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We Are...Marshall, April 20, 2016

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Spring General Faculty Meeting set for Tuesday, April 26

The Spring General Faculty Meeting of the 2015-2016 academic year will take place at 2 p.m. Tuesday, April 26, in the Playhouse of the Joan C. Edwards Performing Arts Center.

The agenda will consist of welcoming remarks by the Faculty Senate Chair, Dr. Larry Stickler; remarks from President Jerome Gilbert; recognition of retiring faculty by Stickler and Dr. Cam Brammer; and presentation of faculty awards: Faculty Distinguished Service, Charles E. Hedrick Outstanding Faculty, Marshall & Shirley Reynolds Outstanding Teacher, E. Pickens/G. Queen Excellence in Teaching, Council of Chairs Excellence in Teaching, Distinguished Artists and Scholars, Hedrick Program Grant for Teaching Innovation, Hedrick Faculty Teaching Fellow, and John and Frances Rucker Graduate Advisor of the Year.

All faculty, staff, students and members of the public are invited to attend. After the meeting a reception to honor the retiring and award-winning faculty will be held in the lobby of the Performing Arts Center.

Retiring faculty to be recognized are Dr. Marty Amerikaner, Dr. Robert Angel, Dr. Sandra Bailey, Dr. Bruce Conrad, Dr. Michael Cunningham, Dr. Samuel Dameron, Dr. Paul Durst, Dr. Carl Gruetter, Jeanne Hubbard, Dr. John Hubbard, Dr. Penny Kroll, Dr. Carlos Lopez, Dr. Joyce Meikamp, Dr. LeVene Olson, Dr. William Paynter, Dr. Jerry Scott, Dr. Robert Simpson, Dr. Linda Spatig, Dr. Nancy Stump, Dr. Ed Taft, Jonathan Thompson, and Dr. Linda Winter.
‘Romeo and Juliet’ opens tonight

Considered to be the greatest love story of all time, the classic *Romeo and Juliet* will be presented by the School of Music and Theatre Wednesday, April 20, through Saturday, April 23, with performances at 7 p.m. nightly in the Joan C. Edwards Performing Arts Center.

William Shakespeare’s tragic tale of forbidden love is directed by Jack Cirillo, with original music by Anthony Almentarez. Student tickets are free with an MU ID. Adult tickets are $20, $15 for seniors and $7 for children. For tickets and other information, call the theatre box office at ext.6-2787.

With help from the Center for Wellness in the Arts, student performers will be more than ready for the fight scenes of *Romeo and Juliet*.

Student actors in the College of Arts and Media have undergone intense exercise training in the Human Performance Laboratory to prepare for the physicality of their roles, according to Nicole Perrone, choreographer for the production and associate professor of acting and movement.

“Since August 2014, the Center for Wellness in the Arts (CWA) has given performing arts students the chance to work with certified athletic trainers and health science experts to prevent injury from occurring during performances,” Perrone said. “The CWA has continued to provide specialized rehabilitative care and injury prevention to our student musicians, vocalists, dancers and, of course, the actors and actresses of our upcoming production of *Romeo and Juliet*.”

Austin Holmes, a graduate student in the exercise physiology program, has been assisting with the development of the actors’ performance-enhancement training. Holmes said this is the first study of its kind and he plans to use what he’s learned in his thesis.

“We’ve looked at so many peer-reviewed articles and there are none that try to replicate or study how actors are trained to improve in different parameters, especially in sword fighting,” Holmes said. “We came up with a pre-test to gauge reaction times and we have them continuously do this and practice them each week. We hope to see a significant improvement in hand reaction time and sword reaction time using various tests.”

Cast as Romeo, Tim Woda, a senior theatre performance student, said he can tell a difference since training began.

“A lot of this training helps with balance and agility and endurance, which will all be very helpful because of all the fighting in the show,” Woda said. “I’ve definitely had an increase of energy.”
Jim Woda (left) is shown holding a 25-pound weight while moving over hurdles to train for his role as Romeo in the April 20 production of *Romeo and Juliet*.

**CWA RomeoJuliet 2.jpg:**

Austin Holmes (left), an exercise physiology graduate student in the College of Health Professions, worked as a fitness trainer for student performers in the College of Arts and Media.

**CWA RomeoJuliet 3.jpg:**

Hunter Perry (left), exercise physiology graduate student, conducts a medicine ball exercise with Lukas Hagley, student actor set to play Benviolo in *Romeo and Juliet*. Student performers were given various exercise challenges to complete during the six weeks of their performance training. Actors were made to run the hallways, lift weights and practice drills to improve hand reaction time.

