

April 2 - 3,

**WE ARE ...
MARSHALL**

2015



**15th Annual
Undergraduate
Research &
Creativity
Conference**

College of
Liberal Arts



2015

In Memory Of President Dr. Stephen Kopp

The faculty, students and administration of the College of Liberal Arts dedicate the 2015 Conference to the memory of our late President, Dr. Stephen Kopp. Dr. Kopp was an ardent supporter of student research and took great pride in the academic accomplishments of our students. His eagerness to promote outstanding student research was rooted in the knowledge that excellence in academic and scholarly work is a strong predictor of excellence in the future professional pursuits of Marshall students.



**“We Are ...
MARSHALL”**

Dr. Kopp often said that virtually all significant learning begins with a question, that probing these questions would guide us purposefully toward the pursuit of higher understanding and greater meaning, and that inquiry and creativity are powerful catalysts

for initiating self-directed learning and discovery. The student projects presented each year in this conference exemplify that creative intellectual process. For 15 years the faculty and students of the college have made this conference an outstanding showcase of the scholarly and creative talents of Marshall University students. The projects presented at this conference are a testament to the power of inquiry and creativity and demonstrate the vast potential each participant has brought to this university.

We know that Dr. Kopp, as he had always done in the past, would heartily congratulate the student contributors to this event for their determination and dedication to asking meaningful questions, seeking new knowledge, and discerning new meanings. He would praise the faculty mentors who have guided these students for their commitment to assisting our young scholars along their paths to new knowledge and deeper meanings that undoubtedly will leave an enduring imprint on their lives and futures. We honor the memory of Dr. Stephen Kopp by continuing to promote outstanding student research projects and providing a forum to share their creative work with the community of scholars at Marshall University.

2015 Undergraduate COLA
Research and Creativity
Conference Committee

2015

Our Mission

The College of Liberal Arts at Marshall University provides students a progressive liberal arts education that enhances their ability to think clearly and independently.



— Our Vision —

Students studying the liberal arts develop the creative and analytic skills that allow them to ask subtle critical questions, to answer those questions through careful research and concise analysis, and to share their conclusions through effective writing and speaking.

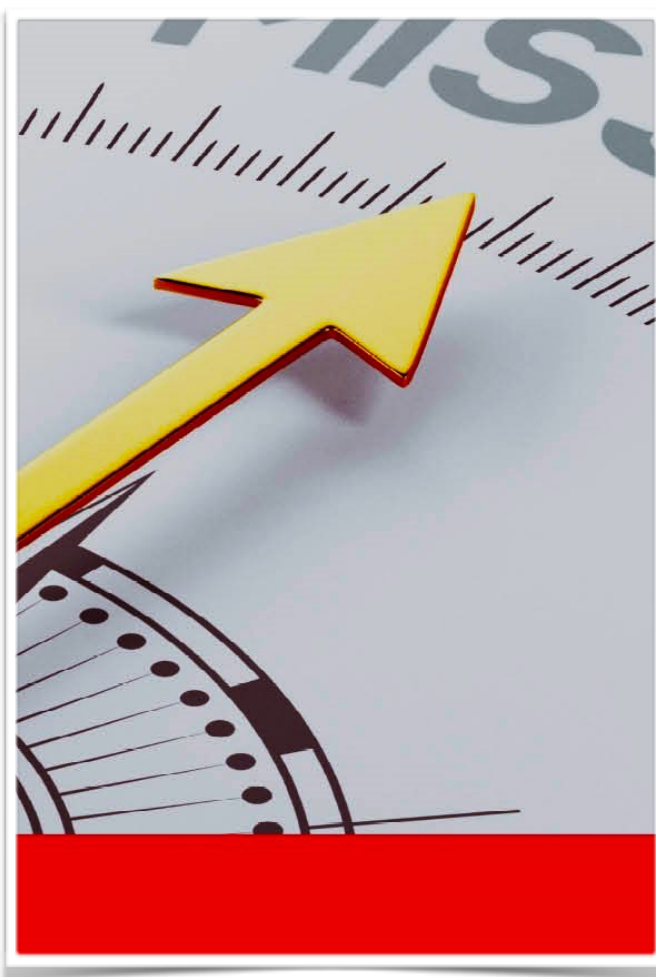
A liberal arts education emphasizes a breadth of learning through the belief that the complexities of the mental, social, and physical worlds are best understood when examined from multiple perspectives. A liberal arts education is, therefore, an essential component of individual freedom as it helps us learn how to think, how to make judgments, and remain independent thinkers.

