Faculty, staff invited to President’s House Monday, April 4

Marshall faculty and staff have been invited to an open house for the newly renovated President’s House Monday, April 4, from 4:30 to 7 p.m. Please RSVP to Cora Pyles by phone at 304-696-2300 or by e-mail to curtisc@marshall.edu.

The following day, Tuesday, April 5, the South Charleston campus will host an open house for prospective students. Click to read the complete story from last week’s newsletter.

‘Open House Week’ continues with office event April 6

In addition to the open house at the president’s residence, President Gilbert and members of the university’s senior management team are hosting another of the informal monthly open houses Wednesday, April 6, for members of the Marshall community from 3 to 4 p.m. The event will take place in the reception area of the Office of University Communications, 213 Old Main. Refreshments will be served.
Faculty, staff and students are welcome and encouraged to attend to meet and talk with administrators about topics of their choice.

***

In Memoriam: Harold Blanco

Dr. Harold Blanco Nazoa, associate professor and instructional technology developer in the College of Education and Professional Development, died March 25 following a bicycle accident.

After graduation from high school in his birthplace of Caracas, Venezuela, he came to the United States in 1982 to pursue a college education. He earned his B.S. in biology and chemistry from Davis and Elkins College in 1987 and two master’s degrees from Marshall, an M.A. in Family and Consumer Science in 1991, and a M.A. in Secondary Education in 2000. He received his Ph.D. in Instructional Technology from Ohio University in 2007.

“There is a loss for all of us at Marshall,” said President Gilbert in a statement. “Harold was an important part of our university family. Even though I did not have the pleasure of knowing Harold, I learned a great deal about him from his family and friends this week and know how special he was to so many people. My sincere sympathies go out to all who knew and loved him.”

Blanco was the recipient of numerous honors and awards. He received the Teaching Achievement Award from Ohio University, the original Tutor of the Year Award from Marshall’s H.E.L.P. Program, and the Academic Achievement Award from Marshall. He was also honored as a Southern Regional Educational Board (SREB) Scholar. He was a member of numerous professional associations and groups including the International Technology Education Association, the Upward Bound (TRIO) Program, the Kappa Omicron Nu Honor Society, the Sigma Delta Phi Honor Society, and the Learning Disability Association of America.
Married to Carrie-Meghan Quick, he is also survived by two children, Armella Blanco, and Laureano Blanco, as well as four siblings and their families. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to a college savings account fund created for Laureano at City National Bank, 900 Third Avenue, Huntington, WV 25703, Attn: Ann. Online condolences may be sent to www.chapmans-mortuary.com.

———

Note: A profile of Harold Blanco appeared in the We Are..Marshall! newsletter October 21, 2005. Click to read a PDF archive of the issue that contains the profile.

———

Forensic Science Center’s DNA Analysis Laboratory is designated a criminal justice agency

Gov. Earl Ray Tomblin signed S.B. 104 into law last week designating the Forensic DNA Analysis Laboratory of the Marshall University Forensic Science Center as a criminal justice agency.

This designation will allow the Forensic DNA Analysis Laboratory to build upon existing capabilities and infrastructure to provide DNA testing services and foster economic development.

S.B. 104 was unanimously approved by the Senate and House.

Sen. Bob Plymale, D-Wayne, introduced the bill and was the lead sponsor. Co-sponsors were Sen. Mike Woelfel, D-Cabell, and Sen. Ron Stollings, D-Boone.

Plymale, who has been a supporter of Marshall’s Forensic Science Center for over 20 years, said he was honored to be the lead sponsor of SB104 that passed with full bipartisan support.

“The criminal justice agency designation will create opportunity for economic development and support the long-term sustainability of the state’s valuable forensic DNA lab resource,” he said.
The House version was sponsored by Del. Kelli Sobonya, R-Cabell, as the lead sponsor.

