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We Are...Marshall, July 8, 2015

Office of Marshall University Communications

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Marshall 20/20 Update: Changes in organization for Finance and University Communications, computer purchases

The implementation phase of the Marshall 20/20 process officially began last week. Starting with this issue, We Are ... Marshall will include regular updates regarding the status of these initiatives.

- Effective July 1, the Printing Services unit became part of the Office of University Communications. This first phase of the consolidation of the university’s marketing and communications-related functions ultimately will make graphic design services and printing easier, faster and cheaper for departments across all campuses. The coordination that will result from having all these functions under one organizational umbrella also will leverage the abilities of the entire staff and integrate the university’s brand identity across all media. A new business model for graphic design and printing is being developed. More information will be shared as those plans are finalized.

- Starting with Fiscal Year 2016, all computer purchases will follow a new process for acquisition, management, deployment and disposal. This will allow us to leverage collective buying power and educational discounts. The goals of the process are to provide prudent stewardship of university resources while ensuring each permanent employee who needs access to a computer to perform his or her assigned duties has a suitable device. For core budget orgs, central funding will be utilized to replace computers on a life-cycle basis for permanent positions. Additionally, all new full-time tenure or tenure-track faculty in core budget orgs are to receive a centrally funded computer. More details on the new process will be shared in the near future.

- As part of the 20/20 effort, the Finance division reviewed their staffing structure and business needs, and based on this, made a variety of changes effective July 1. The changes will set the stage for developing more streamlined and integrated processes for accounts payable, purchase card and travel; improve resource alignment and utilization for technology,
reporting and analysis; and encourage an enhanced focus on customer service and efficiency. A few of the major changes include Melanie Gallaher becoming part of the budget team as a Budget Systems Analyst, Teresa Meddings becoming Interim Pcard Coordinator, and Kim Fry transitioning to a role more focused on responsibilities in the Accounts Payable area. There are also a few other minor changes in responsibilities, changing of supervisors and relocation. A new org chart for Finance is available at www.marshall.edu/finance/files/Finance-Org-Chart-Visio.pdf.

Laura Christopher named 2014 Employee of the Year

Laura Christopher, program coordinator with the Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine’s Office of Student Affairs, was named Marshall’s 2014 Employee of the Year at the 31st annual Service Awards Brunch June 23.

Christopher has been employed at Marshall for almost 10 years and was the Employee of the Month for December 2014. She was nominated by Amy Smith, Assistant Dean of Student Affairs and Director of Clinical Skills for the School of Medicine, and medical students Aaron Dom and Jonathan Seibert, who nominated her on behalf of the MUSOM Class of 2015.

Interim Marshall President Gary White announced Christopher’s selection as Employee of the Year.

“This year’s Employee of the Year is a lady who I met for the first time when I gave her the (Employee of the Month) award,” White said. “As soon as I met her, as soon as I felt the atmosphere in the room when I was there to make the presentation, I certainly understood what I had read about her, and agreed with everything that had been said.”

White described Christopher as “an outstanding professional in her job,” and he praised her family for its support of her and involvement “in whatever activity” she is involved in.

In accepting the award Christopher said, “I’m just very lucky that I see our students (from) day one, and I’m just very lucky that I get to see them for four years. Knowing that I might play a little part in them becoming the good doctors that they’ve become is very humbling to me. I’m very proud to say that my doctor, my husband’s doctor and my children’s doctor are all School of Medicine graduates and I’d have it no other way.”

In her nomination, Smith wrote, “Mrs. Christopher is the stable force and support for student affairs in the School of Medicine. Her outstanding performance on many large projects … often
goes unnoticed. However, her daily efforts and interactions with students and families go beyond the call of duty … she rises to the top by demonstrating dedication and attentiveness to many details involving the lives of medical students. She often involves her own family in going the extra mile by attending off-hours functions …. or serving holiday breakfasts on the weekends.

“Her infectious laugh and smile bring a positive impact on those around her. Her support, dedication, and loyalty to her role are indescribable. She is dependable and willing to step up and help whatever the needs may be.”

Writing on behalf of their fellow classmates in the 2015 School of Medicine, Dom and Seibert gave her accolades for her long-standing dedication to the student body and her continued attentiveness to their needs. They cite her good humor as she takes on each task, many of them far beyond her role of Office of Student Affairs Coordinator.

“In her role, she has become the go-to person for students with any problems or needs outside the classroom. She is a true problem solver and if she doesn’t have the answer she will not give up until she helps you find one….there is no student request for which she won’t gladly assist.” they wrote.