Students earning a Bachelor of Arts degree can:

- Write and speak clearly, thoughtfully, and persuasively
- Participate in and value rational discourse
- Create and interpret empirical information
- Write and interpret creative works
- Recognize the relevance of historical events
- Comprehend and respect divergent cultural and social perspectives
- Communicate in a second language
- Understand, evaluate, and follow basic principles of ethical behavior
- Use various research strategies to find, evaluate, and use recorded information

2015

Welcome to the College of Liberal Arts' 15th Annual Research and Creativity Conference, the sole purpose of which is to serve as a showcase for the exceptionally good scholarly and creative work of our students. The students in this year's conference have worked hard on a focused project and are now ready to share what they have accomplished.



The mission of the College is to develop in Marshall University students the analytic and creative skills that will allow them to examine the many artifacts of human behavior in order to better appreciate and respect the unique qualities of being human. Some of the students have written creative work in poetry or prose as well as creative nonfiction. Some have examined matters of history, literature, or politics using various analytic tools. Others have used

2015

empirical methods to search for and examine patterns in human behavior. All these students have accomplished the unique goal of providing a novel interpretation of and insight into a complex matter.

To our students, we hope you will take a moment to reflect on the changes you have experienced since coming to Marshall University. You have learned much. Your perspectives may have been challenged, changed, or reinforced. Most importantly, you are now able to do what had once been beyond imagination. These changes, regardless of your career choices, will help you live a rewarding and enriched life.

We express our most sincere congratulations to the students and offer profound thanks for the faculty who have mentored them.

Special thanks go to Mrs. Libby Rayment, Dean's Office; Ms. Mitzi Meade, Political Science; and the Dean, Dr. Robert Bookwalter, who have done much to help with the organization and operation of this year's conference.

With sincere best wishes from the Conference Committee:

Dr. Slav N. Gratchev, Chair
Dr. C. Damien Arthur, Political Science
Dr. Jeffrey Powell, Philosophy
Dr. Anita Walz, Geography
Dr. Robin Conley, Anthropology
Dr. Penny Koontz, Psychology

Dr. Del Chrol, Classics
Dr. Michael Woods, History
Dr. Jill Underhill, Comm. Studies
Dr. Stephen Underhill, Comm. Studies
Dr. Jeff Ruff, Religious Studies
Mr. Amine Oudghiri-Otmani, English

Greetings

2015



Gayle Ormiston, Ph.D.

Provost and Senior VP for
Academic Affairs

One of the most exciting aspects of the college experience is the opportunity for students and faculty to collaborate on projects in their discipline. I have seen firsthand the passion that students display when they talk about their projects, and I have seen that same passion in the faculty who direct student research. It is this passion that is “catching;” it captivates those of us who will be your audience in this venture. It creates in us a sense of wonder and a desire to learn more.

As we go from session to session at the Conference, it is important to remember the amount of work that each represents.

Students and faculty have spent many hours reading, talking, writing, thinking, analyzing, composing, editing, and maybe even debating. Out of this process emerges a poster, a paper, a poem, a panel. That is the physical artifact. The other result is a more engaged student; research and creative activities have the capacity to open the eyes of students to their greater potential as active participants in the continuum of teaching and learning. It is a way to join in the real enterprise of higher education: creating and sharing knowledge.

**“Well done;
you make us
proud.”**

- PROVOST ORMISTON

To the students whose work will be showcased during this year’s College of Liberal Arts Research and Creativity

Conference, I say, “Well done; you make us proud.” To the faculty whose mentoring and support made the work of the students possible, I say, “Thank you; you make us proud.”

