

5-9-2012

We Are ... Marshall, May 9, 2012

Office of Marshall University Communications

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The Newsletter for Marshall University

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Commencement features separate ceremonies for undergraduates, graduate students

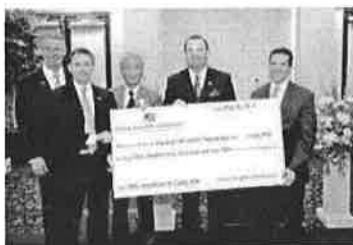


More than 1,500 graduate on May 5

More than 1,500 students graduated from Marshall University Saturday, May 5, in a pair of commencement ceremonies at the Big Sandy Superstore Arena.

[Read more.](#)

New 'SmartRoom' in Corbly to be named for Dixon Hughes Goodman accounting firm



Marshall University has received a gift of \$150,000 from the certified public accounting firm of Dixon Hughes Goodman, designated toward renovation of room 106 of Corbly Hall. The announcement was made yesterday by Rick Slater, managing partner of the firm.

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[Read more.](#)

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A 20-year veteran and professor of marketing in the College of Business has been chosen to serve as its interim dean, effective July 1.

Dr. Deanna Mader, who is currently interim associate dean and director of recruitment and retention for the college, is well known for her work with student groups consulting in the area of hands-on marketing for local businesses.

Dr. Margie McInerney, Dr. Jacqueline Agesa and Dr. Fred Mader will also assume interim leadership roles in the college.

[Read more.](#)

News from the Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine

5K Race to benefit medical mission trip to Honduras

Mission "M" Possible, a 5K race, is scheduled for 9 a.m. Saturday, May 12, with proceeds to benefit a medical mission trip to Honduras.

The Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine is teaming with Global Medical Brigades to send a group of physicians, nurses and medical students to Honduras in June.

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Marshall picks up national award for family medicine

The Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine has received a family medicine "Top Ten" award from the American Academy of Family Physicians (AAFP) for being one of the nation's top schools in the percentage of graduates entering family medicine residencies.

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Dooley to lead School of Journalism on interim basis; Hollis named assistant

Janet Dooley has been named interim dean of the W. Page Pitt School of Journalism and Mass Communications at Marshall University, effective July 1.



Currently SOJMC's assistant dean, the Marshall University graduate and long-time faculty member will replace Dr. Corley Dennison, who was appointed associate vice president for academic affairs and dean of undergraduate studies at Marshall last month. Dan Hollis, an associate professor, will succeed her as assistant dean.

[Read more.](#)

Newsletter Contest: Where's This?



One winner will be drawn from the correct answers to the question of where and what is in this Marshall-related photograph.

Marshall students, faculty, staff (below the level of director) and alumni are eligible.

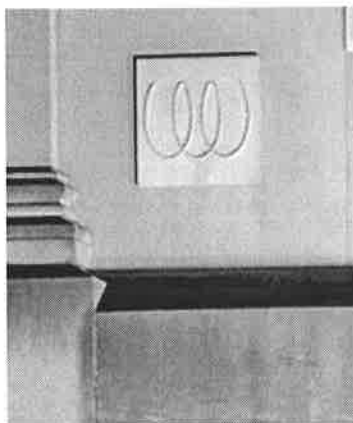
Send your entries to weargreen@marshall.edu. Entries must be submitted by 5 p.m. Tuesday, May 15. Entries must have the answer (both the identification of the item and its location) and the entering person's name, affiliation (to Marshall), phone number and mailing address.

[Click to view larger version of the contest photo.](#)

Win two "We Are . . . Marshall" Kelly green shirts!



Mr. and Ms. Marshall are shown in the Kelly green shirts that will be given to one lucky winner.



Winner from April 25

The winner of the contest in the April 25 edition of the newsletter was Susan Weinstein, Academic Laboratory Manager III in Biological Sciences. She correctly identified a portion of the large built-in "plaque" on the 3rd Avenue side of the Science Building. This particular bit is to the left of the name Gibbs.

Lose the Training Wheels Camp at Huntington High teaches individuals with disabilities to ride two-wheel bicycles

For the second consecutive year, the School of Kinesiology is hosting a Lose the Training Wheels Camp July 16-20 at Huntington High School. The program teaches participants with disabilities how to independently ride a two-wheel bicycle.

