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We Are...Marshall, August 19, 2020

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WE ARE... MARSHALL®

The Newsletter for Marshall University

Aug. 19, 2020

From President Gilbert: Beginning-of-semester greeting

AUGUST 19, 2020



President Gilbert sent the following message to faculty and staff yesterday: Greetings, Marshall Family:

Today, I write to share a high-level overview of the plans for our upcoming semester, which officially begins next Monday, Aug. 24.

These policies and procedures include intensive and structured safety and health elements to guide us through the fall semester. Details of our [Return-to-Campus](#) plan include the specifics of our strategy and can be accessed 24/7 on our Marshall [coronavirus website](#). Indeed, this coming semester will be like none we have ever experienced, but like every family, our Marshall Family will navigate the days ahead together.

As president, my top priority remains the health and safety of everyone on our campus by mitigating as much risk as possible in a pandemic. I remain committed to a learning and working environment that allows our students, faculty and staff to feel secure. Make no mistake, the situation is fluid and we may have to make decisions about certain aspects of university life very quickly. The university's senior team and I will communicate any changes as efficiently as possible.

Our readiness plan has taken months to develop and evolved as more information about COVID-19 has become available. Suffice to say, there is still much to learn about the novel coronavirus and only research and time will have the answers, which, hopefully, will soon include an effective vaccine. Until then, we will continue with the current health and safety recommendations from state and local public health experts and our medical school. Below, you will find a brief synopsis of some of the areas of emphasis and accommodations for COVID-19. **Details, including a robust FAQs section and Marshall testing data, are available on the [website](#).**

Health and Safety: The university, in accordance with directives from the state of West Virginia, has **mandated the use of face coverings in all buildings, including during class and when out of personal residence hall rooms and workspaces.** All students on campus, even those who are on campus sporadically, must use [MarshallU Healthcheck](#)® every day to complete a brief health self-assessment.

The health check also must be completed daily by any Marshall employee in self-isolation or quarantine for COVID-19. **Testing is required for all on-campus employees** and students, and sentinel testing of the Marshall population will continue during the fall academic term.

Cleaning and disinfection of facilities is done following protocols from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, using Environmental Protection Agency-approved products effective against the COVID-19 virus. **Additionally, all employees are expected to submit the [COVID-19 Employee Return to Campus Acknowledgement](#) form and complete an online Covid-19 Training Module and Quiz.** The training module is available in MUOnline and can be accessed through MyMU/Blackboard, under the My Organizations > Safety Training menus. For assistance accessing the module, click [here](#) or e-mail safety@marshall.edu.

Shared Spaces: Physical distancing of at least six (6) feet is always to be observed. All buildings are open, but there are limitations as to what activities and how many people are permitted. For example, residence halls are open to students who live there, but no visitors, even students from other residence halls, are permitted to visit.

Dining halls are open but have been reduced to 50% capacity. Cleaning of tables will occur after each use and there will be no self-service. Classrooms where Face-to-Face classes will occur have been reduced to 50% occupancy. Instructors will teach with a face cover/face shield or perhaps both and, in some cases, behind a plexiglass sheet. The Memorial Student Center, libraries and other common spaces will be open with reduced capacity as well.

Academics: Marshall University will offer three types of formats for students this fall. They include **Face-to-Face**, meaning a traditional classroom experience; **Virtual**, meaning class sessions held live via Blackboard and peripheral software, with instructors leading class and engaging students at the specified class meeting day and time (Sessions are recorded for playback for students at any time); and **Online**, meaning no live/real-time class meetings. **Please direct any student who has a question about their schedule or education to consult with their academic advisor for assistance.**

Athletics: As of 8/17/20, Conference USA is moving forward with its 2020 football schedule, playing a reduced number of games because of decisions made by other conferences. Attendance policies and procedures are still being determined.

Events and Gatherings: The fall term will have a reduced number of in-person events and gatherings, although there will still be many activities available for students on campus. Student organizations are being encouraged to hold events and gatherings outdoors when possible, but may be limited to a maximum number of attendees per current Cabell Huntington Health Department and/or state or CDC guidance. More information about extracurricular activities is available in the [Return-to-Campus](#) plan or by calling 304-696-3422 or by e-mailing studentaffairs@marshall.edu.

Budget: We continue to monitor our revenues related to enrollment and are now certain we will experience a multimillion-dollar reduction in revenues this fall. Although we have managed our budget so

far without any reductions in force, that may not be possible throughout this academic year. We will continue to keep you informed as we gain a better understanding of our financial situation.

