We Are … Marshall, March 23, 2016

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Ketchum to give commencement address

Menis E. Ketchum II, chief justice of the West Virginia Supreme Court of Appeals, will give the address at Marshall University’s commencement ceremony for undergraduates at 9 a.m. Saturday, May 7, President Jerome A. Gilbert announced yesterday.

Ketchum, who was elected to a full 12-year term to the court on Nov. 4, 2008, also served as chief justice in 2012. The position of chief justice is determined annually by a vote of the court.

“I am extremely honored that our new president extended me the invitation to speak at commencement,” Ketchum said. “Candidates for graduation are not interested in speeches but want to celebrate their accomplishment. With that in mind, I will try to be interesting but short, and look forward to being part of their big day.”

Chief Justice Ketchum served as chairman and vice chairman of Marshall’s Board of Governors from 2003 to 2008, before joining the Supreme Court.

“Menis has done a great deal for Marshall University over the years,” Gilbert said. “The university made great strides during his time of leadership, including new private investments that totaled more than $100 million. I look forward to hearing what I am certain will be an inspiring message from the chief justice to our graduates.”

Ketchum was born and raised in Wayne County, graduating from Vinson High School in the Westmoreland section of Huntington in 1960. He then attended Ohio University, where he played baseball and was a member of the Bobcats’ 1964 Mid-American Conference championship team.

Chief Justice Ketchum returned to West Virginia to attend the West Virginia University College of Law. While in law school he was a contributing writer and associate editor of the West Virginia Law Review. He received his law degree in 1967 and returned to Huntington to join his father Chad W. Ketchum in the practice of law with the firm of Greene, Ketchum & Baker.

He practiced at that firm and its successors, eventually becoming the senior partner, until his election to the court. He was recognized from 1989 to 2008 in The Best Lawyers in America and
was a member of the Leading Honoraries, the American College of Trial Lawyers, and the American Board of Trial Advocates.

After five years of research, Ketchum recently published a set of uniformed jury instructions for use in civil cases in the state’s courts. The instructions are intended to be more understandable to jurors, judges and lawyers, and to help trials run more efficiently. More than 20 lawyers and judges from around the state helped create the instructions, which cover 15 topics ranging from employment law to wrongful death.

He has been married to the former Judy Varnum since 1966. She is a Marshall graduate and was a cheerleader at MU. They have three children—Kelli Morgan, Bert Ketchum and Chad Ketchum—and six grandchildren.

Marshall to host open houses for prospective undergraduate students in South Charleston

Two open houses are being planned in April to introduce Kanawha Valley residents to Marshall’s new undergraduate course offerings on the South Charleston campus.

Marshall’s new program will allow students interested in selected majors—including athletic training, biology, chemistry, computer science, engineering and nursing—to complete courses in their first two years toward an undergraduate degree in South Charleston and then transition to the Huntington campus to finish their studies.

The open houses will be held on Tuesday, April 5, and Tuesday, April 19, from 6 to 7 p.m. in GC 319.

Dr. Beth Wolfe, Marshall’s director of recruitment, said prospective students and parents at the events will be able to meet with faculty members, deans and financial aid counselors. They also will receive information about applying to Marshall, the courses that will be offered in South Charleston and how students will be able to transition seamlessly to the Huntington campus after two years to complete their degrees.

Prospective students planning to attend one of the open houses should make reservations by calling the Office of Recruitment at 304-696-3646 or 1-877-GO-HERD-1 or by e-mailing recruitment@marshall.edu.

“We’re using the tagline ‘Closer Than You Think’ for this new program in South Charleston because we think future college students in the Kanawha Valley will find it very attractive that
we are now offering Marshall’s quality undergraduate courses convenient to where they live and work,” Wolfe added. “For more than 20 years, Marshall has had great success with offering graduate courses in South Charleston. We are excited to see what the next 20 hold as we continue to enhance our undergraduate presence in the capital city.”

Wolfe added that students on the South Charleston campus will have access to a number of amenities and benefits, including free parking, a library and a study lounge. Merit-based and need-based financial aid is available for qualified students. She said students must be fully admitted to Marshall University without conditions to take courses in South Charleston.

For a full list of available courses, visit www.marshall.edu/closer or call 1-877-GO-HERD-1.

