

9-26-1996

MU NewsLetter, September 26, 1996

Office of University Relations

Follow this and additional works at: http://mds.marshall.edu/oldmu_newsletter

Recommended Citation

Office of University Relations, "MU NewsLetter, September 26, 1996" (1996). *MU NewsLetter 1987-1999*. Paper 277.
http://mds.marshall.edu/oldmu_newsletter/277

This Article is brought to you for free and open access by the Marshall Publications at Marshall Digital Scholar. It has been accepted for inclusion in MU NewsLetter 1987-1999 by an authorized administrator of Marshall Digital Scholar. For more information, please contact zhangj@marshall.edu, martj@marshall.edu.

Staff Council discusses personnel matters

(The following report on the Aug. 15 meeting of the Marshall University Classified Staff Council was submitted by Connie J. Zirkle, secretary.)

Members present were: Sharie Altizer, Nina Barrett, David Blackburn, Sherry Brooks, Jill Chapman, Muhammad Chaudhry, Shannon Christian, Patricia Gallagher, Anita Hill, Earl Johnson, Kelli Mayes, Ted Misner, Rowena Napier, Elizabeth Nickell, Terry Olson, Ken Reffeitt, Mark Ross, Connie Zirkle.

Members absent were: Lisa Allen, David Cremeans, Judy Damron, Kay Hesson, Ronnie Hicks, Verlin Hughes Jr., Chris Kennedy, David Napier, Joe Wortham.

The meeting was called to order by Nina Barrett, president, at 1 p.m.

Minutes of the previous meeting were approved with two changes. The corrections noted that Ted Misner was present at the July 18 meeting and Kelli Mayes is chair of the Staff Development Committee, not the Service Committee.

The next item on the agenda was discussion with Bill Burdette, interim director of human resources, and David Harris, director of equity programs. Sharie Altizer, chair of the Personnel Committee, asked a series of questions that had been brought up in her committee.

Questions and answers were:

—If an employee is dismissed, is the grievance policy the only manner of appeal outside using the civil court system? Yes.

—Why has Marshall allowed some employees to be given an option to resign, while others have been placed on suspension or fired? Each case depends on the circumstances and the administration's decisions.

—Is any disciplinary action ever taken against employees who may have made false allegations which resulted in suspension or firing of another employee? No official disciplinary action or policy exists, however, the employee has the right to grieve and file a complaint requesting action against the accusing employee.

—What is the status of our handbook and when may employees expect to have this in hand? The final draft of the handbook has been approved and it is awaiting final approval. It will then be printed for distribution. No date was given.

—Regarding the recent increment pay, why did non-classified staff receive \$50 per year of service and classified staff \$36 per year of service? The increment raise was a legislative bill and it was distributed according to the interpretations made by the legal staff of the state of West Virginia. In order to change the distribution, another bill or amendment must be passed.

—Is it possible for more flexibility to be made for an employee requesting maternity or medical leave as to when time is used? This issue is flexible within departments depending on departmental needs and policy. A department where it is essential for an employee to be on the job during certain times such as security or buildings and grounds workers is not as flexible as other positions due to the nature of the jobs. Where an employee has a disability that involves major life functions, reasonable accommodations must be made according to state and federal laws.

The classified and non-classified issue was discussed. A new employee is advised of their classification at hiring. According to state code a certain percentage of employees are allowed to be non-classified. This is decided by the president of the university.

Terry Olson raised an issue regarding temporary employees who were being used as cost saving measures and ended up replacing regular employees. This practice causes staff to lose positions rather than just be "temporary" employees. Burdette

said that he was unaware of this practice and asked for specific positions that he could individually review. Olson made the point that we can all lose our jobs to outsourcing if this practice is an allowed "trend."

Burdette stated that Staff Council needs to get the information out about the phased retirement policy that is being implemented at Marshall. He said employees should be aware of this option, especially those within retirement age.

Standing Committee Reports:

Barrett gave the Election Committee report for Joe Wortham. She said information regarding the special elections was to be circulated at the end of August. The President's Division of Staff Council has become an at large group and there will not be an election in this area due to the new status. A position is available in the School of Medicine, Office Personnel group and the Administrative Professional group. These elections will be held in September.

