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Students protest BOG movement to raise tuition prices

BY SARAH STYLES
THE PARTHENON

The Marshall University Board of Governors passed a 4.93 percent increase in undergraduate tuition for in-state students at Tuesday’s meeting. The tuition raise will go in effect during the Fall 2013 semester and accounts for a total of $141 for all in-state undergraduate students.

Other increases were made to tuition costs including a $115 increase for all graduate in-state students. A group of protesters, made up of Marshall students, stood nearby to hear the panel discuss the new pros and cons of the new tuition rate.

The students were exonerated from the Financial Affairs Executive Committee meeting prior to the full MUBOG meeting by the MU Police Department after being told it was an executive meeting and not open to the public. Senior, printer, journalism major William Linleyer from Bluefield, W. Va., spoke on behalf of the students and said the income in homes in West Virginia and surrounding states don’t have the necessary income to deal with tuition raise from year to year.

“Marshall has always prided itself on being an institution that is affordable to go to, and the tuition increase will do nothing to help this region economically,” Linleyer said. Linleyer said although Marshall has experienced record enrollment and prosperity over the past five years, the residents in the Tri-state area cannot say the same. Marshall University President Stephen Ropp, told the students and other gallery members no one hates the increase in tuition prices more than the school and it is unfortunate that the price of tuition might interfere with a student’s education.

“There is a real cost to a college education, and we do everything we can to provide federal subsidized financial assistance,” Ropp said.

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As part of Pride Week 2012, the Marshall Univer-
sity Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer Outreach Office presented several students and faculty with Safe Space Training. Safe Space is a program that teaches allies of the LGBT community about ways they can help LGBT students and the resources Marshall provides for LGBT students and staff.

The Safe Space Program because we feel there needs to be visibility on campus for both the LGBT community and their allies,” said Ray
Blevins, director of the Marshall LGBT Office.

The Safe Space training begins with an activity that gives participants a small taste of what those facing discrimination may feel. Blevins uses a mixture of humor and his own experiences to teach the program and help participants understand the situations they may have faced.

The program focuses on helping participants better understand what the student is going through and how to listen and understand the student’s feelings. Blevins also goes over the process of what to do if a student is being continually harassed by someone, becomes the victim of a hate crime or if the student is a danger to themselves or others. “I came today to learn how to be an outlet – someone who people with problems feel comfortable talking to,” said sophomore psychology major, Mary Martinez of Huntington.

“Many students are coming in from rural areas where LGBT discrimination is thick,” said Blevins. “The sticker shows them they have support, someone to talk to when they are feeling anxious.”

The Safe Space program is made up of tours with members and students, who have gone through the training. Those that complete the program have the option to be listed on the roster of participants on the LGBT office website. Anyone interested in Safe Space Training can contact the LGBT Office in the Memorial Student Center EW31. Travis Easter can be reached at easter14@marshall.edu.

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TOP: Students gather in the Memorial Student Center for the Safe Space Training as part of Pride Week 2012. The training teaches students and faculty about the LGBT community of Marshall and acquaints them with resources available to them. BOTTOM: Raymond Blevins teaches the Safe Space program to students and faculty.
There are several events “coping up” throughout Marshall’s campus, and the staff said they thought it was a progression to join in the existing mission of living a sustainable lifestyle.

“The Office of Green Initiatives has a lot of events planned throughout the day, and we just wanted to do our part,” said LeKesha Glover, assistant director for the Department of Housing and Residence Life.

While the event is geared toward the interconnections of the students living in the residence halls, Glover said no one in the department would turn away an outside volunteer. “The Potting Party is a fun and exciting event that allows us to reflect on the impact we have on the environment around us,” Hurley said. “Students will be able to take home a constant reminder of the impact we have and the small differences we can individually make.”

With countless research available for people to sift through, www.earthday.org is one of the websites paying tribute to sustainability and alternative resource management. According to the website, the idea for Earth Day came from former U.S. Senator, Gaylord Nelson. As a result of his rigorous trials to attract attention to this cause, millions of Americans took to the streets, parks and auditoriums April 22, 1970.

Since that day, people from various environments and alternative sides in the political arena have joined forces to draft and implement policy changes in the Clean Air, Clean Water and Endangered Species Acts, Wade Stadium, resident adviser on the 15th floor of Twin Towers West said the “Potting Party” is a great way to educate students about being sustainable.

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People tend not to see the people that are down and out

Students at Marshall could do much to alleviate poverty in Huntington, but often times class gets in the way.

BY HENRY CULVYHOUSE

You ever seen an invisible person? I’m not talking about ghosts, an H.G. Wells’ character, or a Hollow Man. I’m talking about the people who students at Marshall University hardly notice, and when they do, become completely uncomfortable.

I’m talking about the homeless, the poor and the addicted.

You’ve seen them. You probably saw one today, or maybe you asked yourself if you saw one today, the addicted. You pretend to be unaware, or prohibit the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances.

