

We Are...Marshall!

THE NEWSLETTER FOR MARSHALL UNIVERSITY • FEBRUARY 20, 2004

Ed Grose to Retire This Month

A retirement reception for Dr. K. Edward Grose, Senior Vice President for Operations, will take place Tuesday, Feb. 24, at 3 p.m. in the Shawkey Dining Room of the Memorial Student Center. The university community is invited to attend, according to Dave Wellman, Marshall's Director of Communications.



Dr. K. Edward Grose

Grose is retiring after a 42-year career in education in West Virginia, including positions at Nicholas County High School, Bluefield State College and Fairmont State College. He was Vice President for Finance and Facilities at Fairmont prior to becoming Vice Chancellor for Administrative Affairs for the West Virginia Board of Regents, then the governing board for higher education in the state.

In 1989, he came to Marshall, where he became Senior Vice President for Operations and was responsible for the divisions of Facilities and Capital Development, Physical Plant Operations, Auxiliary Enterprise Operations, Printing Operations, Student Affairs, Residence Halls and Regional Campuses.

During his tenure here, Grose presided over all of the major capital improvements at Marshall locations in South Charleston, Point Pleasant and Huntington. Among those projects were the Joan C. Edwards Stadium, the 1000-space parking garage, the first new housing on the Huntington campus in 30 years, and the Joan C. Edwards Performing Arts Center.

After Grose retires, many of his responsibilities will be assumed by Herbert J. Karlet, whose title will change from senior vice president for finance to senior vice president for

(continued on page 4)

Monica Shafer is Employee of the Month

Monica Shafer, administrative assistant senior in the General Studies division of the Community & Technical College, has been selected as the Marshall University Employee of the Month for January, according to Jim Stephens, chair of the Employee of the Month Committee.

An employee of MCTC for over six years, she was nominated by faculty members Nedra Lowe, Betty Dennison, Linda Vinson, and Carol Perry, who is the General Studies division director.

In their nomination, they wrote: "Monica has worked for the Marshall Community & Technical College since 1997 as the General Studies division's administrative assistant. However, her assistance goes beyond the General Studies division to include the entire MCTC community.

(continued on page 3)

Employee of the Month Program Returns

After a hiatus of six months, the selection of a Marshall University Employee of the Month is back.

There are a few changes, according to Jim Stephens, Director of Human Resource Services, who heads up the committee which reviews nominations and makes the selections.

Beginning in January 2004, winners will be announced on a calendar basis, from January through December, rather than the July through June period previously used. An Employee of the Year will still be named but nominees will not be restricted to only those employees who have been named Employees of the Month. Nominations for Employee of the Year may be made by any Marshall University faculty or staff member.

Arrangements for the annual recognition of the monthly winners and the announcement of the Employee of the Year are currently being reviewed. Recognition of the 2004 recipients will take place in 2005.

Anyone wishing to make a nomination can obtain a form from the Human Resource Services web site at www.marshall.edu/human-resources/forms.



Monica Shafer (center) receives the traditional oversized check from Dr. H. Keith Spears, Vice President for Institutional Advancement (left) and Jim Stephens, Director of Human Resource Services.

Women of Color Program Slated for March 4

Yolanda Young, author of the award winning memoir, *On Our Way to Beautiful*, will be the keynote speaker for the annual Marshall University Women of Color program which is scheduled to begin at noon March 4 in the Alumni Lounge of the Memorial Student Center.

An attorney, Young is a graduate of Howard University and Georgetown University Law Center. Her column appears in *USA Today*.

As part of the program, Women of Color awards will be presented. A book signing and reception will follow.

The event is being coordinated by Fran L. Jackson of the Center for African American Students' Programs; Leah Tolliver, Director of the Women's Center; Taella Hill, Coordinator of the School of Extended Education; Lisa Allen, of Student Development; and LaRhonda Johnson, a Marshall graduate student.

The program is free and open to the public. Vendors and displays will be set up in the lobby of the Memorial Student Center throughout the day.

For additional information, contact Fran L. Jackson at ext. 6705, or Leah Tolliver at ext. 3112.

