We Are...Marshall, June 4, 2014

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Group Updates: Budget Work Group, Rapid Response Teams

The Budget Work Group will continue to work online through SharePoint while taking a break from in-person meetings. The in-person meetings are expected to resume the week of July 14. If you have ideas or suggestions, please feel free to contact the leader of the appropriate team:

The seven Rapid Response Teams launched as part of the university’s Marshall 20/20 strategic planning process have begun meeting weekly.

The teams’ goal is to find a total of $7-10 million in cost savings/revenue enhancements—with a focus on addressing some of the structural issues that prevent the university from delivering top-notch services to students, faculty and staff.

They are working to engage the university community in evaluating the university’s services and making recommendations for improvements.

- Duplication of Effort (Denise Hogsett, Career Services)
- Leveraging Technology (Brian Morgan, College of Science)
- Facilities (Joyce Harrah, South Charleston Campus)
- Auxiliary Services (Karla Murphy, Marshall University Research Corporation)
- Vendors/Contracts (Allen Taylor, Information Technology)
- Procurement Card/Travel (Cammy Holley, College of Information Technology and Engineering)
- Spans and Layers [i.e., Organizational Structure] (Steering Team)
As the process continues over the next several weeks, the Rapid Response Teams will be hosting a series of informal “coffee and chat sessions” to give the campus community members an opportunity to get information, ask questions and provide input. Watch this newsletter for details.

The charters for each team and lists of team members are posted on the Marshall 20/20 website. A list of FAQs about the Rapid Response Teams and the overall Services Portfolio Review process is available here.

Photo: Members of the Duplication of Effort team are among 7 Rapid Response Teams that will be meeting over the summer to find cost savings and revenue enhancements.

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Presidents Kopp, Gee discuss shared future of higher education in West Virginia

President Stephen J. Kopp met with West Virginia University President E. Gordon Gee yesterday. Kopp gave Gee a tour of the Huntington campus and the two discussed West Virginia’s higher education issues.

After their meeting, the presidents met with the media in the lobby of the Marshall University Foundation Hall, home of the Erickson Alumni Center. Both of them indicated the need for cooperation among not just Marshall and West Virginia University, but all of the higher education institutions in the state.

“Competition between institutions has done more harm to public higher education across the nation than anything else I can think of,” Kopp said. “And if and when we begin to speak with one voice and unify that message as to what is of paramount importance in fulfilling the opportunities that are there for the people of our state, people of the region and nation, then we will have something we can all champion and celebrate.”

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Ambrose Health Policy Forum to take place June 18

The Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine, in partnership with the Robert C. Byrd Center for Rural Health, the Department of Family and Community Health, the Paul Ambrose Health Fellows and the West Virginia Higher Education Commission, invite the university community to attend the Third Annual Paul W. Ambrose Health Policy Forum at 6 p.m., Wednesday, June 18. The event will be held in the Harless Auditorium at the Marshall University Medical Center.

This year’s guest speaker is Christopher Koller, president of the Milbank Memorial Fund, an endowed operating foundation that works to improve the health of populations around the world. Koller will present “The Affordable Care Act and the Future of Primary Care.”

A reception with light refreshments will follow the presentation.

The Paul W. Ambrose Health Policy Forum is an extension of a program unique to Marshall University, a three-year educational track within the family medicine residency program. The program is designed to provide a few select resident physicians the knowledge and skills needed to impact health care-related policy and legislation. The program is named for Paul Ambrose, a Huntington native and Marshall graduate, who was killed Sept. 11, 2001.

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State finance system changes to affect Marshall in addition to payroll changes

The State of West Virginia is in the process of implementing a new system (wvOASIS) for finance, procurement, payroll and other administrative functions. As a state agency, Marshall University must use the state’s systems for processing paychecks, vendor checks and cash receipts, since they provide appropriations and hold our cash balances in the state treasury.

“Although we utilize Banner for much of our activity, behind the scenes we are interfacing with state systems and some employees interact with those systems directly,” said Mary Ellen Heuton, senior vice president for finance and chief financial officer. “As a result of the implementation, we must make adjustments to our utilization of Banner as well as adjustments to a variety of procedures in order to continue the successful processing of transactions.”

