

*A Tribute To Our Drinko Fellows
(1994-2011)*



*The John Deaver Drinko Academy
Marshall University
April 30, 2011*

In Memory of Our Benefactors
Dr. John Deaver Drinko & Dr. Elizabeth Gibson Drinko

FOREWORD

On April 7, 1994, the John Deaver Drinko Academy was officially established on the campus of Marshall University. The Academy was handsomely endowed by two of Marshall's most generous benefactors – Drs. John and Elizabeth Drinko.

From its inception, John and Libby played active and enthusiastic roles in the affairs of the Academy. Indeed, until his death fourteen years later, the couple never missed the university's annual Spring Celebration of Academics sponsored by the Drinko Academy.

For the Drinkos, perhaps no other activity was as important as this annual event. In part, the celebration consists of the John Deaver Drinko Symposium which provides a platform for Drinko Fellows to present the results of their research to the university community. Presented in tandem is the celebration's other centerpiece – the Elizabeth Gibson Drinko Honors Convocation. This important event, also established in 1994, provides the one time of the year the university collectively acknowledges its honors students.


Actually, it was John Drinko who insisted that the Academy acknowledge preeminent members of the faculty. On

numerous occasions, John stated how he marveled at the number of outstanding instructors he, "a poor boy from St. Marys," had while attending Marshall College.

John insisted that someday he would repay the school for the quality of the education he received. "Someone built the place before I got there, so I always wanted to pay that back," he said. "Without that education, I would still be back shooting squirrels in West Virginia."

John's repayment began in 1994 with the creation of the Distinguished John Deaver Drinko Fellows Award. This designation is granted only to selected distinguished senior professors. Appointed annually, the Fellow receives a generous stipend, a reduced teaching load, and other financial and clerical support for two academic years to undertake research projects and other scholarly pursuits. To date, nineteen members of our faculty have been appointed as Distinguished John Deaver Drinko Fellows and collectively, by their contributions, they have enriched the quality of academic life throughout the university.

Henry Adams once wrote that "teachers affect eternity; they can never tell where their influence stops." This is certainly



true of the teachers John Drinko encountered while a student at Marshall College in the late 1930's. As John described it, their influence on "a bow legged kid from St. Marys" led to his decision to honor teachers and scholarship at his Alma Mater. And so, the influence continues.

As Director of the Academy, I am extremely proud of my affiliation with all of the Drinko Fellows. As you read the following brief biographical sketches of these distinguished scholars, you will note that they have been extremely productive members of our faculty and that their association with the Academy has been beneficial both for themselves and for the University.

Dr. Alan Gould
Executive Director
The John Deaver Drinko Academy
Marshall University
April 30, 2011



(Front row, left to right) Montserrat Miller, Maria Carmen Riddel, Beverly Twitchell Marchant, Linda Spatig, Alan Gould, Shirley Lumpkin, Mary Beth Reynolds, Edwina Pendarvis (Back row, left to right) Mack Gillenwater, Simon Perry, Jean Smith, Bill Denman, Ken Ambrose, Bob Alexander, Eldon Larsen, Wendell Dobbs, Chuck Somerville (Not pictured: Michael Little and Ed Bingham)

Marshall University Drinko Fellows (1994-2011)



Dr. Simon Perry (1994-1995)

Dr. Perry, Professor Emeritus of Political Science, joined the Marshall faculty as an Associate Professor in the fall of 1962 and retired from active duty in the spring of 2010 – making his 48 year tenure as a faculty member the longest in the history of this institution. Among numerous noteworthy honors, he is the recipient of the Marshall University Distinguished Faculty Award and two separate Governors presented him with the prestigious Distinguished West Virginian Award and in a poll recently conducted by the Office of Alumni Affairs, Dr. Perry was named the outstanding teacher at Marshall University. For the Academic year 2009-2010, he won the College of Liberal Arts Teaching Award voted on by students currently enrolled with a major in the college. Also, in his honor, COLA has created the Simon Perry Center for Constitutional Democracy.