Robeson Stamp Unveils Feb. 23

The unveiling of the Paul Robeson 2004 Black Heritage Commemorative U.S. Postage Stamp will take place Monday, Feb. 23, at 6 p.m. in the Don Morris Room of the Memorial Student Center.

The unveiling, a tribute to Black History and Robeson's contributions in American history, will be conducted by members of the Marshall and Huntington communities, along with U. S. Postal Service representatives.

The office of Multicultural Affairs and the U.S. Postal Service are sponsoring the event, and the public is invited to attend.

"The unveiling of the Black Heritage Stamp honoring Paul Robeson gives visibility and recognition to a great American," said Dr. Betty Cleckley, Vice President for Multicultural Affairs. "He added vast richness to my life and to millions of others at home and abroad."

(continued on page 4)

We Are...Marshall!

Published by University Communications, with offices in Huntington (213 Old Main) and South Charleston (312 Administration Building).

The next regular issue of *We Are...Marshall!* will carry an issue date of March 5, 2004.

Deadline is Feb. 27.

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.



Parenting Classes Start March 8

Marshall's Psychology Clinic is offering a program this spring on parenting, according to Dr. Keith Beard, director of the clinic.

Parenting classes run from 6:30 to 8 p.m. beginning Monday, March 8 and will continue at that same time each Monday for six weeks in Harris Hall room 449.

Cost to register is a one-time fee of \$10, which will be refunded if the parent attends every session. To sign up for the classes, persons may call the Psychology Clinic at ext. 2772 and press option 2 to leave a message for Adrienne Bean. The deadline to register is Monday, March 1.

Bean, a second-year graduate student in the Psychology doctoral program, will run the sessions.

"This program will be beneficial for all parents," Bean said. "Many different topics will be discussed to help better some of their parenting skills."

Beard said the program basically will target issues related to children from two to eight years of age because adolescent issues often are somewhat different.

A few of the topics that will be addressed include behavioral techniques such as reinforcement and discipline, emotional issues, divorce, learning styles, family interactions, personality, and socialization. Parents are welcome to offer suggestions for any other area they would like to have addressed.

"This type of program can be beneficial to all types of care givers," Beard said. "Children don't come with instruction manuals and parents often feel like they must know how to handle every situation that may occur with their children. This program will give care givers a chance to learn some ways that have been scientifically studied to deal with various problems that their child may experience."

Beard also said the classes will allow for care givers to realize that they are not alone in dealing with their parenting concerns and they will be able to obtain support from other group members.

Spring Research Projects Underway

Ten faculty members are focusing on time-sensitive research projects during the Spring 2004 semester, according to Dr. Leonard J. Deutsch, Dean of the Graduate College. The ad hoc committee reviewing applications for reassigned time consisted of three members of the Research Committee and two members of the Graduate Council.

The faculty and their research projects are:

- Dr. Janet Badia is completing an article, "Consuming the Confessional Poet: Sylvia Plath as Image and Icon," and *Reading Women*, a book accepted for publication by the University of Toronto Press.
- Dr. Lee Erickson is writing an essay, "The Literary Market," commissioned for *A Concise Companion to Romanticism*.
- Dr. Victor Fet is working on a monograph-length paper, "Revision of the Genus *Euscorpium*," which he is scheduled to present at the International Congress of Arachnology in Belgium this July. He is also working on an NSF grant proposal.
- Dr. Frank Gilliam is revising his text, *Terrestrial Plant Ecology*, 4th edition, and editing a special issue of *Applied Vegetation Science*.

(continued on page 4)

Profile: Marlene Alley

A series on interesting Marshall University people.



Marlene Alley

Just like the gang down at "Cheers," everyone here knows her name. And especially her voice.

For Marlene Alley, who is the familiar voice for telecommunications, her messages about important Marshall events regularly reach nearly 3,500 telephones—or stations as they are termed—of Marshall staff, faculty and students any time there is

information that needs to be passed on.

And although she's been on the Marshall staff since 1998, she actually began her career in telecommunications 12 years earlier working as a part-time contract worker with AT&T assigned to Marshall University.

But her job wasn't her first contact with the university. Far from it. She first enrolled in classes as a precocious 15-year-old, completed an undergraduate degree in zoology 4 years later and added a B.A. degree in accounting the following year. However, she's modest to a fault about her somewhat dazzling academic achievements.

