

4-17-2009

We Are ... Marshall, April 17, 2009

Office of Marshall University Communications

Follow this and additional works at: http://mds.marshall.edu/mu_newsletter

Recommended Citation

Office of Marshall University Communications, "We Are... Marshall, April 17, 2009" (2009). *We Are ... Marshall: the Newsletter for Marshall University*. Paper 15.
http://mds.marshall.edu/mu_newsletter/15

This Newsletter is brought to you for free and open access by the Marshall Publications at Marshall Digital Scholar. It has been accepted for inclusion in We Are ... Marshall: the Newsletter for Marshall University by an authorized administrator of Marshall Digital Scholar. For more information, please contact zhangj@marshall.edu.

WE ARE... MARSHALL®

THE NEWSLETTER FOR MARSHALL UNIVERSITY • APRIL 17, 2009

'Celebration of Academics' Features Drinko Fellow, Intuit President Brad Smith



Dr. Maria Carmen Riddel

Dr. Maria Carmen Riddel, this year's Drinko fellow, and Brad D. Smith, a Marshall alumnus and president/CEO of Intuit, will be featured in the Celebration of Academics April 30 and May 1.

Riddel will discuss the research on which she worked during the Drinko fellowship in the John Deaver Drinko Symposium at 2 p.m. Thursday, April 30, in the Joan C. Edwards Performing Arts Center. Her topic is "Cuban-American Literature after Exile: Dreaming in Spanish/Writing in English."

Smith will present "Authentic Leadership in a Changing World" as part of the Elizabeth Gibson Drinko Honors Convocation at 7 p.m. Friday, May 1, in the Joan C. Edwards Performing Arts Center. The convocation also will include recognition of students participating in Marshall's honors program.

Each program is free and open to the public. In addition, public receptions will follow each of the programs in the lobby of the Performing Arts Center.

Riddel, a professor of Spanish, has worked in the Department of Modern Languages since 1983 teaching everything from introductory language classes to Spanish culture, literature, history and honors courses. She has served as chair of the department since 2002. A native of Spain, she earned her doctorate from The Ohio State University in 1988, her master's degree from Universidad de Salamanca, Salamanca, Spain, in 1977, and her bachelor's degree from Marshall in 1975.

In January 2008, Smith, a Kenova, W.Va., native, became CEO of Intuit, the company that developed Quicken, QuickBooks and Turbo Tax. Previously, he was senior vice president and general manager of Intuit's Small Business Division from May 2006 to December 2007. In this position, Smith was responsible for the company's portfolio of QuickBooks, Quicken and payroll products, serving seven million small businesses and producing \$1.1 billion in revenue.

Smith, who joined Intuit in February 2003, earned his master's degree in management from Aquinas College in Michigan and his bachelor's degree in business administration from Marshall.

Last year Smith was the keynote speaker at the Charleston Area Alliance Annual Celebration. At that event, Marshall President Stephen J. Kopp presented Smith with the Expect the Best from West Virginia Award.

Alumni Weekend Starts April 24

"Bridging the Past with the Future" is the theme of the 2009 Alumni Weekend which takes place Friday and Saturday, April 24-25

A host of events are on tap as alumni, friends and the college community gather to celebrate Marshall University.

In addition, the Marshall University Alumni Association will recognize the 2009 Alumni Award winners at a dinner Saturday evening.

Alumni Weekend officially begins Friday evening with a welcome champagne reception honoring the 50th Reunion class, 1959, from 6-7:30 p.m. at the Culinary Institute. The cost will be \$15 per person. The event will be followed by an opportunity to attend an evening show at the Funny Bone Comedy Club.

Saturday will bring a day full of activities. A presidential coffee for the Heritage Society is scheduled for the Drinko Library Atrium from 9:30-10:30 a.m. The class luncheon which will honor the 1959 class and the Grand Class—those who have graduated before 1959—runs from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. in the John Marshall Dining Room of

(continued on page 4)

LCOB to Celebrate 40th Anniversary

The Lewis College of Business will celebrate its 40th anniversary during Alumni Weekend with a series of events from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Friday, April 24 at Corbly Hall on the Huntington campus.

