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## We Are ... Marshall, April 4, 2008

Office of Marshall University Communications

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# WE ARE... MARSHALL™

THE NEWSLETTER FOR MARSHALL UNIVERSITY • APRIL 4, 2008

## Third Annual Assessment Day Comes April 9

Marshall University's third annual Assessment Day, which is designed to determine how well the university is meeting its goals overall and by academic and service units, will take place Wednesday, April 9.

"Assessment is really at the heart of the teaching and learning process," said Dr. Frances Hensley, associate vice president for academic affairs. "Marshall is unusual in dedicating a full day to this process."

Classes will not meet as scheduled most of that day, which allows students, faculty, and staff to participate in Assessment Day activities. The normal class schedule resumes at 4 p.m. for late afternoon and evening classes.

Dr. Mary Beth Reynolds, Interim Director of Assessment, is heading up the Assessment Day activities this year. "We have a variety of activities scheduled throughout the day, and more are being added as we work up to the day of the event."

Reynolds said that among the activities planned, some are university wide and some are departmental. University-wide activities include student satisfaction surveys by the admissions office, financial aid office, residence services, career services department, bursar's office, student health services, the women's center, and the registrar's office; a student development survey by Student Affairs; an SGA survey; surveys from Sodexho and the MU Bookstore; surveys on individual services offered by University College; and a Major Expo. Departmental activities, which vary by unit, include "town hall" meetings for majors, portfolio presentations, and exit interviews for seniors.

"Based on responses received from students to survey items last year, we were able to implement customer-service training for our staff and we reorganized our Web site," said Roberta Ferguson, Marshall Registrar. "We are planning to participate again this year and hope to gain valuable insight from student responses."

Reynolds said that she encourages everyone who participates Wednesday to complete an Assessment Day evaluation form, which will be available on MyMU from April 14 - 18. This will help in planning future Assessment Days.



### Memorial Fountain to be Rededicated

The Memorial Fountain in the student center plaza will be rededicated and turned on once again Wednesday, April 9 at 1:30 p.m.

For the first time in its existence, the fountain was removed from its base on Jan. 14 to undergo extensive repairs to the base. The rededication will mark the completion of the repairs and the annual return of the water to the fountain.

All students and faculty participating in Assessment Day activities will receive a free lunch catered by Buddy's BBQ, Sodexho and Pepsi. The Marshall University Fife and Drum Corps, under the direction of Dr. Wendell Dobbs, the 2007-2008 Drinko Fellow, will give a special performance at 12:15 p.m.

Also, students and faculty will be eligible to win prizes donated by area businesses and other groups.

The prizes include laptop computers with webcams, a Nintendo Wii, an iPod, a printer, rounds of golf, movie passes, gift certificates, a massage, and much more.

"Assessment Day is an opportunity for faculty and students to evaluate the things they care about most: teaching and learning and the services that support those two," Hensley said. "I can't imagine that a student has no interest in providing feedback to his or her institution. Here is the chance."

"The Assessment Day Committee has worked hard to put this event together and we welcome everyone's input to help us build a better Marshall through assessment," Reynolds said.

In addition to Reynolds, Hensley and Ferguson, committee members include from the faculty, Dr. Dallas Brozik, Dr. Marjorie Keatley, Dr. Cal Meyer, Dr. Caroline Perkins, Donna Robinson, and Dr. Larry Stickler; student David Kluemper; and staff members Karen Barker, Michelle Duncan, Dr. Karen Kirtley,

*(continued on page 4)*

## Marshall Physics Professor Promotes Green Nanotechnology



Dr. Ashok Vaseashta

Dr. Ashok Vaseashta, professor of physics, has begun a series of presentations across the U.S. and the world on the subject of green nanotechnology and its effectiveness.

He has been on detailed leave since the fall of 2007 and is currently in Washington D.C., covering science and policy matters for the U.S. government.

"Green nanotechnology is defined as the responsible production of nanomaterials to drastically reduce and isolate emission by products, materials for CO2 sequestration and generation and storage of energy," said Vaseashta in *Nanowork News*. "A good example would be green chemistry, which refers to environmentally friendly chemicals and processes that result in reduced waste, safer products and reduced use of energy and resources."