Shared Services Team updates its progress

Here is the latest status update of the Shared Services implementation: The Shared Services Team has set a target date of July 1 for implementing the new Budget and Business Support Services Team (BBSS); thus-identified team members across the campus will officially become part of the team on that date. As a result there may also be realignment in the administrative employees not part of the BBSS team to ensure that there is a balanced level of support for each area.
The Shared Services Team will facilitate an effort in the coming months to identify the tasks and employees that will become part of BBSS and assist the colleges and other areas in determining how the non-business tasks and employees could be realigned. Tasks will be shifted over time to ensure a smooth transition and will include appropriate training – we also expect to concurrently improve the processes and to provide redundancy to ensure that key processes continue if there are staff changes or absences.

For impacted employees, it is important to note that although the realignment may result in the changing of specific duties, department supported or in some cases work location, the realignment will not result in the elimination of any employees or reduced compensation. It is expected though that we will capture savings from attrition. In all of this, the physical location of employees will take into consideration the needs of the departments, colleges, divisions, etc. to ensure that an appropriate level of staffing is available for service to students and others who need assistance.

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Information Technology makes transition plan

In preparation for her departure from Marshall next month, Dr. Jan Fox, senior vice president for information technology/chief information officer, is working to ensure a smooth transition in the areas for which she has oversight.

During this transition period, IT employees will continue to report to the same supervisor and function in the same capacity they did prior to Fox’s resignation. She and Edward Aractingi, assistant vice president for information technology/deputy chief information officer, are working to maintain seamless business operations.

Effective March 28, Aractingi’s title and role will change to acting chief information officer and then, on April 16, to interim chief information officer.

Libraries and Online Learning have been transferred to Academic Affairs under the leadership of Dr. Monica Brooks, associate vice president for online learning and libraries.

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Medical students match with residency programs

The Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine fourth-year students learned last Friday at the stroke of noon where they will spend the next few years of their training during the National Resident Matching Program’s (NRMP) annual Match Day.

The NRMP pairs graduating seniors with graduate medical programs across the country where they will train for the next three to five years. In all, 58 seniors were placed in programs ranging from family medicine and pediatrics to orthopaedic surgery and emergency medicine.

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School of Pharmacy Preview Day set for April 9 at Marshall

The School of Pharmacy Preview Day, an event designed for high school, college and non-traditional students considering a career in pharmacy, will take place Saturday, April 9, at the Coon Education Building in Spring Valley. The event runs from noon to about 3:30 p.m.

RSVP is required and registration is due by Monday, March 28.

Attendees will have the opportunity to learn about the outstanding career opportunities in the pharmacy profession; tour Marshall’s simulation and classroom facilities, learn about the school’s admissions process and suggestions on preparing a comprehensive application and hear perspectives from Marshall’s current students.

In addition to a student-led School of Pharmacy tour, sessions may include:

- Preparing for the PCAT – What is needed to earn the best score possible. Participants can learn when to take it and also will be helped to break down the “anatomy” of the Pharmacy College Admissions Test.
- Your Future with a PharmD. – Career options in Pharmacy – Marshall’s faculty and staff share information on career options and the job outlook and residency options in the pharmacy profession.
- Experience active learning – Compounding and flipped classroom – What is “Active Learning?” Students can get a glimpse of what it’s like and meet Marshall’s faculty by experiencing it firsthand in its unique flipped classroom and compounding laboratory.
- Where Do I Start? The Admissions Process – “Where do I start?” that question and many more will be answered in this informative session about the first steps of the pharmacy school admissions process.

Registration can be done by clicking on [http://pharmacy.marshall.edu/springpreviewday](http://pharmacy.marshall.edu/springpreviewday)
Marshall to host Governor’s School of Entrepreneurship this summer

West Virginia high school students will have the opportunity to earn six hours of college credit this summer during the inaugural Governor’s School of Entrepreneurship (GSE) at Marshall July 5-26. The program is free to all West Virginia residents.

The GSE is a three-week educational session geared toward students enrolled in the ninth through 11th grades. Sixty students from across the state are set to participate alongside international students from China, according to Dr. Jonathan Butler, director of Marshall’s entrepreneurship program.

“We want to give these students the chance to expand their thinking, not just about building small businesses and supporting local economies, but about global opportunities as well,” Butler said. “This is an amazing partnership between Marshall University’s Lewis College of Business and the Department of Education and the Arts and we look forward to creating a fantastic atmosphere for both our regional and international students.”

