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## We Are...Marshall, April 2, 2010

Office of Marshall University Communications

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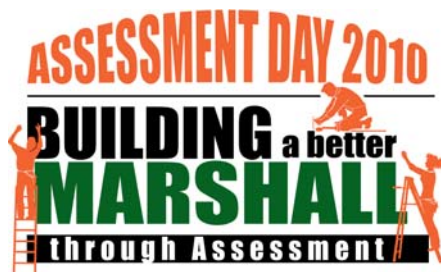
# WE ARE... MARSHALL®

THE NEWSLETTER FOR MARSHALL UNIVERSITY • APRIL 2, 2010

## Assessment Day Takes Place April 7

Marshall University's fifth annual Assessment Day, which is designed to determine how well the university is meeting its goals, will take place Wednesday, April 7.

Classes will not meet as scheduled most of that day, which allows students, faculty and staff to participate in



Assessment Day activities. The normal class schedule resumes at 4 p.m. for late afternoon and evening classes.

"We've made some changes in the Assessment Day schedule

based on feedback from last year and previous years," said Dr. Mary Beth Reynolds, Director of Assessment, who is heading up the Assessment Day activities once again this year.

## 'Celebration of Academics' Features Larsen, Wiley

Dr. Eldon Larsen, the 2009-2010 Drinko Fellow, and Dr. David Wiley, a Marshall University alumnus and Associate Professor of Instructional Psychology and Technology at Brigham Young University in Provo, Utah, will be the featured speakers in MU's 16<sup>th</sup> annual Celebration of Academics in April.

Larsen will speak on the topic, "Practical Project Management – Principles and Fundamentals," at the John Deaver Drinko Symposium, which takes place at 2 p.m. Thursday, April 8 in the Marshall University Foundation Hall, home of the Erickson Alumni Center.

Drinko Fellows receive reduced teaching loads to undertake research or curriculum development, significant stipends and financial support for their research, and the ability to name a student as their research assistant.

Wiley, who also leads the Access to Knowledge Initiative in the David O. McKay School of Education's Center for the Improvement of Teacher Education and Schooling, will speak on "A Permanent State of Transition" as part of the Elizabeth Gibson Drinko Honors Convocation.

The Elizabeth Gibson Drinko Honors Convocation is the one time of the year in which the university recognizes its honor students. The convocation begins at 7 p.m. Friday, April 9 in the Joan C. Edwards Performing Arts Center.

Each program is free and open to the public and will be followed by a public reception. The Celebration of Academics is sponsored by Marshall University's Drinko Academy.

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This year, university-wide activities will begin at 8:30 a.m. with a general session titled "Student Success at Marshall: Opportunities and Challenges." That session will be followed by two groups of breakout sessions on topics ranging from the First Year Seminar to service learning. The morning sessions address both successes and challenges that Marshall has identified through previous Assessment Day activities and other campus-wide initiatives. These sessions are being conducted by Marshall faculty and staff to share what they have learned with regard to encouraging student success and engagement.

Members of the Marshall community participating in Assessment Day activities will receive a free lunch catered by Buddy's BBQ, Sodexo and Pepsi. A vegetarian option has been added to the menu, based on suggestions from previous years' participants. Lunchtime entertainment will include the MU Rock Ensemble "Looking Glass," under the direction of Dr. Martin Saunders, and the John Marshall Fife and Drum Corps, under the direction of Dr.

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## Lisa Henry Named Employee of the Month

Lisa Henry, Human Resource Representative in Human Resource Services, has been named the Marshall University Employee of the Month for February, according to Michelle Brown Douglas, chair of the Employee of the Month Committee.

Employed since 2002 she was nominated by David Steele of the Athletic Department.

In his nomination Steel wrote, "Lisa Henry was instrumental in assisting our department with our recent

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*Lisa Henry (right) receives her Employee of the Month award from President Kopp.*

# Mitchell Receives Award from Teachers of Mathematics



Dr. Karen Mitchell

Mathematics professor Dr. Karen Mitchell won the prestigious "Chair" award from the West Virginia Council of Teachers of Mathematics (WVCTM) last month during the council's annual conference in Flatwoods, W.Va.

The "Chair" is the organization's most distinguished service award. It is bestowed upon a member who has consistently served the organization and mathematics community of West Virginia. The award consists of a Captain's Chair with an engraved plaque and life

membership in the West Virginia Council of Teachers of Mathematics.

## MIIR Seminar Series Continues April 22

The construction and interpretation of the tree of life and the relationships and diversity of species on the planet will be the focus of an upcoming program featuring biologist Dr. Rob DeSalle, curator of entomology at the American Museum of Natural History in New York.

