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# PROVOST REPORT

ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

APRIL 26, 2023



## A Message from Academic Affairs

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Greetings!

The new academic year is well underway. There are many new faces, new ideas, and new projects. Here is a peek at some of the highlights in this report:

1. **Dr. Maria Gindhart** was named the new Dean for the College of Arts and Media. Dr. Gindhart is currently the Associate Dean of the College of Arts at Georgia State University. **Dr. Rob Quick** was named the new Director of the W. Page Pitt School of Journalism and Mass Communications. Dr. Quick is a tenured professor of communication at William Paterson University of New Jersey.
2. The **Department of Civil Engineering** hosted the 2023 Virginia American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) Student Symposium April 13-15. Over 200 students participated in events related to civil engineering including the Concrete Canoe competition at Beech Fork Marina and the Steel Bridge competition at Joan C. Edwards Stadium.
3. MU HELP Program students (**College of Education and Professional Development**) Liz Litton, Wade Sullivan, and Lauren Easter served as Student Ambassadors at the Marshall Neurodiversity Alliance Kickoff event on February 27. They were instrumental in providing information and personal insights on learning disabilities, ADHD, and epilepsy.
4. The MU Food Pantry, operated by the **Dietetics Department**, has been growing rapidly over the past 2 semesters. In August of 2022, the Food Pantry averaged 35-45 users per month. During the first three months of 2023, it averaged around 140-150 users per month. This number is rapidly growing and expected to continue in the upcoming months.
5. **Dr. Eric Lassiter** was named the newest Drinko Academy Fellow at the Drinko Symposium on April 15. Eric is professor and Director of the Graduate Humanities program.
6. The **College of Science** held West Virginia's 9th annual state tournament of the Science Olympiad on March 4. Nine teams with 110 high school students participated in 22 STEM events.
7. Since the **Flight School's** first cohort in August 2021, there have been many notable student accomplishments, including:
  - a. 39 first solo flights
  - b. 17 students earned private pilot licenses

- c. 5 students earned their instrument rating
  - d. 1 student earned their Commercial Pilot license
8. **Dr. Avinandan Mukherjee**, Provost and Senior Vice President of Academic Affairs, received the Gold Leadership Medal and the Advancement of Management Award at the 2023 Society for Advancement of Management (SAM) International Business Conference in Nashville, TN in March. Chapter advisor **Glen Midkiff** received the SAM Outstanding Advisor Award as well as the Bronze Leadership Medal.
  9. The **School of Pharmacy** implemented the MUSOP-Rite Aid Rural Community Scholars Program which provides \$10,000 in funding for eligible students. The program is designed for students who wish to investigate or pursue postgraduate training in Rural Health.

In addition to our academic units, our numerous student support services and programs report that:

1. The **Center for Student Success** partnered with the Neurodiversity Alliance to host the Neurodiversity Alliance Kickoff Event in East Hall on February 27, 2023. Over 100 people participated in this event, which is part of Marshall's Quality Initiative to foster campus diversity and inclusion, embrace complexities of identity, and build bridges between groups.
2. The **Office of Disability Services** (a unit of Intercultural and Student Affairs) hosted a Limited Vision Awareness training on April 19. The training provided vision simulators to allow participants to experience different vision levels and diagnoses.
3. The **Herd Start Early Academy's** proposal to the West Virginia Department of Education was selected to participate in a summer pilot program for virtual intersession courses for currently enrolled high school students participating in the Grow Your Own Program.

On behalf of the administration and staff of Academic Affairs, we invite you to share our pride and celebrate the scholarly and creative works of our faculty and staff, along with the successes of our students and our alumni.

Sincerely,

Avinandan "Avi" Mukherjee, Ph.D.  
Sr. Vice President for Academic Affairs & Provost

Karen McComas, Ed.D.  
Assoc. VP, Academic Affairs, & Assoc. Provost

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## COLLEGE OF ARTS AND MEDIA (INTERIM DEAN: DR. WENDELL DOBBS)

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### PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

- Dr. Maria Gindhart was named the new Dean for the College of Arts and Media. Dr. Gindhart is currently the Associate Dean of the College of Arts at Georgia State University.
- Dr. Rob Quick was named the new Director of the W. Page Pitt School of Journalism and Mass Communications. Dr. Quick is a tenured professor of communication at William Paterson University of New Jersey.
- Devan Shimoyama is the artist in residence at the School of Art & Design from April 3-5, 2023. His residency is supported by the Joan C. Edwards Distinguished Professor of the Arts program through the College of Arts & Media.

