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Office of University Relations

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RBA degree program becoming more popular

Since 1975, Marshall University's Board of Regents Bachelor of Arts degree program has provided an alternative method of higher education granting 1,760 diplomas, many to people who otherwise might not have gone to college.

A record number of 122 students graduated through the program this year.

The RBA is a nontraditional program designed for the adult student. It is different from the usual baccalaureate degree plan in many respects, according to Barbara James, coordinator of Marshall's program.

College credit counting toward the degree requirements may be awarded to students in the program for documented learning resulting from work or life experience. While the program is designed to ensure the RBA student a sound educational foundation, rigid specialization requirements are not imposed. Each applicant creates with the assistance of an adviser the course program that best fits individual needs.

The central principle that underlies the life experience assessment process is that what the student knows is more important than how it was learned. If a student can demonstrate knowledge and skills reasonably comparable to what the college trained student knows, credit hours may be awarded toward the degree. The student must provide evidence of possessing college equivalent knowledge or skills.

Since the RBA degree is designed for responsible adults, a person must have graduated from high school or passed a high

Student receives funds for program in England

Marshall University nursing student Stephenie C. Ramey has been awarded a Helene Fuld fellowship to represent West Virginia at an international conference.

Ramey, of Point Pleasant, is one of just 52 students nationwide to be named Fuld fellows. Through the program, she will attend the ninth International Conference on Cancer Nursing in Brighton, England, Aug. 12-15, then will participate in a work-study tour in London. She also was honored at the National Student Nurses Association meeting in New Orleans in April.

"Stephenie was chosen because of her high academic standing, particularly her work in clinical courses, and her strong leadership qualities," said Peggy J. Baden, assistant professor of nursing at Marshall.

Ramey, who is a junior at Marshall, received the National Collegiate Nursing Award in 1995, and also was on the National Dean's List. She received the All-American Scholar Collegiate Award in 1994 and 1995, and is listed in "Who's Who Among Colleges and Universities."

As part of the Student Nurses Association at Marshall, she has assisted in blood pressure clinics and helped with fund-raisers, including a walk to raise money for multiple sclerosis.

Ramey, the daughter of Judy Ramey of Point Pleasant, is a 1992 graduate of Point Pleasant High School and a member of the Church of Christ of Henderson.

Named for a nineteenth century health crusader, the Helene Fuld Health Trust is the nation's largest charity devoted exclusively to excellence in nursing education. Its fellowship program was created to send outstanding nursing students to the world's most prestigious health care meetings, to stimulate interest among students in nursing specialties, and to promote awareness of nursing as an international career field.

school equivalency test at least four years prior to being admitted to the program.

James attributes the program's popularity to two factors: the history and past success of the program has made it more recognizable and better-known, and the economy in which major employers are downsizing and laying off workers.

"Our enrollment tends to rise when there are layoffs and people losing their jobs because of downsizing and other factors," said James. "On the plus side, most of the people who enroll under those conditions have had good work experience that can translate into credit hours. Many also have taken various classes and programs in their work environments that can be utilized for the RBA degree. We also get a lot of people who have associate degrees through community colleges who find the RBA is the best way to obtain a baccalaureate degree."

James said some educators were skeptical when the program was first devised 21 years ago. "Some people thought the program would be an easy way out for students who wanted baccalaureate degrees. However, those concerns soon were put to rest and the RBA became recognized as a viable alternative degree program."

She said major employers in the region never had a problem accepting the program or its graduates. "They recognize that the RBA students usually have considerable work experience and that often is quite an advantage. In fact, many companies encourage employees to enroll in the program and help them gather materials for their credit assessment applications."

Enrollment in the program is expected to remain stable. James said that for a number of years the program annually granted 70 to 80 degrees. Last year 112 degrees were awarded. This past spring semester only three colleges or schools at Marshall granted more baccalaureate degrees than the RBA program.

To obtain further details about the Regents Bachelor of Arts degree program contact James at Marshall University, 304-696-6400.

Applications due for stipends

The Marshall University deadline for submitting applications for 1997 National Endowment for the Humanities summer stipends is Sept. 21, according to Dr. Sarah Denman, vice president for academic affairs.

Stipends will provide support for faculty and staff members from universities and two-year and four-year colleges and other persons working in the humanities. Stipends will enable recipients to devote two consecutive months of full-time study and research to their projects.

An applicant's project may be one that can be completed during the stipend period or be part of a long-range endeavor.

Each stipend provides \$4,000 for projects that do not require travel. The stipends normally support work carried out during the summer months but arrangements can be made for holding tenure at other times of the year.

To obtain further details contact the Marshall University Academic Affairs Office, 696-3007 or 696-5442.

Newsletter deadline announced

The Marshall University Newsletter is published on a biweekly schedule during the university's summer terms.