Vaseashta said his goal is to reduce environmental pollution, which is a leading contributor to chronic and deadly health disorders and diseases affecting millions of people each year.

In his presentations Vaseashta will specifically discuss the responsible manufacture of nanomaterials. He will also discuss how such nanomaterials can reduce our carbon footprint, environmental pollution and landfill burden.

*(continued on page 4)*

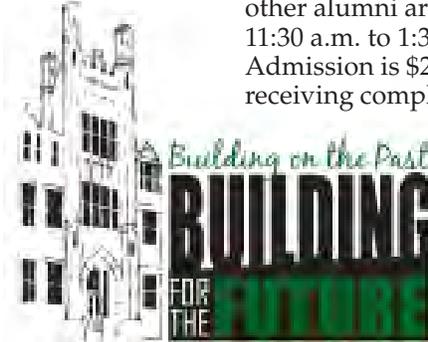
# Alumni Weekend Set for April 11-12

With the theme "Building on the Past, Building for the Future," Alumni Weekend runs April 11-12 and will feature activities of interest to grads of all classes.

As alumni are welcomed back to the campus it's a time for classmates to meet and reminisce and also for the university to honor graduates who have excelled in diverse fields, along with those who have contributed unselfishly to Marshall.

In addition to the weekend events, there's also a Thursday event—the annual Military Ball which takes place in the John Marshall Room of the Memorial Student Center with a 5:30 cocktail hour, a 6 p.m. ceremony and a dinner to follow.

Friday evening there's a champagne reception at the Culinary Institute quarters in downtown Huntington from 6-7:30 p.m. For those who want to enjoy edgy comedy, the comedic talent Lester Biggs will take to the stage that evening at the Funny Bone Comedy Club.



Saturday's events include a free estate planning seminar beginning at 9:30 a.m. in the Memorial Student Center. It will be followed by the class luncheon, which will honor the 50<sup>th</sup> Reunion Class (1958). Members of the Grand Class, those who graduated before 1958, along with other alumni are invited to the luncheon, which runs from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. in the John Marshall Dining Room. Admission is \$20, with members of the Reunion Class receiving complimentary tickets.

A social is planned for 6 p.m. in the Memorial Student Center to be followed by the 71st Annual Alumni Awards banquet at 6:30 p.m. in the Don Morris Room.

Complete details on the events and award winners may be found online at [www.marshall.edu/alumni](http://www.marshall.edu/alumni).

## Faculty/Staff Achievements

Physics professors *Dr. Xiaojuan Fan*, *Dr. Huong Nguyen* and *Dr. Thomas Wilson* each presented papers at the 2008 March meeting of the American Physical Society in New Orleans. Their respective talks were, "Porous nanocrystalline TiO<sub>2</sub> thin films for dye-sensitized solar cells," "Effect of Electric and Magnetic Fields on a Hybrid Exciton State of a Semiconductor Quantum Dot Coated by an Organic Cell," and "Fabrication of robust superconducting granular aluminum/palladium bilayer microbolometer with sub-nanosecond response." Fan and Nguyen acknowledge the support of "MU Advance." Nguyen also acknowledges the support of NASA Space Consortium Grant 207188 and Wilson the support of NSF ECCS grant 0722060. All three acknowledge the support of the Quinlan travel grants.

## Staff Election Results Announced

The Classified Staff Council held a special election in March to fill vacant positions on the Council in all EEO groups: Those elected are:

Group 10, Lisa Williamson, Lewis College of Business; Group 30, Kimberly Lawson-Murphy, Lewis College of Business; Group 40, John Bowen, Bursar, and Toni Ferguson, College of Education; Group 50, Bernice Bullock, Faculty Senate; Groups 60-70, Christopher Kennedy, Plant Operations.

## Marshall Community Rallies to Assist Runyon Family

Janice Runyon, a member of Marshall's Residence Services staff, and her family lost everything in a devastating fire which swept their home on March 26. Fortunately no family members were injured but all of their possessions are gone. The family managed to escape from the home wearing only their night clothes.

The Classified Staff Council is collecting donations of money, clothing and household goods to aid the family, according to Sharon Booth, Administrative Associate in Residence Services.

