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We Are...Marshall, September 23, 2015

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School of Medicine receives Insight Into Diversity 2015 Higher Education Excellence in Diversity Award

The Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine has received the 2015 Higher Education Excellence in Diversity (HEED) Award from INSIGHT Into Diversity magazine, the oldest and largest diversity-focused publication in higher education.

The School of Medicine will be featured, along with 91 other recipients, in the November 2015 issue of the magazine.

“Marshall’s School of Medicine has made tremendous strides in the areas of diversity and inclusion and our efforts are being recognized on the national level,” said Shelvy Campbell-Monroe, Ph.D., assistant dean for diversity at the SOM. “Day by day, we continue to promote an inclusive environment that is reflective of all people.”

INSIGHT Into Diversity magazine publisher Lenore Pearlstein said the HEED Award process includes a comprehensive and rigorous application process related to the recruitment of students and employees.

“We take a holistic approach to reviewing each application in deciding who will be named a HEED Award recipient,” Pearlstein said. “Our standards are high, and we look for institutions where diversity and inclusion are woven into the work being accomplished every day across a campus.”

Some of the other recipients of the 2015 HEED Award include Case Western Reserve University, Columbia University College of Dental Medicine, Cornell University, DePaul University, East Carolina University, Florida Coastal School of Law, Kent State University, Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine, Texas Tech University, the University of Cincinnati and the University of Virginia School of Medicine, among others.
Director of The Cradle project, One Million Bones to speak at Marshall

Naomi Natale, the artistic director of the Art of Revolution, will deliver the sixth annual Da Vinci Lecture Friday, Sept. 25. The lecture, which is free to the public, is called “The Art of Revolution.”

“Her focus is quite different from our previous speakers, but just as timely and impactful,” said Dr. Nicki LoCascio, interim dean of the Honors College. “I am looking forward to welcoming Naomi to Marshall.”

The lecture will take place at 7 p.m. in the Visual Arts Center in downtown Huntington. The sixth annual Da Vinci luncheon, for faculty and staff, will be held on Saturday, Sept. 26, beginning at 11:30 a.m., in the John Marshall Dining Room inside the Memorial Student Center.

Natale is the Artistic Director of the Art of Revolution, a project that uses art to enact social change. With an art degree from The Richard Stockton College of New Jersey, Natale uses her skills in photography and installation art, described as art that is created, constructed, or installed, on the site where it is exhibited, often incorporating materials or physical features on the site, to change the world.

Natale is a TED Senior Fellow who raises awareness and funds for social justice. In 2008, she founded and directed *The Cradle Project*, raising $90,000 through an art exhibit that shed light on the estimated 48 million children affected by disease and poverty in sub-Saharan Africa. Over 550 cradles were created and submitted by artists from around the world.

She also is known for *One Million Bones*, an art installation featured in Washington, D.C., that brought attention to international victims of ongoing genocide. *One Million Bones* was a three-and-a-half-year social practice that resulted in over one million bones displayed on the National Mall in Washington, D.C., as a symbolic mass grave and visual petition against ongoing genocide and mass atrocities.

Natale has been a featured author for The Huffington Post, has spoken at global TED conferences, and continues to be awarded for her work. In addition to her TED fellowships, she...
was awarded the Carl Wilkens Fellowship in 2010 and the Professional Achievement Award by her alma mater in 2009.

The DaVinci Lecture is sponsored by the Office of the Provost, the Honors College and Phi Kappa Phi.

Marshall University’s bond rating of ‘AA-’ affirmed by Fitch Ratings

Marshall University officials last week announced Fitch Ratings has affirmed its “AA-” ratings of more than $83 million on university revenue bonds.

Fitch’s affirmation specifically made reference to $51.9 million in university revenue bonds, series 2011; and $31.9 million in university refunding revenue bonds, series 2010.

In the affirmation document, Fitch said the rating reflects the university’s “historically stable student enrollment and demand for auxiliary facilities.” The document also cited Marshall’s switch this year to zero-based budgeting, as well as the university’s “solid institutional profile” and “balance sheet strength,” saying it expects the institution to manage effectively through any cuts in state operating appropriations.

A solid bond rating makes debt issued by Marshall more attractive to investors.