The event, which is the second in a series of public seminars to be hosted by the Marshall Institute for Interdisciplinary Research (MIIR), will be held Thursday, April 22, at the newly constructed Marshall University Foundation Hall, home of the Erickson Alumni Center, at 519 John Marshall Dr. in Huntington. A reception will be held from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. The program will begin at 6:30 p.m.

DeSalle has been the curator of entomology at the museum since 1999; he studies population growth and conservation in a wide array of life forms. His seminar will detail the relationships of the 1.7 million named species on the planet and how the tree of life helps us understand our future in the diversity of life.

"Rob DeSalle is one of the most innovative and exciting scientists working today. His research brings together diverse fields of the animal kingdom in a way that reminds me of the recent BBC documentary 'The Blue Planet,'" said Dr. Eric Kmiec, director of MIIR and the institute's lead research scientist.

DeSalle creates magazines for children, books of essays and the content for the museum's supplemental children's Web site, OLogy, and he also creates online

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Dr. Evelyn Pupplo-Cody, also a Marshall University mathematics professor, said the award recognizes Mitchell for her "dedication and hard work in her outreach efforts in K-12 mathematics."

Mitchell's mother, Mrs. Ruth Mitchell, surprised her daughter by traveling to Flatwoods to be with her at the conference.

"I was thrilled, and the fact that Mother was there to see me receive the award made it that much more thrilling," Mitchell said. "It's an honor to receive an award from the

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*We Are ... Marshall*, the newsletter for Marshall University, will be transitioning to an electronic format beginning Wednesday, May 5. Questions may be directed to Pat Dickson at [pdickson@marshall.edu](mailto:pdickson@marshall.edu).

## Greenbrier Classic Badges to Benefit MU Foundation

Marshall fans who are also golf fans will have an opportunity to purchase weekly admission badges for the upcoming Greenbrier Classic and benefit the Marshall University Foundation and the Marshall University Alumni Association.

The Greenbrier Classic, which will take place July 26 – Aug. 1, will be played on the historic, links-style Old White, The Greenbrier's first 18-hole course. Organizers say it will be the biggest golf event in West Virginia history.

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## National Symphony to Appear April 10

The Marshall Artists Series and the West Virginia Division of Culture and History present the National Symphony Orchestra (NSO) of the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts at venues throughout the day on Saturday, April 10<sup>th</sup>. There will be a variety of events featuring members of the NSO, culminating in a performance at the Keith-Albee Performing Arts Center. Events include a free family fun day at Huntington's Barnett Center, music clinics and master classes featuring Marshall University music students and faculty, as well as an Arts Education Advocacy Meeting featuring Rita Shapiro, NSO Executive Director.

This visit is part of the American Residency project. In December 2009, West Virginia was chosen as the twentieth

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## Hollis Receives Video Award

Dan Hollis, associate professor in the W. Page Pitt School of Journalism and Mass Communications, recently won first place in the News/Sports/Public Affairs category of the National Broadcasting Society's professional video competition held in Dallas, Texas. He received the honor for his television news feature story about the Vandalia Gathering on the West Virginia state capitol grounds last summer.

"The Vandalia Gathering is the perfect opportunity for me to combine great video, natural sound and interviews with storytelling," Hollis said. "It ended up being one of the best videos I've ever done."

This is the fourth year in a row, and sixth out of the past seven, Hollis has won first place in this category of the NBS awards. Both the Vandalia Gathering piece and "A Collection by Dan Hollis" can be found on the Marshall University channel of [YouTube.com](http://YouTube.com).

## WE ARE... MARSHALL®



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The next regular issue of *We Are...Marshall!* will carry an issue date of April 16, 2010. Deadline is April 9. Articles or other materials for consideration should be sent to Pat Dickson, editor, at the South Charleston campus or by e-mail to [pdickson@marshall.edu](mailto:pdickson@marshall.edu).

## Profile: Nicholas Freidin



Dr. Nicholas Freidin (left) reviews field notes with a student at the Marshall University Archaeological Field School.

The children undoubtedly played games and splashed in the Ohio and Kanawha rivers on hot summer days, while their elders roamed the hills and valleys of West Virginia hunting and foraging for food to cook over hearths.

Just an ordinary day, perhaps--only it took place 8,000 years ago.