Born in the Philippines, one of 10 children of physician parents, she is careful to explain that in her homeland there is no middle school or junior high. Students go straight from the sixth grade to high school. When her family immigrated to West Virginia in 1972 she was 13 and a high school sophomore.

"I entered school here as a sophomore and graduated at age 15 and then started at Marshall."

Her degree in zoology was an homage to her parents. "Since both my mother and father were doctors, they wanted all of us kids to become doctors as well. That was their dream for us, but it wasn't mine. I tried zoology but I had a greater interest in accounting, so I got another degree in that field."

Although she didn't pursue medical studies, one of her brothers did become a physician and a sister became a dentist. And her son, Jon, a Marshall graduate, is hoping to gain admission to medical school.

"So my parents are happy after all that the dream is being realized," she says.

In fact, the Motero family (her maiden name) has established a remarkable link to Marshall. All 10 children have attended Marshall and seven are graduates with degrees in a variety of fields.

Now retired, her parents live in Las Vegas but regularly visit their offspring, who are scattered about the country. Right now they're visiting in the Huntington area. And the family faithfully gathers for large and lively reunions at Christmas and in the summer.

Alley had dreams of working in the accounting field but marriage and motherhood put that on hold for several years. When she decided to go

(continued on page 4)

Monica Shafer from Page 1

There are not many, if any, faculty or staff she has not helped in some way. For example, two major projects she has completed are compiling and assembling the information for the part-time faculty handbook and the "Institutional Effectiveness and Outcomes Assessment" notebook."

Moreover, they write, "She is a self-learner, a quick learner, and a multi-tasker. Plus, she is cool under pressure.



Monica Shafer

She has never said that she can't do something. She sees that 'something' as a challenge to learn how to do it. We know if we have a problem, she will help us. Most importantly, she always helps us with a smile and with the phrase, 'No problem.'"

Shafer's upbeat personality drew accolades from her coworkers. "Her positive personality is one of her most endearing character traits, especially when dealing with students and visitors. She greets everyone with a smile and treats

everyone with respect. Many times her office is one of the first places students or visitors stop for information. Often this results in questions of all sorts. Monica never avoids these questions and will do anything she can to provide an answer. No matter what division the student may be in she is willing to work with that student to help advise or solve the problem. She is MCTC's information center."

In addition, the nominators say, "Many, many times, Monica has gone beyond her job description. For example, she dressed as a "Valentine Potato" to go to Guyandotte Elementary School to participate in the West Virginia Read Aloud Program. If necessary, she comes in early, stays late, and works on weekends; in other words, she will do anything she can to help make our jobs easier."

In conclusion the group writes, "We believe that Monica is the heart and soul of the General Studies division."

She was presented with a plaque, a balloon bouquet and a check for \$100 by Dr. H. Keith Spears, Vice President for Institutional Advancement.

Note of Thanks

I would like to thank the Marshall University community for the expressions of sympathy shown to my family at the recent passing of my father, Stephen. The flowers, cards, letters and telephone calls are greatly appreciated.

With warm regards,
Albert Simon

Faculty/Staff Achievements

Dr. Robert Bickel and **Dr. Stan Maynard** of the College of Education and Human Services and Caitlin Howley of Temple University are coauthors of a paper, "No Child Left Behind' in Poor, Appalachian School Districts: Confronting Contextual Factors in the Modern World." The paper has been accepted for publication by the *Journal of Appalachian Studies*.

Marlene Alley

from Page 3

back to work, part-time employment was a real enticement.

She's been dealing with telecommunications from the start. And her job encompasses a wealth of duties.

"Our office covers everything that has to do with telephones, including long distance, voice mail, equipment repairs and billing," she explains. "For example, if ESPN wants to cover a football game, they contact our office and we make arrangements to get the proper equipment for them. Anyone that changes phones or adds one, or has equipment problems ... we handle all that as well."

But the duty she is probably best known for is making announcements to the Marshall community.

There are basically two types of announcements, according to Alley. Broadcast messages are those that go to everyone who has a mailbox account but smaller groups can receive more individualized messages. "For example, if the water or power is off in a particular building we can send an announcement to only that group of people."