Numerous activities and giveaways are planned throughout the day, including an unveiling/ribbon cutting of the new LCOB student lounge in the lobby of Corbly Hall at 10 a.m. Other special events include:

- 10:20 a.m., Dr. Robert Alexander, former dean of the College of Business, will give a lecture in the Corbly Hall lobby on the history of the LCOB.
- 11 a.m., MU baseball Coach Jeff Waggoner and LCOB faculty will be in a dunk tank, with LCOB students and

(continued on page 4)

Graduating Students Prepare to Don the Kente

The Center for African American Students' Programs has invited African and African American graduates to the Donning of Kente Celebration of Achievement.

This traditional and historically significant event takes place at 4 p.m. Thursday, April 30, on Buskirk Field. The celebration and cap-and-gown ceremony will commence with a procession that will include graduating students, university deans and President. Stephen J. Kopp.

The Kente cloth, which resembles a stole and is worn with the academic regalia, is a symbol of accomplishment that has its roots in a long tradition of weaving in West African countries. Marshall instituted the tradition of presenting Kente cloths to graduating African American students several years ago, and approximately 50 students are expected to participate Thursday along with university deans, faculty and staff.

"The Kente cloth is a symbol that our students wear with pride," said Maurice Cooley, director of the center. "Each cloth is unique in its design and color and will represent the different levels of degrees our students have earned."

The following woven cloths will be awarded: Owia Repue for associate degrees; Babadua for bachelor's degrees; Kyemfere for master's degrees; and Akyem Shield for post-master's degrees. Approximately 60 students will be taking part in the ceremony.

African music will be provided by the Marshall University African Dance and Drum ensemble. A reception will follow on the Memorial Student Center plaza for all participants and those in attendance.

In the event of rain, the ceremony will take place in the Don Morris Room in the Memorial Student Center.

'5 Browns' to Perform April 22

The 5 Browns, a quintet of world class concert pianists, will make their only area appearance at the Keith—Albee Performing Arts Center, Wednesday, April 22 at 7:30 p.m. Performing on five Steinway grand pianos, these twenty-something siblings are dedicated to making classical music part of the lives of people everywhere.

Siblings Ryan, Melody, Gregory, Deondra, and Desirae each showed a clear talent and interest in piano around age 3, and while the children were introduced to other instruments, their passion has always been the piano. Playing came as naturally to them as eating or breathing and each made a youthful debut with a major symphony orchestra — in some cases, as early as age nine.

The quintet enjoyed their first wave of critical attention in February 2002 when *People* dubbed them as the "Fab Five." Following the 2005 release of debut album *The 5 Browns*, *The New York Post* proclaimed, "one family, five pianos and 50 fingers add up to the biggest classical music sensation in years." By the end of 2005, the 5 Browns were one of the top classical artists of the year.

For ticket information contact the Marshall Artists Series Box Office, located in the Joan C. Edwards Playhouse at ext. 6-6656. The box office is open Monday through Friday from noon to 5 p.m.

Staff Election Results Announced

The results of the recent Classified Staff Council election are in and those elected to office are:

Chair of Staff Council - Nina L. Barrett

Institutional Board of Governors - Mike Dunn

Advisory Council of Classified Employees - Mike Dunn

Classified Staff Council Members—William Carter, Virgil Crockett, Mike Dunn, Ronnie Hicks, William Lewis, Amber Bentley, Betty Cook, Carol Hurula, Kimberly Lawson-Murphy, Janis Winkfield, Nina L. Barrett, Johnny Bradley, Toni Ferguson, Jennifer Jimison, Mary Waller, Bernice Bullock, Leonard Lovely, Okey Napier, LuAnn South, Kris Standifur, Barbara Black, Brenda Fleming, Darrell Kendrick, Diana Lewis and Joe Wortham.

Those elected will serve from July 1, 2009 through June 30, 2011.

Honors Students Sponsor 5K Run/Walk

The first Marshall University Honors Student Association 5K Run/Walk will take place at 8 a.m. Saturday, April 25 in downtown Huntington.

Proceeds from the event will be used to fund a continual scholarship in remembrance of a Marshall University honors student who died last fall, and allow for growth of the MU honors program.

