



November 25, 2019 | Volume 3, Issue 7

Marshall Students First-Ever West Virginia Cohort of Stanford D-School Innovation Fellows

Three Marshall University business students have been named University Innovation Fellows by Stanford University's Hasso Plattner Institute of Design. These students are the first-ever UIF cohort from a West Virginia university and are among 360 students from 90 higher education institutions in 13 countries. The 2019 UIF Fellows from Marshall are Annika Behnke, a sophomore accounting major from Export, Pennsylvania; Kelly Leonard, a junior marketing major from Huntington; and McKenna Sunderland, a sophomore entrepreneurship major from Charleston, West Virginia.

Humera Fasihuddin, co-director of the UIF, said this global program trains student leaders to create new opportunities for their peers to engage with innovation, entrepreneurship, design thinking and creativity. "These Marshall students worked tirelessly over the last six weeks to understand their campus ecosystem and spot real opportunities to stimulate the entrepreneurial ecosystem on and off-campus. They set a bold vision in their video of what the campus could look like in five years if some of these projects came to fruition. By completing the fellowship, they became not only Marshall's first-ever cohort of University Innovation Fellows, they also became the first ever from the entire state of West Virginia. We know the power that students have in making things happen on campus and we're excited to see this cohort join forces with their faculty champions to realize this vision," Fasihuddin said.

iCenter executives Dr. Ben Eng, Olen York, and Tricia Ball served as the fellows' UIF Faculty Champions during their training. The UIF Fellows presented their ideas to grow an entrepreneurial ecosystem in the Tri-State area on Oct. 11 to President Gilbert, LCOB leadership, and the iCenter Board of Advisors. The fellows will next virtually present their ideas to Brad Smith, who will provide them coaching on next steps.

I would particularly like to thank our distinguished alumnus, Mr. Richard Jackson, who established the Dick Jackson COB Student Success Fund to help our fellows with funding for the program. This would not have been possible without his support and generosity.

With the addition of the new fellows, the UIF program has trained nearly 2,200 students since its creation. In Spring 2020, fellows will have the opportunity to participate in the program's signature Silicon Valley Meetup in California. During this gathering, fellows take part in immersive experiences at Stanford University and Google, and participate in experiential workshops and exercises focused on topics including movement building, spaces for innovation, design of learning experiences and new models for change in higher education.



John Marshall Leadership Fellows Program

Conceived in Fall 2018 and inspired by the experiences of President Gilbert and Provost Taylor, the John Marshall Leadership Fellows Program at Marshall University is conducted annually during the spring semester under the sponsorship of and administered by the university's Center for Teaching and Learning. Applications are accepted each fall for spring cohorts. Full-time tenured or probationary faculty and full-time classified or non-classified staff with leadership aspirations and a commitment to Marshall University are eligible to participate.

The goals for the John Marshall Leadership Fellows Program are to: create opportunities for critical thinking; cultivate leadership knowledge and skills; expand understanding of university operations and processes; create networks of collaborative colleagues; build capacity in knowledge and skills for institutional leadership; promote a collegial and collaborative institutional culture; advance capacity for high-level university service and administration; optimize functioning in all university units; and explore effective responses to emerging issues at the institution and in higher education.

Two members of the Lewis College of Business faculty and staff were selected through a competitive process (out of total 19 participants) and successfully completed the inaugural John Marshall Leadership Fellows program in Spring 2019. They are:

Dr. Sharorong Zhang, Associate Professor of Finance (*Mentor*: Avinandan Mukherjee, Dean, Lewis College of Business)

Lacie Bittinger, Director of Student Services (*Mentor*: Brandi Jacobs-Jones, Chief of Staff/Senior Vice President for Operations)

The 2020 cohort also has two members of the LCOB faculty and staff accepted for the program (out of 20 total participants). They are:

Dr. Susan Lanham, Assistant Professor of Accounting (*Mentor*: David Pittenger, Dean, MU Graduate College)

Glen Midkiff, Director of Stakeholder Engagement (*Mentor*: Ron Area, CEO, Marshall University Foundation)

We wish our JMLF Fellows well, as they prepare for future leadership roles through this uniquely aspirational and highly selective leadership academy.



MONDAY MORNING MEMO
from Dean Avi Mukherjee

MARSHALL UNIVERSITY
LEWIS COLLEGE OF BUSINESS &
BRAD D. SMITH SCHOOLS OF BUSINESS

Annual Holiday Reception

December 4 | 4-6 p.m.
John Marshall Dining Room
Memorial Student Center

Please bring a new stuffed animal with you to be
donated to the Hoops Family Children's Hospital.

To RSVP visit:
<http://lcobholiday.rsvpify.com>