“I was glad to recruit and receive the support of my fellow Judiciary Committee members to get this bill through our committee and advance this legislation that is so important for our community,” said Sobonya. “I am equally pleased the Governor signed this bill into law. This legislation will further strengthen the center’s partnership with the West Virginia State Police, help it tap into critical federal grant revenue, and become less reliant on dwindling state tax dollars.”

“We are pleased that we will be able to expand the scope of the Forensic Science Center with the new designation as a criminal justice agency,” President Jerome Gilbert said. “We extend our thanks to the Legislature and the governor for their support of the excellent work at the center.”

Dr. Terry W. Fenger, founding director of the center, said the passage of the bill creates a win-win situation for the state and Marshall’s Forensic Science Center.

“The designation expands opportunities for Marshall to develop partnerships with state and local forensic crime laboratories across the country to provide testing services to reduce criminal case backlogs, making these communities safer by helping to identify perpetrators,” Fenger said.

The Forensic DNA Analysis Laboratory is an ANAB internationally accredited DNA casework laboratory providing services including criminal casework analysis, training and research.

UComm staff members receive awards from United Way

Two Marshall employees were honored yesterday at the 2016 Celebration of Excellence luncheon hosted by United Way of the River Cities. Beth Caruthers and Megan Archer, both university relations specialists in the Office of University Communications, were recognized by United
Way with the 2015 J. Merle Core Volunteer of the Year award for their fundraising efforts during the last campaign season.

Caruthers served as logistics chair for the United Way’s signature gala “LEVELS,” held at Marshall’s Visual Arts Center on Sept. 26, 2015. Through her leadership and collaboration with United Way, she played an instrumental role in the execution of this inaugural event, which raised $26,000 for the local nonprofit.

Archer chaired the event’s silent auction, which brought in $5,000. She also has served as Marshall’s workplace campaign coordinator for the past two years, helping to raise $30,324 in 2014 and $25,575 in 2015.

Marshall President Jerome Gilbert presented the award to Caruthers and Archer, with Ginny Painter, senior vice president for communications and marketing, and university deans Dr. Michael Prewitt and Donald Van Horn in attendance. Both Prewitt and Van Horn have served as board members for United Way of the River Cities Inc. for the past two years.

United Way of the River Cities supports programs and strategies that address critical issues in the focus areas of education, income, health and safety-net services in a five-county area including Cabell, Wayne, Lincoln and Mason counties in West Virginia and Lawrence County, Ohio. To learn how you can contribute to United Way through payroll deduction, contact Archer at archer15@marshall.edu.

———

Photo: From left, Dr. Michael Prewitt, Megan Archer, President Gilbert and Beth Caruthers celebrate Archer and Caruthers being named United Way’s Volunteers of the Year.

———***———

Spring Career Expo to take place April 5

Career Services will conduct their annual Spring Career Expo from 1-4 p.m. on Tuesday, April 5, 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 full-time, internship and part-time positions.

More than 85 employers are expected to have recruiters at the event, representing the areas of business, IT/computer science, healthcare, education, corrections, and many others. A continually updated list of employers planning to attend the Career Expo is available at www.marshall.edu/career-services/aboutEvents5.php.

“This is one of the most important events we do for our students and alumni,” said Debby Stoler, assistant director for Development and Outreach in Career Services, and coordinator of the event. “The opportunity is there to make employment connections that would not be possible otherwise.” Stoler said. “Students walk into a room full of potential employers who want to talk to them, who are there because they believe that the talent at Marshall University can help sustain and grow their businesses.” According to Stoler, many students make connections at the Expo which ultimately turn into an employment opportunity.

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.

In preparation for the event, students may visit Career Services or watch for information tables in the student center lobby to receive assistance with building a professional resume, tips on talking to recruiters and networking effectively, and how to introduce yourself to recruiters using your ‘elevator speech’ or ‘30 second commercial’.

