

We Are...Marshall!

THE NEWSLETTER FOR MARSHALL UNIVERSITY • JUNE 28 , 2002

Faculty, Students Participate in Biomedical Research

Eight faculty members and 16 students from colleges and universities around the state have been selected to participate in a research program at Marshall University and West Virginia University this summer as part of the West Virginia Biomedical Research Infrastructure Network (WV-BRIN).

Marshall and WVU were awarded a \$6 million grant from the National Institute of Health in 2001 to create WV-BRIN. The program links faculty

and resources at Marshall and WVU to undergraduate institutions throughout the state.

Faculty mentors from Marshall are Dr. Todd Green, Dr. Carl Gruetter, Dr. Elizabeth Murray, Dr. Donald Primerano and Dr. Gary Wright.

The eight-week research project will enhance opportunities for faculty and students statewide, while increasing the state's ability to compete for

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Meet the Experts Continues July 9

Marshall University's lung specialist, Fuad Zeid, M.D., will present a free talk July 9 on asthma, a potentially life-threatening condition that affects an estimated 141,000 West Virginians.

The talk, which is part of the Meet the Experts mini-medical school series, will be at 5:30 p.m. in the auditorium of the Marshall University Medical Center. Pre-registration is not required.

The focus will be on patient awareness, how to recognize an asthma attack, and what patients need to do, Zeid said. He also will discuss newer medicines that have become available in recent years.

"This is a disease in which patients need to work closely with their physicians," he said. "I will be talking about things patients can do to help get this disease out of their way and to lead as normal a life as possible."

After his talk, which will last about 30 minutes, Zeid will answer questions.

Zeid, a faculty member at Marshall's Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine, is board-certified in internal medicine.

The Meet the Experts mini medical school series is funded by an educational grant from Pfizer. The next lecture will be August 13, with Dr. Thomas Rushton discussing travel medicine.

New Stadium Pavilion Takes Shape

There soon will be a new place for Thundering Herd fans to gather.

A groundbreaking ceremony for the 1,000-square-foot pavilion being constructed at the south-



Representatives of the "M" Club participated in a groundbreaking ceremony for the pavilion adjacent to Marshall Stadium June 19.

west corner of Marshall Stadium took place last week. Officials from the university's "M" Club and the Marshall Athletic Department took part in the ceremony marking the beginning of construction of the 24-by-40 foot, open air pavilion which is expected to be ready by this fall's football season.

The new facility will serve as the primary venue for "M" Club football tailgate activities, as well as a

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Hospice, Medical School Join in Unique Care Project

A unique partnership between Hospice of Huntington and Marshall's School of Medicine is getting national exposure this month through an article in the "New Ideas" section of the journal, *Academic Psychiatry*.

The article was written by Dr. Daniel Cowell, chair of the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Medicine, and Charlene Farrell, executive director of Hospice of Huntington, with co-authors Nichole Campbell and Brittany Canady.

The program, created in 1994, is apparently the first, if not the only, one of its kind. Through it, every Marshall medical student becomes part of a hospice treatment team and is assigned to a patient. After a thorough orientation, students make two supervised visits and three solo house calls to their patients, many of whom live in rural areas. They provide emotional support and collaborate with the treatment team while learning the physician's role in providing end-of-life care.

"The program helps students see patients on a personal level," Farrell said. "When they go into a

home, they see the patient as a person—as a father, a husband, a grandfather. It helps them develop more compassion and empathy."

Cowell said students consistently give the program high marks and recommend that it be continued.

"Many students have been embraced by families in ways that have been very moving," he said. "A few years ago, a family invited its medical student to a family reunion some months after the patient's death and introduced him to relatives as 'Grandpop's doctor.'"

Diabetes Subject of Marshall Research

A Marshall University research project on the development of diabetes is one of 125 projects nationwide selected to be included in the Research Summaries Book of the Endocrine Society.

The book published the most newsworthy research abstracts from the more than 2,800 projects that were presented at the society's Endo 2002 meeting in San Francisco last week.

The Marshall research found that deficiencies of vitamin A before birth can put rats at risk for developing diabetes later in life.

"There has been a lot of interest in the intrauterine environment and how it affects the fetus as an adult," said Marshall's Dr. Bruce Chertow, the lead researcher for the project. "There have been studies that show that malnutrition and low birth weight are associated with the development of diabetes, hypertension and heart disease. We're extending that idea to vitamins and vitamin deficiency."