Marshall University Drinko Fellows (1994-2011)



Dr. Mack Gillenwater (1995-1996)

Dr. Gillenwater, Emeritus Professor of Geography, joined the Marshall faculty in 1968. While at Marshall, he participated in faculty exchange programs at the Universitas Nebrissenis in Madrid, Spain and at Beijing Normal University in China. He was also instrumental in the establishment, under the auspices of Congressman Nick Rahall, of the Coalways and Coal Mining Heritage projects designed to determine the feasibility of protecting and preserving significant cultural and historic sites associated with the coal mining heritage of southern West Virginia. He also coordinated a comprehensive study of historic preservation and tourism in the greater Huntington metropolitan area including Ashland, Kentucky and Ironton, Ohio. Additionally, he completed 10 historic preservation surveys for the West Virginia Department of Culture and History.

Marshall University Drinko Fellows (1994-2011)



Dr. William Denman (1996-1997)

Dr. Denman is a Professor Emeritus in the Department of Communication Studies. He joined the Marshall Department of Speech in 1965 and retired from full-time teaching in December 2003. He received the College of Liberal Arts 2002-2003 Distinguished Service Award for his years of service to the University which included service as the Director of the Society of Yeager Scholars, Chair of the Department of Communication Studies and Interim Director of the Integrated Science and Technology Program in the College of Science. Dr. Denman's scholarship has focused on the role of rhetoric, as a human activity, in the shaping of societies. His publications have dealt with the need for argument to be more heavily featured in the teaching of public speaking as a means of empowering citizens. In addition he has focused on the ways in which citizens worked, prior to World War II, to influence public opinion on American entry into the war in Europe.

Marshall University Drinko Fellows (1994-2011)



Dr. Montserrat Martí Miller (1996-1999)

Dr. Miller, Professor of History, joined the faculty in 1996. After conducting an internal review of the Honors and John Marshall Scholars Programs for the Office of the President, she served as the Coordinator of the University's highly successful celebration of the 200th Anniversary of the appointment of John Marshall as Chief Justice of the United States. Montserrat has been recognized with various awards. She received a Pickens-Queen Teaching Award in 1998, a College of Liberal Arts Outstanding Teacher Faculty Award in 2007 and was named the 2007 Faculty Merit Foundation's West Virginia Professor of the Year. Her publications on the cultural iconography of market vendors have appeared in Catalan and Spanish, with an English translation in press. She is currently working with the Museu d'Història de Barcelona on a major exhibit on the markets of that city and with a University of Barcelona-based research group that is studying work, demography, and family life in nineteenth and twentieth century Catalonia. Professor Miller was recently elected to the Executive Council of the Association of Spanish and Portuguese Historical Studies.

Marshall University Drinko Fellows (1994-2011)



Dr. Shirley Lumpkin (1997-1998)

Dr. Lumpkin has been a member of the Marshall faculty in the Department of English since 1983 and presently holds the rank of Professor. Shirley is active with the university's Writing Across-the-Curriculum Program, the Marshall Writing Project and similar disciplined based activities in the College of Liberal Arts, the College of Education and Human Services and the Department of English. She has published extensively, including articles on American literature and African American writers. She is especially interested in exploring the writing of contemporary women in Appalachia which challenges every stereotype and many generalizations about women, writing and Appalachia. Among many accolades, Dr. Lumpkin was named the West Virginia Legislator's Outstanding Professor in 1990 and she also received the Marshall and Shirley Reynolds Outstanding Teacher Award the same year and was the recipient of the Marshall University Distinguished Service Award last year.