The flat, 3.1-mile course starts and ends at or near the Big Sandy Superstore Arena. Age divisions include 19 and under, 20-29, 30-39, 40-49, 50-59 and 60 and up. Awards will be presented to the top male and female overall finishers, and the top male and female finisher in each age group.

Entry fee is \$15. Checks should be made payable to the Marshall University Honors Student Association or MUHSA and returned to Katrina Harper at the Center for Academic Excellence, Marshall University, Old Main 230, One John Marshall Dr., Huntington, WV 25755.

Entry forms are available on the event calendar under April 25th at www.tristateracer.com, at the Marshall Recreation Center, the Huntington YMCA and by request at harper109@marshall.edu.

WE ARE... MARSHALL.



Published by University Communications, with offices in Huntington (213 Old Main) and South Charleston (312 Administration Building).

The next regular issue of *We Are...Marshall!* will carry an

issue date of May 1, 2009. Deadline is April 24. 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.

Profile: Will James

A series on interesting Marshall University people.



Will James

His unbounded enthusiasm for life, for his work and for West Virginia would make a cheerleader seem lethargic. And while Will James' job title may be the generic sounding Electronics Technician, that's just a figurative rack on which to hang the numerous job hats he wears every day while managing the daily operations of the Media Instruction Center in South Charleston. He's the guru behind the efficient operation of all the electronic equipment, including monitors, VCRs, and the closed-circuit system, making sure everything is up and running to the instructors' specifications. He's won the admiration and gratitude of faculty and staff alike as the conscientious behind-the-scenes wizard who makes the electronic equipped classroom and conference rooms seem effortless to operate. And he has a gift for teaching as well.

"I like to take the complex and break it down into elements and I get to do that every day here," he says modestly. "We have instructors that are intimidated by technology and I just explain it to them in steps and break it down into elements ... I want to take the intimidation of technological equipment away. I want people not to worry about how they're going to get equipment work. I'll get it to work; that's my job".

In addition James also acts in concert with Computing Services as a liaison between them and the faculty "For example, I make sure such things as projectors are working with the computers so that the instructors can easily use them for their purposes." He also oversees all the technological needs of Marshall's Community Services Clinic, which is located in Dunbar.

Before coming to the Graduate College and Marshall, James' innate curiosity led him down several career paths with some intriguing detours. Born in Huntington, he was the son of a minister who was also in the Navy, and a nurse. The family lived a fairly nomadic existence as they moved around the country following his father. Finally back in this region for good, under an accelerated program James graduated from Charleston High School in two years. He took part in an Appalachian Educational Lab program which provided an opportunity to gain hands-on experience in various fields, allowing him to try out several occupations for six weeks before making a career commitment. Under the program he worked at a fast food restaurant, rode around in a police car where he was exposed to police communications operations, and worked at a public television station. The police and television experience meshed well. "After working at the TV station, I was hooked," he remembers. "It combined my communication interests with the audio and the visual." The seeds of a future career had been firmly planted.

But first there was a stint in the U.S. Coast Guard. He received training in radio communications in Petaluma, Cal., where as a radioman he became very proficient in continuous wave (CW) international code. Later he was assigned to the Coast Guard Cutter *Bibb* and continued his study of advanced telecommunications. He credits that training not only with providing him with a solid foundation for his service in the military but with influencing his ability to utilize new technology as it develops. He recently retired as a chief telecommunications specialist after 28 years of active and reserve service.

(continued on page 4)

Preparations Underway for Service Awards Luncheon

Marshall University's 25th annual Service Awards Luncheon will be held Tuesday, May 26th, from noon to 2:00 p.m. in the Don Morris Room in the Memorial Student Center. In addition to the service awards, the Employee of the Year will be named at this time.

The following is a **tentative** list of university staff members who will receive awards.

For 10 Years of Service: Marlene Alley, Teresa Bolt, Brenda Crawford, Loan Cummings, Marcus Danner, Wanda Dyke, Debra Elliott, Sheila Fields, Eric Himes, Danny Holland, Camella Holley, Annalisha Johnson, Angela Jones, Darrell Kendrick, Patricia Martin, Kevin Maynard, Linda Mollohan, James Morris, Nada Prickett, Kelli Raines, Billy Shockley, James Sinnette, Kelley Smith, Amanda Standifur, Debra Templeton, and Irvin Watts

For 15 Years of Service: James Atkinson, Muhammad Chaudhry, Vicki Cole, Darlene Cordle, Phillip Haye, Anita Hill, Joseph Justice, Calvin Kent, Joyce Maynard, Michael McCarthy, Terri Moran, Gregory Pickens, Calvin Rowlings, Rebecca Sloan, and Beverly Surratt.