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**Come meet one of the candidates for Vice President for Student Affairs April 25**

Dr. Brandon Frye, a finalist for the position of Vice President for Student Affairs, will be visiting the Huntington campus Monday, April 25. There will be a public presentation at 9:30 a.m. in the Shawkey Dining Room and a student Q&A session at 10:30 a.m. in the John Spotts Room. Both rooms are in the Memorial Student Center.

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Pay Changes Update: Target dates set, information sessions to take place next week

As you may have heard, the State is again moving forward with bi-weekly pay for those not already on that method. Marshall University and WVU are still being exempted from using the OASIS HR system for payroll, but will still be required to move to bi-weekly. Our target dates for the transition are as follows:

- Last semi-monthly pay period 8/1/16 to 8/16/16 – paid 8/31/16
- Transitional pay period 8/17/16 to 9/2/16 – paid on 9/16/16
- First bi-weekly pay period 9/3/16 to 9/16/16 – paid on 9/30/16

We will be hosting several information sessions next week to provide additional information on the transition:

- Monday April 25, 2016 at 3:30 p.m. in Room BE-5 at the Memorial Student Center in Huntington
- Tuesday April 26, 2016 at 3:30 p.m. in Room BE-5 at the Memorial Student Center in Huntington
- Friday April 29, 2016 at 11:00 a.m. in Room 319 at the Administration Building in South Charleston

We will post copies of the presentation and other information on the Pay Changes website next week as well for those who may not be able to attend a session.

Thank you for your continued patience.

Mary Ellen Heuton
Senior Vice President for Finance

Mathematics faculty member receives prestigious teaching award

Dr. Bonita Lawrence of the College of Science has received the 2016 Mathematical Association of America’s Regional Distinguished Teaching Award. Lawrence is only the second professor from Marshall to receive this honor in the Ohio Section of the Mathematical Association of America.

Lawrence, a full professor in the Department of Mathematics, said she has taught for 22 years – 15 of those at Marshall University. Lawrence describes her teaching style with two words: “self-discovery.”
“When I teach, I try to guide my students to their own self-discovery and get them to that ‘Ah-ha!’ point in their education,” Lawrence said. “It is such an honor to have received this award for something I love doing. I am so blessed to have the full support of my department behind me and could not do what I do without my colleagues and the students who motivate me.”

Among the faculty in her department, Lawrence is considered to have been the driving force to build Marshall’s mechanical differential analyzer. Dr. David Cusick, professor of mathematics, said this machine provides visual interpretations for students so they can solve a differential equation and become the “calculator” to develop a better understanding of mathematical concepts.

Cusick said he nominated Lawrence for this award due to her commitment to enhance mathematical thinking within her curriculum.

“Dr. Lawrence is an outstanding teacher in the fullest sense. Her standards are high, her students love her and she has been a co-author on an advanced textbook,” Cusick said. “However, her towering uniqueness comes from the differential analyzer. This is a reconstruction of machines from the 1930’s through World War II. Those machines were a part of the Allies’ victory over the Axis. Thanks to her efforts, Marshall University has the only publicly-viewable machine east of the Mississippi, or maybe anywhere.”

The Mathematical Association of America is one of the two national professional societies for college-level mathematics in the United States. It has over 14,000 active members in 29 sections with Marshall as a member of the Ohio section.

After receiving regional recognition, Lawrence is now a candidate for the association’s national teaching award.

Photos: (Above) Dr. Bonita Lawrence of the Marshall University College of Science has received the 2016 Mathematical Association of America’s Regional Distinguished Teaching Award. Lawrence is only the second professor from Marshall University to receive this honor in the Ohio Section of the Mathematical Association of America. (Below) Many celebrated Dr. Lawrence’s prestigious award including four former students, seven Marshall faculty members and eight current undergraduate mathematics students.
Dr. Maria Babiuc-Hamilton, associate professor of physics, will discuss the recent discovery of gravitational waves at 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, April 27, in the Robert C. Byrd Biotechnology Science Building, room 102.

Babiuc-Hamilton’s talk will focus on the recently detected gravitational waves that shuddered the earth, vibrating the delicately balanced laser beam at the Laser Interferometer Gravitational-wave Observatory (LIGO) last September and alerting scientists that something big had happened. The vibrations were caused by the collision of two black holes, merging so violently that it shook the fabric of space.

