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We Are...Marshall, September 24, 2014

Office of Marshall University Communications

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WE ARE... MARSHALL®

The Newsletter for Marshall University

September 24, 2014

State of the University address praises faculty, emphasizes ‘pioneering’ role in higher education



Marshall President Stephen J. Kopp addressed the faculty and the greater university community yesterday with his annual State of the University address on the Huntington campus.

“The challenges that we have confronted, and will continue to confront, demonstrate ... the incredible commitment of our faculty and our university to not just being problem solvers, but being pioneers,” Kopp said in the address.

The address may be viewed at www.marshall.edu/it/livestream and an online PDF version of the handout is available at www.marshall.edu/wamnewsletter/files/Presidents-Update_General-Faculty-Meeting_Fall-2014.pdf or on the president’s website at www.marshall.edu/president/presentations.html.

Marshall celebrates grand opening of ‘world-class’ Visual Arts Center in downtown Huntington



Marshall College introduced an art program on the school’s Huntington campus in 1902, despite having no facility dedicated to the arts.

It took a while—a little more than 112 years to be exact—but finally the Marshall University School of Art and Design has its own facility. A large crowd of members of the Marshall and Huntington communities witnessed the official opening of the

university’s Visual Arts Center, which was celebrated last week with a ribbon cutting at the renovated, six-story former Anderson-Newcomb (Stone & Thomas) Department Store building.

President Dr. Stephen J. Kopp joined with Donald Van Horn, dean of the College of Arts and Media, and several others for the ribbon cutting at the building located across 3rd Avenue from Pullman Square.

“The dedication of our Downtown Visual Arts Center is a historic event in the annals of Marshall University’s history,” Kopp said. “After decades of unfulfilled promises, the dream of a modern, aesthetically magnificent edifice that will support and energize the creativity and imagination of our visual arts students and faculty has now been realized. Much hard work and ingenuity have gone into the transformation of the old Anderson-Newcomb building, preserving its distinctive architectural lines, while creating a world-class visual arts center. Everyone associated with this city and the Marshall family should be very proud of this accomplishment. We now have a beautiful, iconic showplace in downtown Huntington that epitomizes who we are. I expect to see more Marshall University facilities moving in that direction. This first step opens up all sorts of possibilities for the university to grow and our community to prosper.”

In 1902, the building known then as the Valentine, Newcomb & Carder Department Store opened downtown as a three-story structure. Little could anyone imagine what the future connection would be between Marshall’s art program and that building, which added three floors in 1920 and became known as the Anderson-Newcomb Department Store.

While Marshall’s art department continued to grow through many decades, the department store thrived, too, before running its course. Marshall purchased the building, which had been closed for years, in 2011 for \$750,000, with the idea of turning it into a Visual Arts Center. Van Horn credited Kopp for seeing the project through when others before him did not.

“I think that Dr. Kopp was presented with a vision of something that could happen downtown, and he recognized the strength of that vision and purchased that building,” Van Horn said. “And, here we are, three years later. Those past promises were never fulfilled for a variety of reasons. It’s a whole new paradigm for visual arts education. I think we’ll see the benefits from this for years and years to come.”

Hannah Saxton, a sophomore graphic design major, said the building is a huge asset to Marshall, the School of Art and Design, and downtown, where she works for a locally owned business.

“Not only is the Visual Arts Center a fantastic new facility, but the location will make a huge impact,” Saxton said. “Downtown is beginning to come back to life and thrive. Not only will the students benefit by being more in the heart of the city, but the other businesses will benefit from having the students downtown as well. Personally, I couldn’t be more excited to get the semester underway.”

Shortly after the fall semester began, Saxton said, the center already had met all her expectations. “From big things, like the new equipment, to the small details, such as each floor’s color coordination, it’s all been planned out thoroughly and it shows,” she said.

Daniel Kaufmann, an associate professor in the School of Art and Design, teaches photography in the Visual Arts Center.

