Autism Center establishes northern facility

The Autism Training Center at Marshall University has received approval to lease a building from the Marion County Board of Education to establish a new training facility for northern West Virginia, according to Dr. Barbara Becker-Cottrill, director of the center.

The Autism Training Center will lease the former Colfax Elementary School for $100 annually and pay for upkeep of the building and grounds.

Colfax Elementary, a rural three-room school, was closed last year by the Marion County Board of Education.

Becker-Cottrill said the school now will serve as a training facility for parents and teachers of children with autism, a neurological developmental disability that typically appears during the first three years of age. Autism is characterized by deficits in communication and social skills and by uneven or delayed rates of development in other areas.

Individuals with autism often display challenging behaviors such as self-injury, aggression, property destruction, feeding problems and complex sensory integration disorders.

“Our mission is to provide training and education to West Virginia families of individuals with autism, their educators and others significant in their lives,” said Becker-Cottrill. “Parents in the northern part of the state sometimes had to travel great distances to receive clinic services. To some families that distance and related expenses became a barrier that prevented them from accessing this extremely beneficial program. Our new center in Marion County will rectify that situation and open our services to a much broader area.”

Becker-Cottrill said autism affects about 2,500 West Virginians. She said approximately 50 children with autism have been identified in the Marion County area.

The new Northern Autism Training Center, which is expected to open in April, will offer the following services: An autism resource center inclusive of a library, educational materials, informational videotapes, and interactive personal assistance related to the education of individuals with autism; Assessment of behavior; Educational assessment; Individualized training for parents and educators; Team/committee meetings; In-service training.

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INCO funds awarded

Marshall University’s Faculty Development Committee has awarded INCO grants to faculty for travel and projects that serve the goals of faculty development.

Recipients of spring 1996 awards of $400 are: Glenda Lowry (Family and Consumer Sciences), Linda Wilkinson (Community and Technical College), Laura Wyant (Vocational Technology and Adult Education), Robert Saunders (Health, Physical Education and Recreation), Katharine Rodier (English), Violet Eash (Counseling and Rehabilitation), Brenda Pinkerman (Clinical Laboratory Services), Merle Thomas (Community and Technical College), William Radig (Accountancy/Legal Studies), Marilyn McClure (Journalism and Mass Communication), Ahmad Khalili (Sociology/Anthropology), and Hisham Al-Haddad (Computer Science).

Ariyadasa Aluthge (Mathematics) received a grant of $250. Allan Stern (Human Development and Allied Technology) received a grant of $200. Lawrence Barker (Counseling and Rehabilitation) was awarded a grant of $128.88.

Three applications were awarded $1,000 grants to assist with funding for future on-campus faculty development projects: Biomedical Sciences (grantsmanship workshop), Sociology/Anthropology (multimedia and faculty training), and Nursing (multimedia technology workshop).

No Newsletter next week

The Marshall University Newsletter will not be published next week, March 14, due to spring break.

Items for the March 21 issue of the Newsletter should be submitted to the University Relations Office, Old Main Room 216, by 10 a.m. Tuesday, March 19. Lengthy items should be submitted as soon as possible to ensure publication.

Staff to be recognized

Marshall University’s 12th annual Service Awards Luncheon will be held Tuesday, June 11, from noon to 2 p.m. in the W. Don Morris Room in Memorial Student Center.

The following is a tentative list of university staff members who will receive awards:

- For 15 Years of Service—Nell Bailey, Marlene Chaffin, Ruth Chinn, Ruby Dean, Susan Dolen, Roy Michael Dunn, Marilyn Fox, Charles Hooser, Norma Keith, Ethel Lipscomb, James McKeny, Elizabeth Nickell, Nancy Schultz, Wanda Webb, Charles Whaley, Sandra Winters.

- For 20 Years of Service—Larry Artrip, Linda Bondurant, Stephanie Gray, Earl Johnson, Carolyn Sue King, Rebecca Lewis, Elinor Midkiff, Ethel Pierson, Glenna Racer, Sheila Wiley, Vivian Wood.

- For 25 Years of Service—Paul Dempsey, Barbara Ferrell, Marilyn Frame, Sharon France, Shirley Henson, Warren Lutz, Patricia Mulcahy, Cal Stephenson, Jane Vickers.

- For 30 Years of Service—Barbara Atkins, Elfriede Beaver, Jill Chapman, Barbara James.

- For 40 Years of Service—Floyd McSweeney.


To be eligible for awards employees must have completed 15, 20, 25, 30, 35 or 40 years of service to Marshall University by May 1, 1996. If anyone has been left off this list please contact Nina Barrett, 696-2216.