Lose the Training Wheels is a national organization that works with local organizations to host camps in individual communities. Staff members travel the country conducting the camps, and have an average success rate of more than 80 percent. Participants attend one 75-minute session each day for five consecutive days.

[Read more.](#)

Profile: Scott Robertson

- a series on interesting Marshall University people



Sometimes the course of a life can be changed with a chance encounter or a single phone call. Just ask Scott Robertson, whose life took such a turn after a seed that was sowed years before blossoming into a life-altering opportunity.

It all started in the fourth grade, the Educational Outreach Counselor for the HATS (Heart of Appalachian Talent Search) program explains.

[Read more.](#)

The next issue of *We Are...Marshall* will be distributed May 23, 2012. Please send any materials for consideration to [Pat Dickson](#) by May 21.



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More than 1,500 graduate from Marshall on May 5

More than 1,500 students graduated from Marshall University Saturday, May 5, in a pair of commencement ceremonies at the Big Sandy Superstore Arena.

For the first time in its 175-year-history, Marshall conducted two commencements on the same day, a 9 a.m. ceremony for undergraduates, and a 2 p.m. ceremony for graduate students.

Registrar Roberta Ferguson said the decision to split commencement into two events was made because the main commencement was lasting in excess of three hours. She said an increase in the number of doctoral candidates and other factors made the main ceremony too long.

"It's not unusual for an institution to have two ceremonies," Ferguson said. "I think everyone is excited about the change."

Among the 1,508 students receiving degrees were 960 undergraduates, 484 graduate students and 64 from the School of Medicine.

Ferguson said 373 students graduated with honors. Seventy-seven graduated summa cum laude (3.85 to 4.0 GPA), 101 magna cum laude (3.6 to 3.84 GPA), and 188 cum laude (3.3 to 3.59). Two students receiving associate degrees also graduated with high honors, and five receiving associate degrees graduated with honors.

Marshall continued a practice that began in 2006 of recognizing individually each graduate who attends commencement. Each graduate walked to the area in front of the stage, where his or her name was announced and received congratulations and a representative scroll from the Marshall Alumni Association.

During the morning ceremony, Marshall recognized its graduating honor students. Eleven students completed their baccalaureate degrees with perfect GPAs.

Marshall did not have a featured speaker at either ceremony, although President Stephen J. Kopp delivered remarks at both.

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Marshall University has received a gift of \$150,000 from the certified public accounting firm of Dixon Hughes Goodman, designated toward renovation of room 106 of Corbly Hall. The announcement was made yesterday by Rick Slater, managing partner of the firm.

"Our students today can expect the very latest in technology when they make the move to Marshall University from high school," said President Kopp. "We are committed to advancing powerful learning experiences for our students both within and outside the classroom. We're deeply thankful to Rick Slater, Dixon Hughes Goodman, and our other loyal alumni, who

see the need for infrastructure investment on our campuses and help make these cutting-edge tools available to both students and faculty. Ultimately, our students are the greatest beneficiaries of these investments and the capabilities they provide."

"Our goal is to make this the most technologically advanced room in the College of Business," Slater said in making the announcement. "By starting this project, we hope to make this room a model for even more SmartRooms in Corbly."

The room, which will be known as the Dixon Hughes Goodman LLP SmartRoom, will feature a 24-inch, multi-touch Smart Podium Display from Smart Technologies; dual 80-inch LED flat-panel displays; and high-density wireless services. In addition, the room will be furnished with new seating and tables with capacity for 58 students, as well as updated lighting controllable by zones.

Slater said his firm's continuing investment in Marshall University reflects the firm's desire to ensure that the university is able to attract top talent in the fields of accounting and business.

Photo: Rick Slater (second from right), managing partner of Dixon Hughes Goodman LLP, presents a symbolic oversize check to Marshall University representatives Lance West, vice president for development (left); Matt Turner, chief of staff; and Dr. Chong W. Kim, dean of the College of Business. At right is Norman Mosrie, CPA with Dixon Hughes Goodman and president of the Marshall College of Business advisory board. *Photo by Rick Hays.*

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The biennial conference is focused on research done using a specific laboratory technique to characterize the size, shape and interactions of molecules and macromolecules in solutions.

