

We Are...Marshall!

THE NEWSLETTER FOR MARSHALL UNIVERSITY • MAY 28, 2004

Biotechnology Projects Receive Funding

Gov. Bob Wise presented a \$12.5 million Economic Development grant to President Dan Angel and other university officials at a ceremony in the Drinko Library atrium May 25.

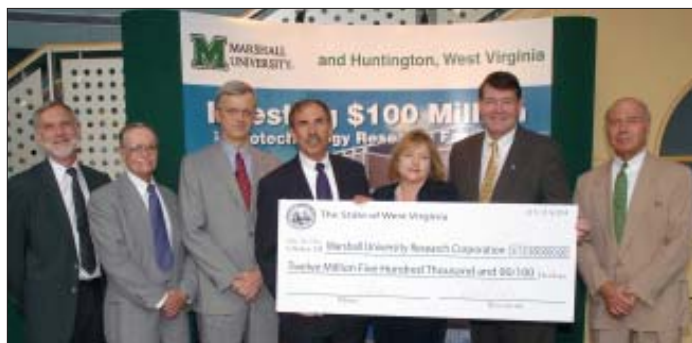
The grant represents funds approved last year by the West Virginia Economic Development Grant Committee to support the completion of the Robert C. Byrd Biotechnology Science Center and the Center for Biotechnology Commercialization.

The Biotechnology Science Center, with a base bid of \$39.5 million awarded to Mascaro Construction Com-

pany of Pittsburgh, represents the largest capital improvement project in Marshall's 167-year history.

Construction began last month on the 144,000-square-foot project, located west of the parking garage along the north side of 3rd Avenue. Upon its completion in August, 2006, the center will benefit both undergraduate and graduate students academically by providing opportunities to do collaborative research with faculty in the College of Science, the College of Information Technology and Engineering, and the Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine. In addition to the center's academic benefits, research conducted there will stimulate economic development throughout the region.

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Gov. Bob Wise presents the \$12.5 million check for the Biotechnology Science Center and the Biotechnology Commercialization Center to Marshall University. From left, Dr. David Ice, Marshall University Research Corporation; Dr. Cal Kent, Director of the Institute for the Development of Entrepreneurial Advances (IDEA); Dr. Howard Aulick, Vice President for Research; Gov. Wise; Dr. Jan Fox, Vice President for Information Technology and Chief Information Officer; President Dan Angel, and Dr. Charles McKown, Vice President for Health Sciences.

Smith Joins Board of Governors



Bill Smith

Bill Smith, a Huntington resident and assistant superintendent for curriculum and instruction in student services with Cabell County Public Schools, is the newest member of Marshall University's Board of Governors.

Smith has served as chair of Marshall's Community and Technical College's Board of Advisors for the past year. Recent passage of Senate Bill 448 added the chair of the Board of Advisors of each administratively linked community college as an ex-officio voting member of the Board of Governors of the sponsoring institution.

He has two degrees from Marshall, a B.A. degree in English and Speech and a master's degree in English. He has been with Cabell County Schools since 1978.

Janet Combs Named Employee of the Month

Janet Combs, Administrative Secretary Senior for Facilities Planning and Management, has been named the Marshall University Employee of the Month for April, according to Jim Stephens, chair of the Employee of the Month Selection Committee.

Combs, who has been employed at Marshall since August, 1989, was nominated by Barbara Simpkins, Administrative Assistant, Office of the Assistant Vice President for Administration/Facilities Planning & Management, and Mike Meadows, Director of Facilities Planning and Management.

In her nomination Simpkins wrote that she had the opportunity to work with Combs on a regular basis over the past twelve years, and "...have always found Janet to be very well organized, friendly and willing to go the extra mile in order to gather information necessary for



Janet Combs (left) received the Employee of the Month award from Dr. H. Keith Spears, Vice President for Institutional Advancement.

university decision making. She is always prepared with accurate information needed on a regular basis and her expertise in the preparation of necessary paperwork for complex architectural and construction contracts, processing pay applications, etc. is

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Biotechnology Alliance Formed with HADCO

Marshall University President Dan Angel and officials from the Huntington Area Development Council (HADCO) announced May 26 the formation of the



Mark Bugher, HADCO chairman (seated, right), and Dan Angel, Marshall University president (seated, left), sign the memorandum of understanding forming the Biotech Alliance May 26. Looking on are (from left) David Todd, Huntington Area Development Council; David Ice, Marshall University Research Corporation; Jan Fox, Marshall Vice President for Information Technology and Chief Information Officer; David Graley, Chairman-elect for Huntington Area Development Council and Cal Kent, Marshall Director of Institute of the Development of Entrepreneurial Advances (IDEA).

