Alumni award recipients announced

The presidents of two national firms and an educator/writer will be honored at the Marshall University Alumni Association's 49th annual Alumni Awards Banquet on Saturday, April 26, according to Denise Gibson Welker, chairwoman of the Alumni Association's Awards Committee.

Verna Kaye LeMasters Gibson, president and chief executive officer of The Limited Stores, Inc., and Dr. Richard O. Curry (B.A. '52, M.A. '56), professor of history at the University of Connecticut and author of numerous publications, will receive Distinguished Alumnus awards.


A native of Elkview, W.Va., Mrs. Gibson attended Marshall from 1960 to 1962. She began her career in Huntington in 1964 as buyer and merchandise manager with the Smart Shops.

In 1971 she joined the Limited, based in Columbus, Ohio, as a merchandise trainee when the company had only eight stores, doing $4 million a year in sales. In June 1985 she became president and chief executive officer of the Limited which now operates more than 600 stores in 44 states and which is approaching $1 billion a year in sales.

She and her husband, James E. Gibson, who attended Marshall 1958-61, live in Columbus.

Dr. Curry, who received his Ph.D. from the University of Pennsylvania in 1961, taught there, at Morris Harvey College (University of Charleston), and the University of Pittsburgh prior to joining the University of Connecticut in 1963.

An international lecturer, Curry has been author, co-author, or editor of numerous books and contributor to many professional history journals. His field of specialization is 19th Century United States history. His research interests include United States social, intellectual and political history, with some emphasis on social psychology and comparative history.

The West Virginia native has been the recipient of a number of awards and fellowships, including ones from the National Endowment for the Humanities, National Science Foundation, Fulbright, and U.S. Information Agency.

And his wife, the former Patricia Montenegro, live in Wil­limantic, Conn.

Miller, who has been engaged in coal preparation technology and design and erection of coal preparation and ore plants

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Faculty meeting set

A general faculty meeting will be held on Tuesday, April 29, at 4 p.m. in Old Main Auditorium, according to Dr. Rainey Duke, chairwoman of the University Council.

The agenda will include a recognition of retiring faculty members, an introduction of the Meet-the-Scholars award winner, a report on the North Central Association accreditation visit, nominations for vacancies on standing committees and other faculty positions such as the Institutional Board of Advisors, the Board of Regents Advisory Council, the President's Legislative Committee, the Institutional Hearing Committee and the Memorial Student Center Board, and other announcements.

Reception to honor Bucklew

Marshall University faculty, staff and students are invited to attend a reception for Dr. Neil Bucklew, new president of West Virginia University, Monday, April 28, beginning at 2 p.m. in the Shawkey Room, Memorial Student Center.

Dr. Bucklew, who will be in Huntington to address the Rotary Club, will meet with the President's Cabinet prior to the reception.
Staff Council discusses office transfer

(The following report on the April 17 meeting of the Marshall University Staff Council was submitted by Zanna L. Crager, acting secretary.)


Members absent: Charlotte Ball, Thelma Blake, Phyllis Caldwell, Georgia Childers, Eugene Crawford and Charles Gilbert.

Election Committee Update:

Nina Barrett reported that the nomination forms were mailed March 31 and she had received 102 forms back. The election for vacancies on the Staff Council took place May 15. Due to the implementation of the recently passed Senate Bill 231 stipulating the president can place up to four percent of the total classified staff into the category of non-classified staff, Paul Michaud was disqualified from running for the state-wide council.

A complete list of individuals placed in the nonclassified category will be forthcoming. Ms. Barrett stated that the declaration of these individuals as non-classified staff had not changed the percentages of any of the employee groups. She asked that Council members get some tellers from each division to help count the ballots May 15. They can't be Council members.

Personnel Department Transfer:

The rumor of the Personnel Department being transferred from under the vice president for support services to the vice president for financial affairs was brought up.

Gloria Rickman presented a brief history of what has transpired with respect to this move. She was asked by the president if she thought this matter should come before the Staff Council before a decision was made. She assumed, since it was an administrative decision to be made by the president, it was not necessary to bring the matter before the Council, therefore, she did not seek Council’s input.

She cited among the reasons for the move, the communications gap between Personnel and Payroll, and noted that if both departments were reporting to the same vice president, it would speed up the decision making process.

After discussion, all opposed to the transfer in reporting, it was moved by Bruce Greenwood that the Executive Committee compose a letter to the president expressing Council’s concerns and opposition to the decision to remove the Personnel Office, which is for the benefit of the support staff, out from under the control of the vice president for support services. The motion was seconded and passed by unanimous vote.

