

Marshall University Classified Staff Council Minutes

April 18th, 2024, Virtual Meeting via Microsoft Teams

Members Present: Jesse Baldwin, Nina Barrett, Tim Cline, Maegan Gruber-Basenback, Samantha Holiskey, Carol Hurula, Dena Laton, Heather Lowe, Becky Lusher, Nick Martin, Anita Mathis, Lisa Maynard, Larry Morris, Lisa Ransbottom, Terri Thompson, Justin Tyler, Tony Waugh, Amy Weaver,

Members Absent: Lacie Bittinger, Beretta Coleman, Anna Evans,

Members Absent (Excused): Mark Brumfield

Guests: Mike Adkins, Pam Adkins, Traci Albright, Mike Allen, Michaela Arthur, Christopher Atkins, Barry Beckett, Jean Ann Bevans, Jim Booth, Sharon Booth, John Bowen, Kathy Brannock, Monica Brooks, Amy Buchanan, Butch Burriss, Pat Campbell, Perry Chafin, Mary Chapman, Judy Clark, Kassandra Contreras, Caroline Copenhaver, Jon Cutler, Meg Cyrus, Tiffani Daniels, Amy Marie Davis, Kaleigh Decker, Misty DiSilvio, Bob Dorado, Carey Dunfee, Travis Edmonds, Joseph Eichman, Katrina Eskins, Amy Ethel, Bruce Felder, Cadyn Fraley, Justin Hawthorne, Lisa Henry, Katherine Hetzer, Michael Hill, Linda Holmes, Darlene Howell, Drew Hutchinson, Brandi Jacobs-Jones, Darlene Johnson, Paige Kennedy, Chris Key, Kelly Marcum, Ashley Marion, Christina McDavid, Michael McGuffey, Char McKenna, Teresa McSweeney, Rebecca Meek, Larry Metcalf, Susan Midkiff, Nathan Miller, Brian Morgan, Avinandan Mukherjee, Nathan Mullins, Robbie Nance, Becky Neace, Rebecca Pack, Jyotsna Patel, Leah Payne, Jodie Penrod, Tabby Puckett, Elizabeth Ramsey, Alice Roberts, Angie Rose, Jerry Ross, Emily Roush, Rodney Sanders, Shawn Schulenberg, Kay Scott, Tyler Sharp, Lindsay Smith, Tracy Smith, Julia Spears, Wes Spradlin, Robyn Stafford, Toney Stroud, Allen Taylor, John Taylor, Robin Taylor, Erica Thomas, Kim Thomas, Matt Tidd, Bob Walker, Thomas Wallace, Mary Waller, Teresa Wellman, Tracie Wheeler, Young, Jodi Zimmerman

Chair Tony Waugh called the meeting to order. Parliamentarian Becky Lusher verified there was a quorum.

Avi Mukherjee – Provost

- **Events**
 - Lavender graduation was the previous day. (4/17/2024)
 - Kente graduation that day. (4/18/2024)
 - Honors graduation the following day. (4/19/2024)
 - Drinko reception that Saturday. (4/20/2024)
 - Events the following week:
 - Online Graduation
 - International Graduation
 - ROTC Commissioning
 - Many colleges are also doing their own graduation-related events.
 - Graduation keynote speaker:
 - Chris Gardner – well-known businessman, motivational speaker, and real-life person the movie *The Pursuit of Happiness* with Will Smith was based on.

- **Enrollment**
 - Over 5000 returning students are registered for Fall 2024. This is 5% higher than the same day last year.
 - 5% growth in undergraduate students
 - 5.3% growth in graduate students
 - Around 8,700 applications for first-time, full-time freshmen have been received for Fall 2024. This is 10% higher than the final number of applications we got in Fall 2023.
 - Completed applications are up by 4.7% compared to this time last year.
 - We have 5,878 admitted students, which is around 3.7% higher.
 - We have 2,113 students who have accepted our offer, which is 24% higher than this time last year.
 - We had 1,732 first-time freshmen students who had accepted our offer last fall, and our goal this year is to reach 2000.
 - Applications by segments:
 - 874 transfer students; 2% higher than last year.
 - 60% increase in enrolled students, which is due to a few new programs that make it easier to enroll.
 - 7.4% increase in graduate student applications.
- **Orientation**
 - 1,217 students are registered for orientation, which is 21% more than this time last year.

Tony Stroud – Innovation District Update

- The School of Business grand opening took place the previous week.
- Cyber Security Building – Marshall has been selected by the federal government to be a Center of Excellence for Cyber Command for the entire east coast.
 - The project is being led by Three Star General Robert Skinner. Skinner will come to Huntington on May 16th and 17th to announce the groundbreaking and the decision to house the Center of Excellence at Marshall.
 - This will be a 3 story, 74,000 square foot building.
 - There will be a private restaurant on the bottom floor.
 - There will be shared academic space with the federal government.
 - The programming phase with developers and architects has been completed.
 - It has gone to the architects to create blueprints.
 - We hope to break ground in September or October.
- Advanced Manufacturing Center
 - We have asked the State for funding to help move our Advanced Manufacturing Center to the empty parking lot on the corner of 4th Avenue and 15th Street.
 - The developer we're working with has acquired the old Latta's building on 4th Avenue and 15th Street across from the parking lot.
 - There will be medical technology companies going into the building.
 - Illuminant Surgical, a company that is making advancements in back surgery.

- Another company there will be manufacturing a polymer substance to 3D print bones.
- Initial Baseball Stadium Site
 - We just entered into an agreement with a developer to buy these 8 acres on 5th Avenue. There will be three restaurants going into the location.

Matt Tidd – CFO

- **Budget**
 - FY25 budget was approved by the board of governors.
 - Tuition and fees increased by 2.5%.
 - Increasing housing rates by 3%.
- **Enduring Financial Principles**
 - Grow Students, Not Fees
 - Enrollment has declined by 22% from Fall 2010 to Fall 2021.
 - We had an enrollment growth of 4.2% for the first-time freshmen.
 - FY25 budget enrollment assumption is a conservative 1% increase.
 - Marshall is more affordable than most of our peers.
 - Invest in our Team.
 - Current FY saw a \$1350 lump sum increase for everyone. This was an 8.2% increase for the lowest earners and a 0.5% increase for the highest earners.
 - Adjustments around gender and race inequities were identified and salaries addressed.
 - Positions with retention issues had adjustments made. This included police officers, grant writers and others.
 - Human Resources completed the market equity analysis in FY24.
 - For FY25, the State gave us \$3.3 million in additional allocation to fund pay raises. \$2.4 million will go to salaries and wages, and \$800-900 thousand will go to benefits in the form of a \$1,000 base lump sum and a 1% base increase.
 - We have also included a \$1 million pool for market equity adjustments to begin addressing the market equity analysis survey.
 - Take Care of the House.
 - The State provided over \$21 million in deferred maintenance money, and we have received one third of it so far.
 - We have started work on 10 or 11 projects and will continue to do more when additional funding is received.
 - \$300,000 is being invested into securing the campus for when the campus carry law goes into effect July 1st.
 - Manage our Strategic Resources
 - Non-personnel spending, contract reviews, understanding where we can be more efficient and save money.
 - Leadership has identified \$3.1 million in savings opportunities. Departments have worked to reduce their FY25 budget by 5%.
 - Marshall Marketplace will roll out July 1st, 2024 and help with the save-to-serve initiatives.

- We are withdrawing \$25 million from our investment portfolio, which is around 23% of the total portfolio.
- **Strategic Initiatives**
 - “Save to Serve”
 - Identify & Take Action:
 - Savings Opportunities
 - Spending Habits
 - Areas of Waste
 - Guided by Budget Work Group:
 - Monthly Meetings
 - Purchasing Best Practices
 - Spending Deep Dives
 - Goal of \$14.5 Million in savings over four years.
 - Incentivized Budget Model
 - Resources aligned with strategic goals.
 - Shared financial governance.
 - Culture of trust, responsibility, accountability
 - Data Informed
 - Road Map
 - We hope to use the principles and initiatives above to get out of our \$23 million deficit, reinvest in our team at the same time, and eventually break even by FY28.
- **Surplus Room**
 - Lisa Ransbottom has taken over the surplus room and is working to get it organized.
 - The goal of the room will be for employees to see if supplies they need can be obtained from there instead of ordering them. Items include binders, folders, general office supplies, etc.
 - The room is in the basement of Old Main and will have designated hours in which employees can come by to see what is available or drop off what they don't need.
 - The goal will be to eventually put these items in a store on Unimarket, have pictures, reserve, and pick up items.
 - Please do not drop off items like telephones, computers, miscellaneous cords, or ink and toner for printers. Anything electronic or computer related should go to IT.
 - Make sure manila envelopes, folders, and binders are empty when dropping them off.

Bruce Felder – Human Resources

- **Remote Work**
 - All remote work opportunities will continue to be approved by the Vice President of each division here at the University.
- **Open Enrollment**
 - Open enrollment is ongoing and will end on May 15th.
 - There are three new voluntary benefit plans offered by Mountaineer Flexible Benefits.
 - Critical Illness
 - Accident

- Hospital Indemnity
- **Engagement Survey**
 - We held our first employee engagement survey in October 2023.
 - Over 65% of employees participated in the survey and several divisions had 100% participation.
 - The survey identified places for improvement in:
 - Salary increases
 - Performance evaluation and accountability
 - Campus Safety and the Campus Carry Act
- **Raises**
 - \$1000 will be added to employees' base salaries with an additional 1% of the salary also added. This will be a permanent change in salary.
 - Anyone less than 1.0 FTE will receive a prorated base increase based upon their FTE percentage. (ex. A 0.8 FTE employee will receive 80%, or \$800)
 - We did a Market Salary Analysis of all our employee salaries in FY24.
 - We know exactly where the midpoint salary of each of our employees is.
 - We adjusted our 2017 salary table as well as each of the midpoint salaries.
 - We will start making efforts to get employees up to this new salary midpoint.
 - There will soon be a new salary table on our website, which will include 15 paygrades instead of 12, as we're also including the non-classified employees.
 - \$1 million has been identified and allowed for HR to distribute in a way to help get salaries up to market.
 - We did a compa-ratio to determine the distance an employee's current salary is from the new midpoint of their paygrades.
 - The further away an employee is from their midpoint, the higher the percentage of increase they will receive in August.
 - Those already at their midpoint will receive a 0.5% increase.
 - Employees in the 90th percentile will receive a 0.75% increase.
 - Employees in the 80th percentile will receive a 1.5% increase.
 - Employees in the 70th percentile will receive a 2.5% increase.
 - Anyone lower than 70% will receive a 3.5% increase.
 - A letter will be sent to all employees around the middle of July to inform them of their new paygrade, midpoint, and your expected salary increase percentage.
 - Total reward statements will also be in this letter, which will tell you your total compensation package.
 - These additional salary increases will go into effect August 24th, but won't be seen on paychecks until September, as we are paid in arrears.
- **Performance Evaluations**
 - Performance evaluation training will be conducted for all supervisors both online and in person beginning this summer.
 - Supervisors and employees will be educated on how to properly conduct performance evaluations.
 - Hopefully this time next year we will begin moving to a merit-based employee raise system.
- **Exempt vs. Non-Exempt Employees**

- An exempt employee would never qualify for overtime regardless of how many hours worked.
- A non-exempt employee is eligible for overtime.
- When determining if a position is exempt or non-exempt, the Department of Labor uses two tests: a salary test and a duties test.
 - Salaries test: the employee must make over \$35,568 or they cannot be exempt.
 - Duties Test. If an employee passes the salaries test (makes over \$35,568) they must then meet the duties test and fall into a executive job, administrative job, professional job, sales job, or computer job.
 - Blue collar workers who work with their hands will not pass a duties test as the Department of Labor wanted to ensure that these employees are eligible for overtime.
 - White collar workers, or administrative workers, may be exempt from overtime no matter how much they work if they meet certain criteria. The position must be non-labor work that must be related to the management or the general business of operations.
- **Q:** Will you wait until employees receive their salary letters to post the updated salary table?
 - **A:** Yes

Tracy Smith – Health and Safety

- **Campus Carry**
 - Tracy thanked everyone who attended the March 12th and 27th town hall meetings.
 - The FAQ section of the website www.marshall.edu/mupd/campus-carry has been updated with questions from those sessions.
 - There will be a campus-wide communication video that will contain information on training, protocols, and everything we are doing moving forward.

Approval of Minutes

- The March 21st, 2024 minutes were approved as written.