The upcoming semester will require flexibility, understanding and, frankly, a few inconveniences. I know there are still many questions about how the semester will unfold and we are working every day to work out a variety of scenarios. Finally, I know that by working together, our Marshall Family can succeed and succeed successfully.



Dampier named interim dean of College of Engineering and Computer Sciences

AUGUST 19, 2020



Dr. David A. Dampier, associate dean for research and a professor of computer science at Marshall, has been named interim dean of the university's College of Engineering and Computer Sciences. Dampier replaces Dr. Wael Zatar, who has stepped down and will return to a faculty position in the college.

Dr. Jaime R. Taylor, provost and senior vice president for academic affairs, said the university plans to conduct a national search for a permanent dean.

Prior to joining Marshall in July 2019, Dampier was the chairman of the Department of Information Systems and Cyber Security at the University of Texas at San Antonio and founding director of the Distributed Analytics and Security Institute at Mississippi State University. He has 70 peer reviewed publications and more than \$50 million in external funding.

Before academia, he spent 20 years as an Army automation officer. He has a Ph.D. in computer science from the Naval Postgraduate School. His research interests include cyber security, digital forensics and applications of software engineering.

Marshall welcomes Congresswoman Miller for campus tour to see COVID-19 preparations

AUGUST 19, 2020



Marshall University hosted Congresswoman Carol Miller (R-W.Va.) today for a campus tour to review the university's implementation of COVID-19 precautions for the fall semester.

University President Jerome A. Gilbert said he welcomed the visit from the congresswoman.

"Our team has worked tirelessly to ensure our students, faculty and staff are in an environment that is as safe as possible in the

face of an evolving pandemic,” Gilbert said. “We were happy to share our preparations and explain the university’s COVID-19 plan to the congresswoman.”

Following a tour of two academic buildings, the Memorial Student Center, and a freshman residence hall, both Gilbert and Miller delivered comments to media.

“I am impressed by all the steps Marshall University has taken to get students back into the classroom safely,” Miller said. “It is crucial that we prepare our future workforce with the proper education they need to keep West Virginia competitive.”

Marshall University officially begins its fall term Monday, August 24.

In Memoriam: Dr. Jan I. Fox

AUGUST 19, 2020



Dr. Jan I. Fox, retired senior vice president for information technology and chief information officer, died Saturday, Aug. 15.

The online obituary may be read at

https://www.mykeeper.com/profile/JanFox/?fbclid=IwAR2XWwrCAUXgGEL_54cWw6_h40vyuHuksp4ICiWRdY_E7v8EQXnropwBvqU.

Green apple e-cigarette flavorant triggers reward-related behavior in the brain

AUGUST 19, 2020

A common green apple vape flavor enhances nicotine reward, which could heighten reward and drug-seeking behavior, according to researchers at Marshall University.

Of the more than 7,000 available flavored vape chemicals, only a handful have been studied. In a new study recently published in [eNeuro](#), an open access journal for the Society of Neuroscience, the team of Marshall University researchers, including Ph.D. candidate Skylar Cooper, research technician Austin Akers and Assistant Professor Brandon Henderson, Ph.D., identified that the flavorant farnesene in green apple e-cigarettes triggers reward-related behavior by promoting high-sensitivity nAChRs in the ventral tegmental area.

“With or without nicotine, flavored vapes pose potential risks for the brain and addiction,” Cooper said.

Cooper et al. gave mice either nicotine, the green apple flavorant farnesene or both in one room and a saline solution in another. Farnesene was rewarding by itself, as mice chose the farnesene chamber over the saline chamber. However, farnesene also enhanced reward when combined with nicotine.

The research team next measured how farnesene changed nicotine receptor expression and neuron activation. Alone, farnesene partially activated nicotinic receptors, meaning it may increase nicotine’s receptor activation when both substances are present. Farnesene also increased the proportion of high- to low-sensitivity receptors. A greater proportion of high-sensitivity receptors increases the effects of a standard nicotine dose, which could heighten reward and drug-seeking behavior.

“Given a consistent rise in adolescent use of these products and the addiction crisis we are facing throughout this country, it is vital to identify a role that these flavors have in nicotine addiction and how this may impact the developing brain,” Cooper said.

Cooper plans to further her research on the impact flavorants have on nicotine addiction, focusing on age-dependent experiments to determine the impacts these flavors have on the adolescent brain.

This work was supported by the National Institutes on Drug Abuse at the National Institutes of Health (DA040047), FDA Center for Tobacco Products (CTP)(DA046335), startup funds by the Marshall University Research Corporation and the PhRMA Foundation (Predoctoral Fellowship).