The research Georgel presented was a collaborative effort among his group at Marshall; Dr. James Denver, associate professor of Biochemistry and Microbiology at the Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine; and Dr. Stuart Lindsay and Dr. Qiang Fu from Arizona State University.

Georgel has already been invited back to present at the 2014 conference, which will take place in Japan.

Photo by Rick Hays.

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A 20-year veteran and professor of marketing in the College of Business has been chosen to serve as its interim dean, effective July 1.

Dr. Deanna Mader, who is currently interim associate dean and director of recruitment and retention for the college, is well known for her work with student groups consulting in the area of hands-on marketing for local businesses. She also is one of the university's first recipients of the Kermit McGinnis Endowed Professorship, which honors outstanding business professors at Marshall.

Mader's research in topics ranging from ethics to pedagogy and health care marketing to promotion management has been published in peer-reviewed journals and she has presented at national and international levels. She often serves as a consultant in the areas of health care, retail, entrepreneurship and promotion management.

"I am humbled, honored and extremely excited about being asked to serve the College of Business as Interim dean," Mader said. "I look forward to working with the university's faculty, staff, students, administrators, as well as our business community to move us forward. My philosophy is that we are all part of a larger team and it will take all of us working together to reach our potential. And what potential we have!"

Mader replaces the current dean, Dr. Chong Kim, who is retiring June 30. A national search to fill the dean's position will be conducted.

Additionally in July, three other business professors will take on interim leadership roles in the college.



Dr. Margie McInerney, a professor of management specializing in human resource management and negotiations, has been selected to serve as an interim associate dean. McInerney received her Ph.D. from The Ohio State University's College of Business Administration and has taught at Marshall University for more than 25 years. Prior to teaching, she worked as a bank examiner for the U.S. Treasury Department Comptroller of the Currency. McInerney is currently the division head of the Management, Marketing and Management Information Systems Department in the College of Business.



Dr. Jacqueline Agesa, an associate professor of finance, has been chosen to serve as an interim associate dean. Agesa received her Ph.D. in economics in 1996 from the University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee, and was a Ford Foundation Postdoctoral Fellow at the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, in 1999-2000. She came to Marshall in 2000 and was named the Richard D. Jackson Professor of Economics in 2008. One year later, she successfully completed the Postdoctoral Bridge to Business Program, Finance Track, at Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University. Agesa currently teaches courses in finance and risk management and insurance.



Dr. Fred H. Mader, a professor of marketing, has been selected to serve as the interim division head of the Management, Marketing and Management Information Systems Department in the College of Business. Mader has been with Marshall for 20 years teaching professional selling, supply chain logistics and marketing management. Prior to coming to Marshall, he was a member of

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the faculty at the University of Louisville. Mader holds an M.S. in Economic Geography from Western Kentucky University, and both an M.B.A. and a Ph.D. from the University of Georgia. This is his second appointment as Interim

division head.

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The Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine is teaming with Global Medical Brigades to send a group of physicians, nurses and medical students to Honduras in June. All proceeds from the race will go toward funding the trip and medications for patients in Honduras.

The race will begin at the center of Ritter Park, continue on North Boulevard to the Memorial Arch (7th Street West), then come back along the Ritter Park trail and finish in the center of the park. Pre-registration for the event is available at www.tristateracer.com. Race day registration is also available.

The medical mission trip to Honduras has become an annual event for the School of Medicine students thanks to the generosity of Ken and Sharon Ambrose who have financially supported the project in honor of their late son Dr. Paul Ambrose, a 1995 graduate of MUSOM. Dr. Ambrose was killed in the Sept. 11, 2001 attacks in the United States.

For more information about the race contact Jacob Kilgore by phone at (304) 634-2448 or Brent Kidd by phone at 304-544-4585. Kilgore and Kidd are third-year medical students serving as coordinators for this year's trip.

Donations for the trip may also be directed to Linda Holmes, Director of Development and Alumni Affairs, who can be reached by phone at 304-691-1711.

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Based on a three-year average ending in October 2011, AAFP reports 16.8 percent of Marshall medical school graduates have chosen family medicine residencies. The average places the school as number six in the country.

"Marshall's school of medicine has consistently found itself in this top ranking because we are committed to educating students about the importance of primary care and more specifically, family medicine," said Dr. John Walden, chair of the department of Family and Community Health. "We have long been aware of the critical nature of educating doctors for rural America and remain steadfast in our efforts to promote this very important specialty."

