

We Are...Marshall!

THE NEWSLETTER FOR MARSHALL UNIVERSITY • JAN. 25, 2002

EPSCoR, NSF Support Science at Marshall

Marshall University has received \$3 million in grants over the next three years to support science and technology research.

The funds come from the West Virginia Experimental Program to Stimulate Competitive Research (WV EPSCoR) through a larger grant received from the National Science Foundation. That grant will support research in biometrics and biomolecular sciences over the next three years at both Marshall and West Virginia University. It will also further efforts in K-12 math and science education in the state.

The grant brings a million dollars a year to Marshall for three years to support collaborative research between scientists and investigators from Marshall and WVU. It is the largest science and

technology grant awarded in West Virginia by the National Science Foundation.

Dr. Howard Aulick, interim vice president for research, said the grant allows Marshall to further its competitiveness in research by helping the university add to its resources. In October, a similar \$6 million grant was awarded by the National Institutes of Health. The Biomedical Research Infrastructure Network grant will bring Marshall \$1 million a year for three years to fund a collaborative effort between Marshall and WVU. Using the funds, Marshall and WVU will use mentorship and technology to work with smaller, primarily undergraduate schools to raise the level of research throughout the state.

Bertani Appointed Associate Athletic Director for Compliance

Brad Bertani, former membership services representative with the National Collegiate Athletic Association, has been hired as MU's associate athletic director for compliance, President Dan Angel announced. Bertani began his duties Jan. 14.

"It was important for us to get someone that has experience, familiarity and credibility with the NCAA. And we did," Angel said.

Bertani spent the past four years with the NCAA's national office in Indianapolis. His duties there included providing rules education and interpretations to coaches, administrators, parents and prospective student-athletes. Previously he served as athletic compliance and academic coordinator at the University of Detroit Mercy for three and a half years. While at Detroit, Bertani managed all academic, eligibility and financial aid issues for more than 240 athletes in 16 NCAA Division I varsity sports. He also served as assistant to the compliance director at The Ohio State University in 1994.

Bertani said he is confident his background and expertise in NCAA rules interpretation, combined with the desire of President Angel, Athletic Director Lance West and other athletic department personnel to avoid future problems, will result in a first-class athletic program at Marshall.

A native of Columbus, Ohio, and a graduate of Denison University, Bertani earned a law degree from Capital University and holds a master's degree in sports administration from Ohio University.

Kitty Kelly-Smoot is Employee of the Month

Kitty Kelly-Smoot, administrative secretary senior in the Mathematics department, has been named the Marshall University Employee of the Month for November, according to Jim Stephens, chair of the Employee of the Month Selection Committee.

Kelly-Smoot, who has been employed at the University for 10 years, was nominated by Judith A. Silver, interim head of the division of Math and Applied Science.

In her nomination Silver wrote, "Kitty Kelly-Smoot is probably the most overworked departmental secretary at Marshall University. In addition to graduate students and part-time instructors, she single-handedly takes care of 27 full-time faculty in Mathematics and Computer Science. She also does

paperwork for the division office. At times these responsibilities require tremendous bursts of productivity and long working hours."

In addition, Silver says, "...Kitty's job entails handling



President Dan Angel presents Kitty Kelly-Smoot (right) with the plaque commemorating her selection as Employee of the Month.

(continued on page 3)

Surgeon General's Medallion Presented to Ambrose's Parents

U. S. Surgeon General David Satcher presented the highest honor a surgeon general can bestow to the parents of Dr. Paul Ambrose who was killed in the Sept. 11 terrorist attack on the Pentagon.

The U.S. Surgeon General's Medallion was given to Dr. Kenneth Paul Ambrose, professor of Sociology



U.S. Surgeon General David Satcher (left) and Secretary of Health and Human Services Tommy Thompson presented the Surgeon General's Medallion to Bianca Angelino (center), Paul Ambrose's fiancée, and to Ambrose's parents, Sharon and Kenneth Paul Ambrose.

and Sharon Ambrose, chief operating officer at St. Mary's Hospital, in recognition of their son's work in the medical field.