Biotech Alliance, a cooperative nonprofit venture that will play an integral role in the global marketing of biotechnology research and development at Marshall and throughout the Advantage Valley region.

The Biotech Alliance will assist in the marketing and promotion of biotechnology developed at Marshall and aid in the development of new partnerships to support biotechnology research at the university.

"Our overall commitment to biotechnology research and development is truly enhanced by today's announcement," said Mark Bugher, HADCO chairman. "The Biotech Alliance will serve as an effective marketing component to complement the investments we're

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The next regular issue of *We Are...Marshall!* will carry an issue date of June 11, 2004.

Deadline is June 4.

Articles or other materials for consideration should be sent to Pat Dickson, editor, at the South Charleston campus or by e-mail to pdickson@marshall.edu.



making to develop biotechnology into the region's new economic engine."

The Alliance also will assist in development of the \$5 million Velocity Center as a potential location for the business innovations developed at Marshall. The 5,000-square-foot center will be constructed at KineticPark and house lab space for a high-tech business start-up.

Sen. Robert C. Byrd has secured a \$1 million federal appropriation for Velocity Center, with the rest of the money to come from private financing once tenants have been signed and the building is designed.

"Through the development of a myriad of new research and development facilities and the shared vision of students, faculty, researchers and the region's economic stakeholders, HADCO and Marshall University are developing a blueprint for economic success," Angel said. "The Biotech Alliance will literally transition these major projects from the bricks and mortar stage to commercialization and production, benefiting the region through the development of new investments and high-wage jobs."

Early next month, Biotech Alliance partners HADCO and Marshall will take another major step in their efforts to attract new biotech-related investment to the region through their joint participation in BIO 2004, the Biotechnology Industry Organization's (BIO's) annual convention.

The BIO annual convention, June 6-9, 2004 in San Francisco, is the largest gathering of biotechnology leaders in the world, attracting more than 15,000 attendees and featuring more than 190 sessions, 1,000 speakers, and 1,200 exhibitors. BIO represents more than 1,000 biotechnology companies, academic institutions, state biotechnology centers and related organizations in all 50 U.S. states and 33 other nations. BIO members are involved in the research and development of health-care, agricultural, industrial and environmental biotechnology products



Delegate Margarette Leach signs the presentation check representing \$25,000 toward the marketing of biotechnology May 26. Looking on are Delegates Jim Morgan (left) and Kevin Craig.

Biotechnology Projects from Page 1

University officials say the center will allow Marshall University to enhance its presence as a research leader in biotechnology, the nation's fastest growing industry.

Profile: Lola Stratton

A series on interesting Marshall University people.



Lola Stratton

When Lola Stratton comes to the podium at the Service Awards ceremony on June 10 to receive the rare 40-years-of-service award, she'll actually be marking 46 years since she first came to work at Marshall.

And what a career it's been, the ebullient Stratton says. She's a living history text when it comes to Marshall, its campus and buildings and, most important to her, the people who have shared

her working life and made her stay at Marshall so memorable.

"I actually came to Marshall in July, 1958 when I went to work as secretary for Percy Galloway, who was manager of the bookstore," Stratton, who is the Business Manager for Residence Services, said. "At that time the bookstore was located in the basement of Old Main. We did the campus mail as well so it was a good way to learn the campus as well as to meet the faculty and staff."

And as implausible as it may seem now, there were no payroll deductions for health insurance back then. Faculty and staff simply wrote monthly checks which Stratton collected three days a month and forwarded to the insurance carrier. "I really got to meet just about everyone so that was a part of the job I enjoyed the most."