For questions about the event, contact Stoler at ext. 6-6679 or stolerd@marshall.edu or the Career Services front desk at ext.6-2370 or career-services@marshall.edu.

***
‘Quality Matters’ certification classes available for teachers, developers of online courses

For those teaching or planning to develop online or hybrid courses, Applying the Quality Matters Rubric (APPQMR) classes are being offered this spring and summer.

Participants are not required to pay registration fees. Simply indicate “Bill to Marshall University” in the comments field when registering.

A special note: the national QM program will not grant certification for those who do not stay for the entire one-day course or complete the online version within the scheduled two-week period.

Following is a list of the class options:

1-Day, Face-to-Face Quality Matters Class:

- Friday, April 29, 2016 (Last day of Dead Week!)
- 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.
- Drinko Library Presentation Room 349
- Lunch, light refreshments, and door prizes provided!
- Register online here – (Last day to register: April 20)

2-Week, Online Quality Matters Class:

Click on the date to register online

April 26-May 10, 2016 – (Last day to register: April 8)

May 31-June 14, 2016 – (Last day to register: May 13)

August 2-16, 2016 – (Last day to register: July 15)

For additional information contact Dr. Monica Brooks at ext.6-6474 or monica.brooks@marshall.edu.

***
Visiting scholar to present work on comics, teaching about illnesses

Visiting scholar Keegan Lannon will present *Framing Medical Humanities: Using Comics to Teach Physical and Mental Illness* with two sessions scheduled for faculty and students on Monday, April 11, in Drinko Library 402.

The student presentation, “The State of the Funnies: Comics Studies Today,” will take place from 2 to 3 p.m. It will be followed by the faculty presentation from 3:30 to 5 p.m., which will examine how comics, a blended verbal-visual medium, can provide a unique space in which to explore the multifaceted nature of illnesses.

In his abstract Lannon notes that with the ability popular media have to influence the national conversation on current issues, the humanities must be careful when teaching texts that feature afflicted characters.

The visiting scholar presentations are being sponsored by Hedrick Faculty Teaching Fellow Dr. Kristen Lillvis and the Center for Teaching and Learning.

The Hedrick Faculty Teaching Fellowship is awarded annually through the Center for Teaching and Learning. Made possible by a gift from Charles B. and Mary Jo Locke Hedrick, the fellowship provides a full-time faculty member the opportunity to pursue a Scholarship of Teaching and Learning project, collaborate with CTL staff in shaping the strategic plan for campus-wide faculty development, and develop a niche area of expertise in faculty development, thereby adding to the programming regularly offered by the center.
Marshall’s doctoral program in psychology announces internship placements of students

Every student from the doctorate program in clinical psychology was matched with a pre-doctoral internship site last week.

The competitive process, similar to a physician’s residency, had 4,000 applications from across the U.S. this year, but not enough internship slots for every applicant, according to Dr. Keith Beard, director of the Psy.D. program.

“The fact that we had 100 percent of our students match to an internship site speaks to our training program and the quality of our students,” Beard said. “It is an accomplishment that is impressive and one of which Marshall can be proud.”

The internship is a rite of passage; it’s typically the last requirement for students before being awarded the doctorate in clinical psychology. Students are required to provide full-time mental health services at their respective sites for a year.

Marshall’s Psy.D. program accepted its first class in 2002 and was granted accreditation by the American Psychological Association in 2006. The program is one of the few programs in the country that focuses on training psychologists to work with rural populations.

West Virginia Science Adventures program to provide educational opportunities for children in grades 3 through 9
Marshall is looking for children in grades 3 through 9 to participate in the West Virginia Science Adventures program on April 3 and 10.

The Sustainability Department and College of Education and Professional Development have joined together to host two learning sessions taught through green sustainability concepts and nature-based activities.

Dr. Suzanne Strait, biology professor and director of the West Virginia Science Adventures program at Marshall, said the program offers interactive learning challenges through summer camps and individual home-school sessions. Now they are expanding their activities to the weekends.