Satcher also released his report, "The Surgeon General's Call to Action to Prevent and Decrease Overweight and Obesity 2001," which he dedicated to Paul Ambrose, who devoted his career to this issue.

Tommy Thompson, U. S. Secretary of Health and Human Services, attended the presentation and said, "Paul was a man of great compassion and heart, committed to helping people in rural America obtain better health care and improving prevention mea-

asures. He cared deeply for the issues he worked on, but even more for the people affected. While we will miss Paul's energy and dedication, we will miss his humanity even more."

Paul Ambrose was a graduate of Marshall and the MU School of Medicine.

An endowment fund has been established in his memory at the Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine (JCESOM). Contributions may be made payable to the Marshall University Foundation with a notation on the check saying "School of Medicine - Paul Ambrose Scholarship," and sent to Linda Homes, Director of Development and Alumni Affairs at the JCESOM, 1600 Medical Drive, Huntington, 25701.

Maddox Book on World War II Released

A book written by Dr. Robert F. Maddox, professor of history, which details the activity of international cartels from World War II through the occupation of Germany and Japan, has been picked up by several major booksellers after its recent release.

The War Within World War II: The United States and International Cartels, focuses on how the U. S. Justice Department's Economic Warfare Section uncovered economic and strategic information to aid in the war effort. In the book Maddox looks at how cartels worked to harm U. S. strategic interests and how cartel agreements allowed the Japanese to acquire critical technologies and strategic materials.

(continued on page 4)

Faculty/Staff Achievements

Dr. Robert Bickel of the College of Education and Human Services has been invited to serve as an editorial reviewer for the *Journal of Poverty*. Published by Haworth Press, the journal's editorial offices are located at The Ohio State University.

Dr. Bill Carter and **Dr. James Sottile** presented research and a hands-on science lesson at the Ashland Community College's Annual Teaching/Learning Conference in November. According to Carter, the national conference was an opportunity to demonstrate the significance of research relating to achievement and cooperative learning in developing a positive sense of self-efficacy among students, pre-service teachers and in-service teachers. The session's title was "Constructivism and Science Achievement Boosts Self-efficacy."

In addition, Carter and Sottile have received continuation funds for the Science on Wheels Project and are adding another van to their outreach endeavor, "Imagination on Wheels." The van will take robotics and computer technology to students in grades 4-8 throughout the service area.

Dr. Jose L. Morillo, associate professor of Spanish, organized and presented a special session at the December MLA conference in New Orleans in memoriam of Carmen Martin Gaité (1925-2000). Gaité was one of Spain's leading novelists of the 20th Century and an honorific member of the MLA.

We Are...Marshall!

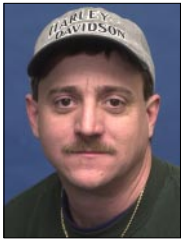
Published by University Communications, with offices in Huntington (213 Old Main) and South Charleston (110 Administration Building).

The next regular issue of *We Are...Marshall!* will carry an issue date of Feb. 8, 2002. Deadline is Feb. 1. 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.



Profile: Darrell Griffith

A series on interesting Marshall University people.



Darrell Griffith

When campus buildings are toasty warm on cold snowy days and springtime cool when the temperature outside seems close to melting the sidewalks, chalk it up to the work of Darrell Griffith and his co-workers in Preventative Maintenance (PM). They're mostly out of sight because of the nature of their work—often

working evenings, weekends, during holiday periods, and at other times when buildings are empty or near empty. That's just part of their job, Griffith says. And if people don't see them around campus, that's fine with them. They're busy paying attention to the intricate mechanics of keeping buildings operating smoothly and efficiently, and checking out equipment before it breaks down.

For Griffith, who came to Marshall 11 years ago, and his colleagues, it's a never-ending regime of checking filters, belts, motors and anything else needed for the upkeep of heating, air conditioning and ventilation systems for all campus buildings except housing. "We take care of things before they break down," he says. "We make sure everything is running the way it's supposed to."