Runyon's husband and son wear the same size clothing: 34 X 34 jeans/slacks; XL shirts; size 10 shoes/sneakers. She wears size 16 slacks/jeans, 35/36 length and XL shirt/blouse; size 9 ½ sneakers or size 10 in cloth sneakers or other shoes.

Donations have been coming in, but donations of clothing along with money, either cash or checks (made payable to Janice Runyon), gift cards and other household goods, towels, kitchen items, utensils, bathroom supplies and personal items are being sought. A queen-sized mattress and a full-size mattress have been donated, but sheets for both beds are needed, particularly queen sheets with deep pockets.

Donations can be sent to Booth; Betty Cook, Administrative Assistant in the College of Liberal Arts at 107 Old Main; or Mike Dunn in Physical Plant.

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The next regular issue of *We Are...Marshall!* will carry

an issue date of April 18, 2008. Deadline is April 11. Articles or other materials for consideration should be sent to Pat Dickson, editor, at the South Charleston campus or by e-mail to [pdickson@marshall.edu](mailto:pdickson@marshall.edu).

## Profile: Bernice Bullock

*A series on interesting Marshall University people.*



Bernice Bullock

She's upbeat, optimistic, a bundle of energy in her own quiet way, and if on occasion life's handed her a lemon, she's made the best lemonade in town. Bernice Bullock, an administrative secretary senior who coordinates the Faculty Senate office, finds her life is in a transition phase right now and she's evaluating a tantalizing array of options. But whatever her choices, there will be some fun and new adventures along the way.

For the first time in many years, she has an "empty nest" and it's novel for her. Her husband, Ron, died two years ago and her son, Simon, a semi-pro football player with the West Virginia Crash, has moved out to be on his own. All that time, all that house, what could she do?

Well, remodel for one thing. She's very handy with a hammer, screwdriver and paintbrush. "I love doing projects around the house and I'm lucky that my brother-in-law in Virginia, who's a contractor, comes to help me out with the big projects. Right now we're planning on major renovations to three bedrooms."

She's a hometown Huntington girl who was brought up in the West end of Huntington and still lives in that area. After graduating from Huntington High School she enrolled at Marshall and was one of the last graduates of the now-defunct Secretarial Studies/Business Education program. With her degree she was able to obtain a teaching license and spent the next 12 years working in a federally funded program, the Tri-State OIC, which provided job training to get people into the workforce. In addition, she was employed by Cabell County in their vocational/technical school, served as an administrative assistant in a federal grant program and later began teaching classes at the Marshall Community and Technical College. She continues to teach as an adjunct faculty member at MCTC.

As funds for the federal grant program were expiring, Bullock came to Marshall and she's still amazed she got the job. "I applied for a job working for William Deel, who then was the assistant vice president for operations and I showed up for the interview two weeks early," she recalls, laughing. "There had been a miscommunication about the date. But he interviewed me anyway, hired me and I worked for him until his retirement." After a brief stint at MCTC she came to Faculty Senate, where she provides continuity and does their clerical and administrative work.

Since Faculty Senate chairs are elected for two-year terms, the faculty personnel change, but her duties don't. "The Faculty Senate is the governing body for the faculty, similar to the role the Classified Staff Council plays," she says. She's a member of the staff council also and has just been re-elected.

These past few years haven't been easy ones for the upbeat Bullock, but she's managed to come through them with her usual grit and determination. First she underwent back surgery and then two years ago her husband Ron died after a bout with cancer. Her son, who moved back home to help out during Ron's illness, moved out to be on his own, a move of which his mother approved. "Between college, jobs and football, he wants to be independent and that's a good thing." Still, there's been a void in her life and she's assessing which new road to follow.

She's immensely grateful to her Marshall colleagues during her husband's illness. "I have nothing but praise and gratitude for my Marshall family for all the support I was given during his illness. I got emotional support from people all over the campus."

*(continued on page 4)*

## Libraries to Honor Nelson Bond

The Marshall Libraries will host a week-long retrospective on the life and career of legendary science fiction writer and Marshall alumnus Nelson S. Bond beginning Monday, April 14, according to Barbara Winters, dean of the Marshall L libraries.

Among the highlights of the retrospective titled "Nelson S. Bond: From WV to TV and Beyond" are vintage video presentations on the Huntington campus from television shows produced from Bond's scripts, and the dedication of the Nelson Bond Room on the third floor of the Morrow Library, scheduled for 3 p.m., Friday, April 18.

