

9-2019

Honors Oracle, September 2019

Marshall University Honors College

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Recommended Citation

Marshall University Honors College, "Honors Oracle, September 2019" (2019). *Honors Oracle*. 57.
<https://mds.marshall.edu/oracle/57>

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Honors Oracle

Marshall University's Honors College newsletter • October 2019

Cooley appointed as interim VP for Student Affairs

By DOUGLAS HARDING

This semester, the various on-campus services aimed at supporting and encouraging student success at Marshall University will be partially under the supervision of a fresh-yet-familiar face for the campus community.

Just before the start of the fall semester, Marshall's associate vice president of the Office of Intercultural Affairs, Maurice Cooley, was appointed as the university's interim vice president for Student Affairs.

"It is an exceptional and challenging opportunity to be asked to take on the responsibilities of Student Affairs," Cooley said. "I am excited about this adventure and the future of Marshall University and the Office of Student Affairs. There is a great amount of work before us."

Cooley said he has already initiated constructive dialogue with multiple program directors and associate deans with the division of Student Affairs.

"We plan to lead us into a future in which the Marshall University Student Affairs will be among the best in the world," he said. "And I am excited to be in the position of leading this initiative and nurturing this pathway forward."

Deeply connected to and involved in several programs and groups across campus, Cooley is the founder of Marshall's prominent Society of Black Scholars, which began inducting students in 2003. He has been in charge of leading the university's Health Science and Technology Academy Summer Institute since 2005 and the Chancellor's Scholars Program since 2014. Cooley also serves as Marshall's principal investigator and campus coordinator for the Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation, which is funded through the National Science Foundation.

Born and raised in Lewisburg, West Virginia, Cooley, in 1966, became the first of more than 20 of his family members to attend Marshall. In 1970,



PHOTO COURTESY OF MARSHALL UNIVERSITY

he graduated from the university with a bachelor's degree in sociology.

"We have a long and rich history in my family relevant to our experiences at Marshall, and that is still prominent throughout our family to this day," Cooley said. "I am elated to be here, and I plan to spend at least a few more years here at Marshall before my work is done."

After serving on active duty for the United States Army from 1970 to 1973, Cooley returned to Marshall, studying as a clinical psychology graduate student. In 1975, he graduated from Marshall a second time with a master's degree in counseling. Cooley also acquired a psychiatric rehabilitation post-graduate certification from Boston University in 1987.

Following working for over 25 years as an out-patient behavioral health clinician, a psychotherapist, a mediator and a clinical director, Cooley returned to

SEE COOLEY ON PG. 4

Steering Committee brings new ideas to Honors College

By AMANDA LARCH

With new students fulfilling leadership positions and others participating for the first time, fresh ideas and energy are flowing into the Honors College Steering Committee. Each of the Steering Committee's four officers are new to their positions this semester, and of the 11 members, just three have previously served on the Steering Committee.

Joshua Davis, who became president of the Steering Committee this semester, said one of his main goals is to increase involvement in the Honors College.

"One of the things we're really focusing on this year is more involvement within the Honors College and the events that we plan in the Steering Committee," Davis, a junior ACS certified chemistry major, said. "We really hope to create a community feel and get more people out to the events and have more fun, and give honors college students as well as regular students more opportunities to have fun while they're here at college at Marshall University."

Davis said the Steering Committee will organize three events this semester, as well as fundraise with a T-shirt sale.

"I think our first event is the community service event that's open to everyone in the Honors College to come and participate and get volunteer hours," he said. "We'll have more details on that shortly. And lat-

er on this semester we'll also be having an academic event and a social event for students to come out and have fun, and normally food is provided. So there's free food if you come out."

Evelyn Bush, new secretary for the Steering Committee, said even though it is still early in the semester, each member has already pitched new ideas for the organization and expressed enthusiasm.

"(A) cool thing is that we have a big group, and so with a bunch of people comes a bunch of ideas," Bush, senior economics major and marketing minor, said. "So I know like even at our first meeting, people were already starting to bat ideas around for things we can do just because there's so many of us that we all have things we've done before that have worked or things we wanted to do that never panned out."

With new members comes a larger, more diverse set of ideas, Davis said, as well as a new way of thinking about things.

"We'll probably be switching things up a little bit this semester, but you'll probably see some things that are the same as last semester, too," Davis said.

The goal of the Steering Committee is to plan events for the Honors College and get more people involved, but there is a study aspect to the course as well, where students learn leadership styles and ways to become a better leader, Davis said.

Taking the Steering Committee course, Davis said, is also a great way to fulfill Honors College hour requirements.

"It's honestly a really great time; it's a good way to get credit hours as well," Davis said. "I know when I had it my third semester here, I only needed one more honors credit. So I was like, 'Oh this is a great way to get that one credit hour.' And then it's been so much fun that I've just kept coming back."

Davis said those interested in getting involved with the Steering Committee, including running for an officer position, can sign up during honors advising meetings, and Bush said students should check their emails for alerts and information regarding the Steering Committee, joining it and their upcoming events.

Davis said students with any questions, concerns, ideas or suggestions may email him at davis1105@marshall.edu.

“

We really hope to create a community feel and get more people out to the events and have more fun.”

—Joshua Davis



ERIC DILLON

By MIRANDA SMITH

Connection to the Honors College: Member of the Honors College since 2019, Yeager Scholar

Class Level: Freshman

Major: Computer Science

Hometown: Williamson, West Virginia

A Word He Would Use to Describe Himself:

Eccentric

Involvement on Campus: Marshall University Honors College member, Marshall University Yeager Scholar, Rotaract Club, Hall Council, Thundering Nerds, Geeks and Gadgets

Community Involvement: Rotaract Act

Awards: Marshall University Yeager Scholar, Amazon Future Engineer Scholar (for Computer Science), Southern Coal Providers Scholarship, was valedictorian (2019)



PHOTO COURTESY OF ERIC DILLON

Honors College 'lending library' takes off

By MIRANDA SMITH

At the beginning of last semester, Marshall University's Honors College opened its own small lending library for students, staff and faculty.