Scientists explain that these vibrations are an affirmation of Albert Einstein’s theory of relativity. They carry information that permits scientists to probe the heart of supernova explosions, black hole collisions, and the Big Bang itself. The discovery of gravitational waves will have a transformative effect on our understanding of the universe, experts say.

Babiuc-Hamilton’s research involves solving Einstein’s equations of general relativity numerically and running supercomputer simulations to create templates for the signal that can be used by gravitational wave observatories, such as LIGO and the planned Laser Interferometer Space Antenna (LISA).

The event is free and open to the public.

The College of Liberal Arts will have a retirement reception for retiring faculty and staff at 5 p.m. Thursday, April 21, in the John Marshall Dining Room of the Memorial Student Center. The college will be honoring Marty Amerikaner, Jeanne Hubbard, Gina Kates, Carlos Lopez, Nancy Stump and Ed Taft. Everyone is welcome to attend and light refreshments will be served.
Marshall panel to discuss sex trafficking in West Virginia

“Not for Sale: Sex Trafficking in the U.S.” will be the topic of a free public panel at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, April 26, on Marshall University’s Huntington campus.

On hand in BE5 of Marshall’s Memorial Student Center will be House of Delegates member Barbara Evans Fleischauer (D-Monongalia), Dr. Maggie Stone, assistant professor of sociology and director of Marshall’s graduate studies program in sociology; Margaret Phipps Brown, J.D., professor of criminal justice and criminology at Marshall; and licensed social worker Kristen Kerns. An audience question-and-answer session will follow the presentation.

Stone noted that sex trafficking is often assumed to be an international problem that plagues countries other than our own. Cases of trafficking, however, have been reported in all 50 states as well as the District of Columbia. Many cases go unrecognized, unreported, or are mistaken for prostitution.

Speakers will address definitions of sex trafficking and discuss trauma experienced by trafficking victims, how to identify a potential trafficking situation and ways to effect change at the university, community and legislative levels.

Cosponsors of the panel are Marshall’s Women Connect, Women’s Center, Women’s Studies program, Students against Sex Slavery and the College of Liberal Arts. Representatives from the following groups will be present at the event: the Women’s Empowerment Addiction Recovery (WEAR) Program, Cabell-Huntington Health Department, Amnesty International, CONTACT Rape Crisis Center, Branches Domestic Violence Shelter, Students for Reproductive Justice, and Backpacks and Brown Bags.

For more information, contact Stone by e-mail at stonem@marshall.edu or by phone at 502-727-8902.

Marshall 20/20 Update: Budget Work Group

The Budget Work Group met Tuesday, April 12. First, the group reviewed state budget scenarios that had been reported in the Charleston Gazette-Mail that day. The governor’s office emphasized that those scenarios were not recommendations, but examples to start discussion.
Next, the group discussed a detailed analysis of the Fiscal Year 2016 budget, a copy of which is available here.

Third, the group reviewed a set of Fiscal Year 2017 budget options to be presented to the Board of Governors. The option eventually selected will be determined based on the state budget allocation, which has yet to be finalized. The options assume the current enrollment. In addition, this year, no funded depreciation or strategic priorities contributions are included in the budget.

The Budget Work Group will not have another official meeting until the fall semester; however, e-mailed updates will be sent to its members as new information develops relative to the budget and will engage in virtual discussions during the summer.

Also in the fall semester, the group will consider how it should function going forward, particularly with regard to a more formal annual budget process that will start each year in the early fall.

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Memorial reception for Danny Ray to take place April 30

The Thundering Word Debate Team and the College of Liberal Arts will hold a memorial reception to honor Danny Ray at 4 p.m. Saturday, April 30, in the Memorial Student Center, room BE5.

The longtime coach of the award-winning Thundering Word died suddenly last month. Everyone is welcome to attend. Light refreshments will be served.

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Khader active in American Library Association operations

Dr. Majed Khader, professor and director of Morrow Library, has been reappointed for a second two-year term to serve on the Committee on Library Advocacy of the American Library Association (ALA). The appointment was made by the organization’s president-elect.

The committee’s charge includes “supporting the efforts of advocates for all types of libraries; to develop resources, networks and training materials for advocates at the local, state and national levels.”
Khader has also been nominated by the Council Committee on Committees, chaired by the ALA president-elect, to run for election as a Chapter Councilor for the upcoming ALA Council Planning and Budget Assembly. The duties of the PBA are to study the budget and planning documents submitted by the ALA Executive Board and offer suggestions to the ALA Executive Board and Budget Analysis and Review Committee.

