

# WE ARE... MARSHALL™

THE NEWSLETTER FOR MARSHALL UNIVERSITY • MAY 18, 2007

## *Plans Underway for Recreation Center, Residence Halls*

Marshall University's Board of Governors unanimously approved in principle a \$94 million public-private project for the construction of a new 123,000 square-foot student recreation center, two new living/learning residence halls, and baseball and softball fields.

The resolution adopted by the board authorizes the Chairman of the Board and the President of Marshall University to execute bond documents,



*Marshall's new recreation center, shown here in an artist's rendering, is scheduled to open in January of 2009.*

ground leases, development agreements, management agreements, construction agreements and any other documents necessary to start, finalize and complete the project.

The project, which was developed jointly with Capstone Development Corp. and its partners, will involve construction of the student recreation center and two residence halls near the 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue and 20<sup>th</sup> Street section of Marshall's Huntington campus. Additionally, construction of new baseball and softball fields will occur in conjunction with this endeavor. However, their location and construction timeline will be the subject of a future announcement.

"I want to thank Chairman Menis Ketchum and the members of Marshall's Board of Governors for their unanimous support of this innovative plan for moving Marshall University forward," Marshall University President Stephen J. Kopp said. "These modern facilities will make us more competitive as we expand our student recruitment

efforts and dedicate ourselves to growing full-time student enrollment at Marshall University. They will also help advance a more vibrant and engaged campus environment, one that fosters greater student achievement, retention and graduation rates."

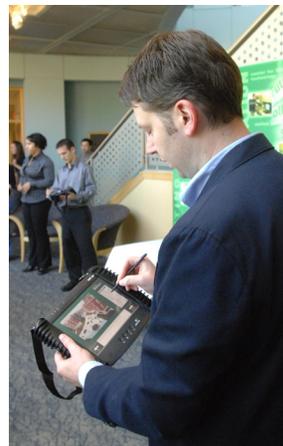
Kopp said the residence halls are scheduled to open in August 2008, while the student recreation center is expected to open in January 2009.

"Capstone Development Corp. and their partners have been instrumental in the progress that has been made in the planning of this major project," Kopp said. "Through their experience, considerable expertise and tireless efforts, they have interpreted our vision for these new physical facilities and transformed them into futuristic facility plans that will meet the needs of our students for the foreseeable future."

"Capstone views our work with Marshall as not simply a 'project,' but as a long-term partnership to

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## *Verizon Donates Web Tablets for Student Use*



*Matt Christian, director of Marshall's Center for Instructional Technology, demonstrates one of the Web tablets donated by Verizon.*

Verizon has donated more than 400 Atigo wireless Web tablets to Marshall, which will be utilized in the recruitment of prospective students.

The tablets have access to e-mail, Internet, intranets and can be used by current students during class and lab work.

In addition, the devices can also be used by prospective students who want to learn more about academic programs as well as take a self-guided tour of the Huntington campus.

The Web tablets will be available to prospective students every Saturday.

# *Biros, Footo-Linz Receive Graduate Advising Awards*

Two graduate faculty members, one from the Huntington campus and one from the South Charleston campus, have received \$1,000 Ashland Inc. Outstanding Graduate Advisor Awards, according to Dr. Leonard Deutsch, Dean of the Graduate School

The recipients were Dr. Marianna Footo-Linz, professor of Psychology on the Huntington campus and Dr. John Biros, associate professor of Information Systems on the South Charleston campus.

Footo-Linz was cited by students for her accessibility and willingness to spend time helping them. One of them wrote, "Dr. Footo-Linz has a true open-door policy, despite the many tasks she must keep up with her classes and advising; she seems to always make time each and every day for her students." Another student noted that she "is here

## *Brickstreet Gift Designated for Safety Scholarship*

Marshall University has announced the formation of a new engineering scholarship based on a \$15,000 gift provided by BrickStreet Mutual Insurance.

The \$1,000 "BrickStreet Safety Scholarship" will be awarded annually to at least one student enrolled as a safety major in the College of Information Technology and Engineering (CITE).

"We are very grateful to BrickStreet for its commitment to safety education and the engineering program at Marshall University," President Stephen J. Kopp said. "Through the philanthropic support of West Virginia companies like BrickStreet, we are better able to educate the next generation of engineers."

Criteria for recipients of the scholarship include a preferred West Virginia residency, a 3.0 grade point average, and a valid driver's license. Another key component of the scholarship includes the opportunity to participate in a paid internship with BrickStreet. Applications for the scholarship must be received by the screening committee annually by April 15.

nearly every day that the university is open. She arrives early and stays late...I have never known her to simply turn a student away for any reason."

Another student wrote that "Dr. Linz respects and welcomes students from different backgrounds, stressing her appreciation for our contributions."

A fellow faculty member noted, "Dr. Footo-Linz has spent many hours, perhaps even the equivalent of at least two additional courses, meeting with groups of doctoral students to help them prepare their comprehensive doctoral program portfolios and complete the extensive applications that our doctoral candidates must use to compete nationwide for high-quality professional internships." The faculty member said that in addition to a full schedule, chairing numerous doctoral dissertations and serving on doctoral committees, Footo-Linz has taken time to help students who were presenting professionally for the first time and worked hard to make the process easier for all the students.

