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We Are...Marshall, October 1, 2014

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Homecoming Week to begin Monday

Jim Justice, a Marshall University alumni and owner of the famed Greenbrier resort, along with wife Cathy, daughter Jill, and son, Jay, have been selected as Grand Marshals for Marshall’s 2014 Homecoming parade, set for Saturday Oct. 11.


“We are thrilled to have the Justice family with us for Homecoming,” said a statement from the MU Alumni Association. Homecoming is a time, the association says, to “Wear your green, show your Marshall pride, reunite with old friends, make new friends, interact with alumni and students and reminisce about your days here.”

Jim Justice is credited with bringing the world-class resort back into the news with the addition of a new restaurant and casino and especially the PGA golf tournament, the first ever in West Virginia. The tournament opened in 2010 to glowing reviews and has continued to flourish, annually drawing top flight golfers and their fans to the Mountain State. The resort’s addition of a training camp for the New Orleans Saints professional football team this past summer brought legions of fans to the Greenbrier Valley area as well.

This year’s Homecoming theme is “Marco’s Favorite Heroes and Toughest Villains” with the following events scheduled:

**Monday, Oct. 6**

Office decorating contest begins.

4:30 p.m. – Third Annual Unity walk Celebration, Memorial Student Center Plaza

**Thursday, Oct. 9**

9 a.m. – Office decoration judging begins
Friday, Oct. 10

11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. – Free picnic on the plaza with music, prizes, games and lunch. This is the first official alumni event of homecoming weekend.

7 p.m. – Pep Rally on Buskirk Field. The Marching Thunder, Marco and cheerleaders will make an appearance.

7:30 -9:30 p.m. – Welcome Back Champagne Reception co-hosted by the Marshall University Alumni Association and the Black Alumni Association in the Don Morris Room in the Memorial Student Center. The cost is $25 per person for advance registration and $30 the day of the event. For reservations contact Fran Jackson at jacksonf@marshall.edu or Nancy Pelphrey at pelphrey@marshall.edu.

Saturday, Oct. 11

8 a.m. – 5K Alum Run. The course starts on Veterans Blvd. and ends near Pullman Square. The entry fee is $20 for early registration and $25 beginning Oct. 1. The run is co-sponsored by the MU Alumni Association and the Huntington Lions Club. To register contact David Specht at spechtl@frontier.com

9 a.m. Homecoming Parade.

9 a.m.- 11:30 a.m. – Tailgate Blast, $25 per person.

Noon, Kickoff. The Thundering Herd takes on Middle Tennessee’s Blue Raiders in the Homecoming game. Crowning of Mr. and Mrs. Marshall 2014 will take place at halftime. For tickets call 304 696-HERD.

Reminder: Poets to read from their work Oct. 6

Glenn Shaheen and Eric LeMay will read from their work at 8 p.m. Monday, Oct. 6, in the 3rd floor atrium of the Drinko Library on the Huntington campus. Their appearance at MU is part of the A.E. Stringer Visiting Writers Series.

Shaheen is the author of the poetry collection Predatory (University of Pittsburgh Press, 2011), which won the Agnes Lynch Starrett Prize and was the runner-up for the Norma Farber First Book Award. He is also the author of a chapbook of flash fiction, Unchecked Savagery (Ricochet Editions, 2013). His work has appeared in The New Republic, Subtropics Ploughshares and
elsewhere. He lives in Kalamazoo, Michigan, where he is a doctoral candidate at Western Michigan University.

LeMay has taught writing at Harvard, Columbia and the University of Chicago. He is on the faculty of the writing program at Ohio University, his alma mater. He serves as an associate editor for the New Ohio Review and the web editor for Alimentum: The Literature of Food. He also is a host on the New Books Network. He is the author of three books, The One in the Many, Immortal Milk, and In Praise of Nothing: Essays, Memoir, and Other Experiments. His work has appeared in The Paris Review, Gastronomica, Poetry Daily, the Best Food Writing Series, and other venues. He lives in Athens, Ohio, with his wife and fellow writer, Kristin LeMay.