For 20 Years of Service: Raddar Atchley, Paula Beasley, Lorna Browning, Dana Edmonds, Jerry Gray, Flo Harshbarger, Teresa Holschuh, Judy Little, Leslie Lucas, Raleigh McSweeney, Tammy Moore, James Napier, Stephanie Smith, Tony Waugh, Sandra White, Phyllis White-Sellards, and Nancy Wooten.

For 25 Years of Service: Sherry Adkins, Tammy Aliff, Gregory Beach, Paul Benford, Karen Bledsoe, Mary Bowsher, Thomas Dorsey, Elizabeth Graybeal, Jacquelyn Hersman, Carol Hoover, Sandra Lloyd, William Lucas, David McKenzie, Marty Newman, Terrence Olson, Margaret Putt, Chrystal Rowe, Sherry Salyers, Phillip Sergeant, Johnny Walker, and Jacqueline Woolfolk.

For 30 Years of Service: David Fenney, Rick Haye, JoAnn Jordan, Adrian Lawson, Arissa Prichard, Barbara Roberts, Faye Ronk, and Allen Taylor.

For 35 Years of Service: Patricia Gebhart, Charlene Hawkins, Lynn Mayfield, Vickie Navy, and Karl Shanholtzer.

Retirees: Nancy Baumgarner, Margaret Blankenship, Janet Bricker, Brenda Carrico, James Faulkner, Donna Ferrell, Richard Ford, Connie Gray, Juanita Harold, Roberta Holbrook, Carol Hoover, Adrian Lawson, Ted Massey, Linda Mills, Mark Mills, Linda McComas, James Myers, Gretchen Oley, Linda Rhodes, Chrystal Rowe, Linda Wallace, Lahoma Weekley, and Sandra Winters.

To be eligible for awards employees must have completed 10, 15, 20, 25, 30, and 35, years of service to Marshall University College by May 1, 2009.

The luncheon menu will include Chicken Supreme, Oven Roasted Potatoes, California Medley Vegetables, Tossed Salad with Ranch and Italian dressings, dinner rolls with butter, and assorted desserts. **The vegetarian offering will be Eggplant Parmigiana.**

If someone has been left off this list or if you have a preference on how you want your name listed, please contact Joe Wortham at ext. 6-5402.

Will James

from Page 3

In 1982 he received a B.A. degree from Marshall with a major in broadcast journalism and minors in communications and political science. While a student he continued his technological pursuits in Instructional Television Services, where he was responsible for recording and playback of educational programming. He also branched out into videography and audio and video editing, along with television directing. Following graduation he worked as a radio news reporter for Huntington stations WGNT-AM and WAMX-FM, specializing in remote broadcasts because of his understanding of microwave communications. He spent a year as an air director for WVAH in Milton, which led him to an entry-level production assistant position with Public Broadcasting. With his broad technological expertise and versatility he was quickly tapped to take on a variety of other roles. "I was responsible for lighting, videography and I was also the studio manager. I built sets, did remote basketball broadcasts, and did several governors' debates for instance. In addition I directed two weekly television shows."

Because of his technological savvy and his easy on-camera persona he soon became responsible for live remote broadcasts from the state capitol. In addition to writing and editing copy he was the senate on-camera reporter during legislative sessions. He also collaborated on the set design, news direction and was a reporter for the "The Legislature Today," an instructional program whose main focus was to help people understand the process of how a bill becomes law. James had good reason to be proud of his associate producer role on the acclaimed "West Virginians in War," a 90-minute documentary chronicling the participation of Mountaineers in many of the wars and conflicts of the U.S..

But despite his on-air reporting, James found he didn't really like being a television personality. "I liked being involved in every aspect of production at Public Broadcasting. It was a wonderful learning activity with good crews," he says reflectively. But in the '90s he began to think about making a change, and in 1998, when a position opened up at the Graduate College, he knew it was the place he wanted to be. James soon won legions of fans with his knowledge and his can-do attitude to keep things running smoothly, even under trying circumstances. His calm demeanor is reassuring to those racing to meet class or meeting deadlines.