Marshall Health adds gastroenterologist, infectious disease specialist and internist

AUGUST 19, 2020



The [Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine, Marshall Health](#) and [Mountain Health Network](#) have added Shima Ghavimi, M.D., Hesham M. Awadh, M.D. and Gregory S. Parkins, D.O., to its team of providers.

Ghavimi, a fellowship-trained gastroenterologist, has been named an assistant professor in the department of internal medicine at the Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine. She manages diverse patients with a broad range of digestive diseases with compassionate, comprehensive care. She is certified by the American Board of Internal Medicine.

With three years of independent practice as a rural family physician along with vast training in gastroenterology and hepatology, Ghavimi is skilled in performing colonoscopies, endoscopies, capsule endoscopies, manometry, PH testing including Bravo and molecular testing for the prevention of colorectal cancer. She also specializes in hemorrhoid banding, flexible sigmoidoscopy and paracentesis.

Ghavimi earned her medical degree from Shahid Beheshti University School of Medicine in Tehran, Iran. She completed her internal medicine residency at Howard University in Washington, D.C., followed by a gastroenterology/hepatology fellowship at Rutgers University in Newark, New Jersey.

Awadh, a fellowship-trained infectious disease specialist, has also been named an assistant professor in the department of internal medicine at the school of medicine. His clinical interests include providing evaluation, treatment and follow-up care for patients with infectious diseases and immunology disorders. He also assists in managing community-based epidemiology and infection control.

He received his medical degree from the University of Jordan in Amman, Jordan. He finished his internal medicine residency at Marshall's school of medicine, followed by an infectious disease fellowship at the University of Texas Health Science Center in Houston, Texas.

Parkins, an internist, has also been named an assistant professor in the department of internal medicine at the school of medicine. He specializes in primary care. He sees patients at Marshall Internal Medicine's walk-in clinic and provides inpatient care at Cabell Huntington Hospital and St. Mary's Medical Center. He is a graduate of the West Virginia School of Osteopathic Medicine in Lewisburg, West Virginia. He completed his internal medicine residency at Marshall's school of medicine.

All of them have hospital privileges at Cabell Huntington Hospital and St. Mary's Medical Center.

Ghavimi and Awadh are accepting new patients at Marshall Internal Medicine, an outpatient department of Cabell Huntington Hospital, located in Erma Ora Byrd Clinical Center at 1249 15th St. in Huntington. For appointments or referrals, please call 304-691-1000.

COVID-19 testing for employees begins today

AUGUST 12, 2020

At the direction of West Virginia Governor Jim Justice, Marshall University will begin testing all Huntington campus employees for COVID-19 beginning Wednesday, Aug. 12. All employees who will be working on site must be tested by the start of the fall semester.

The testing data will give the university a baseline of disease prevalence on campus as preparations continue for the upcoming academic year and will allow public health officials to monitor trends throughout the year as surveillance testing continues.

This required test is for all faculty and staff on the Huntington campus, including auxiliary employees who work for Addeco, Aetna, A-1 Security, Follett Campus Bookstore, Marshall University Research Corporation, the Marshall Foundation, the Rec Center and Sodexo. This requirement also includes faculty and staff at the schools of Physical Therapy and Pharmacy.

Separate arrangements for testing of employees at the university's South Charleston and Point Pleasant locations are being finalized and will be communicated in the coming days.

Marshall Health employees are not included in this round of testing.

Testing is being done at no charge to employees, but you must make an appointment online [<https://www.marshall.edu/human-resources/training/training-schedule/required-covid-19-testing-for-staff-and-faculty/>]. Employees will be provided release time to be tested during work hours and are not required to use meal or break periods.

Testing will be conducted by the Cabell-Huntington Health Department at the following two on-campus locations Mondays through Fridays from 8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. daily:

- The **Memorial Student Center**, second floor north-facing balcony, will serve as a walk-in testing site.
- The **6th Avenue Parking Garage** will serve as a drive-through testing site.

You may choose your preferred testing location when you register.

The testing procedure should take less than five minutes to complete. The testing method is the nasal swab and not the rapid saliva test. Be sure to wear a mask to your appointment and arrive on time at your designated testing location. **Please also bring your Marshall employee ID, if applicable.**

Tests will be processed by Q Labs Inc. in Charleston and employees will be able to log into a dashboard to check their testing results.

Testing information is regulated by the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) [<https://www.cdc.gov/php/publications/topic/hipaa.html>] guidelines and will be kept confidential. Any employee with a positive test result will be contacted by the health department and provided with directions for medical care. The university's offices of Environmental Health and Safety and Human Resource Services also will provide guidance to any employee who tests positive and will work with the health department to initiate contact tracing protocols.

