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We Are...Marshall, December 3, 2014

Office of Marshall University Communications

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WE ARE... MARSHALL®

The Newsletter for Marshall University

December 3, 2014

Schray earns national honors as top professor in West Virginia



The Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching and the Council for Advancement and Support of Education have named Dr. Kateryna Schray of Marshall the 2014 West Virginia Professor of the Year. Schray was among nearly 400 top professors in the United States who were finalists.

Schray, an English professor, describes her teaching philosophy as “embarrassingly simple: provide students with a supportive learning environment, identify and build on their strengths, and make each person an active

participant in his/her own education, all the while remembering that learning is inherently joyful.”

She credited colleagues for playing a large part in her receiving the Professor of the Year award.

“I am so grateful for and incredibly humbled by this recognition, but it is so very important for me to put this in context,” she said. “My college seeks out and recruits committed teachers, and at every step of my career my colleagues and my chair have supported and encouraged me in my teaching vocation. I have the best colleagues a professor could hope for.”

Schray was in Washington, D. C. last month when the national and state winners were announced and honored at an awards luncheon at the National Press Club. She also attended an evening congressional reception at the Folger Shakespeare Library.

She said she considers herself a “pretty good” representative of her department.

“All of us strive to make our classes substantive, meaningful, productive and memorable,” she said. “In addition, I’ve had the privilege to team teach with great teachers at Marshall—Jamie Warner, Susan Gilpin, Caroline Perkins, Steve Mewaldt, Bill Price, just to name a few.”

Most of all, Schray said, she continues to be “absolutely amazed” by her students.

“Their ideas, their insights, their courage, their cleverness and upbeat natures, their generosity towards one another, their desire to serve others, their determination to make the world a better place,” she said. “I cannot imagine a more rewarding career and I still can’t believe how lucky I am. I have a lot to be grateful for, more than I can say.”

Schray, who has been at Marshall since 1996, when she was hired as an assistant professor of English, said she also greatly appreciates the work done by her colleagues at the elementary, middle and high school levels.

“Truly these teachers do the heavy lifting and I am in awe of their talents,” she said. “Now that my oldest child is in high school, I recognize how much I am indebted to the teachers who have preceded me and I am so very grateful. I’ve also come to understand the important role a good principal plays, and the contributions of the essential people behind the scenes: school secretaries, counselors and specialists.”

Schray earned her Ph.D. in Medieval Literature from the University of North Carolina in 1997. She received her bachelor’s degree from La Salle University and her master’s from Georgetown University. She was named the Marshall University Charles E. Hedrick Outstanding Faculty Award Recipient for 2012-13, and was the keynote speaker at the university’s Winter Commencement last December. She also received the Pickens-Queen Excellence in Teaching Award in 2001 and the Reynolds Outstanding Teaching Award in 2009.

She is the fifth professor in Marshall history to have won the prestigious award. The university’s previous recipients include Dr. Karen Mitchell, a mathematics professor, in 1995; Dr. John McKernan, an English professor, in 2000; Dr. Steven Mewaldt, a psychology professor, in 2003; and Dan Hollis, a journalism professor, in 2012.

CASE and the Carnegie Foundation have been partners in offering the U.S. Professors of the Year awards program since 1981. Additional support for the program is received from Phi Beta Kappa, which sponsors the congressional reception, the Professional and Organizational Development Network in Higher Education and other higher education associations.

Schray was selected from among faculty members nominated by colleges and universities throughout the country.

Photo: Dr. Kateryna Schray, second from left, works with three students, from left, Cassidy Dutcher, Chelsea Miller and Cayce Blankenship. Schray said all three are her former students who inspire her to keep striving for excellence and exemplify why she has “the best job in the world.” *Photo by Rick Hays*

Marshall community to get behind the Herd for a different kind of Green Friday

Marshall students, faculty and staff will have an opportunity to record a short video “good luck” message for the Thundering Herd football team on Friday before its Conference USA title game Saturday.

