We Are...Marshall, December 4, 2013

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“We Are…Marshall” cheer to highlight Conference USA championship game

Thundering Herd football fans across the world, most of whom are convinced that Marshall University’s Conference USA championship game with Rice this Saturday should have been played in Huntington, will be shouting the “We Are … Marshall” chant at specific times during the game.

Since the game will be played in Houston, Marshall fans who cannot make the trip will be there in spirit doing their best to demonstrate support for the Thundering Herd. They will be chanting in unison, “We Are … Marshall” from their homes and alumni clubs where game-watching parties will be widespread.

The chants will start at noon with the opening kickoff and continue every time Marshall scores.

“Our football team loves and responds to its fans! Unfortunately, we are not playing at home but if every alumnus exactly at certain times were yelling, ‘We Are…Marshall,’ all over the world and the team knew it, I believe they would hear us in their hearts,” said Verna Gibson, former chairman of the Marshall Board of Governors.

Many fans will be going outside of their homes and into their neighborhoods to chant “We Are … Marshall” when the Herd scores. There will be no mistaking when MU scores. “Let’s let the Herd hear and feel our worldwide support,” Gibson said.

The game will be televised on ESPN 2 at Noon EST.
Dr. Chong W. Kim Endowed Scholarship honors two-time dean at Marshall

The Dr. Chong W. Kim Endowed Scholarship, a fund named in honor of the former two-time dean of the College of Business, has been established by the Marshall University Foundation Inc.

Kim, who retired last year after 35 years at Marshall, was honored recently in a ceremony at the Marshall University Foundation Hall, home of the Erickson Alumni Center.

Dr. Haiyang Chen, current dean of the College of Business, said the college also plans to start a distinguished speaker series in honor of Kim that will feature successful alumni of the College of Business.

“We’re here to honor Dr. Kim for his generosity and support of our students for more than three decades,” Chen said.

Kim, a native of Korea who lived most of his youth in Seoul, South Korea, served at Marshall from 1977 to 2012. He not only taught, but served as the division head of the Management, Marketing and MIS (Management Information Systems) Division for 22 years. He was dean of the College of Business from 2003 to 2005 and from 2008 to 2012.

Kim thanked those in attendance for their help during his 3 ½ decades of service to Marshall.

“One of the best decisions I ever made was when Bob Alexander (former dean of the College of Business) offered me a job and I accepted it,” Kim told the audience, of which Alexander was a member. “Even though it has had its ups and downs and been stressful (at times), I had a very good career at Marshall, and Marshall was very good to me. I want to help future Marshall students by establishing this scholarship as a small token of my appreciation to Marshall.

“Establishment of this scholarship was very much possible due to the great help from College of Business Advisory Board members and all my friends whom I will cherish in my memory for the rest of my life.”

He was a professor at Rider College in 1976 and 1977 before joining Marshall. Kim was elected into the Marshall College of Business Hall of Fame last year.

Kim is a Taekwondo (TKD) 9th degree black belt who taught TKD at each stop of his educational and professional career. He opened his private TKD School in Huntington, where he remains today.

The recipient of the Kim scholarship will be a full-time undergraduate student in the College of Business who is in good academic standing with a 2.5 or higher GPA. First priority will be given to minority students who are majoring in management. Second priority will be given to minority
students majoring in any business field, and third priority will be given to students who are majoring in management.

The award will be renewable for up to four years (eight semesters) if the recipient maintains good academic standing of a 2.5 GPA or higher.

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Photo: From left, Dr. Haiyang Chen, dean of the College of Business; Dr. Chong Kim; Norman Mosrie, president of the Advisory Board of the College of Business; and Lance West, vice president for development, pose with a copy of the guidelines for the Kim scholarship. Photo by Liu Yang.

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Joe Wortham named Employee of the Month

Joe Wortham, business and facilities assistant in athletics, has been named the Marshall University Employee of the Month for June, according to Michelle Brown Douglas, chair of the Employee of the Month Committee.

Employed since January 1971, he was nominated by Catherine Donchatz, Ruth Patton, and David Steele.

In her nomination Donchatz wrote, “It is a pleasure to work with Joe. He is dependable and consistent. If there is an opportunity or need to go the extra mile, Joe will be right there doing all he can to complete a task or offer to help. Along with his excellent work ethic, Joe has a pleasant disposition and a positive attitude that combine to make him an exemplary coworker.”

Patton commented, “You can always depend on Joe Wortham. When you ask Joe for help, he goes above and beyond anything you need. He has the best attitude, and is appreciated by everyone in the Athletic Department and by many, many other people on campus. He is completely devoted to Marshall University.”

Steele noted, “Joe Wortham is the most dedicated employee I have known at Marshall. He is always willing to help on any project. He has served Marshall in many areas. You can always count on Joe Wortham.”

He was presented with a plaque and a check for $100 by President Stephen J. Kopp.

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Photo: Joe Wortham, left, receives his Employee of the Month award from President Stephen J. Kopp.

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Marshall recognized for food donation and waste diversion efforts

Marshall University is among 26 colleges and universities in the Mid-Atlantic Region that have joined the Environmental Protection Agency’s Food Recovery Challenge to date. According to a list provided by the EPA, West Virginia University is the only other participant in West Virginia.

