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We Are...Marshall, August 20, 2014

Office of Marshall University Communications

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WE ARE... MARSHALL®

The Newsletter for Marshall University

August 20, 2014

Marshall freshmen to be greeted with numerous Week of Welcome activities



Dr. Gayle Ormiston, provost and senior vice president for academic affairs, says that just as in past years, Marshall officials have planned a large number of fun and informative activities for incoming freshmen as part of the annual Week of Welcome (WOW), which runs from today through Sunday, Aug. 24, on the Huntington campus.

“Week of Welcome is exactly that – a week dedicated to all freshmen, a week welcoming them to Marshall University,” Ormiston said. “It is important that the freshmen feel comfortable with the university before classes start on Aug. 25. We really want to make the transition into college as smooth

and easy as possible for all of our new students.”

In the days leading up to the start of classes, about 1,700 freshmen will take part in WOW activities. The freshmen will actually begin their first class during Week of Welcome. The UNI 100 Freshman First Class is an introduction to academic structures and expectations of college life. Those who successfully complete the course earn one hour of elective credit.

Marshall staff have worked all year to plan this event to welcome its new students and help them feel at home at Marshall, according to Sherri Stepp, Director of University College.

“It’s a great time to meet new people, explore new ideas and just get acquainted with campus and the Huntington community,” she said. “We will provide them with information that will support their entire experience at Marshall University and we hope to have a lot of fun.”

Week of Welcome and UNI 100 provide an opportunity for students to arrive early to campus and make new friends, Stepp said. They will meet President Stephen Kopp at the President’s Convocation, meet their academic deans at their college sessions, and begin learning the things they need to know to help them be successful students both academically and socially.

Among the most popular events of WOW are the family picnic, the President's Convocation and the group photo. The picnic will take place from 5 to 6:30 p.m. today on the student center plaza. The group photo will be taken at 9:15 a.m. Thursday, Aug. 21, at the John Marshall Statue.

The convocation, held in recent years at the Cam Henderson Center, starts at 9:45 a.m. Friday, Aug. 22, at the Keith-Albee Performing Arts Center in downtown Huntington. Students will meet in their UNI 100 classrooms at 8:30 a.m., walk to the John Marshall statue, then head west on 4th Avenue to the Keith-Albee at 9:15 a.m. At the conclusion of the convocation the students will walk back to campus in time for 11 a.m. sessions.

The convocation will be streamed live at www.marshall.edu/it/livestream.

The complete WOW schedule is available at www.marshall.edu/wow.

Marshall to premiere new TV spot this week; faculty and staff can get a look today



Marshall's Office of University Communications will unveil its new TV spot later this week, but faculty and staff can get a look today by following this [non-public link](#).

"The spot takes the 'Best. Decision. Ever' theme in a slightly different direction," said Tiffany Bajus, communications specialist in University Communications, who worked with advertising agency Bulldog Creative Services in producing the spots. "We show a

student, portrayed by Student Body President Duncan Waugaman, making the decision to attend Marshall with his parents, and then show a number of students who have already made the decision to come to Marshall."

The spot will be seen during televised sporting events and at home athletic events, Bajus said.

Marshall to host Thundering Herd community kick-off event

Marshall University and Kindred Communications will host a community event to kick off the school year and fall sports Friday, Aug. 22, at Pullman Square in downtown Huntington. The event will take place from 6 to 9 p.m. with a fashion show, music, activities and Thundering Herd athletes.

The first hour will include music from the popular local radio station Hits 97.9 and a Green Fridays Fashion Show featuring some of Marshall's licensed gear. The show will give fans the opportunity to view some of the new fall apparel available at various local retail locations.

"Marshall University employees, students and fans everywhere are encouraged to participate in Green Fridays throughout the season," Mallory Jarrell, Marshall University marketing and branding coordinator, said. "This will be a sample of some of the items fans could wear each Friday to show their Thundering Herd pride."

Sponsored by the Marshall University Campus Activity Board, the second hour will feature music by vocal ensemble Six Appeal. Swearing off instruments, the award-winning vocal band Six Appeal takes listeners on a journey that spans decades of music, performing classic oldies, current chart toppers, and catchy original tunes – all sung a cappella.

The final hour will feature Marshall University's fall sports teams, cheerleaders, dance team, the Marching Thunder and everyone's favorite bison, Marco. Fans can stop by to meet the athletes, get autographs and hear from Herd Football coach Doc Holliday.

Throughout the evening, guests can get photos with Marco and participate in various activities. Those with a Marshall student ID, Big Green card or proof of being a season ticket holder are encouraged to take advantage of discounts at the Marshall Hall of Fame Café, Roosters and Cold Stone Creamery during the event.

Here is a brief look at the schedule for Friday's kick-off event at Pullman square:

- 6 p.m. – Music by Hits 97.9
- 6:30 p.m. – Green Fridays Fashion Show
- 7 p.m. – Six Appeal performs
- 8 p.m. – Marshall athletics pep rally

Marshall and Mountwest team up to offer collaborative programs



The College of Health Professions and Mountwest Community & Technical College have joined together to provide collaborative programs that will allow students to earn an Associate of Science degree at Mountwest and then transfer to Marshall for a bachelor's degree.

Dr. Carol Perry, dean of the Liberal Arts & Transfer Division at Mountwest, said for many students, higher education is an intimidating undertaking. Perry said collaborative programs such as these help ease the transition of transfer students by providing a clear pathway to earning a bachelor's degree.