Videos will be recorded in the lobby of the Memorial Student Center from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Friday, Dec. 5. A composite video will be made from the recordings and played for the team later that day. In addition, Marshall community members will have the opportunity to join in a group photo outside near the memorial fountain at approximately 12:15 p.m. (In case of bad weather, the photo will be taken inside the Memorial Student Center.) Please wear your Kelly green!

Marshall plays Louisiana Tech at noon Saturday, Dec. 6, in Joan C. Edwards Stadium.

Reminder: Library to celebrate conclusion of MU Reads 150+ this afternoon



A project of the West Virginia Center for the Book

The Marshall University Libraries are celebrating a great year of reading by sponsoring the MU Reads 150+ End-of-the-Year Celebration in the Drinko Library Atrium Wednesday, Dec. 3, from 1 to 3 p.m. The libraries are inviting everyone to attend to meet local authors, have a chance to win prizes, and enjoy free refreshments.

MIIIR seminar series continues today



The series of seminars sponsored by the Marshall Institute for Interdisciplinary Research continues this afternoon with a talk titled “Ouabain-induced and Na⁺/K⁺-ATPase mediated effects in autosomal dominant polycystic kidney disease” by Dr. V. Gustavo Blanco.

The presentation by Blanco, who is a professor in the Department of Molecular and Integrative Physiology at the University of Kansas Medical Center, will begin at 3:15 p.m. in Room 102 of the Robert C. Byrd Biotechnology Science Center. Refreshments will be served beginning at 3 p.m.

Everyone is welcome to attend. For more information, call 304-696-3549.

Local writers Marie Manilla and Nicole Lawrence to read from their work tonight on the Huntington campus

Tri-State area natives Marie Manilla and Nicole Lawrence will read from their work at 8 p.m. tonight at the Foundation Hall.

The event, called Writers Harvest, is part of the A.E. Stringer Visiting Writers Series, which receives support from the College of Liberal Arts, the Honors College, the West Virginia Humanities Council and the English department.

The literary reading is being done in support of the Facing Hunger Foodbank. A suggested donation of 2 to 3 nonperishable food items is requested for admission, and a book signing will follow.



Manilla is a Huntington native and a graduate of the Iowa Writers' Workshop. Her fiction has appeared in the *Chicago Tribune*, *Mississippi Review*, *Prairie Schooner*, *Calyx* and other journals. Her collection of stories, *Still Life with Plums* (WVU Press, 2010), was a finalist for both the Weatherford Award and ForeWord Reviews Book of the Year.

Her novel, *Shrapnel* (River City Publishing, 2012), won the Fred Bonnie Award for Best First Novel. *Publishers Weekly* describes her newest novel, *The Patron Saint of Ugly* (Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, 2014) as "Clever, funny, heartbreaking, and heartwarming, all at once...A lovely, hopeful tale." *Booklist* calls it "Beautifully written, filled with detailed prose meant to be savored."

Manilla is a visiting faculty member in West Virginia Wesleyan's Low-Residency Master of Fine Arts program.



Lawrence is a poet who teaches at Marshall. She grew up in Ona and studied English at Marshall. She then was a fellow at Indiana University, where she received her M.F.A. She has contributed music to the local film *Trace Around Your Heart* (2013), which won Best Music and Best of Festival at the Coal River Film Festival and Colony Film Festival. She was a finalist for the Atlanta Review International Competition, Bertolt Clever Award for Poetry and Ross Lockridge Award for Fiction.

For more information on the Writers Harvest, contact Dr. Carrie Oeding in the Department of English via e-mail at oeding@marshall.edu.

'Tis the season for giving...and Broadway Thursday night



Just when little kids finally learned to name all of Santa's reindeer and to reel them off —Dasher, Dancer, Prancer, Vixen, Comet, Cupid, Donner, Blitzen—along came a waifish little misfit with a freakish blinking nose and the decidedly un-reindeer name of Rudolph.

At age 50 he's as spunky as ever, a star of song, television special, and now a musical comedy, "Rudolph the Red Nosed Reindeer: The Musical," which spins the tender tale of how an outcast persevered and used his unusual attributes to save Christmas one stormy winter night.