For example, while the campus was virtually vacant during the recent holiday period, members of the PM staff were busy as usual, running conduits for new communication lines for a new computer lab. "When the campus is closed, we get a lot of work done that can't be done at any other time," he relates. "We had to drill holes through the floors and you can't do that type of work when people are around, so during a shutdown we do a lot of maintenance work."

Griffith is just about finished with a major maintenance and renovation project of his own. Three years ago he realized a dream by buying a 100-year-old farm, complete with a house with plenty of possibilities but no heat or water. "I moved into the house in February," he says, "and was without heat and water for six months." It wasn't easy but he managed. With a lot of help from his work buddies, he completely gutted the inside of the structure, installed wiring and plumbing and now has a showplace for his collection of antiques. It didn't look like much when he bought it, he admits, but with three years of very hard work it is now a spacious home, which sports an old-fashioned flower room and a wraparound porch. The interior work now nearly done, he's ready to begin work on the outside, keeping the appearance as close to the original as possible.

As an avid antique collector, he was delighted to discover an 1897 copy of a book on West Virginia history which was found on a shelf inside a wall. In fact, he has so many antiques, mostly from

(continued on page 4)

Kitty Kelly-Smoot

from Page 1

application files and paperwork for hiring as many as eight faculty members each year. When she came to the Mathematics Department in the summer of 1998, there had been no secretary for several months. She had to figure out the filing system on her own and had to rearrange the Mathematics Office in order to make a more welcoming atmosphere."

Kelly-Smoot's excellent computer skills are a great asset to her work, Silver notes. "High computer skills are necessary to work in our division, and Kitty has those. She is a quick learner and has mastered the use of several types of software and equipment. For example, she has learned to do technical typing using the Microsoft Equation Editor, she is skilled in using a scanner, and she knows how to set up computer equipment. She also uses databases and has learned to analyze data and do reports with Excel."

In addition to her job skills, Kelly-Smoot creates a warm working environment for both staff and students with a touch of whimsy, Silver notes. "Kitty creates a friendly work environment and has adopted a motherly attitude in dealing with students who major in our division. Also, her frog-decorated reception area is a nice contrast to the cold hard facts that mathematicians most frequently deal with. It is a pleasure to work with her and to see her smile each morning."

President Angel presented Kelly-Smoot with a plaque, balloon bouquet and a check for \$100. She will be eligible for the Employee of the Year Award.

First Downs Support Library Endowment

A new campaign which used the first downs gained at Marshall home football games to raise money for library resources has ended in success.

Downs for Dollars called on Thundering Herd fans to match the donations of head football coach Bob Pruett and two corporate sponsors to raise money to buy books, magazines and journals for MU libraries.

Pruett and corporate sponsors Foodland and Genesis Health Care Systems each pledged \$100 for each first down gained at Marshall's home games during the 2001 season. There were 28 first downs in the first MU home game alone. The campaign brought in about \$7,000.

The money will be put into the Year of the Book Endowment. Earnings from the fund are used to buy library resources, which Barbara Winters, Dean of

(continued on page 4)

Note of Thanks

To the Functions Committee:

Thank you very much for the beautiful flower arrangement. Your kind thoughts and actions are very comforting during this time of loss.

Tim Meisel

Darrell Griffith

from Page 3

old farms, that he built a new barn with an upstairs loft that is 17 feet wide by 28 feet long and is already virtually filled with his collection. Among his eclectic finds are an original telegraph machine and an 1857 depth finder from a merchant ship. And there were plenty of great antiques for him and his fiancée, Renee, to furnish their new home with a treasure trove of cherished and creatively used objects. A night stand, for example, was fashioned out of 60-year-old apple crates.

"I'm a pack rat," he says good-naturedly. "I've always been interested in old objects and I started collecting several years ago. There are still a lot of old farms around here and I've found most of my stuff from these old places." He tore down a 100-year-old barn and salvaged the lumber, of which he made good use in another one of his interests—creating arts and crafts.