The Food Recovery Challenge encourages colleges, universities and other organizations to donate and divert as much of their excess food as possible. Organizations that join EPA’s challenge find that they not only save money, but they also feed the needy and help protect the environment at the same time.

“The food donations to hunger-relief organizations made by colleges and other institutions can help the one in six Americans who don’t know where their next meal is coming from,” said EPA Regional Administrator Shawn M. Garvin. “In addition to feeding the hungry, the food donations go a long way to reducing greenhouse gas emissions and lowering disposal costs for their campuses. The Food Recovery Challenge is truly a win-win situation.”

Food waste generated by local institutions, hospitals, colleges, universities and restaurants is often actually safe, wholesome food that could feed millions of Americans, according to both the U.S. Department of Agriculture and EPA. EPA is working with institutions and hunger-relief organizations to increase food donations. Composting food waste also leads to important environmental outcomes. Composted food waste creates a valuable soil product that can be used to enhance the quality of soils.

For more information on EPA’s Food Recovery Challenge, visit www.epa.gov/foodrecoverychallenge online.

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School of Medicine faculty member serves as editor for medical school curriculum e-book

Dr. Aaron M. McGuffin, associate professor in the department of pediatrics at the Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine, and a team of 48 students from 11 medical schools have created a medical curriculum e-book that was released last month online.

“Universal Notes for Medical Students 2013” is available on the Inkling store.

“We are very proud of Dr. McGuffin and his team for developing this new tool, which combines old-school note-taking with 21st century technology,” said Dr. Joseph I. Shapiro, dean of the School of Medicine. “Their efforts are commendable and will provide medical students across the country with another avenue for success.”

McGuffin and colleagues initiated the project earlier this year.

“This first edition contains the majority of drugs, bugs and diseases that were determined to be important for medical students to know,” McGuffin said. “There is still a great deal of pertinent basic science information to add, but we are steadily filling those gaps.”

The book’s initial concept was created by McGuffin and student editors Becca Hayes, Marshall University School of Medicine; John Corker, Wright State University Boonshoft School of Medicine; Jessica Deslauriers, University of South Florida; Laura Halpin, University of Toledo; and David Savage, University of Texas at Houston. The concept team, which included others from Marshall’s School of Medicine, worked to establish a website, www.myuniversalnotes.com, to recruit medical students to write topics for the e-book.

The medical students submitted material on hundreds of topics to create the primary content of the e-book, which was then reviewed by the student editors and a physician panel to ensure accuracy and consistency of the material.

The e-book is organized into 21 easy-to-navigate chapters, primarily by systems.

“We used the existing national board outlines to help organize the material since they are the most complete documents currently available that describe what medical students should know,” Hayes said.

Deslauriers agreed, saying, “Universal Notes will change medical education by empowering students to customize their study materials while building upon accurate and relevant topics that address the core competencies of being a doctor.”

The e-book is the first in a series of projects by Universal Notes™ aimed at revolutionizing the way medical students are educated around the world.

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School of Medicine dean part of international team investigating renal-artery stenting

Dr. Joseph I. Shapiro, dean of the Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine, and a team of researchers around the world had their findings published recently in the *New England Journal of Medicine*, the premier journal for publishing clinical studies.

The multi-center study included 947 patients with renal-artery stenosis and either high blood pressure or chronic kidney disease, who were then randomized to receive either medical therapy and stenting or medical therapy alone. The study outcomes indicated there was no significant benefit to the population that received the stenting procedure.

Cardiovascular Outcomes in Renal Atherosclerotic Lesions (CORAL), was the largest study examining renal-artery stenting which became popular in the 1990s after some small studies suggested there were benefits to the procedure. Statistics show about 100 million Americans have hypertension and between 1 and 5 percent will develop atherosclerotic renal-artery stenosis.

“Hardening of the arteries to the kidneys is a significant public health issue,” Shapiro, who is a longtime kidney disease researcher, said. “This study was designed to determine whether stenting, with its substantial cost and potential risk, is a viable treatment option for patients with atherosclerotic renal-artery stenosis. Our research indicated that it is not the best option for most patients, ergo, contemporary medical treatment should be our go-to treatment.”

Approximately 40,000 patients per year undergo a renal-artery stent in the United States. If the results of the CORAL trial are embraced, there will be substantial financial savings in the care of these patients.

Shapiro served as the enrollment chairman for the study.

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Faculty/Staff Achievement: Publication in SRCEA Journal

Dr. Marc Ellison, interim executive director of the West Virginia Autism Training Center; Jackie Clark, assistant coordinator for the center’s College Program for Students with Asperger’s Syndrome; Dr. Michael Cunningham, professor of leadership studies; and Rebecca Hansen, program coordinator for the center’s college program, recently published their manuscript, “Academic and Campus Accommodations that Foster Success for College Students
Brownfields Assistance Center expands surface-mined land reuse and redevelopment activities

Officials at the West Virginia Brownfields Assistance Center at Marshall on Monday announced an expansion of their partnership with the West Virginia Division of Energy’s Office of Coalfield Community Development to explore the reuse and redevelopment potential of land that has been surface-mined.