“Everything is great!” Kaufman said. “The new darkroom sink and equipment are a huge improvement over what we had in Smith Hall. The students have been very excited and impressed with the new facilities. Generally, I think the biggest difference is having the space we need. Everything has its own room rather than the multipurpose rooms we had before.”

Zoe Myers, a junior printmaking major, said studying in the new Visual Arts Center is like “a breath of fresh air,” especially when compared to the old location on the sixth floor of Smith Hall.

“The first time I got to see the building, I was like a kid in a candy store,” Myers said. “It is absolutely beautiful on every floor. Even though the sixth floor at Smith Hall is where we got the creative juices flowing, the Visual Arts Center has given us students and professors inspiration. I am thankful and excited to be a part of this building in its beginning stage.”

The renovation, which included the addition of 65,000 pounds of steel in a 66,000-square-foot area, cost \$13.7 million and is being paid for with bonds and private donations. The renovation incorporates the building’s original hardwood floors with smart lighting, highly efficient heating and cooling, and Wi-Fi throughout.

The ground floor features retail space and a 2,200-square-foot gallery with nearly 150 feet of linear display space.

Art education, art history, fibers, foundations, graphic design, painting, photography and printmaking students are studying their crafts on floors two through five. The sixth floor includes administrative space and a picturesque view of downtown and six blocks of the Old Main Corridor leading to the Huntington campus.

Sculpture and ceramics will stay in the university’s art warehouse on 20th Street.

“The renovated building will bring some cohesion to the program that they have not had and a stronger sense of purpose,” Van Horn said. “It gives the program an opportunity to grow. Over time what we will see is the development of some new programs that heretofore we have not had a place for. And, new programs will bring more students to Marshall. Putting Marshall in downtown is a wonderful step for the university.”

Van Horn feels certain the center will bring commerce downtown.

“To bring a couple of hundred students and faculty downtown on a daily basis has to have a pretty dramatic impact on the economy of downtown Huntington,” he added. “And, as time moves on and we see the kind of growth that we expect will happen, those numbers will only get bigger. Bringing this program downtown will have a far-reaching impact on the health of our community.”

Salary increases to take effect Oct. 1

Some Marshall employees will see increases in their salaries, effective Oct. 1.

- All university employees who were employed on June 30, 2014, (May 2, 2014, for faculty) and are continuing in that same appointment for the current fiscal year received a salary increase of \$504, adjusted for Full Time Equivalent.
- The Marshall University Board of Governors at its Sept. 3 meeting approved additional salary increases for some university employees. See the categories of employees below for details. These salary increases do not include raises for faculty in the professional schools of medicine, pharmacy and physical therapy or for new faculty starting in the Fall 2014 term.

Tenured and Tenure-Track Faculty

Salary increases for tenured and tenure-track faculty will be awarded in accordance with [Marshall University Board of Governors Policy No. AA-7](#).

Library and Clinical Faculty

Salary increases for library and clinical faculty will be awarded in accordance with Marshall University Board of Governors Policy No. AA-45.

Term Faculty

Any term faculty member, except those employed for the express purpose of teaching in the INTO-Marshall English as a Second Language program, with a salary below \$33,000 will have their salary increased to that amount.

Additional funds for raises for term faculty will be distributed to colleges based on the recommendation of the deans and the chairs.

Classified Employees

The salary of each classified employee, including those at the school of medicine, will be increased to the appropriate salary on the statutory Classified Employees Salary Schedule, based on the employee's pay grade and step. Employees already at or above the salary schedule salary will not receive an increase.

Non-Classified/Other Employees

Increases for non-classified staff and other, non-instructional faculty, will be based on external and internal equity, experience and performance—as recommended by the employee's vice president.

- The Marshall University Research Corporation Board of Directors has approved additional salary increases for all employees paid through the MURC payroll system, effective Oct. 1.