"Nelson Slade Bond may be the only graduate of the Page Pitt School of Journalism to have had a career in each of the seven specialties taught in the school," Winters said. "He studied under Page Pitt himself, and his writing career spanned seven decades."

Vintage TV shows based on Bond's work, to be shown in Drinko Library Room 402, are: Monday, April 14, "Al Haddon's Lamp"; Tuesday, April 15, "Bacular Clock"; Wednesday, April 16, "Mask of Medusa"; Thursday, April 17, "The Night America Trembled."

"The Night America Trembled" was the first full-length (60 minutes) live television play on CBS' *Studio One*. It recounted Orson Welles' 1938 Halloween broadcast of "War of the Worlds" and starred Edward R. Murrow, Ed Asner, James Colburn and

*(continued on page 4)*

## Marshall to Host Concert of Traditional Japanese Music

Masayo Ishigure, a visiting musician who plays the koto, will give a concert of traditional Japanese music at 8 p.m. Wednesday, April 9 in room 133 of Smith Music Hall on Marshall University's Huntington campus. Joining Ishigure on the program will be Dr. Wendell Dobbs, professor of flute at Marshall.

The koto is a variety of East Asian zither with 13 strings stretched over 13 moveable bridges. It is found in a number of traditional Japanese households, but now is not as popular as the piano in contemporary society. Therefore, this concert is a very special occasion, according to Dr. Natsuki Fukunaga Anderson, assistant professor and coordinator of the Japanese program at Marshall.

"This is an unusual opportunity for West Virginians to hear performances on this instrument," Anderson said. "Musicians and those who are studying Japanese culture will be especially interested."

*(continued on page 4)*

## 'Kindred Spirits' Returns to Support Artists Series

After last year's overwhelming success, "Kindred Spirits: A Celebration of Food and Drink" is returning April 14 through May 3 with a variety of culinary events from which to choose. The events are part of a Marshall Artists Series fundraising effort to celebrate 72 years of arts and entertainment by the series. Costs and locations for the events will vary.

The first several events in the Kindred Spirits schedule include: April 14 - 7-9 p.m., From the Pantry to the Table: How to Make a Fantastic Meal with 10 Crazy Ingredients; April 15 - 7-9 p.m., "Judging" Bordeaux with the Honorable Dan O'Hanlon; April 16 - 5:30-7:30 p.m., Taste of Thai; April 17 - 7-9 p.m., Tour of the Bourbon Trail; April 19 - 8-10 a.m., Free Your Mind, Enjoy the Moment—the Yoga and Chocolate Fusion; April 19 - 6-8 p.m., Hot Stuff! New Mexican Style Cooking; April 19 - 7-9 p.m., Menu a la Mailloux at Chateau Neighborgall; April 20 - 7:30-9:30 p.m., Sparkle and Stars.

*(continued on page 4)*

## Bernice Bullock

from Page 3

She's no stranger to taking care of others, starting at an early age. Two life-changing events occurred when she was in the eighth grader: her mother had a baby (younger sister, Jennifer) and almost simultaneously was diagnosed with terminal cancer. Bullock cared for both of them until her mother's death. A nurturer by nature, she embraced her role as caregiver with love and patience.

Bullock was working on her master's degree in adult education when her husband became ill, so she's put that on hold at least for a while. She's at a crossroads in her life now and she's taking a thoughtful look at possibilities. "I'm investigating things. I've taken care of others for years and now I'm not sure what direction I want my life to go in. I'd like to take some foreign language classes, do some international traveling. I don't have any definite plans right now, but I have applied for a passport!" she says proudly.

But whatever the direction she decides to go, there will surely be some fun things in the mix. "I want to take advantage of experiences I've never had a chance to do before. For example, just on a lark a friend and I went to see a psychic. We did the whole thing, had our palms read, did tea leaves, Tarot cards. I'm not doing a 'bucket list' (referring to the recent movie), but before I always had obligations and now I can take advantage of unexpected adventures."

And she says, "Right now I'm involved with work, two jobs, my volunteer work and my dog,, Jake, a chocolate lab who gets me out of house We're fair-weather walkers, but we love being outside."