Interim President Gary G. White said the ratings confirm the university’s continuing fiscal stability and are an indication of the Marshall community’s focus on responsible financial and operational planning in the face of several straight years of reduced state appropriations.

“This affirmation of the university’s bond ratings is a clear endorsement of Marshall’s financial standing and prudent planning,” he said. “Our Board of Governors has provided the necessary direction and expertise, while our faculty and staff have shown a true willingness to roll up their sleeves and work hard to help keep us on sound footing. I salute everyone who has had a role in helping to ensure our ongoing fiscal health so we can continue to serve our students and communities.”
New music lecture series starts Monday, Sept. 28; first topic is Beethoven

Marshall University’s School of Music and Theatre will launch a new music lecture series, *MUsic Mondays*, at 6:30 p.m. Monday, Sept. 28, at the Cellar Door, 905 3rd Ave., Huntington. The fall series, titled “The Path to the New Music,” will investigate the influence of philosophical thought, art and literature, and scientific theory on music from the 19th and early 20th centuries.

The inaugural lecture, “Beethoven: The Man Who Freed Music,” will focus on Beethoven and his famous Ninth Symphony. Lead presenter Dr. Vicki Stroeher, professor of music history at Marshall University, said that Beethoven’s importance to the direction music took in the late 19th and early 20th centuries cannot be overstated.

“Beethoven had been hailed as a giant among composers and rightly so,” Stroeher said. “Our first lecture explores the elements of his music that sparked the imagination of so many composers who followed after him.”

The fall lecture series will continue at the same time and place Oct. 19, Nov. 16, and Dec. 14.

Seating is limited. Participants are invited to arrive early to enjoy conversation and refreshments.

Each lecture costs $10, payable at the door. Checks should be made payable to Marshall University. All proceeds will go to support the music program.

For more information about *MUsic Mondays*, call the School of Music and Theatre at 304-696-3117.

Library to screen ‘Sin Pais’ next week

There will be a free screening of the POV/PBS documentary *Sin Pais (Without Country)* at 4 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 30, in Drinko Library 402. This is the first in a series of movies and events in the 2015-16 Cultural Literacy Series. For more information, contact Kelli Johnson, associate professor/librarian III by e-mail at Johnson28@marshall.edu or by phone at ext. 6-6567.
Marshall Artists series to present Anthony Jeselnik Oct. 1

Rising comedic star Anthony Jeselnik, the host of NBC’s “Last Comic Standing,” is coming for an Evening of Comedy at the Keith-Albee Performing Arts Center at 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 1.

The Pittsburgh-born comic is a stand-up who has had his own Comedy Central series, ‘The Jeselnik Offensive,’ which has raised a few eyebrows here and there.

The comedian has found there is an art to writing and delivering derisive celebrity jokes in an inventive way. Jeselnik’s star has risen rapidly, as he gains a big following while climbing comedy’s ranks. His distinct talent often doesn’t set out to be intentionally offensive with his comedy, but he wants to get his audience to laugh at uncomfortable subjects by talking about them in new and different ways.

Jeselnik was named one of Variety’s 10 Comics to Watch in 2008 and one of Comedy Central’s Hot Comics in 2009. In 2010, he released his debut comedy album, “Shakespeare,” through Comedy Central Records. After the Comedy Central roasts of Charlie Sheen, Donald Trump and Roseanne Barr, he released ‘Caligula,’ his first hourlong special, to critical acclaim. Jeselnik’s comedy contains adult content.

For tickets, contact the Marshall Artists Series Box Office by phone at ext.6-6656, or visit their box office located in the Joan C. Edwards Playhouse. Box Office hours are Monday through Friday from noon to 5 p.m.

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School of Medicine physician selected for national leadership program

Dr. Hisham A. Keblawi, associate professor of obstetrics and gynecology and director of the third-year OB-GYN clerkship at the Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine, has been selected for the 2016-2017 Association of Professors of Gynecology and Obstetrics (APGO) Academic Scholars and Leaders Program.

The program is an initiative to enhance education in obstetrics and gynecology by preparing OB-GYN physician faculty, through a rigorous 15-month curriculum, to possess the skills and knowledge necessary to be outstanding teachers and educational administrators. Admission to the program is highly competitive, with each class limited to 24 academic obstetricians and gynecologists.