This summer Dr. Nicholas Freidin, professor of sociology and anthropology, will once again guide a group of students on an exploratory journey into the lives of everyday people who lived in this region hundreds and even thousands of years ago. The students will be part of the annual Marshall University Archaeological Field School, which has been doing hands-on archaeological work since 1984. This year's expedition will be conducted from June 7 to July 9 and will center on Greenbottom, once the site of an antebellum plantation located 18 miles from Huntington. They'll be surveying for both historic and prehistoric sites. "This is a mitigation project since we want to figure out where sites are so they're not being destroyed. We'll be looking to find and identify these sites," Freidin said.

Greenbottom is only one of several sites the field school has explored over the past several years. Many of them have been home to very early inhabitants, he says. The MUAFS has run field schools on a number of sites in West Virginia, dating from the Early Archaic (8000 to 6000 BC) at St. Albans in Kanawha County, through the Late Prehistoric ((1200-1550 BC) at Clover in Cabell County and Snidow in Mercer County, and the Historic Period (1550-present) in Cabell County.

"At Clover and Snidow we've uncovered houses and burials that give us a look at how people lived 500 or 600 years ago. You get a slice of what life was like before the Europeans came," he says. "We've uncovered post holes, hearths, storage pits, and also burials.. We are still working on many of these sites and there are tens of thousands of artifacts so it is very time consuming."

St. Albans is a different site and an intriguing one at that, according to Freidin. "It is one of the oldest sites in the country, going back to at least 6,000 BC. In those days people didn't live in villages, they were nomadic foragers. They roamed the area so we don't find the artifacts we find in later times just the occasional odd hearth or stray find. The Clover and Snidow areas were inhabited by people who were sedentary farmers who built more permanent structures."

Archaeology digs can be tedious, time consuming, very laborious, and always dirty--very dirty, he says, but

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## Lisa Henry

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coaching change. She helped our department gather the information we needed for the new staff. She also came in to work over the holidays in order to meet with the new coaches and make sure benefits could be processed....She was a major help during the whole transition process for all the new staff and as well as assisting those in our department working on the transition. Lisa has always gone over and above the call of duty to assist all of our employees whether they are new or current staff. This past Holiday period was no exception".

Henry was presented with a plaque and a check for \$100 by President Stephen J. Kopp.

## Mitchell Award

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West Virginia Council of Teachers of Mathematics. All of the stakeholders in math education in West Virginia are represented by that organization and they all are extremely hard workers. They recognize what high quality service is because they are all doing it."

Mitchell was honored previously by the WVCTM, being named the West Virginia Council of Teachers of Mathematics College/University Mathematics Teacher of the Year in 2005. A Huntington native and graduate of Huntington East High School and Marshall University, she has been teaching math at Marshall for about 25 years.

## Greenbrier Classic

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"We are pleased to have the opportunity to participate in this program and offer our alumni and friends a way to be a part of West Virginia's history and help advance Marshall," said MU Foundation CEO Ron Area.

The Marshall University Foundation and the Marshall University Alumni Association will receive 30 percent of the proceeds of all badges purchased on their behalf between now and April 30.

To support the Marshall University Foundation and the Marshall University Alumni Association, persons should visit [www.greenbrierclassic.com](http://www.greenbrierclassic.com) and select Buy Tickets, then Buy Badges for Charity now, then the badge level to be purchased. The Marshall University Foundation and the Marshall University Alumni Association should be selected from the drop-down menu. .

For more information about this program, contact Kristi Arrowood of the MU Foundation at ext 6-3505.

## National Symphony

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state to host the National Symphony Orchestra for the American Residency Program. Since 1992, the symphony has accepted an invitation every year from one state or region to offer opportunities such as sharing elements of classical music, exploring diverse musical influences and giving the area a musical voice through training, career development and commissions.

Tickets for the evening concert are on sale now at the Marshall Artists Series box office located in the Joan C. Edwards Performing Arts Center box office. Call ext. 6-6656 for additional information.

## Nicholas Freidin

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students aren't daunted by the physical aspects as some come back year after year. It requires dedication on the part of the students. This summer, for example, the group will be leaving the Huntington campus at 7:30 a.m. and won't return until late afternoon. But there's always the thrill of the unexpected find, the uncovering of objects which haven't been seen by human eyes in hundreds or even thousands of years. "That's very exciting, that's the real thing," Freidin says.

But archaeology is not just digging in the soil looking for a treasure trove of items. There is also the surveying and laboratory analysis that are integral to the study of archaeology, he explains. In fact, there are labs located in the basement of Old Main where the finds are sorted, cleaned and processed, as well as another where equipment is stored.

