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We Are...Marshall, August 19, 2015

Office of Marshall University Communications

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Dear Faculty, Staff, Students and Alumni:

Hello! I hope each of you had a wonderful summer.

Now that everyone is returning to campus and focused on the new semester, I am pleased to provide an update on our presidential search.

As we announced in May would happen, our consultants with AGB Search Inc. spent the summer in an active recruitment phase—reaching out through their network in higher education to identify people who might be a good fit for our presidency but who did not respond to the initial advertisements.

Our goal is to find the best person to be our next president and we wanted to be certain we had explored every possibility.

From those efforts, AGB identified a pool of 11 new candidates with sincere interest in our position. They vetted those candidates and we worked with the consultants over the past couple of weeks to help us shortlist six people to interview.

The new pool of candidates is extremely impressive, and includes at least one sitting university president and several chief academic officers with successful experience as interim presidents. Confidentiality remains crucial at this stage so the best candidates continue in the process.

The search committee will meet with this select field of six candidates for off-campus interviews in September. Following those private interviews, we expect to select three or four of those candidates to bring to campus sometime in October. At that point, opportunities will be provided for the university community and other constituents to meet with the finalists and provide feedback to us.
I’m very pleased with the progress made over the summer. The quality of this group of candidates tells me we made the right choice by taking our time to leave no stone unturned.

As a reminder of the process we set out at the beginning of the search, the search committee will present its recommendations to the Board of Governors for the final selection. The name of the recommended candidate will then be forwarded to the West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission for final approval.

I anticipate the selection will be made this fall and a new president could be on board in time for the start of the spring semester.

Thank you to all of you for your patience and ongoing input during this process.

The search website at www.marshall.edu/presidential-search will be updated as the search proceeds. You can continue to contact us with your comments and suggestions through the website feedback form or at president@marshall.edu.

Best wishes,

Michael G. Sellards
Chairman, Presidential Search Committee
Chairman, Board of Governors

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Marshall to host Thundering Herd Rally tomorrow evening

As part of the Pullman Summer Concert Series, Marshall University and Kindred Communications will host a special night to kick off the school year and football season Thursday, Aug. 20, at Pullman Square in downtown Huntington.
The event will take place from 6 until 10 p.m. In addition to the vendors and activities that have taken place each week of the concert series, this event will also include a fashion show, photo booth, the Marching Thunder, Marco and Marshall University Athletics.

The first hour will include music from the popular local radio station Hits 97.9 and a Herd Fan Fashion Show featuring some of Marshall’s licensed gear. The show will give fans the opportunity to view some of the new fall apparel available at various local retail locations.

“Marshall University employees, students and fans everywhere are encouraged to participate in Green Fridays and to wear their Kelly green to the stadium throughout the season,” said Mallory Jarrell, marketing and branding coordinator. “The fashion show will be a sample of some of the items fans could wear to show their Thundering Herd pride.”

The Carpenter Ants will play from 7 until 8 p.m., followed by an hour-long pep rally featuring the Marching Thunder, cheerleaders, dance team, and everyone’s favorite bison, Marco. Head football Coach Doc Holliday and the players will also be meeting fans and signing autographs.

“The unwavering support from the Huntington and Tri-State communities are what makes our football program so special,” Holliday said. “The kickoff event at Pullman Square is a prime example of the kind of support we get. It will be a great event and I know myself and our guys are looking forward to it.”

The Marching Thunder is looking to engage the fans at Joan C. Edwards Stadium this season. Members of the band will be teaching some of the new stadium cheers at the event Thursday evening.

“We are excited to bring the entire Marching Thunder to the event to help kick off football season, said Dr. Adam Dalton, director of athletic bands. “We will be performing portions of music from our upcoming season as well as debuting some new cheers for the football games.”

Guests will also have the opportunity to register to win prizes including gift cards from retailers participating in the fashion show and Thundering Herd football tickets.

Here is a brief look at the event schedule:

- 6 p.m. – Music by Hits 97.9
- 6:30 p.m. – Herd Fan Fashion Show
- 7 p.m. – The Carpenter Ants take the stage
- 8 p.m. – Pep Rally
- 9 p.m. – Carpenter Ants return to the stage

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WOW begins today with move-in

Week of Welcome begins today, Wednesday, Aug. 19, when first-year students begin to move into their residence halls. The WOW committee has dedicated much time and energy to ensure the first few days on campus are fun, exciting, informative and enjoyable for these students, but they are asking the help of the entire Marshall community to make this happen.