The Personnel Committee report was given by Sharie Altizer, chair. A request was made to invite President J. Wade Gilley to a future council meeting. A motion was made and passed to invite the president to a meeting when it could be scheduled. Barrett requested that Judi Balzano contact the President's Office to request a meeting.

Mark Ross and Terry Olson gave the Legislative Affairs Committee report. They listed the following committee goals: changing the increment from \$36 to \$50 to include higher education employees who are excluded as the law currently exists, civil service options for MU employees and state employees being allowed to run for state offices.

Sherry Brooks gave the Service Committee report. She announced that Staff Council and other staff members can work with Habitat for Humanity on Linda's house. She said that Lisa Allen from Greek Affairs had expressed thanks for the cards she received. Brooks asked staff members to continue to send cards of encouragement to Allen. She also discussed the committee's work this Christmas and said they would not be working with Huntington City Mission as they did last year. She had several good ideas and asked for help with her committee to promote new ways to help the community at Christmas.

Kelli Mayes, chair of the Staff Development Committee, gave a report that 15 one-course waivers and 17 financial assistance (half-course waivers) had been awarded for the fall 1996 semester. All who applied were given one or the other form of assistance. Goals of the committee include finding out about WVU's policy regarding staff class waivers and policy to grant sabbaticals to staff members to complete degrees, etc., and addressing a problem with supervisors not granting release time for MU employees to attend classes.

Barrett said that President Gilley issued a letter to supervisors encouraging them to grant release time to employees taking classes. After a brief discussion about the directive not being followed by all departments, Barrett advised Mayes to write a resolution to be sent to the president regarding blanket release time for staff when they attend a class. Marshall is an educational institution and will benefit from a better-educated staff, therefore, release time to pursue that education should fall within the president's jurisdiction.

New Business:

The Mission Statement given to Staff Council by Elaine Baker, Faculty Senate president, was discussed. Suggestions were noted and will be returned to Baker to note the council's input.

The meeting adjourned at 2:45 p.m.

MU NEWSLETTER

MARSHALL UNIVERSITY • OFFICE OF UNIVERSITY RELATIONS • HUNTINGTON, WEST VIRGINIA 25755 • Sept. 26, 1996

Alumnae will be honored at Arts Gala 1996

Two Marshall University alumnae who have had distinguished careers in the arts will be honored during the university's Arts Gala 1996 on Oct. 12.

Donald L. Van Horn, dean of Marshall's College of Fine Arts, said two longtime Marshall professors will be the first award recipients. June Quillin Kilgore will be honored with the Distinguished Arts Achievement award and Elaine Adams Novak will be recognized with the Distinguished Arts Educator award.

Known throughout the Tri-State area primarily as a painter, Kilgore taught a range of arts media at Marshall from 1959 until her retirement in 1989. She served as chair of the university's Art Department for 13 years.

A 1957 honors graduate of Marshall, Kilgore earned her M.A. degree at Marshall in 1965 and received an M.F.A. degree from Pratt Institute of Art in New York City in 1971. She completed additional study at George Peabody College and Ohio University.

Miller is Drinko Fellow

Dr. Montserrat Martí Miller, formerly assistant professor of history at Texas A & M University in Corpus Christi, has been selected as the fourth Drinko Fellow for Marshall University's John Deaver Drinko Academy for American Political Institutions and Civic Culture, according to Dr. Alan B. Gould, executive director of the academy.



Miller

The Drinko Academy, established in April 1994, 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.

As a Drinko Fellow, Miller will help develop initiatives in service learning and leadership for all students that address involvement in American civic life from a broad interdisciplinary perspective and will explore how Marshall University can enhance existing majors and extra-curricular programs in ways that are relevant to the Drinko Academy's mission. She also will teach history courses.

Miller received a bachelor's degree in international affairs and a master's degree in American history from Marshall. She received a master's degree and Ph.D. in European history from Carnegie Mellon University.

Prior to accepting a position at Texas A & M in 1994, Miller was a project director and instructor at Carnegie Mellon, an instructor and research assistant at Marshall and worked as a paralegal in the Huntington law firm of Chambers and Chambers.