Marshall University Drinko Fellows (1994-2011)



Dr. Kenneth P. Ambrose (1998-1999)

Dr. Ken Ambrose, Emeritus Professor of Sociology, joined the Marshall faculty in 1975 and retired from full-time teaching in 2010. He served as Chair of the Department of Sociology / Anthropology from 1983 until his retirement. He also served as the Interim Dean of the Marshall Graduate School in 1984. Ken is a highly regarded member of the Marshall community. He is known for his outstanding teaching and interesting research, especially his descriptive study of the snake handling cults of Southern Appalachia. In 1999, Ken and his co-presenter, his son, the late Dr. Paul W. Ambrose, gave a Drinko Symposium presentation entitled "Health Care Challenges in Rural America". The presentation was a prophetic and masterful study of the coming health care issues facing Appalachians, especially those relating to the growing problem of obesity. To highlight the health challenges, Drs. Ken and Paul Ambrose enlisted the services of the former Surgeon-General of the United States Dr. C. Everett Koop to speak on the seriousness of the crisis at the 1998 Elizabeth Gibson Drinko Honors Convocation.

Marshall University Drinko Fellows (1994-2011)



Dr. Robert P. Alexander (1999-2000)

Dr. Alexander was employed at Marshall University for 44 years until his retirement in May, 2003. While at Marshall, he served as the first Director of Placement, Director of the MBA program, Chair of the Department of Management and Dean of the College of Business. In 1991, in recognition of his outstanding contributions to his college and university, he was granted the title of Distinguished Professor of Management in the Elizabeth McDowell Lewis College of Business. In civic engagements, he served for 16 years on the Huntington City Council, having served one term as Mayor. He is also a former President of the Marshall Alumni Association, President of the West Virginia Municipal League and First Vice President of the Tri-State Airport Authority. Among numerous honors, Dr. Alexander is the recipient of the M.U. Alumni Association's Community Service Award, the American Legion Civic Improvement Award and the WV Municipal League's Outstanding Service Award. He was twice selected as the Teacher of the Year in his college and was elected to the Lewis College of Business Hall of Fame and to the City of Huntington Wall of Fame. He was an exchange professor at the University of Nebrissenis, Madrid, Spain and was selected for the Faculty Service Award in 1998. Dr. Alexander is a member of Beta Sigma Gamma and was chosen as the West Virginia Tree Farmer of the Year in 1990.

Marshall University Drinko Fellows (1994-2011)



Dr. Beverly Twitchell Marchant (2000-2001)

Dr. Beverly Twitchell Marchant began her professional career in 1968 as a Researcher and Curator of Education at the Valentine Museum in Richmond, Virginia. While there, she also served as a Research Assistant at the National Portrait Gallery in Washington, D.C. In 1972, Beverly joined the faculty of Marshall University as an Assistant Professor of Art and, among many other duties, was the founding Director of the University's Birke Art Gallery and was the Director of the University Honors Program. In 1985, Dr. Twitchell Marchant left Marshall to join the faculty at Virginia Tech and later in 1990 became the Chair of the Department of Fine Arts at LaSalle University in Philadelphia. Then, in 1994, Beverly returned to Marshall where she remained as an outstanding instructor and an energetic researcher until her retirement in 2010 as a Professor Emerita. In recent years, she has turned her attention and considerable talents to the study of Native American art, especially that of the Ledger Drawings of Brule Sioux.

Marshall University Drinko Fellows (1994-2011)



Dr. Edwina Pendarvis (2001-2002)

Dr. Edwina Pendarvis, Emeritus Professor of Education, joined the Marshall faculty in 1979. A nationally recognized authority on gifted education, she served as the college's Coordinator of the Gifted Graduate Education Program. Additionally, she served as a contributing editor of Roper Review: A Journal on Gifted Education, and as a member of the Editorial Board of the Rural and Small Schools Journal and as editor of Aegis, the newsletter of the West Virginia Association for Talented and Gifted. Among her many accolades, she received the award for Outstanding Service to Gifted Youth from the West Virginia Gifted Association. Lastly, Dr. Pendarvis is a recognized and highly regarded author of Appalachian poetry and prose and has won numerous awards for her work.