Freidin was born in Paris to parents who were American citizens. While growing up, he lived in France, Austria, Switzerland and England. His parents wanted him and his brother to attend college in the U.S., so he earned an A.B. in History from Georgetown University before returning to England, where he received both a Diploma in European Archaeology and a Ph.D. from Keble College at the University of Oxford. Throughout his career Freidin gained extensive field experience in Israel, Cyprus, France, England as well as West Virginia. When the British government made drastic budget cuts in his field, Freidin headed to the U.S. to work for the Hearst Corporation as a journalist and researcher. Among other things, he wrote feature stories that had an archaeological bent. Two years later, in 1983, he was offered a job at Marshall in the Department of Sociology and Anthropology. The field school was founded the next year.

This program allows students to experience the world of archaeology as it is practiced in the "real world," while also providing a glimpse into the past of West Virginia. It emphasizes the fragility of the past material record and the need to record and preserve these remains for future generations, he explains.

Freidin has published widely about his work and findings. He has served as a reviewer for both the prehistoric section for the West Virginia Archives and History Commission and the late prehistoric study unit of the Department of Culture and History both located in Charleston. He currently serves as chair of the Huntington Historic Preservation Commission. He and his wife, Deborah, live in Huntington with their daughter, Anna.

He is grateful for the aid given the field school by the College of Liberal Arts. "We've had external grants but overall we've had great and sustained support from our college. They have truly supported us well."

## MIIR Seminar

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science courses to help teachers meet the national science education standards.

DeSalle is an adjunct professor at Columbia University, distinguished professor in residence at New York University, adjunct professor at City University of New York and professor at the museum's Richard Gilder Graduate School.

Sponsors of the event include Huddleston Bolen LLP, the Marshall University Foundation, Erickson Alumni Center and the Marshall Institute for Interdisciplinary Research.

The program is free and open to the public. Reservations are requested. For more information or to make reservations, contact Keely Martin at [martin192@marshall.edu](mailto:martin192@marshall.edu) or 304-696-3830.

## Assessment Day

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Wendell Dobbs. They will give special performances beginning at 11:45 a.m.

Reynolds said that, in addition to the university-wide activities, most departments have activities scheduled. These activities, which vary by unit, include "town hall" meetings, portfolio presentations, focus groups, exit interviews, and other types of program-level assessment activities. Students should check with their major departments for departmental schedules.

Campus offices will ask students to provide feedback via electronic surveys again this year. Students will receive survey invitations through their Marshall e-mail addresses on March 31, with one reminder sent on April 7. Assessment Day surveys will close on April 8. Students may receive different numbers of surveys depending on class rank and major, Reynolds said.

Students, faculty, and staff will be eligible to win prizes donated by area businesses and other groups. Prizes include a laptop computer, four one-day passes to Paramount Kings Island and a Dell color printer, among others. Additional prizes are currently being added and a complete list will be available on the Assessment Day Web site.

## Celebration of Academics

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"We are fortunate to have two outstanding speakers at this year's Celebration of Academics," said Dr. Alan Gould, executive director of the Drinko Academy. "Dr. Larsen is the first faculty member from the College of Information Technology and Engineering to be named a Drinko Fellow. And Dr. Wiley was recently named one of the 100 Most Creative People in Business. We are indebted to both for taking the time to help make the 16<sup>th</sup> Celebration of Academics a very special occasion."

Larsen is a professor of engineering at Marshall University. He has three degrees in chemical engineering, a B.S. and an M.S. from Brigham Young University and a Ph.D. from the University of California, Berkeley.

He was a development and project scientist and senior engineer for Union Carbide Corporation before becoming a full-time faculty member at Marshall University in 1999. Widely published, he has received numerous awards, including the Ashland Outstanding Graduate Advisor of the Year Award in 2004 and the Union Carbide Corporation Chairman's Award, the corporation's highest recognition award for individual achievement, in 1996.

Wiley, who earned a B.F.A. in Music (vocal performance) from Marshall in 1997, received a Ph.D. in Instructional Psychology and Technology from Brigham Young in 2000. He is founder and board member of the Open High School of Utah and Chief Openness Officer of Flat World Knowledge.

Celebration of Academics events include:

Thursday, April 8, 2 p.m. – The Drinko Symposium, Marshall University Foundation Hall, home of the Erickson Alumni Center; speaker: Dr. Eldon Larsen; topic: "Practical Project Management – Principles and Fundamentals."; 3 p.m. – Public reception.

Friday, April 9, 7 p.m. – The Elizabeth Gibson Drinko Honors Convocation, Joan C. Edwards Performing Arts Center; speaker: Dr. David Wiley; topic: "A Permanent State of Transition."; 8:30 p.m. – Public reception.