Dr. Sarah Chouinard, president of the West Virginia Academy of Family Physicians and a 1998 graduate of Marshall's medical school, echoed Walden's assessment.

"Family docs are THE key players in our nation's ability to reform our healthcare system. With the changing business of medicine to include technology and quality-driven outcome measures, we need well-educated, engaged family docs to be present in our communities," Chouinard said. "Marshall trained me to be a family doctor who understands the value in serving our rural West Virginia communities."

The awards were presented during a ceremony last month at the Society of Teachers of Family Medicine Annual Spring Conference in Seattle.

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Currently SOJMC's assistant dean, the Marshall University graduate and long-time faculty member will replace Dr. Corley Dennison, who was appointed associate vice president for academic affairs and dean of undergraduate studies at Marshall last month. Dan Hollis, an associate professor, will succeed her as assistant dean.

"Professor Dooley's tireless dedication and contributions to the W. Page Pitt School of Journalism and Mass Communications, both as a faculty member and assistant dean, make her the ideal person to fill the interim dean's position," said Dr. Gayle Ormiston, provost and senior vice president for academic affairs. "I am looking forward to working with her as the School continues its commitment to excellence."

Dooley joined the MU faculty in 1979 and was named assistant dean in 2005. She has taught a full-range of journalism and mass communications classes with an emphasis on advertising and graduate courses.

"I'm delighted to be able to respond to this unexpected opportunity," Dooley said. "I'm a graduate of this program, and I've been working as a faculty member for over thirty years. I've witnessed a great deal of change, growth and progress, so it's a genuine honor to take on the responsibilities of dean."

Commenting on the appointment, Dennison said, "We are fortunate here at Marshall and in the J-School to have the breadth and depth of experience that Professor Dooley brings to the table. She will do an excellent job as interim dean in the coming year."

A Summa Cum Laude graduate of Marshall with a B.A. in journalism with a concentration in advertising sequence, Dooley received an M.S. in communications with an advertising concentration from the University of Tennessee. She studied International and Intercultural Communication at the University of Kentucky where she received a Graduate Certificate in Women's Studies.



Hollis, who grew up in southern Indiana, has an undergraduate degree from the University of Southern Indiana and an M.A. from the University of Kentucky. He joined the Marshall faculty in 1999.

Hollis has been honored for his creative video work which has won him numerous awards including National Broadcasting Society's First Place for Video News six years in a row. In addition, he's received a Telly Award, Communicator Awards, AVA Award and Videographer Award for his work on an eclectic range of topics running the gamut from Irish Road Bowling to Roller Derby to Zip lining and the Vandalia Gathering.

"I'm happy to serve in this role, and certainly want to thank all of my colleagues for the opportunity," Hollis said. "The W. Page Pitt School of Journalism and Mass Communications has a long and storied history and to have the chance to participate in the leadership of it is very rewarding."

Both Dooley and Hollis have been honored by Marshall for their teaching and service. Both received the Marshall and

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Shirley Reynolds Outstanding Teaching Award, Dooley in 2002 and Hollis in 2011. Hollis was the 2000-2001 recipient of the Pickens-Queen Teacher Award and Dooley was given a Distinguished Service Award in 2006.

"This should be an indication of just how much value the School of Journalism and Mass Communications puts on teaching," Hollis said, referring to both he and Dooley winning the Reynolds award. "We value it and it shows in all of our professors."

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Lose the Training Wheels is a national organization that works with local organizations to host camps in individual communities. Staff members travel the country conducting the camps, and have an average success rate of more than 80 percent. Participants attend one 75-minute session each day for five consecutive days.

Dr. Gregg Twietmeyer, assistant professor of kinesiology at Marshall, said the benefit is two-fold: one, participants can learn the joys of riding a bike, which can lead to increased self-esteem and confidence; and two, Marshall students, who volunteer as spotters for the riders, get to see firsthand the important role of physical activity and play in human well-being and culture.

"We're really hoping to expand enrollment this year by getting more campers from Kentucky and Ohio, as well as from Charleston, West Virginia," Twietmeyer said.

To be eligible to register for the camp, participants must be at least 8 years old and have a diagnosed disability. They must have a minimum inseam of 20 inches, weigh less than 220 pounds and be able to walk without assistive devices. Teens and adults may participate as well.