A number of current and former students extolled Biros' prowess as an advisor. Many mentioned

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## *Faculty/Staff Achievements*

**Dr. Chuck Bailey**, professor of electronic media management in the W. Page Pitt School of Journalism and Mass Communications, recently was presented with the Lifetime Achievement Award by the West Virginia Associated Press Broadcasters Association. Since he became faculty manager of the school's public radio station in 1985, WMUL students have won 751 awards. Fifty-eight awards, 23 of them first place awards, were won by WMUL student broadcasters in the 2006-07 academic year.

**Terry Blake**, Physical Plant Custodial Manager and a volunteer for Hospice, was given the "Bereavement Volunteer Award" at Hospice's annual appreciation dinner which took place on the Huntington campus earlier this month. The award is given to an individual who has given outstanding service to the organization. Blake was honored for his work with the children's grief camp, Camp Nabe. He also is a bereavement volunteer for family members as well as a home patient care volunteer.

**Penny Watkins**, executive director of the Marshall Artists Series, was recently awarded West Virginia Division of Culture and History's "Order of the Arts and Historical Letters" award in recognition of her outstanding service in the performing arts. The award was presented to her May 4 by Randall Reid-Smith, Commissioner of the Department of WV Culture and History, in Lewisburg, where she was attending the final presentation of *The Guys* a collaborative effort of the Greenbrier Valley Theatre, Marshall University Department of Theatre and the Marshall Artists Series.

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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 June 1,

2007. Deadline is May 25. 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: Janet Clark

*A series on interesting Marshall University people.*



Janet Clark

When Janet Clark became the secretary for the geology department nearly 31 years ago, she admits she had a definite ho-hum attitude toward the field. She wanted to do her job well, but in all honesty, she asked herself, what impact could geology really have on a person's daily life?

Today, with great fervor she can give you a treatise on the practical aspects of geology and its importance in just about any aspect of everyday life. And she's refreshingly honest about her change of mind, an enthusiastic convert who sees this field in a whole new light.

"My attitude then was, 'Geology, who needs it and what do you use it for?' Well I've certainly changed my mind over time; there's a whole lot more there than meets the eye," she says congenially. "There are the rocks and minerals that make up products. You need to know, when a highway is built, what structure is underneath the road. There's the issue of groundwater problems and drainage problems, and the proper design of landfills, which will make them work successfully. Geology impacts people all the time. Whether you're a company, a landowner or a homeowner you have to make decisions based on geological knowledge."

In fact, she's become so immersed in the field that she and her husband, Bill, occasionally take trips just to look at rock formations. Luckily, Bill shares her enthusiasm because he has a master's degree in geography from Marshall with a minor in geology. The couple likes to walk and hike and they're frequent visitors to state parks and other scenic areas in West Virginia, where they're always on the lookout for interesting geological finds.

Clark is a lifelong resident of the Huntington/Ironton area, having grown up in Ironton. She came to the Geology department in September 1976 after a company she worked for moved from the area. Even though she wasn't particularly familiar with the field, the job was a comfortable fit from the beginning and she particularly liked working with students.

"We're very student oriented here," she says. "We're fortunate that we've always had such great students. They're bright and thoughtful; I can't remember ever encountering an obnoxious one. We all try to be as helpful as we can, that's what we're here for. I answer questions and if someone comes into the office and needs to see a faculty member but they're not sure which one, I always try to get them to the right person. Being here as long as I have, you get to know every faculty member's specialties." She's never too busy to give some individualized attention, however. The layout of the Science Building, where her office is located, can be confusing to newcomers she says. When someone

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## Bridgeport RCBI Center Recommended for Recertification

The Composites Technology & Training Center at the Robert C. Byrd Institute for Advanced Flexible Manufacturing (RCBI) has been recommended for ISO 9001:2000 recertification.

ISO is the International Organization for Standardization, a worldwide federation of national standards bodies.

The RCBI Composites Center, located in Bridgeport, initially earned its ISO 9001:2000 registration in May 2004. Surveillance audits followed in 2005 and 2006, with zero instances of nonconformance reported.

RCBI's recommended recertification for an additional three-year period follows an audit conducted at the Bridgeport facility by Det Norske Veritas (DNV) Certification Inc. of Houston, Texas. Once again, zero instances of nonconformance were reported.

"This is another example of the Robert C. Byrd Institute's commitment to excellence in customer service," said RCBI Director & CEO Charlotte Weber. "I'm especially proud that this effort directly impacts those who manufacture critical parts for the aviation, aerospace and commercial industry markets."

RCBI's preparation for the recertification audit was carried out under the direction of Erica Cheetham, Director of Quality Services at RCBI.

## Recreation Center

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help transform the campus," said Michael A. Mouron, president of Capstone Development Corp. "We are honored by the trust the University has placed in our team and look forward to a successful project for the Marshall students."

Mike Meadows, director of facilities planning and management at Marshall, said the general public and Marshall community need to be aware of changes that soon will take place on or near the construction sites.

