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Jackman receives grant to study immune system

Dr. Susan Jackman of the School of Medicine has received a $479,000 federal grant to explore what triggers some immune cells to begin attacking the very bodies they are designed to protect.

“When we get the flu or a bacterial infection, our immune system identifies the harmful molecules and ‘turns on’ the specific immune cells designed to combat that molecule,” explained Jackman.

“Once the harmful molecules are gone, the immune system turns off again.”

This system has elaborate safeguards, but sometimes things go awry and it begins attacking the body’s own cells just as if they were intruders,” she said. The resulting diseases, called autoimmune diseases, often are devastating, she said. They range from debilitating problems such as rheumatoid arthritis and psoriasis to life-threatening diseases including multiple sclerosis and insulin-dependent diabetes.

With this five-year grant from the National Institutes of Health, Jackman will look specifically at a class of chemical messengers important in the immune process. Known as cytokines, they help regulate the development, activation and intensity of an immune response. However, excessive production or activity of cytokines can result in tissue injury. Jackman will look specifically at the sequence of cytokine messages and actions that occur in the earliest stages of an autoimmune response.

“Scientists believe that disturbances in the balance of cytokines contribute to inappropriate immune responses, including autoimmunity,” she said. “We hope to find out how we can better control or alter these inappropriate responses.”

Jackman is an associate professor in Marshall’s Department of Microbiology, Immunology and Molecular Genetics.

Odyssey of Mind slated

More than 800 West Virginia students are expected to participate in the Odyssey of the Mind state tournament Saturday, March 30, at Marshall University.

Oral presentations and performances in the Odyssey of the Mind is an educational program that fosters creative thinking and problem solving skills among students from kindergarten to college.

Opening ceremonies for the state competition will begin at 9 a.m. in Henderson Center. Throughout the day, students will present their long-term solutions to the assigned problems in Henderson Center, Memorial Student Center and Smith, Harris and Corbly halls. Participants will assemble in Henderson Center at 3 p.m. for closing ceremonies.

Odyssey of the Mind competitions are held on the local, state, national and international levels. Winners of the tournament will go on to represent the state at the regional tournament May 29-31 at the University of Iowa.

Karen Beckman, state director of Odyssey of the Mind, said with this four-year grant from the National Science Foundation, “we can better control or alter these inappropriate responses.”

James G. Hollandsworth Sr. of Huntington presents a copy of "The Louisiana Native Guards" to Marshall University’s James E. Morow Library.

James G. Hollandsworth Sr. of Huntington, a retired school principal, has donated a book titled "The Louisiana Native Guards" to Marshall University’s James E. Morow Library.

The book about the black military experience during the Civil War was written by his son, James G. Hollandsworth Jr., professor of psychology and associate vice president for academic affairs at the University of Mississippi.

Published by the Louisiana State University Press, the 176-page book contains several pictures and maps. A reviewer called the book a groundbreaking history of the Civil War’s officially sanctioned black fighting unit.

Dr. Betty J. Cleckley, vice president for multicultural and international programs at Marshall, said she was very pleased when Hollandsworth contacted her about the possibility of donating the book to the library.

“I was even more pleased when I saw a copy of the book,” said Cleckley. “It is very well done and very interesting. I would recommend this book to anyone and especially to people interested in the Civil War.”

The Louisiana Native Guards, a military unit founded in New Orleans, La., in 1861, was a black regiment made up of African Americans.

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Dingman to be honored for outstanding service

Dr. Robert L. Dingman, a professor in Marshall University's Department of Counseling and Rehabilitation, has been selected to receive the university's Distinguished Service Award this year, according to Dr. Sarah Denman, vice president for academic affairs at Marshall.

The prestigious award and $1,000 stipend will be presented to Dingman during Marshall's Elizabeth G. Drisko Honors Convocation Thursday, April 4, at 11 a.m. in the Joan C. Edwards Playhouse in Marshall’s Fine and Performing Arts Center.

Director of choral activities at Marshall, Dingman is an accomplished conductor, teacher and clinician. He works with Marshall’s Choral Union, University Chorus and Chamber Singers as well as other musical groups.

Dingman holds a master of music degree in church music from Furman University and his master’s and doctoral degrees in conducting from the University of Texas at Austin.