Carol Hurula – Board of Governors

Two special Board of Governors meetings took place in April in addition to the regularly scheduled meeting.

BOG Representative – Carol Hurula

** This is my interpretation of each meeting, presentation, and individual reports. Notes are written in my words and are not verbatim words of speakers. I have attempted to share the updates as closely as possible to the content. Any questions or clarification, please notify me. *Forgive any typos.*

Special BOG Meeting on Monday, April 1, 2024 - John Spotts Room.

Athletic Committee (BOG Member Patrick Farrell)

- Discussion of personnel matters involving MBB Head Coach.
- Athletic Committee approved motion to appoint Cornelius “Corny” Jackson as MBB Head Coach.

Full Board Meeting (Chairman Geoff Sheils)

- Approved motion to appoint Cornelius “Corny” Jackson as MBB Head Coach.
- No further action brought before the board.

Adjourn 1:23pm

Special BOG Meeting on Friday, April 12, 2024 - John Spotts Room.

Athletic Committee (BOG Member Patrick Farrell)

- Discussion of personnel matters involving WBB Head Coach.
- The Athletic Committee approved the motion to appoint Juli Fulks as WBB Head Coach.

Full Board Meeting (Chairman Geoff Sheils)

- Approved motion to appoint Juli Fulks as WBB Head Coach.
- No further action was brought before the board.

Adjourn 4:10pm

BOG Meeting on Wednesday, April 10, 2024 - Shawkey Room.

BOG Meeting on Wednesday, April 10, 2024 - Shawkey Room.

- Approval of minutes for February 7, 2024 & April 1, 2024 (special meeting).

Faculty Senate Chair Update: Shawn Schulerberg

- Excellent presentation. He discussed the roles of the Board of Governors (approve rules, approve annual budget, hire & fire President).
- He referenced a book by Robert D. Putnam “Making Democracy Work”.
- Through Shared Governance seeing progress in building social trust, it’s a work in progress but seeing this develop at institution now.
- More trust in BOG, Faculty, and Staff. Deepening trust.
- Rationalism “inside an individual, Institutionalism “shaping behind the scenes”, and Culture “mediates both of these”.
- The Strategic Plan is going well due to the developing culture of the Institution.

Academic and Student Affairs Committee /Provost Update: Avi Mukherjee and BOG Committee Chair – Kathy D’Antoni

- Provost update (see handout provided by Academic Affairs) on each college highlights and summary page.
- Approval of degree addition: Bachelor of Applied Science – pathway for CTC to 4 year degree.
- Approval of degree addition: Master of Arts Applied Behavior Analysis – Hanover noted a need in this area and many jobs unfulfilled. MU will be the only institution in the State of WV to offer.
- Approval of 2023-24 Program Review Recommendations.
- During the committee meeting, April Fugett gave a presentation on Student Success Forecasting Model (SSFM). Cris McDavid & Matt James presented on HERD Connect mentoring and Amine Oudghri-Otmani gave presentation on Advisory Council of Faculty.

Student Representative Update: Walker Tatum

- Student organization funding is one of their #1 support items and to date have given to student orgs \$23,737.
- They pass many resolutions to the President. E.g. food insecurity laundry facility, displaying student discounts to name a few.
- The Hunger 4 Campus Act – bill was not successful this legislative session, but it remains a top priority for our Governmental Relations team.
- February Month of Service – Project Hope. Hid easter eggs & made baskets for kids.
- New SGA President is Brea Belville and VP Conner Waller. They begin term in August at the retreat.
- Spring foundation ceremony planned for April 20th. A change on the traditional laying of the roses, this will the roses will be green, to represent rebirth.
- Sunbelt Conference Food Fight – MU won.

School of Medicine Update: Dr. David Gozal (handout provided)**Athletic Committee** (Christian Spears & BOG Member Patrick Farrell)

- Approved 2024-25 Budget
- Athletic Team updates (handout)

Finance, Audit, and Facilities Planning Committee (Matt Tidd & BOG Committee Chair – Donald Holcomb)

- Approval of 2024-25 Budget.
- Approval of Tuition & Fee Schedule for 2024-25.
- Finance update. (handout)

Facilities & Operations and Audit: (handout provided)**Presidents Update** (Brad D. Smith) *summarized highlights only.

- Final weeks of 2023-24 AY.
- Thanking BOG, faculty & staff for tremendous commitment to serving our students, strengthening our institution and advancing our state.
- MU is galvanized and gaining momentum as we embrace our strategic roadmap – Marshall for All, Marshall Forever.
- Focusing report on state of the university one year into this exciting strategy.
- MU privileged to serve as one of the state’s flagship institutions of higher learning, and the value proposition delivered is access to an affordable, flexible, and achievement-oriented education for all who aspire to a more prosperous life.
- We are among the most affordable 4-year institutions in the state, the Southeast region, and peer R2 institutions across the country.
- Marshall has charted a course to become the most admired and studied university in the nation, with a Marshall For All, Marshall Forever Program.
- Marshall For All, Marshall Forever is grounded in our enduring Vision and Creed, and inspired by bold goals to be delivered by our bicentennial in 2037:
 - accelerate individual success, aspire to deliver 100% placement rates for our graduates in a job or continuing education, and to have no student graduate with student loan debt.
 - accelerate innovative ideas, strive to increase our research grants and contracts from

- \$65M today, to \$150M while tripling the number of start-ups in the surrounding region.
- And to triple our economic impact to \$2.3B, increasing the average return on investment from 14X today to 30X by 2037.
- Broken long-term goals into 3-year milestones for students, employees, the state, and our institution, and aligned metrics with performance-based funding.
- Bring aspirations and goals to life, defined a clear and compelling strategy – Marshall For All, Marshall Forever – that transforms Marshall into a 21st century prosperity platform that offers an in-demand curriculum through on-demand access, with areas of distinction.
 - Six areas of distinction: Cyber Security, population health, advanced manufacturing, advanced energy, aviation, and entrepreneurship.
- Five student first priorities:
 - Increase access, ensure affordability, grow support programs, deliver on-demand and enable lifetime learning and achievement.
 - Every cabinet meeting we begin with “what did you do to help a student” and review key metrics to measure & improve effectiveness and efficiency in serving our students.
- Starting past fall, reversed a 13-year decline in enrollment, produced 4% growth in total enrollment, first-time freshmen up 13%, students from Metro region (59 counties) Ohio & Kentucky up 20% and online learners up 18%.
- Welcomed the first 100 students into cohort Marshall For All, Marshall Forever Program. 97% Pell Eligible (exceptional financial need). Reflects 44% of Pell-Eligible students.
- They navigated to get here, supported by our wrap-around services and work study experiences, have earned a higher GPA than their peers, and they are persisting from semester to semester at a higher rate than their peers as well.
- The high bar keeps getting higher, as our overall retention rate for our student body increased 4.3 percentage points in the past year. Four levels of advising that have been introduced across the campus. Peer advising, professional advising, academic advising, and alumni mentorship.
- Doubled the number of active alumni chapters to ensure ample # alumni mentors in past 12 months – thanks to Matt James for all his efforts.
- Encouraging trend being reinforced by early indicators. Fall enrollment trending positively as well.
- Campus visits up 2 times over last year & on-campus orientation up 33%.
- In the process of identifying next 100 students in the Marshall For All, Marshall Forever Program.
- six strategic areas of distinction.
 - In Cybersecurity and Forensics: our students demonstrate that Marshall University has one of the most distinctive programs in the nation. Caught the attention of the DoD, major private industry players and our state leaders. Awarded \$45M state appropriation to build a state-of-the-art Institute for Cyber Security in our Innovation district.
 - In the final stages of naming a new Executive Director. New state-of-the-art facility up and running in 2026.
 - Health Sciences: joined forces with local healthcare providers and hospital system to form the Marshall Health Network. Academic Health System dedicated to four pillars of excellence to advance population health –focus on addiction, obesity, gerontology, and rural health.
 - Advanced Manufacturing: Marshall Advanced Manufacturing Center is making great strides in supporting regional skilled trades and manufacturers.
 - Advanced Energy: actively engaged in strategic partner discussions and advanced research in areas ranging from solar and electric batteries to nuclear and small modular reactors.
 - Aviation: we now have six fixed wing planes with four more to arrive in the next 12 months, alongside our first helicopter in mid-May. Enrollment on pace to nearly double in the next year. our Aviation team is working with other colleges and universities across the region to

- stand up their programs as well.
- o Entrepreneurship and Economic Development: we opened a state-of-the-art Center for Business and Innovation in January.
- The new Jack Cook Baseball Field is driving economic activity in its inaugural season as well.
- These efforts and outcomes over the past twelve months have reduced what was forecasted to be \$27.7M operating deficit to \$22.7M in the first year.
- The budget for 2024-25, guided by our enduring financial principles:
 - o Grow students, not fees –a modest increase in student tuition/fees of ~2.5% ... below current inflation.
 - o invest in our team ... awarding a \$1,000 lump sum and 1% base pay increase to all employees for their commitment and hard work. An additional \$1M through our save-to-serve efforts to be distributed to employees farthest away from market rates.
 - o taking care of the house - capitalizing on the first tranche of the state-funded \$21M for deferred maintenance. Shovel ready projects called “Project Shock & Awe”, while investing \$300K to prepare for the implementation of campus carry in July 2024.
 - o manage our strategic resources - strengthen our shared governance accountability for the university’s financial performance by parallel piloting IBM in the coming year. Financial responsibility while delivering 5% reduction in supplies & other services through Save to Serve.
 - o Entire campus community, as seen by Athletics department who two years ago received 67% subsidy to increased ticket sales and fund-raising to reduce the subsidy to 54% in route to their commitment to achieve 50-50 balancing of institutional support.
- Positive trends and budgeted assumptions, we are on pace to eliminate our structural deficit and return to a positive operating margin by the end of FY27. Growing revenue, making strategic investments, and eliminating waste.
- Heavy lift ahead of us. Higher education is navigating change and we’re not immune to it.
 - o We have invested the time to architect the game plan.
 - o With fingerprints all over campus.
 - o Not a turn-around but transformation.
 - o If we execute with excellence, will position Marshall to be exemplar in Higher Education.
 - o Providing a roadmap to future prosperity for students, employees, our community and for the country.
 - o Marshall For All, Marshall Forever.

Entered into Executive Session:

- Return from executive session, no votes or action taken.

Chairman Report: (Mr. Geoff Sheils)

- Thanks to Cora, Ginny, Andrea, and IT Staff (Eric & Ryan), and those setting up room, and nice refreshments, very much appreciated and efforts do not go unnoticed.
- BOG will be doing a formal 3rd year evaluation of the President after this fiscal year. Hard to believe it’s been three years (because it hasn’t been) it’s been two & a half years but the end of the third fiscal year and keeps us on the say rhythm as other evaluations on campus. Bill Smith will be heading up that process. More information in August and hopefully be wrapped up at that time.
- The chair is to appoint a nominating committee for officers, he will begin that process.
- The chairman has the honor of welcoming graduates & guests April 27th spring commencement. He had the pleasure of doing so at the winter commencement. He was thoroughly impressed with commencement, it’s a well-oiled machine, and professional production. He’s attended several commencements over the past 5-6 years. Thanked the Commencement Committee.

- Encourages others on board to attend if they can, vivid reminder of who we serve and a really great time.
- Congratulates Bill Smith & Avi Mukherjee on their induction into the Harless Hall of Fame on May 3rd. Very deserving of honor, thanks for their leadership and outstanding contribution to West Virginia's educational initiative, particularly those in the more rural areas of the state.
- 3:30 dedication ceremony today at the Brad D, Smith Center for Business & Innovation.
- Baseball game against WVU this evening.
- Community cares week is May 14-17 sign up at Marshall.edu and show pride in our campus.

Adjourn 2:24pm Future Meeting Dates

June 12, 2024

August 5-6, 2024 Retreat

October 9, 2024

December 4, 2024

February 5, 2025

April 9, 2025

June 11, 2025

Committee Reports

Election Committee – Nina Barrett – No report.

Legislative Committee – Carol Hurula – No report.

According to Toney Stroud, there is anticipation of a special session in May, where surplus dollars will hopefully be distributed.

Personnel/Finance Committee – No report.

Physical Environment Committee – Becky Lusher

- Area of Refuge
 - In the event of a fire, disabled individuals are supposed to wait in the stairwells for fire rescue to retrieve them.
 - Not all buildings have signs indicating this, and the committee is working to make sure this is properly posted all over campus.
- Potholes
 - The largest pothole near Corbly Hall has been repaired, but smaller potholes still need to be fixed.
- All employees are encouraged to fill out an online work order any time something on campus is broken or needs addressed.