Rudolph first debuted in a hit song, which caught the nation's fancy, and then Rudolph and his

friends made their network television debut in 1964 becoming the longest running and the highest rated holiday special of all time. Now the whole cast of "Rudolph the Red Nosed Reindeer: The Musical" is coming to the stage of the Keith-Albee Performing Arts Center Thursday, Dec. 4, at 7:30 p.m. Rudolph and Santa will be there along with Hermey the Elf, Yukon Cornelius and the Abominable Snow Monster, and a host of other characters long associated with this holiday tale.

Tickets are on sale now and are available at the Marshall Artists Series Box office, Monday through Friday from noon to 5 p.m. To order tickets contact the Box Office at ext. 6-6656.

"Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer: The Musical" celebrates Rudolph's 50 years on television. This is a lively, colorful journey and new tradition for families and theatregoers of all ages," says Producing Partner Jonathan Flom. "This production touches on all of the familiar story elements from the television special, with talented cast and puppeteers creating the magic on stage."

And in the spirit of the season, the Cridlin Food Pantry canned food drive will be accepting donations of any non-perishable food, which can be deposited in bins located inside the Keith-Albee. The Cridlin Food Pantry not only helps the homeless, but also supplies food to neighbors, children and the elderly. Items needed include beef stew, peanut butter, jelly, chili, macaroni and cheese, tuna, ravioli, soups, cereal, and spaghetti and sauce. Donations can be made the day of the show beginning at 5:30 p.m.

Panel discussion on Ebola set for Thursday

The Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine International Health Interest Group is presenting a panel discussion about the Ebola virus at 6:30 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 4. It will take place in the Harless Auditorium at the Marshall University Medical Center on the campus of Cabell Huntington Hospital.

Tentative panelists include:

- Hoyt J. Burdick, M.D., Vice President, Medical Affairs, Cabell Huntington Hospital
- Ahmad R. Nusair, M.D., Section Chief, Infectious Disease, Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine
- William F. Pewen, Ph.D., Infectious Disease and Microbiology, Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine and MU College of Health Professions

The public is invited to this event.

For more information about this upcoming event, please e-mail Megan Smith at smith961@marshall.edu.

Low brass players bring TUBACHRISTMAS to town

Sounds of the area's low brass will be filling the Huntington Mall with holiday cheer at 2 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 6, as the city celebrates the 40th anniversary of TUBACHRISTMAS.

In addition to the West Virginia TUBACHRISTMAS, it is expected that 250 more cities worldwide will present the concerts, according to West Virginia TUBACHRISTMAS Coordinator Dr. George Palton, who is also the instructor of tuba and euphonium at Marshall.

“Depending on the population of any given geographic area, TUBACHRISTMAS ensembles may attract multiples of 100 participants aged 8 to 95 years,” Palton said. “To my knowledge, Huntington has been participating since 2003.”

TUBACHRISTMAS was created by Harvey Phillips in honor of his teacher, tubist William J. Bell, who was born Christmas Day, 1902.

“Every Christmas season, tuba and euphonium players of all ages, from specific geographic areas, gather to pay respect—through William J. Bell—to all the great artists and teachers who represent their heritage,” Palton said.

Every TUBACHRISTMAS performance features traditional Christmas carols composed by Alec Wilder and specially arranged for the first TUBACHRISTMAS on Dec. 22, 1974, in New York City's Rockefeller Plaza.

“Through Wilder, TUBACHRISTMAS concerts pay grateful tribute to composers who have embraced these noble instruments with solo and ensemble compositions,” Palton said. “The warm and rich, organ-like sound of this low brass choir has won the ears and hearts of every audience. It is no wonder that TUBACHRISTMAS has become an established Christmas tradition in cities throughout the world!”

All area performers are invited to participate in West Virginia TUBACHRISTMAS. Registration and rehearsal begin at 10 and 11 a.m., respectively, at the Smith Music Hall band room. Dr. Michael Stroehrer, professor of low brass, will conduct the ensemble.