This event is made possible with support from the College of Liberal Arts, the Honors College, and the West Virginia Humanities Council. A reception and book signing will follow.

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More than 80 employers expected to attend this fall’s Career Expo

Career Services will conduct its annual Fall Career Expo from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 8, in the Memorial Student Center’s Don Morris Room. The expo is open to all Marshall students, faculty and alumni. Recruiters will be sharing information on part-time, full-time and internship positions. Career Services will conduct its annual Fall Career Expo from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 8, in the Memorial Student Center’s Don Morris Room. The expo is open to all Marshall students, faculty and alumni. Recruiters will be sharing information on part-time, full-time and internship positions.

More than 80 employers are expected to have recruiters at the event, representing the areas of customer service, IT/computer science, health care, media sales, engineering, insurance/financial services, corrections, retail management and many others. A continually updated list of employers planning to attend the Career Expo is available at http://www.marshall.edu/career-services/events/careerexpo.html.

Denise Hogsett, director of Career Services, said students are encouraged to dress professionally and come prepared with multiple copies of their resumes. Hogsett said even if students are not looking for a job, attending the expo presents an excellent networking opportunity.

Leading up to the event, the “Resume Doctor,” Senior Career Counselor Mirek Bialk of Career Services, will be reviewing resumes for students from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Monday, Oct. 6, and Tuesday, Oct. 7, in the student center lobby. No appointment is necessary. Students may also
attend an Open House at Career Services from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday, Oct. 6, for tips on working the Career Expo or to create or review their resumes with a career counselor.

If you have questions about the event, please contact Career Services front desk at ext. 6-2370 or career-services@marshall.edu.

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Third ‘We Are … Family Unity Walk Celebration’ is Oct. 6

Marshall’s third annual “We Are … Family Unity Walk Celebration,” an event created to give all Marshall students, faculty and staff an opportunity to celebrate their unity and the fact that they are all members of the same “family,” will take place at 4:30 p.m., Monday, Oct. 6, on the Huntington campus.

This year’s walk, with an anticipated attendance of more than 1,500 students and alumni, begins at the Marshall Recreation Center at 4:30 p.m. “The Unity Walk” will be enhanced by group banners, cheers, chants and music.

“We are Marshall and we are one,” said Maurice Cooley, associate vice president for intercultural affairs, who was among the creators of the event in 2012. “We invite all Marshall University students, staff, faculty and alumni, along with the Marshall community, to come and enjoy this most festive walk with us as we again demonstrate our loyalty, unity, inclusiveness and oneness.”

All students, organizations, resident teams, athletic teams, fraternities and sororities are invited to take part. The Unity Walk is sponsored by the Student Resource Center, Student Affairs, Greek Affairs, MU Athletics, Housing and Residence Life and the Center for African American Students.

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Multi-million dollar federal grant renewed for Marshall researchers and statewide collaborators

Dr. Gary Rankin with the Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine and co-investigators at institutions around West Virginia, including West Virginia University, have received a five-year renewal grant from the National Institutes of Health (NIH) totaling more than $17 million for the West Virginia IDeA Network of Biomedical Research Excellence (WV-INBRE).

Rankin, who is chairman of the department of pharmacology, physiology and toxicology, serves as the grant’s principal investigator.

“We are really happy to be able to continue the work of the WV-INBRE program across our state,” Rankin said. “These funds will provide much-needed support for investigators at West Virginia colleges and universities to develop biomedical research programs and receive critical new equipment for their research activities.”

Rankin explained that researchers with the WV-INBRE research network are already studying many important health issues germane to West Virginia including cancer and cardiovascular disease, and the grant allows for expansion in those areas.

“The grant will also allow us to continue providing biomedical research opportunities for undergraduate students and faculty in all parts of West Virginia and help us train the state’s future workforce in science and technology,” Rankin said.

WV-INBRE is part of NIH’s Institutional Development Award (IDeA) program housed in the National Institute of General Medical Sciences (NIGMS) at NIH. The goals of the IDeA programs are to enhance biomedical research capacity, expand and strengthen the research capabilities of biomedical faculty, and, for INBREs, provide access to biomedical resources for promising undergraduate students throughout the 23 eligible states and Puerto Rico in the IDeA program.