These increases will be based on external and internal equity, experience and performance and—for employees funded through grants and contracts—must be provided for in the approved project budget. (MURC employees paid through the state payroll system are eligible for the raises approved by the university’s board on Sept. 3 and detailed above.)

University-wide strategic planning retreat scheduled for Oct. 17



A campus planning retreat has been scheduled to formulate an action plan for moving forward with recommendations from the Marshall 20/20 strategic planning workgroups.

The day-long retreat is set for Friday, Oct. 17, at an off-campus location in Huntington.

Representatives from all campus constituencies—including faculty, classified staff, students, the board of governors and administrators—will be participating.

Over the past several months, the Academic Portfolio Review and Services Portfolio Review workgroups looked at the university’s academic programs and services with the goal of identifying all potential opportunities for cost savings and revenue enhancement.

The teams also were focused on addressing some of the structural issues that prevent delivery of top-notch programs and services.

The teams’ findings were presented to the university’s administration several weeks ago and are now being assessed for practicality and impact of implementation. The Oct. 17 retreat is the next step in finalizing an action plan and timeline.

The outcome of this strategic planning process will likely be some reorganization of the university’s structure to improve efficiencies, but the goal of the Marshall 20/20 process is to make the most effective use of current positions and to find cost savings through attrition first, before positions are eliminated.

Those who participated in the Marshall 20/20 kick-off retreat last October and members of the Services Portfolio Review’s Rapid Response Teams should watch their e-mail for a retreat invitation in the next couple of days. Other members of the campus community who are interested in attending should contact Cora Massey at 304-696-3977 or curtisc@marshall.edu.

For more information about the strategic planning process, visit the [Marshall 20/20 website](#), which includes a discussion forum for asking questions and providing feedback.

Payroll office provides update on coming pay changes

A few staff members participated in a conference last week hosted by the State Auditor where they learned more about what is going on with the implementation of the State's new system. There were sessions covering the finance portion which went live in July as well as the human resource system which is slated to go live in January 2015. As part of this, they did provide some additional insight into the arrears conversion and the switch to bi-weekly.

With regard to the upcoming arrears conversion for current paid employees, the State has informed us that in lieu of seeing a line called "Regular Pay" on their Sept. 30 paystub, those employees will see a line called "Non Hardship Arrears Conversion". They did note that this pay will be added into their regular pay year-to-date earnings. Once the eNODS statement posts for Sept. 30 on myApps (<https://www.wvsao.gov/login.aspx>), please review it carefully. If you see any discrepancies or have questions, please contact the Payroll Office at 304-696-6457.

Although the switch to bi-weekly is still several months away, the State has provided a Bi-Weekly Payroll Estimator which will utilize your 8/29/14 and 9/15/14 paychecks to estimate what a bi-weekly paycheck may look like. To access go to <https://www.wvsao.gov/login.aspx> and select myApps V2 utilizing your usual myApps login information. Once in, select the Employee box and then at the top of the eNODS page, click on the box for "Bi-Weekly Payroll Estimator." If you need assistance on how to access this information, please contact the State's help desk at 304-340-4850 between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m. Monday through Friday.

We will be hosting several sessions next week to share more on what we learned about the pay changes and implementation of the human resource system. Please join us at one of the following sessions if you are interested:

- Monday, Sept. 29: 11 a.m. in Memorial Student Center, room BE-5
- Wednesday, Oct. 1: 9 a.m. in Corbly Hall, room 104; broadcast to South Charleston in room GC 134
- Thursday, Oct. 2: 3 p.m. in Memorial Student Center, room BE-5

As we get closer to January and learn more detail about the bi-weekly conversion, we will plan additional sessions to provide more detail on the impact to our employees.