Employee Holiday Party is Thursday, Dec. 11

President and Mrs. Stephen J. Kopp are inviting faculty and staff and their families to attend the annual Family Holiday Party, which takes place from 5:30 to 8 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 11, from 5:30 to 8 p.m. in the Don Morris Room of the Memorial Student Center.

Santa is expected to make an appearance at 5:45 p.m., giving children an opportunity to have their photos taken with him. In addition, there will be crafts, cookie decorating, a Lego presentation and lots of good food.

In memoriam: Daniel Babb and Bos Johnson

The Marshall community has lost two well-known former faculty members who died recently.

Dr. Daniel Babb, professor of chemistry who taught at Marshall for 42 years and who also served for a time as chair of the chemistry department and an associate dean of the College of Science, died Nov. 18. Bos Johnson, a former news anchor and news director for WSAZ-TV who served 12 years as an associate professor of journalism, died Nov. 23.



Upon his recent retirement, Babb was named professor emeritus and continued to be a presence on the Huntington campus. It is estimated that during his tenure he mentored and taught more than 15,000 students. He also established the Paul and Catherine Babb Scholarship, which is awarded to a student majoring in chemistry. He was instrumental in developing the original curriculum for the Society of Yeager Scholars as well as the development of the MU Faculty Senate, in which he served for several years.

Babb was the recipient of numerous teaching and service awards during his many years at Marshall. He received the 2005-06 Distinguished Service Award from Marshall. Because of his efforts to re-charter and re-colonize the Beta Delta chapter of Alpha Sigma Phi fraternity and his ongoing work as their faculty adviser, he was given the fraternity's highest honor, the Grand Senior President's Award, and was given the title of "Mr. Beta Delta." An avid Thundering Herd football fan, he could frequently be seen at the games cheering on the team.



Bos Johnson was well known as a longtime reporter and anchor for WSAZ-TV before coming to Marshall in 1976, where for the next 12 years he taught journalism, bringing his extensive experience into the classroom. During his years as a newsman he covered many major news stories, including the Marshall plane crash and the collapse of the Silver Bridge in Point Pleasant. He left Marshall in 1988 to become a vice president with Charles Ryan Associates, a public relations firm. In his retirement he played a leadership role in numerous civic and community organizations, including the Campus Christian Center and Leadership Tri-State. His wife, Dottie, is a retired longtime Marshall faculty member.

Photos: (Above) Dr. Daniel Babb is shown at right with fraternity brother Matt James, who now works in Marshall's Student Resource Center. Photo courtesy of Matt James. (Below) Bos Johnson taught journalism at Marshall for 12 years. Photo by Rick Lee/courtesy of HQ Publishing.

Marshall site featured by National Institute for Learning Outcomes Assessment

The National Institute for Learning Outcomes Assessment (NILOA) has chosen Marshall's Office of Assessment and Program Review website to be featured on the NILOA website. A link to Marshall's site is now at www.learningoutcomeassessment.org/FeaturedWebsiteCurrent.html.

The NILOA *Featured Website* is a service intended to point others to promising practices in innovative and transparent online communication of student learning outcomes assessment. The selection criteria for determining a featured student learning outcomes assessment website include:

Communication. The website clearly presents information on student learning outcomes assessment and/or results to multiple or specific internal and/or external audiences using layperson's language and contextualized examples. Information is found on multiple pages across the website, updated regularly and easy to access and navigate via links or search engines. In addition, the site provides explanation or examples of the use of student learning outcomes assessment.

Creativity. The website communicates information on student learning outcomes assessment and/or results in new and innovative ways including integration of multiple measures and use of alternative media such as videos, interactive graphs, or data displays.

Centralized Assessment Repository. The website stores or provides links to assessment information in one central location. To be considered, the site should include one or more of the NILOA Transparency Framework's six components:

- Student Learning Outcomes Statements
- Assessment Plans
- Assessment Resources
- Current Assessment Activities
- Evidence of Student Learning
- Use of Student Learning Evidence

The following was written about the MU site:

Marshall University's [Office of Assessment and Program Review](#) provides viewers access to the university's assessment resources and reviews. In particular, there are various links regarding the university's assessment efforts, including links to their [University Assessment Committee](#) and related documents, [Learning Outcomes](#) and related rubrics, and [assessment reports/reviews](#) including an archive of reports. This website serves as a centralized location for the university's assessment efforts.