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Autism Center establishes northern facility

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training related to autism for family, educational and community groups; In-service training for respite workers serving families of children with autism and pervasive developmental disorders (PDD-NOS); Summer day camp; Sibling support group activities; Office area for three educational specialists of the Autism Training Center who currently work in the northern part of the state.

The center will work closely with the North Central chapter of the West Virginia Society for Autism.

Becker-Cottrill noted that Fairmont State College is interested in collaborating with the new center and participating in its activities. She said, "We can provide practicum experiences for their education students and work together in a variety of other ways."

She said the center also will increase community awareness of autism and seek to involve community members as volunteers for special projects and activities.

The development of the Autism Training Center at Marshall University was mandated by the 1983 West Virginia Legislature to provide training, assistance and information to individuals with autism and to provide training to those who work with people who have autism. The center has an active caseload of more than 400 families.

"West Virginia is quickly becoming one of the model states for the provision of services for students with autism," said Becker-Cottrill. "The establishment of the Northern Autism Training Center is a significant step towards building a truly statewide quality service delivery system."

Senate hears report from library director

(The following report on the Feb. 22 meeting of the Marshall University Faculty Senate was submitted by Kay Wildman, secretary.)

Announcements:

President Gilley has approved all senate recommendations of Jan. 25.

Senate President Elaine Baker announced that Gordon Lester has resigned as senator from the Community and Technical College. A new senator needs to be elected from that college.

The Executive Committee was asked to appoint a faculty representative for the search committee for the Dean of the College of Education. Karen Mitchell from the Department of Mathematics will be that representative.

Caroline Perkins presented a draft of the University Academic Calendar for 1997-98. Because of possible problem areas previously discussed, she suggested that an ad hoc committee be formed to study the draft and bring specific recommendations back to the March meeting. Baker will send out a telephone message requesting volunteers for the committee.

Report of the University President:

President Gilley reported that $4 million has been raised for the new library/information center. In the process of this fundraising, nearly $3 million has been generated for scholarships.

With regard to Senate Bill 547, each institution has been required to submit its plan for closing the financial gap previously reported. Marshall has sent its proposal which includes cooperations, efficiencies, etc.

The West Virginia Tech-WVU merger plan is proceeding with conditions, one of which specifies that no single institution will suffer financially because of the merger. Gilley also referred to a handout that outlined a coordinate affiliation in process between the West Virginia Graduate College and Marshall.

Gilley responded to questions about the appointment of an interim vice president for academic affairs and the possibility of a Marshall-WVU football game. He said an interim vice president will be named when Dr. Wilcox begins working full-time in Charleston (possibly in two weeks or so). Gilley said a date for the MU-WVU football game will depend on when financial arrangements agreeable to everyone can be made.

Discussion with Dr. Keith Spears:

Spears reported on progress with the technology initiative set forth in Senate Bill 547. He distributed copies of a booklet, "Instructional Technology in West Virginia Higher Education," and talked briefly about three basic areas: faculty development, networking and equipment, and incentives and resources.

Discussion with Josephine Fidler:

Fidler reported that several new library faculty have been hired this past year with two positions yet to be filled. A recent Federal Depository inspection resulted in full compliance with the exception of physical facilities—that will be corrected with the new building. Marshall has recently become a depository for state documents as well as federal documents.

A stagnant budget with increases in prices of materials, particularly in the area of serials that annually jump 15-20 percent, continues to undermine the quality of our library collections. The library is proposing a 14 percent increase in its base budget next year to partially begin to offset the erosion. In addition, new strategies are being developed such as cooperative collection development, electronic interlibrary loan and electronic delivery of information to ease the budget situation.

Several departments and/or services will remain in the Morrow Library after the new information center is completed: Special Collections, Bindery and Book Repair, Government Document storage, and half of the general collection. A consultant will be employed to suggest efficiencies for the division of the collection, the storage and retrieval of materials, the moving process, etc.

A question was asked about the housing and circulation of videotapes. They will be included in the Media section of the new library and will have similar policies as they now have.

A concern for the security of materials, especially expensive journals and books, was expressed. The new building should provide a much more secure environment than there is in the Morrow building. As far as environmental controls are concerned, the architects are quite experienced in library building and are very much aware of environmental expectations and requirements.

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‘History of Chemistry’ subject for lectures

Peter Schmidt of the University of Florida will make a presentation titled “Ancient African Iron Smelting” Tuesday, March 26, at 7 p.m. in the Shawkey Room in Memorial Student Center.

His research on African iron smelting was the cover article for the November/December issue of American Scientist.

The third lecture in the series, “Two Centuries of Chemistry Sets,” will be presented by Bill Jensen of the University of Cincinnati Wednesday, April 3, at 7 p.m. in the Memorial Student Center Alumni Lounge.