Prior to joining the Marshall faculty in 1968, Dingman served as director of choral and vocal activities at Wagner College in New York, was a visiting assistant professor at Knox College in Illinois and served as an instructor at the University of Texas at Austin. He also served as chorus master and assistant conductor for the Piccolo Teatro dell’Opera in Brooklyn, N.Y., and directed the Children’s Choral Society of the Riverside Church in Manhattan, N.Y.

Dingman has performed as a soloist at the Blue Lake Fine Arts Camp in Michigan and been a guest conductor and adjunct faculty member at the University of Charleston.

He has received grants from the West Virginia Arts and Humanities council and fellowships from the Aspen Choral Institute and the Saranac Lake Conductors Workshop.

As director of Marshall's 1994-95 Birke Fine Arts Symposium, Dingman examined ways in which the arts such as race, gender, social-political forces, national identity, or the presence of texts shape the composition, performance and reception of music.

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**FAVORS, FAUVES, FANTASY AND FINE ARTS**

**Ceremonials of Academics**

**Ceremonials of Academics** planned April 3-4

Some of the country’s most acclaimed geographers will participate in Marshall University’s two-day “Ceremonials of Academics” Wednesday and Thursday, April 3-4, according to Dr. Alan J. Deaver, executive director of Marshall’s John Deaver Driskoanko for American Political Institutions and Civic Culture.

Geography will be the primary focus of this year’s event that begins April 3 with the university’s third annual Drisko Symposium.

Dr. David Castelberry, associate professor of music at Marshall University, has been selected as the 1996 recipient of the university’s Marshall and Shirley Reynolds Outstanding Teacher Award, according to Dr. Sarah Denman, vice president for academic affairs.

Castelberry will be recognized and presented the prestigious award, which includes $3,000, at the university’s Elizabeth Gibson Drisko Honors Convocation on Thursday, April 4, at 11 a.m. in the Joan C. Edwards Playhouse in Marshall’s Fine and Performing Arts Center.

Director of choral activities at Marshall, Castelberry is an accomplished conductor, teacher and clinician. He works with Marshall’s Choral Union, University Chorus and Chamber Singers as well as other musical groups.

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"I was even more pleased when I saw a copy of the book," said Cleckley. "It is very well done and very interesting. I would recommend this book to anyone and especially to people interested in the Civil War."

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Administrators will serve Marshall/WVGC

Dr. Larry G. Froehlich, vice president for academic affairs at West Virginia University College of Education and Advanced Technology, will also serve as vice president of Marshall University. Announcement of the dual appointment was made March 23 by Marshall President J. Wade Gilley and West Virginia University College President Dennis P. Prisk.

At Marshall, Froehlich will serve as the administrator of the new Marshall University Library Information and Technology Center — which is scheduled to open on the market Thursday, March 21. Approximately $13 million will be raised for the center by the Marshall Foundation to raise $7 million in private contributions to help build and equip the Library/Information and Technology Center.

The two presidents also announced that WVGC Director of Libraries Celene Seymour has been appointed as the assistant director of libraries at Marshall.

The appointments are effective immediately. Froehlich and Seymour will divide their time between the WVGC headquarters in South Charleston and the Marshall campus in Huntington.

"These dual assignments are a natural outgrowth of the collaborative relationship we recently established to bring our two institutions closer together," Prisk said. "Ultimately, a significant number of faculty and administrators will have joint appointments at Marshall and West Virginia University as the new relationship evolves.

"Under the new affiliation, approved by the Legislature earlier this month, Marshall and WVGC will develop a master plan for graduate education in southern West Virginia, offer joint degree programs, share a library system and a shared electronic admission/registration system.

"The agreement also provides for joint appointments of faculty members and administrators.

"We're very pleased to have Dr. Froehlich working from the Marshall campus again and we're looking forward to Ms. Seymour coordinating with Marshall's director of libraries, Josephine Fidler, to develop a shared library system," Gilley said. "Although it's only a few weeks old, the cooperative affiliation is yielding results and cooperation.

Froehlich served several years as an associate professor and associate dean at Marshall's College of Education before joining the West Virginia University Board of Governors. Earlier, he was director of the Curriculum Technology Resource Center for the West Virginia Department of Education.

In addition to his duties at Marshall, he will have oversight of graduate programs and informational technology development.

Plan piano give concert and teach master class

Richard Morris, a concert pianist and chairman of piano at the University of Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music, will be in residence at Marshall University Wednesday and Thursday, April 3-4.