“Our INBRE puts the IDeA approach into action by enhancing the state’s research infrastructure through support of a statewide system of institutions with a multidisciplinary, thematic scientific focus,” Rankin said. “For WV-INBRE this focus is cellular and molecular biology, with a particular emphasis on chronic diseases. We have also started an initiative to support natural products research in the areas of cancer and infectious disease research.”

Rankin said the research goals are accomplished through mentoring and administrative support provided by both Marshall University and West Virginia University.
Two of Marshall’s largest colleges have joined together to provide a new opportunity for students in the performing arts.

Since August the College of Health Professions and the College of Arts and Media have been offering performing arts students the chance to work with athletic trainers to prevent injury from occurring during performances. This idea was initiated by two young faculty members and has developed into what is now being called the Marshall University Center for Wellness in the Arts (CWA).

Dr. Henning Vauth, assistant professor of music in the College of Arts and Media, said he and his colleague, theatre professor Nicole Perrone, visited Ohio University last year and toured their Clinic for Science and Health in Artistic Performance. Vauth said the clinic is a place where injured performing artists can be evaluated by licensed athletic trainers who have the proper knowledge and equipment to treat their injuries.

“We met with the director of the Ohio University clinic and brainstormed ways to implement this same type of program at Marshall University,” Vauth said. “When we first envisioned CWA, we thought there would be three components: education, treatment and research. Many performing arts students have developed a mentality that a certain amount of pain is a part of the performer’s process. We want to change the culture and educate students so they look at pain as a problem and treat it accordingly so they can enjoy long careers.”

Donald Van Horn, dean of the College of Arts and Media, said he commends Vauth and Perrone for developing this program and for reaching out to the College of Health Professions.

“We’re taking some very positive and aggressive steps toward ensuring that our students have the opportunity to go to a place on campus where they can receive evaluation and suggestions to alleviate pain and injuries associated with the repetitive actions their work requires, particularly in the performing arts,” Van Horn said.

Dr. Mark Timmons, an assistant professor of athletic training and a facilitator of the CWA, said finding the right athletic trainer was a very important part of this unique collaboration.

“We wanted to find an athletic trainer who had worked with musicians, dancers, actors…someone who could appreciate the type of treatment we are trying to provide for our
performing arts students,” Timmons said. “The most qualified candidate we chose had previous work experience with Disney and the Varsity Spirit Corporation.”

Elliot Smithson was recruited by the college’s School of Kinesiology to work with the performing arts students to prevent injuries before they happen. Smithson is a licensed athletic trainer and a graduate assistant in the College of Health Professions.

“My experience working at Disney made me realize these performers do the same type of intense movements for hours at a time and at the same intensity as many professional athletes,” Smithson said. “Many well-known organizations such as Cirque du Soleil and Broadway have implemented athletic training into their industry. We need to start considering these performers as a part of the active population because leaving them out is doing them a great disservice.”

Timmons said there have been discussions about the possibility of offering an interdisciplinary degree program for wellness in the arts in the future.

The Center for Wellness in the Arts clinic is open from 4 to 6:30 p.m. on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays in the athletic training lab located in Gullickson Hall room 209 on the Marshall Huntington campus. For more information about the CWA, contact Van Horn at vanhorn@marshall.edu, Timmons at timmonsm@marshall.edu or by visiting the center’s Facebook page at www.facebook.com/MarshallCWA online.

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Photos: Elliot Smithson (far left) is shown leading warm-ups for theatre students in the Joan C. Edwards Playhouse before they begin rehearsals for their upcoming play, Tom Sawyer. John Marks of Palatka, Fla., is a senior theatre student in the College of Arts and Media. Marks said he believes the recent CWA sessions have helped strengthen the physical and mental approach necessary to ready one’s body for performance.

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Department of Social Work provides job opportunities to students through child welfare program

For the past 20 years, the Department of Social Work has given students the chance to secure jobs before they even graduate. This opportunity is sustained through the Title IVE Child Welfare Scholar program, which allows social work students to receive a stipend if they agree to work for the West Virginia Division of Health and Human Resources (WV DHHR) for the
amount of time they received the stipend, with a one-year minimum after graduation.