Information Technology reports what's new for fall

Campus-wide Subscription to the Chronicle of Higher Education

Effective immediately, all Marshall University (MU) faculty, staff and students may take advantage of a campus-wide digital subscription to the Chronicle of Higher Education. This university-wide subscription provides a more efficient and cost-effective way for the university to remain up to date on the issues and opportunities facing higher education. Anyone in the Marshall University community can now set up an account and access the digital articles and features on Chronicle.com from a campus computer. Everyone with a MU email address who sets up a free account may also access the on-line content from anywhere, including the use of the iPad Chronicle app. Set-up instructions can be found at: http://www.marshall.edu/library/pdf/CHE_Instructions.pdf

IT Project Site

The Division of Information Technology (IT) announces the release of the IT Projects Status Report website: <http://sharepoint.marshall.edu/sites/it-projects> . This site is available to everyone in the university community and lists all projects that IT has planned or is in process of implementing. Some of the projects listed have a time span of multiple years and all projects have been reviewed and approved by the IT executive team to ensure they are aligned with the university's major initiatives and the goals of the IT Strategic Plan. Major project parameters, including project description, phase, priority, timeline and status, are provided for each project on this site. Project managers update the project status on a regular basis.

Lync 2013 Pilot

The Division of Information Technology (IT) is currently piloting the deployment of Microsoft Lync 2013 as a unified communications platform. This new service provides voice and video chat, presence, instant messaging, computer screen sharing and more. Users are encouraged to review the Lynda.com “[Up and Running with Lync](#)” to get a full preview of the product. If the pilot is successful IT plans to integrate Enterprise Voice features and make them available to the university community in 2015.

Exchange 2013 Migration

During the upcoming fall semester, the Division of Information Technology (IT) will migrate the Exchange email and calendaring service for faculty and staff to the new Exchange 2013 environment. The new Exchange environment will provide additional features for faculty and staff, including a substantial increase in email quota and an improved Outlook Web Application interface that uses a responsive web design for desktop, mobile and tablet users. In addition,

Exchange 2013 will also include application integration and improved management of contacts, including importing contacts from social networks and an expanded contact search.

Before the migration, users are encouraged to update to Microsoft Office 2013 including Outlook 2013 for the Windows environment and Office for the Mac 2011 in the Macintosh environment. Versions older than Outlook 2007 and Entourage 2008 are not compatible with Exchange 2013.

Please contact the IT Service desk (itservicedesk@marshall.edu or 304-696-3200) if you need assistance. Each user is encouraged to review the “[Outlook 2013 Essential Training](#)” via his or her [Marshall University Lynda Campus](#) account.

University Licensed Software A valuable reference site for [University Licensed Software](#) has been updated to allow students, faculty, and staff a quick reference to software that is available for their use. Faculty, staff and students are often not aware of the many software resources centrally provided by the university. Please avoid running old versions of software or unnecessarily purchasing software that is already available to you by referencing this site regularly. For those who are using a university owned computer, these titles are all available on a university standard image, but most of these products are also available for download to university owned machines.

Please contact the IT Service desk (itservicedesk@marshall.edu or 304-696-3200) if you need assistance.

Unified Calendar The Division of Information Technology (IT) is pleased to announce the implementation of the new Marshall University Unified Event Calendar. The new calendar is based on event data contained in the Resource 25 Scheduling System and will show all University classes and events planned and promoted on campus. The new calendar has the same interface and intuitive functionality as the old, but with multiple display settings and the ability to subscribe to specific event calendars. The final production form of the calendar will be available later in the month. This is a sneak peek of the [new unified calendar](#).

Graduate Humanities Program inaugurates Major Scholar Seminar series



Dr. Arijit Sen, associate professor of architecture at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, will be on Marshall campuses Oct. 2 and 3 as part of the Graduate Humanities Program's new Major Scholar Seminars, an initiative offered in partnership with the Glenwood Center for Scholarship for the Humanities.