He will perform a solo concert April 3 at 8 p.m. in Smith Recital Hall. The recital will include works by Haydn, Debussy and Chopin.

Morris will conduct a master class on April 4 at 10 a.m. in Smith Recital Hall and will work one on one with piano majors in the performance of their repertoire.

The recital and master class will be open to the public free of charge.

Morris has been featured as a solo performer, clinician, adjudicator and conductor of master classes throughout the United States and abroad. He has performed 30 different concerts with a number of orchestras.

Dr. James Taggart, professor of music at Marshall, said Morris' master class will be offered to both graduate and undergraduate students.

"I hope it will inspire even more students to become music majors and make music," Taggart said.

To obtain further details contact Taggart, 304-696-2345.

Froehlich
Denman, Fox appointed to key Marshall posts

Two veteran Marshall University employees have been appointed to key administrative positions, according to MU President J. Wade Gilley.

• Dr. Sarah N. Denman has been named vice president for academic affairs. Previously, she was associate vice president for academic affairs.

• Jan I. Fox, chair of the Department of Academic Computing and associate professor in the School of Medicine, has been selected for a newly created position, assistant vice president for information technology. In that role, she will be responsible for planning and coordinating the development of information technology at Marshall, including the new library and information center.

Clagg to receive honor

Dr. Sam E. Clagg, retired professor of geography, will be presented Marshall University's first John Deaver Drisko Distinguished Scholar Award during the university's Drisko Symposium Wednesday, April 3, at 2 p.m. in the Joan C. Edwards Playhouse in the Fine and Performing Arts Center.

A native of Huntington, Clagg has been associated with Marshall University since 1939 when he arrived on campus as a freshman football player.

He received his bachelor's and master's degrees from Marshall and his doctoral degree from the University of Kentucky.

Clagg first served Marshall as an assistant football coach in 1946. After a year of teaching and coaching at Morris Harvey College (the University of Charleston), he rejoined the Marshall faculty in 1948 as instructor of geography, assistant football coach and wrestling coach. In 1957 he gave up his coaching duties and concentrated on teaching full-time.

He was involved in many activities and committees on the Marshall campus and served as chairman of the MU Geography Department from 1961 until his retirement in 1986. He served as acting university president from 1983 to 1984.

After his retirement, Clagg continued working on special projects for the university and continues to work on behalf of Marshall.

Clagg also had a distinguished military career. He was sworn into the United States Marines on the Marshall campus in 1942 as a private. He served in the Pacific and China theatres during World War II, earning several decorations, and was discharged in 1970 at the rank of lieutenant colonel after 28 years of regular and reserve service.

A prolific writer, Clagg is the author of more than a dozen books including his latest, "The Marine Way."

"I can think of no better person to receive our first John Deaver Drisko Distinguished Scholar Award," said Dr. Alan B. Gould, executive director of the Drisko Academy. "Sam Clagg epitomizes the ideals and goals of the Drisko Academy. His life has been dedicated to educating young people and instilling in them a sense of values."

Established in 1994, the Drisko Academy is committed to fostering undergraduate education in American institutions, values and culture. Its mission is to address problems arising from the fragmentation of American society and the loss of a shared sense of common national purpose.

In line with that objective, the university's Computer Center will be housed in the $22 million, high tech library to be constructed on the MU campus, beginning later this year.

Denman assumes responsibility for overseeing Marshall's academic operations from Dr. Lyle C. Wilcox, who was granted a 16-month leave of absence to serve in the West Virginia higher education central office as vice chancellor for instructional technology.

"Both Sarah Denman and Jan Fox have demonstrated outstanding skills in their respective fields and I am gratified they have agreed to undertake challenging new assignments," Gilley said. "They represent the hard-working, innovative and dedicated types of administrators we need to move Marshall forward into the 21st Century."

Denman joined Marshall's Community and Technical College staff in 1975 as coordinator of communication and associate professor. She also served as assistant dean and associate dean of that college before becoming the university's assistant provost and then associate vice president for academic affairs. A Ceredo-Kenova High School graduate, she earned bachelor's and master's degrees from Marshall and her doctorate in higher education administration from West Virginia University.

Fox earned her bachelor's degree in biology and botany, magna cum laude, and her master's degree in biology from Marshall and is nearing completion of a doctoral degree in education administration under a cooperative program between Marshall and West Virginia University.

