

3-27-2013

We Are...Marshall, March 27, 2013

Office of Marshall University Communications

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Recommended Citation

Office of Marshall University Communications, "We Are...Marshall, March 27, 2013" (2013). *We Are ... Marshall: the Newsletter for Marshall University*. Paper 350.
http://mds.marshall.edu/mu_newsletter/350

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WE ARE... MARSHALL®

The Newsletter for Marshall University

March 27, 2013

Thundering Herd makes its mark in China



People in Kelly green jerseys catching American footballs and rushing frantically to score touchdowns are not common sights in Yangshou in the Guangxi Province of China. But on March 2 and 3, the Thundering Herd made a symbolic appearance with around 25 education counselors from across China and Hong Kong and 8 members of the INTO recruitment team at the official Chinese INTO Marshall University launch event.

During the two-day event, participants had the opportunity to experience first-hand more about what the university and the small town of Huntington, West Virginia have to offer. From an American football night with an impromptu friendly match to an American barbeque, the counselors experienced the closeness, community and quality that Marshall has to offer to Chinese students.

Dr. Clark Egnor, Marshall's Director of the Center for International Programs, translated the experiential aspects of the event to the university and what students could expect while studying in Huntington.

"I thought the launch went extremely well," Egnor said. "It was a great idea to hold the event in beautiful Yangshuo – the West Virginia of China. Education counselors experienced a Marshall tailgate party, ate real American hamburgers and learned to sing the Marshall fight song and 'Country Roads' in Chinese."

"The event was so much fun and definitely a memorable experience for everyone. I am confident the results of our hard work will pay off based on the positive feedback we have already received from counselors who attended."

After the in-depth training session from Egnor, participants went rafting on Lijiang.

Gordon Lunan, INTO's Recruitment Director for China, Hong Kong and Macau, said this launch was important to showcase INTO's fourth and newest US partner to those who were unable to attend the traditional familiarization trips held in West Virginia in November 2012 and February 2013.

"Marshall brings something unique to INTO's portfolio of US partners," Mr. Lunan said. "It's a smaller university that has different strengths to the large state universities in our US portfolio."

Diversifying our options for offering students remarkable international experiences, outstanding outcomes and unrivaled support is important. Many students will thrive in a close-knit community with a high instructor to student ratio. Marshall has a lot to offer in China.”

Education counselor Isabella Zhang, from Shanghai Junyi, said the event helped her to better understand the experience at Marshall University and how students will benefit from studying in Huntington, West Virginia.

“This event gave us the opportunity to become more knowledgeable and confident when promoting Marshall as a key destination for students wanting to study in the U.S.,” she said.

“Guangxi is a very mountainous region in China which I’ve been told is very similar to West Virginia. I think these activities have helped us gain a better appreciation of what Marshall has to offer and will help us to attract more students to INTO’s Pathway programs there.”

INTO Marshall and Marshall University staff are busy preparing to welcome the center’s first student cohort this coming August.

Photo: Jane Dong (INTO Recruitment Manager for North China) and Dr. Lihua Yao enjoy rafting on the Lijiang

Rev. Jennifer Crumpton to speak March 28 on Huntington campus

In celebration of Women’s History Month, the Women’s Center, Women’s Studies, PROWL, and the History department have teamed up to host guest speaker, author, and blogger Rev. Jennifer Crumpton as she takes on the topic of feminism and Christianity. She will speak on Thursday, March 28, from 6 to 8 p.m. in room BE-5 in the basement of the Memorial Student Center. Come prepared for a frank discussion, and come with questions. For more information, contact Kim White at ext. 6-6115.

Riddel to discuss medical missions to Ecuador tonight



Dr. Maria Carmen Riddel, Marshall alumna and retired professor and chair of the Department of Modern Languages, will speak about medical missions to Ecuador this evening, Wednesday, March 27, at 7 p.m. in the Shawkey Dining Room in the Memorial Student Center on the Huntington campus. The event is free and open to the public.