His extensively illustrated presentation will trace the history of chemistry sets from the natural magic tradition of the 17th century and the appearance of Gottling's first kit in 1789 through the so-called chemistry set computer programs of the 1990s.

“Chemistry at the Art/Archeological Interface” will be the topic for a lecture by Mary Virginia Orna of the College of New Rochelle Wednesday, April 10, at 7 p.m. in the Memorial Student Center Alumni Lounge.

She will discuss methods of modern chemistry that can be used as probes to examine the provenance and aid in the conservation of art objects and artifacts. A variety of methods will be illustrated in the examination of such materials as medieval stained glass, manuscripts, Middle Eastern obsidian and pottery.

20th century art forgeries, the Vinland Map and the Shroud of Turin.

The final lecture in the series will be presented Wednesday, April 17, at 7 p.m. in the Shawkey Room in Memorial Student Center by Jim Marshall of North Texas State University.

His presentation, “Alchemy: Middle East, China and Europe,” will illustrate how alchemy arose over the millennia as a hybrid culture of various global sources.

“The History of Chemistry” lecture series is being co-sponsored by Marshall’s Multicultural and International Programs Office, the Central Ohio Valley Section of the American Chemical Society, the Gamma Eta Chapter of Alpha Chi Sigma fraternity, and the MU chapter of Sigma Xi research society.

To obtain further details about the lecture series contact the Marshall University College of Science, 304-696-2372.

‘H.M.S. Pinafore’ is set

The Marshall Artists Series will present “H.M.S. Pinafore,” the popular comic opera by Gilbert and Sullivan, Monday, March 25, at 8 p.m. at the Keith-Albee Theatre.

The New York Gilbert and Sullivan Players will perform the show that includes such famous numbers as “I’m Called Little Buttercup,” “I Am the Captain of the Pinafore,” “I Am the Monarch of the Sea,” “We Sail the Ocean Blue,” “And We Are His Sisters, and His Cousins, and His Aunts” and “He Is An Englishman.”

Tickets are $22, $26 and $30. Marshall faculty, staff and part-time students will be admitted for half-price. Full-time Marshall students with valid identification cards will be admitted free.

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

Professor emeritus dies

Marshall Professor Emeritus Leo V. Imperi, 76, of Huntington, died Friday, March 1, at his home.

Imperi retired from the Marshall Music Department after teaching for 32 years. He also served as interim chairman of the MU Music Department.

He performed in many community recitals, West Virginia Opera productions and was well-known for singing the “Star-Spangled Banner” at football and basketball games and singing the Marshall Alma Mater at commencement services.

Imperi was involved in many musical organizations and served as guest conductor for the Musical Arts Guild choral programs, County Youth Choruses and served as emcee for various youth concerts.

He was born May 8, 1919, in Grand Rapids, Mich., a son of the late Luciano and Frances Imperi.

After graduating from the University of Michigan, he served four years in the army during World War II. He continued his studies at Columbia University and the American Theater Wing in New York City.

He is survived by his wife, Anne Alexander Imperi, 10 children and their spouses, 26 grandchildren, three sisters and two brothers-in-law, one brother and sister-in-law, a brother-in-law and spouse, a sister-in-law and 25 nephews and nieces.

Library hours announced

Marshall University’s James E. Morrow Library will be closed due to spring break Saturday and Sunday, March 9-10, and Saturday and Sunday, March 16-17, according to Josephine Fidler, director of libraries.

The library will be open from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday, March 11-15. The library will resume its regular schedule Monday, March 18.

The third annual History of Science Lecture Series will be held at Marshall University beginning Wednesday, March 20.

Sponsored by Marshall’s College of Science, this year’s series will focus on “The History of Chemistry.” All of the presentations will be open to the public free of charge.

Dr. J. Graham Rankin of Marshall’s Chemistry Department said the purpose of the lecture series is to make a wider audience aware of the rich history and contributions to science by men and women from many different cultures.

Five well-known chemists and scholars will make presentations on a variety of topics ranging from the history of chemistry sets to the use of modern analytical techniques in archaeological and anthropological studies.

Derek Davenport of Purdue University will open the series with a presentation titled “Early Vindication of the Rights of Woman Chemists” Wednesday, March 20, at 8 p.m. in the Memorial Student Center Alumni Lounge.

Being held in conjunction with Marshall’s Sigma Xi Research Day, Davenport’s lecture will focus on the work of women chemists in the late 19th and early 20th centuries such as Madame Lavoisier-Rumford, Jane Marcet and Margaret Fulhame.

