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We Are...Marshall, March 6, 2013

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Women’s History Month brings variety of events

Women’s History Month at Marshall continues this evening with two events. “A Beautiful Mind: Women and Mental Health” will take place at 6 p.m. in the Memorial Student center, room 2E10, sponsored by the Women’s Studies Student Association. The film, “The Business of Being Born,” will be shown from 6 to 7 p.m. in Drinko 402, sponsored by Students for Choice.

Several more events are scheduled during the coming weeks, including:

March 7 – Body Shots VII: Lady Gaga’s Secret, 7-9 p.m., Francis-Booth Experimental Theatre

March 12 – Affordable Care Act for Women and Families, 5:30-7 p.m., MSC BE5

March 13 – Woman of the Year (film), 6-8 p.m., Drinko 402

March 14 – Speak Out: Celebrating Women Through Poetry, 7 p.m., MSC 2W37

March 25 – Killing Us Softly (film), 7-9 p.m., Drinko 402

March 26 – Women’s Studies Book Club, Love Sick, by Sue Silverman, 7-9 p.m., Drinko Atrium

March 27 – The F Word, Round Table Discussion, 6 p.m., MSC 2E10

March 28 – Feminism and Christianity, Jennifer Crampton, 6-8 p.m., MSC Marco’s Auditorium

April 5-6 – STAND For Women’s Conference

April 11 – Schmidlapp Lecture by Sarah Waheed, 7 p.m., MSC Shawkey Dining Room

For more information, contact the Women’s Center at ext. 6-3112
Funding for collaborative medical research announced at medical school

Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine officials last week announced $150,000 in funding for six research grants associated with the school’s translational medicine research program.

The Marshall Health Translational Pilot Grant program, created in 2012, encourages collaborative research between basic scientists and clinical physicians in an effort to speed up the process of laboratory discovery to clinical application for patients. The grants are funded by Marshall Health.

“We are very pleased that Marshall Health has created this grant program to stimulate research efforts,” said Dr. Richard M. Niles, senior associate dean for Biomedical Sciences at the School of Medicine. “Moving Marshall to the next level of medical research takes vision, commitment and, of course, funding. This grant allows 12 researchers, as well as medical residents and students, the opportunity to explore very diverse areas.”

Marshall Health is the faculty practice plan for the Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine and supports the clinical, educational, research and services missions of the school. Beth Hammers, executive director of the organization, says the pilot grant program provides one year of support at $25,000 for each grantee, with additional funding based on progress of the research.

“Medical research is essential to the development of new medical treatments and cures for patients,” Hammers said. “We are thrilled to help stimulate a robust, viable grant program which pairs basic scientists from Marshall University with School of Medicine physicians to work on projects which will lead to the betterment of our community.”

The investigators and their projects are:

**Dr. Pier Paolo Claudio, Department of Biochemistry and Microbiology, and Dr. Anthony Alberico, Department of Neuroscience** – “Chemotherapy resistance and sensitivity testing in tumors of the central nervous system”

**Dr. Elaine Hardman, Department of Biochemistry and Microbiology, and Dr. James Jensen, Department of Surgery** – “Feasibility and Safety of Nutritional Supplementation with Omega-3 Fatty Acids to Reduce Prostate Specific Antigen Rise in Men with Biochemical Failure after Prostatectomy or External-Beam Radiotherapy”

**Dr. Nalini Santanam, Department of Pharmacology, Physiology and Toxicology, and Dr. Paulette Wehner, Department of Cardiology** – “Perivascular Fat Relation to Hypertension—Appalachian Heart Study”

**Dr. Nalini Santanam, Department of Pharmacology, Physiology and Toxicology, and Dr. Abid Yaqub, Department of Medicine, Endocrinology Section** – “Impact of
Technology-based Behavioral Intervention on Molecular and Clinical Parameters in Patients with Type 2 Diabetes

Dr. Monica Valentovic, Department of Pharmacology, Physiology and Toxicology, and Dr. Brenda Dawley, Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology – “Prenatal Exposure to Heavy Metals and Polycyclic Aromatic Hydrocarbons (PAH) Alter Umbilical Cord Blood Levels of Thyroid Hormone and Vitamin D”

Dr. Hongwei Yu, Department of Biochemistry and Microbiology, and Dr. Yoram Elitser, Department of Pediatrics – “Investigate the distribution of segmented filamentous bacteria (SFB) in American children and the presence of SFB with childhood diseases”

Other current translational research under way at the School of Medicine includes a partnership with the University of Kentucky (UK) as part of the National Institutes of Health’s Clinical and Translational Science Awards program, which also is aimed at speeding the time for laboratory discoveries to benefit patients.