The lecture is sponsored by the Department of Modern Languages, and will be followed by refreshments and an opportunity to talk with the speaker.

Study focuses on potential lung cancer therapies



Scientists from Marshall University, along with colleagues at Alderson-Broadus College in Philippi, have completed a study that may eventually help lead to the development of new treatments for lung cancer.

Their results were published in the Feb. 15 issue of *Cancer Research*, the most frequently cited cancer journal in the world.

At Marshall, Dr. Piyali Dasgupta, associate professor in the Department of Pharmacology, Physiology and Toxicology in the Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine, worked on the study with her research team of Jamie

Lau, Kathleen Brown and Brent Thornhill, and undergraduate students Cody Stover and Christopher McNeas.

Researchers in Dasgupta's lab explore how the various components of tobacco, especially nicotine, advance the progression of lung cancer.

Dasgupta said this study focused on a specific type of lung cancer called bronchioalveolar carcinomas, or BACs, which are known to be associated with smoking. She and the other scientists working on the project looked at the cellular pathways through which nicotine—the addictive component in cigarettes—promotes the growth and survival of BACs.

According to Dasgupta, nicotine itself is not a carcinogen, but studies have shown it can induce the growth and metastasis of lung cancers. It can also protect lung cancer cells against the beneficial effects of chemotherapy.

She said, "In this study, we found that nicotine raised the levels of specific neurotransmitters, or 'chemical messengers,' in human BACs. When we used a drug, vesamicol, to interrupt the neurotransmitters' pathways, the nicotine-induced growth of these carcinomas was significantly

suppressed. Our findings are important because they indicate that agents like vesamicol may be useful in the treatment of human lung cancers.”

More information about the research is available online at <http://cancerres.aacrjournals.org/content/73/4/1328.abstract?sid=c29c4530-21a3-4652-a977-23b25019258a>.

The study was funded in part by a Young Clinical Scientist Award from the Flight Attendant Medical Research Institute.

Photo: Marshall’s Dr. Piyali Dasgupta is among the West Virginia scientists who have completed a study that may eventually help lead to the development of new treatments for lung cancer.

Visiting piano trio to perform Thursday, March 28



The Sarasvati Trio will give a performance on Marshall University’s Huntington campus at 8 p.m. Thursday, March 28, in Smith Recital Hall, said Dr. Henning Vauth, assistant professor of piano at Marshall.

The concert will include a performance of a trio by American composer Jennifer Higdon, written in 2003.

“I met Dr. Christine Kefferstan, the pianist of the Sarasvati Trio, through the West Virginia Music Teachers Association, in which both of us are very active,” Vauth said. “I invited her and her trio, because here in West Virginia we have some exceptional musicians and it’s wonderful to show off this fact.”

In addition to Kefferstan, the trio includes violinist Margaret Cooper and cellist Susan Bestul.

Kefferstan will teach a master class for Vauth’s students at 2 p.m. Thursday, also in Smith Recital Hall.

“Visiting artists are crucial for the development of our students,” Vauth said. “In guest artist concerts the students hear new repertoire and are exposed to a high level of professionalism and the prickling atmosphere of live performances. In guest artist master classes, the students benefit from looking at challenges from different angles – each teacher has her/his own unique way of problem-solving.”

Both events are free and open to the public. For further information, contact the School of Music and Theatre at 304-696-3117.

Photo: Cellist Susan Bestul (above), violinist Margaret Cooper (left) and pianist Dr. Christine Kefferstan, who make up the Sarasvati Trio, will give a concert in Smith Recital Hall on Marshall University's Huntington campus at 8 p.m. Thursday, March 28.

Facilitators sought for this fall's UNI 100

Applications are still being accepted for UNI 100 course facilitators for Fall 2013, according to Sherri Stepp, director of University College.

Facilitating a section of UNI 100 provides an opportunity to mentor a group of incoming freshmen, Stepp said. "A mentoring relationship such as this can encourage greater student success and retention. We hope that you will consider taking advantage of this opportunity."