Over the past several years, the two organizations have worked together to demonstrate and evaluate renewable energy applications on former surface-mined properties. Projects have included assessments of wind, solar and biomass energy, as well as hydropower.

According to center director George Carico, the Division of Energy and the Appalachian Regional Commission are providing $355,000 in funding for three new projects, which will be completed over the next two years.

“Our efforts in recent years with the West Virginia Division of Energy have produced multiple renewable energy demonstration and research projects, and we’ve gained valuable knowledge about a number of surface-mined lands available for redevelopment,” said Carico. “We continue to play a primary role in reuse and redevelopment of West Virginia’s surface mine lands for progressive and innovative new purposes, and welcome the opportunity to expand our efforts in bringing new life to these properties after mining activities have been completed.”

Carico said that for the first project they will use state-of-the-art Sonic Detection and Ranging (SODAR) equipment to continue wind measurement studies designed to help identify promising wind energy sites. Carico said six sites were evaluated in a previous phase and this new funding will allow them to add three or four additional sites to the study.

Through the second initiative, the Brownfields Assistance Center will administer a grant program to support renewable energy projects on surface-mined land. Competitive grants of up to $40,000 each will be awarded to projects with the potential to yield renewable energy from biomass, wind or solar sources. Examples of fundable projects include demonstration plantings of biomass energy crops like switchgrass, a small wind or solar system for classroom
instructional purposes, and solar- or wind-powered generation as a backup energy source for an industrial park built on a reclaimed mine site. Each grant will require a 50 percent match and will have a 12-month timeframe for completion. The Appalachian Regional Commission will make the final determination on project funding. A Request for Proposals is available at www.wvbrownfields.org.

The third project will involve a study of various options for redeveloping surface mine sites to meet local or regional economic development needs. The options to be evaluated include commercial or industrial applications, specialty housing, and agricultural or recreational use.

The West Virginia Brownfields Assistance Center is a program of the Center for Environmental, Geotechnical and Applied Sciences (CEGAS).

For more information, contact Carico at carico@marshall.edu or ext. 6-5456.

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MU public health professor to host study abroad program in Tanzania

Dr. Monika Sawhney, public health program director in the College of Health Professions, is taking a group of students to Tanzania this summer for a unique study abroad opportunity.

“This is the only study abroad program related to public health care and nursing,” Sawhney said. “We will offer students an opportunity to explore aspects of our world that they may never have a chance to do so otherwise.”

Sawhney said students can receive undergraduate or graduate credit for coursework in public and global health, nursing and Swahili.

“The sky is the limit here at Marshall to have a well-guided study abroad trip with faculty from different disciplines who are able to provide an enriched experience,” Sawhney said. “Internships and service-learning opportunities are also available through this program.”

Kayla Boggs, a 21-year-old senior cell and molecular biology major from Big Bend, W.Va., traveled to Tanzania last summer and said she expects her experiences from the public health course to benefit her future career in health care.

While in Tanzania for five weeks, Boggs said she snorkeled in the Indian Ocean and explored the native wildlife through her adventures on a safari.
The Tanzania study abroad trip will take place June 12 – July 16, 2014. Cost of the trip is $3,975 plus airfare and the $250 application fee. Individuals interested in signing up before Jan. 20 can save $100. The final application deadline for the trip is Feb. 15. To learn more, contact Dr. Monika Sawhney by phone at ext.6-2602 or by e-mail at sawhney@marshall.edu.

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Photo: Marshall student Kayla Boggs, 21, stands with a group of native Tanzanians last summer during her study abroad trip to Africa. While in Tanzania, Boggs said she was in an ideal setting to gain valuable academic and cultural experiences which helped her achieve a broad understanding of our world.

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Marshall honored for creating tobacco-free campus

Marshall was honored recently for its efforts in creating a tobacco-free campus. A brief ceremony took place in the Memorial Student Center.

President Stephen J. Kopp received an award from Dr. Harry K. Tweel, medical director of the Cabell-Huntington Health Department. The award was made on behalf of the Cabell County Coalition for a Tobacco-Free Environment, which is based out of the health department.

Amy Saunders, director of student health education programs at Marshall, said several groups including the Student Government Association, the Classified Staff Council, the Faculty Senate and the Board of Governors helped work on this policy.

“The policy is one of the first steps in changing the culture on campus regarding tobacco use,” Saunders said. “Now we must begin to work on enforcing the policy and helping those that are addicted to nicotine.”

Marshall has been tobacco free since July 2013.

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Photo: Second from left, Dr. Harry K. Tweel, medical director of the Cabell-County Health Department, presents a plaque to President Kopp in recognition of the University developing a
tobacco-free campus. Also pictured are, left, Dr. Robert Stanton, assistant dean of experiential learning with the School of Pharmacy, and, right, Dr. Joseph Shapiro, dean of the Medical School. Photo by *Rick Haye*.

The next issue of We Are…Marshall will be distributed Dec. 11, 2013. Please send any materials for consideration to *Pat Dickson* by 5 p.m. Monday, Dec. 9.