Service/Staff Development Committee – Carleen O'Neill - No report.

Announcements

- Becky Lusher said that employees have discussed creating Teams for various positions on campus, like Business Managers, in order for employees in the same position to help each other. Let Becky know if you are interested.
- Crosswalks
 - Discussion took place regarding the need for better crosswalk adherence at 20th street. Options discussed were encouraging better use of the crosswalk button as well as converting the crosswalk to a speed bump.
 - Another dangerous crosswalk is on the corner of 16th Street and 3rd Avenue.

Minutes taken and prepared by: _____
Katie M. Counts, Program Assistant, Classified Staff Council

Minutes approved by: _____
Tony Waugh, Chair, Classified Staff Council

Minutes read by: _____
Brad D. Smith, University President

MARSHALL UNIVERSITY
DEPARTMENT OF INTERCOLLEGIATE ATHLETICS

FY 25 Budget Presented to Marshall University Board of Governors Athletics Committee

| | FY 24 | FY 25 | Variance |
|---|-------------------|-------------------|-----------|
| Auxiliary Enterprise Revenue | 12,978,847 | 14,301,878 | 1,323,031 |
| Big Green Transfers <i>(pending Big Green Board approval)</i> | 2,835,985 | 2,912,450 | 76,465 |
| Student Auxiliary Fee Allocation | 6,775,000 | 6,775,000 | - |
| Institutional Support | 6,752,021 | 6,002,021 | (750,000) |
| Tuition Waivers <i>(pending in-state tuition waiver application)</i> | 3,000,000 | 3,150,000 | 150,000 |
| University Allocation | 4,875,147 | 4,343,103 | (532,044) |
| Source Transfers | 19,000 | 19,000 | - |
| | 37,236,000 | 37,503,452 | |
| Salaries and Benefits | 14,105,723 | 13,500,775 | (604,948) |
| Team/Staff Travel* | 6,401,246 | 6,681,246 | 280,000 |
| Supplies and Other Services | 9,150,000 | 9,262,400 | 112,400 |
| Scholarships | 7,579,031 | 8,059,031 | 480,000 |
| | 37,236,000 | 37,503,452 | |
| <i>*includes all post season travel, including bowl game</i> | | | |

BOARD OF GOVERNORS

April 10, 2024



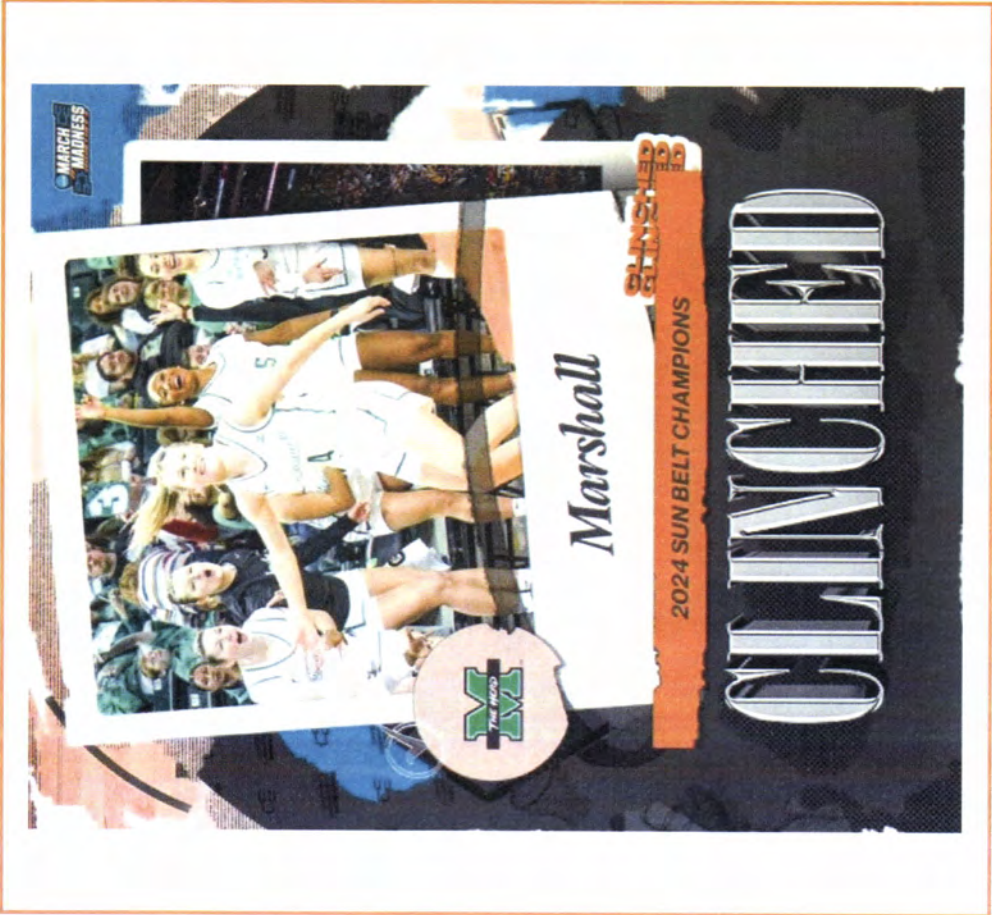
Christian Spears
Director of Athletics

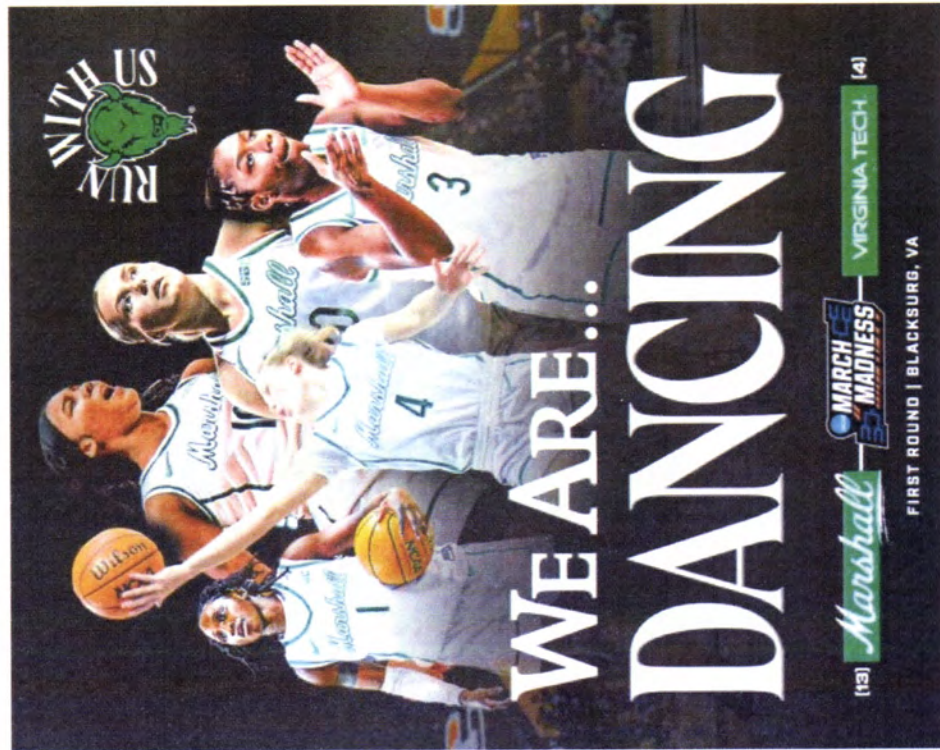
Debra Boughton
Executive Associate AD, Championship
Planning and Resources





Athletic Teams Updates





WITH US
 RUN
 WITH US

WE ARE...
DANCING

(13) **Marshall** MARCH OF MADNESS VIRGINIA TECH (4)
 FIRST ROUND | BLACKSBURG, VA





Jack Cook Field Opening Day

National Issues Update:

Tennessee v. NCAA
(NIL Recruiting Ban)



NCAA Legislation Updates



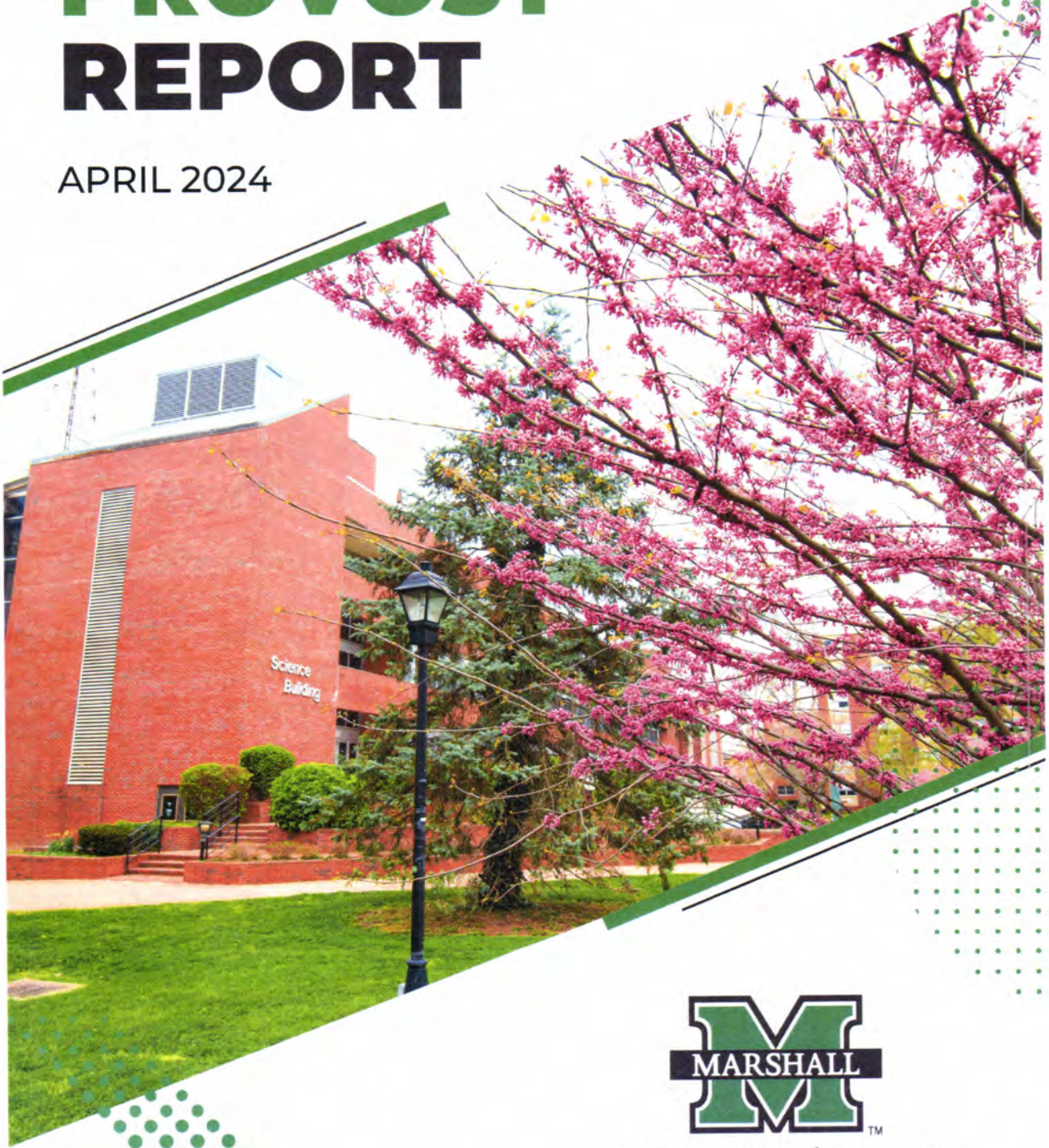
PROHIBET



- Goal: SBC initiative to monitor and prevent sports gambling
- Start Date: June 1, 2024
- Monitors sports betting agencies for activity by using directory information as a safeguard to prevent inpressible activities
- If flagged, internally review to determine if the individual is actually identified bettor
- After review, educational practices are implemented

PROVOST REPORT

APRIL 2024



ACADEMIC AFFAIRS



A Message from Academic Affairs

Greetings!