“If you see someone who looks lost, confused or a little overwhelmed, please take the time to reach out to him or her,” committee members said in an e-mail message to Marshall faculty and staff. Information on the complete WOW schedule is available at www.marshall.edu/wow. Faculty and staff may also contact the Student Resource Center at (304)-696-5810 or src@marshall.edu.

Among the most popular events of WOW are the family picnic and the President’s Convocation. The picnic will take place from 5 to 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 19, on the student center plaza. The convocation starts at 10:00 a.m. Friday, Aug. 21, at the Keith-Albee Performing Arts Center in downtown Huntington. Students will meet at the John Marshall statue for the official group photo at 9:15 a.m.; students will then head west on 4th Avenue to the Keith-Albee. At the conclusion of the convocation, the students will walk back to campus in time for 11:30 a.m. sessions. Convocation will be streamed live at www.marshall.edu/it/livestream.

Departments using social media to connect with first-year students during the Week of Welcome are encouraged to use #MarshallWow

Reminder: presidential open house is today

Interim President Gary White and members of the university’s senior management team are hosting an informal monthly open house today for members of the Marshall community on from 3 to 4 p.m.

Although the monthly open houses normally take place in the reception area of the Office of University Communications, today’s event will be held in the lobby of the Joan C. Edwards Performing Arts Center. Refreshments will be served.

Faculty, staff, students and their families are welcome and encouraged to attend to meet and talk with administrators about topics of their choice.

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Marshall University and West Virginia University partner for three-year, $1.5 million health care and research funding program

Marshall University and West Virginia University have each pledged $250,000 annually for a three-year combined effort to support innovative clinical projects and translational research that ultimately will help faculty members at both schools attract future external funding.

The program will accept applications for awards of up to $50,000 for initiatives that include project leaders from both WVU and Marshall.

Leaders from both institutions gathered on Monday at Stonewall Jackson Resort to discuss the program. Deans and department chairs from health sciences disciplines as well as clinical leadership discussed targeted research and clinical care areas to address West Virginia’s biggest health concerns.

“This collaborative effort will provide foundational support and structure for our physicians and scientists to advance health and wellness in West Virginia,” said Joseph I. Shapiro, M.D., dean of the School of Medicine. “By strengthening our connections, West Virginians and others in the Appalachian region will benefit.”

“There is no higher obligation for either of our universities than to address the health issues of West Virginia,” said Clay Marsh, M.D., vice president and executive dean for health sciences at WVU. “We share a vision of a healthier state and are united in this effort, and many others, to make that a reality.”

Both universities will also maintain their commitments to ongoing statewide health improvement collaborations and look forward to extending partnerships with other entities throughout the state to continue to address health disparities.

Investigators will work together over the coming months to prepare their proposals by the Nov. 6 submission deadline. Awards will be announced in December and projects will begin Jan. 1, 2016.

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Reminder: New Title IX training to be offered; deadline is Oct. 1

The offices of the General Counsel and Equity Programs are rolling out a new online Title IX training course.

The course, which is mandatory for all faculty and staff, is intended to help ensure an environment free from unlawful sexual discrimination in all aspects of the university experience. The course must be completed by Oct. 1.

The Title IX training module will be received directly from Workplace Answers. Staff and faculty will receive a personal link, which will lead them to the course as it has been assigned.

If you have any questions or do not receive an e-mail with the course link by the end of the first week in September, please contact the Office of Equity Programs at (304) 696-2597 or e-mail Debra Hart. The university’s Sexual Harassment Policy is available online here.

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Honors Residential College to open Tuesday, Aug. 25

The grand opening of Marshall’s first Honors Residential College will take place Tuesday, Aug. 25, from 1 to 1:45 p.m. at Willis Hall, located in the Marshall Commons residence halls.

The Honors Residential College will offer programs and activities to foster learning and intellectual growth in an environment that serves as an extension of the traditional classroom. This new academic and living-learning community is intended to strengthen the connections between students’ curricular and co-curricular experiences by offering live-in faculty, a new state-of-the-art classroom, study spaces and student and professional staff trained to meet the needs of Honors students. Beginning this fall, several Honors courses will be taught in the Willis classroom space.

Planning began in 2013, when conversations were initiated about how to strengthen the partnerships between Housing and Residence Life and other academic units on campus. The new Honors Residential College will be a living-learning community characterized by participatory learning, faculty-student connections, and interdisciplinary learning. David Cartwright will serve as the Faculty-in-Residence.