Registration fee is \$100 and some scholarships are available. For more information on registration or volunteering, visit www.marshall.edu/lttw.

For more information on the camp, call Twietmeyer at 304-696-2938 or Dr. Jarod Schenewark, assistant professor of kinesiology, at ext. 6-2937.

Individuals interested in helping to defray the costs of the camp through financial donations may contact Rick Robinson, director of development with the College of Health Professions, at ext 6-7081.

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Profile: Scott Robertson



Sometimes the course of a life can be changed with a chance encounter or a single phone call. Just ask Scott Robertson, whose life took such a turn after a seed that was sowed years before blossomed into a life-altering opportunity.

It all started in the fourth grade, the Educational Outreach Counselor for the HATS (Heart of Appalachian Talent Search) program explains. "I was looking through my sister's high school yearbook when I saw a section about Upward Bound. I asked my mom what it was and she told me they help people go to college. Right then I knew I had to get into the program because I wanted to go to college." Years later, after submitting his application as a freshman at Wayne High School, Robertson got the phone call letting him know he had been accepted into the Upward Bound program. "That's why I say your future is sometimes one phone call away."

Still, on that day in 1998, walking through the door at Wayne High School where an Upward Bound recruitment was taking place, he could not have imagined that in a few short years he would have two degrees from Marshall and be contemplating going for a doctorate. And now he's come full circle as a counselor for a program that helps students who come from backgrounds similar to his.

"I went to the Upward Bound meeting because I wanted help in filling out a college application," he says. "That changed my life."

Today Robertson works with students who need a boost up to enroll and stay in college through the HATS program — one of four TRIO programs at Marshall — which includes Upward Bound. And this formerly shy, quiet high school student now has forcefully found his voice as he speaks passionately about the programs he believes unlock doors by tapping potential and nurturing achievement.

TRIO programs actually encompass seven programs. They started with just three, hence the name. Some, like HATS, run from grade six through 12, while Upward Bound works with high school students exclusively. Still another, Student Support Services, takes over when participants enter college. In addition Marshall participates in the Heart of Appalachia Educational Opportunity Center, serving adults in Lincoln, Mason and Wayne counties, and the Empowering Appalachia Talent Search (EATS) which serves Huntington High School and its feeder middle schools.

Like most of the participants in TRIO programs, Robertson was the first member of his family to attend college. And that's where Upward Bound makes a crucial difference, he believes. "I could have been a high school graduate who went to college but didn't finish. But Upward Bound made it possible to not only go to college, but to finish." And, like many of his UB colleagues, go on to earn advanced degrees as well.

Upward Bound blends monthly one-on-one sessions and a monthly activity with a six-week summer session held on the Huntington campus, where students stay in dorms and get a taste of college life. They participate in a wide array of academic and cultural activities, all the while prepping for college and shoring up academic deficiencies. Robertson admits that he almost left for home his first summer when homesickness struck hard, but he gamely fought through it and stuck it out. He especially appreciated the cultural aspects of the program. "Coming from a rural area, I got to see things and do things I otherwise wouldn't have. Even that first year, I loved the summer programs; I didn't want them to end. I went there for three years and I never wanted to leave when they were over."

We Are...Marshall Newsletter

The Office of University Communications publishes the e-newsletter, "We Are...Marshall" for the university community.

To suggest a story idea, please contact the editor, [Pat Dickson](#), on the South Charleston campus. The current issue contains the deadline date for the next issue.

To read the newsletter online for issues prior to May 6, 2010, you need the Adobe Acrobat Reader.

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And his first summer program led to an epiphany of sorts in a most unlikely place. At the end of the program, the group was treated to a trip to Baltimore, Md. At the beginning of their visit the group was dropped off at the famed harbor and told they were on their own for two hours. "I had no idea what to do in this big city but a friend and I explored the harbor and had experiences we otherwise wouldn't have had. Last year, I was doing some genealogy and found that one of my great-grandfathers had come from England and settled in Baltimore. His new life started in Baltimore and that symbolized to me that my new life actually started in Baltimore. A whole new world was opening up for me. History really does repeat itself."