Senate Bill 231:

Council members were asked to distribute the bill to all staff. The bill provides for a salary schedule for classified staff, but it will be some years before it is funded. For 1986-87, the bill provides for a $600 pay raise and a $36 a year increase which will be figured into each pay period rather than the lump sum payment.

Board of Regents Letter:

Gloria Rickman read a letter from BOR Chancellor Cole requesting support for a move to be brought before the special Legislative session to be held in May asking that a percentage raise be considered for all BOR employees rather than the straight $600 across the board raise.

The consensus of Council was that a percentage raise would not be as beneficial to the lower paid employees, citing that an employee who is making $7,10 a month will only get a $426 increase based on a five percent raise, and we should stick with the $600 across the board increase. Rickman said if the Legislature comes up with the $560,000 necessary to fund Chancellor Cole’s request for percentage raises, that money should be applied to the salary schedule. She will call Clifton Neaf, chairman of the state-wide council, and express these concerns.

North Central Visit:

Rickman stated the visiting team gave the staff very high marks and said they had a very good attitude. She said one of their comments was that “they felt the Staff Council would take on anything.”

Discount Committee:

Rickman reported there were 40 businesses currently giving discounts to Marshall employees. They were under the impression the discounts would expire July 1. This committee has not been very active and work should begin to renew these discounts. It was moved that Rowena Napier be appointed co-chair of this committee to help get the ball rolling. The motion was approved.

Education Committee:

Charlene Hawkins reported that staff tuition waivers were available for the first summer term only. She stated that waivers not used for one semester could not be carried over. The unused waivers reverted back to Financial Aid and were given to non-staff persons.

To prevent this from happening in the future, Bruce Greenwood suggested that we require the staff person to put up some of their own money to commit the person to follow through on using the waiver. They would be reimbursed after the term started. He also suggested the committee choose and rank the individuals requesting waivers. The committee should also stipulate, if it becomes necessary to repay the money due to failure or dropping the course, that their paycheck would be withheld until the obligation was cleared.

Merit Raise Situation:

Ken Reffeitt asked for Council’s opinion on the merit raise situation. The law states that merit raises can be granted by individual institutions if they have the money and an established criteria for determining merit. Such money would come from unfiled positions and could not exceed one percent of the total salary. Marshall has no criteria for determining merit. Council recommended that a policy be established.

Reffeitt asked for Council’s recommendation on the time limit for allowing comp time to be taken. Council felt the 20-day limit was too short and suggested it be increased to 60 days.

He also suggested Council might want to check into having the state-wide council representative elected from the Staff Council and have a regulation that the person has been a full-time employee of the university for one year.

If Council does not feel the state-wide representative should be a Staff Council member, then we should make provisions that the representative serve on the Council as an ex-officio member in order to receive input as to what the concerns of the staff are in order to take them before the state council.

Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday:

Gloria Rickman announced that this matter was again discussed in the President’s Cabinet meeting. Since the committee did not present a recommendation, the president will make a decision.

It was pointed out that the Student Government and the Deans’ Council voted to keep the holiday as is. The only constituency expressing the desire to change was a small group.

After considerable discussion, it was moved that the Executive Committee send a letter to President Nitzschke fortifying Council’s desire and recommendation that the holiday remain a floating day to be used as deemed by the Council. The motion was unanimously approved.

Pending Reclassifications:

Rickman reported that the president had received a letter from the governor concerning the reclassifications being held up in the governor’s office. The governor said he had made an exception last fall and released the reclassifications for Marshall, but he did not want to make any more exceptions. He had asked departments not to send any reclassifications through and indicated in his letter that he would approve them in time.

Bruce Greenwood moved that Gloria Rickman talk with President Nitzschke to see if he intends to do anything and to get his feelings on the possibility of the staff filing a class action suit. The motion was unanimously approved.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:30 p.m.
Walker and Walden receive positions

Dr. Robert B. Walker of Hamlin has been appointed chairman of Marshall University’s Department of Family and Community Health and Dr. John B. Walden of Huntington has been made associate chairman, School of Medicine Dean Lester R. Bryant has announced.

Walker has been the department’s acting chairman for the past year.

Since joining the Marshall faculty in 1979, Walker’s roles have included program director of family practice and chief of the division of rural health research. He is a consultant to the state epidemiologist, and has also served as a medical consultant to the Board of Review for Disability and Vocational Rehabilitation for Lincoln and Putnam counties. In addition, he is a past president of the Hamlin Lions Club.