There will be a brief ribbon-cutting ceremony beginning at 1 p.m. with officials from Housing and Residence Life, the Honors College and other Marshall units. Refreshments will be served.

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Complex officially opens

Members of the Marshall University family and the community got to see firsthand Aug. 13 why the Arthur Weisberg Family Engineering Complex has attracted so much attention since ground was broken in October 2012.

No one, including Interim President Gary G. White—who had toured the building before—was disappointed.

“This magnificent facility will provide an unparalleled educational experience for Marshall students for many years to come,” White said. “We are fortunate to have the generous support of the Weisberg family and all those who made this day possible. I wish Art was here to see this dream come true.”

The university and Huntington celebrated the opening of the 155,000 square-foot, 480-foot long, four-story, $56 million building with a ceremonial ribbon cutting at the complex.

Art Weisberg was the president of Huntington-based Arthur’s Enterprises, which made a large donation to help pay for the facility. He passed away in 2012, shortly after ground was broken for the complex. Art’s wife, Joan, and a dozen members of her family attended the ceremony.

U.S. Senator Joe Manchin and U.S. Rep. Evan Jenkins also were on hand to help celebrate the milestone. Among the others who spoke at the ceremony were Marshall Provost Gayle L. Ormiston, White, State Sen. Robert Plymale and engineering student Taylor Lipscomb. Art and Joan’s oldest daughter Pam Weisberg spoke on behalf of the family.

Photo: From left to right, Interim President Gary G. White and his wife, Jo Ann; Jane Kopp, wife of the late President Stephen J. Kopp; Joan Weisberg; Pam Weisberg; and Sen. Joe Manchin III at the ribbon-cutting ceremony for the Arthur Weisberg Family Engineering Complex Aug. 13.

Read the complete press release issued the day of the event.

View the photo gallery of the ribbon-cutting and the reception the following day.

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Italian Duo Savoyard, named distinguished professors, to visit MU next week

Duo Savoyard, composed of flutist Paolo Dalmoro and guitarist Giorgio Signorile, will teach and perform 4,400 miles from home during their visit to Marshall next week.

Named 2015 Joan C. Edwards Distinguished Professors in the Arts, the two Italian musicians will begin with master classes on flute and guitar performance Monday, Aug. 24, at the Jomie Jazz Center.

Gallipolis, Ohio residents can catch the pair at the Ariel Theatre, 426 Second Ave. in Gallipolis, at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 25.

The duo will be joined at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 26, by Marshall music students, as well as music faculty members Dr. Júlio Ribeiro Alves and Dr. Wendell Dobbs, for a grand concert in Smith Recital Hall. The free event will feature Mountain Songs by Robert Beaser, a cycle for flute and guitar; tangos by Astor Piazzolla and several works by Signorile himself.

Duo Savoyard will wrap up their Huntington visit with a performance in the MUsic Alive! Series at noon Friday, Aug. 28, at First Presbyterian Church on Fifth Avenue in downtown Huntington. The duo is among three acts selected for Joan C. Edwards Distinguished Professors in the Arts Endowment this fall.

Edwards established the endowment in 1992 for the then-College of Fine Arts in an effort to enhance learning opportunities for students, faculty, staff and the community by bringing preeminent arts educators to Marshall.

Dalmoro began his career as the principal flutist in the opera orchestra at the Regio Theatre in Turin. He has taught at the conservatories in Turin and Saluzzo and is currently the artistic director of the Opera Munifica in Turin.
Signorile lives and teaches in his hometown of Cuneo. He studied guitar with Leo Brouwer and Betho Davezac. He has published many compositions through Ut Orpheus Editions and has recorded on the Dynamic e l’Olandese Etcetera label.

All events listed on the Huntington campus and the MUsic Alive! series are free and open to the public.

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Kindermusik to begin Saturday

Kindermusik, an internationally recognized program that promotes childhood development through music, will be offered at the Speech and Hearing Center beginning Aug. 22

“Kindermusik is such a personal experience for everyone. Every child learns differently, and every parent has different expectations and goals for their child,” said Carrie Wellman, licensed Kindermusik teacher and a 2013 graduate of the Department of Communication Disorders. “We focus so much on process. Our goal is not to make a maestro musician out of every person that comes through our door, but simply to use music to bring out the best in the child and their caregiver in all aspects of life.”