The medical students are particularly appreciative of her warm and caring manner and the personal interest she takes in the students. “She goes the extra mile to make life just a little bit better for stressed and anxious medical students… (we know) that we have an advocate in our corner. It is in this way that she embodies her role in Student Affairs.” they concluded.

Christopher received a check for $300, a gift certificate for $100 from the bookstore, and a gift card for $20 from dining services.

Approximately 450 people attended the brunch at which service awards were presented to employees who represented more than 2,300 years of service to Marshall.

Photo: Laura Christopher, left, expresses her joy after Interim President Gary White, right, announced her as Marshall’s Employee of the Year.
Lapelle, James serving in new roles in Student Affairs

Carla Lapelle, who has been serving as associate dean of student affairs, has been promoted to interim dean of student affairs replacing longtime dean Steve Hensley, who retired.

In addition, former student body president Matt James, who has worked at the Student Resource Center for the past four years, is the new assistant dean of student affairs, replacing Vanessa Keadle, who left Marshall in January.

Lapelle has worked at Marshall for nearly 29 years. She has been associate dean of student affairs since 2001 and, before that, she was coordinator of student health education programs and a counselor.

Lapelle said her focus will be on the services and programs Marshall offers to students and how student affairs can work more efficiently and effectively to help them succeed.

“But a piece of my job as interim is to help the unit let go of the past and get excited about the future under new direction, so I’ll work toward that, as well,” Lapelle said.

Previously, Keadle’s position was titled director of parent programs and student advocacy but was reclassified as assistant dean when she left.

“As a result of the new/restructured title, I am now also responsible for the supervision of all programs and staff within the student life division of student affairs,” James said, noting that these areas include student activities, fraternity and sorority life, student organizations and leadership programs, and the office of community engagement.

James is directly responsible for coordinating all parent programs and student advocacy efforts. James has co-supervised Marshall’s Student Resource Center as a senior resource specialist for the past two years, capping off his four-year tenure in the SRC.

“I look forward to utilizing my institutional knowledge and experiences to further grow and develop the mission of the student affairs unit at Marshall University. I am excited by this opportunity as this is a position I would call my dream job – the ability to both lead staff and effect programmatic change while also working directly with students.” James said.
“I am well aware of the challenges I face as I take on the duties of a person who was here for 43 years,” Lapelle said. “I have a lot to learn, and am especially grateful to everyone who has helped me with their instruction, guidance and patience.”

Lapelle earned her Bachelor of Arts degree in 1979, and her master’s degree in clinical psychology in 1982, both from Marshall. James received his B.S. in biological sciences in 2009 and his master’s in counseling in 2011, also both from Marshall. James also is working on his Ph.D. in Higher Education Administration from the University of Nebraska.

James also is the executive adviser to the Student Government Association and the grand chapter adviser to Alpha Sigma Phi fraternity. He said his undergraduate student involvement experiences – including student body president, Board of Governors student representative, and chair of the West Virginia State Advisory Council of Students – sparked his passion for a career in higher education.

Photos: Carla Lapelle (above) and Matt James are serving in new roles in Student Affairs.

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Marco Cornhole Classic to debut Aug. 1

A new event, featuring fun for the whole family and a spirited cornhole tournament is coming to Marshall’s Huntington campus on Saturday, Aug. 1.

The Marco Cornhole Classic and Marshall Family Fun Day, presented by Huntington Bank, will feature an afternoon of activities for Marshall alums, faculty, family and friends from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. in Harless Field, according to the Marshall University Alumni Association. Designed to bring members of the Herd family together, the day will feature the Cornhole Classic tournament, which is open to everyone. Organizers say that there will be activities for children of all ages, which will include
inflatables for multiple age groups, games, face painting. The event will also include music, food, and free ice cream, in addition to visits from some familiar faces including Spiderman and Marco.

“We are very excited to bring the Marco Classic and Family Fun Day to Huntington,” said Matt Hayes, executive director of the alumni association. “We are always looking for fun ways to get our alumni and Marshall supporters in the community out to enjoy a great time and get back on the Huntington campus. We hope people will bring their entire families out to enjoy a fun afternoon and some great food, courtesy of the Marshall University Alumni Association and Huntington Bank.”

The cornhole tournament will feature a double elimination format and is open to players of all skill levels. Entry into the tournament is $20 per team, with prizes to the top three teams. Prizes will include trophies, custom Marshall cornhole boards and $200 worth of gift cards to the MU Bookstore.

The event is brought to participants by the MU Alumni Association, the Marshall Recreation Center, M&M Inflatables, Heroes 4 Higher, Stewart’s Hot Dogs, Home City Ice, MU Bookstore, 93.7 The Dawg, Coca-Cola Bottling company and Dale Schobe.