Jo Dee Gottlieb, primary investigator for the Title IVE Child Welfare project and a social work professor in the College of Health Professions, said the purpose of this program is to professionalize child welfare services while preparing students to be potential employees at the WV DHHR.

“Our students receive a stipend each semester for up to $3,000 and sign a contract to complete a 400-hour practicum and work for DHHR in child welfare after they graduate,” Gottlieb said. “Students gain amazing clinical experience during their practicum work and have the opportunity to obtain jobs in Child Protective Services, foster care, adoption and youth services.”

Hope Smith, community services manager at the Cabell County DHHR and a 1995 graduate of the Department of Social Work, was one of the very first students to receive the child welfare stipend. Smith said this program gave her the chance to experience a profession she otherwise would not have chosen for herself and one she still enjoys to this day.

Five Marshall students have received the program’s stipend for the 2014 academic year: Mikyla Stewart, Alyssa Hall, Cindy McDaniel, Melissa Nibert and Tiffany Adkins.

For more information on the Title IVE Child Welfare program, contact Gottlieb at gottlieb@marshall.edu.

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*Photo:* From left to right, Cindy McDaniel, Mikyla Stewart, Tiffany Adkins and Alyssa Hall have received the Title IVE Child Welfare Scholar stipend for the 2014 academic year. Not pictured: Melissa Nibert.

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Registration still open for Advanced Service Learning workshop

This is the last opportunity to register for the Advanced Service Learning Workshop to be held Friday, Oct. 3, at the Ritter Park Rose Garden in the Room with a View.

A Panera lunch for current and interested service learning faculty and community partners will be from noon to 1 p.m. The interactive workshop and course construction for those new to service learning will take place from 1:00 to 4:30 p.m. Registration can be made by contacting Dr. Kristi Fondren, Service Learning Director at fondren@marshall.edu, or by calling the Service Learning office at ext.6-6018.
Dr. Marie Archambault, associate professor of accounting, said, “Adding a service learning component to my course has made me more aware of the community and needs within the community. I have also presented a research paper based on the SL component of my course. From a student benefit perspective, I have had students get jobs with the entities that they have partnered with as well as get jobs through the network that their supervisors provided. One student has become a very successful member of a local CPA firm based on the recommendation provided to the partner of that firm from his supervisor at his SL placement. Another student is the CFO for the nonprofit entity that he was partnered with. At least 5 others have taken jobs, at least for some time, with their partners. I believe that this is the biggest benefit that I have gotten from SL, opening doors for myself and my students within the community.”

Marshall Recreation Center to hold second annual Big Pink Volleyball tournament

The Recreation Center will hold its second annual Big Pink Volleyball tournament at 10:30 a.m. on Saturday, Oct. 18.

The tournament will benefit the St. Mary’s Pink Ribbon Fund and PATH to the Cure, which raises money for the prevention and treatment of breast cancer.

The event, which features a bright pink volleyball measuring 4 feet in diameter, raised $1,000 for the organization last year.

Participants can register during PATH to a Cure registration at the Recreation Center’s welcome desk by Oct. 13. Cost to register for the event is $5 per person.

There will be divisions for student organizations, residence halls, businesses and individuals. Teams must have a minimum of four people.

The amount of teams registered will determine if the tournament will be single or double elimination. The winning team will receive an award following the final round.

Shirts can be purchased at the event for $10 for short sleeves and $13 for long sleeves. Participants are encouraged to wear pink in support of Breast Cancer Awareness.

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Marshall’s Health Informatics program ranked No. 1 most affordable in the nation

The Marshall University Health Informatics graduate program has been ranked the No. 1 most affordable program in the U.S. according to MBA Healthcare Management. The program was ranked first among 25 other universities in the nation based on criteria determining the overall quality, flexibility and research trends within each program.

Dr. Girmay Berhie, program director for health informatics, said Marshall’s program is a prime example of how both affordability and quality can go together.