Marshall University Drinko Fellows (1994-2011)



Dr. Michael Little (2002-2003)

In 1973, Dr. Little joined the Marshall faculty as an instructor in the Department of Biology in the former College of Arts and Sciences. Presently, he is a Professor and Chair of the Department of Integrated Science and Technology in the College of Science. As an example of a rich and varied research career, he served as an Aquatic Biologist Research Associate with the Water Resource Division of the U.S. Geological Survey. Additionally, working with departmental faculty and students, he directed the development of a virtual Appalachian community which integrates science and math instruction in a web delivered series of activities. In 1997, Dr. Little was the recipient of the National Award for Innovative Excellence in Teaching, Learning and Technology presented at the Ninth International Conference on College Teaching and Learning at Jacksonville, Florida.

Marshall University Drinko Fellows (1994-2011)



Dr. W. Edwin Bingham (2003-2004)

Dr. Ed Bingham is Professor of Saxophone and Director of Jazz Studies at Marshall University. He joined the faculty of the Department of Music in 1990. Ed also directs the Marshall University Jazz Ensemble, coordinates two annual jazz festivals on campus and is a founding member of Marshall's faculty jazz ensemble Bluetrane. He is a bassoonist and saxophonist with the Huntington Symphony Orchestra and has performed with the Lexington Philharmonic, the West Virginia Symphony Orchestra, the River Cities Symphony and the Ohio Valley Symphony.

Marshall University Drinko Fellows (1994-2011)



Dr. Mary E. Reynolds (2004-2005)

Dr. Reynolds joined the Marshall University faculty in 1996 and presently holds the rank of Professor in the Department of Communication Disorders. Mary Beth's research, which has focused on synthesized speech intelligibility and comprehension, the relationship between language and literacy, and language development in children from rural Appalachia, has been published in the *Journal of Speech, Language, and Hearing Research*, *Augmentative and Alternative Communication*, *Journal of Applied Developmental Psychology*, *Perceptual and Motor Skills*, and *Contemporary Issues in Communication Science and Disorders*. She currently serves as the Director of Academic Assessment for Marshall University.

Marshall University Drinko Fellows (1994-2011)



Professor Jean Edward Smith (2004-2005)

Professor Smith served for over thirty years on the faculty of the University of Toronto and concurrently, on numerous occasions, was appointed as a visiting scholar at such noteworthy institutions as Dartmouth College, Princeton and Columbia universities, the University of Virginia and the Free University of Berlin. In the fall of 1999, Jean joined the Marshall faculty and has served since that time as the John Marshall Professor of Political Science. Professor Smith has to his credit a list of scholarly publications and presentations, including the authorship of 13 books. His biography of John Marshall is considered by most American historians as the definitive work on the life of the Great Chief Justice. And, since coming to Marshall, he has produced three additionally outstanding biographies. First, one on the life of U.S. Grant which was selected as a finalist for the 2002 Pulitzer Prize in Biography. Second, a biography of FDR which last year won the coveted Francis Parkman Award. And third, his recently completed biography of Dwight David Eisenhower which will be published later this year. Professor Smith is also the recipient of an Honorary Doctorate from Marshall University. After twelve years at Marshall, Jean will join the history department at Columbia University in July as Senior Scholar in Residence.

Marshall University Drinko Fellows (1994-2011)



Dr. Charles C. Somerville (2005-2006)

Dr. Somerville came to Marshall in 1997 as an Assistant Professor in the Department of Biological Sciences. In 2006, he became Professor and Head of the Division of Biological Sciences and presently holds the position of Dean of the College of Science. Before coming to Marshall, he held a variety of discipline related positions as a Research Scientist and Project Microbiologist with a number of federal agencies and associated organizations involved in environmental research. As a microbiologist, he has participated in 10 scientific ocean cruises and has extensive experience in similar scientific studies in estuarine and coastal waters. Dr. Somerville is in the vanguard of the effort to establish Marshall University as a leader in freshwater research and the ecological study of the Ohio River. Among numerous honors, he received the Andrew J. Moyer Award from the Department of Microbiology at the University of Maryland, the USAF Star Team Award for Excellence in Research, the M.U. Research Corporation Award for Excellence in Sponsored Research and the Marshall and Shirley Reynolds Outstanding Teacher Award.