She joined the Marshall staff in 1984 as a biomedical instructional technologist and became director of academic computing and assistant professor in the School of Medicine in 1986. She was named chair of the Department of Academic Computing in 1989 and was promoted to associate professor in 1993. Prior to her work in the School of Medicine, she was employed by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the Huntington VA Medical Center.

Institute may get new machines

Marshall University's Robert C. Byrd Institute for Advanced Flexible Manufacturing is exploring the purchase of new shop machinery and equipment to be used for shared manufacturing purposes, according to Rick Martin, applications engineer for the institute.

Martin and Karl L. Lindsey, manufacturing specialist at the Byrd Institute, attended an Advanced Productivity Exposition (APEX) held recently in Charlotte, N.C., to investigate state-of-the-market processes and prospective machine vendors.

The Byrd Institute is considering investing in several shop machines including a tool presetter, a machining center, a turning center and an engine lathe type machine.

"These state-of-the-market processes will increase the Byrd Institute's manufacturing capabilities for local industries," said Lindsey.

Martin said the purchases are expected to be made within 60 days.
Harmon-Schamberger will be awareness day guest

A “DisAbility Awareness Day” is being sponsored by the Office of Disabled Student Services at Marshall University Tuesday, April 2, beginning at 10 a.m. in the Shawkey Dining Room in Memorial Student Center.

Activities have been designed to provide a forum for students, faculty, staff, administrators, community agencies and residents to discuss and share disability issues, according to Sandra Clements, coordinator of educational support programs at Marshall.

The program will open with a “Student Concerns Forum” facilitated by Susie Marincil, a graduate student in Marshall’s Counseling and Rehabilitation Department. Topics will include “Accessible Off-Campus Housing,” “Employment,” “Relationships,” “Recreation,” “Transportation” and “Service Needs of Students.”

Dr. Barbara Harmon-Schamberger, West Virginia secretary of education, will be the keynote speaker for the event. She will make a presentation at 2 p.m. in the Shawkey Dining Room. An informal reception will be held following Harmon-Schamberger’s presentation.

Informational tables and displays will be set up on the Memorial Student Center Plaza by various businesses and associations from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Coordinators of the event include Jerry Meadows, rehabilitation services liaison; Peggy Wilmink, program coordinator in Marshall’s Community and Technical College; Lynn Weston, assistant director of the H.E.L.P. (Higher Education for Learning Problems) Program, and Clements.

All of the activities will be open to the public free of charge.

To obtain further details contact the Marshall University Disabled Student Services Office, 304-696-2271.

Safety conference set

“Effective Safety—Doing the Right Things Right” will be the theme of the 14th annual Marshall University Safety Conference being held Thursday and Friday, April 4-5, at the Radisson Hotel in Huntington.

The conference will feature presentations by several internationally known safety experts and Tri-State area safety professionals, including Al Mims, professor of management, and Craig A. Hollingshead, associate professor of marketing, presented a case study on the Kellogg Corporation at the fourth annual meeting of the Southeast Case Research Association held Feb. 22-24 in Charleston, S.C. Bolling has served as membership chair. Hollingshead was elected to that position for the coming year. Bolling was elected to serve as track chair. The association deals with case studies in various areas including business, education and public administration. Faculty interested in the case method for instruction and/or developing cases may contact Bolling or Hollingshead.

Dr. MAJED KHADER, government documents librarian, was selected to participate in the John A. Maxwell Scholar Diplomat Program on the Middle East held March 20-22 in Washington, D.C. Khader also received an invitation from the executive director of the American Library Association to serve on the ALA Education Committee. The charges of the committee are to maintain communication and report nationally and internationally with other organizations concerned with library information studies and to represent the ALA to organizations and agencies outside the field of library and information studies that are concerned with professional education and staff preparation.

Dr. MICHAEL R. MOORE, professor of biochemistry and molecular biology, presented an invited seminar March 12 for the Department of Biochemistry at the Medical College of Wisconsin in Milwaukee. The seminar title was “Progestins, c-myc, and breast cancer growth.”

WYLMAS. SKEAN, assistant professor of business and office technology, has been nominated for membership in the National Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi at Ohio State University. This prestigious society rewards academic excellence among students by inviting only the top 10 percent of graduate students to membership.