“By starting at a community and technical college, students can enjoy smaller class sizes, adjust to postsecondary education and build their self-confidence,” Perry said. “Students also can earn a credential that will provide them with something to build upon as they continue their academic endeavors to obtain a baccalaureate degree.”

Perry said the program also will allow students to take on less debt while starting their academic career, which is an important factor to consider when pursuing higher education.

Dr. Michael Prewitt, dean of the College of Health Professions, said this partnership will provide a mutually beneficial relationship for both institutions and their students.

“We are seeing a reduction in high school graduates in the state. An increase in the transfer student population will help to combat this and hopefully work toward improving the overall economic development within our community,” Prewitt said. “Because our students will be able to make a seamless transition from a two-year to a four-year program, we can help them succeed while improving overall retention and graduation rates.”

Collaborative programs will be offered in the fields of athletic training, biomechanics, communication disorders, dietetics, exercise science, health sciences, medical imaging, medical lab technology, nursing, public health, respiratory care, social work and sport management/marketing.

“This is a forward-looking opportunity to redesign and rethink the collaboration between the community colleges and the senior institutions by providing students open pathways to pursue a wide array of degree opportunities,” said Dr. David Pittenger, interim associate vice president for outreach and continuing studies and dean of the graduate college. “It gives the students flexibility in terms of their long-term planning. This is a model that Marshall University is eager to pursue with the community colleges in the region so that we can better address our responsibility to provide accessibility to high quality education to all West Virginia students.”

For more information on Mountwest, visit www.mctc.edu. For more information on the College of Health Professions, visit www.marshall.edu/cohp.

Photo: On Monday, Mountwest President Keith Cotroneo (left) and President Stephen J. Kopp signed the partnership agreement to provide collaborative programs that allow students to earn an Associate of Science degree at Mountwest, then transfer to the College of Health Professions at MU for a four-year degree.

School of Medicine names Amy Smith new assistant dean of student affairs



Amy M. Smith, BSN, M.Ed., has been appointed assistant dean of student affairs at the Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine, according to Dean Joseph I. Shapiro, M.D. She began her new role Aug. 1.

“I’m very excited about Ms. Amy Smith for this position,” Shapiro said. “She has a terrific connection with our students; in fact, during the search process students spontaneously came together to endorse her candidacy. She is also a dedicated and caring teacher who understands the unique mission of our medical school. I couldn’t be more pleased that she has taken on this expanded role with the school.”

Since 2009, Smith has worked at the School of Medicine as the assistant director of medical education, specifically directing the clinical skills center and standardized patient program. Prior to joining the school, she served as the director of women’s and children’s services at Cabell Huntington Hospital, as well as nurse manager for the neonatal intensive care unit at CHH.

“I would like to thank the search committee and Dr. Shapiro for allowing me to serve in this position,” Smith said. “I feel very humbled and blessed to be given the responsibility to work with a team of outstanding faculty, staff and administrators that will work together to meet the needs of the medical students. I am looking forward to moving future physicians into the next chapters of their lives.”

Smith received her diploma in nursing from St. Mary’s School of Nursing in 1990. She then completed a bachelor’s degree in nursing from the University of Phoenix and a master’s in education from the University of Cincinnati.

She serves on various committees at the School of Medicine including Admissions, Curriculum, Multicultural Advisory and Interprofessional Education. Smith received the Student Appreciation Award in May 2012 and the Dean's Award for Excellence in Collaboration in 2014.

Marshall University Choral Union rehearsals begin Sept. 8

For anyone interested in being a part of a unique choral ensemble that combines talented students with enthusiastic, choral music-loving members of the greater Huntington community, Marshall University Choral Union Conductor Robert Wray knows the place for you.

Open to any interested community members, the Choral Union will hold its first rehearsal of Handel's "Messiah" at 7 p.m. Monday, Sept. 8, in room 150 of Smith Music Hall.

Following about a dozen Monday rehearsals, the group will perform with Marshall University's orchestra at 7:30 p.m. and 3 p.m. on Thursday, Dec. 4, and Sunday, Dec. 7, respectively, at the Fifth Avenue Baptist Church in downtown Huntington.

"'Messiah' is arguably the most well-known large work for a chorus and orchestra," Wray said. "It's a great opportunity as a conductor to be able to perform these types of works."

Wray said this work of Handel tells the story of Jesus Christ, from Isaiah's prophecy of salvation to the acclamation of the Messiah. It was first performed in London in the eighteenth century.

There are no membership fees to be a part of the group, but members are responsible for the purchase of their own music. For more information about joining the Choral Union, contact Wray by phone at ext.6-2399 or by e-mail at wrayr@marshall.edu. To stay up to date on rehearsals, visit the group's Facebook page at www.facebook.com/MUChoralunion.

Kids in Motion underway in Huntington



Kids in Motion, a program that provides a fun and innovative exercise and nutrition program to improve the health of Tri-State area children, is being offered by the Huntington YMCA through a collaboration of Cabell Huntington Hospital, Cabell County Schools, Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine and St. Mary's Medical Center.

This program combines having fun and playing games with important nutritional education through several activities, including grocery store tours and classes at Huntington's Kitchen.

Although the program began yesterday, late registration may still be possible. More information is available at www.marshall.edu/human-resources/files/Kids-In-Motion-PEIA-Flier.pdf

The next issue of *We Are...Marshall* will be distributed August 27, 2014. Please send any materials for consideration to [Pat Dickson](#) by 5 p.m. Monday, August 25.