### FACULTY & STAFF ACHIEVEMENTS

- Professor Rachel Danford helped to coordinate the Alys Smith Symposium on Women Professionals in Arts and Media as part of the Birke Fine Arts Symposium on April 5, 2023.
- Professor Hanna Kozlowski presented her “Collaborative Portraiture” paper as part of the session “Resurrecting Art Club: Utilizing Foundational Courses to Rebuild Artistic Community in a Post-Covid Era” at the Foundations in Art Theory and Education (FATE) Conference, April 2023.
- Professor Matt Smith was awarded a Shout Out Teaching Award through the Foundations in Art Theory and Education Conference (FATE), April 2023.
- Professor Matt Smith exhibited his work at *Climate Changing* with Las Lagunas Gallery, *Passage of Time* at A.D. Gallery at the University of North Carolina-Pembroke, and *Homecoming* at the Clay Art Center in Port Chester, NY.
- Video Production Professor Tijah Bumgarner’s film *Picture Proof* premiered March 4, 2023, at the Keith-Albee Theatre as part of the Marshall Artists Series Regional Reels Film Festival followed by a community screening at Marshall University.
- Dr. Martin Saunders and Dr. Christopher Schletter represented the School of Music at the Ohio Music Educators Association (OMEA) Conference in Columbus, OH, in February and at the West Virginia Music Educators Association (WVMEA) Conference in Charleston, WV, in March.
- Dr. Michael Stroehler and Dr. Johan Botes presented a trombone and piano recital on January 29.
- Dr. Elizabeth Reed Smith and Dr. Henning Vauth presented a violin and piano recital on February 23.
- Dr. Martin Saunders and Dr. Michael Stroehler performed during the Windy Symphony’s Symphonic Band Concert on February 10.
- Professor Jack Colclough coordinated the Birke Fine Arts Symposium presentations, “A Choreographer’s Perspective” on February 27 and the Wellness Presentation “Let Your Light Shine: Maximizing Your Performance” on February 11.

- Professor Leah Turley directed *Steel Magnolias*, February 15-25, 2023. Professor Turley serves as *Stuart Little* tour manager for Theatre ETC. Theatre ETC was invited to perform at SETC Children's Theatre Festival in Lexington, KY. Professor Turley also attended the Southeast Educational Theatre Conference Regional Board meeting in Lexington Kentucky.
- Professor Mike Murphy designed the scenery for *Steel Magnolias* and served as the Technical Director for *Steel Magnolias*. He attended SETC where he gave his OSHA 10 Workshop and recruited students. Professor Murphy developed a course in scenic design for Video production majors and theatre designers which he will offer as a workshop in the fall.
- Professor Olivia Trees designed costumes for *Steel Magnolias*, designed/coordinated costumes for the Spring Dance Concert, and served as the Costume Shop Supervisor for spring productions. She also attended SETC as recruiting staff for Theatre along with Dr. Alexander Lee from the School of Music.
- Professor Lang Reynolds designed lighting for and produced the Spring Dance Concert. He also designed lighting for *Steel Magnolias*.
- Dance Faculty Robin Riner, Shelby Nelson, and MaShawn Morton served as Artistic Directors for the Spring Dance Concert on March 5, 2023, which included work led or performed by guest artists Kevin Tang and Ben Roach.

#### STUDENT & ALUMNI ACHIEVEMENTS

- Alum Chandreonia Harris was awarded the US State Department Benjamin A. Gilman International Scholarship to study abroad in Japan this summer.
- The Spring Dance Concert was held March 5. Eight works in the show were choreographed and performed by students. The show also included the African Dance and Drumming Ensemble led by Professor Steve Hall and graduate student Jarrod Sammons.
- The School of Theatre presented *Steel Magnolias* in February as part of its 2022-2023 season.
- The 37<sup>th</sup> Annual Student Juried Exhibition was held March 8-31.
- Jazz I and modern vocal group 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue performed at the WVMEA Conference in Charleston, WV, March 2023.

#### COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

- The Honor Band High School Festival, featuring 275 high school students in three concert bands, was held February 9 -11, 2023.
- Alumni Barb Lavalley Benton ('22), Sophia Celdran ('21), Karen Fry ('19), and Shyanna Ashcraft ('22) provided art instruction to four area senior centers as part of Professor Sandra Reed's Creative Aging for Lifelong Learning grant.
- Marshall University Symphony Orchestra presented the Family Concert on February 28 featuring the Young People's Competition winner and violinist Isaiah Biele. Isaiah also performed with the orchestra in the 62nd Young People's Concert on March 2. Sponsored by the Cabell County Board of Education in cooperation with the Woman's Club of Huntington, the concert was attended by all Cabell County fifth graders.

## COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING AND COMPUTER SCIENCE (DEAN: DR. DAVID DAMPIER)

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### PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

- The department of Civil Engineering received \$1.3 million from Kenai Defense Company LLC to help with an Air Force Civil Engineering Center research project exploring applications for the use of carbon nanostructures. Dr. Greg Michaelson, Associate Dean of the College of Engineering and Computer Sciences, will be principal investigator on the project with help from faculty members Dr. Andrew Nichols, Dr. Suk Joon Na and Dr. Sungmin Youn.

### FACULTY & STAFF ACHIEVEMENTS

- Dr. Mehdi Esmailpour was the recipient of the 2022-2023 Pickens Queen Award for Teaching. Dr. Esmailpour is an Assistant Professor of Mechanical Engineering.
- Dr. Wael Zatar and Dr. Gang Chen were recipients of the 2022-2023 Marshall University Distinguished Artists & Scholars (MU-DASA) Team Award. Dr. Zatar is a Professor of Civil Engineering and Dr. Chen is a Professor of Mechanical Engineering.
- **Dampier, D.** and N. Zaman, "A Virtual Cyber Security Center for Critical Infrastructure, "Department of Education, 2022-2024, \$1,500,000. Dr. David Dampier is Professor of Computer Science and Cyber Security, Dean of the College of Engineering and Computer Sciences, and Director of the Institute for Cyber Security at Marshall. Dr. Zaman is Dean of the College of Natural Sciences and Mathematics at West Virginia State University.
- **Salary, R.** et al, "Metal-Embedded Carbon-based Catalytic Membranes for Co-production of Ammonia and Ethylene," a StaR Research Challenge Grant of the HEPC of West Virginia, \$1,300,000, 2023. Dr. Ross Salary is an Assistant Professor of Biomedical and Mechanical Engineering at Marshall University. Dr. Salary's collaborators are from WVU, Bluefield State and Concord University.
- Lawrence, L., **R. Salary**, V. Miller, A. Valluri, K. Denning, C. Shannon, K. Abdelgaber, S. Smith, P. Claudio, and J. Day, "Osteoregenerative Potential of 3D-Printed Poly-ε-Caprolactone Tissue Scaffolds In-vitro Using Minimally Manipulative Expansion of Primary Human Bone Marrow Stem Cells," *International Journal of Molecular Sciences*, March 2023. Dr. Logan Lawrence is an Assistant in the Department of Pathology at the Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine. Dr. Salary is an Assistant Professor of Biomedical and Mechanical Engineering. Miller, Valluri, Denning, Shannon, Abdelgaber, and Smith are students in the School of Medicine. Dr. Claudio is a Professor in the School of Pharmacy. Dr. Day is a Professor in the School of Medicine.
- **Chowdhury, S.** and **A. Alzarrad**, "Applications of Text Mining in the Transportation Infrastructure Sector, A Review," *Information*, March 2023. Dr. Chowdhury is an Assistant Professor of Industrial Engineering and Dr. Alzarrad is an Assistant Professor of Civil Engineering.



- *Legg, K., E. Barrett, J. Shim, "Elevated TMEM38B in the caudate nucleus with Alzheimer's disease," Proceedings of the ASEE North Central Section Conference, Morgantown, WV, USA, March 24-25, 2023.*
- **Chowdhury, S. and A. Alzarrad, "Sociocultural and Sociopolitical Challenges for STEM Education in the Current Era," Proceedings of the ASEE North Central Section Conference, Morgantown, WV, March 24-25, 2023.**
- **Malik, H. and D. Dampier, "Towards Designing a Multidisciplinary Big Data Analytics (BDA) Course," Proceedings of the ASEE North Central Section Conference, Morgantown, WV, March 24-25, 2023.**

#### STUDENT & ALUMNI ACHIEVEMENTS

- Kyra Meadows received the 2023 Engineer's Club of Huntington Scholarship in the value of \$1,750. Ms. Meadows is an undergraduate student in Electrical and Computer Engineering.

#### COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

- The Department of Civil Engineering hosted the 2023 Virginia American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) Student Symposium April 13-15. Over 200 students participated in events related to civil engineering including the Concrete Canoe competition at Beech Fork Marina and the Steel Bridge competition at Joan C. Edwards Stadium. Marshall students helped to organize the event for which the University received a \$10,000 donation from the Huntington chapter of the Society of American Military Engineers (SAME). This is the first time the University has hosted the symposium.