Wellman said they would offer 15 classes throughout the semester with 12 children enrolled per class. The classes are typically 40 minutes in length and serve as a good place for students to get affirmation, affection and support.

“I am beyond thrilled to call the Speech and Hearing Center home. Adding a program like Kindermusik to their clinic complements what they are already doing. We have a common goal and we each work hard to meet those goals,” Wellman said. “Additionally, we have students with special needs that attend our Kindermusik classes, so having our classes there provides an opportunity for families to get as many resources as they want or need.”
Wellman said children between birth and age seven are welcome to attend the Kindermusik program. Discounts are offered for siblings or family members who enroll together and a 5 percent military discount will be provided for those who qualify.

For more information, contact Wellman at 304-730-2837, e-mail kindermusikwithcarrie@gmail.com or visit her on Facebook at www.facebook.com/kindermusikwithcarrie.

Faculty Achievement: Dr. Thomas E. Wilson

Dr. Thomas E. Wilson, professor of physics, had an abstract accepted for an oral presentation at the 15th International Conference on Phonon Scattering in Condensed Matter (Phonons 2015), held at the University of Nottingham, United Kingdom July 12-17. Phonons 2015 was the latest in the pre-eminent conference series on the physics of phonons and phonon interactions. Wilson’s paper was titled “Generation of coherent single-polarization 246 GHz nanosecond-pulsed longitudinal acoustic phonons in n-i-p-i silicon doping superlattices.”

Wilson’s research has been funded by grants from the Department of Defense, the National Science Foundation and NASA. Faculty interested in seeing a novel terahertz nanosecond-pulsed optically-pumped molecular gas laser, high-speed electronics instrumentation and liquid-helium immersion cryostat in operation, are invited to drop by his lab in Science 154. Visitors are advised to wear a heavy coat as the temperature can get down to -456 degrees Fahrenheit, Wilson said.

Forensic Science Graduate Program ranks number one in the nation on national assessment test scores

The Marshall University Forensic Science Graduate Program once again ranked number one in the country for its students receiving the highest overall test score, compared to other graduate programs participating in the Forensic Science Assessment Test, a national assessment test offered each year by the American Board of Criminalistics.

Marshall was one of 10 graduate programs that participated this year. In total, 101 graduate students were tested.

The Forensic Science Graduate Program ranked first or second in 14 of 18 subject matter areas that included drugs, crime scene, evidence handling, fire debris, forensic biology, latent prints,
legal, pattern evidence, questioned documents, toxicology, lab operations, firearms/tool mark, quality assurance/quality control and trace evidence.

It is the sixth time in nine years that Marshall’s nationally recognized program ranked number one in the country on the assessment test.

This year the American Board of Criminalistics changed the format of FSAT evaluations. According to the board, graduate and undergraduate programs were ranked separately this year, whereas the rankings were previously combined.

Dr. Terry W. Fenger, director of the program, said the test is useful for assessing the program’s strengths and demonstrating to prospective students and the general public its ability to meet national standards. “The fact that our students continue to excel on this exam each year demonstrates not only the quality of the program and its students, but the dedication of its full-time faculty and the many adjunct faculty members,” he said. “The program greatly benefits from the input of law enforcement and criminal justice system professionals here locally and across the state.”

Dr. Pamela Staton, program coordinator, said the test scores are evidence of the high quality education the program provides. “The quality of an academic program can be measured by a program’s achievement of national accreditation as well as how well its students perform on national board examinations,” she said.

“The Forensic Science Program at Marshall University has achieved both of these honorable distinctions. This translates into high quality forensic science services for law enforcement, the legal profession, and the public as graduates of this program become certified forensic scientists in the field.”

Staton said the FSAT provides students with a pre-certification exposure while preparing graduates for the national certification process. “This may be quite important as other areas of science and technology require professionals to become certified before they can practice,” she said. “This may be true for forensic scientists sometime in the future as suggested in the most recent report issued by the National Academy of Sciences in 2009.”

Marshall’s Forensic Science Graduate Program is FEPAC-accredited by the American Academy of Forensic Sciences. The program also has a separate accreditation for digital forensics through FEPAC.

Marshall’s forensic science graduate students who participated in the examination that was administered in spring 2015 are now graduates of the program.

The test is offered to students in their last semester of an academic forensic science program. While seeking their first job, recent college graduates may use their test results to demonstrate their knowledge across a broad range of forensic science disciplines.