As we approach the end of the spring semester in April, it's a fitting time to pause and acknowledge the remarkable academic achievements that define our institution. Here's a glimpse into the notable accomplishments across our academic departments and the invaluable support provided to our students:

- **College of Arts & Media:** WMUL-FM clinched two first-place awards and three finalist awards at the 84th Annual Intercollegiate Broadcasting System Conference's Awards Ceremony in New York City on March 2. JMC TV earned three finalist awards.
- **College of Engineering & Computer Science:** Marshall University received Fortune's Best Online Master's in Computer Science program for 2024. The in-person master's degree secured the third position nationally.
- **College of Education & Professional Development:** Approval of the Master of Arts degree in Applied Behavior Analysis program signifies a significant expansion in our offerings, addressing emerging needs in education and professional development.
- **College of Health Professions:** The Exercise Science Program received recognition from the National Strength and Conditioning Association's Education Recognition Program.
- **College of Liberal Arts:** A grant-funded general education initiative, Advanced Critical Thinking, was launched. It features foundational courses and specialized tracks in various fields.
- **College of Science:** The 2024 Appalachian Institute for Digital Evidence (AIDE) Conference highlighted Marshall University's expertise in cyber forensics and security.
- **Division of Aviation:** Marshall University and West Liberty University collaborated to offer a Professional Pilot bachelor's degree program.
- **Lewis College of Business:** The Appalachian Research in Business Symposium facilitates the exchange of new research, ideas, and connections within the region's academic community.
- **School of Pharmacy:** Pharmacy students and faculty advocated for pharmacy benefit manager (PBM) reform, contributing to the passing of a reform bill.
- **University Libraries:** Spearheaded the establishment of the WV Electronic Resources Consortium, providing students statewide with databases and resources.

In addition to our academic pursuits, our wide range of student support services and programs have been abuzz with activity. They've reported:

- **Center for Student Success:** The Total Comeback program, piloted this semester, is a significant highlight as it provides crucial support for students returning from a total withdrawal, demonstrating proactive efforts to ensure student success and well-being.
- **Intercultural & Student Affairs:** The Intercultural Student Weekend stands out as a highlight, showcasing the commitment to community by inviting high-achieving minority students to campus for a tailored program aimed at connecting them with academic and campus resources.
- **Online Education:** The partnership with the Institute for Cyber Security has led to the establishment of a state-of-the-art video production studio within the newly constructed Brad D. Smith Center for Innovation and Business. This initiative underscores our dedication to elevating faculty support and enhancing instructional quality in online education through cutting-edge infrastructure.

On behalf of the Academic Affairs administration and staff at Marshall University, we extend an invitation to join us in commemorating the scholarly and creative triumphs of our faculty, staff, students, and alumni. We take great pride in their successes and warmly welcome you to partake in this celebration of our shared accomplishments.

Sincerely,



Avinandan Mukherjee

Avinandan (Avi) Mukherjee, Ph.D.
Provost & Senior Vice President for
Academic Affairs



Karen McComas

Karen McComas, Ed.D.
Interim Associate Vice President for
Academic Affairs & Associate Provost

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COLLEGE OF ARTS AND MEDIA (DEAN: DR. MARIA GINDHART)

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

- WMUL-FM received two first-place awards and three finalist awards during the 84th Annual Intercollegiate Broadcasting System Conference's 15th Annual Awards Ceremony in New York City on March 2. JMC TV also received three finalist awards for their production work. This year's contest had more than 3,000 overall entries including audio, video, print, and best station categories.

FACULTY & STAFF ACHIEVEMENTS

- Tijah Bumgarner, Video Production, screened her film *Picture Proof* at the West Virginia International Film Festival West Virginia Wednesdays Series in Charleston, January 10-17. She also presented on the WV Film guest panel at the Arts in Our Communities Conference in Charleston on February 28.
- Sandra Reed, professor of Art, presented "W.E.B. DuBois and the 1900 Paris Exposition: Black History, Persuasive Infographics, and a World's Fair" at the Carter G. Woodson Lyceum in Drinko Library on February 7.
- Professor Sandra Reed, Dr. Masa Toyama (Psychology), and alumnae Barb Lavalley Benton presented at the Arts in Our Communities Conference in Charleston on February 28. The presentation featured the structure and results of a series of grant-funded art workshops based in area senior centers that originated in state-funded Creative Aging in Lifelong Learning workshops and the multi-disciplinary health study titled, "Art Intervention: A community-based study of the impact of visual art on the cognitive and other aspects of healthy aging."
- Interim Director of the School of Art and Design Mark Zanter presented his composition *Use of Markov Chains in Ex Machina* at the MOXsonic Arts Festival on March 16.
- Dr. Rob Quicke, Director of the School of Journalism, presented two sessions at the 84th Annual Intercollegiate Broadcasting System Conference in New York City. The sessions covered the story behind the annual College Radio Day and Vinylthon events and his recent book, *Finding Your Voice in Radio, Audio, and Podcast Production*.
- Dr. Chris Swindell, Broadcast Journalism, is producing a pilot for a show featuring Executive Director of Alumni Relations Matt James.
- Dr. Alexander Lee, Voice Studies, gave performances in Brasov, Romania, February 29-March 5.

STUDENT & ALUMNI ACHIEVEMENTS

- Danielle Renee Cade (BFA, Visual Art-2005), was named Executive Director of The Arts Center in Elkins, WV.
- Ralph May (BA, Art-2021) was promoted to Design and Advertising Coordinator for the WV Department of Tourism.
- Dawn Kusher (BFA, Visual Art-2023) was accepted into the Arizona State University School of Art & Design's MFA photography program.
- Music majors Dylan Morgan, piano, and Emma Dial, voice, were the winners of the Concert of Soloists Competition held in Smith Recital Hall on February 4.

- Two of the school's performing groups, Jazz I Ensemble and 3rd Avenue A Capella Vocalists, were featured at the West Virginia Music Educators Association Conference, on February 29-March 2.
- The Sixth Man Band represented Marshall at the Sun Belt Basketball Tournament in Pensacola, FL, March 6-12.
- Students of Alexander Lee, Carline, Waugh, David Castleberry, and Cadence Weaver were featured during the *Art Song Recital: A Celebration of Female Composers in Song and Stage Celebrating International Women's Day* on March 8.
- Senior theatre major Jimi Lawson presented his capstone project on the play *Every Brilliant Thing* written by Duncan Macmillan and Jonny Donahoe, February 19-20. The one-person play was performed by sophomore theatre major Gabriella Bellomy.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

- Music faculty Dr. Carline Waugh, voice, and Dr. Johan Botes, piano, performed at the First Baptist Church of Huntington to celebrate Black History Month on February 9.
- The 55th Annual Winter Jazz Festival was held February 14-17 featuring guest artist Earl MacDonald, a world-renowned jazz pianist.
- The School of Music hosted the High School Honor Band Festival on February 21-23 with over 300 high school students and the WV State Jazz Ratings Fest on February 24.
- Douglas Masek, saxophonist, and clarinetist, was in residence March 7-9 as part of the Joan C. Edwards Distinguished Professor endowment. He gave master classes and performances as part of the Single Reed Day event hosted by faculty Ed and Ann Bingham.
- The School of Theatre and Dance held performances of *The Wolves* by Sarah DeLeppe in the Joan C. Edwards Performing Arts Center, on February 14-17 and 21-24.
- The first Super Sunday recruitment event for the School of Theatre and Dance was developed, managed, and taught by faculty Leah Turley, MaShawn Morton, and Shelby Nelson on March 3. Eleven students signed up for the day-long event that offered free classes in acting, movement, and dance. Lunch was provided and students were given tickets to the Spring Dance Concert featuring Master Teacher Nicholas Young.
- Kristen Letts Kovak's painting solo exhibition, *Out of Order*, was held from February 12-March 7 in the Carroll Art Gallery.
- The 38th Annual Student Juried Exhibition was held February 29-March 22 in the Birke Art Gallery.

Comprehensive review of Gen Ed curriculum

COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING AND COMPUTER SCIENCE (DEAN: DR. DAVID DAMPIER)

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

- Marshall University was recognized by *Fortune* for offering the Best Online Master's in Computer Science program in the nation for 2024. Marshall was also ranked third place nationally by *Fortune* for its in-person master's degree in Computer Science.

FACULTY & STAFF ACHIEVEMENTS

- Drs. Gregory Michaelson, Arka Chattopadhyay, Mehdi Esmaeilpour, and Pingping Zhu were awarded \$2,998,647 by the U.S. Army Engineering Research and Development Center for their proposal, "Detection of Subterranean Threat Activity." Dr. Michaelson is an associate professor of Civil Engineering and currently serves as Associate Dean of the College. Dr. Chattopadhyay is an assistant research professor of Civil Engineering. Dr. Esmaeilpour is an associate professor of Mechanical Engineering. Dr. Zhu is an assistant professor of Computer Sciences and Electrical Engineering.
- Drs. Ammar Alzarrad, Haroon Malik, Husnu Narman, Pingping Zhu, Tanvir Chowdhury, Gregory Michaelson, and Arka Chattopadhyay were awarded \$2,050,000 by the U.S. Army Engineering Research and Development Center for their proposal, "Automatic Assessment and Repair for Military Railroads." Dr. Alzarrad is an assistant professor of Civil Engineering. Dr. Malik and Dr. Narman are associate professors of Computer Science. Dr. Chowdhury is an assistant professor of Industrial Engineering.
- **Zhu, Pingping**, Chang Liu, Peter Estephan, "A Novel Multivariate Skew-Normal Mixture Model and Its Application in Path-Planning for Very-Large-Scale Robotic Systems." arXiv.org, February 2024. Peter Estephan is a Marshall graduate with an M.S. in Electrical Engineering. Dr. Liu is an assistant professor at Peking University in China.
- Boening-Ulman, K., A. Mikelonis, J. Heckman, M. Calfee, K. Ratliff, **S. Youn**, J. Smith, C. Mitchell, W. Hunt, and R. Winston, "The potential to manage releases of *Bacillus anthracis* using bioretention and a high flow media filter: Results of simulated runoff testing with tracer spores *Bacillus globigii*," *Journal of Environmental Management*, Vol. 354, March 2024. Dr. Sungmin Youn is an associate professor of Civil Engineering. Dr. Kathryn M. Boening-Ulman and Dr. Ryan J. Winston are faculty at Ohio State University. Joseph S. Smith is a PhD candidate at Ohio State University. Drs. Anne M. Mikelonis, J. Lee Heckman, M. Worth Calfee, and Katherine Ratliff are scientists for the Environmental Protection Agency. Dr. William F. Hunt is a faculty member at North Carolina State University. Caleb E. Mitchell is a Ph.D. student at North Carolina State University
- Ferdjallah, M., I. Ferdjallah, Z. Khitan and H. Driscoll. "Correlation Analysis between Plasma Calcium Homeostasis and Fluid Dynamics in Alzheimer's Disease and Diabetes Mellitus Type 2." *Journal of Diabetic Complications and Medicine*, Vol. 9 (1), 2024. Dr. Mohammed Ferdjallah is an assistant professor of Electrical and Biomedical Engineering. Dr. Henry Driscoll is an endocrinologist and Dr. Zeid Khitan is a nephrologist in the internal medicine department at the Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine. Dr. Iman Ferdjallah is a JCESOM graduate and completed her pediatrics residency at East Virginia Medical School.

STUDENT & ALUMNI ACHIEVEMENTS

- Alexa Hoffman, an Electrical and Computer Engineering major, and local high school students Sophia Fry and Mahir Irtiza collaborated with Dr. Yousef Sardahi to publish "Fuzzy Logic Control for Flexible Joint Manipulator: An Experimental Implementation" in the *International Journal of Mechanical and Mechatronics Engineering*, Vol. 18, Num. 1, 2024. Sophia is a senior at Huntington High School. Mahir is a junior at Cabell Midland High School. Dr. Sardahi is an associate professor of Mechanical Engineering and Industrial Engineering.
- Several students, in collaboration with CECS faculty, presented their research at the Undergraduate Research Day on February 22 at the West Virginia State Capitol.
 - Hamzeh Al-Qawasmi and Sebastian Risch, Biomedical Engineering: "Polypropylene and Glass Fiber Composite Extrusion for Additive Biofabrication of Bone Tissue Scaffolds with Complex Microstructures."
 - Kyra Baber and Nicole Adkins, Electrical Engineering: "Design and Implementation of an Automated Drink Mixer."
 - George "Robbie" Clarke, Biomedical Engineering: "Influence of Environmental Insults on Human and Mouse Genome Post-Space Missions."
 - Adam Cunningham, Biomedical Engineering: "LDLRAP1, which mediates cholesterol metabolism, is elevated in Alzheimer's disease."
 - Madison Higgins and Hannah Totten, Civil Engineering: "Scanning Electron Microscopy (SEM) to evaluate carbon nanomaterials in cement mortars."
 - Gabrielle Ivey, Biomedical Engineering: "Mutable Characteristics of Tissue Plasminogen Activator Genes in Alzheimer's Disease."
 - Muna Lentison and Cameron Green, Computer Science: "Marshall University AI Chatbox App."
 - Tyra Pemberton, Biomedical Engineering: "Reduced GLP-1R in the aged caudate nucleus with Alzheimer's disease."
 - Colby Perry, Computer Science: "VR vs Traditional Training in Active Shooter Preparedness."
 - Preston Sellards, Ben Taylor, and Mathew Allen, Electrical Engineering: "Autonomous Drones: Multiple Drone Control and Obstacle Avoidance in Obstacle-Deployed Environments."
 - Hannah Totten, Civil Engineering: "Characterization of various nanomaterials using the Cytoviva Hyperspectral Imaging system."