His professional memberships include the American Academy of Family Physicians and the American Public Health Association, as well as their West Virginia counterparts.

Graduating School of Medicine seniors in 1985 honored Walker as the faculty member who most influenced their careers, and an earlier class gave him an “Outstanding Contribution to Medical Education” award. In 1979, the U.S. Public Health Service gave him a special commendation award for rural medical service.

He received his M.D. degree from the University of Florida College of Medicine in 1974, after graduating with high honors from the University of Florida.

Walden, a graduate of the West Virginia University School of Medicine, joined Marshall’s full-time faculty in 1982. He has served as program director of the department’s residency program, chief of the Section of Family Practice, director of international health, and director of the Family Practice Clinic. He also is founder and principal officer of Friends of Gentle People, a charitable association of physicians working with jungle-dwelling Indian tribes of South America.

Author to read works

Appalachian writer Gurney Norman will read selections from his works at Marshall University on Wednesday, April 30, at 8 p.m. in Corbly Hall Room 105.

Credited for his active work in defining the “Appalachian consciousness,” Norman is best known as the author of “Divine Right’s Trip,” a novel that contrasts in its main character the desire to be footloose with the need for roots, according to Andrew Campbell, assistant professor of English at Marshall. The novel originally appeared in “The Last Whole Earth Catalog” in 1971.

“Kinfolks,” Norman’s 1977 collection of short stories, centers on growing up and learning the bonds of love in an Appalachian family.

Norman was born in eastern Kentucky and studied at the University of Kentucky. He also attended Stanford University on a Wallace Stegner Fellowship. He currently teaches creative writing and holds an appointment with the Appalachian Center at the University of Kentucky.

The reading, sponsored by the Marshall University Department of English, the MU College of Liberal Arts and the Higher Education Resource Fee, is open to the public free of charge. To obtain further details contact Professor Andrew Campbell of the Marshall University Department of English, 696-6404.

Lord will give lecture

Dr. Sharon B. Lord, commissioner of the West Virginia Department of Human Services, will present a lecture on “Full Utilization of Human Resources” at Marshall University on Thursday, May 1, at 3 p.m. in Corbly Hall Room 105.

A 1965 graduate of West Virginia University, Lord is a former deputy assistant secretary of defense in manpower, reserve affairs and logistics. In that role she was the highest ranking woman in the United States defense establishment.

The lecture, sponsored by the Marshall University ROTC and the College of Business, is open to the public free of charge. To obtain further details contact Capt. William E. Meador of Marshall’s ROTC Department, 696-6450.

‘Belle of Amherst’ set

The Forum Division of the Marshall University Artists Series will present “The Belle of Amherst” on Wednesday, April 30, at 8 p.m. in Old Main Theatre.

Written by William Luce, the one-woman play is based on the life of Emily Dickinson, one of America’s greatest, but most misunderstood, poets.

Laura Whyte, one of the southeast’s leading actresses, will portray Dickinson.

General admission tickets for “The Belle of Amherst” are $6 and $3 for youth 17 and under. Marshall students with a valid identification and activity card will be admitted free.

To obtain further details contact the Marshall Artists Series Office, 696-6656.

Jazz concert planned

The Marshall University Jazz Ensemble will present its spring concert on Wednesday, April 30, at 8 p.m. in Smith Recital Hall.

Ensemble Director J.D. Folsom, assistant professor of music, and several students will be featured during the performance which will include tunes from the libraries of Duke Ellington, Count Basie, Les Brown, Tommy Dorsey, Rob McConnell and Stan Kenton.

The concert is open to the public free of charge. To obtain further details contact the Marshall University Institute for the Arts, 696-3107.
Six elected to grievance committee

(The following report on the April 16 meeting of the University Council was submitted by Lora Hart, stenographer.)

University Council met at 3 p.m. April 16 in the President's Conference Room. The following items were discussed:

Sexual Harassment Grievance Body: Council voted for six faculty members to be on the committee. Those elected were: Elaine Baker, Franny Hensley, Bob Sawrey, Jane Wells, Linda Wilkinson, and Vernon Padgett.

Suggestions for Presidential Appointments: University Council nominated people for President Nitzschke to choose from in order to fill vacant

Faculty workshop set

"Publishing Tips and Strategies" will be the subject of a faculty/staff workshop on Thursday, May 1, from 10:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. in the Memorial Student Center Alumni Lounge. The activities will include a panel discussion on publishing tips, chaired by Dr. Barbara P. Guyer, associate professor of education at Marshall.