Items for the Marshall University Newsletter must be submitted to the University Relations Office by 10 a.m. Tuesday in order to be published the following Thursday.

MU NEWSLETTER

MARSHALL UNIVERSITY • OFFICE OF UNIVERSITY RELATIONS • HUNTINGTON, WEST VIRGINIA 25755 • Aug. 8, 1996

Officers selected for Marshall Staff Council

Nina L. Barrett of Hamlin, an accounting assistant in the Finance Division, has been elected president of Marshall University's Classified Staff Council.

The council serves as the executive body for Marshall's classified staff members. It represents all staff interests and makes recommendations concerning policies and procedures to the university president. The council also provides a forum for discussion and review of staff concerns.

Barrett received a bachelor's degree in criminal justice with minors in sociology and English from Marshall.

A member of the MU staff since 1981, Barrett previously served as Classified Staff Council vice president, parliamentarian and historian.

She has served on various committees at the university including Service Awards, Membership and Election, Personnel, Staff Development and the Ad Hoc Constitution Committee.

Her term as president will continue through June 30, 1997.

Mark Ross of Wayne, a press operator in Marshall's Graphic Services Division, was elected vice president of the Classified Staff Council.

He has been employed at Marshall for nine years and has served on the council for two years. He has been active on the council's Personnel, Physical Environment and Legislative Affairs committees.

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University sponsoring trade mission to China

A trade mission to the People's Republic of China is being sponsored Aug. 31 through Sept. 12 by Marshall University and the West Virginia Development Office, according to Dr. William A. Edwards, executive director of Marshall's Center for International Programs.

The purpose of the mission is to provide West Virginia business and academic leaders the opportunity to develop cost-effective and professionally managed joint ventures in China.

It is part of Governor Gaston Caperton's initiative to send West Virginia companies to explore new international markets.

Edwards said the trade mission will give American investors current information about economic trends in China from its leaders. Another objective of the trip is to give participants first-hand experience in Chinese cross-cultural business and professional practices.

"China occupies an important position in the global economy and is expected to strengthen its position in the next 10 years as market reforms take place in Beijing," Edwards said. "The trade

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Barrett



Frank P. Justice Jr., Marshall University vice president for development (right), and Don Ray, general manager of WSAZ Television 3, look over plans for the new Marshall library/information center.

WSAZ pledges \$50,000

WSAZ Television 3 has pledged \$50,000 over a five-year period toward construction of Marshall University's library/information center.

Frank P. Justice Jr., Marshall vice president for development, recently accepted the first installment on WSAZ's pledge from Don Ray, the station's general manager.

"WSAZ and the Lee Foundation have assisted a number of programs and projects at Marshall over the years," Justice said. "Their most recent significant gift was \$25,000 for staff development in 1991 during The Campaign for Marshall. As a result of their generosity, Marshall staff members have had opportunities to continue their educations. We appreciate WSAZ's continuing support."

Justice said the new library's media services room, which will include data in microform and CD-ROM formats, will be named in honor of WSAZ. The television station, which has studios in Huntington and Charleston, is owned by Lee Enterprises.

Marshall's new library will provide access to the Internet and other on-line information resources worldwide in addition to meeting the needs for traditional research.

Construction is expected to begin this summer and be completed in 1998.

Two MU offices merged

Marshall University's Office of Parking and Transportation has joined the Office of Public Safety, according to Tom Johnson, chief of the MU Police Department.

In conjunction with the merger, Parking and Transportation offices are now located in the Office of Public Safety in the Welcome Center. Marshall University Emergency Medical Services has relocated to the Parking and Transportation Building. All telephone numbers for these offices remain the same.



Ross

Zirkle

Olson

Staff officers elected

(Continued from page 1)

A graduate of Buffalo High School in Wayne, Ross has completed extensive training courses in safety technology from West Virginia University. He is active in the community and has served as chief of the volunteer fire department, president of the local PTA, vice chair of the Wayne County Democratic Executive Committee and has been a member of the Wayne County Economic Development Authority.

Connie Zirkle of Proctorville, Ohio, a senior administrative secretary in the Psychology Department, has been elected secretary of the Classified Staff Council.

She has been employed at the university for 13 years and has served on the council since 1994. She previously served on the university's Benefits Committee.

Zirkle recently received a Regents Bachelor of Arts degree from Marshall. While studying at the university, she received a Women of Marshall Scholarship and Award and was named to "Who's Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges." She is a member of Psi Chi Honorary.

She has been involved in various community organizations and has been a member of the executive board of Branches Domestic Violence Shelter, served as secretary-treasurer of the Association of Involved Marshall Employees (a chapter of the West Virginia State Employees Union) and coordinator of the women's breakfast for the Tri-State Organizing Conference.

Terrence E. Olson of Huntington, a sergeant on the MU Police Department, was elected parliamentarian of the council.