COLLEGE OF EDUCATION AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT (DEAN: DR. TERESA EAGLE)

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

- Dr. Jennifer McFarland-Whisman, Special Education, provided program and course descriptions and master syllabi for the M.A. in Applied Behavior Analysis that was approved this semester. The new program will begin this fall.
- Dr. Eugenia Lambert, Leadership Studies, submitted a proposal to the WV Department of Education for a Superintendent/Supervisor/Principal Administrative Certificate. This will increase competitiveness with other institutions and increase cohorts with Mountain State Cooperative Education Services.

FACULTY & STAFF ACHIEVEMENTS

- Dr. Huanshu Yuan, Curriculum and Instruction, presented at several conferences this spring including: "Multicultural Approaches to Instructional Practice and Policy: Embedding Culturally Responsive Pedagogy in Higher Education" at the NASPA Student Affairs Administrators in Higher Education Annual Conference in Seattle, WA; "Enhancing Multicultural Teacher Education in China" at the Comparative & International Education Society (CIES) Annual Conference in Miami, FL where she also served as Conference Session Chair; and "Promoting Culturally Responsive Teaching through Practice: Chinese Teacher Candidates' Practicum Studies" at the Eastern Educational Research Association (EERA) Conference.
- Medical HELP Assistant Coordinator Hannah Dean-Searls and HELP Director Dr. Hillary Adams presented at the 2024 Learning Differences Association of America Conference. Their presentation "Get Ready to Work: How Advocacy Creates Quality Careers" showcased research and practical guidelines surrounding self-awareness, advocacy, disclosure, accommodations, and workplace rights for neurodiverse individuals.
- Appalachian Studies Association Executive Director Mary Thomas and Office Manager Ann Bryan attended the 47th Annual Appalachian Studies Association Conference in Cullowhee, NC.
- Dr. Kandice Rowe, Director of SCOPES, presented "Transformative Shifts in Academic Advising: Utilizing Advising Week to Cultivate Connection" at the 2024 EERA Conference.
- Dr. Amanda Preece, Assistant Director of Clinical Experiences, presented "Inservice Teacher Use of Social Media: A Case Study" at the 2024 EERA Conference.
- Interim Associate Dean Dr. Debra Lockwood and Dr. Jennifer McFarland Whisman attended Special Education Day at the Legislature on February 21 to help promote quality special education programs and support for special education teachers in West Virginia.
- Dr. Eugenia Lambert presented "Educational Leadership: Using Cohorts to Grow Your Future Leaders" at the Association of Educational Service Agencies (AESAs) Conference in Anaheim, CA with Mountain State Educational Services Cooperative. Dr. Lambert was also awarded an Open Education Resources grant to use for her LS 630 class.

STUDENT & ALUMNI ACHIEVEMENTS

- School Psychology graduate students Kimberly Kahle and Andrea Efaw presented with faculty “Using TCIT in Interdisciplinary Professional Preparation Programs” in February at the National Association of School Psychologists Annual Convention in New Orleans. Evie Butcher, also a School Psychology graduate student, presented “A Follow-up Study of Preservice Candidates' Knowledge of PREPaRE” at the conference. Myra Moore, a School Psychology alum, was recognized as a Model School Psychology Intern Field Supervisor.
- School Psychology graduate student Hayley Summers was recently awarded the Susan Wilson Scholarship. This fund was made possible by memorial gifts to the Marshall University Graduate College Foundation from friends and family of Susan, the daughter of Drs. Robert and Nancy Wilson.
- Alum Madison Parker was named the 2023 Teacher of the Year at Alston Ridge Elementary School in the Wake County Public School System in Cary, NC.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

- The School Psychology program hosted its annual internship fair in February. School districts from WV, VA, OH, and KY attended this annual event to meet candidates in hopes of attracting and hiring an interns for the subsequent school year.
- School psychology students Alexis Bragg, McKenzie Smith, Danielle Ryder, and Hayley Summers and faculty member Dr. Conrae Lucas-Adkins are partnering with the Social Work department to provide interventions for at-risk youth in Cabell and Wayne County elementary schools.
- The WV Autism Training Center partnered with the Autism Services Center to create a part-time autism diagnostic clinic that will provide multi-disciplinary diagnostic services to children across West Virginia and the tri-state area.
- Dr. Sachiko McBride, Curriculum and Instruction, served as a judge at the 2024 West Virginia Science and Engineering Fair in Charleston on March 4.
- The Feed the Need Race, hosted by Dr. Eugenia Lambert, raised over \$3,000 to buy food for local children to take home for weekends.
- Brean Stewart, Dr. Timothy Melvin, and Dr. Eugenia Lambert created a Gingerbread house replica of the One Room Schoolhouse at Ritter Park for the Greater Huntington Park and Recreation District.
- Dr. Bob Rubenstein, Counseling, and Dr. Anna Shreve, WV Autism Training Center, did an invited professional development presentation for Wood County Public Schools.

COLLEGE OF HEALTH PROFESSIONS (DEAN: DR. MICHAEL PREWITT)

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

- Under the leadership of Dr. Rob Powell, Marshall University's Exercise Science Program received a certificate of recognition by the National Strength and Conditioning Association's (NSCA) Education Recognition Program.
- The ALS Clinic at the Marshall University Speech and Hearing Center, in conjunction with Marshall Health's Neurology Department, had a site visit to become a recognized treatment center with the ALS Association. If approved, the Center will be the first in the state of West Virginia.

FACULTY & STAFF ACHIEVEMENTS

- School of Kinesiology faculty Dr. Mark Timmons and Dr. Gary McIlvain co-authored the article, "The medial knee gap measured on ultrasound images is wider during a valgus stress test compared to the anterior medial knee rotation test" published in the journal *Sonography*, February 2024.
- Paula Rymer, Social Work, served as organizer and director the 2024 West Virginia Collegiate Suicide Prevention Conference held at Marshall in April. The event is dedicated to raising awareness and promoting the prevention of suicide among college students.
- Shikeal Harris, Social Work, was chosen to take part in the 2024 cohort of the John Marshall Leadership Fellows Program. Shikeal serves as the MSW Admissions Coordinator.
- Mona Sanders joined the Department of Communication Disorders this semester as a clinical assistant professor. Mona received her MS in Communication Disorders from Marshall in 2013.
- Sarah Clemins, Communication Disorders, presented "An Introduction into using Artificial Intelligence in Speech Therapy" at the 2024 WV Speech-Language Hearing Association Convention in March.
- Robin Looney, Social Work, is acting as a liaison between the Marshall University Research Corporation and the Graduate Social Work Department for the Mental Health Service Professional Demonstration Grant awarded by the US Department of Education. The funding will focus on increasing the number of school behavioral health providers in underserved WV counties.

STUDENT & ALUMNI ACHIEVEMENTS

- School of Kinesiology students presented their research conducted with faculty mentors at the Undergraduate Research Day at the WV Capitol in February.
 - Rileigh Elk: "Elbow Stability Decreases After a Bout of Throwing"
 - Faith Auvil, Brettina Jeffers, Rileigh Elk: "More Glenohumeral External Rotation is Found in Forearm Pronation Than in Forearm Supination"
 - Jacob Hutchinson: "Forearm Muscle Pennation Angle Increases During Maximal Grip Contractions"
 - Brettina Jeffers and John P. Ringhisen: "Load Carriage Increases Trunk Flexion During Arm Elevation and Gait in Soldiers" and "Load Carriage Reduces Scapular Motion During Arm Elevation and Gait"

- Communication Disorders graduate students Teagan Beitzel and Lauren Downing presented their poster "Breaking the Chains: Unveiling the Impact and Resilience of Children with a History of Opioid Exposure" at the WV Speech-Language Hearing Association Convention.
- Macy McKnight, undergraduate Communication Disorders major, presented her poster "Impact of Malocclusions on Feeding Habits" at the WV Speech-Language Hearing Association Convention.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

- The MU Speech and Hearing Center (MUSHC) invited interested high school students to come observe speech therapy sessions.
- The Huntington/MU chapter of the National Stuttering Association (NSA) hosted a screening of the documentary "When I Stutter." Directed by John Gomez, the documentary explores the effects of stuttering on people's lives.
- The Interprofessional Health Student Organization hosted a fundraiser on April 1 at SIP Downtown Brasserie in Huntington. Ten percent of the sales were donated to the organization. Founded in 2019, the Interprofessional Health Student Organization provides an interdisciplinary network for graduate healthcare students that is committed to professional development, advocacy, and community service.

COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS (DEAN: DR. ROBERT BOOKWALTER)

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

- Drs. Sydnor Roy and E. Del Chrol, Humanities, took seven Classics and Latin students to the annual meeting of the Junior Classical League. The students performed an abbreviated version of Plautus' 2nd century BCE Roman comedy *Mostellaria* ("The Ghost Play") for more than 150 high school Latin students. They also judged the Toga Fashion Show, the Certamen (Quiz Bowl), and the graphical arts submissions.
- The Marshall University Thundering Word Speech & Debate team hosted the 52nd annual John Marshall High School Tournament in February. Thirteen high schools registered 244 student entries. Knott County Central High School won the team sweepstakes and Parkersburg High School won the traveling trophy.
- The College of Liberal Arts launched a grant-funded general education program in Advanced Critical Thinking. Students begin with core courses focused on transformative texts and move on to additional coursework in themed tracks for students interested in Healthcare & Medicine, Management & Organizations, Science & Technology, Environment & Sustainability, and Conflict Resolution & Justice.

FACULTY & STAFF ACHIEVEMENTS

- Dr. Zelideth Rivas, Professor of Japanese, has been named a finalist for the West Virginia Professor of the Year Award by the Faculty Merit Foundation of West Virginia.
- Dr. Jana Tigchelaar, associate professor of English, convened a roundtable at the recent Appalachian Studies Conference, titled "In their Own Country Project: Thriving Archives in the Digital Era." The project resulted in a website featuring interviews, references, and teaching materials related to West Virginia writers. English MA graduate student Kelsey Beilstein served as the project intern.
- Dr. Megan Marshall, assistant professor of English, published the chapter, "Social Media & the Perpetuation of Normative Motherhood," in the edited collection, *Normative Motherhood: Regulations, Representations, and Reclamations* in spring 2023. Her review of "From Wallflowers to Bulletproof Families: The Power of Disability in Young Adult Narratives" appeared in the May 2023 issue of *Children's Literature Association Quarterly*.
- Dr. Del Chrol, professor of Classics and Humanities, co-authored with Sarah Blake the chapter, "Sexuality and the Court," which appears in Kelly & Gug's *The Roman Emperor and his Court c. 30BC-c.AD300*, published by Cambridge University Press.

STUDENT & ALUMNI ACHIEVEMENTS

- Duncan Crowley, graduate teaching assistant in Communication Studies, was presented with a Golden Apple award for his work in CMM 103 under the supervision of Dr. Julie Snyder-Yuly. Rob Johnson of WSAZ News, whose mother Dr. Dorothy Johnson served as Chair of the department in the 1980's, presented the award.
- Mel Clark and Kia Booth, Psychology majors, presented their work at Undergraduate Research Day at the WV Capitol. These students conducted a demographic analysis of the LGBTQ+ community in Appalachia. The students' work is part of a project in Dr. Jon Day-Brown's lab studying the effects of sex hormones on brain function.