## COLLEGE OF EDUCATION AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT (DEAN: DR. TERESA EAGLE)

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### FACULTY & STAFF ACHIEVEMENTS

- Dr. Sachiko McBride, Assistant Professor of Curriculum, Instruction and Foundations, was awarded a \$2,000 NASA WV Space Grant. As co-PI, Dr. McBride will support the MU Society of Physics and MU Science Olympiad. The funds will support Marshall University students who will serve as virtual coaches for the Morgantown High School team participating in the Science Olympiad National Tournament in May. Dr. McBride is the Director of the WV State Science Olympiad and a faculty advisor of the MU Science Olympiad.
- Dr. Bob Rubenstein, Professor of Counseling, co-presented with Dr. Dave Lemmon, Dean of Southern Community and Technical College, at the West Virginia State Police Academy on social awareness to cadet training on January 23 and February 6.
- Dr. Chris Sochor and Dr. Ronald Childress, Leadership Studies faculty, presented at the Eastern Educational Research Association Conference on February 9 in Myrtle Beach, SC. Their presentation was titled, "The Presence and Usefulness of Navigational Elements in Distance Education Courses: Findings from a Case Study."
- Amanda Preece, Assistant Director of Clinical Experiences, presented at the Eastern Educational Research Association annual conference on February 10. The title of her research presentation was "Comparison of Yearlong Residency and Traditional Student Teaching Models: A Case Study."
- Dr. McKenzie Brittain, Dr. Lisa Heaton, and Dr. Kimberly McFall, Curriculum and Instruction faculty, presented at the Eastern Educational Research Association annual conference on February 10 in Myrtle Beach, SC. The title of their research presentation was "Technology Integration: Teacher Descriptions of Favorite Ways to Incorporate Technology Activities into Classrooms."
- Dr. George Watson, Professor of Curriculum, Instruction and Foundations, was appointed Treasurer of the Eastern Educational Research Association for 2023-2027.
- Dr. McKenzie Brittain, Assistant Professor of Curriculum and Instruction, was appointed Director of Sponsorship, Marketing, and University Relations for the Eastern Educational Research Association.

### STUDENT & ALUMNI ACHIEVEMENTS

- MU HELP Program students, Liz Litton, Wade Sullivan, and Lauren Easter served as Student Ambassadors at the Marshall Neurodiversity Alliance Kickoff event on February 27. They were instrumental in providing information and personal insights on learning disabilities, ADHD, and epilepsy.
- Matthew Bradley, LS doctoral candidate, and Maureen Kraus-Gildein, CI doctoral candidate, presented at the Eastern Educational Research Association Conference on

February 9 in Myrtle Beach, SC. Bradley presented "Transitioning from Faculty to Administration: Findings from a Statewide Study of 4-Year Institutions." Kraus-Gilden presented "Successful Learning Experiences for Teaching First Generation College/University Students."

#### **COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT**

- Dr. Sachiko McBride, Assistant Professor of Curriculum, Instruction and Foundations, worked a table with a member of the MU Science Olympiad at the 9th annual West Virginia Makes Festival. Both presented physics demos to attendees.

## COLLEGE OF HEALTH PROFESSIONS (DEAN: DR. MICHAEL PREWITT)

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### PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

- The College of Health Professions hosted its annual Research Day on March 30. The daylong event allowed students to showcase their research through presentations and posters. In addition, lectures were given by Dr. Timothy Hewett, Dr. Jodi Biller, and Dr. Steven Sheingold. Dr. Hewett is a professor and director of research in the MUSOM Department of Orthopaedic Surgery. Dr. Biller, a Marshall alumna, recently earned her Doctor of Nursing Practice from WVU. Dr. Sheingold is the director of the Division of Health Financing Policy in the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation for the US Department of Health and Human Services.

### FACULTY & STAFF ACHIEVEMENTS

- Robin Looney attended the virtual WV Foster Parent Training session, "Let's Get Creative-Helping Elementary Youth Manage Emotions." Looney is the treatment coordinator for WV-TIME 4K (West Virginia-Trauma Informed Mindfulness Engagement for Kids) program at Marshall which provides support for children affected by the opioid epidemic.

### STUDENT & ALUMNI ACHIEVEMENTS

- Faculty and students from the Center for Wellness in the Arts hosted a successful 3-hour workshop entitled "Let Your Light Shine: Maximizing Your Performance Potential." Twenty-five participants from the music and theatre programs engaged in presentations, discussions, and interactive activities on strategies for improving performance and wellness. Topics included anxiety management, confidence development, and mindfulness utilization. The Center for Wellness in the Arts is a collaboration between the College of Health Professions and the College of Arts and Media in which health professions faculty and students provide education and clinical services for performing arts students with the goal of creating a culture of health and wellness.

### COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

- The MU Food Pantry, operated by the Dietetics Department, has been growing rapidly over the past 2 semesters. In August of 2022, the Food Pantry averaged 35-45 users per month. During the first three months of 2023, it averaged around 140-150 users per month. This number is rapidly growing and expected to continue in the upcoming months. Clients can come to the pantry once a week and "shop" for their choice of foods. Around half to two thirds of the Pantry's clients are either community members or Marshall staff. The remaining half to one third includes current undergraduate and graduate level students. The Food Pantry goes through over 1,300 pounds of food a month including produce, frozen, and shelf-stable items.

## COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS (DEAN: DR. ROBERT BOOKWALTER)

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### PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

- The College of Liberal Arts mourned the loss of Dr. Simon Perry at a public memorial service on March 31. Dr. Perry was a native of Gilbert, WV, a graduate of Marshall University, and retired as the longest serving faculty member in Marshall University history. He was beloved by thousands of students. His legacy is honored by the programs and services offered by the Simon Perry Center for Constitutional Democracy
- The English Department and Film Studies program sponsored the Marshall University Student Film Festival on March 8. Twenty-two submissions were reviewed. Aaliyah Manns, Video Production major, earned the Best of Festival Award.
- The College of Liberal Arts hosted the annual COLA Research & Creativity Conference, April 13-14. Over 75 students presented original research projects to an audience of faculty, peers, and community members.
- A group of English department faculty and students convened a roundtable at the Appalachian Studies Association conference in Athens, OH, March 16-19. The discussion, titled "In Their Own Country Project: Thriving Archives in the Digital Era" focused on the development of a website featuring teaching materials and interviews related to West Virginia writers.

### FACULTY & STAFF ACHIEVEMENTS

- Dr. Eric Lassiter was named the newest Drinko Academy Fellow at the Drinko Symposium on April 15. Eric is professor and Director of the Graduate Humanities program.
- Dr. Jess Morrissette, Political Science, published "Dudes, Boobs, and GameCubes: Video Game Advertising Enters Adolescence," in *Media, Culture & Society*.
- Dr. Del Chrol, Humanities, published "Sexuality and the Court" in *The Roman Emperor and his Court: 30BC-300AD*.
- Dr. Jana Tigchelaar, English, published "Breaking the Silence: Abortion and Knowledge in Summer and Weeds" in the *New Ohio Review*.
- Dr. Barbara Tarter, Communication Studies, earned a \$45,000 grant for the Huntington Symphony Orchestra to fund a historical celebration of the rivers of West Virginia through music.
- Dr. Masa Toyama, Psychology, is a co-PI on a Geriatric Research Pilot Study Grant with faculty from the School of Art & Design and the MU School of Medicine. The project will assess the effectiveness of a visual art workshop on the health and well-being of clients at two regional senior centers.
- Dr. Keith Beard and Dr. April Fugett, Psychology, presented their research project at WonderCon in San Diego focusing on the psychology of pop culture and the relationship of fans to pop culture figures.

## STUDENT & ALUMNI ACHIEVEMENTS

- The Thundering Word Speech & Debate team attended the International Forensics Association tournament in Tokyo, Japan in March. Grace Stowers, Political Science major, won 1st place in Audio Communication. George Urling, Political Science major, won 2nd in Visual Communication, 6th in Anime Interpretation, and placed in the semi-finals in Impromptu speaking and quarterfinals in IPDA Debate.
- Eric Dillon, English major, has been accepted into the master's in philosophy in digital humanities program at Cambridge University in Cambridge, England.
- Justin Whittington, Humanities graduate student, presented a panel on "The Relationship between Video Games and US Foreign Policy" at HerdCon.
- Frankie Marrs, Communication Studies graduate student, showcased her talents in a television ad for Tudor's Biscuit World. Frankie has also landed a role in Kinky Boots.
- Allison Himes, Psychology major, is completing a dual capstone project in music and psychology. She teaches music at the AD Lewis Community Center and organized a choir that held a recital in April.
- Jaxon Miller, PsyD student, is Counselor in Residence for Marshall's Housing and Residence Life.
- Dr. Taine Duncan, BA in Psychology & Humanities 2005, was the spring speaker for the department of Humanities on March 23 with her presentation: "Philosophizing like a girl: or why philosophy needs intersectional gender theory now more than ever." Dr. Duncan was a Yeager Scholar during her time at Marshall. She is an associate professor and chair of philosophy and Director of Gender Studies at Central Arkansas University.
- Dr. Janine Janosky received the College of Liberal Arts Award of Distinction at the annual Alumni Awards banquet in April. Dr. Janosky is President of Richard J. Daley College in Chicago.

## COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

- Brooke Bickford, Communication Studies graduate student, earned a \$119,000 grant for Hospice of Huntington to fund the development of an adult day care facility.
- Dr. Clinton Brown, assistant professor of Communication Studies, has been elected President of Dress for Success.
- Psi Chi, the Psychology student honorary society, cooks and serves meals every month at Harmony House and pack and deliver food boxes to the Facing Hunger Food Bank.
- Students in the Psychology Doctorate program are providing therapy groups at ProAct, Stepping Stones, and the state hospital to deliver mental and behavioral health services to high need groups in the region.

## COLLEGE OF SCIENCE (INTERIM DEAN: MR. BRIAN MORGAN)

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### PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

- The College of Science held West Virginia's 9th annual state tournament of the Science Olympiad on March 4. Nine teams with 110 high school students participated in 22 STEM events. Fifteen Marshall faculty members from physics, biology, chemistry, geology, natural resources and the environment, mathematics, and engineering, along with countless student and community volunteers, ran the day-long tournament. Morgantown High School won the overall competition and will now travel to Wichita State University in Kansas to participate in the National Tournament in May. Marshall students will be coaching the Morgantown team to assist in preparing for the National Tournament.

### FACULTY & STAFF ACHIEVEMENTS

- Dr. Holly Cyphert, Biological Sciences, co-authored and published "Molecular engineering of a cryptic epitope in Spike RBD improves manufacturability and neutralizing breadth against SARS-CoV-2 variants" in the journal, *Vaccine*.
- Provost Avi Mukherjee, Interim Dean Brian Morgan, and CSS Director Kateryna Schray presented a paper on "Re-imagining Student Success Post-Pandemic and Making it Happen: Anticipating Customer Needs in Higher Education" at the 2023 Society for Advancement of Management (SAM) Conference in Nashville, TN, March 2023.
- Dr. Ryan Phillips and Dr. Stephen Young, Criminal Justice and Criminology, presented "Counterinsurgency Expanded: The Spread of Criminal Justice Education from the 1930s-1960s" at the annual meeting of the Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences in National Harbor, MD. Dr. Young also presented "Deflecting a 'Crisis': The Opioid Epidemic as State Violence" at the conference.
- Dr. Pamela Puppo, Biological Sciences, presented "Uncovering hidden figures at the Marshall University Herbarium through inter-disciplinary collaboration" at the 84th Annual Meeting of the Association of Southeastern Biologists, Winston-Salem, NC in March.
- Dr. Eugene Shakirov, Biological Sciences, published "Identification and Analysis of Antimicrobial Activities from a Model Moss *Ceratodon purpureus*" in the journal, *Metabolites*. Natalie McCann, junior in Biology, and Ashley Dague, a recent graduate, served as co-authors.

### STUDENT & ALUMNI ACHIEVEMENTS

- Hamza Jafary, Biological Sciences, has been accepted to The West Virginia School of Osteopathic Medicine in Lewisburg.
- Erica Edinger and Jacob Webb, Biological Sciences, presented their poster "Transcription and Digitization Initiatives at the Marshall University Herbarium (MUHW)" at the 84th Annual Meeting of the Association of Southeastern Biologists in Winston-Salem, NC, March

2023. Erica was also accepted to the REU Program in Interdisciplinary Evolutionary Sciences in the Biology Department of the University of Iowa.

- Jack Victory, Biological Sciences graduate ('19), was one of 50 students recently accepted to the National Institutes of Health (NIH) Medical Research Scholars Program (MRSP), a yearlong research enrichment program designed to attract the most creative, research-oriented medical students to the intramural campus of the NIH in Bethesda, MD. Victory is currently attending medical school at WVU.
- A group of six Computer & Information Technology majors attended the Shawnee Game Conference which is the longest-running academic game conference in the Midwest focusing on all aspects of gaming.

#### COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

- Dr. Pam Puppo, Biological Sciences, served as an invited panelist at the International Women's Day celebration organized by the Women's and Gender Center and the John Deaver Drinko Academy.
- Dr. Victor Fet, Biological Sciences, leads an MU the faculty group MUkraine, which conducts a weekly podcast on Russia's war in Ukraine.



## DIVISION OF AVIATION (CHIEF AVIATION OFFICER: MR. BILL NOE)

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### PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

- Marshall Aviation has agreed to partner with the Mingo County Redevelopment Authority to develop an Advanced Air Mobility (AAM) program in Mingo County. The Redevelopment Authority was awarded a federal grant to develop education opportunities for K-12 students. Advanced air mobility involves the operation of drones and electric takeoff and landing vehicles (EVTOLs).
- The first Certified Flight Instructor (CFI) course began in Spring 2023, one semester ahead of schedule. This is a significant milestone as it's the first step in creating a self-sustaining workforce for the Flight School. Certified Flight Instructors can teach ground school courses, which are the classroom-based portion of pilot training.

