



MARSHALL'S STRATEGIC VISION - *Our Bold Constellation for the Future*

Status Update for:



Develop and Institute the Marshall Commitment

Overview

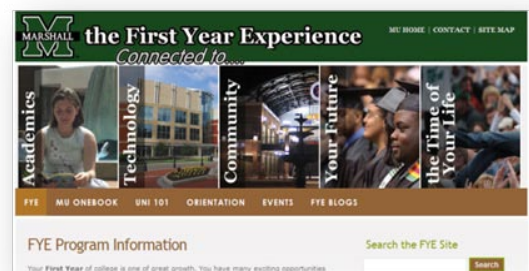
Students enter Marshall University with diverse abilities, interests, and educational goals. The University has long been committed to helping students develop their potential, expand their interests, and reach their educational goals in a timely manner. To elevate the caliber of thinking and learning gains achieved by Marshall University students the *Marshall Commitment* offers an approach that can assist in achieving this goal.

4-yr degree commitment – *University will ensure course availability with the proviso that students satisfy course completion and progression requirement*

- In February 2008, Marshall University was one of the early adopters of Voluntary System of Accountability (VSA). VSA is designed to improve public understanding of how public colleges and universities operate. The College Portrait provides consistent, comparable and transparent information on the characteristics of institutions and students, cost of attendance, student engagement with the learning process, and core educational outcomes. A common web reporting template makes data available regarding price, financial aid, degree programs, retention and graduation rates, campus safety, student satisfaction, and student learning outcomes.

- **First-Year Experience Program** – The First Year Experience Committee has created a complete plan for the upcoming year. A new interactive web page will include an activities calendar, social spaces, hyperlinks to critical resources and the Greater Huntington Area. This will be the one-stop area for freshmen to have the full Marshall University experience. The web page will be available June of 2008.

A Common Reading program was instituted last fall and now is in its second year. The program helps build community among freshmen during their “first year experience” and, by its cross-disciplinary nature, supports each of the University’s core foundation elements.



To learn more visit this Strategic Initiative at: <http://www.marshall.edu/president/strategic/MarshallCommitment.asp>

- **Student Success Plan Components** – The concept of a [Student Success Plan](#) (SSP) is included as one component of the *Marshall Commitment*. [The Core Foundations Committee](#) has worked diligently for the last two years to progress all areas of the SSP.
- **Diverse and Distinctive Learning Experiences** – e.g., *undergraduate research/guided inquiry/scholarship*; [international experiences and programs of study](#); *expanded honors programming*; *internships*; *co-ops*; *nationally-competitive scholars program* (e.g., Rhodes, Marshall, Truman, Udall, Fulbright) – Senate Bill 287, which that was passed in 2008 allowed for the expansion of the [Marshall University Interdisciplinary Research Institute](#). The Institute will expand numerous opportunities for our students.
- **Consequential Connections to Faculty** – e.g., *academic and career advising*, *expert mentoring programs*, *leadership development*
 - **Campus/Community Life**
 - [Student Recreation Center](#) - The recreation center will be 121,000 square feet and house swimming pools, a running track, basketball courts, a climbing wall and racquetball courts. The facility also will be equipped with a wide range of exercise equipment, including treadmills, step machines, and weight machines. This will open in the spring of 2009.
 - [Living-Learning Residence Halls](#) - The 80,000-square-foot student dorms will provide 780 beds in two buildings and provide technology enhanced-classrooms, multimedia theaters, and conference rooms. These facilities will open in August of 2008.
 - **Community Connections**
 - In February, 2,000 freshmen and 2,000 seniors were randomly selected to complete the [National Survey of Student Engagement](#). The results of NSSE will help us to assess our strengths and weaknesses as an institution. What we learn will help us to enhance students' experiences at Marshall so that they are given the maximum opportunity to grow intellectually, personally and socially during their time here.
 - The survey examined five benchmark areas:
 - Level of academic challenge
 - Active and collaborative learning
 - Student-faculty interaction
 - Enriching educational experiences
 - Supportive campus environment
 - Marshall University coaches, high school coaches and others conduct [camps for young athletes](#). Most of the camps feature fundamental instruction. Camps are offered in soccer, basketball, baseball, football and volleyball. Following is the list of summer 2008 camps:
 - Soccer Camp
 - Timberwolf Basketball
 - Lady Dragon Basketball
 - Cincinnati Reds Summer Camps
 - Ironton Fighting Tigers Basketball
 - Huntington YMCA Camps
 - Mountain High Running Camp
 - Ric Morrone's Basketball Camp

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- Marshall Women's Soccer
- Marshall Men's Basketball
- West Virginia State U. Baseball
- Marshall Football
- Glenville State College Basketball
- Marshall Volleyball
- Buffalo Basketball
- Ray Guy Kicking Academy
- Cincinnati Reds Legends Camp
- Marshall Women's Basketball
- West Virginia State U. Softball
- WVU Football Camps
- Marshall Men's Soccer
- West Virginia State U. Volleyball
- Rio Grande Men's Basketball
- Little Redmen Basketball Day Camp
- East Kentucky Pro Basketball
- Focus High School Football Combine
- QB Skills Clinic
- Basketball Camp
- Summer Programs in Marshall
 - Upward Bound Program: After receiving news of their \$344,012 annual funding to be supplied for another four years last May, the Upward Bound Program is continuing with its usual summer school program for local students in Cabell, Mingo, and Wayne Counties. The six week Upward Bound summer program is designed to motivate low income, and or, first generation high school students to attend post-secondary education, and help prepare them for college level classes. Students live on campus, take classes, and enjoy a number of fun and educational outings with the summer counselors.
 - The Online College Courses in the High Schools Program (OCCHS) is offering classes for its second summer since its inception in the fall of 2006. The summer is a good time for high school students to spend some time preparing for their college education by taking some college level classes. Since all of these classes are offered 100% online, students don't have to worry about travelling to campus or spending all day indoors during their summer break. They can choose what time they will study and study from any location with Internet access.
 - The Booth Scholars Program began in 2001 at Pikeville College, KY, and moved to Marshall University in 2004 where it continues to serve students in Pike County, KY; Buchannon, VA; and Wayne County, WV. The Program provides scholars with academic, cultural, and social activities. Booth Scholars have traveled to England, France, Italy, Greece and many other countries of their choice as part of their cultural learning experience. The selection process is underway for the scholars of 2008 and there are already a lot of plans for this summer's students and mentors.

- **Development and Validation of Longitudinal Assessment Rubrics**
 - For the last two years, the [Core Foundations Ad Hoc Committee](#) met and designed four interconnected suggestions to develop General Education at Marshall. These five areas have been approved by the committee and are being forwarded for consideration:
 1. Core Domains
 2. Core Classes
 3. E-Portfolios
 4. Core Proficiencies Across the Curriculum.
 - The process being initiated here is dynamic and recursive; one that will evolve and change as we dialogue and discover what works (and what doesn't work). However, such change will not be easy; the committee recognizes that, if well done, the university stands to undergo a shift of its perspective and definition.