Miller received several grants and awards while studying at Marshall and Carnegie Mellon universities. She was named an

(Continued on page 2)

Prior to joining Marshall's faculty, Kilgore taught art at Lincoln Elementary, Barboursville High School and the Marshall Laboratory School.

Kilgore has exhibited in scores of juried, invitational and one-person shows. Her work was included in the biennial West Virginia Juried Exhibition in 1979, 1983, 1987, 1991, 1993 and 1995 at the West Virginia State Museum in the Cultural Center, Charleston.

Her work also has been included in every Exhibition 280 at the Huntington Museum of Art since 1963 when the exhibition was known as Exhibition 80. Kilgore is represented by galleries in several states and her work is included in numerous private collections including Ashland Inc. and the John D. Rockefeller Private Collection.

In 1994 Kilgore was cited for the Governor's Award for Exemplary Contributions by an Artist to Arts Education by the Governor's Task Force on Arts in Basic Education. In 1995 she was the first artist to be honored by a retrospective exhibition in the West Virginia State Museum at the Cultural Center. "June Kilgore: A Retrospective" displayed nearly 100 pieces of her work, spanning a 30-year period. A companion exhibition, "The Next Generation: Kilgore Alumni," featured works by 29 of her former

(Continued on page 2)

Wilson receives grant

Dr. Thomas E. Wilson, associate professor of physics at Marshall University, has been awarded a \$237,921 grant by the U.S. Army Research Office to conduct condensed-matter physics research.

The three-year grant, awarded through the Department of Defense Experimental Program to Stimulate Competitive Research (DEPSCoR), will enable Wilson to investigate, for the first time, the possibility of generating intense pulses of acoustic waves in special silicon crystals.

Called doping superlattices, the special crystals will be grown by Wilson's collaborator, Dr. Hans-Joachim Gossmann, at AT&T Bell Laboratories' Silicon Electronics Research Division.

A doping superlattice consists of an alternating sequence of positively and negatively charged silicon layers—typically only 150 Angstroms thick (an Angstrom corresponds to a distance roughly equal to the radius of a hydrogen atom). The superlattice, composed of 500 such periodic layers, will be positioned inside a liquid helium cryostat and held near absolute zero temperature.

(Continued on page 2)



Kilgore



Novak

Alumnae will be honored at Arts Gala 1996

(Continued from page 1)

students. Kilgore was recognized in 1995 by Gov. Gaston Caperton with the Distinguished West Virginian award.

Dr. Novak joined the Marshall faculty in 1956 as an instructor in the Department of Speech and retired 37 years later as a professor in the Department of Theatre/Dance and director of Marshall University Theatre. She directed more than 100 productions at Marshall and was known for starting the tradition of directing musicals as a combined effort between MU Theatre and the Department of Music, allowing students to experience multidisciplinary performing arts activities.

After earning her B.A. degree with honors from Marshall in 1943, Novak served as a lieutenant in the U.S. Navy in communications intelligence. She earned an A.M. degree from Columbia University and a Ph.D. degree from Ohio State University. She also studied at the American Academy of Dramatic Arts and the American Theatre Wing in New York City.

Prior to joining Marshall's faculty, Novak worked six years in New York and Chicago in various jobs connected with theatre and was employed by WSAZ-TV in Huntington for three years.

Miller is Drinko Fellow

(Continued from page 1)

American Fellow of the American Association of University Women in 1992-93 and received a pre-dissertation fellowship from the Columbia University Council for European Studies in 1991. She was awarded a Fulbright Scholarship in 1991-92 to conduct urban history research in Barcelona, Spain.

She has written several papers and reviews for professional publications and journals and was a contributor to the section on "Europe: 1945 to the Present" in the new revised edition of the Encyclopedia of World History published last year by Houghton Mifflin Company.

Miller, who is fluent in three languages, has made many presentations on subjects such as women's history and European history at professional meetings, seminars and conferences.

She is a member of various organizations including the American Historical Association, the Urban History Association, the American Association of University Women, the North American Catalan Society and the Society for Spanish and Portuguese Historical Studies.

Miller also has been active in community affairs and formerly worked with UNICEF and the YWCA in Huntington and served on the Huntington Mayor's Task Force on Homelessness.

