

We Are...Marshall!

THE NEWSLETTER FOR MARSHALL UNIVERSITY • MAY 14, 2004

Med School Graduates 1000th Doctor



Dr. Marie Veitia (left), Associate Dean for Student Affairs, invests Whitney Jo Dennison with her doctoral hood as Dr. Sarah McCarty, Associate Dean for Academic Affairs, looks on.

With its 2004 graduating class, the Marshall University Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine passed the 1000-graduate milestone.

Because medical students don't

1000th graduate, said Dr. Sarah A. McCarty, Associate Dean for Academic Affairs.

"Actually, I think that is for the best," she said. "This marks an important milestone for their school, and it seems appropriate for all of the graduates to share in it."

Dr. Patrick Bonasso became the first graduate of the medical school when he received his diploma on May 9, 1981. He has since gone on to a successful career as an obstetrician/gynecologist in Fairmont.

This year's graduating class was the school's 24th. Since the school's first class of 18 students entered in January 1978, the school has grown to a student body of nearly 200.

all complete their requirements at the same time, it isn't possible to identify a specific student as the

Angel to Participate in Oxford Round Table

President Dan Angel will be in Oxford, England, July 4-9 to participate in the prestigious Oxford Round Table for college and university leaders at the University of Oxford's St. Antony's College.

He will be one of 40 participants from around the world attending the five-day Round Table. Daily meetings will take place at the Rhodes House, which is the Oxford home of the Rhodes Scholars. A wide range of education leaders, such as ministers of education, university presidents and chancellors from many countries will attend the Round Table.

"It is a great honor and pleasure to be invited to attend the Oxford Round Table," Angel said. "I look forward to joining education leaders from around the world in discussing important and timely topics."

Angel has been selected to present a paper, "Legislative Tools for Tough Financial Times," during the Round Table. The forum of the Round Table provides educational leaders with an opportunity to consider policy issues in a collegial "think-tank" atmosphere.

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Brumfield Receives Fulbright

Dr. James Brumfield, a biological sciences and physical sciences professor, has been awarded the Fulbright Scholar Lectureship of the Fulbright Program, according to College of Science Dean Joseph Bragin.

Brumfield was selected to lecture at the Kyrgyz-Russian National Slavic University and the Institute of Geology, Kyrgyz-Russian National Academy of Science in Biskek, Kyrgyz Republic. The lectureship is scheduled for this fall.

He will lecture graduate courses on digital image processing science and techniques on researching in remote sensing, geographic information systems, global positioning systems and the Geobiophysical Modeling of Landslide Hazard Zones in the Kyrgyz Republic. His host will be Dr. Apas Bakirov, Director of the Institute of Geology and Chairman of the Central Asia International Geology-Geophysical Association.

Bragin said Brumfield's interest in the Kyrgyz Republic grew out of his talks on Geobiophysical Modeling in July 2002. His presentation to the 7th International Symposium on High Mountain Remote Sensing Cartography took place in Biskek, Kyrgyz Republic.

The Fulbright program, which is overseen by the Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs of

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Kerkian Appointed Foundation Executive Director

Glen R. Kerkian, a veteran development leader at Ohio University over the past 18 years, has been named Executive Director of the Marshall University Foundation, Inc., effective June 1.



Glen Kerkian

Kerkian has been Assistant Vice President for Development and Campaign Manager at Ohio since 1998.

The announcement was jointly made by President Dan Angel and Jay White, president of the Foundation.

Kerkian also will serve as Marshall's Senior Vice President for Development. The Foundation not only will manage financial gifts to the university, but also will be responsible for helping to secure new funds. The Founda-

tion assumes responsibility for Marshall's Campaign for National Prominence.

"We are gaining an experienced and successful person of high caliber," Angel said. "I'm extremely pleased. Glen will be a major positive addition to the Foundation, the university and the community."

The Foundation is a nonprofit, tax-exempt educational corporation that, before this new relationship, received, managed and administered gifts on behalf of Marshall University. Part of Kerkian's role will be to head up the university's Campaign for National Prominence, which has a goal of raising \$100 million by December 2005. Thus far, more than \$78 million has been raised since the Campaign began in 2001.

As Campaign Manager of Ohio's Office of Development, Kerkian played an integral role in the

university's Bicentennial Campaign, the largest fundraising effort in the institution's history. Targeted for completion later this year, the \$200 million campaign will provide money for scholarships, endowed professorships, technological enhancements, innovative programs and capital improvements at Ohio University.

"Glen Kerkian's credentials are just what our search committee sought," said Vince Manzi, former president of the Marshall Foundation and chair of the search committee. "He has an excellent background in higher education and thoroughly comprehends the direction that a university like Marshall is destined to go."

At Ohio, Kerkian also has been an adjunct instructor in the College of Health and Human Services since 1994. He previously served as Director of Development for Major Gifts and College Programs, Assistant Dean for Development, College of Communications, and Assistant Director, Office of Alumni Relations.