Olson, who will serve as vice chair of the council's Legislative Affairs Committee, received bachelor's and master's degrees in criminal justice from Marshall.

He joined the university's police department in 1983 and was promoted to sergeant in 1993. In January 1996 he volunteered for service on the university's bicycle squad.

Olson has been involved in several activities on and off campus and recently helped coordinate a bicycle rodeo for area elementary school students sponsored by the MUPD and the Cabell County Sheriff's Department.

Trade mission to China

(Continued from page 1)

mission is one way which West Virginia can help in strengthening U.S.-Sino relations. Through good business and academic affiliations, mutual prosperity between China and the U.S., especially West Virginia, can occur for future generations."

Edwards said the 1995 China trade mission proved very successful and included several well-known West Virginia companies such as Guyan International, Hourly Computers and Pyott-Boone Electronics. It also resulted in the establishment by Marshall of a one-of-a-kind English language institute in the province of Henan.

Cities on the tour this year include Shanghai, Pudong, Wuxi, Suzhou and Beijing.

Marshall University employee achievements

SUK K. HONG, MONICA A. VALENTOVIC, DIANNE K. ANESTIS, JOHN G. BALL and GARY O. RANKIN of the Department of Pharmacology in the School of Medicine and PATRICK I. BROWN of the Department of Anatomy in the School of Medicine are the authors of an article titled "Nephrotoxicity of 4-amino-2-chlorophenol and 2-amino-4-chlorophenol in the Fischer 344 rat" published in *Toxicology* (110, 1996, 47-58). HONG, ANESTIS, VALENTOVIC, BROWN, RANKIN and NATALIE M. HAWCO of the Department of Pharmacology had an article titled "Nephrotoxicity of N-(3-bromophenyl)-2-hydroxysuccinimide: role of halogen groups in the nephrotoxic potential of N-(halophenyl)succinimides" published in *Toxicology* (110, 1996, 17-25).

ROBERT BICKEL and MEGHAN McDONOUGH of the College of Education and Human Resources are co-authors of a paper titled "Opportunity, Community, and Reckless Lives: Social Distress Among Adolescents in West Virginia." The paper has been accepted for publication by *The Journal of Social Distress and the Homeless*.

Dr. CHRISTOPHER DOLMETSCH, professor of modern languages, has contributed the following reviews to the June 1996 issue of *CHOICE* (Vol. 33, No. 10): Botho Strauss, "The Young Man," translated by Roslyn Theobald (Evanston, Ill.: Northwestern University Press, 1995); and "German Epic Poetry," edited by Francis G. Gentry and James K. Walter (New York: Continuum, 1995).

Dr. MAJED KHADER, government documents librarian, attended the 1996 American Library Association (ALA) annual conference held July 4-10 in New York, N.Y. The conference encompassed several official ALA committee meetings. KHADER is an appointed member to two of the committees.

Dr. JOHN A. SINGLEY, associate professor in the Safety Technology Program, attended the second Environmental Sampling, On-Site Analysis and Sample Preparation Conference held June 26-27 in Pittsburgh, Pa. SINGLEY presented a paper titled "Carpet Particulates: An Indoor Air Quality Case Study." The paper was co-authored by PAUL MYERS, a graduate student in the Safety Technology Program. The paper was published in the conference proceedings.

Campus police officers JOHN P. MURPHY, KAREN A. WILLIAMS, JOHN L. WALKER and ANGELA D. HOWELL attended the Campus Crime Prevention Workshop held July 22-24 at the University of Louisville. The Campus Crime Prevention Institute is nationally recognized for its training programs for campus crime prevention officers. Topics addressed during the seminar included developing programs to enhance personal safety, combat drug and alcohol abuse and evaluate physical plant security.

Dr. DONNALEE COCKRILLE, dean of students, made a presentation about Marshall University's women's programs for the West Virginia Women's Commission public meeting held Aug. 5 in Huntington. The West Virginia Women's Commission is a state agency working to improve women's lives through research, education and advocacy. Civic and community leaders from throughout the state attended the meeting.

Research grants awarded

Marshall University's Graduate Student Council Student Research Committee awarded 14 thesis research grants this summer, according to Dr. Leonard Deutsch, dean of the Graduate School.

Amy Morris of Huntington (biological sciences) received the A. Mervin Tyson Award (\$500) for her thesis project, "Floristics, Plant Community Structure, and Bank Profiles for Five Sites along the Middle Ohio River." Morris' adviser is Dr. Dan Evans.

Brad Yurish of Huntington (biological sciences) received the Rachel and Paul Stewart Award (\$450) for his thesis proposal, "Seasonal and Yearly Changes in Soil Nitrogen in a Nitrogen-Saturated Central Appalachian Hardwood Forest." Dr. Frank Gilliam serves as adviser for Yurish.