In addition, website visitors can also explore the university's [Assessment Day information](#) and [presentations](#), as well as information on [alumni outcomes](#) and [survey reports](#). Also, the website has information on [General Education assessment](#), looking across multiple years. Given the depth of information available on this website regarding the university's assessment efforts, Marshall University's Office of Assessment and Program Review website is this month's Featured Website in the category of Centralized Assessment Repository.

The NILOA website includes a link to the MU website.

Children's book drive to help children in McDowell, Mingo counties

The College of Education and Professional Development, in conjunction with the West Virginia University College of Education and Human Services, is conducting the third annual joint children's book drive for youth in McDowell County, as well as a new Mingo County preschool.

New or gently used young children's books can be donated at the Learning Resource Center in Jenkins Hall or in the lobby of the administration building on the South Charleston campus.

Donations are being accepted through Friday, Dec. 19.

Marshall faculty member travels to Rome to present international biomechanics research



Dr. Suzanne Konz of the College of Health Professions traveled to Rome last month to give an oral presentation on her biomechanics research during the 2014 International Congress on Sport Science Research and Technology Support (icSPORTS) conference.

Konz, director of the college's biomechanics laboratory, said her research focused on the reliability and validity of the XOS Motion Capture System, which is housed in the basement of the Henderson Center on the Huntington campus.

"We have several motion analysis systems in our biomechanics lab at Marshall and the XOS system is relatively unknown and untested," Konz said. "My graduate assistant and I did a reliability study on the system using a vertical jump component to test how high people jump. In our research, we found this system isn't as reliable as other equipment such as the Vertec, which is used in strength conditioning to test the jump height of a jump."

Konz said her research on the XOS system emphasized the technology behind the equipment instead of its practical application. Konz said this study aimed to provide protocol for strength and conditioning professionals, as well as researchers, to indicate the best practices for their assessment or research.

David Cottrill, a 2014 graduate of the college's exercise science master's program, served as Konz's graduate assistant throughout her research. Cottrill, now an adjunct faculty member at West Virginia State University teaching biomechanics, said technology is taking a much larger role in motion analysis and assessment.

"If researchers and coaches are to implement these technologies into their activities, scientific validation of these systems' capabilities must be conducted," Cottrill said. "Prior to our research, no such investigation had been conducted on the XOS system. There is a high demand for research assessing the validity and reliability of new instruments, tools and methods within the fields of biomechanics."

Cottrill said because of Konz's quality of work, as well as her ability to identify research needs that may be overlooked, her work is instrumental in ensuring the field of biomechanics remains up to date and progressive. "Her high standard of performance and work ethic are contagious and set others up for future success" he said. "I am and continue to be thankful for the opportunity to learn from her during my time at Marshall."

In addition to Konz's recent trip to Rome, she also traveled to Brazil this past year for her research on muscular biomechanics and sports performance. Konz said she plans to present her research at the 25th Congress of the International Society of Biomechanics held at the Scottish Exhibition and Conference Center in Glasgow, Scotland, this summer.

Photo: Conor Bolger of Norwegian University of Science & Technology, Trondheim Norway; Dr. Suzanne Konz of Marshall University and Peter Federolf of the Norwegian School of Sports Sciences, Oslo, Norway, at the 2014 icSPORTS conference held Oct. 21-27 in Rome, Italy. *Photo Courtesy of icSPORTS.*

Marshall Health launches new online patient portal for easier access to health information

Marshall Health has launched a new patient portal program called "Follow My Health™," which offers patients a secure option to view their health records online.

Follow My Health™ allows patients to conveniently view, manage, transmit and download medical records of items that include office visits, immunizations and certain test results. The portal also provides the patient with the option of requesting appointments and prescription refills, as well as the ability to send secure e-mails to the health care team, at any hour and wherever Internet access is available.

The portal is for non-urgent communication only.