Sen, who is also co-coordinator of the University of Wisconsin-Madison and Milwaukee Buildings-Landscapes-Cultures collaborative doctoral program, will visit both the South Charleston and Huntington campuses. His visit is sponsored by the Graduate Humanities Program and the Glenwood Center for Scholarship in the Humanities, along with the College of Liberal Arts, Department of History and the College of Education and Professional Development.

The Major Scholars Program is designed to engage Graduate Humanities students in scholarly activity with major outside scholars and public intellectuals. Over the course of a semester classes meet via electronic conference media and have face-to-face meetings during the scholar's campus visit.

Sen's seminar, "Reading American Landscapes," is described as examining not only ways of reading and interpreting the built world, but also to "interrogate how our individual reading practices frame the way we understand, interpret, and act in this world." His lecture schedule is:

- Oct. 2, noon, GC 319, South Charleston campus, "Learning from Everyday Places: Teaching Cultural Landscapes," part of the COEPD brown bag luncheon series
- Oct. 2, 7 p.m., seminar meeting of "Reading American Landscapes"
- Oct. 3, 2 p.m., Shawkey Dining Room, a public talk on "Recasting Placemaking: Ways of Seeing and Interpreting our Everyday World"

Sen's research focus has centered on ethnicity and urban ethnic spaces, food landscapes, immigration history, American cultural landscapes, architectural history and environment and behavior studies, among others. He is currently completing his book *Creative Dissonance: The Politics of Immigrant World Making*, and co-edited a monograph, *Devon Street, Chicago: Interpreting Landscapes of Transnationalism*. Sen received his PhD. from the University of California, Berkeley and served as a Center for 21st Century Studies Fellow at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee and a Quadrant Fellow at the Institute of Advanced Study at the University of Minnesota, Minneapolis.

The Glenwood Center for Scholarship in the Humanities is a public-private partnership involving Marshall University, West Virginia State University and the Historic Glenwood Foundation. It is housed at the Glenwood Estate, home to many of the Kanawha Valley's pioneer families, on Charleston's west side. The newly formed center is working toward hosting regular speaker series, classes and workshops in conjunction with academic programming in MU's Graduate

Humanities Program and WVSC's History program, according to Dr. Luke Eric Lassiter, center co-director and chair of MU's Graduate Humanities Program. Long-range plans call for supporting humanities-based research through the two universities, hosting visiting scholars, involving students in archival work and other preservation projects at Glenwood and advancing collaborative grant and fund development, he added.

The Major Scholar Seminar for Spring 2015 will feature Dr. Lauren Onkey, Vice President of Education and Public Programs for the Rock & Roll Hall of Fame and Museum in Cleveland, Ohio. Her seminar is titled "Fight the Power: Can Pop Music Foster Change?" Dates and details of her visit will be announced at a later date.

Poets to read from their work Oct. 6

Glenn Shaheen and Eric LeMay will read from their work at 8 p.m. Monday, Oct. 6, in room 402 of the Drinko Library on the Huntington campus. Their appearance at MU is part of the A.E. Stringer Visiting Writers Series.

Shaheen is the author of the poetry collection *Predatory* (University of Pittsburgh Press, 2011), which won the Agnes Lynch Starrett Prize and was the runner-up for the Norma Farber First Book Award. He is also the author of a chapbook of flash fiction, *Unchecked Savagery* (Ricochet Editions, 2013). His work has appeared in *The New Republic*, *Subtropics*, *Ploughshares* and elsewhere. He lives in Kalamazoo, Michigan, where he is a doctoral candidate at Western Michigan University.

LeMay has taught writing at Harvard, Columbia and the University of Chicago. He is on the faculty of the writing program at Ohio University, his alma mater. He serves as an associate editor for the *New Ohio Review* and the web editor for *Alimentum: The Literature of Food*. He also is a host on the New Books Network. He is the author of three books, *The One in the Many*, *Immortal Milk*, and *In Praise of Nothing: Essays, Memoir, and Other Experiments*. His work has appeared in *The Paris Review*, *Gastronomica*, *Poetry Daily*, the Best Food Writing Series, and other venues. He lives in Athens, Ohio, with his wife and fellow writer, Kristin LeMay.

