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Honors Oracle, April 2019

Marshall University Honors College

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Honors Oracle

Marshall University's Honors College newsletter • April 2019

Phi Kappa Phi honor society provides benefits to members

By MIRANDA SMITH

Phi Kappa Phi is a national organization which is recognized as the country's oldest and most selective multi-disciplinary honor society. Marshall University's division

of Phi Kappa Phi is headed by professors Kristen Lillvis, president of the club, and Rachel Peckham, president-elect. The club also has four student vice presidents: Liz Adams, Allison Smarr, Kennedy Snively and Haley Blake.

"The role of each student vice president is to work together with the faculty members who preside over the organization," Adams said.

Together, the two groups plan different events for Marshall's chapter of the honor society, in addition to planning and organizing Phi Kappa Phi's annual initiation ceremony, which takes place each fall semester. All new inductees are notified of their eligibility for the honor society via email.

To be able to become a member of Phi Kappa Phi, students must have already completed at least 72 credit hours and be in the top ten percent of their class.

"This semester's event was a group yoga activity which was open to all students," Adams said.

On March 14, the organization sponsored the activity on the lawn of the Memorial Student Center, offering

free refreshments to anyone who stopped by.

"The goal of the event was to promote relaxation and mental health," Adams said.

In addition to hosting events for the public, Phi Kappa Phi also has several benefits specific to its members, among which is the prestige and history which accompanies the honor society's name.

Beyond this,

the organization offers numerous membership-based scholarships. Among these scholarships are grants which allow students to study abroad, graduate fellowships and scholarships for academically outstanding students who are entering their first semester of graduate school.

More information about Phi Kappa Phi, including the organization's newsletter, which is published each semester, can be found on MyMU.



KEEP UP WITH THE HONORS COLLEGE ON TWITTER!



@MarshallUHonors

New fall HON480 seminar to bring together drawing and the medical field

By AMANDA LARCH

This fall, a new Honors 480 seminar will combine drawing and visual literacy with an emphasis for the medical field. Sandra Reed, a professor with Marshall University's School of Art and Design, will be instructing the seminar, and this will be her first time teaching an honors course.

Reed said she was partially inspired to create the class when a doctor explained an illness she had through sketching.

"In 2008, I had an illness that I didn't know what it was," Reed said. "And the doctor who figured it out did me a drawing of how my body was working. And that drawing was so good and so clear. It helped me so much that he used that drawing to communicate something very complex to me."

This four-hour a week course will consist of drawing from observation and creating visuals and will operate similarly to a science lab and lecture, Reed said.

"We'll have both actually drawing and making visuals and also studying how one sets their hierarchy, how one creates their organization for particular meaning," she said.

Students will use sketchbooks throughout the semester, and one of the assignments will consist of creating an informational poster. Reed said another project will require students to interview someone in their desired field about visual information.

"They have to get with somebody in their own discipline and interview them regarding the role of visual aids and visual information in the practice, like maybe in their own education or how they use it or how they rely upon it in different situations," she said. "So to ask their kind of mentors to reflect on the role

of the visual in their practice, their discipline."

Though this course was designed with pre-med students in mind, Reed said any honors student is welcome to take it, and they do not have to have experience with drawing, as it is a beginning level art class.

"It's not for honors art majors. It's for honors students in really all of the other areas. Those in the College of Science and I think those in programs leaning toward or part of medical programs would be really a natural fit," Reed said. "You don't have to feel like you're an artist. You don't have to know how to draw to take the class."

Reed said she is excited for the seminar, and if it is successful, she said she would be open to teaching it again.

"I'm looking forward to it very much," Reed said. "I've taught students anywhere from freshmen to graduate thesis and everything in between. And so it just seems like a great fit. I'm looking forward to working with the students from all the different areas. In the foundations course I'm teaching right now, there are 16 students and eight of them are from the College of Science. They are very good listeners and really kind of hungry to understand."

"I think there's capacities that we have as humans that play out in a lot of different ways, in what we study and in our lives. I'm sure I'll learn a lot from it too," Reed said.

The course will be Tuesdays and Thursdays from 11:30 a.m. to 1:20 p.m. and will take place at the VAC, located in Pullam Square, in the drawing studio. Marshall's Green Machine Bus has a route that will take students to Pullman free of charge with MU ID.

Student Feedback

"I saw the post about an honors 480 professor I'd love to have again. My answer is for sure Patricia Proctor. Her class was incredibly insightful, interesting, and meaningful for me. I learned not only about Alexander Hamilton, but I also learned a little bit about myself that semester."