A blog has been established at www.marshall.edu/wvoasis to keep the Marshall campuses and centers apprised of changes that will be happening in the coming months. In addition, employees are reminded of the website specifically for payroll changes at www.marshall.edu/paychanges.

“We are still learning about the system and determining what changes will occur and how they will impact us, so please bear with us,” said Juanita Parsons, director of accounts payable and payroll.

Here are a few key dates regarding the end of the fiscal year, which occurs June 30, 2014:

- June 11th – Last day to submit PARs to HR for new salaried employees to start work 6/16/14
- June 11th – Last day to submit PARs to HR for hourly employees to be paid in FY14
- June 16th – All invoices paid with expiring funds due in the Office of Accounts Payable & Payroll by 4 p.m.
- June 16th – All invoices paid with non-expiring funds due in Office of Accounts Payable & Payroll by 4 p.m. in order to guarantee payment on FY14 funds
- June 16th – Final day for purchase card payments to vendors
- June 17th – July 7th – Use purchase card for critical payments only*
- June 26th – Last day to submit PARs to HR for new salaried employees to start work 7/1/14 (no reclassifications, promotions, or transfers will be processed with a start date of 7/1/14)
- July 2nd – Final deadline for invoices for goods/services received prior to June 30th – Every attempt will be made to process them with FY14 funds
July 8th – All invoices for internal charges due to Accounting Office by 4 p.m. – (postage, printing, telephone, vehicle usage, UPS charges, pagers, computer services, etc.)

July 14th – Last day to submit PARs to HR for new hires, reclassifications, promotions, etc. starting 7/17/14

*A temporary process for purchase card transactions that are not posted in FIMS by June 19th is being developed.

Please note that the State of WV’s conversion to wvOASIS is impacting our procedures and deadlines. Part of this change will include the changing of several account codes. Details will be shared as they are finalized.

Also, when departments receive their annual request to review their COA1 orgs, they will be asked to identify individuals who function in certain roles; additional information will be included with the request.

Please watch future issues of “We Are….Marshall” and the wvOasis blog for information.

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**Hovland, dietetics student win recognition at state conference**

The Department of Dietetics, which is housed in the College of Health Professions, had two of its own honored recently at the West Virginia Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics (WVAND) state conference.

Jana Hovland, an assistant professor, received the 2014 Outstanding Young Dietitian Award and Tonya Davis, a recent graduate of the program, was chosen for the 2014 Outstanding Dietetic Student Award.

Both individuals were selected based on their commitment to the profession and their passion for creating opportunities to improve the health of those in West Virginia, according to department chair, Dr. Kelli Williams.

“Since moving to our state several years ago, Professor Hovland has become actively involved in our professional organization and worked with many local groups to promote a healthy diet and physical activity throughout the state. We are very fortunate to have her as a member of the faculty at Marshall University,” Williams said.
“While Tonya was an excellent student, I have been most impressed with her performance outside the classroom. For several years, she worked as the foodservice director at the Marshall University Early Education STEM Center, where she planned and prepared healthy meals for the pre-school children who attend there,” Williams continued. “I have known Tonya for several years and can think of no one better qualified for this honor.”

Hovland, a West Virginia delegate to the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics House of Delegates, said she feels honored to be recognized as the Outstanding Young Dietitian of the Year.

“Being involved at the state and national level allows me to provide our students with leadership and networking opportunities,” Hovland said. “I am excited to see what our students accomplish and ways our department and WVAND will continue to impact the health of West Virginians.”

Davis, 27, of Huntington, said receiving the honor of the 2014 Outstanding Dietetic Student came as a surprise considering she was only doing something she loved.

In addition to her award at the WVAND state conference, Davis was also chosen as the 2014 Outstanding President during Marshall’s Student Leadership and Service Awards Ceremony May 2.

“We are influenced by our professors every day and the faculty within the Department of Dietetics is a strong, well-connected group of men and women who support their students,” Davis said. “I couldn’t ask for a better group of mentors and receiving these awards motivates me to become a better student and better dietitian in my community.”