In addition, Khader serves on the ALA Council Relations Committee and the Task Force on Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion. The task force is also a two-year presidential appointment. At the state library association level, Khader has been re-elected for the third successive time for another three-year term, which began December 2015, to represent the West Virginia Library Association (WVLA) on the ALA Council, the governing body of the association.

The Chicago-based ALA is a nonprofit organization that is the oldest and largest library association in the world. ALA’s current membership exceeds 58,776 members with an operating budget of over $51 million.

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Faculty Achievement: Dr. Robert Ellison

Dr. Robert Ellison, assistant professor of English and director of the Center for Sermon Studies, gave the keynote address at the spring meeting of the American Society of Church History, which took place April 8-10 in Edmonton, Alberta, Canada

Entitled “Publishing Tools in Sermon Studies,” the address discussed current patterns and trends in open access publishing and outlined the planning and launch of *Sermon Studies*, a peer-reviewed journal running on the Marshall Digital Scholar platform.

“Two years ago, when the ASCH met in Oxford, England, I tried to make the theoretical case for starting such a journal,” Ellison said. “It was my pleasure to tell the audience in Edmonton that it is actually up and running.”

The full text of the address is available via Marshall Digital Scholar at [http://mds.marshall.edu/english_faculty/58/](http://mds.marshall.edu/english_faculty/58/).

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Faculty Achievement: Dr. Anthony Viola

Dr. Anthony Viola, professor in the Department of English, has had his novel, *The Art of Death*, published by Crimson Frost Books as an e-book. It is available for purchase through Amazon and Barnes and Noble.

The book follows the efforts of Gio Pagano, a correctional officer, as he attempts to establish the authenticity of a 20-year-old, recently discovered “snuff” film which the FBI has ruled a fake. His efforts to learn the truth take him into a world of cruelty, violence and death that occupies his time and threatens his 19-year marriage.


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Lewis College of Business offers new entrepreneurship major in West Virginia

The Lewis College of Business will offer a new entrepreneurship major in West Virginia beginning next fall.

This new program will prepare the next generation of students for economic change in the state, according to Dr. Jonathan Butler, assistant professor of entrepreneurship in the college.
“The continued economic viability of the state really depends on creating an entrepreneurial mindset across the state. If West Virginia is going to experience any kind of growth, there is a high likelihood it will be within the state and driven by entrepreneurs,” Butler said. “I don’t think we can expect large major companies to relocate to West Virginia in order to save us—we need to be proactive.”

Butler said the major in entrepreneurship will help cultivate growth and prosperity fostered by our own natural resources in young, creative and innovative people.

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Mader recognized as April Resident of the Month

Jason Palmer Mader, D.O., a third-year resident in the department of internal medicine, has been selected as the April 2016 Resident of the Month, according to Paulette S. Wehner, M.D., vice dean for graduate medical education at the Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine.

Mader is completing his third and final year as an internal medicine resident and is also serving as chief resident.

“Dr. Mader’s nomination indicated that he has an amazing passion for making everything better around him,” Wehner said. “His passion doesn’t stop at quality improvement, but extends to teaching and patient care. Dr. Mader is a leader by example and is an inspiration to others—all reasons why he was chosen as the April Resident of the Month.”

Eva Patton-Tackett, M.D., who serves as the internal medicine residency program director, noted in her nomination that “…from the first day in our program others have looked up to Dr. Mader…. he has spent endless hours teaching and has certified countless residents in procedures. But that isn’t the important point—he did it while building their confidence all at the same time… He works with residents that might be struggling and helps them without them ever knowing they were struggling in the first place.”

After graduation from the West Virginia School of Osteopathic Medicine (WVSOM) in Lewisburg, Mader completed a preliminary surgery year at the Charleston Area Medical Center/West Virginia University Charleston Division. While at WVSOM, Mader was awarded the T.O.U.C.H. Award for completing more than 120 hours of community service in an academic year. He also completed an undergraduate degree in biological sciences at Marshall.

After finishing the internal medicine residency in June, Mader will begin a three-year cardiology fellowship at Marshall. As part of his recognition as the April Resident of the Month, he will receive items including a certificate of recognition and a designated parking spot.
Photo: Jason Mader, D.O., receives the April Resident of the Month award from Eva Patton-Tackett, M.D., Joan C. Edwards Internal Medicine Residency Program Director.

The next regular issue of We Are...Marshall will be distributed April 27, 2016. Please send items for consideration to Pat Dickson by 5 p.m. Monday, April 25.

To read the content of this newsletter online, please click on the following link: http://www.marshall.edu/wamnewsletter/April-20-2016.