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Distance Education Connection Newsletter, August 2018

Dena Laton

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DISTANCE EDUCATION CONNECTION

Welcome, Distance Education Students!
We are so excited to begin another academic year at Marshall University and want to take the time to welcome you into our Marshall family. Although you may not physically be on one of the Marshall campuses, you are still part of “the herd.”

As a distance education student at Marshall, you have access to all of our online library, tutoring, career resources and more. If you have questions about your pursuing your online degree, contact us today.

Online Education Profile:
Dena Callicoat Laton
Manager of Online Learning Programs, Independent Proctoring and Copyright Education

As a former online student herself, Dena is tuned in to the needs and struggles of distance education students. Dena is the first point of contact for online students and is devoted to the success of our online students.

Contact Info: Drinko Library 226; Huntington Campus; Email: dena.laton@marshall.edu; Phone: Office: 304-696-3141.

Faculty Profile:
Dr. Kelli Johnson
Associate University Librarian and Head of Access Services and Outreach for MU Libraries and Online Learning

Dr. Johnson is responsible for circulation, interlibrary loan, research and instruction services as well as special library and literacy projects for students, faculty, staff, and the public. Dr. Johnson also co-directs the President’s Commission on Diversity, Equality and Inclusion, an advisory body to President Jerry Gilbert. Her research interests include diversity in academic libraries and in higher education. Her dissertation titled Minority Librarians in Higher Education: A Critical Race Theory Analysis was named one of 10 Notable Dissertations of 2016 by the American Library Association.

Student Profile:
Kimberly Reed

Marshall’s Online RBA program has afforded me an opportunity to continue my education in a new field from my home in Auburn, Georgia. I was only able to pursue a new degree at this stage in my life because it does not take time away from my family and job/ volunteer responsibilities to attend a traditional classroom setting.

As a wife and mother of an active high school son and busy elementary school daughter with special needs, this program was a perfect fit! As many parents of special needs children know, regular childcare to accommodate a continuing education program isn’t always realistic. Online classes allow me to work on my classwork when it is convenient for me rather than on a rigid campus schedule.

The MU distance learning program was simple to enroll in. All of the courses I needed to complete the degree, as well as some additional courses of interest, were readily available. My previous college credits were all transferable and I will be able to complete the RBA in just 16 months. It’s been a wonderful educational experience for me and I would recommend it to anyone who wants the flexibility and convenience of an online degree.

(Continued on next page)
ACADEMIC CALENDAR

November 13, Tuesday
Last day to drop 2nd 8 weeks courses

November 19, Monday –
November 24, Saturday
Thanksgiving Break: Classes dismissed

November 22, Thursday –
November 23, Friday
Thanksgiving Holiday-
University closed

December 7, Friday
Last day to completely withdraw
from fall semester

December 8, Saturday -
December 14, Friday
Final Exam days

December 15, Saturday, TBD
Winter Commencement,
Big Sandy Superstore Arena

Student Resources:

Libraries
www.marshall.edu/library
Drinko Library
Research: 304.696.2334
Circulation: 304.696.2321

Tutoring Services
www.marshall.edu/uc/tutoring-services
Smith Hall Communications Building, Room 211
304.696.6622

Student Resource Center
www.marshall.edu/src
Memorial Student Center, SW16

IT Service Desk
www.marshall.edu/it/departments/it-service-desk
Drinko Library
304.696.3200 in Huntington
304.746.1969 in Charleston

Lynda Campus available
Marshall University Information Technology provides
access to Lynda Campus for ALL students, faculty
and staff. This service provides the university, and the
members of its community, with easy online access to
in-depth training demos on a wide variety of topics
underlining important technical and life skills.
To access these videos and more, visit Lynda.marshall.
edu and sign in using your MUNet Account username
and password. Access is available both on and off-
campus. Lynda.com is also available in the app store
for smart devices.

Benefits to using lynda.com:
• Unlimited access to courses on a wide variety of
technologies and disciplines
• Up-to-date content to keep skills current and to
learn new skills
• New courses added every week
• Tutorials taught by recognized industry experts
• Access to instructors’ exercise files to follow along
as you learn
• Closed captioning and searchable, time-coded
transcripts
• Beginner to advanced courses
• The option to watch complete courses or bite-
size videos as you need them

Examity
In addition to your regular classes, you are enrolled in
Distance Student Orientation, which is completely
free. One required activity must be completed
right away to comply with federal law: Identity
Verification (see more below). The rest of the course
is entirely self-paced and not graded. The course is
designed to give you an introduction to

Identity Verification
If you were enrolled in classes on campus, we’d invite
you to visit the ID office and have your picture taken
for a Marshall Student ID. Because your “campus” is
virtual, your photo will be taken in Blackboard via
webcam.

In the Distance Student Orientation course you
will find detailed directions for scheduling your brief
photo ID session with Examity. Examity’s online test-
proctoring capability is used to provide identity
verification services. Note that the verification
process is referred to as an “exam,” and the video
goes on to describe taking an exam, but the identity
verification process does not involve an actual exam.
Watch the Introduction to Examity video (https://
youtu.be/98OSTU7117A) for a quick overview.
You may also want to see the Identity Verification
Quick Guide for Students (www.examity.com/
docs/Blackboard_Student_Quick_Guide.pdf) and
the Examity Privacy Policy (https://examity.com/
privacy-2/).

After completing the identity verification process,
please log in to the Distance Education Student
Orientation course again and click “Acknowledge
Completion of Identity Verification” to answer a
single Yes/No question to confirm that you finished
the identity verification process.

Note:
Examity helps ensure that Marshall University is in
compliance with the Higher Education Opportunity
Act (HEOA) by providing processes “through which
the institution establishes that the student who
registers in a distance education or correspondence
education course or program is the same student
who participates in and completes the course or
program and receives the academic credit”
(34 CFR 602.17(g)).

Active duty military personnel who may not be
permitted to share government issued IDs or utilize
webcams in the field must contact the Office of
Online Learning (dena.laton@marshall.edu or 304-
696-3141) upon receiving an ID request from the
system to postpone your ID verification.

Facebook Group:
Join our Facebook group for Distance Education
students. This closed group and is opt-in only and is
a good way to stay connected to campus and other
online students. Search for Marshall University
Distance Education Students find us on
www.facebook.com/marshallu.

University Libraries
One John Marshall Drive
Huntington, WV 25755
www.marshall.edu/library

DID YOU KNOW...
Marshall University was
originally founded as Marshall
Academy in 1837. The land on
which Marshall Academy was
built was originally purchased
from James Holderby for $40.

For more information on the
Academic Calendar and
Student Resources, visit
www.marshall.edu/it/
Academic-Calendar.

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