The WVAND state conference was held May 13-14 at Fairmont State University. For more information on the meeting and those who received awards, visit http://www.wvda.org/ online.

Photos: (Above) Jana Hovland (far right) received the 2014 Outstanding Young Dietician Award at the annual WVAND state conference. Hovland serves as director of the Marshall University DPD program and as a member of the National Nutrition Month committee for WVAND. With her in the picture are Mallory Mount (left), scholarship and awards chair for WVAND, and Sharon Maynard of the American Dairy Association Midwest. (Below) Tonya Davis (shown center) stands with Mallory Mount, scholarship and awards chair for WVAND, and Dietetics Department Chair Dr. Kelli Williams during the 2014 annual WVAND state conference, where she was recognized as the Outstanding Dietetic Student of the Year.

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Faculty Achievement: Dr. Venkat Gudivada

Dr. Venkat Gudivada, interim chair and professor in the Weisberg Division of Computer Science, has been selected as a guest editor on a special edition of Computer magazine, considered the flagship publication of the IEEE Computer Society.

The issue will focus on “Big Data: Management and Applications.” According to the magazine, “With the synergistic confluence of multicore and multiprocessor computers, pervasive sensing and wireless sensor networks, cloud and mobile computing, along with groundbreaking advances in storage devices, we are generating unprecedented levels of data. It is estimated that 90 percent of the world’s data has been generated in the past two years. Data too big and complex to capture, store, process, analyze, and interpret — even using state-of-the-art tools and methods — is referred to as big data.”

Gudivada will be joined by Dr. Vijay Raghavan, endowed professor in computer science at the University of Louisiana and Dr. Ricardo Baeza-Yates, vice president for for Europe and Latin America at Yahoo! Labs.

Trumpet ensemble appears at international conference

The Marshall University Trumpet Ensemble performed at the International Trumpet Guild Conference in Philadelphia last month, winning praise from composer Eric Ewazen for performing one of his compositions.

“Thank you to the Marshall University Trumpet Ensemble! They really brought the energy to the piece that I intended when I wrote that work back in 1992,” Ewazen, a prolific composer for several instruments, but especially for brass, told the audience.

Further testament to the students’ work was given by the other featured artist, Chris Gekker, according to Dr Martin Saunders, director of jazz studies and professor of trumpet in the School of Music and Theatre. “He was one of seven professionals who originally recorded the piece and told the audience about the high level of difficulty and challenges that are presented by that piece of music.” Saunders said.

Gekker is a trumpet professor at the University of Maryland for whom many of Ewazen’s works have been created,
Marshall students who performed included Justin Bahawi, Briana Blankenship, Chris Bunner, Michael Black, Christy Carson, Kevin Eason and Sean Maxwell.

Photo: Briana Blankenship (left), who just completed her master’s degree from Marshall in trumpet performance, posed with composer Eric Ewazen at the International Trumpet Guild Conference in Philadelphia last month.

MU program for kids K-12 extends registration deadline

The enrollment deadline for Marshall University’s summer enrichment program in the Charleston area for students in grades K-12 has been extended to Monday, June 9.

The five-week program, which integrates hands-on, activity-based learning experiences with supervised clinical training for Marshall graduate students, will take place each Monday through Thursday from June 16-July 17 at Stonewall Jackson Middle School. Sessions will run from 8 to 11:30 a.m., with breakfast and lunch provided for those under 18 years of age.

Students from the university’s special education, school counseling and school psychology departments will work with participants, offering learning experiences in reading, writing and math. Assessment and counseling services are also available. Graduate students participating in the program are closely supervised and receive daily feedback.

The cost for the program is $100 per student, which supports the operating costs. Tuition assistance is available, so no one should let cost deter them from applying, according to Dr. Sandra Stroebel of Marshall’s College of Education and Professional Development, who is coordinating the program. For additional information or to register, contact Stroebel by phone at 304-746-2032 or 800-642-9842, ext. 2032, or by e-mail at stroebel@marshall.edu.

Service awards luncheon to honor classified, nonclassified employees

The 30th annual Service Awards Luncheon will take place from noon to 2 p.m. Thursday, June 26, in the Don Morris Room in the Memorial Student Center. In addition to the service awards, the Employee of the Year will be named during the luncheon.