Chertow said the studies may affect nutritional guidelines for pregnant mothers in an effort to prevent diabetes from occurring. The project has special

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Faculty/Staff Achievements

Dr. Linda-Spatig, David Holliday and Kathy Seelinger, all faculty members in the College of Education and Human Services, along with Marshall graduate students Jennifer Scharf and Diane Wellman, conducted a symposium at the Ethnographic and Qualitative Research in Education conference held at Duquesne University in Pittsburgh earlier this month. The symposium was titled *West Virginia Educare: Case Studies in Community Collaboration*.

We Are...Marshall!

Published by University Communications, with offices in Huntington (213 Old Main) and South Charleston (110 Administration Building).

The next issue of *We Are...Marshall!* will carry an issue date of July 12, 2002. Deadline is July 5. Send story ideas to Pat Dickson, Editor, *We Are...Marshall!*, 110 Administration Building, South Charleston Campus, or send by e-mail to pdickson@marshall.edu.



Note of Thanks

Pam and I are very grateful for the support we've received during recent months while our daughter Megan was fighting a rare form of Lymphoma and for the many expressions of sympathy after her death in Seattle on May 21. She was a '92 graduate of MU. Megan is survived by her husband John (MU '91) and daughter Diana Grace, who reside in Cary, NC.

Sincerely,
Chuck Gruber,
History Department

Graduate College Announces Summer Thesis Awards

Thirteen master's-level students have been awarded summer 2002 thesis research awards, according to Dr. Leonard J. Deutsch, dean of the Graduate College. These \$500 scholarships are designed to provide financial support to help students complete their theses, Deutsch said.

The recipients and their advisors are:

Charles Crow Family Award: Jenna Mathews for "BMI and Beverage Intake in WIC Children." Advisor: Dr. Susan C. Linnenkohl, Family and Consumer Science.

John and Jannett Casto Award: Traci Hudson for "Molecular Studies of Microbial Community Structure." Advisor: Dr. Charles C. Somerville, Biological Sciences.

Jarrett-Masztal Award: Keith Johnson for "Abiotic Factors Influencing the Breeding, Movement and Foraging of the Eastern Spadefoot, *Scaphiopus holbrookii*, in West Virginia: A Telemetry Study." Advisor: Dr. Thomas K. Pauley, Biological Sciences.

William Minner, Jr. Award: Adam Mann for "Status and Distribution of the Black Ratsnake Complex in West Virginia using Morphologic and Phylogenetic Characteristics." Advisor: Dr. Thomas K. Pauley, Biological Sciences.

Neitch Selected for Medicare Panel

Dr. Shirley Neitch, a Marshall physician specializing in geriatric medicine, was one of six experts chosen for a national panel that will help develop a demonstration project for Medicare payment of prescription medicines. The panel met June 27 in Washington, D.C.

"This is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity," said Neitch, who is director of Marshall's Hanshaw Geriatric Center and a professor in the School of Medicine. "Medicare prescription coverage would help a great many people, but you can't offer it without structure. You can't start it without seeing what will work on a large scale. You don't want to risk pouring a lot of money down the drain."

The Medicare demonstration project is a cooperative effort between the federal Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services and the United Mine Workers of America Health and Retirement Funds. With a grant from the federal agency, the UMWA will develop a pilot program and test it using retirees in a small part of its service area. Neitch and other members of the panel will advise the UMWA on the program's development.

"The project will involve attempts at cost containment and more appropriate use of drugs for the elderly," she said.

Lamina Queen Award: Anthony Ponton for "Bringing Camelot to the Coal Fields: An Examination of the Kennedy Experience in West Virginia, 1960-63." Advisor: Dr. Robert Maddox, History.

Rachael Steward Award: Gaillynn Bowman for "Constance Cary Harrison: Refugitta of Richmond, A Voice of the South." Advisor: Dr. Katharine Rodier, English.

Tonya Adkins for "A Comparative Content Analysis of Mountaintop Removal Articles in the Local Press." Advisor: Dr. Lynda Ann Ewen, Sociology.

Dian He for "NMR Study of Properties and Functions of Poly (Propylene Imine) (PPI) Dendrimers." Advisor: Dr. Minghui Chai, Chemistry.

Rebecca Klug for "A Study to Determine the Accuracy and Efficiency of Archaeological Site Survey Techniques Applied During Marshall University Archaeological Field School Located at Greenbottom, West Virginia." Advisor: Dr. Nicholas Freidin, Sociology.

Seth Myers for "Distribution and Breeding Habitat Selection of the Jefferson Salamander, *Ambystoma jeffersonianum*, in West Virginia." Advisor: Dr. Thomas K. Pauley, Biological Sciences.

Melissa Obermeyer for "Integration of the Turtle, *Chrysemys picta*, in West Virginia." Advisor, Dr. Thomas K. Pauley, Biological Sciences.