She left what was then Marshall College in 1960 when her son, Jeffrey was born and became a stay-at-home mom for three years. At the request of her former supervisor, she returned to work at the bookstore in 1963. Then, after an 18-month hiatus when her daughter Julie Kay was born in 1965, she came back to Marshall—this time for good.

She was hired then by Dr. Robert Hayes, who would later become Marshall's president. But at the time he was the Dean of Education and looking for someone to fill a secretarial position in counseling and rehabilitation. Stratton stayed there for five years before moving to residence services, where she found a comfortable fit for her versatile talents.

She took the that job because "I love new challenges; I love to do new things," she says with her usual effervescence. "I've been in housing for over 30 years now and I've just moved up the ladder."

As the years flowed by, she watched proudly as the college become a thriving university and saw the enrollment soar from the 4,000 students in 1958 to more than 16,000 today. The face of the Huntington campus changed drastically as old buildings came down and new ones went up. Names on many of the buildings which dot the campus are not just names carved in stone to her, but real people Stratton has known. She can tick off the familiar halls and the people they honor—Lillian Buskirk, Swede Gulickson, Orville Harris—she met them all.

Stratton is gifted with a prodigious memory. Without hesitation she can roll off the names of dozens of former co-workers, students and supervisors.

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invaluable. It is a pleasure to work with Janet on a day to day basis."

And, she adds, "Janet's professional skills are a valuable asset to Marshall University as numerous building projects have been completed over the past few years and as new ones are planned for the future."

Meadows has very high praise for Combs. She is, he says, "...my definition of the perfect employee. She meets all the criteria from dedicated to self motivated. She plays such a vital role in this office that if she ever decides to leave, I'm going to because without her, I'm, lost. She has the tact to handle all types of situations that confront her."

In closing Meadows said, "If Janet Combs were paid what she is worth to Marshall University, we would really have a budget deficit!"

She was presented a check for \$100, a plaque and a balloon bouquet by Dr. H. Keith Spears, Vice President for Institutional Advancement.

CTC Professor to Participate in Oxford Round Table

Mildred Battle, Associate Professor in the General Studies Division of the Marshall Community and Technical College, will be in Oxford, England in August to participate in the Oxford Round Table at St. Anthony's College in the University of Oxford.

Select individuals from throughout the world were invited to participate in the Round Table, which is composed of academics, attorneys, and policymakers from forty nations who meet to discuss and review developments in international trade and the environment.

The conference's title is "Regulating Sustainable Development: Adapting to Globalization in the Twenty-First Century."

CTC Receives State Credit Union Scholarship

A new \$500 scholarship to the Marshall Community and Technical College, made possible by a gift from the State Credit Union, is available for fall 2004.

Dr. Vicki Riley, president of the community college, recently accepted a \$500 check from Chris Mallory, assistant CEO with the State Credit Union. The credit union is a West Virginia, member-owned, not-for-profit financial organization.

"Access to a community college education just got a little easier, thanks to the generosity of the State Credit Union," Riley said. "They understand the financial needs of our students and we are grateful for their interest in supporting our community."

Faculty/Staff Achievements

Dr. Jose Morillo presented a paper "Eros y Nacionalcatolicismo en la posguerra espanola" at the 24th annual Cincinnati Conference on Romance Language and Literature, held May 13-14 at the University of Cincinnati.

Lola Stratton from Page 3

Former students and co-workers who stop by to see her, often after an absence of several years and sometimes with children in tow, often greet her with "I bet you don't remember me..." and are astounded when she not only calls them by name but regales them with stories from the past.

Her dedication to her job and the warmth and respect with which she treats people did not go unnoticed at Marshall. In October, 1994, she was named the Employee of the Month, a tribute to her excellent professional and personal skills.

She has stayed at Marshall for so many years because she truly loves her job and enjoys the people she works with. "I love the versatility of my job. Besides the accounting part of it, there is also the human resource part we do and so many other things," Stratton says. And she found a whole new outlet for a decorating talent she didn't even know she had.

"Part of my job is to help decorate the common areas of the 10 residence halls and the cafeterias, to make sure they're not only comfortable but attractive. I select materials and colors and make sure the fabrics blend and coordinate. I didn't realize how much I loved doing this until I started. In fact, if I had known I liked it this much, I would have chosen to go into some kind of interior decorating early in my career!" she says with a laugh.