"Educating adults is something we do better than anyone in the world," Kerkian said. "I am convinced that securing resources for higher education is of the utmost priority in this region and nationally. This is where I get my motivation and what keeps this work so fresh for me."

Students Receive Awards as Top Fundraisers



Students Taine Duncan (center) and Cynthia Schnably (right), pictured with Dr. H. Keith Spears, Vice President for Institutional Advancement, have been awarded scholarships after they were the top fund raisers in the recent Annual Fund phonathon. The 3-month campaign raised more than \$200,000, according to Jerry Schroyer of Alumni Relations. Duncan is from Lakeville, Minn. and Schnably is from Charles Town, W.Va.

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 May 28, 2004.

Deadline is May 21.

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: Bonnie Prisk

A series on interesting Marshall University people.



Bonnie Prisk

On busy Teays Valley Road in Hurricane, near the I-64 interchange, there's a well-kept building where a whole lot of Marshall activity is going on.

It's the Teays Valley Regional Center, which has been serving the needs of students in Putnam County and the surrounding region since 1997. Presiding over the center is director Bonnie Prisk, who is eager to spread the word about what she terms "a real treasure for the area."

Begun in 1997 to offer classes to qualified high school students who wanted to get a jump on acquiring college credits, the center has grown from just 30 students per semester to more than 1200 this past year. However, it's not just high school students who are enrolling in the classes. People of all ages and from all walks of life attend classes in Teays Valley. In fact, growth over the past seven years has been so steady, 50 classes on a variety of subjects will be offered this fall.

High school students take classes on the block schedule in Eleanor at the Putnam Career and Technical Center. They pay about one third of the regular tuition, an amount set by the Higher Education Policy Commission each year, according to Prisk. Since they can earn up to 18-21 hours of credit, students can complete a semester of college while still in high school.

"One advantage of taking these courses is that it allows students to know they can do college work," she says. "It encourages them and lets them know college is a very real possibility."

The center's structure has broadened to include courses for a wide range of students and they have added evening classes, which have proved to be enormously popular. Prisk says they've worked out a system which conveniently allows students to take courses back to back in a single evening.

"Evening classes have a wide variety of people in them, some are 18 years old but there are people of every age imaginable. We get a lot of displaced workers, those who have lost jobs or who want to get a promotion or job upgrade. Many have had some college courses but don't have a degree," Prisk says. "There has been a big push for the [Regents Bachelor of Arts] degree, so we began offering a significant number of upper division courses those students need. Marshall Community and Technical College courses are offered. Some graduate classes are offered in Teays Valley as a midway point between Huntington and Charleston."

Prisk is an enthusiastic booster for the center. "It meets a real need. We see people who are stuck in a job and they can't advance until they get a degree, or can't get promoted without additional education. Other students are entering college for the first time and the local classroom is less intimidating than the college campus. We try to make things as convenient as possible. Scheduling classes back to back makes it easier for people to accomplish what they need to do. We also have people who move into the area and

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Marshall to Change Identification Numbers, Cards

Because of the potential for identity theft, which is one of the fastest growing crimes in the United States, Marshall University is moving toward the use of a Generated ID Number instead of using the Social Security Number as an identifier to protect members of the university community, President Angel has announced.

Historically, most universities have used the Social Security Number as the identification number for student, faculty and staff. Angel said the identification number policy will impact many of the university's processes but said "it is critical that we protect all parties."

The policy will create new Marshall University ID numbers for all campus stakeholders who need an ID number and will be used for all purposes, except for those that require Social Security Numbers by law or regulation.

"In the 2004 State of the State message, Governor Bob Wise addressed identity theft and the measures needed to protect our citizens," Angel said. "In order to make this a proactive process, I assigned an oversight committee that represents the major stakeholders on the campus. It is chaired by Chief of Staff Layton Cottrill, who has operational responsibility for the policy."

The transition to the new identification number can provide a more secure environment with everyday business processes. The university is looking toward a proposed date of June 1 to complete this process.

Alumni Association Unveils Web Site Design

The Marshall University Alumni Association's Web site has been redesigned and upgraded but the address is still the same, according to Lance West, Vice President for Alumni Development.

The site, www.marshall.edu/alumni, with some changes and upgrades, debuted April 23 but had been in the works for some time, according to West.

"With the expertise of Marshall's Information Technology (IT) department, the redesign is one that we are very proud of," West said. "Updating the site will remain a priority and it will continue to be a wonderful tool for all visitors to use as a gateway to Marshall and the Alumni Association."

He said the technology committee on the MUAA's board of directors, along with the entire board, including Alumni Relations staff, played a vital role in the brainstorming and creation of the association's Web-based technology.

"With tighter budgets and smaller staffs, the Internet is critical for the Alumni Association to stay connected with all who are interested in Marshall ... we welcome input on how to keep the site fresh and exciting."