Michael Osbourn for "The Natural History and Distribution of Troglomorphic Spring Salamanders, *Gyrinophilus spp* in West Virginia." Advisor: Dr. Thomas K. Pauley, Biological Sciences.

Sephra Snyder for "The Effects of Sleep Deprivation on Individual Productivity." Advisor: Dr. Laura Wyant, Adult and Technical Education.

Biomedical Research from Page 1

further biomedical funding. Each student receives a \$3,500 stipend and is paired with a Marshall or WVU research scientist, while each faculty member selected will receive an \$11,000 stipend.

The participants will engage in biomedical research through cellular or molecular biology. The students and faculty will have the opportunity to conduct lab, as well as clinical, research on identifying genes that contribute to cardiovascular disease. In addition, the student summer internship is designed to introduce students to biomedical research and opportunities for graduate work in the biomedical sciences.

Gress Studies Patient Satisfaction

A new study, led by Dr. Ted Gress of the Marshall School of Medicine, which takes a more scientific look at patient satisfaction, is providing good news for those responsible for educating the doctors of the future. The study found patients are just as satisfied with their office visits when a medical student is involved as they are when they see a physician alone.

The study also indicates a high degree of overall satisfaction with care in an academic medical center with 98 percent of patients rating their visits as good to excellent.

The study, which was conducted at Johns Hopkins University, was published in the June 20 issue of the *Journal of General Internal Medicine*.

Gress and his colleagues noted that much more medical care, and therefore medical education, is taking place in doctors' offices rather than hospitals, for example.

"We want patients to be satisfied with their health care while we also educate students in the best possible way," Gress said. "In the past we've done things a certain way because we think it's the right way; lately there have been more efforts to study the issues scientifically."

And he notes, "Our research suggests that there may be subtle differences in the way patients view their care when students are involved. We need to look at that more closely, because if there are differences we need to explore ways to deal with any patient concerns."

Stadium Pavilion

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gathering spot for athletic association events, social occasions, and other Marshall club, organization and group activities.

The pavilion will be constructed adjacent to the "M" Club Wall of Legacy, which features nearly 400 commemorative bricks honoring the accomplishments of former Marshall University athletes.

"The new facility will be a great focal point for each stadium event. Our student athletes and alumni will see this as a real asset," said Marshall's interim athletic director Bob "Kayo" Marcum, noting that the pavilion can be used to support additional campus events in and around the Marshall stadium.

Established in 1996 by head football coach Bob Pruett and current Big Green Foundation president Ralph May, the "M" Club is an association of former Thundering Herd athletes, team managers, student trainers and cheerleaders. The club's primary activities include "Bring Home The Herd" weekends, honoring teams and individual student-athletes for their past achievements at Marshall.

Summer Computer Classes Continue

Summer training classes being offered through the Continuing Education/Computer Learning Center have been announced, according to Martha Pierson, program manager.

The center, part of the MARSHALL Community & Technical College, offers classes on a wide range of topics on the South Charleston campus.

The workshop schedule includes:

July 18, Excel Introduction, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.; July 22, PowerPoint Introduction, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.; July 25, Access Introduction, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.; July 29, Choosing & Learning How to Use a POA (Palm Devices), 9 a.m. to noon; July 31, Adobe Acrobat Reader Introduction, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m..

August 12-16, Project Management, 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. daily; August 14, Excel Advanced (Level III) 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.; August 17, Microsoft Publisher for Documents, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.; August 21, Photoshop Introduction, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.; August 22, Adobe Illustrator—An Introduction, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.; August 28, Desktop Design for the Non-Graphic Artist, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

September 11 & 12, Cold Fusion Introduction, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.; September 13, Word—Mail Merges & Macros, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.; September 17-18, Pagemaker Introduction, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. daily; September 20, How to Conduct a Web Meeting, 1-4 p.m.; September 23, Excel for Accountants, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.; September 24, Web Design Introduction—HTML, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.; September 27, Photoshop Introduction, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.; September 30, Excel Introduction, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

For additional information on any of these courses, contact Pierson at ext. 2062 or e-mail her at mpierson@marshall.edu.

Diabetes Research

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significance locally, he said, since surveys done in the Tri-State in 1969 found significant vitamin A deficiencies, especially in adolescents and young children.

"We're seeing an epidemic of diabetes," according to Chertow. "There are 16 million people with diabetes now in the United States and perhaps more than 200 million worldwide. A lot of that is blamed on having a sedentary lifestyle, but perhaps vitamin A deficiency during pregnancy is also a factor.

The project was funded by a grant from the National Institutes of Health. In addition to Chertow, the authors of the abstract are Dr. Henry Driscoll of Marshall and Kimberly Matthews and Raghda Salhoul of the Research and Medical Services division of the Huntington VA Medical Center.