The Honors College Lending Library was established as a result of a shared idea between recent Honors College graduates Victoria Endres and Liz Adams, both of whom were also Yeager Scholars. The two developed the idea together after attending the National Collegiate Honors Council's annual conference last fall. While there, the two decided to create a program that would allow students to donate used novels and textbooks while also discovering new

reading material for themselves.

Endres and Adams officially established the Honors College Lending Library at the start of last semester by each deciding to donate their textbooks to kickstart further donations to the library. They each also encouraged their classmates and fellow Yeager Scholars to donate.

Since the establishment of the Honors College Lending Library, additional book donations have slowly but steadily poured in, with the Library growing from a small stack of books to two shelves worth.

The Honors College Lending Library is open to all Honors College students, said Cara Bailey, the out-

reach coordinator for the Society of Yeager Scholars.

The Honors College Lending Library is located in the Honors College computer lab on the second floor of Old Main, and students of the Honors College are encouraged to donate and take books as they desire to help expand the library.



Various scholarships available to Honors students

By ABI DROPIK

In today's society, with tuition prices for attending higher education continually increasing, paying for college can be one of the biggest obstacles that some students may face. In order to help relieve this stressor from students, and to help the growing minds of the next generation, many different scholarships are available at Marshall University for those who are able to apply.

Mallory Carpenter, program manager of national scholarships and Honors College staff member, said there are a large variety of scholarships available to students dependent on one's "academic year, major, GPA, leadership involvement and interests."

Carpenter also pointed out some of the different aspects of a student that scholarships commonly award, such as a high GPA.

"Scholarships almost always want to see a good GPA and leadership or service," Carpenter said.

She also said there are a lot of scholarships available for students who would like to study abroad as well.

Another key factor in finding a scholarship that may be the right fit for students is applying for ones that support their personal diversity from the rest of the student population.

"In terms of diversity, there are a lot of ways scholar-

ships reward diverse applicants," Carpenter said. "Diversity here can mean racial or ethnic, sexual orientation, disability status, socioeconomic status and more."

In terms of when to start looking and applying for a scholarship, the sooner the better, and according to Carpenter, scholarship applications run year-round, but the biggest months for senior-level scholarship applications are in September and October.

In order to gain one of these scholarships to help pay for one's education, the first step is to find the scholarship(s) that best fit that student. Carpenter said she is available to all Marshall students whether they are a part of the Honors College or not and that she is even available to alumni if needed.

"It's never too early or too late to start thinking about scholarships," Carpenter said.

A list of some scholarships is available at her website www.marshall.edu/nationalscholarships. Carpenter said the best way to work with her and find the opportunities that will be the best for a particular student is for them to set up an appointment with her to go over their personal interests and to help them find a scholarship that is right for them. Carpenter said the easiest way to reach her and to set up an appointment is by emailing her at mallory.carpenter@marshall.edu.

COOLEY CONT. FROM 1

Marshall in 2003, when he was appointed director of the university's Center for African American Students. In 2014, he was appointed associate vice president of Intercultural Affairs.

"In working with Mr. Cooley, I have found him to be an individual who cares deeply about Marshall University,

the colleagues he works with and the students we serve. Through his actions he has earned the respect of his colleagues across campus and throughout the community," Jaime Taylor, provost and senior vice president for academic affairs, said in last month's announcement of Cooley's appointment.

"I am confident that Mr. Cooley will provide the leadership necessary to help everyone in Student Affairs achieve their full potential."

Throughout his time at Marshall, Cooley's work and involvement on campus have been recognized through various awards, including the Who's Who in

West Virginia Business Award in 2015, the National Society of Leadership, Success and Excellence in Service to Students Award in 2017 and the Martin Luther King Jr. State Holiday Commission Award and West Virginia Steven F. Ferguson Award for education of minority youth in 2018.

KEEP UP WITH THE HONORS COLLEGE ON TWITTER!
@MarshallUHonors

Meet the HONORS ORACLE STAFF

AMANDA LARCH | EXECUTIVE EDITOR

Amanda is a senior print journalism major from Hurricane, West Virginia. She is the current managing editor for the Parthenon and after graduating she would love to be a freelance writer.

JESTEN RICHARDSON | ASSISTANT EDITOR

Jesten is a senior from Huntington, West Virginia. She is an English and multimedia journalism double major. She hopes to work in education, publishing, and/or journalism in the future and is the current Online Editor of The Parthenon.

HANNA PENNINGTON | LAYOUT EDITOR

Hanna is a senior online journalism major and history minor. She is the current executive editor of The Parthenon and the communications intern for the City of Huntington. She hopes to work in communications after graduation in December.

ABIGAIL DROPIK | STAFF WRITER

Abigail is from Lititz, Pennsylvania and is a junior bio-chemistry major planning to continue on to graduate school. Her passions in life are science, sports, and art. She is a member of the Honors College and Women's Soccer team.

DOUGLAS HARDING | STAFF WRITER

Douglas is from Sissonville, West Virginia and is a junior print journalism major with minors in English and history. He is the current news editor of the university's student newspaper, the Parthenon, and would like to someday make a living writing about grass-roots, working-class movements, culture, war and national politics.

MIRANDA SMITH | STAFF WRITER

Miranda Is a writer for the Honors Oracle. She is currently in her senior year here at Marshall, where she is triple majoring in Literary Studies, Creative Writing, and Classics. After she graduates she plans on getting a PhD. in English.