This event is made possible with support from the College of Liberal Arts, the Honors College, and the West Virginia Humanities Council.

A reception and book signing will follow.

For more information, contact Rob Engle at 724-263-9991.

Office decoration contest announced for Homecoming



The Alumni Association has announced the Homecoming 2014 office decorating contest with judging in three categories to take place Thursday, Oct. 9 by members of the Alumni Association.

The Homecoming theme this year is “Marco’s Favorite Heroes and Toughest Villains” when Marshall plays Middle Tennessee.

The divisions include small—offices with fewer than seven people—and large, those with eight or more staff. Categories are Most Creative, Best Fits Homecoming Spirit, and Most Attractive. Entries will be scored with the highest score being ten and the lowest one. The grand prize will go to the office with the highest number of points total from all judges.

To enter, call ext. 6-3134.

Greening Marshall Committee continues monthly meetings Oct. 14 and Nov. 17

The Greening Marshall Committee has begun monthly meetings and the Marshall community is invited to attend and take part.

Meetings last approximately one and a half hours and are located in Conference Room SMB at the Sorrell Maintenance Building, (Physical Plant building.) Attendees make recommendations to the Sustainability Department for Marshall’s green initiatives.

Fall meetings will take place Tuesday, Oct. 14, from 1 to 2:30 p.m., and Monday, Nov. 17, from 10 to 11:30 a.m. The committee will not meet in December, but will resume meetings in January at a date to be determined.

Margie J. Phillips, manager of the Sustainability Department, says students are especially encouraged to participate in these monthly meetings.

“It’s a great opportunity to meet like-minded peers, to network and to pursue your passion for being sustainable and for making a difference in your world,” Phillips said.

Marshall’s Greening Marshall Committee was formed by President Stephen J. Kopp in September 2008 to address issues of sustainability for the university and to explore ways to

conserve water and energy, reduce waste and incorporate green technologies and materials into Marshall's planning and operations.

One year later, Marshall students became the first college students in the state and one of the few in the country to propose and vote for a \$5 student Green Fee, which funds the Sustainability Department. Since its beginning in 2009, the department has brought programs to Marshall including the student gardens and the Eco Cycle Bike Loan Program located at the Recreation Center, to name a few.

For more information, contact Phillips at ext. 6-2992 or philli10@marshall.edu.

Grant-related workshops for staff begin this week

The Marshall University Research Corporation has announced its schedule of professional development opportunities in grantsmanship, designed specifically for Marshall researchers and administrative staff.

All sessions are free and open to the university community. Lunch is not provided, however, participants may bring their own lunches to the workshops.

Registration is strongly encouraged. Please register online [here](#).

For more information about any of these sessions or to inquire about scheduling personalized grantsmanship workshops for your department or school, call ext. 6.6598.

Introduction to MURC/Research Process

Those interested in external funding will need to become familiar with MURC and how its services can navigate the world of external funding. In addition to familiarizing participants with the most common grants administration procedures, this session reviews the overall process—from proposal submission to award close-out.

When: Friday, Sept. 26, or Tuesday, Sept. 30, from 12:00 p.m. to 12:45 p.m.

Where: Drinko Library 139

[Register](#)

Finding Funding

In this introduction to the basics of locating funding for grant proposals, participants will learn about the various databases available to assist in finding support, and how to utilize the Pivot system for funding, collaboration and planning. College-specific sessions will be formed upon request. These sessions will allow for more targeted funding searches.

When: Monday, Oct. 6, Friday, Oct. 24, or Tuesday, Oct. 28, from 12:00 p.m. to 12:45 p.m.

Where: Drinko Library 139

Register

Budgeting Basics

The budget is often the backbone of the proposal idea. One of the services MURC offers is that of budgeting assistance. This workshop will familiarize participants with the basic components of a proposal budget.

