

4-12-2018

SR-17-18-34 SCW

Marshall University

Follow this and additional works at: [http://mds.marshall.edu/fs\\_recommendations](http://mds.marshall.edu/fs_recommendations)

---

#### Recommended Citation

Marshall University, "SR-17-18-34 SCW" (2018). *Recommendations*. 1845.  
[http://mds.marshall.edu/fs\\_recommendations/1845](http://mds.marshall.edu/fs_recommendations/1845)

This Article is brought to you for free and open access by the Faculty Senate at Marshall Digital Scholar. It has been accepted for inclusion in Recommendations by an authorized administrator of Marshall Digital Scholar. For more information, please contact [zhangj@marshall.edu](mailto:zhangj@marshall.edu), [martj@marshall.edu](mailto:martj@marshall.edu).

## STUDENT CONDUCT AND WELFARE COMMITTEE

### RECOMMENDATIONS

#### SR-17-18-34 SCW

Recommends that Marshall University become a Trauma-Informed/Resilience-Infused Campus. This can be accomplished by putting in place ongoing education to all Marshall constituents about the effects of traumatic stress on the ability to learn, and the effects of resilience-infused approaches to higher education. The Committee further recommends that sufficient resources be maintained and/or put in place to support students, faculty, and staff, who recognize that they would benefit from trauma-informed/resilience-infused support. Such resources would include educational materials, links to websites, on-site peer-support, and on-site counseling by trauma-informed therapists at The Student Counseling Center in Prichard Hall. Additional resources would include an education module added to the UNI 100 Course, and an on-line teaching module required of Faculty and Staff, much like the current resources used for sexual harassment training and safe-driving training. An example would be on the ACE and Resilience scores. Further, this committee recommends an increase of funding to Counseling services in the hiring of five additional counselors. We recommend that MU Psychology clinic be marketed to campus to encourage awareness. We recommend that the direction of the Trauma-Informed/Resilience-Infused Campus should be housed in the Office of Student Success. In so doing, Marshall University would become one of the first Trauma-Informed/Resilience-Infused campuses in the United States.

#### RATIONALE:

A trauma informed campus means that personnel are familiar with the findings of the Adverse Childhood Experiences Study (Anda, et al., 2006) and related research. It means that they know the effects of traumatic stress on an individual's ability to learn (that is, that traumatic stress substantially interferes with ability to learn due to biological changes in the brain). It also means that personnel understand that there are approaches to learning that ameliorate the effect of traumatic stress. These approaches include an emphasis on personal resilience, fostering perseverance, and supporting students while expecting the best of them and for them. The point of becoming a trauma-informed campus is more about HOW we do what we are already doing; understanding the paradigm of trauma-and-resilience, and how it relates to higher education.

Further, Students are coming to Marshall's campus with increasing levels of anxiety and increasingly traumatic histories. West Virginians have higher rates of traumatic histories than the rest of the country (see: <https://www.wvaces.org/resources> for the White Paper on ACEs in West Virginia). Higher rates of anxiety and depression are true of other campuses across the United States, too. (Banyon & Cantor, 2004; Read, Ouimete, White, Colder & Farrow, 2011). And, while students are in college, there is no guarantee that traumatic events will not happen either. Attending a trauma-informed

university simply means that students are in an environment where the university personnel are already familiar with the effects of traumatic stress on learning and can provide the support needed to help students stay focused on their learning in order to excel in their chosen fields of study.

The good news is that Marshall is already doing a number of things that exemplify a trauma-informed approach to learning. We would these initiatives to work together to help organize efforts on campus. These include:

- 24-hour Student Counseling available at the Counseling Center in Prichard Hall
- Women's Center in Prichard Hall
- Psychology Clinic in Harris Hall
- Telehealth counseling available on the South Charleston and Point Pleasant Campuses
- MU Wellness Education Outreach
- Helping Students in Distress Folder (available from Student Affairs)
- Resident Advisors
- Tutoring Center
- Writing Center
- Student Advocacy
- Student Disability Services
- HELP program (fee required)
- Autism Center (fee required)
- Trauma-informed approaches to education within the Counseling, Social Work, and Psychology programs at Marshall University
- Some trauma-informed academic advising in some academic programs encouraged by Sherri Stepp

**FACULTY SENATE CHAIR:**

APPROVED BY THE FACULTY SENATE: \_\_\_\_\_

*Paige Mueller*

DATE: 4/12/18

DISSAPPROVED BY THE FACULTY SENATE: \_\_\_\_\_

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

**UNIVERSITY PRESIDENT:**

APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_

*Jerome G. Dill*

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

5-1-18

DISAPPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

**COMMENTS:** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_