The following is the list of university staff members who will receive awards:

For 15 Years of Service: Marlene Alley, Teresa Bolt, Sonja Cantrell, Brenda Crawford, Loan Cummings, Marcus Danner, Wanda Dyke, Debra Elliotte, Shelia Fields, Eric Himes, Danny Holland, Camella Holley, Annalisha Johnson, Angela Jones, Patricia Martin, Kevin Maynard, Nada Prickett, Debra Templeton and Irvin Watts.

For 20 Years of Service: James Atkinson, Prudence Barker, Muhammad Chaudhry, Vicki Cole, Darlene Cordle, Phillip Haye, Anita Hill, Joseph Justice, Michael McCarthy, Terri Moran, Gregory Pickens, Calvin Rowlings, Elizabeth Sheets, Rebecca Sloan and Beverly Surratt.

For 25 Years of Service: Raddar Atchley, Paula Beasley, Lorna Browning, Dana Edmonds, Teresa Holschuh, Leslie Lucas, Tammy Moore, Stephanie Smith, Tony Waugh, Sandra White and Phyllis White-Sellards.

For 30 Years of Service: Tammy Aliff, Gregory Beach, Paul Benford, Karen Bledsoe, Mary Bowsher, Sandra Lloyd, William Lucas, David McKenzie, Marty Newman, Margaret Putt, Sherry Salyers, Phillip Sergent and Johnny Walker.

For 35 Years of Service: Rick Haye, Sherri Noble, Arissa Prichard and Allen Taylor.

For 40 Years of Service: Patricia Gebhart.


To be eligible for awards employees must have completed 10, 15, 20, 25, 30, 35 or 40 years of service to Marshall University by May 1, 2014.

If anyone has been left off this list, or has a preference on how his or her name should be listed in the program, contact Joe Wortham at ext.6-5402.

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Election results announced for Staff Council

The results of the election that ran May 16-19 to fill several vacancies on the Classified Staff Council are as follows:

- EEO 40 – Elizabeth Coffey, Autism Training Center
- EEO 40 – Gail Rice, School of Pharmacy
- EEO 50 – Lisa Poteete, Autism Training Center
- EEO 60/70 – Dwayne McCallister, Housing
- EEO 60/70 – Tony Waugh, Plant Operations

These new Classified Staff Council members will serve until June 30, 2015.

“Thanks to all who participated in this election,” said Joe Wortham, election committee chair for the council.

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Marshall Psychology Clinic to offer transgender group beginning June 10

The Marshall University Psychology Clinic will be conducting a group focusing on transgender-related issues this summer from June 10 until July 3. The group sessions will be conducted by Kellee Boster, M.A., and Corey Wilks, B.A.

“It is important to provide and assist in giving needed support and resources to individuals who may be experiencing any type of problems related to being transgender,” Boster said. “There are limited resources or support networks available in this area for the transgender community. We’ve received several requests for a transgender group in the Psychology Clinic, and we want to make the group available to anyone who is interested.”

Dr. Keith Beard, the psychology clinic director, added, “We’ve run this group in the past with great success. There is definitely a need and we are very pleased to be able to provide the service. I’m also very pleased that we have clinic staff who are willing to and interested in providing services to a community that is often ignored.”

“We hope that the group will help provide guidance and a sense of support to group members,” Wilks said. “We will discuss a wide variety of common issues, as well as address the unique
concerns of the members. Essentially, the chief goal in conducting this group is to provide an open forum for discussion and assistance in navigating the full range of physical and emotional concerns involved with being a transgender individual.”

Organizers said that the group will be a safe and supportive group environment to discuss a variety of issues — such as coming out, discrimination, transformation, and family/relationship issues—with others in similar situations, whether they are just coming to realize they are transgender, are in the process of transitioning, or have fully transitioned.

Group sessions will be held on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 5:30 to 7 p.m. Those interested in participating should send an e-mail to wilksc@marshall.edu by June 5.

The next issue of We Are…Marshall will be distributed June 18, 2014. Please send any materials for consideration to Pat Dickson by 5 p.m. Monday, June 16.