“We are pleased to offer this new and free technology to our patients, which provides them with enhanced access to their own personal health record,” said Beth L. Hammers, executive director for Marshall Health. “We hope our patients will register for the portal to gain instant access to their information which ultimately means expanded communication between them and their health care team.”

Current Marshall Health patients with valid email accounts may begin using the web-based tool after providing their e-mail address in person during regular business hours. An invitation to open a portal account is then generated by Follow My Health™ and the patient selects a username and password. Parents and/or guardians may also register accounts for their minor children.

“In today’s world of instant information, it’s imperative that we empower patients with technologies that translate to an improved experience and quality health care,” said Michael J. McCarthy, chief information officer for Marshall Health.

Patients may access their health care information from any desktop computer, tablet or smartphone once the account has been established through Marshall Health.

Follow My Health™ is a product of Allscripts Healthcare.

Employees asked to consider retirement contributions

It’s that time of year—to consider increasing your 401(a), 403(b), and/or 457(b) contributions. On Oct. 23, the IRS announced cost-of-living adjustments (COLAs) affecting the dollar limits for pension plans and other retirement-related items for the 2015 tax year. Most annual limits are going to increase in 2015 from \$17,500 to \$18,000. The “age 50” catch-up contribution limits are also increasing from \$5,500 to \$6,000.

If you are interested in increasing your employee retirement plan contributions, download a payroll deduction form by clicking on the below link. If you need assistance or have questions, contact Lisa Henry at ext.6-6240 or henry29@marshall.edu

Payroll Deduction Form:

<http://www.marshall.edu/human-resources/files/downloads/2011/10/SRA-Payroll-Deduction-Form.pdf>

Marshall receives in-kind software grant from Siemens PLM Software

Marshall University has received an in-kind software grant from Siemens PLM Software, with a commercial value of nearly \$134 million.

The in-kind grant gives students access to the same technology that companies around the world depend on every day to develop innovative products in a wide variety of industries including automotive, aerospace, machinery, shipbuilding, high-tech electronics and many more.

Graduates with this type of software training are highly-recruited candidates for advanced technology jobs.

President Dr. Stephen J. Kopp said the university is excited to work with Siemens to provide industry-leading technology in its classrooms.

“By using the same technology in the classroom that is used by companies all over the world, our students gain important real-world experience that will serve them well after graduation,” he said.

Bill Boswell, senior director, partner strategy, Siemens PLM Software, said, “Siemens PLM Software is dedicated to helping develop the next generation of highly trained and highly qualified engineers and technologists. Our academic partnership with Marshall University encourages students to pursue careers that will revitalize manufacturing in the U.S. and around the world.”

The in-kind grant for Marshall includes Siemens PLM Software’s:

- NX™ software, a leading integrated solution for computer-aided design, manufacturing and engineering (CAD/CAM/CAE); and
- Solid Edge® software, the most complete hybrid 2D/3D CAD system.

Dr. Gayle L. Ormiston, provost and senior vice president for academic affairs, added, “We are pleased to partner with a global corporation that is on the leading edge of PLM technology. Our school could not develop the next generation of engineers without the support of this state-of-the-art technology from Siemens PLM Software. This partnership enables us to meet the needs of employers and prepare students for these high-paying careers in science, technology, engineering and math.”

Dr. Wael Zatar, dean of the College of Information Technology and Engineering, also thanked Siemens PLM Software, saying, “This generous grant will enable our students to better prepare for successful advanced technology careers. It is exceptionally valuable because it helps us train our students for tomorrow’s jobs using one of the best engineering design software solutions available.”

Dr. Asad A. Salem, professor and chairman of the university's Weisberg Division of Engineering, said, "Our students are excited to have access to this industry-leading technology, and we are grateful to Siemens for its commitment to advance education opportunities for our students."

The in-kind grant was provided by the Siemens PLM Software's academic program, which delivers PLM software for schools at every academic level.

The next issue of *We Are...Marshall* will be distributed Dec. 10, 2014. Please send any materials for consideration to [Pat Dickson](#) by 5 p.m. Monday, Dec. 8.