### STUDENT & ALUMNI ACHIEVEMENTS

- Since the Flight School's first cohort in August 2021, there have been many notable student accomplishments.
  - 39 first solo flights
  - 17 students earned private pilot licenses
  - 5 students earned their instrument rating
  - 1 student earned their Commercial Pilot license
- Since the Aviation Maintenance Technology School's inaugural cohort, which began in Fall 2022, 14 airframe and power (A&P) students signed off to test for the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) general test. Three students tested and were awarded general certifications.

### COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

- STEM students from Madison Middle School visited the Bill Noe Flight School on March 8. They received instruction on the 4 Forces of Flight, airport security, and airfield maintenance. The students and their chaperones flew the flight simulators, enjoyed lunch, and met Hercules, WV International Yeager Airport's wildlife dog.
- The Bill Noe Flight welcomed students from Charleston Catholic High School, Hurricane High School, and Ashland Paul Blazer High School for a single day job shadowing opportunity. A student from Huntington St. Joseph High School experienced a full week internship at both the Flight and AMT schools.
- MU Aviation is honored to serve as a mentor to Greenbrier East High School. An "Introduction to Aviation" was presented virtually to 14 students on February 27. Selected students and their families then visited the flight school on March 18 for a tour and flight on Marshall University aircraft.
- On March 30, The Bill Noe Flight School hosted "The Sky's the Limit," the Education Alliance's annual EDTalks event. Chief Aviation Officer, Bill Noe served as keynote speaker

focusing on his experiences and insights on the importance of education. A drawing was held for a discovery flight on Marshall University aircraft. The Education Alliance facilitates mentoring opportunities between businesses and high schools across the State of West Virginia. The Education Alliance also works closely with businesses to create successful paths for high school students and to support high school students with career preparedness.

- Marshall Aviation's Excellence in Aviation Professional Speaker Series hosted Bente Lane Simerman II on March 2 and Brian Hirsch on April 3. Mr. Simerman, a United Parcel Service (UPS) pilot and Mr. Hirsch, president of Executive Jet Management (EJM), shared with Aviation friends and family their personal career stories and their roles within UPS and EJM. They also spoke about career paths, employment outlook, hiring processes, and advancement opportunities for their respective companies.

## LEWIS COLLEGE OF BUSINESS (INTERIM DEAN: DR. JEFFREY ARCHAMBAULT)

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### PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

- The MS in Business Administration degree was ranked 22 in the Best Online Master's Degrees in Business by OnlineMastersDegrees.org.
- Marshall University was included in The Princeton Review Best Business Schools for 2023 rankings for Best On-Campus MBA Programs.
- The MS in Human Resource Management degree is now aligned with the Society for Human Resource Management (SHRM) HR Curriculum Guidebook and Templates.

### FACULTY & STAFF ACHIEVEMENTS

- Dr. Avinandan Mukherjee, Provost and Senior Vice President of Academic Affairs, received the Gold Leadership Medal and the Advancement of Management Award at the 2023 Society for Advancement of Management (SAM) International Business Conference in Nashville, TN in March. Chapter advisor Glen Midkiff received the SAM Outstanding Advisor Award as well as the Bronze Leadership Medal.

### STUDENT & ALUMNI ACHIEVEMENTS

- Jamison Lewis and Erin Roberts placed second in a sustainability-themed case competition at the 2023 Beta Gamma Sigma x SDGs Lab Leadership Conference. Business students Maddy Branham and Nick Smith also represented Marshall University and competed on a separate team.
- Jamison Lewis, Maddy Branham, Brady Doyle, Bella Schrader, Cassidy Waugh, Evan Miller, Peyton Stover, and Nico Raffinengo competed at the 2023 Society for Advancement of Management (SAM) International Business Conference in Nashville, TN. Raffinengo won first place in the Undergraduate Division of the Business Pitch Competition. Lewis, Schrader, and Branham received the SAM Outstanding Student Award. MU's SAM chapter also won second place in the Small Chapter Division in the Campus Chapter Performance Program.

### COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

- The Lewis College of Business hosted Yifei Chen, a senior from St. Joseph's High School, as an intern as part of its ongoing High School Internship Program. She spent the week attending classes, taking tours, and meeting with faculty and staff. At the end of the internship, Yifei worked with the college's graduate assistants to develop and give a presentation summarizing her visit to the dean's office staff and department chairs. The Lewis College of Business enjoyed her visit and look forward to welcoming her to Marshall this fall.