- Tyler Farley, a double major in International Affairs and Economics, has been named a Gilman Scholar. This US State Department scholarship program supports students in study abroad programs and international internships.
- Alexis Campbell, History major, presented work at the Undergraduate Research Day at the WV Capitol. Alexis' historical research traces three periods of Marshall College's history focusing on how the curriculum was shaped by economic and political forces during its first century of existence.
- Angelica Garcia Barrios graduated from the Engineering Management program in December 2023 with an additional certification in Geospatial Information Science. Before full time work in the College of Engineering, Angelica was enrolled in the English Language Institute and presented research to students in the Physical Therapy program.
- A.W. Hamilton, a 2005 Communication Studies graduate, was named Atlantic Sun Conference coach of the year. A.W. is the head coach of the Eastern Kentucky University men's basketball program. EKU won this year's ASUN conference championship. Hamilton was previously named the 2019-2020 Ohio Valley Conference coach of the year.
- Zach Jenkins, 2017 BA in Psychology and Political Science and 2020 MA in Psychology was awarded the TRIO Service Recognition Award by WV TRIO. Zac is the director of the TRIO program HATS (Heart of Appalachia Talent Search) at Marshall. HATS assists first-generation college students in Mason & Wayne counties by bringing equal access to educational opportunities.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

- Dr. Kristi McLeod is working with the West Virginia Legislature to add domestic violence as a factor in determining the equitable distribution of assets in divorce cases. WV law presumes an equitable distribution of marital assets, even in cases where one spouse has suffered physical abuse. Dr. McLeod has been working in this session to give magistrates the discretion to set unequal asset distribution in cases where one party has been convicted of domestic abuse.
- Dr. Clinton Brown has taken the role of President of Dress for Success Huntington. The Dress for Success non-profit agency assists individuals with limited resources and experience with professional clothing, job searches, interview skills, and other resources that increase their earning potential. Dress for Success in Huntington grew out of a 2007 capstone project developed by students in a Women's Studies course at Marshall.

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

- The Marshall University Institute for Cyber Security hosted the 2024 Appalachian Institute for Digital Evidence (AIDE) Conference on March 4-7. The conference featured experts and vendors from various fields of cyber forensics and security. AIDE is a regional, nonprofit organization that promotes research and education in digital evidence, cyber forensics, and cyber security. The conference was organized by COS faculty John Sammons, Bill Gardner, and Josh Brunty.

FACULTY & STAFF ACHIEVEMENTS

- Drs. Sean and Sachiko McBride, Physics, received \$2,000 from NASA to continue their annual coaching program for the WV Science Olympiad and the MU Society of Physics Students speaker series.
- Dr. Judy Fan, Physics, was awarded a 2024 Air Force Research Laboratory Summer Faculty Fellowship.
- Dr. Tom Cuchta, Mathematics, co-authored the article, "Human risk factors in cybersecurity: Experimental assessment of an academic human attack surface." *Interaction Studies*, Vol. 24 (3), 2023.
- Dr. Rosalynn Quinones, Chemistry, was named as treasurer of the American Chemical Society Colloid & Surface Division. Dr. Quinones also collaborated with Dr. Lauren Waugh, a graduate Forensic Sciences, for their article, "An Evaluation of the Cannabinoid Content of the Liquid and Thermal Degradation Analysis of Cannabis-Labeled Vape Liquids." *Journal of Forensic Sciences*, March 2024.
- Dr. Michael Norton, Chemistry, will lead a project funded by a \$36,000 award from the Army Educational Outreach Program (AEOP) through an agreement with the Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine. The program will support 6 internships for high school students. Two of those students will study DNA-based nanostructures with Dr. Norton this summer.
- Dr. Holly Cypert, Biological Sciences, was awarded a West Virginia Clinical and Translational Science Institute pilot grant of \$50,000 in support of her project, "The mother-daughter connection: Does maternal PCOS impact biomarkers and metabolic factors in young adolescents?"
- Dr. Anne Axel, Biological Sciences, co-authored the paper, "Consistency in Verreaux's sifaka home range and core area size despite seasonal variation in resource availability as assessed by Enhanced Vegetation Index (EVI)." *American Journal of Primatology*, March 2024. Dr. Axel also acquired, engineered, and installed the first phenocam in Madagascar as part of the PhenoCam Network. A phenocam takes still images indefinitely of a plot of vegetation half-hourly each day.
- Dr. Kyle Palmquist, Biological Sciences, co-authored the article, "Wildfire probability estimated from mean annual climate and fine fuels across the big sagebrush region." *Fire Ecology*, February 2024.
- Dr. Robin O'Keefe, Biological Sciences, co-authored the article, "A new genus of small polycotyloid plesiosaur from the Upper Cretaceous of the Western Interior Seaway and a clarification of the genus *Dolichorhynchop*." *Cretaceous Research*, Vo. 157, May 2024.
- Bill Gardner, Cyber Forensics and Security, presented "Getting Hired in Cybersecurity" at the 2024 Appalachian Institute for Digital Evidence (AIDE) Conference in Huntington.
- Dr. Kim Kunkler, a graduate Forensic Sciences, co-presented the workshop "Get Fired Up for Improvements to Fire Debris Standards! Overview, Use, and Implementation of the Major Revisions to ASTM E1618" at the American Academy of Forensic Sciences Annual Conference in Denver, CO.

STUDENT & ALUMNI ACHIEVEMENTS

- The Marshall chapter of the Society of Physics Students (SPS) published their article, "Teaching Students to Make Cameras from Scratch" in the Winter 2024 edition of *The SPS Observer*.
- AJ Messinger, a Physics major, and Holden Young, a Chemistry major, presented their work at the Undergraduate Research Day at the WV Capitol in February.
- Jacob Lee, a Chemistry major, was awarded a 2023-2024 NASA WV Space Grant Consortium Undergraduate Research Fellowship Scholarship.
- Forensic Science graduate students Jett Brandes, Chris Haser, Charis Hickey, Katie Peyton, Maddy Robinson, Jessica Smith, and Allison Swigart presented posters at the Annual Conference of the American Academy of Forensic Sciences, in Denver, CO.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

- The 10th Annual WV State Science Olympiad was held at Marshall on March 2. The event featured 23 STEM events, attracted over 100 high school students, and involved the participation of faculty and students from the entire College of Science. Dr. Sachiko McBride serves as the WV State Director of the Olympiad.
- Dr. Sachiko McBride participated as a judge at the WV Science and Engineering Fair on March 4.
- Dr. Jennifer Markiewicz and members of Alpha Chi Sigma (AXE), the student chemistry fraternity, oversaw a Boy Scout merit badge session on March 10.
- Dr. Rosalynn Quinones, students from her Laboratory, and volunteers from First2Network and AXE participated as judges for the Lawrence County Science Fair at Fairland High School.

DIVISION OF AVIATION (CHIEF AVIATION OFFICER: MR. BILL NOE)

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

- Marshall University Aviation leaders and faculty visited 37 West Virginia counties and over 40 high schools last fall through the West Virginia Association of Collegiate Registrars and Admissions Officers career fairs. This spring recruiting is being approached with a more direct focus on local private middle and high schools as well as reaching out to any remaining counties that did not participate in WV career fair days. To date, Marshall Aviation has presented to over 6,000 West Virginia K-12 students. In addition to visiting students at their respective schools, the flight and AMT schools welcomed over 500 students to Marshall University Aviation campuses this spring.
- This spring the flight school and AMT school rolled out electronic submission of hazard reports. This initiative is the next step in the Safety Management System by which we proactively mitigate risks associated with our operations. The culmination of these activities leads to the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) Aviation Safety Action Program (ASAP) approval. ASAP recipients are recognized as the FAA certificate holders with the highest attention to detail and safety of flight and serve as partners with the FAA in the promotion of safety within general aviation.
- This spring marks graduation for the inaugural class of AMT students. Seventeen students will graduate and enter the aviation industry as professional aircraft technicians. All 17 students were honored with conditional offers of employment from industry partners early last year. Marshall Aviation is proud to announce three of its graduates will accept positions with Embraer, the world's third-largest aircraft manufacturer. Others have accepted positions with General Electric (GE) Aircraft Division and Republic Airways. Four graduates have applied for positions with Marshall University Aviation. These talented professionals have voiced a clear commitment to hone their aviation skills by working on our aircraft and supporting flight operations at Marshall University Aviation.

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS

- Ian Chinn and Ben Epperly, third-year professional pilot students, achieved the coveted Certified Flight Instructor certification in January. There are now five students from the inaugural class who have achieved this milestone. Ian and Ben are next in line to join as flight instructors within the Professional Pilot Program. This accomplishment is one full semester ahead of schedule as Marshall University Aviation continues to intentionally develop a self-sustaining workforce while providing industry employment for its students.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

- Seventy-five student counselors from Project Lead the Way visited the Flight School on March 12. The counselors participated in PLTW STEM Circles Teacher Convening. Counselors participated in STEM-based teaching scenarios, panel discussions, and breakout sessions, all designed to strengthen STEM-based programs in K-12 schools.

- Marshall University Aviation hosted the Federal Aviation Administration Safety Team (FAAST) meeting. This session focused on teaching human performance and communication. The Flight School and AMT school welcomed West Virginia instructors, students, and community members including a crew from the Fairmont State University Flight Program. These community sessions increase awareness, and knowledge, and put a positive spotlight on Marshall University, Marshall University Aviation, and the state of West Virginia.
- Marshall University is in the final steps of rolling out a Fall 2024 flight program in conjunction with West Liberty University. Under this agreement, West Liberty University and Marshall University will jointly issue a Professional Pilot bachelor's degree. Marshall will provide all aviation courses and West Liberty will provide the general education requirements. Marshall University Aviation will fly aircraft and instructors to Wheeling to conduct FAA-approved flight training courses for West Liberty students.
- Marshall University and West Virginia University announced an agreement for a Professional Pilot bachelor's degree and an AMT degree. Under this agreement, Marshall University and West Virginia University will jointly issue these degrees with Marshall providing all aviation-specific instruction and WVU providing all general education requirements. Marshall University Aviation will fly aircraft and instructors to Cumberland Regional Airport to conduct FAA-approved flight training courses for WVU students. Additionally, the AMT school will open a satellite base at Cumberland Regional Airport to support training WVU AMT students.
- In February, Marshall University Aviation began offering flight training at Martinsburg Airport. Aviation enthusiasts can obtain the highest quality flight training at the new Martinsburg facilities. Marshall University flies its aircraft and instructors to Martinsburg to provide training for members of the local community.
- The University welcomed members of Sinclair Community College's Unmanned Aircraft Program to discuss the upcoming start of Marshall University Aviation Unmanned Aircraft Systems training. Marshall University is proud to partner with Sinclair Community College in the creation of K-12 and collegiate training programs that support UAS flight and maintenance. These classes and training programs will be launched in the fall of 2024 and include FAA certifications and operational experience.

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

- The LCOB hosted the Appalachian Research in Business Symposium on April 4-5. The Symposium provides a venue for presenting new research, discovering contemporary ideas, and building connections among scholars. Dr. Boniface Yemba, assistant professor of International Business, served as Conference Chair. A record total of 90 papers and abstracts were accepted with 38 from LCOB faculty and students. Keynote speakers included Provost Avinandan Mukherjee and author and innovator Carlton Robinson, director of the Jacksonville Chamber of Commerce.
- The 6th annual TEDxMarshallU was hosted at the Joan C. Edwards Playhouse on February 27. Nine speakers from around the world, including four students, delivered enlightening talks centered on this year's theme: "Connecting Threads." The theme was inspired by Marshall University's Higher Learning Commission Quality Initiative theme for the 2023-2024 academic year: "Building Bridges." The TEDxMarshallU event will be upgraded to a global status TEDx in 2025 due to the number of online participants and downloads.

FACULTY & STAFF ACHIEVEMENTS

- Dr. Margie McInerney, professor of Management, received the Albert Nelson Marquis Lifetime Achievement Award for career longevity and excellence in a chosen field for Fall 2023 by the Marquis Publications board. She is also among the Marquis Who's Who Women of Influence of Professional Women for Spring 2024.
- Dr. Nancy Lankton, Associate Dean and Professor of Accounting, had the eighth most downloaded paper in the *Journal of the Association for Information Systems* in 2023 for her paper, "Technology, Humanness, and Trust: Rethinking Trust in Technology," which was published in 2015.
- Suzann Workman, administrative secretary in the Department of Accountancy and Legal Environment, retired after 34 years of service. Suzann is the longest-standing staff member in the Lewis College of Business, serving under twelve deans and at least six department chairs. A reception was held on Friday, March 8 to celebrate her service.