“This news should be important to students because of the growing debt ratio concern. Students will spend less money on tuition and after graduation will have a better chance of finding good-paying jobs to repay any loans,” Berhie said. “Students graduating with a master’s degree in health informatics can typically get jobs as CIOs, program managers, data analysts, consultants, professors or security officers. The salary range for most of our graduates is from $60,000 to $125,000 a year.”

Berhie said the program consists of a partnership between three of Marshall University’s colleges including the College of Health Professions, the College of Business and the College of Information Technology and Engineering. Berhie said he believes it is the combined knowledge, expertise and skills from the three colleges that make the health informatics program unique.

“This is the only health informatics program in the state of West Virginia, and one of three programs in the United States to be accredited by the Commission of Accreditation for Health Informatics and Information Management (CAHIIM),” Berhie said. “In addition, the fact that the program was accredited within its first three years only speaks to its quality.”

Chief Information Officer for the West Virginia Health Information Network David M. Partsch serves on the advisory committee for the program. Partsch said students should take advantage of this opportunity to get quality education at an affordable cost.

“In this day and age of soaring tuitions and shrinking career opportunities, it is imperative to offer the best education at the lowest cost,” Partsch said. “Marshall University has clearly accomplished both of those goals and set itself as a visionary in the field of health informatics.”

Michael Jones, a 2014 graduate of the program, said it wasn’t until receiving his degree at Marshall that he found the career where he could truly succeed.

“As a nurse with a background in neuroscience, health research and data analysis, I had been seeking the right graduate program that could combine the kind of education and experience with today’s cutting-edge health information sciences,” Jones said. “I found my answer at Marshall University’s health informatics program. As a recent graduate, I now have an exciting and
rewarding career as a health informatics specialist working in the area of informatics and health data analytics.”

For more information about the program’s No.1 ranking, visit the MBA Healthcare Management web article here: http://mba-healthcare-management.com/best/masters-healthcare-informatics/.
For more information on Marshall’s master’s program in health informatics, visit www.marshall.edu/cohp online.

Forensic Science graduate student receives prestigious scientific scholarship award from the J. Edgar Hoover Foundation

David Preston Miller, a Forensic Science graduate student from Dallas, Texas, is the first student from Marshall to receive a prestigious, nationally recognized scientific scholarship award from the J. Edgar Hoover Foundation.

Miller was presented with a check for the $25,000 scientific scholarship last Friday at the Forensic Science Center by William D. Branon, chairman of the board and director of the J. Edgar Hoover Scholarship Foundation.

Branon said Miller was a very strong candidate for the scholarship with a very impressive background. Along with his achievements of academic excellence and dedication to his interest in forensic science, he demonstrated strong character, professionalism and motivation.

President Stephen J. Kopp said the Forensic Science Graduate Program has had many firsts, and Dr. Terry W. Fenger and the faculty have done an outstanding job developing the nationally recognized program that produces graduates who go on to fill leadership roles in the field. “When you think forensic science, and you think forensic science excellence, it’s Marshall University that comes to people’s minds immediately,” he said. “It’s a real source of pride for us.”

“Marshall University is honored to have the distinction to be among the educational institutions to have a student as a recipient of this very prestigious national award,” Kopp said. “We at Marshall are very proud of Preston Miller for being selected as the recipient of this year’s scientific scholarship from the J. Edgar Hoover Foundation.”

Miller is the 14th recipient of the award. He received his B.A. in biochemistry at Vassar College in Poughkeepsie, New York. At Marshall, his areas of concentration in forensic science are digital forensics and crime scene investigation.
He said he chose to attend Marshall because of the Forensic Science Graduate Program’s high rankings and flexible curriculum. “Additionally, its unique relationship with the West Virginia State Police (WVSP) permitting graduate students to work in the WVSP Digital Forensics Unit was a deciding factor,” he said. Miller has been a graduate assistant providing technical support for the unit since he started his studies at Marshall.

Dr. Terry W. Fenger, director of the Forensic Science Center, said the quality of the curriculum at Marshall attracts students with high levels of credentials. “Preston is a shining example for other students,” he said.