Once admitted to Marshall, he became a part of Student Support Services and in fact went back to the Upward Bound summer programs, this time as a summer advisor, supervising students in the dorm and getting to know them. He went on to receive an undergraduate degree in Social Studies, 5-12 in 2006 and a master's degree in Adult and Technical Education, Occupational Leadership in 2010. Once again unexpected doors were opened for him by SSS. In addition to receiving academic support and personal counseling, there were recreational activities designed to test his mettle as well. "I would never have dreamed that I would go whitewater rafting, but I did and it made me get out of my comfort zone," he says proudly.

Now one of two counselors in the HATS program, Robertson regularly is out there at middle and high schools in Mason and Wayne Counties, encouraging students and exhorting them to seize the educational opportunities that are available. The counselors make monthly visits to meet with groups. HATS participants in grades six through eight are brought to Marshall's Huntington campus each spring for a three-day college career camp, where they take part in hands-on activities geared towards careers. Without fail, each year the campers' hands-down favorite part of their visit is the elaborate six-course etiquette dinner prepared by Sodexo, the campus caterer. "They learn how to eat at a business dinner, how to use all the silverware. They love the good food in the formal setting and students who plan to return next year invariably ask if we'll still have the etiquette dinner," Robertson says.

The work of the TRIO programs goes on year around, he explains. There are Federal guidelines to be met. "We recruit for HATS beginning with the middle schools. The guidelines require that two-thirds of the students enrolled must be low income and must be the first in their families to attend college for a four-year degree." And students can enroll anywhere they are admitted, he points out. "Many of the students we work with do come to Marshall because they are more familiar with it through campus visits; they're comfortable with Marshall. Some take classes through our branches and then finish up on the Huntington campus. But they can go wherever they want; we've had students who have been admitted to Stanford, Duke, Florida colleges, WVU."

Taking part in one of these programs can have a real impact on a family's finances, Robertson points out. "In grades 10-12, we offer ACT prep tests to prepare them for the real thing and we work to help improve scores. We offer two fee waivers for the ACT and SAT, which saves about \$200. For grades 11-12 we offer financial aid workshops and we have evening workshops to help complete financial aid paperwork. Seniors are given the opportunity to fill out applications and we provide waivers for that as well, so there are some real financial benefits. In addition, we offer seniors a 'bridge day' where we talk about the transition from high school to college. We talk about a lot of other issues as well ... peer pressure, bullying, being organized, the importance of their grade point average and career information."

And there's little down time in summer, according to Robertson. "HATS follows up with seniors in the summer. We help them with applications, financial aid. Typically we have 90-115 seniors each year and we stay in touch however we can—by e-mail, Facebook, phone calls—to make sure they're enrolling. We want to make sure they're going to get some kind of post-secondary education. I feel it's better to invest in students going to school now because they will go on to become tax-paying citizens and pay back the money invested in them while they were in the program."

In addition to his job, Robertson relishes taking on a raft of professional and civic obligations. Currently he's the state president of the West Virginia TRIO Association, vice president of the Family Resource Network for Wayne County and president of the newly formed Wayne County Visitors Bureau. "I like to give back," he says simply. His roots are deep in Wayne County. He lives on a street near where he grew up, close to his parents, Harold and Charlotte, and his grandmother, Bertha. His sister and brother-in-law, Andrea and Chuck Perry, live only 10 minutes away with his nephews, Ethan, 13, and Caleb, 11. "We're a close-knit family; we do a lot of things together like going to watch Ethan play football. I like to think we're making memories." In addition, he likes to treasure hunt for scarce vintage vinyl records — those big round discs from yesteryear — to add to his burgeoning collection. And this summer he's looking forward to a relaxing vacation with friends at his favorite North Carolina beach.

He's gregarious and outgoing now. His words flow easily and fluently, a long way from the shy kid who never spoke up in school. "No one believes I once was so quiet, because now I talk for a living," he says with a laugh. He's willing to go anywhere and talk to anybody to spread the word about the programs for low-income students that brought him to where he is today. "Being in Upward Bound and then Student Support Services helped me find my passion. I know this is what I was meant to do, to make sure students have equal access to education. I tell them to dream big—if anybody had told me while I was in school that I would be considering studying for a doctorate, I would have said they were crazy. Doors were opened for me and that has allowed me to open doors for others. I was given the opportunity to be in these programs and I want to give others the same opportunities."

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