The library will resume its regular schedule Monday, March 18.
Senate hears report from library director

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Committee Recommendations:
SR-95-96-(16R)(BAPC): To approve the revised class overload policy. Brown moved and it was seconded to approve. Lowry moved and it was seconded to substitute the following recommendation in its place:

Students are encouraged to register promptly and pay fees by the prescribed deadline in order to avoid encountering closed classes. In exceptional cases, department or division heads may grant class overloads. Emergency situations will be handled by the appropriated dean.

After considerable discussion, the motion carried. The vote for the new SR-95-96-16R was taken and passed as the new recommendation.

SR-95-96-(22)(SCW): To approve rewording in the Student Handbook [PUBLIC COMMUNICATIONS. Demonstrations and Gatherings]. Sporny moved and it was seconded to approve. The motion passed.

SR-95-96-(23)(BAPC): To approve a modification to the current withdrawal policy. Duke moved and it was seconded to approve. Gross moved and it was seconded to substitute the following recommendation in its place:

Any student who withdraws during the “W” period from a course identified as a “high demand” course shall not be allowed to pre-register for that course for the following semester. Initially, the high demand courses covered by this policy include the following: ENG 101 and 102, CMM 103, SPN 101 and 102, MTH 130, BSC 227, ACC 215, and CSD 119 and 120.

The budget and Academic Policy Committee shall conduct an annual review of “high demand” courses and recommend the addition or deletion of courses from this list. The policy and

ORHAP to hold seminar

The Oral History of Appalachia Project will present a seminar titled “Doing Life Histories: A Basic Introduction” Monday, March 18, from 3:30 to 6:15 p.m. in Smith Hall Room 531.

Topics covered during the program will include “Basic Equipment,” “Legal Releases,” “Defamation Issues,” “Focusing the Interview,” “Social Interaction Problems,” “Transcripts and Archiving,” and “Variations in the use of Interview by Different Disciplines.”

The seminar is open to Marshall students, faculty and staff. Please contact Gina Kates at the Oral History of Appalachia Project Office, 696-6799, if you plan to attend the seminar.

Dr. Lynda Ann Ewen, associate professor in the Department of Sociology/Anthropology, is director of the Oral History of Appalachia Project.

WAC workshop scheduled

A Writing Across the Curriculum (WAC) faculty development workshop titled “Covering Course Content in WAC Classes” will be held Tuesday, March 19, at 4 p.m. in Harris Hall Room 448.

To obtain further details contact Lana Boggs, WAC assistant, 696-4650.

the list of “high demand” courses shall be published each semester in the Schedule of Classes.

This policy will become effective beginning with the 1996-97 academic year.

The motion carried. Gross moved and it was seconded to amend the substitute recommendation by removing CMM 103 from the list of “high demand” courses. The motion carried. A vote was taken for the new SR-95-96-(23) and passed.

SR-95-96-(24-30)(CC): To approve the following course changes/additions/deletions: MTH 131 to MTH 229; add MTH 132; change of title, content and description of ART 219; add ART 342; RST 150 to RST 250; CL 150 to PHL 250; PE 290, PE 430 and PE 475; delete PLS 310; add PLS 411. Duke moved and it was seconded to approve. The motion carried.

Standing Committee Reports:

Academic Planning—Gross reported that the committee is working on revising the university mission statement; that recommendation will be coming to the senate for approval.

Budget and Academic Policy—The recent work of the committee resulted in two recommendations passed at this meeting; the academic appeals process will be looked at next.

Faculty Personnel—Items being discussed and/or acted upon include inequities in the retirement contribution ratio for educators in the state; the patent and invention policy; salary distribution, and requests for sabbaticals. Baker noted that the topic of early retirement will be coming up soon as well.

New Business/Open Forum:

As the result of Baker’s call for a list of faculty concerns, a list with the disposition of each was distributed. The fifth concern had to do with a mix-up this past Christmas in the campus collections of donations for the City Mission. Personnel at the City Mission were very apologetic, and as a member of the City Mission Board, Senator Cowell conveyed the board’s apologies as well. He then moved that the Faculty Senate endorse and support food collections for the City Mission in the future. The motion was seconded and passed.

The seventh item on the list was a concern about a new policy regarding donations made to the Foundation. It was the consensus of the group that someone from the Foundation be asked to address the senate at its next meeting.

Open house will be held

The Family and Consumer Sciences Program will hold an open house Wednesday, March 20, from 2 to 4 p.m. in Corbly Hall Room 270.

Mary Jo Graham, assistant professor/nursery school director, said the purpose of the open house is to increase awareness of the program’s name change and to celebrate its continued service to university and community families and consumers.

The program was first known as Domestic Science and then became Home Economics. In 1995, the program adopted the Family and Consumer Sciences name to better reflect the focus of the program as it moves into the 21st century.

All faculty and staff members are urged to attend the open house.