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Bonnie Prisk *from Page 3*

want to learn about West Virginia so they enroll in a West Virginia history class we offer. And some people take classes just for pleasure. In addition, some faculty members have said they enjoy having a mixture of people of different ages and different backgrounds in their classrooms.”

The center is always open to new possibilities, and they will add courses as opportunities arise, Prisk notes. For example, the center recently reached an agreement with the Putnam County YMCA and this fall will begin offering physical education courses with instructors approved through Marshall’s Physical Education department. “It helps with the volume of students the PE department has to handle. These offerings are a wonderful opportunity for the students in the Teays Valley area to fulfill their physical education requirements.”

Through an agreement with Putnam County schools, classes are offered principally at Hurricane High School but occasionally at other locales as the need arises. “We had computer classes at Winfield Middle and Winfield High School,” said Prisk. “We try to keep classes in one place, though, so students can take two classes in an evening.”

Staffed only with Prisk, a secretary and sometimes a graduate assistant, the administrative headquarters at 101 Carriage Pointe in Hurricane is a buzz of activity. The staff offers support services for faculty, advises and registers students, and acts as a clearinghouse for information about Marshall. “People drop in and we give them applications, brochures, catalogs, and answer questions. It’s a point of entry for many people, their first contact with Marshall. This is a real feeder system for the university.”

A native of North Carolina, Prisk came to West Virginia from Arizona in 1992 and she and family members quickly became part of the Marshall family. She received a M.S. degree in adult education. Son Andrew works in computer services on the Huntington campus and is completing his degree. Another son, David, worked in the library on the South Charleston campus and took classes which led to his receiving a medical degree from the West Virginia School of Osteopathic Medicine. His wife, Tabitha, received a master’s degree from Marshall and taught classes for the university before the couple moved to Greenville, North Carolina, where David is finishing his last year of residency in emergency medicine. Daughter Stephanie took advantage of classes offered in Teays Valley and compiled a semester of credits while still in high school. She’s a senior at Marshall now, with a double major in French and Religious Studies.

With a busy family that includes six grandchildren—five grandsons and a granddaughter—Prisk has very little spare time but she loves reading, gardening and music and tries to find time to play the piano. An energetic traveler, she fits in trips as her schedule permits. After living in eight states in a little over 30 years, she’s at home in West Virginia and is an enthusiastic booster of the state and this area in particular.

As the center continues to grow and flourish, Prisk is quick to give credit to the Putnam County groups that have aided the university’s outreach efforts. “The Putnam County Schools have been very supportive and worked closely with us,” she says. “The Chamber of Commerce and the County Commission along with the Development Authority have all been supportive of this program. And of course, we would all like to have more space and our own space eventually.”

But for right now, the center will continue to meet the needs of the region and adapt as necessary to meet those needs. “Encouraging students of any age to begin or complete a college degree is the purpose of the off-campus center. The goal is to improve the number of West Virginia residents with college degrees. It’s a continuing commitment to the community,” Prisk says. “If there is a demand for something, we try to meet it.”

Alumni Web Site *from Page 3*

One feature of the site is @Marshall, which is the MUAA online newsletter. It currently is being sent to 22,000 e-mail addresses each month. It features all aspects of the university, including academics, athletics, fundraising, student recruitment and campus activities. Human interest stories also are published in the online newsletter.

It’s easy to stay connected with Marshall alumni and friends by registering with MU’s online community through the Web site, according to West. Anyone who wants to receive the online newsletter may request it by visiting www.marshall.edu/alumni and submitting the form contained on the site.

Users have access to many benefits, such as e-mail for life, updating of records, submission of class notes, and communication with others. It is a free service and can be accessed now.

The site also features e-postcards, which are designed with Marshall campus scenes, athletic events and seasonal photos, along with other special occasions on campus. The postcards are communication tools and may be used with e-mails.

Brumfield *from Page 1*

the U.S. Department of State, is designed to increase mutual understanding between the people of the United States and the people of the 150 countries that participate in the program.

“A Fulbright award is at once a recognition of Professor Brumfield’s status in the community of geobiophysical scholars, an opportunity to establish a dialog with foreign colleagues that will benefit Marshall students and a means by which to spread the news about Marshall’s academic programs to distant lands,” Bragin said.

Angel *from Page 1*

Last year institutions in Argentina, Canada, France, Georgia, Germany, India, Japan, Korea, Kuwait, Malaysia, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Philippines, South Africa, the United States and Venezuela were represented.

Angel will be staying at St. Antony’s College throughout the meeting. St. Antony’s, which was founded in 1950, is one of 39 colleges that make up the University of Oxford.

“It will be great to be back in England,” Angel said. In 1997 he was named an Honorary Fellow of Rose Bruford College in London during a ceremony in the British House of Commons.