In 2011, UK and its partners received $20 million for the program to support research at UK’s Center for Clinical and Translational Science, making Marshall part of a select national biomedical research network.

Castellani receives award for promoting undergraduate research

Dr. Michael Castellani, professor and chair of the Department of Chemistry, has been recognized for his contributions to undergraduate research at both the state and national levels.

Castellani received the award at a luncheon held on Feb. 28 as part of the annual Undergraduate Research Day event. In presenting the award, Vice President for Research Dr. John Maher noted that Castellani was responsible for starting the statewide program 10 years ago, and has worked tirelessly to ensure its ongoing success. The event is held at the State Capitol in Charleston and has grown to include more than 100 students from 15 of the state’s colleges and universities. This year, more than 30 Marshall students presented their research projects, which ranged from cancer to bridge construction to cloud computing.

Castellani also is active on the national Council on Undergraduate Research, serving as secretary on the organization’s executive board.
Photo: Dr. Michael Castellani (right) receives an award for promoting undergraduate research from Dr. John Maher.

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Staff Council nominations due March 28

The Classified Staff Council will conduct an election to choose Council members for the 2013-2015 term. Nomination forms will be distributed by mail on March 6, and the forms are due in the Staff Council Office no later than 4:30 p.m. on Thursday, March 28. No nominations will be accepted after that date.

Staff Council is composed of 25 members, with five members chosen from each of the five EEO groups. HB 2224 mandates that the selection will take place every two years by direct election of all classified staff employees.

Classified staff will also choose the Staff Council Chair, representative to the Advisory Council for Classified Employees (ACCE) and the representative to the Institutional Board of Governors for the 2013-2015 term.

All employees are permitted to nominate five eligible staff members from their respective EEO groups including themselves, one eligible staff member for the position of Council Chair including themselves, one eligible staff member for the position of ACCE Representative including themselves, and one eligible staff member for the position of IBOG Representative including themselves. The same person may be nominated for multiple positions. For questions on eligibility consult the Classified Employees By-Laws, Bylaw VI, Section 4 at http://www.marshall.edu/wpmu/staff-council/forms/.

Electronic voting will be available from Friday, April 19th at 6 a.m. through midnight, Monday, April 22. All voting will be electronic. There will be no paper ballot voting. Detailed instructions on electronic voting can be found on the Staff Council website: http://www.marshall.edu/wpmu/staff-council/forms/.

If there are questions regarding the election, contact Joe Wortham, Election Committee Chair at wortham@marshall.edu or ext. 6-5402; or Katie Counts in the Staff Council Office at easter@marshall.edu or ext. 6-2222.

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Faculty/Staff Achievements

Amy Saunders, Director of Student Health Education Programs, was one of 15 individuals/companies honored last week by the Huntington Region of the Governor’s Highway Safety Program at an event held at the Marshall Hall of Fame restaurant. She received the award for her work with students with substance abuse, with the aim of reducing the negative consequences related to alcohol abuse such as drinking and driving.

Dr. Victor Fet, professor of biological sciences, has translated The Dawn of Human Genetics, written by V.V.Babkov, which has been published by the Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory Press.

Affordable Care Act subject of forum March 12

A health forum focusing on the Affordable Care Act and what it will mean to women and families will take place Tuesday, March 12, from 5:30 to 7 p.m. in the Memorial Student Center, room BE-5.

The moderator will be Laura Gilliam, executive director of United Way River Cities. Panel members include Dr. Isabel Pino, associate professor of pediatrics at the Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine and medical director of the West Virginia Children’s Health Project; Dr. Allan Chamberlain, president of United Health Professionals; and Yvonne Jones, executive director of Ebenezer Medical Outreach. Renate Pore, the health policy director with the West Virginia Center on Budget and Policy, also will make a presentation.

Refreshments and community resources will be available from 5-5:30 p.m. Sponsors include MU Student Health Education Programs and Women’s Center, West Virginia Free, Goodwill, Contact, Reach, Mission West Virginia, West Virginia Free Comprehensive Cancer Program, Cabell Huntington Health Department, Change the Future West Virginia, Presteria Center, Ebenezer Medical Outreach, St. Mary’s Hospital, HIMG, West Virginia Nurses Association, and the National Association of Social Workers West Virginia Chapter.
Gallery 842 featuring exhibit by artist Kaz McCue

Visiting sculptor and installation artist Kaz McCue is featured in a solo exhibition at Gallery 842, located at 842 4th Ave. The exhibit opened March 1 and will run through April 5.

McCue is known as a staunch advocate for the arts and has been recognized throughout his career for community involvement and his efforts to enhance access and participation in the arts.

“McCue brings to our campus and community a wealth of experience as a noted visual artist, educator, curator and arts administrator,” said John Farley, gallery director. “Given the open, collaborative spirit between university and community that we aim to promote, he is a natural fit for an exhibition at Gallery 842.”