Branon said the foundation awards only one full scientific scholarship each year to a candidate who is interested in pursuing a forensic science-related career in law enforcement.

Prior winners of the scientific scholarship have been from Ohio University, the University of New Haven, Michigan State University, Saint John’s University, the University of California at San Francisco School of Medicine, California State University, Cleveland State University, the University of Georgia, George Washington University (two recipients), Columbia University, Stetson University and the University of Maryland.

Photo: William D. Branon, right, congratulates David Preston Miller after presenting Miller, a student in the Forensic Science Graduate Program, with a prestigious scientific scholarship award of $25,000 from the J. Edgar Hoover Scholarship Foundation during a ceremony held last week at the Forensic Science Center. Photo by Braxton Crisp/Marshall University.

‘Coffee with the Mayor’ series begins Oct. 7

“Coffee with the Mayor” will return to the Huntington campus for a third consecutive year next week. The series of chats with the mayor are a partnership between the Student Government Association and the Mayor’s Office.

Students, faculty and staff can share their concerns and visions for the community at the event which takes place from 10 to 11:30 a.m. Tuesday, Oct. 7, in the Memorial Student Center Lobby. Everyone is invited to come and have a cup of coffee with Mayor Steve Williams.

Additional sessions will take place from 10 to 11:30 a.m. Thursday, Nov. 13, and from 10 to 11:30 a.m. Tuesday, Dec. 2.
Carey Receives 2014 Phi Kappa Phi Love of Learning Award

Allison E. Carey, assistant professor of English, recently was awarded a $500 Love of Learning award by the Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi—the nation’s oldest and most selective collegiate honor society for all academic disciplines. She is one of 147 recipients nationwide to receive the award.

Carey plans to use the award to fund research on her current book project, a study of Civil War-era dime novels. She was initiated into the society in 1990 at The University of Tennessee, Knoxville.

The Phi Kappa Phi Love of Learning Award program was initiated in 2007 to help fund graduate or professional studies, doctoral dissertations, continuing education, career development and travel related to teaching and studies for active society members. The society’s award programs grant more than $1 million each biennium to qualifying students and members through graduate fellowships, undergraduate study abroad grants, member and chapter awards and grants for local and national literacy initiatives.

Phi Kappa Phi, which was founded in 1897, is by invitation only to the top 10 percent of seniors and graduate students and 7.5 percent of juniors. Faculty, professional staff and alumni who have achieved scholarly distinction also qualify.

Marshall University physician achieves new certification in subspecialty care for women

Dr. Kevin J. Conaway, an associate professor in the department of obstetrics and gynecology with the Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine, has earned certification by the American Board of Obstetrics and Gynecology in Female Pelvic Medicine and Reconstructive Surgery (FPMRS), making him the only such credentialed physician in Huntington.

In 2013, FPMRS became the fourth subspecialty in obstetrics and gynecology joining maternal fetal medicine, reproductive endocrinology/infertility and gynecologic oncology.

Often referred to as “urogynecology,” the subspecialty involves care of urinary tract dysfunction and disorders resulting from loss of support of the pelvic structures. Specifically, Conaway treats patients for pelvic organ prolapse and urinary
incontinence with surgical and non-surgical interventions. The National Institutes of Health estimates one-third of women in the United States will experience pelvic disorders in their lifetime.

Conaway is board certified in both obstetrics and gynecology and female pelvic medicine and reconstructive surgery. He is a graduate of the Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine, Class of 1991, and completed a residency in obstetrics and gynecology at Akron General Medical Center.

Conaway sees patients at Marshall Obstetrics and Gynecology located at 1600 Medical Center Dr. in Huntington and also at Marshall Obstetrics and Gynecology in Teays Valley.

Appointments may be made by calling 304-691-1400 for the Huntington location and 304-691-1800 for the Teays Valley site.

The next issue of *We Are…Marshall* will be distributed Oct. 8, 2014. Please send any materials for consideration to [Pat Dickson](mailto:Pat.Dickson@marshall.edu) by 5 p.m. Monday, Oct. 6.