Graduates of the program are expected to fulfill major educational responsibilities and positions in their departments, their academic institutions, APGO and other educational organizations.

Keblawi is the fourth member of the faculty of the department of obstetrics and gynecology to be selected for the program, joining past graduates Dr. Kevin J. Conaway, Dr. David C. Jude and faculty emeritus Dr. Gary G. Gilbert.

South Charleston campus to welcome Cat Pleska Sept. 25

Cat Pleska a 7th-generation West Virginian, educator, author, editor, storyteller, and occasional re-enactor of historical characters, will be giving a presentation in the South Charleston campus library from 7-9 p.m. Friday, Sept. 25.
The title of her talk is *In the Fullness of Time: How the Humanities Can Save the World.* The program will feature her experience in the humanities, and she will also provide a short reading from her memoir, titled *Riding on Comets: a Memoir*, published this past May.

Pleska holds a B.A. in English from West Virginia State University, an M.A. in Humanities from Marshall, and an M.F.A. from Goucher College in Baltimore. She edited an anthology, *Fed from the Blade*, with Woodland Press and has written and recorded nearly 40 essays with West Virginia Public Radio. She also has reviewed books for the *Charleston Gazette*. Her articles and essays have appeared in numerous other publications.

“I can’t imagine being the writer, or the human being I am, without the knowledge I gained through studying humanities,” Pleska said. “To succeed well at anything, you need broad knowledge about the world, about history and culture, and, most of all, humans, what makes them tick. It’s no wonder, then, I eagerly sought a degree in humanities from Marshall University. It has also helped me immensely in teaching English and literature throughout the years at Marshall and other universities.”

Most important, if you’re going to be a writer, she notes, “The depth and breadth of knowledge that studying the humanities brings to the table helps, whether you’re writing about global issues or your own life. Indeed, although I was writing about my life in *Riding on Comets*, I believe the humanities helped me recognize universal ideas within the stories of my family and myself.”

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**Dr. Muneer Al Zoby recognized as September Fellow of the Month**

Dr. Muneer Al Zoby has been selected as the September 2015 Resident-Fellow of the Month, Dr. Paulette Wehner, vice dean for graduate medical education at the Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine has announced.

Al Zoby is a second-year pulmonary fellow. Pulmonary fellowship is completed after a three-year internal medicine residency.

“Years ago, patients may have been cared for by a single doctor, but as the field of medicine changes to a team approach, working well as part of the medical team is imperative to a successful practice in medicine,” Wehner said. “This month’s Resident-Fellow of the Month was nominated
for helping out another physician who had two patients coding at the same time. Dr. Al Zoby went above and beyond the call of duty working aggressively to assist and stabilize the patients with the other physician. That’s what the field of medicine is all about – working as a team to save lives.”

In his nomination letter, cardiology fellow Dr. David Francke wrote, “… on two occasions in the middle of busy night calls, Dr. Al Zoby has helped me immensely without [my] having to ask…. In all of my dealings with him, he has demonstrated teamwork at its finest. He sets a great example to his peers on how to efficiently and effectively manage patients in an interdisciplinary setting.”

Al Zoby completed an internal medicine residency at St. Elizabeth Health Center in Youngstown, Ohio, where he was recognized as Resident of the Year, Resident Researcher of the Year and Best Intern. He previously served as Chief of Medicine and as hospitalist program director at Our Lady of Bellefonte Hospital in Ashland, Kentucky.

Al Zoby graduated from the University Of Aleppo Faculty Of Medicine in 2000 and also completed an internal medicine residency in Syria.

As part of his recognition as the September Resident-Fellow of the Month, he will receive items including a certificate of recognition and a designated parking spot.

Photo: Muneer Al Zoby, seen here with Nancy Munn, M.D., program director for the pulmonology fellowship, displays his September 2015 Resident-Fellow of the Month award.

Latest from Information Technology: Blackboard workshop, DocDel

Marshall’s Information Technology department will offer a workshop in Blackboard Learn next week. It has also announced DocDel, a new method that enables faculty and staff to receive items requested from the library to their departmental mailboxes.