“Since 2014, the West Virginia Science Adventures Program has provided an opportunity for local K-12 children to experience fun, hands-on activities that enrich their educational development. We don’t do worksheets and lectures here, we provide much more,” Strait said. “The partnership with Marshall’s Sustainability Department is so important for future collaborations related to our youth’s consciousness of planet sustainability. We need them to care about making a difference.”

Eve Marcum-Atkinson, research and community outreach assistant for the Sustainability Department, said the April 3 session would focus on plants and nutrition and the April 10 session will teach children how to grow their own food.

“We want our students to ask: What part do the nutrients in the soil play in growing lots of food? Where does our food come from? What do we need in order to grow healthy, local produce?” Marcum Atkinson said. “Students will answer these questions through outdoor activities in our Marshall University Student Vegetable Garden. They will look at plant parts and identify which parts we eat. They will measure soil nutrients, moisture and pH levels, and assess the effects of pests. They will also explore the benefits of pollinators and make their own butterfly feeder.”

Both April sessions will be held from 3 to 5 p.m. on Sundays, in room 207 of the Science Building as well as in the Student Vegetable Garden, behind the Career Services Center (weather permitting).
Organizers request that participants dress for outdoor garden activities. Program fees for these sessions have been reduced to $10 per day per student, or both days at $15 per student. To register, visit http://ssawv.com/weekend-science or e-mail wvscienceadventures@gmail.com.

---

*Photo:* Children in grades 3 through 9 in the West Virginia Science Adventures program will have the same opportunity as Marshall students to work in the Student Vegetable Garden. Participants in the April 3 and April 10 sessions will engage in nature-based activities, which will teach them about the importance of planet sustainability.

***

**Amicus Curiae series concludes for the year April 7**

The *Amicus Curiae* Lecture Series, sponsored by the Simon Perry Center for Constitutional Democracy, will welcome its final lecturer of the year on Thursday, April 7.

Dr. Frederick E. Hoxie will deliver the lecture, “If American Indians have rights in the United States, where did they come from? And what do they mean?” Hoxie will describe how a succession of Native American leaders, including lawyers, diplomats, writers and politicians, who according to him, “forged a vision of American citizenship that could accommodate indigenous people and recognize their unique place in the nation's history and political life.” They did this in a country whose Constitution’s opening phrase, “We the People,” did not envision them as citizens. According to Hoxie, “Their victory – the creation of a legal space for Indian people within the legal framework of the United States – saved democracy, both for Native Americans and for everyone else.”
Hoxie, the Swanlund Professor of History and Law at the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign, is the author of eight highly regarded books on Native American history. He is also the general editor of The American Indians, a 23-volume series of books published by Time-Life, and series co-editor for Cambridge Studies in American Indian History. In 2013, he was elected to the American Academy of Arts and Sciences.

Patricia Proctor, director of the Simon Perry Center for Constitutional Democracy, said, “I am very excited that Dr. Hoxie, a scholar and writer who is highly regarded both nationally and internationally, is coming to Marshall. Many people in this area are quite interested in Native American history and I am sure his lecture will be entertaining as well as educational.”

The lecture, which is free and open to the public, will begin at 7 p.m. in the Brad D. Smith Foundation Hall. The Amicus Curiae Lecture Series is supported by a grant from the West Virginia Humanities Council.

**High school students invited to explore digital forensics and cyber security at AIDE Conference Wednesday, April 20**

An interactive, hands-on program introducing high school students to the world of cybercrime, cyber security and digital forensics will take place from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Wednesday, April 20, at the Forensic Science Center.

The program, called “Explore Digital Forensics and Cyber Security,” is part of the Annual Appalachian Institute of Digital Evidence (AIDE) Conference. It is recommended that high school students applying to the program have a strong interest in computers, a solid work ethic and the desire to learn. Only basic computer knowledge is required and students who apply will not be excluded because of a lack of computer skills.