Keynote Speaker

April 2 - 3,

2015

Dr. Victor Fet is a Russian-American poet and biologist. He emigrated to the USA with his family in 1988, and has taught various Biology classes at Marshall since 1995. Dr Fet authored four books of poetry (in Russian), authored and edited several books on the biology of various countries, and published over 100 papers on scorpion



Victor Fet, Ph.D
Professor, Department of
Biological Sciences

**Ph.D., Zoological Institute,
Academy of Sciences, St.
Petersburg, Russia, 1984**

**B.S./M.S., University of
Novosibirsk, Russia, 1976**

evolution and systematics. His interests lie at the interface of natural science and humanities.

2015

— **Sapere Aude!** —

“Dare to Know”

2015

April 2, 2015

8:30-9:15 am – Welcome and Coffee (Atrium, Drinko)

9:15-10:30 am – Panel Presentations (1)

10:45-12:00 pm – Panel Presentations (2)

12:00-1:30 pm – Lunch Break

1:30-2:45 pm – Panel Presentations (3)

3:00-4:15 pm – Panel Presentations (4)

April 3, 2015

8:30-9:15 am – Welcome and Coffee

9:15-10:30 am – Panel Presentations (1)

10:45-12:00 pm – Panel Presentations (2)

12:00-1:30pm – Luncheon (Don Morris Room)

1:30-2:45 pm – Panel Presentations (3)

3:00-4:15 pm – Panel Presentations (4)

Thursday

April 2

Thursday, April 2 – 9:15-10:30 am
Drinko Library Room 402

We're In This Together: Organizational Communication in Varied Contexts

Moderator: Penny Koontz

- Keanu Ramos, Communication Studies (Mentor: Cam Brammer)
“Put Me in the Game Coach, I’m Ready to Lie”
- Daniel Scher, Communication Studies (Mentor: Cam Brammer)
“How Fraternal Organizations Overcome Adverse Publicity”
- Jacob Wolfe, Communication Studies (Mentor: Cam Brammer)
“The Role of Small Groups in Campus Ministry”
- Hali Spurlock, Communication Studies (Mentor: Cam Brammer)
“Communicating about Controversial Issues: Gun Control and Public Opinion”

Thursday, April 2 – 9:15-10:30 am
Drinko Library Room 349

Money? Offspring? - Issues in Japan and the United States

Moderator: Anita Walz

- Kiersten C. Rose, Geography (Mentor: Anita Walz)
“Who is really behind Japan's Aging Population: Today's Youth or the Employers?”
- Chris Hale, Geography (Mentor: Anita Walz)
“An Analysis of Poverty's Role in Teen Birthrates in the U.S.”
- Nathan Stewart, Japanese (Mentor: Zelideth Rivas)
“Relationship Building in Japanese Business Culture”
- Tanner Beckett, Geography (Mentor: Anita Walz)
“Maintaining Privately Owned Historic Structures in West Virginia”

Thursday, April 2 – 10:45-12:00 pm
Drinko Library Room 402

Understanding Prescription Drug Overdose in W.Va.

Moderator: C. Damien Arthur

- Jordan Dixon, Political Science (Mentor: C. Damien Arthur)
“Ascertaining a Definition of the Problem”
- Tommy Ferrell, Political Science (Mentor: C. Damien Arthur)
“The Scope of the Problem”
- Sophia Mills, Political Science (Mentor: C. Damien Arthur)
“Involved Constituencies”
- Peyton Riddick, Political Science (Mentor: C. Damien Arthur)
“The Current Policy in West Virginia”

Thursday, April 2 – 10:45-12:00 pm
Drinko Library Room 349

Across the Northern Hemisphere - Physical and Cultural Connections

Moderator: Anita Walz

- Nick Adkins, Geography (Mentor: Anita Walz)
“Accumulated Cyclone Energy and Global Teleconnections: A Modeling and Forecasting Experiment”
- Christopher Matthew Lucas, Japanese (Mentor: Zelideth Rivas)
“*Kawaii* Culture as Soft Power: Japan’s Challenge in the Global Hegemony”
- Elizabeth Vaviades, Japanese (Mentor: Zelideth Rivas)
“How Tezuka Osamu and Walt Disney Defined Past and Present Animation”
- Andrew Pritt, Geography (Mentor: Anita Walz)
“Do Unto Others: A Look into the Effects of Religiosity on Violent Crime in the U.S.”