Please remember to continue to comply with all other mandatory protocols, like wearing a mask and observing appropriate physical distance, while on any Marshall University property.

If you have questions about how Marshall is prepared to handle COVID-19 as we approach the fall semester, please visit www.marshall.edu/coronavirus.

Students to complete COVID-19 health assessment requirement this fall


AUGUST 12, 2020

Along with requiring students and employees to wear masks and utilize other safety measures, Marshall is implementing a new self-health assessment requirement this fall for students who plan to be on campus, whether long-term, for class, or to use campus resources. Any faculty or staff member who is in self-isolation or quarantine will also be required to do the daily check.

Marshall University students must log onto [MarshallU Healthcheck®](#) and complete a brief COVID-19 health assessment. This tool — which requires students to monitor and input their body temperature and symptoms — is intended to help Marshall beat COVID-19 and offer students a safe campus. Students who are showing signs of illness are asked to stay home.

This brief task is to be completed daily for any student who has face-to-face classes, lives in the residence halls, or plans to be on campus for other reasons. Completing the MarshallU Healthcheck® daily is a requirement for students, with University Conduct sanctions for students who do not comply.

We look forward to seeing students on campus and we hope to keep it open with these new efforts that encourage our health and safety.



Your Marshall ID is now on your phone!

Add your Marshall Mobile ID to Apple Wallet or Google Pay and tap it all around campus.

Download the eAccounts app to get started.

Works with iPhone, Apple Watch, and Android phones.



Call or email the Campus Card Office to request activation:

304-696-6843 campusid@marshall.edu

WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION: DRIVING FOR DEMOCRACY

August 26, 2020 | 4:00 p.m.

St. Mary's Education Center Parking Lot to Downtown Huntington

#womensequalityday
#motorcadeparade
#keepingit100
#suffragesisters

Register at: <https://marshallusuffragecentennial.eventbrite.com>



In cooperation with: The Drinko Academy, Student Affairs, College of Arts and Media, School of Music, School of Theatre, the Women's and Gender Center, Women's and Gender Studies, and the City of Huntington.



Did you know you can call for help during an overdose?

MEDICAL AMNESTY DISCUSSION PANEL

**AUGUST 27 | 1:00 – 2:30 PM
VIRTUAL DISCUSSION**



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PANELISTS: LISA MARTIN, AMY SAUNDERS, AND LEAH TOLLIVER



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3rd Annual Power of Performance Awards

(Nov 16 – Nov 20)

Aimed to honor individuals, organizations, institutions and community leaders that are making positive things happen across southern West Virginia.

Submit nominations by September 1 at www.marshall.edu/aedswv and clicking the Small Communities, BIG Solutions Conference tab.

Nomination Categories:

- Putting people to work.
- Revitalizing Communities.
- Changing Lives.
- #WVSolutions Seekers – Rising Leader in WV.



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Higher Education Means Jobs

Presented by the Alliance for Economic Development of Southern West Virginia,
West Virginia Community Development Hub and Coalfield Development



Autumn Life Writing Class to launch online

AUGUST 19, 2020

Area residents thinking about writing a book based on life experiences are invited to enroll in the 65th edition of the Life Writing Class, developed and led since 2001 by author and book editor Dr. John Patrick Grace. The class is now under the auspices of Marshall University Continual Learning.

The Fall 2020 class will take place online, on Tuesday evenings beginning Sept. 8, from 5:15 to 7:15 p.m. for ten straight weeks. It is limited to 12 participants.

More than 60 books have been published to date by LWC alumni. These titles include national and regional award winners such as the novel “Father’s Troubles” by Carter Taylor Seaton and the memoir “Rough Lumber: Stories from Spurlock Creek” by Justine Rutherford.

Recent titles include “Abby Girl and Other True Stories” by Mark Breeding of Ashland, Kentucky; “Daughter of Life’s Longing,” by Rexanna Ross Shumaker of Ona; and “Just Around the Corner: A Memoir” by former Russell H.S. head football coach Ivan McGlone.

Genres represented by the alumni include novels, short story collections, essay collections, autobiography, memoir and travelogue.

The instructor holds an M.S. in journalism from Columbia University, is a former Associated Press reporter, editor and foreign correspondent, and has himself authored or co-authored six nonfiction books. He is also a regular weekly editorial-page columnist for the Herald-Dispatch.

Fee for the class is \$205. To enroll, please phone Elizabeth Appell Sheets, MU Continual Learning, at 304-696-2285, or e-mail appell1@marshall.edu. For further information or to pose questions, call Grace at 304-617-1292 or e-mail him at publishersplace@gmail.com.