Panel members will include Dr. William A. McDowell on conference presentations; Dr. William A. Wallace on the textbook prospectus; Dr. Robert Barnett on writing for money; Dr. Virginia Plumley on media and publications; Dr. Glen Dunlap on research journals, and Dr. Carl S. Johnson on applied journals.

Individual conferences will begin at 1:30 p.m.

The workshop is the fourth in a series of faculty seminars on research and publishing sponsored by the Marshall University College of Education. To obtain further details contact the College of Education, 696-3130.

Award recipients

(Continued from page 1)

for nearly 40 years, began work with the Chicago-based Roberts & Schaefer Co. in 1946. After a brief training program, he was assigned to its Huntington office as a sales engineer. He rose through the ranks and became president of the company in 1963.

When the parent company of Roberts & Schaefer Co., T.S.T. Industries, Inc., merged in 1969 with the Elgin National Watch Co., Miller was elected a vice president and director of the resulting company, Elgin National Industries, Inc. In 1972 he was elected president and chief executive officer of Roberts & Schaefer Co.

Miller and his wife, the former Sarah Lee Marple who attended Marshall 1938-40, established a Distinguished Chair in Business at Marshall. They are members of the John Marshall Society and he is a member of the MU Foundation.

The three will be honored during a banquet at 12:30 p.m., Saturday, April 26, in the W. Don Morris Room of Memorial Student Center. For details, call the Alumni Office (304) 696-3134.

Position openings... 

The Office of Personnel has announced the following campus job opportunities. Applications should be made directly to the Office of Personnel unless otherwise noted.

Assistant Professor, Early Childhood Education/Language Arts, closes May 15. Send inquiry and credentials to Dr. Corey Lock, Division of Teacher Education, College of Education, Marshall University.

Building Service Worker I, Auxiliary Services, three positions available, Pay Grade 2, closes April 25.

seats for the Research Board, Graduate Council, and Faculty Service Committee.

Subcommittee Report on Faculty Status: Frank Aldred, chair, reported on the findings of the subcommittee concerning the status of assistant and associate deans in relationship to faculty governance. Those assistant and associate deans who are paid according to the Senate Bill 612 Faculty Schedule and who are entitled are considered faculty members and may serve on committees.

Sexual Harassment Grievance Changes: Council discussed the recommendations that were made by the Staff Council to the policy. All recommendations were accepted except for the one requiring a unanimous vote in a decision. Council recommends a 2/3 majority vote.

Report from Awards Committee: University Council reviewed the recommendations from the Awards subcommittee concerning the criteria for a Distinguished Service Award to be given to faculty members. Dr. Duke will present the recommendations to Deans' Council on April 17.

Election of University Council Chair: Dr. Rainey Duke was re-elected as Chair of Council.

Borzi receives Ph.D.

Mark G. Borzi, assistant professor of speech at Marshall University, has been awarded his doctorate degree by Bowling Green State University in Ohio, according to Dr. Carol Smith, vice president for academic affairs at Marshall.

His dissertation was entitled "A Rose by Any Other Name is Not a Rose: An Examination into the Nature of Shyness and Other Related Constructs."

Borzi joined the Marshall faculty in 1984 after having been an instructor at Owens Technical College and a graduate teaching fellow and teaching assistant at Bowling Green.

He received his bachelor's degree from Ohio State University in 1981 and his master's degree from Bowling Green in 1982.

Last seminar planned

"Women and Alcohol" will be the subject of the last lunch-bag seminar of the academic year presented by the Marshall University Women's Center on Wednesday, April 30, from noon to 1 p.m. in Prichard Hall Room 143.

Lola MaGuier, a substance abuse therapist, will provide information on the prevalence of alcoholism in the female population and treatment strategies for women. To obtain further details contact the MU Women's Center, 696-3112.

Workshop keeps parents fit

A free physical fitness workshop for parents of children 5-7 years of age will be held Sunday, May 4, at 2 p.m. at Sears in the Huntington Mall.

The workshop will be conducted by Dr. Betty Roberts, associate professor of health, physical education and recreation at Marshall. The session will be non-participation, only discussion and demonstration.

Exhibition scheduled

A graduate exhibition of paintings and drawings by Jeni Stewart of Huntington, a candidate for the M.A. degree in art at Marshall, will open Saturday, April 26, in Birke Art Galley.

Stewart is a graduate assistant in the MU Art Department and works with children in the university's "Art Op" program.

There will be a reception in Stewart's honor following the opening at 8 p.m. in the gallery. The exhibition will be on display through May 1.