"We are very pleased Montserrat agreed to become a Drinko Fellow," said Gould. "She was very active at Marshall and in the Huntington community before leaving to pursue her doctorate and a career in higher education. She has become a distinguished scholar in American and European history and will be able to bring different viewpoints to our work in the Drinko Academy."

Office needs envelopes

The Technical Services Department at Marshall University's James E. Morrow Library needs large campus envelopes.

Any office or department that has a surplus of large campus envelopes can contact Nancy Filbert in the Technical Services Department, 696-3096, to make arrangements to have the envelopes picked up.

Novak's career at Marshall was distinguished with multiple accomplishments, highlighted by her selection in 1993 as recipient of the university's Distinguished Service award. She is the author of two textbooks, "Styles of Acting and Performing in Musicals" and with her daughter, Deborah M. Novak, wrote "Staging Musical Theatre."

In working closely with students, Novak brought her distinctive style to the stage with such productions as "Amadeus," "The Elephant Man" and "Gigi." Among musical theatre productions she directed were "Hello, Dolly," "Gypsy," "Cabaret" and "South Pacific."

In 1987 she was recognized by the West Virginia Theatre Conference with its "Outstanding Contribution to Theatre in West Virginia" award.

Kilgore and Novak will be honored during the university's Arts Gala 1996 to be held Saturday, Oct. 12, in the Marshall Fine and Performing Arts Center.

The gala is a community-oriented celebration of the arts that will benefit Marshall's College of Fine Arts. The evening will include a reception, dinner, performance of Gershwin music by pianist Leon Bates and vocalists Eddy Pierce Young and Benjamin Matthews, dessert buffet and showcase of Marshall student talent.

Tickets, which begin at \$150 per person, are available by calling the Marshall University Office of Development, 304-696-6214.

WAC workshop scheduled

A Writing Across the Curriculum (WAC) faculty development workshop titled "Peer Editing and Teacher Conferencing" will be held Wednesday, Oct. 2, at noon in Memorial Student Center Room 2W10.

All faculty members are invited to attend. To obtain further details contact the WAC Office, 696-4650.

Wilson receives grant

(Continued from page 1)

Wilson will focus intense pulses of far-infrared laser radiation onto the superlattices using a laser he designed with the aid of a grant received from the Department of Energy's New and Innovative Concepts Program in 1988.

The electric field of the laser radiation exerts opposite forces on the oppositely charged regions of the superlattice which, in turn, produces a compressional wave (acoustic phonon) of frequency equal to that of the laser radiation (~250 GHz).

If successful, Wilson said the new phonon source may prove useful in a number of areas.

"Perhaps the most exciting application would be to deploy the superlattice as the transducer in a cryogenic acoustic microscope. The resulting sub-surface imaging capability, with a resolution of approximately 10 Angstroms, would open new frontiers in high-resolution microscopy," explained Wilson.

He said the Army Research Office would like to see such a microscope developed for imaging the subsurface structures of ultrasmall transistors planned for the next generation of integrated circuitry. The process also could have important applications in industry and medicine.

Jazz concert to be held by new arts group

"Jazz 101," a concert featuring The Bob Thompson Trio and several other jazz artists, will be held at Marshall University Friday, Oct. 4, at 8 p.m. in Smith Recital Hall.

Performers will include Stel Walton Whitehead (vocals), Charles Johnson (saxophone), J.D. Folsom (trumpet) and members of the trio which includes Thompson (piano), Dwayne Dolphin (bass) and Guy Remonko (drums).

The concert is being presented by Stel and Friends Inc., a newly organized non-profit organization dedicated to promoting diversity in the arts.

Directed by Whitehead, Stel and Friends Inc. was first incorporated in Florida in 1989. The arts organization was named in honor of Whitehead by community artists and musicians prior to her move to Huntington with her husband, Baruch, who directs the Marshall marching band.

The organization, which will sponsor several presentations throughout the year, receives support from community leaders, concerned citizens, students and faculty members.

Women's Center plans events

A display profiling pioneers in the early suffrage movement will be on exhibit Tuesday through Friday, Oct. 1-4, in the Marshall University Women's Center, Prichard Hall Room 143.