Blackboard Learn Workshop

Bb Learn Tool Overview (excellent for beginning users)
**DocDel**

DocDel is a new method for Marshall University faculty and staff on the Huntington campus to receive requested items to their department mailbox. Almost anything requested from EZBorrow, Interlibrary Loan (ILL), and Marshall Library’s holdings can be delivered to department mailboxes. Items marked “In Library Use Only” are prohibited from being delivered. Deliveries will be made every Tuesday and Thursday, between 3:30 and 4:30 p.m.

**How does DocDel work?**

1. Complete the online form to sign up for the service.
2. Submit requests for EZBorrow, Interlibrary Loan (ILL), or Marshall Library-owned items (via My Library account) as you normally would.
3. Wait for your requested items to arrive at your department mailbox. And that’s it!
4. You can opt-out at any time by sending an email to docdel@marshall.edu and stating your preferences.

**PLEASE NOTE:** this is a DELIVERY service only. DocDel staff will not accept items for return to the library.

Questions regarding DocDel can be directed to the Drinko Circulation Desk by e-mail at docdel@marshall.edu, or by phone at extension 6-6568.

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Friday, October 2 | 9:00 A.M. | Blackboard Collaborate (see info below)

This workshop will be presented virtually using Blackboard Collaborate by Tammy Jolley, Customer Success Advocate, Blackboard Inc.

**To Attend this workshop:**

Please e-mail tammy.jolley@blackboard.com to reserve a seat. Seats are limited, so be sure to reserve your spot. Once registered, you will receive the specific meeting log-in information.

Questions regarding the workshop can be directed to Kristen Huff, Huff18@marshall.edu, 304-746-1948.
Marshall study shows that cerium oxide may be useful for the treatment of sepsis

Research into treatment for sepsis, one of the world’s major health problems, is underway at Marshall.

An article on the study, “Therapeutic Potential of Cerium Oxide Nanoparticles for the Treatment of Peritonitis Induced by Polymicrobial Insult in Sprague-Dawley Rats,” will appear in a future issue of Critical Care Medicine.

It is available online now at http://journals.lww.com/ccmjournal/Abstract/publishahead/Therapeutic_Potential_of_Cerium_Oxide.97161.aspx.

Peritonitis, an infection of the abdominal cavity, sometimes leads to sepsis, also known as blood poisoning. Sepsis kills more people on an annual basis than prostate cancer, breast cancer, and AIDS combined and is the number one killer of critically ill patients and infants.

The research studies at Marshall have demonstrated that nanoparticles of cerium oxide, widely used as a polishing agent and as an additive to increase fuel efficiency, may be useful for the treatment of sepsis. The data in the study by Dr. Eric R. Blough, Dr. Nandini D.P.K. Manne colleagues at the Center for Diagnostic Nanosystems indicate that cerium oxide nanoparticles improve animal survivability following a severe polymicrobial episode in the laboratory rat.

Blough, professor at the School of Pharmacy, said the study could potentially lead to development of novel therapeutic agents for the treatment of sepsis.

The research was supported with funding from the U.S. Department of Energy, grant DE-PS02-09ER09-01.

Faculty/Staff Achievement: Dr. Masudur Rahman

Dr. Masudur Rahman, post-doctoral fellow with Dr. Michael Norton’s nano-scale chemistry lab in the Department of Chemistry, gave both an oral and a Sci-Mix poster presentation at the 250th annual American Chemical Society meeting in Boston Aug. 16-20. Rahman’s presentation, titled “DNA nanostructures: Template Tool for Nanoelectronics” described part of his cutting-edge research, which provides an alternative nanolithography technique for the generation of nano
scale features using DNA nanostructures. This research has the potential impact to many other areas, including electronics, optical physics, and biosensor development.

Norton’s research has been funded by grants from the Department of Defense, the National Science Foundation and NASA. He is working to develop molecular level platforms for electrical and spectral characterization. His lab is equipped with multiple types of scanning probe microscopes, which are used to generate topographical images of DNA based nanostructures, which are 1000 times thinner than a typical human hair, within a minute. Visitors are welcome to visit the lab to learn more about the research and to share in these explorations.

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The next regular issue of *We Are...Marshall* will be distributed Sept. 30, 2015. Please send any materials for consideration to Pat Dickson by 5 p.m. Monday, Sept. 28.