Marshall University Drinko Fellows (1994-2011)



Dr. Linda Spatig (2006-2007)

Dr. Spatig joined the Marshall faculty in 1987 and presently is a Professor of Education in the College of Education and Human Services, holding a joint appointment in the Doctoral Leadership Studies Program housed on the South Charleston campus. Linda has served the university in many capacities including her work on the Center for Teaching Excellence Advisory Board, the University Faculty Senate, and as Co-Director of the Center for the Study of Ethnicity and Gender in Appalachia. Additionally, she is an Associate Editor of the Journal of Education Foundations and a program reviewer for the Governor's Cabinet on Children and Families. The bulk of her scholarship rests in the area of Educational Foundations with emphasis on social context issues including gender, race and class, as these social factors relate to the Appalachian culture.

Marshall University Drinko Fellows (1994-2011)



Dr. Wendell Dobbs (2007-2008)

Dr. Dobbs joined the faculty of the Department of Music in 1985 and presently is Professor of Flute at Marshall University. Wendell performs regularly in solo and chamber venues in a variety of settings ranging from the Huntington Symphony Orchestra and the Ohio Valley Symphony (principal flute in both) to Blackbirds and Thrushes, a Celtic band. He provided the music for the Drinko Academy's highly successful documentary on the life of John Marshall and produced a CD recording entitled "Rallying Around Our Liberty". He also founded the John Marshall Fife and Drum Corps.

Marshall University Drinko Fellows (1994-2011)



Dr. Maria Carmen Riddel (2008-2009)

Dr. Riddel joined the Marshall faculty in 1983 and is a Professor of Spanish and a former Chair of the Department of Modern Languages. She has served as the supervisor of the departmental Study Abroad Program in France and in Spain and as the faculty advisor and Director of the Summer Language and Culture Program in Madrid. Maria Carmen is also the recipient of the Hendrick Outstanding Faculty Award and this year she was one of five state-wide finalists for the prestigious Professor of the Year Award given by the Faculty Merit Foundation of West Virginia.

Marshall University Drinko Fellows (1994-2011)



Dr. Eldon Larsen (2009-2010)

Dr. Larsen joined the Marshall University faculty in 1999 and presently holds the rank of Professor of Engineering in the College of Information Technology and Engineering. He also serves as the Coordinator of the Master of Science in Engineering degree program. While a member of the Marshall faculty, Eldon has produced scores of scholarly publications, has delivered over thirty professional papers, and has chaired numerous sessions at national professional meetings. He has received the Marshall University Distinguished Artist and Scholar Award, as well as the Ashland Outstanding Graduate Advisor of the Year Award. He also holds the Union Carbide Corporation Chairman's Award and was recently named a Fellow by the American Institute of Chemical Engineers.

Marshall University Drinko Fellows (1994-2011)



Dr. Dan K. Evans (2010-2011)

Dr. Evans joined the Marshall faculty in 1974 as an Assistant Professor in the biology department in the former College of Arts and Sciences. Presently, he is a Professor of Biological Science in the College of Science. Dan's research interests include the restoration of wetlands and riparian habitat, rare and endangered plant species, medicinal plants and the ethnobotany of Ecuador. Also, since 1974, he has served as the Curator of the Marshall University Herbarium. Additionally, during his tenure at Marshall, he has directed the Master's Theses of 24 graduate students. Dr. Evans has provided scores of significant studies for, among others, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, American Electric Power, the Ohio Power Company and the West Virginia Department of Natural Resources. Among numerous awards and honors, Dr. Evans is a National Science Fellow and the recipient of the Southern Appalachian Botanical Society's Bartholomew Award for Service to Botany. His membership in professional organizations include the American Society of Plant Taxonomists, the Society of Herbarium Curators (Past President), the Herb Research Foundation, the South American Explores Club and the West Virginia Academy of Science.



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