STUDENT & ALUMNI ACHIEVEMENTS

- Devin Miller, a Sports Management alum, spoke to instructor David Steele's Current Issues in Sports class about his first-hand experience with collegiate NIL (name, image, and likeness) and product brand promotions during his days as a tight end for Marshall Football.
- Katy Spears, an Entrepreneurship alum, is seeing her entrepreneurial endeavors come to fruition. Katy received first place at the MU qualifying stage of the WV Innovation and Business Model Competition in Spring 2022. She placed fifth in the state finals, using the prize money to invest in her own business of bringing "Tiny Homes" for student housing near Marshall's campus. Officially breaking ground on January 28, her goal is for the homes to be completed by August 2024.

- Isabella Schrader, Entrepreneurship and Sustainability Management major, was chosen to participate and represent the Brad D. Smith Schools of Business and Lewis College of Business in the 2024 WV Undergraduate Research Day at the Capitol. Her research focused on how businesses and nonprofits can integrate the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals into their business operations to help advance West Virginia's Sustainable Development.
- Students Mackenzie Rider, Valerie Watts, Jonathan Garlow, and Reagan Hines attended the Quinnipiac Global Asset Management Education (GAME) Forum in New York City in March with Dr. Mohammad Uddin, assistant professor of Finance.
- Amber Chatelain, AJ Kooti, Marjorie Abney, Rachel Brassine, and Clint Taylor, members of the first cohort of Doctor of Business Administration students, presented their dissertation defenses this semester.
- Luke Jeffrey, a Yeager Scholar and Accounting major, was invited to speak at the 6th Annual TEDxMarshallU event in February. Luke serves as an innovation intern for Marshall's iCenter and as the social media manager for *The Parthenon*. Seniors Jamison Lewis, a Management major, and Gracie Queen, a Marketing major, served on the student-led organizing team for this year's event. Jamison was responsible for ticketing and various elements of production as Event Manager. Gracie served as the Marketing and Social Media Coordinator while managing the team's other promotional efforts.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

- The LCOB hosted 53 members of the Huntington Young Professionals for their monthly meeting and a tour of the new Brad D. Smith Center for Business and Innovation. The tour included a look at the Encova Auditorium, various classrooms, finance and computer labs, and the integrated technology that makes the building state-of-the-art.
- The Service Wire Company team also stopped by the new building for a tour and to discuss ways to partner with the LCOB to establish a world-class sales center. The Transformative Sales and Service Excellence Center in the building was made possible by a generous donation from Service Wire to provide students with a space that can adequately prepare them to be a step ahead of the competition in their professional careers.
- The Lewis College of Business continues to foster its relationship with Northwestern Mutual. Their staff have attended several finance classes to talk about their company and put a "Real World" link to the LCOB curriculum. They also hired an intern from one of the in-class visits.

SCHOOL OF PHARMACY (DEAN: DR. ERIC BLOUGH)

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

- Drs. Craig Kimble and Tommy Pile were interviewed for two newspaper articles in the *Herald-Dispatch* on Pharmacy Benefit Managers (PBM) reform. They also met with state senators and delegates in Charleston to discuss several bills. A PBM reform bill was passed in March 2024 by the legislature and is awaiting the Governor's signature.
- The students and faculty of the School of Pharmacy attended the WVPA Pharmacy Day at the Capitol on February 6 to advocate for patients and the pharmacy profession. Student ambassadors and faculty also represented the SOP during Marshall Day at the Capitol on February 1.

FACULTY & STAFF ACHIEVEMENTS

- Dr. Tommy Pile was one of five pharmacy faculty members selected for the National Association of Chain Drug Stores (NACDS) Faculty Scholars Program for research involving diabetes technology. Dr. Pile also received a \$5,000 award.
- Dr. Cynthia Jones received the Excellence through Diversity Award at the 2024 Diversity and Inclusion Awards hosted by the Marshall University Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine.
- Dr. Tim Long served as a grant reviewer on the National Institutes of Health (NIH) study ZAI1 VSR-D(M1) NIAID New Innovators Award.
- Dr. Gayle Brazeau is serving as the Chair of the Tri-State Chapter of the American Red Cross Missions Committee.
- Dr. Boyd Rorabaugh served as a member of a review panel (Integrative Myocardial Physiology/Pathophysiology Study Section) in March to review federal grants for the NIH.
- Dr. Craig Kimble spoke at the 50th Annual Ohio-Marshall County Pharmacists Association (OMCPA) Spring Seminar in Wheeling giving an update on continuing education programs on immunizations.
- **Brazeau, G**; Robinson, ET; Reardon, G; Zgarrick, D. "Pharmacists must take an active role as citizen scientists". *Journal of the American Pharmacists Association*, Vol. 64, Issue 1, 2024.
- Stanek ML, Boaz KM, Cordes CN, Niese TD, Long KE, Risner MS, Blasco JG, Suzelis KN, Siereveld KM, **Rorabaugh BR**, Zoladz PR. "Social evaluative stress enhances central detail memory, reduces false memory, and results in intrusive memories that last for days." *Neurobiology of Learning and Memory*, Vol. 209, March 2024.
- **Kimble, Craig and Pile, Tommy**, "Securing the Supply Chain: the DSCSA and the New Importation Policy in Florida." *Pharmacy Times-Health System Edition*, Vol. 13 (2), March 2024.

STUDENT & ALUMNI ACHIEVEMENTS

- SOP students were recognized at the 2024 Diversity and Inclusion Awards hosted by the Marshall University Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine. Fourth-year student Angelina Tetteh received the Pharmacy Diversity and Inclusion Excellence Award. Austin Richardson, also a fourth-year student, received the Diversity and Inclusion Advocacy Award.

- Monis Ali (P2 student), Alexis Atkinson (P2 student), and Dr. Tommy Pile presented a research project at the American Pharmacists Association (APhA) 2024 Annual Conference in March.
- A policy proposal on pharmacy access co-authored by Dr. Tommy Pile and P3 student Taylor Campbell was presented and voted on at the national American Pharmacists Association Academy of Student Pharmacists (APhA-ASP) meeting in March.
- The Marshall University Pre-Pharmacy Club won the 2024 Most Improved Student Organization Award from the MU Student Affairs LEAD Center. The club was recognized and celebrated at the Spring 2024 Leadership Awards Ceremony.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

- SOP students and Dr. Tommy Pile visited the 5th grade class at St. Joseph's Catholic School in Huntington for a medication safety education event. Students were able to make their suspensions using smarties, mortars, pestles, and flavoring agents. They learned the difference between vitamins, medicine, and candy. Students also learned about vital signs, how to take blood pressure, and listened to lung and heart sounds.
- Dr. Jennifer Sparks collaborated with the Marshall University Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine to present pharmacy opportunities at Fairfield University.
- The SOP participated in the Career and Internship Fair at Morehead State University on February 28.

UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES (DEAN: DR. MONICA BROOKS)

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

- The WV Electronic Resources Consortium, established by Marshall University Libraries, outlined the upcoming subscriptions for the 2024-2025 academic year. The Consortium provides access to over 15 databases and hundreds of thousands of resources. Agreements like this allow Marshall to supplement library holdings while also helping to support students in community and technical colleges and other 4-year institutions in West Virginia.

FACULTY AND STAFF ACHIEVEMENTS

- Library faculty members Sarah Mollette and Kacy Lovelace were invited by the iCenter in the Lewis College of Business to be part of an inaugural group learning how to facilitate Design for Delight (D4D) for University Libraries. The group will identify a problem that impacts library users and try to solve it while training fellow library staff to be certified with the D4D Innovation Explorer micro-credential badge.
- Sarah Mollette was interviewed with fellow Marshall colleagues for the N4A Academic Integrity Assessment & Program Review for the National Association of Collegiate Directors of Athletics. The assessment is meant to ensure the university is effectively aligned with NCAA standards regarding academic integrity for student-athletes.
- Kacy Lovelace completed the Department Chair Leadership Academy and became certified as an Innovation Catalyst I.

COLLABORATIONS & PARTNERSHIPS

- Sarah Mollette hosted pop-up events at the Chris Cline Athletic Complex tutoring center and the new Brad D. Smith Center for Business and Innovation to establish a presence in areas that are outside Drinko Library to let students know about research and support services.
- Sarah Mollette is working with Cody Hall in Information Technology to coordinate campus-wide training and workshops on AI as part of the Presidential AI Taskforce.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

- Sarah Mollette represented University Libraries on March 13 at the "Safer Spring Break" event to encourage students to make smart choices.
- The library faculty and staff worked with members of the campus and the local community to organize and host HerdCon 2024, an annual pop culture convention. HerdCon 2024, held March 29-30, featured the annual *Song-a-Long* event with emcee Rodney Sanders. Beau Smith, creator of the comic book and television show *Wynonna Earp*, made a guest appearance. The Huntington Old Time Dance & Music group performed musical numbers. A live remote with WMUL was held with the HerdCon *PopCast* crew. MU cosplayers-in-residence Alicia Lewis of *Kiss-a-Frog Cosplay* and Kat Skipworth of *Katwoman Cosplay* judged a costume contest. There were numerous vendors, demonstrations, panels, artists, food trucks, role play

and tabletop gaming, and musicians. The event was free for all ages and took place in the Memorial Student Center, Drinko Library, and across MU's campus.

- To mark AIDS Awareness Week, Drinko Library displayed a section of the AIDS Quilt in the area above the Library Circulation desk. The library hosted a series of events to mark the week including a reception with speakers and a reading of the names of local AIDS victims. Panels and a movie screening were hosted throughout the week of March 11-16.

CENTER FOR STUDENT SUCCESS (DIRECTOR: DR. KATERYNA SCHRAY)

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

- The Center for Student Success piloted a new program this semester to assist students returning from a total withdrawal called Total Comeback. The program was created by Morgan Conley, Assistant Director for Student Success Initiatives, working with the Total Withdrawal Counseling Program, and consists of case-management as well as support group meetings.

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS

- Supplemental Instruction Leader Perin Schray, a senior majoring in Chemistry, has been selected as the international winner of the Outstanding New SI Leader award by the International Center for Supplemental Instruction. Perin serves as the SI leader for CHM 205, a class that covers general chemistry, organic chemistry, and biochemistry for nursing and health science students. This highly competitive recognition brings national and international attention to Marshall University.

INTERCULTURAL & STUDENT AFFAIRS (VICE PRESIDENT: DR. MARCIE SIMMS)

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

Vice President's Office

- The Division of Intercultural and Student Affairs sponsored a Watch Party for the women's basketball team in the Memorial Student Center on March 11. This event was open to students, staff, faculty, alumni, and the public.

Office of Accessibility and Accommodations (formerly Student Disability Services)

- The Office of Disability Services has officially changed its name to the Office of Accessibility and Accommodations.
- Spring 2024 Student Data for the Office of Accessibility and Accommodations as of March 2024: New students registered (Spring) 23; Total Registered students–609; Case Management–67; Exams proctored–133; Emotional Support Animal Approvals–45.

Office of Student Advocacy

- The Office of Student Advocacy hosted Countdown to Commencement on March 12 and 13 for graduating students. A virtual option for students was held on March 14.
- Thirty students received a rented laptop for the Spring 2024 semester.
- In March, fifteen students received Marco Meal swipes or \$100 in Herd Points.

Student Conduct

- Student Conduct conducted the Football Student Athletes-Conduct and Responsible Behavior Refresher training in collaboration with Athletics.
- Student Conduct and the Behavioral Intervention Team (BIT) completed training with the Counseling Center focusing on reviewing BIT practices and the MU Reporting System.

Intercultural & International Student Programs

- Intercultural Affairs hosted the 35th Women of Color Awards Luncheon on March 5. Awards were given to community members, students, and staff members.
- Intercultural Affairs sponsored Intercultural Student Weekend on March 8-9. The program invites high-achieving minority students to campus for two days to connect with academic and campus resources. Over 65 students from West Virginia, Ohio, Kentucky, and Washington, DC high schools participated. Students met with student organizations, spent the night at the Rec Center, received a campus tour, and were given a tour of the Stadium Skyboxes.

Counseling Center

- The Counseling Center has seen 1,137 students since the first day of class.
- The Counseling Center sponsored Wednesday Wellness on March 13, a program that provides educational resources and massages to students.

