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We Are … Marshall, October 22, 1999

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Faculty and Staff Achievements

At the West Virginia Association for Developmental Education annual conference held in Shepherdstown, September 28 to October 2, two faculty members from the Marshall Community and Technical College were elected to the Executive Board of the organization for 1999-2000.

Drena Stringer was elected president and Linda Hunt will serve as treasurer. In addition, Susan Peyton was appointed newsletter editor. All three are in the General Studies division.

Deborah Eastwood will be featured in a faculty trumpet recital October 29 at 7 p.m. in Smith Music Hall. The program, which is free and open to the public, will begin at 8 p.m. Ms. Eastwood will be performing works by Hindemith, Torelli, Kwaenzet and Ketting. For more information about the program, contact the MU Department of Music at 696-3117.

Library faculty Monica Brooks, Pamela Ford, Jennifer Sias, and Kathleen Bledsoe, along with retired library faculty member, Helen Jenkins, attended the annual meeting of the West Virginia Library Association (WVLA) October 4-6 in Shepherdstown. Brooks and Ford were members of a panel discussion sponsored by the Academic Library Division on the history and benefits of Faculty Status for Academic Librarians in West Virginia colleges and universities. Brooks also served as a presenter on a panel session, “Impact of Electronic Journals on Library Services.” Sias was elected as Vice-Chair/Chair-Elect of the Academic Library Division. Brooks was selected ALA Counselor for WVLA, and Ron Thill was elected chair of the Automation Roundtable. Bledsoe was nominated and ran for first Vice-President/President Elect of the Association.

Pamela Ford was elected president of the Cabell County Public Library Friends Board. She has been a member of the board for nine years and served as vice president for the past four years. This office also sits, in an ex-officio capacity, on the Cabell County Public Library board.

Guitar Ensemble Concert

A Studio Guitar Ensemble Concert will be presented November 4 at 8 p.m. in Smith Recital Hall. The program will feature classical, jazz, and celtic solos and ensemble works.

Excused Absences

Absences have been excused by the university for those students on the dates noted.

October 27 through October 31 – Todd McCormick, Christopher W. Roberts, April Vitello, and Nicole S. Walters.
Human Resource Workshops Slated

Human Resource Services have announced training and development workshops available for the fall semester.

Three Banner classes, limited to 15 participants, will be offered in the Drinko Library Presentation Room 349. They include, Banner – Navigation, October 25 from 9-11 a.m. and November 8, 9-11 a.m.; and Payroll from 9-11 a.m., Pat Gehart, Program Coordinator Sr., is the instructor.

Banner Finance – General Encumbrances, October 27 and November 10, from 9 to 11 a.m., to be taught by Kelsey Franci, manager of Accounts Payable.

Banner Finance – Online, October 28 and November 11, from 10-11:30 a.m., taught by Selah Wilson, Manager of Accounting.

TIAA-CREF one-on-one individual counseling sessions are available in October November and December. October 25 and 26 sessions will be held on the Main Campus, MUGC. The Medical Education building. The November 4-5 sessions will be held on the Main campus only; meetings will be held December 6 and 7 on both the Huntington and MUGC campuses. To schedule an appointment, call TIAA-CREF directly or ask for Mary Patton at 1-877-209-3136, or sign up on their World Wide Web site at www.tiaa-cref.org/moc.

A two-part workshop on “Thriving...Not Just Surviving your Job!” is scheduled for November 18 and November 17, to run from 9-11 a.m. Limited to 25 participants, the workshop will be in the MSC Shawkey room and will be led by Judy Blevins, Training and Development Specialist.

Two sessions of Women’s Investment Forum are available November 4 in the Drinko Library Room #02, and by teleconference to South Charleston in room AC210. The first session is slated for 9-10:30 a.m. and will be repeated from 2-3:30 p.m. Fifteen seats will be available at each session in Huntington with 30 seats available at the teleconference site at MUGC. Nancy A. Taylor, Assistant Professor/Treasurer of Marshall University Alumni Association Committee has it's way, it never will be.

Fort Gay High School Remembered through MU Scholarship Fund

Fort Gay High School, once located in a small but tidy hamlet in Wayne County, may be gone but it most cer­tainly isn’t forgotten. And it is the Fort Gay High School Alumni Association Committee has its way, it never will be.

To honor the school, which closed in 1987 when it merged with Crum High School to form Tolsia High School, a group of loyal and determined graduates have banded together to raise money for what they consider a fitting tribute to their alma maters—a scholarship fund, the Fort Gay High School (FGHS) Memorial Scholarship Fund, which will send a Tolsia graduate to Marshall. In fact, the first scholarship was awarded this year to Teddy Lambert. The fund was established by the Marshall Foundation and is fully endowed.

To date this energetic group has raised $24,000 with an ultimate goal of securing $100,000.

Richard Plymale, who chairs the alumni committee, said the group started out informally a few years ago when graduates from the 1930’s, 40’s and 50’s began gathering each year to renew old friendships and to have a bit of fun. It was purely a social group, he says, a time for old ac­quaintances to get together and reminisce about the years they spent at the school. During their time, social life, education and entertainment centered around attendance at FGHS.

“After about three years we began to think about having another purpose. All of us had graduated from FGHS and wanted to do something for the area,” Plymale recalls. We could have planted a tree or put up a monument, but who is going to notice that in 50 years from now? So we decided to establish a living memorial in the form of a scholarship for a student from this area.

Profile: Joe Taylor

A series on interesting Marshall University people.

Joe Taylor, a Marshall University Graduate College employee for the past 11 years, has served as MUGC’s representative on the Advisory Council of Classified Employees (ACCE) for the past eight years. In 1996, when he was elected chair­man of the group he auto­maticaly became a member of the Board of Trustees representing the several thousand classified staff employed by the state’s colleges and universities.

Taylor, currently a trades worker, came to MUGC after spending 21 years as an employee of Union Carbide, where he worked as a supervisor in computer services. As and active as he is in classified staff matters, he, his wife Diane and their two teenaged sons, Robert and Adam, also find time to volunteer countless hours to school and community.

One of the Taylor family’s favorite causes is the Kanawha Valley Relay for Life, which is held annually at LaIdley Field in Charleston to raise money for the American Cancer Society. The Graduate College has been involved for the past four years, Taylor says, and his whole family has been a mainstay of the activities which tradition­ally begin on a Friday evening in late June and run until Saturday afternoon. Several hundred cancer survivors and their friends and supporters turn out for an evening of fun, food and the serious business of raising money to fight cancer.

The Graduate College fields its own team made up of employees, family members and friends of the college and Taylor says it is a matter of great pride that this year’s MUGC team was the second highest fund raiser, coming in right behind the corporate giant, Charleston Area Medical Center with its hundreds of employees.

“I don’t have any cancer in my family, but cancer is so frightening and so prevalent that it scares me,” Taylor says. “It doesn’t make excep­tions for age or anything else. Anyone can get it. That’s why I am glad to give of my time and money to try to fight cancer, and I also support the Kanawha Valley Relay for Life.”

When his sons were students at Hightown Elementary School in St. Albans, Taylor took part in the Junior Great Books program, sponsored by the Fort Gay High School Alumni Association.

Chilton Lecture

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The MUGC Foundation collaborated with members of Chilton’s family and the late publisher’s friends in estab­lishing the lecture series.