Sandra Kilpatrick of Charleston (biological sciences) received the Chuck Crow Award (\$450) for "The Natural History of the Four-toed Salamander, *Hemidactylium scutatum*, in West Virginia." Her adviser is Dr. Thomas K. Pauley.

Awards of \$400 were presented to: **John Bowen of Barboursville** (mathematics/adviser, Dr. Evelyn Pupplo-Cody), "Coding Theory"; **Craig Doolin of Huntington** (music/adviser, Dr. Bradford R. DeVos), "The Cincinnati May Festivals of the 1870s"; **Andrea Henry of Huntington** (biological sciences/adviser, Dr. Donald C. Tarter), "Ecological Life History of the Amphipod *Crangonyx gracilis* Smith in the Greenbottom Wildlife Management Area, Cabell County, West Virginia";

Barton Paxton of St. Albans (biological sciences/adviser, Dr. Thomas K. Pauley), "Effects of Herbicides, Lime, and Deer Exclusion on Terrestrial Salamanders"; **Jennifer Piascik of Huntington** (biological sciences/adviser, Dr. Thomas K. Pauley), "The natural history of the red-spotted salamander, *Notophthalmus viridescens* (Rafinesque), in West Virginia"; **Veena Trangtrakul of Bangkok, Thailand**, (biological sciences/adviser, Dr. Frank L. Binder), "Comparative methods used for the detection of total and fecal coliform bacteria from selected small streams around Huntington, West Virginia";

Robert Tucker of Huntington (biological sciences/adviser, Dr. Thomas K. Pauley), "The Life History and Ecology of the Cow Knob Salamander, *Plethodon punctatus* Highton, from West Virginia";

Deborah Wegmann of Hurricane (biological sciences/adviser, Dr. Thomas K. Pauley), "A Study of the Natural History and Potential Environmental Stress on Amphibians at High and Low Elevations in West Virginia";

Robert Hood of Hambleton (biological sciences/adviser, Dr. Donald C. Tarter), "Seasonal and Flow Related Variation in Structure and Function of Hyporheic Fauna on the Fernow Experimental Forest";

William McReynolds of Delbarton (biological sciences/adviser, Dr. Donald C. Tarter), "Reproductive Biology and Electrophoretic Analyses of the Mosquitofish, *Gambusia affinis* (Pisces:Poeciliidae) in the Meadow River Wetlands, West Virginia";

Erica Midkiff of Huntington (biological sciences/adviser, Dr. Donald C. Tarter), "Food habits and growth of three larval fishes (*Amia calva*, *Umbra limi*, *Esox americanus vermiculatus*) in the Green Bottom Wildlife Management Area, Cabell County, West Virginia."

The ad hoc Student Research Committee includes Deutsch, Dr. David Mallory, Dr. Jeffrey May, and graduate students Lauri Avila (chair), Joe Boggs, Angela Summerlin and Mark Hyre.



Marshall University President J. Wade Gilley, second from left, accepts a \$1,000 check from the officers of Huntington B.P.O. Elks No. 313. With Gilley are, from left, Don Carnahan, member of the Elks Board of Trustees, Buddy Legg, exalted ruler, and Chris McGuffin, leading knight.

Lodge challenges others to support new library

Huntington B.P.O. Elks Lodge No. 313 has pledged \$5,000 toward construction of Marshall University's library/information center as a challenge to other lodges, clubs and organizations.

Marshall President J. Wade Gilley recently accepted a \$1,000 check from the lodge as the first payment on a five-year pledge.

Officers presenting the check included Don Carnahan, member of the Elks Board of Trustees, Buddy Legg, exalted ruler, and Chris McGuffin, leading knight.

Founded in 1868, the national fraternity now numbers 1.3 million members in 2,230 local lodges. The Huntington lodge is the largest in West Virginia. In 1995, the value of the Elks' charitable works nationally totaled more than \$134 million.

CIES grants available

The Council for International Exchange of Scholars has announced a deadline of Nov. 1 to submit applications for the following programs:

—The Fulbright Scholar-in-Residence Program which brings visiting lecturers in the arts, humanities, social sciences and related fields to campuses for a semester or academic year;

—The European Union Scholar-in-Residence Program which brings an EU official to campuses to serve as a resident fellow;

—The Fulbright International Education Administrators Program which provides short-term group seminars in Germany, Japan and Korea for campus administrators in international education;

—The Fulbright German Studies Seminar, a three-week seminar on German society today for faculty in German studies, communications, history, sociology and political science.

There will be a Jan. 1, 1997, deadline for NATO Advanced Research fellowships and institutional grants for research on political, security and economic issues directly affecting the health of the NATO alliance.

To obtain further details contact the Marshall University Office of Academic Affairs, 696-6690 or 696-5442.