Movies to shine brighter at the Keith-Albee

AUGUST 19, 2020



The Marshall Artists Series has received an anonymous gift to invest in a state-of-the-art projector and cinema surround sound system to expand its program offerings. The equipment will be installed at the Keith-Albee Performing Arts Center this week. Many Marshall Artists Series patrons have indicated that seeing films at the Keith-Albee is special to them, and with an enhanced system, it will be a new and exciting experience.

“We were thrilled to receive funding for an upgrade to the outdated equipment at the Keith-Albee and are looking forward to a new and improved film experience for our patrons” said Penny Watkins, executive director of the Marshall Artists Series. “This opens up many new educational opportunities for the Marshall Artists Series and the Keith-Albee Performing Arts Center.”

Throughout its 84-year history, the Marshall Artists Series has been presenting art house and foreign language films as part of its programs. In fact, the very first event of the Marshall Artists Series in 1936 was a film, “Conquering the Antarctic,” which featured a lecture with Rear Adm. Richard Byrd. For many years foreign language films were shown at the Keith-Albee once per month; however, in recent years, the Fall and Spring International Films Festivals have showcased multiple films per semester. These films have been used as a part of the university’s curriculum by faculty, as well as Marshall Artists Series educational outreach programs around the state. Through the educational outreach program, teachers are given study guides that help students meet the state curriculum requirements. The Marshall Artists Series’ hope is to expand this type of programming for more educational opportunities.

According to Bob Plymale, chair of the Keith-Albee Performing Arts Center, “We are very fortunate to have the Marshall Artists Series providing professional arts and entertainment in our market. With this new equipment we can feature new film programming and provide enhanced educational opportunities for our youth, all while continuing to serve as an asset to our community.”

This project was made possible in part by funding from the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) and the federal CARES Act through the West Virginia Humanities Council. Any views, findings, conclusions or recommendations do not necessarily represent those of the West Virginia Humanities Council or the National Endowment for the Humanities. Additional private anonymous donations were made in support of the upgrades to the film and sound equipment at the Keith-Albee Performing Arts Center.

Photo: The Keith-Albee Performing Arts Center on the occasion of the 10th anniversary of the movie, “We Are Marshall.”

Staff Achievement: Morgan Conley, Ray Blevins and Stephanie Shaffer

AUGUST 19, 2020

Morgan Conley, Ray Blevins and Stephanie Shaffer, all of whom are mental health specialists in the counseling center, have passed the National Counselor Examination, and are now Provisionally Licensed Counselors in the state of West Virginia. After completion of their supervision hours, they will become Licensed Professional Counselors in West Virginia.

Staff Achievement: Julie Turley

AUGUST 19, 2020



Julie Turley, who is the program coordinator of Marshall's licensure program in Deaf and Hard of Hearing Education, has been providing American Sign Language interpretation (in real time) for the deaf community during the pandemic COVID-19 briefings by Gov. Justice. She and her colleague, Jennifer Casto, were featured as "Hometown Heroes" by WSAZ-TV.

The video may be viewed at

<https://www.wsaz.com/2020/08/01/hometown-heroes-jennifer-casto-and-julie-turley/>.

NEED A BOOK OR DVD?
WE ARE GOING NO-CONTACT THIS FALL

**SUBMIT YOUR REQUEST
AND WE'LL DO ALL THE WORK**

Find the materials you need through our library catalog [tinyurl.com/Lib-Search](https://www.marshall.edu/library/tinyurl.com/Lib-Search) and place a hold using your My Library account. Materials will be ready for pickup in Drinko Library lobby within 24 hours.

Ask A Librarian QR Code

Contact us at 304-696-2321, circ@marshall.edu or use our Ask A Librarian feature at www.marshall.edu/library or the Ask A Librarian QR code

Catalog QR Code

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Coronavirus Statistics for Summer as of 8/14/2020:

Number of People Tested: 1,270
Confirmed Cases: 27
Recovered Cases: 22
Currently Active Cases: 5

The most recent information is always available at www.marshall.edu/coronavirus.



**Stay
*Informed...***

For COVID-19 and
Marshall University updates, visit:
www.marshall.edu/coronavirus

For additional information, visit:
www.cdc.gov





The next regular issue of *We Are...Marshall* will be distributed Aug. 26, 2020. Please send items for consideration to WAMnewsletter@marshall.edu by 5 p.m. Monday, Aug. 24, 2020.

To read the content of this newsletter online, please click on the following link:
www.marshall.edu/wamnewsletter/august-19-2020.