She's stayed in basically the same job all these years because she likes what she does and she's good at it. And most of all, she says enthusiastically, "I work with a really great group of people."

She's articulate with a soft, distinct and calm voice. Listening to her on the phone, it's difficult to tell she's not a West Virginia native. She has an upbeat sense of humor that puts people at ease. "I always say when I talk with people in person, they can see I'm a Filipino with a Wayne County accent!" she says with a mischievous laugh.

It's a busy time for the Alley family right now. In addition to Jon, who's planning on medical school, son David is an active Marshall sophomore and daughter Miko, a gifted athlete, plays basketball and soccer at Spring Valley High School. She is also a member of a traveling soccer team and her parents accompany her on road trips. They've recently traveled to Rhode Island and Niagara Falls to watch her play.

In their rare spare time, Alley and her husband, Hugh, like to browse antique malls and shops. They've amassed a collection of antiques over the years which are put to good use in the home they completed in 1997. In fact, although the colonial-style house is new, they achieved an authentic aura through the use of old brick and antique leaded windows and mantels.

"We've been antiquing for years," Alley says. "When we find something we like, we try to work it into the house. We always scouted for furniture ... we found an antique dining room suite and sofas which we've had upholstered."

In the summer the whole family heads for a rustic vacation in New Hampshire. They've been going there for years, and "even the kids haven't got tired of it yet," she says, somewhat amazed. It's a time for rest and relaxation where the family can boat, swim, hike and play games together.

It's a peaceful retreat without television or computers. And perhaps best of all, Alley says with warm humor, no telephones!

If you know of someone who would be a good subject for a Profiles article, please contact Pat Dickson at ext. 1971 or e-mail her at pdickson@marshall.edu.

Ed Grose

from Page 1

finance and administration. Marshall is currently in the process of an internal search for a person to fill the new position of assistant vice president for administration. That person will report to Karlet.

Other administrative changes will take place as a result of Grose's retirement. Steve Hensley, dean of student affairs, will report to provost Sarah Denman, and Kemp Winfree, vice president for regional operations, will report to Chief of Staff Layton Cottrill. Both Hensley and Winfree currently report to Grose.

"We can't replace Ed Grose, and we're not going to try," President Dan Angel said. "Because we recognize Dr. Grose's extensive value to the university, he will be retained in a consulting capacity for the foreseeable future to provide expertise in the facilities and management area. We anticipate a smooth and seamless transition."

Robeson Stamp

from Page 2

The Paul Robeson Stamp is the 27th in the Postal Service's Black Heritage Series of stamps. Born in 1898, Robeson was a renowned actor, singer, activist and athlete who is remembered not only for his prodigious talents as a performer, but also for his tireless and uncompromising commitment to civil rights and social justice.

As a singer, Robeson helped establish African-American spirituals as a legitimate American art form, and became well known for performing folk songs around the world. As an activist Robeson was an outspoken participant in labor and peace movements.

Clerkley and Maurice Cooley, Director of the Center for African American Students' Programs at Marshall, will be among those speaking at the unveiling. Cooley will also perform special music.

Research Projects

from Page 2

- Dr. Jeffrey Powell has been invited to contribute an essay, "Heidegger's Nietzschean Transformation," to the *Heidegger Jahrbuch*.
- Dr. Michael Seidel is lead author of a paper, *Trachemys scripta*, for the Catalog of American Amphibians and Reptiles.
- Dr. Sherri Smith's book manuscript, *Civic Fantasy: New Woman Fiction and the Aesthetics of Ideology*, has been solicited by the University of Virginia and Routledge presses.
- Dr. Susanne Strait is working on an NSF funded project, "Climatic change and mammalian fauna during the Eocene," and will collaborate with researchers from the Smithsonian, Johns Hopkins and the University of Michigan on another project.
- Dr. Jamie Warner is working on an essay, "Smile When You Say That: the Power of Political Laughter," and on a book-length manuscript.
- Dr. Lachlan Whalen's research on " 'The National Library Archives Would Never Accept It': The Aesthetics, Politics, and Revision of Gerry Adams' Prison Writings," is funded by a grant from the West Virginia Humanities Council.