McCue holds a B.F.A. in photography from the Parsons School of Design and an M.F.A. in mixed media from Long Island University/ C. W. Post Campus. He has received numerous grants and awards and has exhibited his work nationally and internationally. As a curator, McCue has put together more than 200 exhibitions and more than 100 lectures and artist presentations. The artist has taught at numerous universities, colleges and academies and has served in several arts administration positions. He currently teaches at the Leelanau School in Glen Arbor, Mich. His work is also the subject of a recent catalog titled “Bad Seed” that explores the masculine stereotype in relation to ideas of social justice that are encapsulated in his installation work.

Gallery 842 is free and open to the public from noon to 7 p.m. Tuesdays through Saturdays.

Photo: “Forget” (installation with found objects, fake fur, panels with Xerox transfers and screen printing, video; 2004) is a work by artist Kaz McCue, whose work will be on display at Gallery 842 through April 5.

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Marshall to welcome leadership conference for young men
March 7

The Office of Multicultural Affairs will cosponsor a new leadership conference for young men in grades 7 through 12 tomorrow, March 7, from 8:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. in the Memorial Student Center.
Dr. Shari Clarke, vice president of multicultural affairs, said the university is working with the Huntington Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Inc. to present the E.M.B.O.D.I. (Empowering Males to Build Opportunities for Developing Independence) Male Leadership Conference.

“Data suggest that a great many young males, particularly those of African American, multicultural or ethnically diverse descent, are not reaching their fullest potential,” Clarke said. “This program is one way we are taking action to address the needs of these young men.”

Using a half-day format, the participants will learn about topics such as self-esteem, relationships, healthy living, money management, life after high school, career exploration and leaderships. In addition, they will get a chance to meet and interact with male campus and community leaders.

The students applied for the program through their school counselors. About 75 students are expected to attend.

For further information, contact Mary Clark, program director in the office of multicultural affairs, by phone at ext.6-5852 or by e-mail at clarkm@marshall.edu.

Reminder: Body Shots to take place Thursday, March 7

*Body Shots VII: Lady Gaga’s Secret* will be presented at the Francis-Booth Experimental Theatre in the Joan C. Edwards Playhouse at 7:30 p.m. Thursday, March 7. Admission is free to the show, which will run about an hour.

Prior to the performance, beginning at 7 p.m., there will be a reception and an art show featuring works by Marshall students and faculty.

The show’s theme uses Lady Gaga’s provocative and often contentious challenges to boundaries of gender and sexuality as its jumping-off point. Performers will use a host of creative forms—prose, performance art, dancing, even roller skating, to explore what Lady Gaga’s secret might reveal.

*Body Shots* is a unique collaborative effort involving Marshall students and faculty from across disciplines exploring themes relating to gender and the body. Participants are from art and design, biology, history, political science, sociology and anthropology, theatre and dance, among others.
The performance is being sponsored by the College of Fine Arts, School of Art and Design, Department of History, Women’s Studies, Department of Sociology and Anthropology, Women’s Center, and Sexuality Studies.

For more information, contact Dr. Robin Conley, assistant professor of sociology and anthropology, at ext. 6-2788 or by e-mail at conley@marshall.edu.

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**Chili’s give-back night benefits River Valley Child Development Center**

Marshall University’s Public Relations Campaign Club will be hosting a benefit night at Chili’s to help raise money for the River Valley Child Development Services.

Chili’s is located on 925 Mall Road, in Barboursville. This fundraiser will start at 11:00 a.m. Wednesday, March 6, and will last until closing time.

Chili’s will give 15% of the bill towards RVCDS, where the proceeds will go towards their Tuition Investment Program Support (T.I.P.S.) program at the childcare center.

The T.I.P.S. scholarship program helps low-income families afford quality child care. It provides partial financial assistance to families who are currently pursuing financial stability through higher education or work and are no longer eligible for subsidy through Link, a community service organization that works with parents, child care providers, businesses, and community organizations to help promote the availability of quality child care services in the area.

This give-back night is one of many fundraisers the Marshall University Public Relations Campaigns Club will be hosting leading up to the annual Questions Trivia Night, also to raise money for RVCDS.

For more information, please contact campaign director Meagan Earls at earls4@marshall.edu and media relations chair Katie Wise at wise37@marshall.edu.

The Public Relations Campaign Club is a group of students from the W. Page Pitt School of Journalism and Mass Communications at Marshall University working to improve their skills as public relations professionals. As such, the students work as a professional agency to aid real organizations in promoting themselves and fundraising.

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The next issue of We Are…Marshall will be distributed March 13, 2013. Please send any materials for consideration to Pat Dickson by noon, March 11.