When: Tuesday, Oct. 14, or Friday, Oct. 17, from 12:00 p.m. to 12:45 p.m.

Where: Drinko Library 139

Register

Grantsmanship 101/Proposal Basics

This session covers the basic components of a standard grant proposal. Also included are agency-specific requirements, timelines for planning and the proposal from the reviewers' points of view.

When: Thursday, Oct. 2, or Friday, Oct. 3, from 12:00 p.m. to 12:45 p.m.

Where: Drinko Library 139

Register

Human Subject Research/IRB 101

Topics discussed will include the purpose of the university's Human Research Protection Program, the Institutional Review Boards and the submission process.

When: Tuesday, Oct. 21, or Tuesday, Nov. 4, from 12:00 p.m. to 12:45 p.m.

Where: Drinko Library 139

Register

Strategies for Successful Proposal Writing

This session will focus on the proposal writing process. Topics will include how to draft the various elements of a proposal, time management strategies and suggested types of reviewers for various stages of revisions. The session will end with a discussion of writing groups, with an opportunity to join a proposal-writing group on campus.

When: Tuesday, Oct. 7, or Thursday, Oct. 9, or Friday, Oct. 10, from 12:00 p.m. to 12:45 p.m.

Where: Drinko Library 349 for Tuesday session/Drinko Library 139 for Thursday and Friday sessions

Register

Post-Award Overview

This brand new workshop is an introduction to MURC's post-award services and will feature a Q&A session with our post-award officers.

When: Thursday, Oct. 23, or Friday, Oct. 31, from 12:00 p.m. to 12:45 p.m.

Where: Drinko Library 139

Register

Technology Transfer 101

Learn about Marshall University's technology transfer process.

When: Thursday, Nov. 6, or Friday, Nov. 7, from 12:00 p.m. to 12:45 p.m.

Where: Drinko Library 139

Register

For further information on these workshops, call ext.6-6598.

Marshall faculty, staff asked to host students for Thanksgiving

INTO Marshall is offering an opportunity for faculty and staff to welcome an INTO student into their home for Thanksgiving dinner.

“Over the holiday, many of our students will stay in Huntington for the short break period. As such, we are looking for faculty and staff who would be interested in hosting one of our students in their home for Thanksgiving dinner,” said Kelli Kerbawy, INTO Student Services Coordinator. “If you are staying in town over break, please consider hosting a student for dinner. It’s a wonderful opportunity to learn about a new culture and share a traditional American meal. Dinner in an American home provides students a chance to become more familiar with the Huntington community.”

In addition, Kerbawy said, “This is an opportunity to foster new friendships that promote cultural learning and appreciation for both hosts and students. As a host, you will be provided a student’s email and phone number to arrange the date, time and transportation (if necessary) on the day of your dinner. Please include how many students you would be willing to accommodate. Please be aware, some cultures may have strict dietary restrictions, but we will do our best to communicate those ahead of time. We will do our best to accommodate all requests.”

Anyone interested may contact Kerbawy by e-mail at kerbawy1@marshall.edu. The deadline for sign-ups is Friday, Nov. 7.

Reminder: Huntington mayor to speak Sept. 25

Huntington Mayor Steve Williams is the guest lecturer for the Robert C. Byrd Forum on Civic Responsibility, the last major event hosted during Constitution Week on the Huntington campus.

His address, “Civic Responsibility and Obligations Citizens Have to Local Government,” will be presented at 12:30 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 25, in the Francis-Booth Experimental Theatre, Joan C. Edwards Performing Arts Center.

The Drinko Academy extends an invitation to attend and to support the mayor at this special event.

The next issue of *We Are...Marshall* will be distributed Oct. 1, 2014. Please send any materials for consideration to [Pat Dickson](#) by 5 p.m. Monday, Sept. 29.