Facilitators will be responsible for convening a class during the Week of Welcome (WOW) for four non-consecutive hours and during designated class meetings. Class sections will also meet once per week for 50 minutes during the first eight weeks of the semester. Class section times will vary across days and times depending upon classroom availability. Training will also be required during the summer. The total commitment is approximately 15 hours and a supervisor's permission is required.

The application is available online at <http://www.marshall.edu/uc/fye-at-mu/uni-100-2012-training/>.

Public Relations Campaign Club will host 'Questions' Trivia Night

The Public Relations Campaign Club will be hosting its annual "Questions" Trivia Night on Friday, April 5, to benefit River Valley Child Development Services.

The event will be held in the Grand Ball Room of the Big Sandy Superstore Arena in Huntington. The doors will open at 7 p.m. for the silent auction, and the trivia event will begin at 7:40 p.m.

All proceeds from “Questions” will benefit River Valley’s T.I.P.S. (Tuition Investment Program Support) scholarship program. The T.I.P.S. scholarship program helps low-income families afford quality child care.

“The first five years of a child’s life makes or breaks a child’s future,” Suzi Brodof, executive director, said. “Our T.I.P.S. scholarship program aims to make sure all children can have a bright future. Our community and country depend on it.”

T.I.P.S. provides partial financial assistance to families who are currently pursuing financial stability through work or higher education.

The silent auction will include prizes such as a family membership to the YMCA, a one-year family membership to the Clay Center, Winterplace Ski Resort gift certificates that includes rentals, lift passes and lessons, Marshall football tickets and many other items.

“Questions” is open to both individuals and groups of up to eight people.

Tickets are \$25 and \$10 for students. They may be purchased at the door the night of the event, or by calling 304-673-2707 to get them in advance.

Tickets will include a pasta dinner, one complimentary beer or wine drink, bidding privileges on the auction and a night full of trivia fun. Dress for “Questions” Trivia Night should be “dressy casual.”

For more information, contact campaign director Meagan Earls at earls4@marshall.edu or media relations chair Katie Wise at wise37@marshall.edu.

The Public Relations Campaign Club is a group of students from the W. Page Pitt School of Journalism and Mass Communications to improve their skills as public relations professionals. Students work as a professional agency to aid real organizations in promoting themselves and fundraising.

Popular fiction writer to read from his work, visit class at Marshall University



Popular fiction writer Andrew (A.J.) Hartley will conduct a public reading of his work when he visits Marshall Thursday, April 4.

Hartley’s appearance represents the finale of this year’s A.E. Stringer Visiting Writers Series. His reading will take place at 7 p.m. in Smith Hall

154, with a book signing immediately following. The event is free to the public.

Hartley received his B.A. from Manchester University (UK), and his M.A. and Ph.D. from Boston University in 1996, where he established Willing Suspension Productions, a student theatre group specializing in non-Shakespearean Renaissance drama.

He currently teaches in the theatre department at the University of North Carolina-Charlotte and is the director of UNC-Charlotte's *Shakespeare in Action Centre*, which is currently engaged in an ambitious project to stage an event connected to each of Shakespeare's plays by the 400th anniversary of his death in April 2016.

Hartley also publishes best-selling popular fiction as *A.J. Hartley*. Critics have compared Hartley to *DaVinci Code* author Dan Brown for the way history and research underpin his mysteries and grip his readers in a page-turning spell.

Prior to his public reading, Hartley will conduct a class visit at Marshall, as well as at Milton Middle School, to discuss and read from his best-selling young adult novel, *Darwen Arkwright and the Peregrine Pact* (2011). The book transports readers to a secret world that its protagonist, 11-year-old Darwen Arkwright, accidentally discovers through an old and mysterious mirror.

Hartley is the author of eight other books, including mystery/thrillers and fantasy adventures for both adults and children/young adults. For more information, contact Dr. Rachael Peckham in the Department of English at ext.6-3649.