And as much as he loves to fix things, he also likes to make things. He not only repairs furniture, but he's a talented furniture maker who has turned out a host of furniture pieces when he has time, with most of them going to lucky relatives and friends. Photography is his special passion. He's been taking pictures ever since his parents gave him a camera when he was small and, with his eye for framing and detail, he delights in taking photos of "everything," he'll tell you. In fact he has a Web site with numerous photos posted from his days on the Coast Guard Cutter, *Bibb*, which can be accessed at wbgwill.jalbum.net.

And he has such an unabashed affection for West Virginia, he's a veritable one-man Chamber of Commerce boosting the state wherever he can. "When I was in school we moved around so much ... People were always confusing West Virginia with Virginia and sometimes poking fun at the state. In the sixth grade I set out to learn everything I could about West Virginia and I was able to stifle some of the critics--even teachers. I'm proud I'm from here. I've had opportunities to work in New York City, including an offer from 'Good Morning America,' but I love it here. I've always said I'd rather starve in West Virginia than make a million bucks in New York."

His years at Marshall have flown by, he says, but he's still impressed by the reaction of others to him and his work. "People here are so appreciative of anything I do for them. It's rewarding that they do appreciate it so much but I expect to get people to where they need to be. Over the years I've had a lot of people help me and I feel responsible to help others. I think you need to pay back and you can do that wherever you are."

Alumni Weekend

from Page 1

the Memorial Student Center. The lunch is complimentary for the Class of 1959 and \$15 for others. A trolley tour of campus immediately follows the luncheon.

Always a highlight of the weekend, the annual Green and White Spring Football game gets underway at 3 p.m. at the Joan C. Edwards Stadium. Tickets are \$5 and can be obtained by contacting ext. (304) 696-HERD.

The weekend concludes with the Alumni Awards Banquet at 7 p.m. in the Don Morris Room of the Memorial Student Center. Tickets are \$45 per person or \$75 per couple. At the banquet the following awards will be given:

- Distinguished Alumni Award to Joe Gillette (BBA'73) of Marietta, Ga.
- The Community Achievement Award to Robert (Bob) N. Melott (MA'62) of Tulsa, Okla.
- The Distinguished Service to Marshall Award will be presented to two individuals, John McHaffie and Robert Walker, M. D.
- The Carolyn B. Hunter Distinguished Faculty Service Award to Barbara Winters, Dean of Marshall Libraries since 2000.
- Distinguished Education and Human Services Award to Dr. Dorothy "Dot" Hicks.
- The Nancy Pelphrey Herd Village Scholarship to two Huntington students, April Bennett, a freshman music education major who is a member of the Marching Thunder; and Candice Mitchell, a political science major and a cheerleader.
- The Cam Henderson Scholarship Award to junior accounting major Tyler J. Gatrell
- The Nate Ruffin Scholarship Award to John Alexander Inman, who graduated in 2008 with a degree in Business Administration.
- The Young Alumni Award to Doug Martin (MS'06).

The MUAA Board Member of the Year will be announced at the board meeting and will be recognized at the awards banquet.

LCOB Anniversary

from Page 1

MU baseball players trying to dunk them. It will be set up outside between Corbly Hall and the Drinko Library.

- 11 a.m., Guest lecture from BB&T West Virginia President Phyllis Arnold will take place in Smith Hall Room 154.
- 1:30 p.m., a reception will take place in the Memorial Student Center's Shawkey Dining Room.

Hot dogs, popcorn and birthday cake will be provided throughout the day to students, staff, faculty and alumni, and the DAWG radio station will be broadcasting live outside between Corbly and Drinko, where other games/activities such as an obstacle course and Guitar Hero will be available.

The design of the student lounge that will be unveiled is the result of a contest in Dr. Deanna Mader's marketing class. Two teams of LCOB students presented their designs for a student lounge to a judging panel that included President Stephen J. Kopp and Dr. Chong Kim, dean of the LCOB. The design of the lounge was based on the winning team's design.