The Marshall University Board of Governors approved an increase in tuition for all Marshall students yesterday. At Tuesday’s meeting, only one board member had a dissenting vote on the increases. What is to come now because of this decision is some notable increases in students’ tuition. Tuition is now set to go up somewhere between 8 to 7.9 percent for undergraduate students and 3.8 to 7.6 percent for graduate students.

The group at Marshall that will be faced with the highest increase are the metro students — students primarily coming from Lawrence County in Ohio and Boyd County in Kentucky. These students also make up a very significant portion of Marshall’s total student body. Innate students will also see an increase in tuition by roughly 5 percent. Out-of-state students will see little change in their tuition. According to Marshall President Stephen Kopp, this hike in tuition will result in an additional $3 million in revenue at Marshall.

Board members made adequate defenses of their reasoning behind raising tuition. Many claimed that until the federal government shifts its attention to higher education, rather than defense and health care, universities will have to continue to raise tuition on a nearly annual basis. There is indeed a lack of money from the federal government coming into higher education, but should that difference lead up to students to pay? If so, as a university, we are to continue to become them. We’re secretly afraid we’ll become them.

Then it’s easy to get depressed. As if climbing out of the mud is impossible, we see a homeless person, someone living in poverty, or an addict, we see ourselves in them. At one point in their lives, these people were young, happy, and carefree. Now, they are in a terrible position. We can then hack away at what little social programs help them get by, so we can have 60 extra bucks on our tax return to buy a cigarette of marijuana. What I’m trying to say is: the poor are poor because society has ignored them. We refuse to recognize them, and prefer to turn a blind eye to it. We prefer to let us know what you think.

It is indeed a scary future as universities continue to suffer from lack of state and federal funding and lean more towards privatization. One can see a litany of corporations waiting patiently to dangle the carrot of more funding in front of university boards. This, along with tuition increases will be the face of what is to come as long as people choose to remain complacent about what is currently going on at this country’s universities.

“"We prefer to turn a blind eye to it and hire more police officers to shoo the poor people away.””

> HENRY CULVYHOUSE

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Above all else, I have seen the class generally do a good job of keeping the public and private sectors connected. "We are committed to our student success and we want to see every graduate," Kopp said. "There is no better investment than a college degree." Kopp also said that he would work with the students and their dis- appointments to make sure that they had to put himself through college. The students brought up a discussion for after-school programs and the operations cost of $1.5 million. The students asked for a leader that brought up the responsibility costs.

John Hees, MUBOG Vice Chairman, said that he has been researching to find a game as "Dusty Riney Day." Proceeds from tickets sales and a silent auction helped cover some of Riney's family medical costs.

Sports reporter from The Register-Herald, Settlemire, set up a charity basketball game between Marshall's athletic teams and celebrity basketball game, the event at Huntington High School and the father of Dusty Riney. The father of Dusty Riney, said that "Dusty Riney Day" was to help raise funds for Dusty's family.

If dusty can make a recovery, I think we can do it ourselves," Settlemire said. If Dusty can make a recovery, then his family can do what it takes to get Dusty healthy and back on the field.

The class is offered to students and graduate students. A limited number of students and graduate students.

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BY JARROD CLAY
THE PARTHENON

At the 10th of 15 spring practices, the Marshall University football team looked more like the walking wounded than it did a football team. The Herd had 25 players limited or completely inactive at practice with 17 players donning blue jerseys and six donning red, not counting the quarterbacks. This basically meant the players could participate in practice, but were rendered untouchable.

Two more players did not even dress for practice as Derek Mitchell walked around in street clothes, while James Rouse sat in a wheelchair just behind the end zone in front of the Shewey Building.

Given the situation, all Marshall head coach Doc Holliday could do was joke about the rainbow of colors inside Joan C. Edwards Stadium. Holliday said it was better to have blue and red jerseys than no players at all.

“Least they’re out there getting reps,” Holliday said.

This marks the second consecutive spring the Thundering Herd has had to contend with injuries, and junior wide receiver Antonio Wilson said given how bad this spring has been, last year may have been worse.

“Last year was bad too, might have even been worse. Me and Aaron (Dobson) were both out last year, but it happens,” Wilson said.

Despite having a limited roster, practice went on, and for the third consecutive day the offense led the way.

In a drill that matched wide receivers and defensive backs up in a one-on-one situation, the receivers dominated. In fact, the only time the defenders seemed to have a chance was when the quarterback position was being played by co-offensive coordinator Tony Peterson because of the continued rehabilitation of freshman Blake Frohnapfel.

“That’s kind of like a (defensive back)-receiver drill where we always come out and talk smack with the DB’s, and it goes back and forth,” said senior receiver Aaron Dobson. “Some days they get the best of us, but to-day we definitely got the best out of them.”

The passing game continued to excel into 7-on-7 drills which are completely pass designed and edited by JAKE SNYDER | snyder100@marshall.edu

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