Students are encouraged to apply early as space is limited to 25 people. To apply, send an e-mail to John Sammons, president of AIDE, at john.sammons@marshall.edu indicating interest and provide the following information:
• Full name, contact e-mail and phone number, high school, current grade level, brief description of current computer skills and why you want to attend.

Sammons is an assistant professor in the Integrated Science and Technology Department, and he also is the director of the Digital Forensics and Information Assurance undergraduate program.

Students taking part in the program will learn about the following topics:

• Crime scene search and evidence collection
• How cyber criminals operate
• How to solve crimes with digital evidence
• Tools used by both cyber criminals and forensics experts
• Cyber warfare
• Careers in digital forensics and cyber security and more

Students also will participate in the following activities:

• Get a hands-on introduction to the software and hardware used by professionals
• Collect and document digital evidence
• Tour a working digital forensics laboratory
• Interact with faculty from Marshall and working professionals

______________________________________________________________

WMUL crew takes home 14 awards from national conference

Students from WMUL-FM, Marshall's public radio station, received six first-place awards and eight honorable mention awards during the National Broadcasting Society/Alpha Epsilon Rho 25th Annual National Student Audio/Video Scriptwriting and 53rd Annual Audio/Video Production Awards Competition ceremony.

The ceremony took place in Burbank, California, Wednesday, March 16.
WMUL won first place in the following categories: Audio Feature Package, Audio Newscast, Audio Magazine Program, Website, Audio Sports Package and Audio Promos.

Dr. Chuck G. Bailey, professor of Radio-Television Production and Management in the W. Page Pitt School of Journalism and Mass Communications, and faculty manager of WMUL-FM, said that the students competed with other broadcasting students from colleges and universities throughout the United States.

“No other school won as many grand prizes or won more overall awards than WMUL-FM's student broadcasters in the NBS scriptwriting, audio and online categories,” Bailey said. “WMUL-FM student broadcasters were finalists in seven categories and won six grand prizes, which is truly outstanding. Winning at this high a level speaks well for Marshall University, the College of Arts and Media, and the W. Page Pitt School of Journalism and Mass Communications, as the student broadcasters of WMUL-FM consistently earn top honors in direct competition with nationally recognized colleges and universities.”

National Broadcasting Society-Alpha Epsilon Rho has more than 1,500 student and professional members and has chapters on 68 college campuses.

———

*Photo:* Gabi Warwick, Nathan Thomas, Adam Rogers, Alec Hildebeidel, Akira Uchida and Rebecca Turnbull accepted six first-place awards and eight honorable mentions for WMUL-FM. Warwick was presented honor cords during the awards ceremony for her induction into Alpha Epsilon Rho, the broadcasting academic honorary.

———**

**Artist Larry Wolfe to paint landscape from South Charleston campus**
Staff and visitors to the South Charleston campus will be able to watch an artist at work next week when West Virginia artist Larry Wolfe sets up his easel outdoors to paint the landscape overlooking the cities of South Charleston and Dunbar.

Wolfe, whose paintings are being exhibited in the library of the South Charleston campus this semester, will share his artistic process and discuss his work with onlookers as he paints. He will be located on the lawn just behind the academic building from 4 to 8 p.m. Monday, April 4, and again on Thursday, April 7, from 9 a.m. until 1 p.m.

In case of inclement weather, the location will be moved into the lobby of the MUSC academic center.

---

*Photo:* Artist Larry Wolfe will be on the South Charleston campus next week to work on a landscape painting.

---

The next regular issue of *We Are...Marshall* will be distributed April 6, 2016. Please send items for consideration to Pat Dickson by 5 p.m. Monday, April 4.

---

To read the content of this newsletter online, please click on the following link: [http://www.marshall.edu/wamnewsletter/March-30-2016](http://www.marshall.edu/wamnewsletter/March-30-2016).