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New ophthalmologist to join Marshall Health

Dr. Vishal Verma will join the Marshall University Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine as an assistant professor and a member of University Eye Surgeons, a department of Marshall Health, Sept. 1.

Verma, a Nitro, West Virginia, native, has offered comprehensive and surgical eye care in central Ohio since 2011. He has served as an ophthalmologist at Greater Ohio Eye Surgeons, Eye Surgical and Medical Center. He most recently worked as a cataract and refractive surgeon at the Columbus Laser and Cataract Center, specializing in cataract and LASIK surgeries.

“We’re so pleased Dr. Verma has decided to return to our region,” said Dr. R. Mark Hatfield, chair of the ophthalmology department at the School of Medicine. “In addition to his exceptional skills as a cataract surgeon, Dr. Verma’s arrival signals the growth of our department and clinical practice.”

Verma earned his medical degree from Washington University School of Medicine. He completed a residency at The Ohio State University.

Internationally recognized artist’s work to be featured at MU Visual Arts Center starting this month

An exhibition by internationally recognized artist Anila Quayyum Agha will open this month at the Visual Arts Center Gallery.

Selected mixed-media works from the Lahore, Pakistan, native’s award-winning creations will be exhibited weekdays, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., beginning Monday, Aug. 24, at the gallery at 927 Third Ave. The show will be displayed until Friday, Oct. 30. An artist reception is set for 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. Monday, Oct. 26, in the gallery, and Agha will provide an artist’s lecture at 5:30 p.m. in Room 209.

Last year, Agha became the first person in ArtPrize history to take home both the $200,000 Public Vote Grand Prize and the $100,000 Juried Grand Prize.
Agha said her work routinely explores politics worldwide, cultural multiplicity, mass media, and social and gender roles in our current cultural and global scenario.

Currently an associate professor of drawing at Herron School of Art and Design in Indianapolis, Agha visits Marshall as a Joan C. Edwards Distinguished Professor in the Arts. The distinguished professor program is an endowment established in 1992 in an effort to enhance learning opportunities for students, staff, faculty and the community.

*Photos: (Above)* Anila Quayyum Agha, the Visual Arts Center’s fall featured artist. *(Below)* Renewal 2, 2012, Mixed media on paper, 22” x 22”, by Anila Agha.

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**School of Pharmacy welcomes Class of 2019**

The School of Pharmacy officially welcomed the class of 2019 on Friday, Aug. 14, with a traditional White Coat Ceremony signifying the beginning of their pharmacy education.

The entrance of this class brings the school of pharmacy to its total capacity with four classes.

The featured keynote speaker for the event was state Sen. Robert H. Plymale, who has served for several decades in the West Virginia Legislature.

Other speakers included Dr. Kevin Yingling, dean of the School of Pharmacy; Dr. H. Glenn Anderson Jr., associate dean of the school; Dr. Kimberly Broedel-Zaugg, chair of the Department of Pharmacy Practice, Administration and Research; Dr. Faruk Khan, chair of the Department of Pharmaceutical Science and Research; Del. Don Perdue, a member of the West Virginia House of Delegates and a pharmacist, and Dr. Josh Russell, CVS Caremark.

Interesting statistics about the Class of 2019 include the following:

- 47 percent of the 82-member class are West Virginia residents;
- Nonresident students are from 11 states, including Arizona, California, Texas and Florida;
- 44 percent are female;
- 34 students were Marshall undergraduates.
Men’s soccer team begins its preseason this week

The men’s soccer team is kicking off its preseason this week with two exhibition matches at home.

On Thursday, Aug. 20, the Thundering Herd is scheduled to take on Salem International University at 6 p.m. and then will return to action Sunday, Aug. 23, when they take on NCAA Division II power University of Charleston at 5 p.m.

All home games are played on the Hoops Family Field at Veterans Memorial Soccer Complex. Marshall faculty and staff can get in for free by showing their Marshall ID.

Retirement reception for Jeff Edwards is Sept. 15

Jeff Edwards, who works for Facilities, Planning and Management, will be honored at a retirement reception Tuesday, Sept. 15, from 2:30 p.m. to 4 p.m. in the John Marshall Dining Room in the Memorial Student Center. Light refreshments will be served.
The next regular issue of *We Are... Marshall* will be distributed August 26, 2015. Please send any materials for consideration to Pat Dickson by 5 p.m. Monday, August 24.