—Julianna Music

What do YOU look for when selecting an HON480 seminar? We want your feedback! Contact larch15@marshall.edu to voice your opinion.

“Honorable Mention”

Le Trae Wilborn

By BRITNEY COX

Connection to the Honors College: Yeager Scholar

Class Level: Sophomore

Major: Pre-Med Biology

Hometown: Princeton, West Virginia

Passions: Poetry, singing, writing short stories and music in general

A Word He Would Use to Describe Himself: Hard-working

Involvement on campus: Projects like Humans of Marshall

Community Involvement: Helping with the Little League football organization in his hometown

Awards: AP Scholar with Distinction, Young Writers county winner, Glenville State College Poetry and Short Story winner

Proudest Accomplishments: Being salutatorian of his graduating class, even though he didn't take honors classes his freshman and sophomore years

Hopes for the Semester: Keeping a 4.0

Favorite Marshall Memories So Far: Going to Walmart with

his friends Autumn, Taylor, Eric and Ranese and finding costumes and hats and taking a picture; going to the movies with his friends, including another friend named Elizabeth, who wiped out on the ground in front of everybody



PHOTO COURTESY OF LE TRAE WILBORN

John Deaver Drinko Academy showcases faculty

By ABI DROPIK

The John Deaver Drinko Academy was created by John Drinko, a Marshall University graduate, and his wife, Elizabeth Drinko, in 1994. Being a Marshall alumnus, Drinko credited his success to the faculty members he received instruction from when he was an undergraduate student.

In order to repay the university for everything it had given Drinko, he wanted to create a way to honor and aid those who instruct and help change the lives of students. To do this, Drinko decided to create the John Deaver Drinko Academy and to use it as a way to honor the most accomplished Marshall faculty members. The Drinkos' influence at Marshall became even more prominent when the Honors Convocation was named to recognize Elizabeth Drinko for her support of academic programs.

Montserrat Miller, the executive director of the Drinko Academy and this year's Honors Convocation speaker, said the Academy remembers John Drinko in multiple ways.

His daughter and granddaughter recently spent time on campus, working with the Drinko Academy. They focused their time on talking about the past of the Drinko Academy and the direction the Academy was moving in, in regards to programming and fundraising.

Another one of the factors that drove Drinko to create this program was his desire to inform the public on the importance of educated civic engagement. In order to do this, the Academy was designed to reflect the highest level of civic engagement, while keeping a core diverse political group of individuals. This program would honor those whom they believed participated civically among the Marshall community and beyond.

Special events and awards are a way the Drinko Academy helps to embody its belief in the importance of individual's civic engagement. These events include lecture series presented by those who have a political background, in order to inform the public on the necessity of civil engagement and what can be done to change it.

See DRINKO on pg. 4

DRINKO from pg. 3

Along with these lecture series, the Drinko Academy helps support events embodying the celebration of Black History Month and Women's History Month. The Drinko Academy works to help start new program formation and production.

These programs then progress to stand on their own, and members continue to collaborate with the Drinko Academy upon several occasions.

Miller said the Academy plays a large role in the university's celebration of the Constitution, given the involvement the Drinko Academy has in civic engagement. The Academy puts several activities together for participation by both students and faculty members, including a quilts tournament and a celebratory dinner.

In 2020, the Drinko Academy plans to sponsor an event that celebrates the 100th anniversary of the ratification of the 19th Amendment to the United States Constitution, which gave women the right to vote.

Along with these special events and awards presented by the Drinko Academy, the Academy provides scholarships to help aid in faculty members' efforts towards creating scholarly work. Recently the



ABI DROPICK

The John Deaver Drinko Academy was founded in 1994 and has since been involved in many aspects of the University.

Academy inducted its 25th member to become a part of the Distinguished Drinko Fellows. The Academy has provided these individuals with financial aid, a reduction in teaching load and a stipend, over the course of two academic years, to aid them in their production of their desired work.

The John Deaver Drinko Academy provides Marshall with a way to progress the community civically, commend outstanding faculty members for their work and uphold the vision of John Drinko in years to come.

On the Horizon...



- Potential peer mentoring for Honors students
- Honors Steering Committee elections
- Honors advising for Fall 2019
- Potentially bringing back second-year admissions to the Honors College
- New computers and printers added to the Honors College computer lab
- Spring Honors Convocation at 7 p.m. on May 3.

Make sure to check out the final edition of the semester next month for more information and what's next!

The Honors Oracle Staff Spring 2019



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