Thursday, April 2 – 10:45-12:00 pm
Drinko Library Room 341

From Booze to Baseball: Gender and Family Life in the United States History

Moderator: Michael Woods

- Aaron Parsons, History/Psychology (Mentor: David Mills)
“The Family Business: How Family Affected the Rise of Appalachian Moonshine Gangs”
- Kaitlyn M. Haines, History/Criminal Justice (Mentor: Montserrat Miller)
“Commemorating the All-American Girls Professional Baseball League: Trends & Patterns in Final Tag-Lines, 1962-2014”

Thursday, April 2 – 10:45-12:00 pm
Drinko Library Room 236

Philosophy and Religion: Violence and Aesthetics

Moderators: Jeffrey Powell and Jeffrey Ruff

- Zachary Montgomery, Philosophy (Mentor: Jeffrey Powell)
“Nietzsche’s Aesthetics of the World”
- Allen Armel, Philosophy (Mentor: Jeffrey Ruff)
“Ordained Violence: The *Devi Mahatmyam* and Euripides”

Thursday, April 2 – 1:30-2:45 pm
Drinko Library Room 402

A Plan to Alleviate Prescription Drug Overdose in W'Va.

Moderator: C. Damien Arthur

- Ashley Wilson, Political Science (Mentor: C. Damien Arthur)
“The Viable Alternatives to our Current Policy”
- Rex Williams, Criminal Justice (Mentor: C. Damien Arthur)
“A Cost-Benefit Analysis”
- Dana Zeid, Psychology (Mentor: C. Damien Arthur)
“Accurate Predictions Regarding Our Policy Plan”
- Jeramy Jeffereis, Undecided (Mentor: C. Damien Arthur)
“Implementation”

Thursday, April 2 – 1:30-2:45 pm
Drinko Library Room 349

The Spectrum of Creative Non-Fiction: Innovations of the Essay

Moderator: Rachael Peckham

- Hannah Smith, English (Mentor: Rachael Peckham)
“Signing our Names”
- Chandler Workman, English (Mentor: Rachael Peckham)
“Of Toddlers and Teenagers”
- LeeAnna Wiles, English (Mentor: Rachael Peckham)
“On Our Knees”
- Lydia Cyrus, English (Mentor: Rachael Peckham)
“Until the Very End”

Thursday, April 2 — 1:30-2:45 pm
Drinko Library Room 138

Gender, Family, and Relationships

Moderator: Robin Conley

- Molly Lehman, Sociology (Mentor: Marty Laubach)
“It Takes Two: Gay Marriage Laws in West Virginia”
- Casey Batchelor, Sociology (Mentor: Marty Laubach)
“Family Relationships and Traditions in the Household”
- Makayla Wells, Sociology (Mentor: Marty Laubach)
“(S)he loves me, (s)he loves me not”
- Samantha Harvey, Anthropology (Mentors: Marty Laubach, Robin Conley, Maggie Stone)
“What Language Reveals about Perceptions of Female Marshall Students”

Thursday, April 2 – 3:00-4:15 pm
Drinko Library Room 402

Relational Communication Potpourri

Moderator: Jill Underhill

- Angelina Eads, Communication Studies (Mentor: Cam Brammer)
“Leave-Taking within Relationships”
- Susan Jaime, Communication Studies (Mentor: Cam Brammer)
“Communication and Perception of Accepting Compliments”
- Victoria Ledford, Communication Studies (Mentor: Cam Brammer)
“Physician Communication about Obesity: The Influence of
Stigmatizing Language & Relational Frame”
- Carson Yost, Communication Studies (Mentor: Cam Brammer)
“The Relationship Strain of Military Deployment”
- Ariel Gray, Communication Studies (Mentor: Cam Brammer)
“Depression: Why is it so hard to talk about?”