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School of Medicine and Cabell Huntington Hospital announce successful surgical treatment with new light-curable bone stabilization system

The first two U.S. patients have been successfully treated with an innovative medical device through a clinical trial underway at the Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine, in collaboration with the Marshall Clinical Research Center and Cabell Huntington Hospital.

The institutions are working in conjunction with IlluminOss Medical, a commercial-stage medical device company focused on minimally invasive orthopedic fracture repair, as part of its U.S. Lightfix clinical trial for the treatment of impending and pathologic fractures in the humerus due to metastatic carcinoma.

The surgeries were performed by Felix Cheung, M.D., associate professor and chief of the division of orthopaedic oncology at the School of Medicine. Cheung is a board-certified, fellowship-trained orthopaedic surgeon specializing in tumors of the musculoskeletal system and joint replacement surgery.
Gene DiPoto, senior vice president of research and development at IlluminOss Medical, worked closely with Cheung and his team to facilitate the successful surgeries. Assisting Cheung was Franklin D. Shuler, M.D., Ph.D., associate professor and vice chair of research in the department of orthopaedic surgery.

“We are excited for the opportunity to be the first clinical site in the U.S. to apply IlluminOss’ technology to the treatment of a patient with a complex fracture and the results have been remarkable,” said Cheung. “The patients were completely stable following the procedure and reported little to no discomfort. Having seen firsthand how effective the IlluminOss System is, I believe the benefits it provides to both the surgeon and the patient have the potential to make it a true game-changer in the way fracture repair can be approached.”

Benefits observed from the use of the IlluminOss product in patients include smaller incisions, shorter procedure times, and more rapid post-procedure patient mobility with reduced hospital stays and lower complication rates. Once cured, the implant provides longitudinal strength and rotational stability over the length of the implant and the small diameter of the flexible catheter gives the surgeon greater freedom of surgical approach. In many cases it allows the patient to get back to daily activities more quickly without the hindrance of a hard cast.

“The Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine is renowned for its commitment to providing excellence in both medical education and patient care and we are appreciative for the opportunity to work with such a well-respected team – led by Dr. Cheung – to help validate the effectiveness of our technology in the U.S.” said Robert Rabiner, president of IlluminOss Medical

This clinical trial is underway at surgical centers across the country and is currently enrolling patients. For additional information, refer to www.ClinicalTrials.gov, NCT 02338492

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BB&T continues support for capitalism center

Marshall University has received the eighth installment in a series of $100,000 gifts from BB&T supporting the BB&T Center for the Advancement of American Capitalism at MU’s College of Business.

David L. Helmer, Senior Vice President and Regional Corporate Banking Manager for BB&T, presented the latest check of $100,000 to Dr. Ron Area, CEO of the MU Foundation Inc, Dr. Haiyang Chen, dean of the College of Business, and Dr. Deanna Mader, recently
appointed director of the BB&T Center for the Advancement of American Capitalism, during a brief ceremony in the MU Foundation Hall, Home of the Erickson Alumni Center.

This gift brings to $800,000 the total amount given by BB&T since an entrepreneurial program called the BB&T Center for the Advancement of American Capitalism was established in 2008. The BB&T Center sponsors a lecture series and an upper-division course in capitalism for business students, among other activities.

“We are very appreciative of the continued support from the BB&T Foundation and their investment in this center,” Area said. “We are very proud to have the BB&T Center on our campus and we look forward to its continued success.”

Chen said, “We appreciate the BB&T Charitable Foundation’s support for the BB&T Center for the Advancement of American Capitalism in the College of Business. The funding has significantly enhanced our ability to improve students’ knowledge and understanding of the importance of American capitalism and entrepreneurship. We are very proud to partner with the BB&T Charitable Foundation and are looking forward to continuing this partnership and working together to build future success for our students and the public.”

Moving forward, Chen said, the BB&T Center will continue to play an essential role at Marshall University.

“One of the top priorities for Marshall University and the college is to strategically invest in high-demand degree programs,” Chen said. “We have an ambitious plan to develop a full degree program of innovation and entrepreneurship. To accomplish this goal and others required by the BB&T grant, I have appointed Dr. Deanna Mader, the former Senior Associate Dean, as the new director of the BB&T Center. Dr. Mader has decades of experience in teaching, research and service in the in the field of marketing, e-commerce and innovative pedagogy. Additionally, she has administrative experience leading the college since 2011. As she stepped down from the Senior Associate Dean position on June 30, 2015, I want to take this opportunity to thank her for her dedication and contributions to the college.”