Butler said participants will be divided into teams of six and will learn about business models and basic concepts of entrepreneurship. He said each team would be tasked with developing a business plan, which they will pitch to a panel of investors during their second week.

“We have $15,000 available for all teams to create their business. This is like ‘Shark Tank’ – each team will be funded in different amounts depending on their ideas,” Butler said. “Teams have to compete based on revenues and after two weeks, they will create their business. At the very end of the program, we have partnered with City of Huntington to have a weekend festival where we will take over several empty buildings and have students set up shop and sell their product or services.”

In coordination with GSE, students with a 3.0 GPA can earn up to six hours of college credit upon completing the required GSE digital badges. Students that choose this option will pay only $35 to cover registration and transcription costs. Applications are due Wednesday, March 30th.

Open positions are available for team leaders who possess a background in business or an interest in entrepreneurship. Team leaders will receive $5,000 and free room and board during the three-week GSE session.

Butler said Marshall is the pilot location for this project. Currently, Marshall offers the only undergraduate major in entrepreneurship in West Virginia.

For more information about GSE, visit www.wvgse.org or email Sherry Keffer, director of Governor’s Schools at sherry.l.keffer@wv.gov or Butler at butlerjo@marshall.edu.
Journalism professor receives 10th consecutive first-place award in Video News category

For the 10th year in row and 12th time overall, journalism professor Dan Hollis received a first-place award in the Video News category of the National Broadcasting Society’s Professional Production Competition.

This year’s national convention and awards ceremony took place in Burbank, California, March 13-16. Hollis was awarded for “Good Time for a Song,” a look at the Vandalia Gathering music celebration in Charleston focusing on the songs. Hollis also received an honorable mention award for “A Cut Above the Rest,” a video about the tradition of cutting down the nets after a team wins the state basketball championship.

“Any time others recognize the quality of your work is special,” Hollis said, “but having work recognized over the span of years mine has been is truly an honor and joy. Ultimately though, I love telling stories, and I try to focus on that. The awards are just a bonus.”

Hollis has been a professor in the W. Page Pitt School of Journalism and Mass Communications in the College of Arts and Media since 1999. He is the 2012 Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching West Virginia Professor of the Year. His video work can be seen on his youtube channel: youtube.com/danhollisvideo.

Photo credit: Dr. Charles G. Bailey.

Student Affairs seeking nominations for student awards

Each year the Division of Student Affairs presents awards to outstanding members of the Marshall University student community. These awards recognize the students’ contribution to the university in leadership roles and in service to the university and the community. There are also two awards that recognize the outstanding contributions of faculty or staff members in their role as advisor to a student organization.

To apply or nominate an individual or student group visit www.marshall.edu/student-affairs/awards2/. Applications are due by midnight, April 10, 2015

For questions, contact andy.hermansdorfer@marshall.edu or call ext.6-2283
Softball Continues Season at Dot Hicks Field

Thundering Herd Softball takes on the Radford Highlanders TODAY at 2 p.m. with a doubleheader. Catch all the action this season by staying tuned into HerdZone.com!

Marshall Psychology students to begin anxiety support group

Graduate students in the Department of Psychology will conduct General Anxiety Support Group sessions for students, faculty, staff and community members beginning in April.

The group will meet in the evenings for 90-minute sessions every week and will cater to the varying severity of anxiety from person to person, according to support group co-leader Chad Adkins.

“What one individual experiences as an intense feeling of being overwhelmed, another individual will only have a tight feeling in their chest or sense of unease,” Adkins said.

According to the Center for Disease Control, anxiety disorders are the most common mental illness in the U.S., affecting 40 million adults in the United States age 18 and older. While anxiety is highly treatable, only about one-third of those suffering from an anxiety disorder receive treatment.

Christina Johnson, co-leader of the group, said, “If you are experiencing one or many of the following: restlessness, fatigue, difficulty concentrating, irritability, muscle tension and/or constant worry, then you may be experiencing some generalized anxiety.”

People seeking a way to take control of anxiety and lessen the daily impact it has can e-mail either Johnson at Johnson720@marshall.edu or Adkins at Adkins609@marshall.edu, or call the psychology Clinic at ext. 6–2772.

The next regular issue of We Are...Marshall will be distributed March 30, 2016. Please send items for consideration to Pat Dickson by 5 p.m. Monday, March 28.

To read the content of this newsletter online, please click on the following link: http://www.marshall.edu/wamnewsletter/march-23-2016.