The exhibit will include profiles on suffrage pioneers such as Mary Woldstonecraft, Lucretia Mott, Elizabeth Cady Stanton, Emmeline Pankhurst, Susan B. Anthony, Carrie Chapman Catt and Lois Beachy Underhill.

A panel discussion with women involved in today's political arena will be held Wednesday, Oct. 2, at noon in the Shawkey Room in Memorial Student Center.

The panel discussion and exhibit are open to the public free of charge. To obtain further details contact the Marshall University Women's Center, 696-3112.

Center can administer tests

Marshall University's Computer Based Testing Center is now open every day to administer the Graduate Record Examination (GRE) and PPST/Praxis tests by computer, according to Dr. Roscoe Hale, interim dean of the College of Education.

Located in the "Gold Building" behind Holderby Hall, the center is open Mondays, Wednesdays and Thursdays from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m., Tuesdays from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. and Fridays from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Registration for tests can be completed by contacting the Marshall University Computer Based Testing Center, 696-2604 or 696-6610, or the National Registration Center, 1-800-967-1100. Registration can be completed in person at the center.

Open house to be held

There will be an open house Wednesday, Oct. 2, from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. in the newly renovated African American Students' Program Office in Memorial Student Center Room 1W25.

Kenneth E. Blue, associate vice president for multicultural affairs, said he would like to thank everyone involved in the renovation project. He also expressed appreciation to President J. Wade Gilley, Dr. Edward Grose and Ray Welty for their support and assistance.

All Marshall University faculty, staff and students are invited to the open house.

"Our goal is to provide a venue for the display of some of the great variety of talent in West Virginia, Ohio and Kentucky as well as north central Florida," said Whitehead. "Members of Stel and Friends usually are not performers, rather they volunteer their time to host performances."

A talented artist whose voice has drawn attention in the music industry, Whitehead has toured the United States and recorded several albums. She has worked as a performer and marketing representative for Capitol Records, promoting new artists in the college market.

Thompson has released several successful albums and is regularly featured on American Public Radio's "Mountain Stage" program broadcast from the West Virginia Cultural Center in Charleston.

Folsom, an associate professor in the Marshall University Department of Music, has performed in numerous concerts throughout the Tri-State. Johnson is a professional musician who recently returned to the area and is taking classes at Marshall.

Tickets for the concert will be \$10 and may be purchased at the door or at the Renaissance Book Company and Coffee House in Huntington.

The concert is being sponsored by Stel and Friends Inc., the MU Artists Series, Bank One, BASF Corporation, Darco International Inc. and the Campus Christian Center. To obtain further details contact Whitehead, 304-529-7609.

Nominations for award sought

Nominations for Marshall University's Pickens-Queen Teacher Award will be accepted through Oct. 11, according to Dr. Frances Hensley, assistant vice president for academic affairs.

Glenn and Carol Queen established the award to recognize and give evidence of the importance placed on teaching in the university and to provide encouragement and incentive for teaching excellence.

Awards and cash prizes of \$1,000 will be presented to three junior faculty during the 1997 Honors Convocation. Full-time, tenure track faculty members, at the rank of instructor or assistant professor, engaged in teaching with six years of service or less at Marshall are eligible for awards.

Nominations may be made by students, faculty and alumni. Nomination forms, available at the Academic Affairs Office, must be returned to Hensley, Old Main Room 110, by Oct. 11.

Lambda Alpha chapter formed

A chapter of Lambda Alpha national anthropology honor society has been established at Marshall University.

Faculty sponsors for the local chapter are Dr. Nicholas Freidin and Dr. Karen Li Simpkins, associate professors of sociology and anthropology at Marshall.

Marshall's Archaeology and Anthropology Club has been working to bring a charter to the MU campus since 1994-95. The local chapter's name will be Beta of Lambda Alpha. Beta refers to Marshall being the second chapter in the state.

Charter members of the new chapter are undergraduates Rebecca Brewer, Gregory Jones, Stacey Angel-Brown and Ronald Thomas and graduate student Richard Butler.

To be eligible for membership students must have at least a 3.30 grade point average and have enough hours for a minor in anthropology.