Mader described the support of BB&T as “wonderful” and “tremendous.”

“We are very honored and extremely grateful for their assistance,” Mader said. “With the center moving forward, we are very excited about the possibilities for the future.”

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Photo: David L. Helmer, Regional Corporate Banking Manager for BB&T, third from left, presents a check for $100,000 to Dr. Haiyang Chen, dean of Marshall’s College of Business, second from left; Dr. Deanna Mader, director of the BB&T Center for the Advancement of American Capitalism, left; and Dr. Ron Area, CEO of the Marshall Foundation Inc., right. Also pictured are Bobby Blakely, West Virginia Regional President for BB&T, to Helmer’s left, and Spencer Murphy, Huntington Market President for BB&T, to Blakley’s left. Photo by Rick Haye.

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New retail pharmacy opens at Byrd Clinical Center

Marshall Health officially opened the doors to a new retail pharmacy in the Erma Ora Byrd Clinical Center, on the Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine’s health sciences campus, July 1.

In addition to prescription services, Marshall Pharmacy offers injectables, over-the-counter items, diabetic supplies and limited compounded products. Services also include online prescription refills and transfers, medications delivered by mail and a smartphone app.

The new pharmacy, located on the second floor of the facility, is open from 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. To contact the pharmacy, call 304-696-5000.

“Marshall Health is dedicated to providing comprehensive health care services to our patients, employees and community as a whole,” said Beth Hammers, executive director of Marshall Health. “We are extremely pleased to offer this new location.”

“It’s one-stop shopping,” said Brian Gallagher, director of pharmacy services for Marshall Health. “In one visit, patients can see their physician, get their prescriptions filled, and have their refill prescriptions from other pharmacies filled. Plus, they can speak in person with a Marshall pharmacist about their medicine in the same visit.”

Parking for the pharmacy is available at both locations for picking up prescriptions quickly and easily.

Marshall’s retail pharmacies are a joint effort among Marshall Health and the Schools of Medicine and Pharmacy. The new BCC pharmacy is the second Marshall Pharmacy location. Marshall Health opened the first pharmacy in the MU Medical Center in August 2014.

Ohio Valley Bank awards first-ever Marshall Mid-Ohio Valley Center Scholarship

Mario Liberatore, president of Ohio Valley Bank West Virginia, presented the first-ever Ohio Valley Bank Scholarship for the MU’s Mid-Ohio Valley Center in Point Pleasant last week. Sophomore nursing student Shelby Rodgers received $1,500 in scholarship funds from the bank.

The fund for the Ohio Valley Bank Scholarship was established in 2013, with its first beneficiary
being named this year. The scholarship for full-time students who have passed their freshman year requires a minimum of a 2.5 grade point average, with priority given to students in Mason County, West Virginia, first, then Gallia and Meigs counties in Ohio.

“Marshall’s involvement in our community has had a profound effect. This is our way of supporting their efforts as well as the efforts of local youth who continue to challenge themselves through higher education,” Liberatore said. “Our community, our kids, have to come first in all that we do. Ohio Valley Bank and I are proud to be able to give back to both in this way.”

Photo: Mario Liberatore, president of Ohio Valley Bank West Virginia (left), presents the first-ever Ohio Valley Bank Scholarship for the MU Mid-Ohio Valley Center to sophomore nursing student Shelby Rodgers (center). With them is Homer Preece, director of the Mid-Ohio Valley Center in Point Pleasant.

Reynolds receives grant from Phi Kappa Phi

Dr. Mary Beth Reynolds, associate vice president for assessment and quality initiatives, recently was awarded a 2015 Literacy Grant from The Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi—the nation’s oldest and most selective collegiate honor society for all academic disciplines. Reynolds is one of 14 recipients nationwide to receive the award.

The $2,500 grant will be used to support a two-tier literacy program at St. John’s House in Huntington. The program, developed through a key partnership with Marshall University, strives to improve the literacy skills of children aged 3-18 living in a local subsidized housing community.

The Phi Kappa Phi Literacy Grant program was established in 2003 to provide funding to Phi Kappa Phi chapters and active members for ongoing projects or new initiatives that reinforce part of the society’s mission “to engage the community of scholars in service to others.” Applicants, who represent a multidisciplinary society of students and scholars from large and small institutions, are encouraged to consider literacy projects that have creative relevance to their disciplines and the needs of their communities.