Annual J-School Golf Scramble fundraiser returns

The W. Page Pitt School of Journalism and Mass Communications will host its third annual "J-School Golf Scramble" fundraiser at the Twin Silos Golf Course in Lavalette on Friday, April 26.

Janet Dooley, the school's interim dean, said she is looking forward to another successful golf scramble.

"It's gratifying to see the students engaged in directing and organizing an event that will benefit their school and that puts their classroom skills to work in a real-world project," Dooley said.

Participants will have an opportunity to win several prizes, including West Virginia Golf Association VIP cards, tickets for the Greenbrier Classic, a round for four on The Snead Golf Course at the Greenbrier Sporting Club and a round for four at Stonewall Resort.

Registration for the nine-hole tournament is \$200 for teams of four and \$50 for individuals. Students may register a team of four for \$160 or individually for \$40 with a valid student ID card. Registration will begin at 8 a.m. Friday on the day of the event, followed by the tee-off at 9 a.m.

A picnic-style lunch and beverages on the course will be provided.

The deadline for early registration is April 15. Registration is available at www.marshall.edu/sojmc.

For more information, contact Allyson Goodman at goodman4@marshall.edu.

J-School faculty member publishes tale for dog lovers

Rebecca Johnson, associate professor in the W. Page Pitt School of Journalism and Mass Communications, has just published a book recounting the fictional adventures—or misadventures—of her real-life rescued Basset Hound.

Titled *Gone: Cleo's Misadventures*, the book is based on an actual event which became a fanciful recounting of a three-week period when the real Cleo went missing but then, hungry and bedraggled, miraculously found her way home.

The tale unfolds as the fictional Cleo, engrossed in chasing a deer trail, gets separated from the loving family that had rescued her from a harsh former life. Frightened and alone, she's picked up by a well-meaning stranger who inadvertently takes her farther away. Now the intrepid doggy heroine has to find her way back through tough and unforgiving terrain on the way encountering obstacles and pitfalls of her former life on the road. But the plucky and street-smart hound prevails and lives to tell of her often humorous, sometimes tearful misadventures as told from her point of view.

The book is really for dog lovers of all ages, the author says. Johnson has loved animals of all kinds all her life and she grew up with ponies and horses, dogs, frogs, a raccoon, a groundhog and even an opossum for a few days. She's raised zebra and society finches, love birds and parakeets. She's worked as a horse trainer and riding instructor, won numerous barrel races on her Quarter Horse mare, Bobby Mu, and even ridden a circus elephant and a Lipizzaner horse. She's also raised national show horses and half-Arabians and helped her father, Edward Love Johnson, an avid naturalist and outdoorsman, establish and operate the Old White Rodeo in White Sulphur Springs.

Cleo is just one of many canines who have been taken into the Johnson home because rescuing unwanted dogs has become a passion for her, she says. "For years it seemed as if our farm was

on the map as a drop-off for unwanted dogs. We couldn't resist loving them, and once they were named, they became part of our family."

As new dogs arrive, they're kept isolated from the others until they're free of parasites and have a clean bill of health from their vet. Through the years Johnson and her husband, J.P., have placed more than 100 rescued dogs while trying to keep the number of dogs in their household pretty constant. "Twelve is just about our limit," she says. "That many dogs, plus our horses, keep us both pretty busy."

As a writer, Johnson's been able to combine her profession with her passion for animals through a number of magazine articles that have appeared in *National Show Horse and Rider* and *American Rifleman* and now in her first published novel. Currently she's working on a second book recounting the further misadventures of the intrepid Cleo. Both books will be available through Amazon.com and Empire Books.

And according to the book's website, Cleo's tale is generating overwhelmingly favorite reviews from canine fans. "I loved this book, it tasted just like Mom's socks," said Squirt. "I couldn't put it down, I just kept chewing and chewing and..." added Grif. Streak was coy: "I hid my copy. I know where it is. You can't find it. Maybe I buried it. Maybe not. You can't tell." Beetle raved, "I ate up every word of Cleo's book."