Since he previously worked as a machinist, he has a keen eye for making patterns, coupled with an artist's instinct for what will look good. He can look at a picture and reproduce an object. Fortunate co-workers and friends on this year's Christmas list received a large, elaborate "bird condo," complete with six to eight compartments and fit for bird royalty. The project was created without a pattern from a photograph he saw in a crafts magazine.

He's modest to a fault about his creativity. "I'm mechanically inclined," he says matter-of-factly. "When I take something apart, I can always put it back together. When I see something I want to make, I just make a prototype."

Then, of course, there are the horses and the Harley. What would a farm be, after all, without horses—great to saddle up and explore meandering trails. They're not his, he hastens to add. He pastures them for a friend but loves to ride them during their summer stay. They're almost as much fun to ride as his Harley. Almost, but not quite.

"Riding the Harley is my favorite hobby," Griffith says. "I've had it for four years. It's a great feeling to get up on a Sunday, give it a wash, fill it with gas and just take off and go." Using mostly little-traveled back roads, he and Renee have explored virtually every scenic area of the state—the New River Gorge Bridge, Dolly Sods, state parks. One of their favorite rides is a money-raising event for Jerry Lewis' annual Labor Day telethon for Muscular Dystrophy.

Life is good right now, Griffith says with an upbeat attitude. He and Renee are planning a summer wedding. He loves spending time with his daughter, Karri, a straight-A student at Cabell-Midland High School.

He is eager to pay tribute to his co-workers, who are friends as well as colleagues "One of the main reasons I like working here is for the people I work with and work for on a daily basis because they are so great," he says. "It's nice to like coming to work instead of dreading it every day. They've made things a lot easier for me over the years. They really are like family to me."

"Titanic" Steams into Huntington

The much-honored and much-praised *Titanic-The Musical* sails into the Keith-Albee Theatre at 8 p.m., Tuesday, Jan. 29.

The depiction of last century's legendary tale of romance, adventure, greed and ambition is told through music as the show dramatically captures the series of events that occurred during the ship's doomed historic first voyage.

The critically acclaimed production swept the Tony Awards for Best Book, Best Score, Best Sets, and Best Musical of the year.

For ticket information, call the Marshall Artists Series box office at 6656 or stop by the box office in the Joan C. Edwards Performing Arts Center Monday through Friday from noon to 4 p.m.

Banner Classes Offered Jan. 30 -31

As part of a continuing series of Banner classes, **Banner HR View and EPAF Processes** will be offered Jan. 30 from 9:00 to 11 a.m. and **EPAF DEMO** is planned for Jan. 31 from 9:00 to 10:30 a.m. Both sessions will be held in Room 207, Old Main.

Jim Stephens and David Daniel will be facilitators for the Jan. 30 session; Daniel and Glenna Racer will be presenting the **EPAF DEMO** class.

Registration can be done online at the web site, www.marshall.edu/human-resources/td/hrtrainingregistration.asp. For assistance with registration or for additional information, contact Human Resources Services at ext. 6455.

Maddox Book

from Page 2

The book, which has been picked up by Amazon.com, BOOKSAMILLION.COM, Barnes & Nobel and others, was a venture Maddox decided to undertake while he was doing research for another project.

He earned his master's degree in history from MU in 1966 and received a Ph.D. in history from the University of Kentucky. He has been a member of the history faculty since 1966.

First Downs

from Page 3

Libraries, said are essential to maintaining the high educational standards at Marshall.

Winters had high praise for Pruett and the corporate sponsors. She said that Pruett "is a strong supporter of academics and as soon as we mentioned this to him, he jumped on it because he saw this as a broad way to support all of our academic efforts since the library houses resources that support all areas of academics."

"We use the earnings from the fund to help purchase more books, magazines and journals for the library," Winters said. "Building this collection of library resources is a key way to support the high level of instruction and research at Marshall."