She's a great believer in giving back to the community, so from January through mid-April she can be found Saturday mornings at the Goodwill Industries location in west Huntington where she and a group of other volunteers, helping people prepare their tax returns through the Earned Income Tax Credit program. She also ushers for as many Artists Series productions as she can fit into her schedule. "I really feel that everyone needs to give back to the community and if you don't have money to give, you can give service."

In her scant free time she's a voracious reader and she likes nothing better than to be out working in her flower and vegetable gardens. She even likes such mundane yard chores as mowing grass and weed trimming, she confesses.

Then there's the cooking. Not just mini meals for one, but great quantities for son Simon and his football buddies and weekend meals for lucky friends. "I always loved to cook, particularly ethnic foods and foods from countries I'm interested in. We recently went to the Greek festival and I really liked the food, so I've added Greek recipes to my collection. Simon's teammates are always asking him when they can come for a meal, so I fix lots of things for them."

Her warm hospitality has made her home a welcome beacon to those in need of a place to stay or to share a fine meal. "My house has always been open; people have always known that they could come to me. When Simon played football in college, there were several transfer players from California who couldn't go home for the holidays, so we had them with us during the holidays. It was fun for all of us."

Now emerging from some dark times, her buoyant spirit is infectious. "I've always tried to look at the positives in everything and not the negatives," she says thoughtfully. "I'm so lucky, I love my job and the people I work with and have worked with. Everyone has good and bad days but I haven't had a single experience that soured me on working here. I appreciate being on the Classified Staff Council. I take it very seriously and I try to do the best I can for the staff."

Being well organized allows her to keep many irons in the fire. A strong advocate for lifelong learning, her goal is to learn something new every day. "I took a class in sign language out of curiosity and now I would like to pursue advanced classes. There are just so many possibilities for things I could do."

## Assessment Day

from Page 2

members Karen Barker, Michelle Duncan, Dr. Karen Kirtley, Jenny Lauhon, Carla Lapelle, Molly McClennan, Homer Preece and Terri Tomblin-Byrd.

For more information, visit [www.marshall.edu/assessment/AssessmentDay\\_2008](http://www.marshall.edu/assessment/AssessmentDay_2008).

## Green Nanotechnology

from Page 1

After making presentations in San Francisco, New Orleans, Vaseashta will present at NATO meetings in Portugal, the Russian Federation and Slovakia, and regional meetings in Latvia and Bulgaria.

Veseashta has authored and has been the lead editor of two books on the topic of nanotechnology. The books are "Nanostructured and Advanced Materials" and "Functional Nanoscale Materials, Devices and Systems."

## Nelson Bond

from Page 3

Warren Beatty. The show brought *Studio One* the highest ratings in its history.

Each video presentation will be introduced by Lisle Brown, curator of the MU Special Collections, who will provide attendees with little-known facts and historical perspective about Bond and the programs produced from his writings. All videos are 30 minutes long, except for the "Night America Trembled."

## Traditional Japanese Music

from Page 3

Ishigure is from Gifu, Japan, and currently resides in New York. She has performed at a number of events all over the world, especially since arriving in the United States in 1992. She recorded music for the soundtrack of the movie "Memoirs of a Geisha" by John Williams in 2005 along with Itzhak Perlman, Yo Yo Ma, and others.

Dobbs joined the Marshall University faculty in 1985. He performs regularly in solo and chamber music settings, ranging from the Huntington Symphony Orchestra and the Ohio Valley Symphony (principal flute in both) to Blackbirds and Thrushes, a Celtic band.

Doors open at 7:30 for the concert, which is free and open to the public. The event is sponsored by the Toyota Foundation of West Virginia, as well as the Center for International Programs and the Japan Club at Marshall, and was organized by the Japanese program in Marshall's Department of Modern Languages and the Japan Club.

For further information, contact Anderson by e-mail at [andersonnm@marshall.edu](mailto:andersonnm@marshall.edu), or by phone at (304) 696-3543.

## Kindred Spirits

from Page 3

Tickets are now on sale through the Marshall Artists Series box office, located in the Joan C. Edwards Performing Arts Center. Additional information is available by calling ext. 6-6656, or by visiting [www.marshallartistsseries.org](http://www.marshallartistsseries.org). Contributions are tax deductible as permitted by law.