Thursday, April 2 – 3:00-4:15 pm
Drinko Library Room 349

Classics

Moderator: E. Del Chrol

- Benjamin Russell, Classics and Latin (Mentor: Christina Franzen)
“Hector and Achilles: The Pursuit of the Virgin Dove”
- Jordan Mason, Classics and Latin (Mentor: E. Del Chrol)
“The Function of Metaphor in the Ancient Greek Spectacle: An
Examination of Metaphorical Representation in the Spectacle of
Ancient Greek Poetry”
- Aly Francis, Classics and Latin (Mentor: Christina Franzen)
“Reputation and Reality in Cicero’s *Pro Caelio*”
- Patricia Eckert, Classics and Latin (Mentor: E. Del Chrol)
“A Selection of Poetry”

Thursday, April 2 — 3:00-4:15 pm
Drinko Library Room 138

The Effects of Culture and Politics in America

Moderator: Jeffrey Ruff

- Cyrielle Tchoffo, International Affairs (Mentor: Jamie Warner)
“Hip Hop's voice in the United States”
- Carmen Webb, Political Science (Mentor: Jamie Warner)
“The West Virginia Dream: Myth or Reality?”
- Erica Herrforth, Political Science (Mentor: Jamie Warner)
“American Sports Culture and National Football League Subsidies”
- Tara Elswick, Political Science (Mentor: Jamie Warner)
“American Sports Culture and National Football League Subsidies”

Friday

April 3

Friday, April 3 — 9:15-10:30 am
Drinko Library Room 402

Examining Parity, Difference, and Rhetoric in Political Communication

Moderator: Stephen Underhill

- Nichole Henderson, Broadcast Journalism (Mentor: Kristen Lillvis)
“The Hope for Equality”
- Zachary Marquis, Communication Studies (Mentor: Cam Brammer)
“Shocking Similarities Between Cult, Religious, Civil Rights, and Political Leaders”
- Kara Campbell, Communication Studies (Mentor: Cam Brammer)
“Differences in Communication by Gender During a Political Race”
- Matthew Osteen, Communication Studies (Mentor: Cam Brammer)
“The Political Samurai: The Use of Myth in the Rhetoric of Shinzo Abe”

Friday, April 3 — 9:15-10:30 am
Drinko Library Room 349

Symbolism and Culture Dynamics in Creative Writing and Popular Culture

Moderator: Amine Oudghiri-Otmani

- Elizabeth Hughes, English (Mentor: Kristen Lillvis)
“Passing Fatality”
- Nicole Scott, Creative Writing/Classics (Mentor: Carrie Oeding)
“Heaven in a Corn Husk: A Selection of Poems”
- Stacy Lucas, English (Mentor: Britton Lumpkin)
“Pussycats Galore: Feline Symbolism in the James Bond Films”
- Alicia Turner, English (Mentor: Britton Lumpkin)
“Outside His Jurisdiction: James Bond as an Agent of Gender Policing”

Friday, April 3 — 9:15-10:30 am
Drinko Library Room 138

Mediating Culture

Moderator: Penny Koontz

- Madison Ranck, Sociology (Mentor: Marty Laubach)
“Emergency Broadcast System: How the media affects public feelings of safety”
- Brian Tabor, Sociology & German (Mentor: Marty Laubach)
“Real Culture Through Grimm’s Fairy Tales”
- Carson Duncan, Anthropology (Mentor: Robin Conley)
“Generation Y and Superstitions of Appalachia”
- Kaitlyn Blankenship, Anthropology (Mentor: Marty Laubach)
“Caring for the Past’s Clutter”
- Jordan Lambert, Anthropology & Japanese (Mentor: Marty Laubach)
“The Interaction between culture & technology in the U.S. and Japan”

