major academic thrust, including the new "high tech" library now being built.

Copies of the book may be obtained through the Marshall University Foundation, Inc. at $15.95, plus tax and shipping, or through various retail outlets including the Marshall Bookstore and Stadium Bookstore.

Royalties are being earmarked for the A. Michael Perry Freshman Scholarships at Marshall.

Employee achievements

DAVID WALKER, professor of computer science, presented World Wide Web page design at the West Virginia University Health Sciences and Technology Academy (HSTA) Summer Program during the last week of July. The program helps bright disadvantaged/minority students in grades 8-12 from all around West Virginia prepare for college careers in medicine, dentistry and other health sciences. Their web pages may be seen at http://www.ana.wvu.edu

Preschool program offered

Marshall University Autism Training Center and Cabell County Schools are offering a preschool program for children 3-5 years of age. The preschool is looking for eight children to serve as role models for children with autism. The program provides a typical preschool curriculum including crafts, music and outdoor play.

The program will follow the Cabell County school schedule and is offered Monday through Friday, 1 p.m. to 4 p.m., beginning Sept. 8. The cost is $250 per semester. For more information, contact Dr. Jennifer McFarland or Eddie Harbert, 696-2332.