Wellness/Student Health Education Programs

- Graduate assistant Hannah Estep and Wellness Coordinator Kaye Godbey facilitated a Positive Self-Talk Workshop for 22 RA's.
- Kaye Godbey gave two in-class wellness presentations to 35 students in the Social Work and Communications Studies departments. She provided individualized wellness plans for 12 different students. She also presented and recorded a workshop on March 6 for online students on motivation and overcoming burnout.
- MU Paws took part in 2 events this semester, comforting over 100 students.
- A Safer Spring Break event was held on March 13 on the MSC plaza which provided 204 students with safety resources to kick off Spring Break. Ten on-campus organizations and 15 community agencies participated by providing resources and hosting activity booths.

Violence Prevention & Response Programs

- The office distributed 300 valentines promoting safe sex practices, consent, and education regarding healthy relationships.
- A presentation was held on March 14 for on-campus residents regarding healthy relationships.

Division Marketing Plan/Marshall U App

- Since the MU App launched in August 2023, there have been 4,323 downloads. A new app experience has been built for potential students to quickly access the application process. Once students receive their Marshall email, they will transition to the full student engagement experience.

Military and Veterans Affairs Office

- Student Veterans of America (SVA) members Jamie Springston and Amond Bailey attended Legislative Week at the US Capitol, March 3-7. Jamie was also part of a video testimony in support of the Not Just a Number Act, a bill before US Congress to increase the expansion of veteran benefits and for the prevention of veteran suicide.

Louis Stokes Alliances for Minority Participation (LSAMP)

- LSAMP hosted its annual Symposium February 9-10 with over 140 students from nine schools throughout West Virginia and Kentucky in attendance.
- David Cartwright, LSAMP Campus Coordinator, took 25 students to the Being Everything You Are (BEYA) Conference in Baltimore, MD, February 14-17.

ONLINE EDUCATION (DIRECTOR: DR. JULIA SPEARS)

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

- Marshall Online launched its first-ever online store in collaboration with BSN Sports. Five percent of the proceeds from every purchase will go toward fundraising for Marshall Online. This initiative aims to create a distinctive line of Marshall Online clothing.
- The Marshall Online Student Engagement (OSE) team hosted its second Virtual Countdown to Commencement on March 14. All students graduating from an E-campus-approved program were invited to participate. Students heard from campus partners about important information related to pre-graduation responsibilities such as ordering commencement regalia and announcements.
- The Marshall Skills Exchange issued 144 more badges including 12 from the first microcredential offering outside of the pilot phase.
- The Marshall Online Newsletter January issue featured Ultra news and updates, Belonging and Mindset teaching intervention, a Teams breakout rooms tutorial, semester-on-a-page resource for students, OSE virtual events, and a faculty spotlight on Dr. Chris Sochor. The February issue featured a Teach-to-Learn guide, OneNote in Ultra tutorial, faculty liaison videos, information on the Virtual Countdown to Commencement, and OSE virtual events.
- The Design Center added a new Best Practices in Online Teaching and Learning section to their website. The section provides faculty with research-based best practices and teaching inspiration for quality instructional design and delivery. A Regular and Substantive Interaction checklist was also added to include strategies for meeting and exceeding RSI.
- Online Education is using Synthesia, a generative AI video production software, to help faculty enhance their courses using multimedia assets. This program uses generative AI that writes a script to create a voice-over and avatar to present content. Faculty can customize everything within the platform to include Marshall branding, PowerPoint slides, screen recordings, and video content.

STAFF ACHIEVEMENTS

- President Brad Smith, Assistant Provost for Online Education Dr. Julia Spears, and Provost Avinandan Mukerjee presented “Marshall for All, Marshall Forever: Marshalling Impact in West Virginia” at the annual meetings in January for the Association for Undergraduate Education at Research Universities (UERU) and the American Association of Colleges and Universities (AAC&U). Dr. Spears also co-presented the session “Advising for Student Success-Advising as an Equity/Excellence Imperative at Research Institutions: Shifting Toward Shared Models” at the AAC&U conference.
- Dr. Julia Spears and Michelle Morrison presented “Advising & Mental Health: Bridging the Divide with Innovative Embedded Technologies” at the University of Pittsburgh Mentoring and Advising Summit on March 8. The session had 213 attendees from around the country. Michelle Morrison and Laliccia Byrdie-Johnson also presented at the Summit, “Transforming the Online Student Experience: Building an Online Student Engagement Team That Supports Online Student Success.” The session had 196 attendees from other R1 and R2 institutions.

COLLABORATIONS & PARTNERSHIPS

- Marshall Online faculty liaisons Drs. Laura Stapleton, Wendi Benson, and Shannon Miller-Mace produced new videos on gamification, reinvigorating discussion boards, and a learner workload awareness survey to create impactful online teaching methods.
- The Online Student Engagement Team and Counseling Services co-hosted a “Staying Motivated” session for online students on March 6.
- The WV Grant Resources Center is partnering with Online Education to offer an advanced grant writing micro-credential.
- Online Education partnered with the Office of Career Education to create three new micro-credential modules: career and self-development, communication, and professionalism. Online Education also partnered with Career Education on the student virtual programs “Navigating Handshake,” “Creating Effective and Powerful Resumes,” and “Ace Your Job Interview.”
- Online Education partnered with the Institute for Cyber Security to create a video production studio inside the new Brad D. Smith Center for Innovation and Business that will assist faculty on how to create videos and other multimedia learning materials.
- In collaboration with the Office of Workforce and Economic Development, Online Education was awarded a \$400,000 grant from the Charles Koch Foundation to support the work of micro-pathways and micro-credentials.
- Online Education is collaborating with the Presidential Committee on the Centennial of Negro History Week and Black History Month to create an online program to host short courses. The courses, designed for local and global audiences, will cover a diverse range of Black history topics with flexible lengths.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

- Dr. Julia Spears, Diana Adams, and Michelle Morrison represented Marshall Online at Marshall Day at the WV Capitol in January.
- Online Education participated in several campus events this semester including the Graduate Studies Expo, Green and White Days, Career Fair, and the Career Education Cybersecurity Fair.
- Marshall Online hosted online students who were invited to attend the Marshall Women’s Basketball Game on March 1.



BOARD OF GOVERNORS REPORT | APRIL 10, 2024



School of Medicine marks another successful Match Day

A total of 59 fourth-year students from the Class of 2024 matched to residency programs, representing a 100% match rate for the class.

More than one-third of the class matched in primary care while others are pursuing highly competitive specialties. This is the fourth consecutive year the School of Medicine has had a 100% match rate.

A PERFECT MATCH

MD CLASS OF 2024

- 100% Match Rate
- 37% matched in primary care specialties
- 54% to stay in WV for residency

GRADUATE MEDICAL EDUCATION PROGRAMS

Marshall filled 100% of first-year slots in its 12 residency training programs, including the new rural psychiatry residency. The number of approved trainees for each program is designated by the program's accrediting body.

New residents and fellows will begin their programs July 1.

Meet Jessica Tall

Class of 2024

Marshall Moment



Jessica "Jess" Tall wants to be a physician who treats people — getting to know each patient on her exam table, including the unique set of characteristics, circumstances and histories that make them who they are. Jess, a fourth-year medical student at Marshall, shared her views as one of the featured speakers for the sixth annual TEDxMarshallU event Feb. 27 at the Joan C. Edwards Playhouse.

Exploring identity helps people heal amidst all the factors at play in their lives. This goes for the medical field and beyond, said Jess, also a longtime mentor for middle and high school students.

"Coming from a diverse background and low socioeconomic status, I always had a passion for advocating for people who may not have access to health care and resources," she said. "I want to aid those from rural backgrounds and get out of my comfort zone," she said. "I am glad, thankful and grateful that so many local community members have allowed me to be a part of some of their most vulnerable moments, the healing process and their medical journey."

A Cleveland, Ohio, native, Jess matched in child neurology at Boston Children's Hospital and plans to pursue a career in epileptology and aid children with neurological disorders.



NEW CLINICAL TRIAL: New study investigates impact of maternal PCOS on biomarkers and metabolic factors in young adolescents

A new study at Marshall University led by Jennie Yoost, MD, MSc, aims to shed light on the intricate relationship between maternal polycystic ovarian syndrome (PCOS) and its potential impact on biomarkers and metabolic factors in young adolescent girls.

PCOS is a complex hormonal disorder associated with increased risks of cardiovascular disease and type 2 diabetes. Yoost, an associate professor of Obstetrics and Gynecology at the School of Medicine and the only fellowship-trained pediatric and adolescent gynecologist in West Virginia, has teamed with Holly Cyphert, PhD, associate professor of Biological Sciences in Marshall's College of Science, to determine how maternal PCOS may influence the metabolic health of young girls during puberty.

Funded by a grant from the West Virginia Clinical and Translational Science Institute, this study seeks to compare and analyze androgens, ovarian function markers, metabolic factors such as insulin and lipid levels, and specific bile acids as biomarkers among adolescents before their first menstrual period. If present, the biomarkers may indicate risk of disease. The study will involve evaluation of females ages 8 to 13, including their medical history, timing of pubertal changes and laboratory tests.



The 11th Annual Quality & Safety Summit was hosted March 14 by the School of Medicine and Marshall Health Network.

QUALITY & SAFETY TAKE CENTER STAGE

Faculty, resident physicians, fellows, medical students and other health care professionals showcased initiatives to enhance patient care, safety and overall quality within their respective fields at the 11th Annual Quality & Safety Summit last month. The following projects were recognized for outstanding achievement:

Outstanding Quality Improvement (QI) Award

Acute Ischemic Stroke IV Thrombolytic Door-to-Needle Treatment Times Improvement Project | Marshall Health Network, St. Mary's Medical Center

Outstanding Patient Safety Award

MRSA Decolonization Protocol Strategies to Decrease Methicillin-Resistant Staphylococcus Aureus | Marshall Health Network, St. Mary's Medical Center

Outstanding Resident Safety Award

Easier to Breathe with the Pediatric Big Three Marshall Pediatrics

Outstanding Resident Quality Improvement Award

Implementing the Guidelines in a Non-Freestanding Children's Hospital: An Evaluation of the Management of Well-appearing Febrile Infants Marshall Pediatrics

CMO's Outstanding Interdisciplinary Team Project

Improving the Rate of Medicare Wellness Visits | Marshall Family Medicine, Information Technology

Vice Dean's Award for Best Integrated/Sustainable QI Project

Holzer Family Medicine

Frank D. Shuler, MD, PhD, Program Award For Residency/Fellowship Program with the Most Poster Presentations

Marshall Family Medicine



Hammers, Holroyd represent Marshall at WV Women's Leadership Summit

Among an outstanding lineup for the 2024 West Virginia Chamber of Commerce Women's Leadership Summit were Beth Hammers, vice dean for administration for the School of Medicine and chief integration and external affairs officer for Marshall Health Network, and Dr. Suzanne Holroyd, professor and chair of psychiatry and behavioral medicine

Ms. Hammers took the stage for a panel discussion on women leading in health care while Dr. Holroyd offered valuable insights into caring for aging loved ones.

Dr. Suzanne Holroyd named to WV Health Care Hall of Fame

Suzanne Holroyd, MD, was one of only 10 individuals named to the WV Executive magazine 2024 Health Care Hall of Fame.

During the past decade, Dr. Holroyd and her team have expanded clinical care, enhanced training opportunities and improved the inpatient experience at one of West Virginia's largest psychiatric hospitals. In addition to establishing a psychiatry residency program at Marshall, she has increased its capacity and introduced specialized fellowship training programs in child and adolescent psychiatry and geriatric psychiatry.



2024 SCHOOL OF MEDICINE GRADUATION WEEK EVENTS

April 23

25th Annual School of Medicine Golf Classic
Guyan Golf & Country Club

April 24-25

Marshall University Day of Giving

April 26

9 a.m. | 2nd Annual Physician Assistant Hooding
Marshall Health Network Arena Grand Ballroom

11 a.m. | Class of 2024 Senior Awards Brunch
Guyan Golf & Country Club

5 p.m. | 44th Annual Doctoral Investiture & Medical
School Commencement

Marshall Health Network Arena Grand Ballroom

**Marshall University Board of Governors
Meeting of April 10, 2024**

ITEM: Approval of Athletics Budget for Fiscal Year 2024-25

COMMITTEE: Athletics Committee

RECOMMENDED RESOLUTION: *Resolved*, that the Marshall University Board of Governors approve the proposed Marshall Athletics Budget for Fiscal Year 2024-2025, as part of the university's budget process.

STAFF MEMBER: Christian Spears, Director of Athletics