Friday, April 3 – 10:45-12:00 pm
Drinko Library Room 402

The Spanish Arts in Historic Context

Moderator: Viatcheslav Gratchev

- Katarina Richards, Computer Science (Mentor: Slav N. Gratchev)
“El Prado as a quintessence of Spanish culture”
- Micheale Morgan, Civil Engineering (Mentor: Slav N. Gratchev)
“Toledo in life and works of El Greco”
- Micah Lucas, Spanish Education (Mentor: Slav N. Gratchev)
“El Escorial: A glimpse into 16th Century Spain”

Friday, April 3 – 10:45-12:00 pm
Drinko Library Room 349

The Online Persona: Examining Parasocial Relationships, Radicals, & Deception

Moderator: Stephen Underhill

- Caroline Mitchell, Communication Studies (Mentor: Cam Brammer)
“WhoTube? Communication Between YouTuber and Subscriber”
- Seth C. Patrick, Communication Studies (Mentor: Cam Brammer)
“Media Ecology Theory and the Radicalization of Young Adults”
- Joseph Thacker, Communication Studies (Mentor: Cam Brammer)
“Anonymity and the Online Persona”

Friday, April 3 — 10:45-12:00 pm
Drinko Library Room 138

The Power of Text and Image: Toward Personal and Social Understanding

Moderator: Amine Oudghiri-Otmani

- Robert Engle, English (Mentor: Carrie Oeding)
“Muscle”
- Jessica Henderson, English (Mentor: Carrie Oeding)
“Blimps and Rubble: A Collection of Poems”
- Hailey Hughes, English (Mentor: Jane Hill)
“Better Treatment: Characters with Disabilities over Historical Eras”
- Laranda Schoolcraft, English (Mentor: Allison Carey)
“Confronting Remorse: An Exploration of Grief, Loss, and Circumstance”

Friday, April 3 — 1:30-2:45 pm
Drinko Library Room 349

Power, Political Parties, and Ideologies

Moderator: Marybeth Beller

- Mohammad Hasan Javed, Political Science (Mentor: Marybeth Beller)
“The Main Factors Influencing the Formation of Political Ideology”
- Spencer Stephens, Political Science (Mentor: Jamie Warner)
“West Virginia’s Disconnect from National Government and the Sociopolitical Lag”
- Garrison A. Crews, Political Science (Mentor: Jamie Warner)
“Foucault’s Discipline Model of Power in Light of Criminological Theories of Deviance”
- Caitlin Jean Grimes, Political Science (Mentor: Jamie Warner)
“Marvel’s *Civil War*, a Cautionary Tale for the Divide over Government Surveillance”

Friday, April 3 – 1:30-2:45 pm
Drinko Library Room 138

The Social and Generic Implications of Popular Film

Moderator: Walter Squire

- Angelina Mingo, English (Mentor: Walter Squire)
“Representations of Ethnicity, Sexuality and Gender within *X-Men: First Class* (2011)”
- Brooke Ingram, English (Mentor: Walter Squire)
“Mickey, Mallory & Monsters, Oh My! : The Obsession of Violence in *Natural Born Killers*”
- Jacqueline Turley, English (Mentor: Walter Squire)
““Accursed Creator!”: A Cross-Generic ”

Friday, April 3 – 3:00-4:15 pm
Drinko Library Room 138

Evaluating Schools and Communities from Social Science Perspectives

Moderator: Marybeth Beller

- Katherine Simon, Sociology (Mentor: Robin Conley)
“Higher Education and Employment in Appalachia: An Ethnographic Study”
- Micah Parsons, Sociology (Mentor: Marty Laubach)
“Study Abroad: Why Bother?”
- Katelin Denkins, Sociology (Mentor: Kristi Fondren)
“Youth Outdoor Pilot Program”
- Maggie Wilkinson, Anthropology (Mentor: Marty Laubach)
“The West Virginia Wine Industry and Local Food Movement”
- Clarissa Bonnefond, Anthropology (Mentor: Brian Hoey)
“Health in Huntington: A Social and Behavioral Report”



w w w . m a r s h a l l . e d u

WE ARE ... MARSHALL

One John Marshall Drive • Huntington,
Ky Virginia 25755-2668

A State University of West Virginia • An Affirmative
Action/Equal Opportunity Employer