



January 28, 2019

50th Anniversary of Marshall University College of Business

2019 marks the 50th anniversary of our College of Business. The history of the college goes back a long way. Fifty years ago, we were just starting out with our new identity. In September 1969, Marshall University established the School of Business as the academic home for all its Business programs. The School of Business was merged with the College of Allied Science in 1972, with the combined entity being called the School of Business. The School of Business was renamed as the College of Business in 1977. Corbly Hall opened its doors in 1980 and is home to the LCOB which is divided across parts of all four floors. In 1996, the College of Business was named after Elizabeth McDowell Lewis. The Lewis College of Business received the prestigious AACSB accreditation in 1997. In the fall of 1997, the Graduate School of Management was created due to the merger of Marshall with the West Virginia Graduate College. In 2018, a transformative gift from Brad and Alys Smith created two new academic entities – the Brad D. Smith Undergraduate School of Business and the Brad D. Smith Graduate School of Business – under the Lewis College of Business. Initial design and fund-raising for a new state-of-the-art business school building, called the Brad D. Smith Center for Business and Innovation, are currently underway.

Our 50th anniversary celebration will take place throughout the year, with the week of April 15 hosting the primary events. On Monday, April 15, we plan to host a reception with all stakeholders in Charleston, followed by a birthday bash celebration in Huntington on April 17. Our Hall of Fame will be held on Friday, September 27.

Spring 2019 Dean's Distinguished Speaker Series kicks off with Enterprise Grant

The Dean's Distinguished Speaker Series hosted by the Lewis College of Business was conceived in 2018 as a forum that would provide our students, faculty, alumni, board members, community members and other stakeholders the opportunity to experience and learn from highly successful and renowned C-suite corporate leaders, entrepreneurs, celebrated personalities, and influential thought-leaders offering profound insights and lively discussion. Recent speakers have included Don Williams (Serial entrepreneur and civic leader, Texas), John B. Jung, Jr. (Senior Managing Director and Head of BB&T Capital Markets), Jennifer Giovannitti (President, Claude Worthington Benedum Foundation), Emily Bennington (best-selling author and career coach), Dr. William J. Kehoe (William F. O'Dell Professor of Marketing, University of Virginia), Dr. George T. Solomon (Director, Center For Entrepreneurial Excellence, George Washington University), and Dr. Ron McNeil (Dean Emeritus, Univ of Massachusetts & Univ of Illinois). This series is sponsored by Don Williams and The Joachim Foundation.

Our inaugural speaker for Spring 2019 will be Thomas "Tom" B. Wright, III who is the Executive Advisor and former Senior Vice President – Human Resources and Administration of EPR Properties, and former Senior Vice President of Hallmark Cards. The event is sponsored by the Minority Business Symposium Grant from the Enterprise Holdings Foundation, and will be held on Wednesday, February 27, at the Brad D. Smith Foundation Hall Conference Center.