Criminal Justice professors examine proposed 'school shield' policy

Two faculty members in the Department of Criminal Justice and Criminology have just published an article in a national journal critiquing the National Rifle Association's "National School Shield" proposal to place armed guards in every U.S. school.

Professors Angela D. Crews and Gordon A. Crews, along with co-author Dr. Catherine E. Burton of The Citadel, wrote "The Only Thing That Stops a Guy with a Bad Policy is a Guy with a Good Policy: An examination of the NRA's 'National School Shield' Proposal" for the March issue of the *American Journal of Criminal Justice*.

"We believe this is timely, given all the current debate surrounding this issue," said Dr. Angela Crews.

Earlier this month the Crews were in Washington, D.C., where they met with W.Va. U.S. Sen. Joe Manchin and members of his legislative staff regarding current research they are doing on school violence through their private consulting firm, Themis Center for Justice Policy, Practice and Research.

In their article, the authors examine the NRA's proposal for an education and training emergency response program called *The National School Shield* which advocates the placement of armed security in schools. The authors examined the proposal's key elements from a public policy perspective and determined that the NRA program would be expensive in terms of both implementation and civil and/or criminal liability, would increase juvenile contact with the criminal justice system, would increase the potential for injuries and deaths from firearms, and would potentially only seem to increase profits for those invested in security industries.

The article concluded that more potentially effective and safe policy alternatives are offered.

The Crews presented the initial results of their research at the Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences annual conference which began March 21 in Dallas, Texas. The also participated in the recent Firearms Forum, which was sponsored by the Marshall University Student Government Association.

'Day of Training' on South Charleston campus takes place March 28

Thursday, March 28 has been designated a *day of training* for the South Charleston campus as presented by Online Learning and Libraries and IT representatives. Courses include:

- Blackboard IM
- Camtasia Relay
- Ensemble Video
- Improving Student Interaction with MUOnline
- Introduction to Lynda.com
- Understanding Social Media

Online registration and complete course information about these training programs is online at <http://www.marshall.edu/human-resources/training/training-schedule/>.

Staff Council nominations due March 28

Nominations are currently being taken for the 2013 Staff Council general election to choose Classified Staff Council members to serve for the 2013-2015 term in the positions of Staff Council chair, Institutional Board of Governors (IBOG) representative and Advisory Council for Classified Employees (ACCE) representative, as well as the 25 council members.

The 25 council members are composed of 5 Classified Staff members from each of the 5 EEO groups: Administrative/Managerial, Technical/Paraprofessional, Clerical, Skilled Crafts/Service Maintenance, and Other Professionals. **Nomination forms have been sent to all Classified Staff Members and are due back in the Staff Council office no later than 4:30 p.m. on Thursday, March 28.**

Electronic voting will be available from Friday, April 19, at 6 a.m. through Monday, April 22, at midnight. **All voting will be electronic.** There will be no paper ballot voting. Detailed instructions on electronic voting can be found on the Staff Council website: <http://www.marshall.edu/wpmu/staff-council/forms/>.

Council members meet once a month to discuss matters affecting classified staff, and the 25 members are also broken down into smaller groups to form committees for Council Elections, Legislative Affairs, Personnel/Finance, Physical Environment and Staff Development. These committees also meet once a month at separate times.

For more information, contact Joe Wortham, Election Committee chair at wortham@marshall.edu or ext, 65402; or Katie Counts in the Staff Council office at easter@marshall.edu or ext. 62222.

Film Society seeking adviser

The Marshall University Film Society is currently seeking an adviser for the startup of their club. If interested, please contact Sarah Nott at nott8@marshall.edu.

The next issue of We Are...Marshall will be distributed April 3, 2013. Please send any materials for consideration to [Pat Dickson](#) by noon, April 1.