Founded in 1897, Phi Kappa Phi is the nation’s oldest and most selective collegiate honor society for all academic disciplines. Phi Kappa Phi inducts approximately 32,000 students, faculty, professional staff and alumni annually. The society has chapters at more than 300 select colleges and universities in North America and the Philippines. Membership is by invitation only to the top 10 percent of seniors and graduate students and 7.5 percent of juniors. Faculty, professional staff and alumni who have achieved scholarly distinction also qualify. The society’s mission is “To recognize and promote academic excellence in all fields of higher education and to engage the community of scholars in service to others.”
Kinesiology prepares for ‘Lose the Training Wheels’ camp beginning July 20

For the fifth consecutive year, the School of Kinesiology is hosting the Lose the Training Wheels Camp July 20-24 at Huntington High School.

The program, offered in cooperation with the nonprofit charity iCanShine, teaches participants with disabilities how to ride a two-wheel bicycle independently.

Funding for the camp was a concern earlier this year, but with the help of local donors and community support, the Lose the Training Wheels program will be offered for children with special needs who want to learn to ride, according to the camp’s director, Dr. Gregg Twietmeyer, associate professor in the College of Health Professions.

Twietmeyer said the college’s School of Kinesiology is honored to host the Lose the Training Wheels Camp for the fifth summer in a row.

“We’re hoping to have the maximum 35 riders this year. The more riders enrolled the more people we can help discover the joys of riding a bike,” Twietmeyer said.

The registration fee is $100, but scholarships are available. For more information on registration or volunteering, visit www.marshall.edu/lttw.

Individuals interested in helping to defray the costs of the camp through financial donations can contact Rick Robinson, Director of Development with the College of Health Professions, at ext. 6-7081.

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Photos: (above) Leon Hart (left) of Ashland, Ky., has volunteered for the Lose the Training Wheels summer camp since 2010. Hart is shown working with 11-year old Abbi Lockard (right) as she learns to ride her bicycle on her own during the 2014 LTTW program. (Below) Marshall staff member, Megan Archer (far right) poses for a photo with other camp volunteers after 10-year old Garrett Howard (center) received his camp medal during the 2014 Lose the Training Wheels Camp. For more information on this year’s camp, visit www.marshall.edu/LTTW.

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Colorado doctor establishes Marshall endowment for addiction research

Robert W. Schrier, M.D., and Barbara L. Schrier of Englewood, Colo., have established a research endowment with the Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine to study the effects of drugs on infants.

Schrier, professor emeritus of medicine and former chairman of the department of medicine at the University of Colorado School of Medicine for 26 years and head of the Division of Renal Diseases and Hypertension for 20 years, delivered the keynote address at the Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine’s graduation and investiture ceremony May 8.

“The Schriers enjoyed their visit to Huntington, but were so discouraged by the infestation of drugs in our community that they felt compelled to help,” said Joseph I. Shapiro, M.D., dean of the School of Medicine and longtime friend and colleague of Schrier.

The Dr. Robert W. and Barbara L. Schrier Research Endowment will support School of Medicine research in pediatrics, with an emphasis on, but not limited to, prenatal assessment of drug-addicted mothers, treatment modalities of the drug-exposed infant, long-term neurologic outcomes, postnatal parental interventions and institutional versus residential treatment.

Schrier is well-known for his research in acute kidney failure and other facets of kidney disease. He has authored more than 1,000 scientific papers and edited numerous books. Marshall recognized Schrier with an honorary doctor of science degree at the spring ceremony.

Photo: Robert W. Schrier, M.D., addresses the Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine Class of 2015.

HSTA students on the Huntington campus this week

Marshall University, in collaboration with West Virginia University, is hosting its annual Health Science and Technology Academy (HSTA) Summer Institute this week through Friday, July 10, on the Huntington campus.
HSTA is a highly innovative and extraordinarily successful initiative designed to encourage high school students to pursue college degrees in the health sciences. This statewide initiative was created to inspire and teach first-generation, rural and African American youth to attend college and offset the disparity of this population in science and health care professions.

The activities get underway Sunday with an opening ceremony and dinner. David Cartwright, director of the summer institute, said 117 rising ninth-graders from southern counties of West Virginia, many HSTA club teachers, HSTA field site coordinators and MU department chairs, faculty and staff were in attendance.

“The Summer Institute at Marshall University will provide opportunities for our students to experience the joys of science through hands-on scientific discovery, wonderful science demonstrations, and meaningful, thoughtful work,” Cartwright said. “These rising 9th-grade students will experience college-like activities on Marshall’s Huntington campus. We hope to make a lasting impression so they will choose Marshall as their college in the future.”

The theme of the week is “Fun with Science” and the focus is on diabetes prevention.

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The next regular issue of *We Are...Marshall* will be distributed July 22, 2015. Please send any materials for consideration to Pat Dickson by 5 p.m. Monday, July 20.