Her upbeat attitude comes about in large part she feels because of her deep religious faith. She has a passion for gospel singing, both as a listener and a participant. She's a member of a gospel trio, The Messengers, which has presented programs all over the region, as well as traveling to Charleston and Ohio to perform. Stratton has been singing since she was in Milton High School where she sang in a glee club and an *a capella* choir.

And a second passion is traveling, particularly flying. She's no "white-knuckle" traveler either. "I love to fly; it's my favorite way to travel." She has flown several times to visit her daughter, who lives near Albany, N.Y. She's represented Marshall from time to time at conferences throughout the country and she's always delighted to have the chance to fly and visit other parts of the country.

Both of her children are Marshall graduates, Jeffrey with a degree in computers and business and Julie as a member of the first class of nurses who graduated with four-year degrees. And now Stratton is a doting grandmother to four grandsons and a granddaughter.

And as for age, forget about it, she doesn't even think about it. In fact, being at Marshall has kept her young, she'll assure you. "I try to think positively, to be positive. I don't think about age at all. I like being around young people and working with students. They keep you thinking young. And I thank God for every day he has given me."

She does think about retirement but hasn't formed any definite plans yet. She would like to travel more and maybe take some cruises. "I am looking forward to retirement some day," she says with her usual optimism. "It will be just another phase in my life. I'll be able to travel and spend more time with my grandchildren. I want to participate more in my church, Antioch Baptist Church in Ona. And I'll focus on the things the Lord has for me to do with the rest of my life. I have had a very full life and Marshall has been a big part of it. The people here have been my second family for over 40 years. I have thoroughly enjoyed the years of service that I've put in and I am grateful that I have had the privilege of being able to serve on this campus and to meet all the different people—my co-workers, the faculty, the administrators, the students. I feel like I have been truly blessed."

Kim Receives Business Honor

Dr. Chong W. Kim, Interim Dean of the Lewis College of Business, was inducted as a Fellow of the Pan-Pacific Business Association on May 27 in Anchorage, Alaska. The induction took place during the President's Luncheon of the Pan-Pacific Conference XXI: International Business and Global Management.

"I am pleased for this honor, not only for me personally, but for what it represents to Marshall," Kim said.

The Pan-Pacific Business Association selects one Fellow for the association each year based on the person's scholastic contributions to his/her field and for significant contributions to the association. During the past 21 years of the association's existence, 24 Fellows have been inducted into the group, including several internationally known scholars.

PPBA's annual international conference has participants from more than 30 countries and has been held in such locations as Hawaii, Korea, Taiwan, Singapore, Australia, China, Malaysia, Canada, Thailand, New Zealand, Japan, Fiji and Chile.

Have a Suggestion?

If there's someone in the Marshall community you'd like to see profiled, please get in touch with Pat Dickson at 746-1971 or by e-mail at pdickson@marshall.edu. A list of profile subjects since 2000 is on the University Communications Web site at www.marshall.edu/ucomm/profile_arch.html.

Witek and Novak Start Work on Cam Henderson Story

Deborah Novak and John Witek, producers of the acclaimed documentary, *Ashes to Glory*, have begun research the career of legendary Marshall coach Cam Henderson for a new hour-long public television documentary.

Henderson coached Marshall football and/or basketball from 1935 to 1955. Novak said pride in Marshall sports began with the amazing wins of the Henderson era and she plans to recreate that distant age when Marshall athletes traveled by train and thousands packed the C&O station to welcome them home from road games.

The fabled coach is credited with developing the zone defense and fast break in basketball's early history, Novak said. One of the filmmakers' goals is to gain recognition of Henderson in the Naismith Basketball Hall of Fame.

Novak said she and Witek are eager to talk with anyone who has memories of Henderson to share. They also would like to borrow any photos, memorabilia or film footage of the era. Film footage could include home movies, game films or broadcast footage of Marshall sports from the 1930s through the 1950s.

Anyone who would like to contribute to the documentary may contact Witek and Novak at (304) 697-0681.