Beginning on Monday, May 21, areas that no longer will be open to students and the public include the running track near 20<sup>th</sup> Street, the Marshall tennis courts and the MU softball field.

Demolition of the 20<sup>th</sup> Street Baptist Church, located at the corner of 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue and 20<sup>th</sup> Street, will begin on May 21, Meadows said. Fence work to secure the demolition site will begin this week, he said.

Meadows also announced impending lane and sidewalk closures. The north, or left lane of 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue from 19<sup>th</sup> Street to 20<sup>th</sup> Street will be closed; two southbound lanes of 20<sup>th</sup> Street, starting midway between 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue and 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue and continuing to the 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue/20<sup>th</sup> Street intersection, will be

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## Janet Clark

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asks for directions, she's apt to take them there rather than just pointing out the location. Like all departments with small staffs, her office is a busy one and she performs a wide variety of duties in addition to her work with faculty and students.

Her devotion to her duties hasn't gone unnoticed. She frequently gets heartfelt thanks, cards, and even occasional gifts from grateful students. A number of years ago students pitched in to buy her flowers for what was then Secretaries' Day. Just last year another group of students presented her with a special gift basket. And in 1997 several students and a faculty member nominated her for Employee of the Month, an honor she was awarded in July of that year.

But just try to give her accolades. She's modest to a fault and doesn't think she does anything exceptional. "I think Marshall is all about service. That's the only reason we're here."

Among the perks of working in the geology department are the occasional out-of-state field trips. They're working trips for her, but there's always some fun to be had as well. Perhaps her most memorable one was a trip to Big Bend National Park in Texas back in the 1980s. Logistically it was a big task to put together. She helped with planning the menu, handled the food purchases, oversaw the financial aspects and even pitched in and took her turn with KP duties along with the students and faculty.

"This was not exactly a vacation. The students are there to learn and explore firsthand. But it was fun being in an entirely new place with different rock formations. The landscape is very different from what we have here. Being in a desert location things are much more exposed. The beauty of the park with the mountains that seem to just rise up is really awesome. It was a wonderful experience for all of us."

During her years on campus Clark has watched significant changes occur to the Huntington landscape, as buildings have come and gone. "I saw Corbly Hall go up, and the Science building got a new addition and renovations. While that was taking place half of us went to Northcott Hall which is now gone, torn down to make way for the Drinko Library. But Marshall is growing with all the other new buildings that have gone up and that's a good thing."

Not only have physical changes taken place over the years, she's seen presidents, deans, office staff and faculty come and go. And along the way she made time to earn an associate degree from the Marshall Community and Technical College.

The soft-spoken Clark is the quintessential "glass-is-half-full" kind of person who looks for the best in people and not the flaws. She loves music and has sung in various church choirs for over 25 years, an activity she says is soothing and a source of strength to her. And, above all, she wants to remain helpful to others.

"You can have a crazy day and we all have our faults and flaws and often it's easy to feel grumpy and grouchy, but I do try to avoid that," she says. "Sometimes the best thing you can do for someone is to give them a thank you or offer words of encouragement and appreciation. We're all different; we're like snowflakes. No two are alike, and that's the way I like to think of people and the ways to approach them."

## Graduate Advising Awards

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his unflagging encouragement to his students and his flexibility in meeting their needs.

One wrote, "Professor Biros does not only help his students excel in class, but he also keeps students informed of area career opportunities, helping them excel in their professional lives as well."

Biros goes out of his way to work with students, several said. A graduate assistant said, "I watched him, on a daily basis, encourage the discouraged and inspire the disinterested to complete their final projects and graduate. He is very persistent." He encouraged students to stay in the program and went out of his way to help them overcome obstacles, students wrote. One Huntington student said Biros often offered to drive to Huntington so they could meet. A student serving in the National Guard after the 9/11 attack was impressed with his flexibility in scheduling academic obligations. Another said, "Had it not been for John Biros and his support as my advisor, I would probably have not completed the program at Marshall. His encouragement and suggestions were sensitive to my situation and needs by arranging for assistance in helping me to prepare my final project. He provides advice relating to career goals and discussion of other programs that might be helpful in reaching them. His commitment and dedication far surpass the 'call of duty.'"

Biros' professionalism was mentioned by several students. They noted he leads by example by encouraging peers and students alike to give back to the community and they cite his service on numerous professional associations.

Footo-Linz and Biros were selected for the awards by the Graduate Council. Deutsch acknowledged the Graduate College Advisory Board, Ashland Inc. and the Graduate Council for making the awards possible.

## Recreation Center

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closed; and, the sidewalk on the north side of 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue and a portion of the sidewalk on the west side of 20<sup>th</sup> Street will be closed during the duration of the project. Demolition of the church is expected to take about 45 days.

"Because of the street and sidewalk closures, we would like to ask everyone to exercise caution when they are near the work site and ask them to work with us during the duration of the project," Meadows said.

Mascaro Construction of Pittsburgh, which built Marshall's Robert C. Byrd Biotechnology Science Center, is the contractor for the project. Master Mechanical Insulation, Inc., of Huntington is doing the church demolition.