- The LCOB Truist Center for Leadership and Truist Bank hosted a Financial Wellness Workshop for students on February 23. Organized by Dr. Monisha Gupta, Director of the Truist Center for Leadership, the workshop promoted financial literacy among students who aspire to become successful leaders. Over 50 students from Dr. Thompson-Abbott's accounting principles classes attended the workshops, displaying an active interest in their financial well-being.

## SCHOOL OF PHARMACY (INTERIM DEAN: DR. ERIC BLOUGH)

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### PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

- The School of Pharmacy held its annual Awards and Pinning Ceremony on March 23. This ceremony recognizes the winners of the student-voted and faculty-voted awards for students, faculty, and preceptors. The event celebrates the completion of the P3 year and the conclusion of the didactic portion of those students' education. Their P4 year will be spent in Advanced Pharmacy Practice Experience (APPE) courses in various locations throughout the region and nation.
- The School of Pharmacy implemented the MUSOP-Rite Aid Rural Community Scholars Program which provides \$10,000 in funding for eligible students. The program is a three-block APPE series designed for students who wish to investigate or pursue postgraduate training in Rural Health and future employment with Rite Aid with an interest in advanced community practice.
- CVS Health employees met with students on March 7 for a lunch and learn event covering employment and internship opportunities.

### FACULTY & STAFF ACHIEVEMENTS

- Dr. Boyd Rorabaugh was elected secretary/treasurer of the cardiovascular pharmacology division of the American Society for Pharmacology and Experimental Therapeutics (ASPET).
- Dr. Craig Kimble collaborated on the publication of the article "Closed-System Transfer Devices Reduce Exposure to Contaminants," *Pharmacy Times*, March 2023.

### STUDENT & ALUMNI ACHIEVEMENTS

- The MUSOP chapter of APhA-ASP (American Pharmacists Association–Academy of Student Pharmacists) held the Dominate Diabetes 5K at Barboursville Park on April 15. Proceeds will be split between the American Diabetes Association and the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation.
- The MU chapter of the Student Society of Health-System Pharmacy (MUSSHP) hosted a "Gatsby Gala" fundraiser on April 8 to support the Huntington City Mission.
- On February 20, P2 students from the school collaborated with MUSOM students for a simulated interprofessional healthcare event at Kopp Hall.

### COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

- The School of Pharmacy hosted a Spring Preview Day on April 14 for prospective students.
- Third year MUSOP students attended Pharmacy Day at the Capitol on February 24. Students met with legislators to advocate for legislation supporting patients and the pharmacy profession in WV.

## CENTER FOR STUDENT SUCCESS (DIRECTOR: DR. KATERYNA SCHRAY)

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### PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

- The Friend at Marshall Peer Mentoring Program (FAM) hosted a two-day drop-in Welcome Event on January 31 and February 1 for freshmen and transfer students who started classes at Marshall this spring semester for the first time. Over 60 students participated.

### FACULTY & STAFF ACHIEVEMENTS

- CSS Director Kateryna Schray co-presented a paper with Provost Avi Mukherjee and Brian Morgan, Interim Dean of the College of Science, on “Re-imagining Student Success Post-Pandemic and Making it Happen: Anticipating Customer Needs in Higher Education” at the 2023 Society for Advancement of Management (SAM) Conference in Nashville, TN, March 16-18.
- CSS Assistant Director Jay Rader completed “An Introduction to the National Incident Management System,” a professional development FEMA Certification from the Emergency Management Institute on March 14.

### COLLABORATION & PARTNERSHIPS

- CSS partnered with the Neurodiversity Alliance to host the Neurodiversity Alliance Kickoff Event in East Hall on February 27, 2023. Over 100 people participated in this event, which is part of Marshall’s Quality Initiative to foster campus diversity and inclusion, embrace complexities of identity, and build bridges between groups.

### COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

- CSS Director Kateryna Schray and Dr. Victor Fet (College of Science) were invited to give a talk on Russia’s War on Ukraine at Woodlands Retirement Community in Huntington on March 8. Over 60 people were in attendance.

## INTERCULTURAL & STUDENT AFFAIRS (VICE PRESIDENT: DR. MARCIE SIMMS)

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### PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

- The Vice President for Intercultural and Student Affairs office has permanently moved from Old Main 107 to MSC 2W38.
- The division of Intercultural and Student Affairs participated in a 2-day teambuilding and goal-setting workshop during Spring Break with facilitator Olivia Hartle.
- Dr. Marcie Simms, Vice President of Intercultural and Student Affairs, was the keynote speaker at the Student Support Services Annual Award Banquet on April 12. Dr. Simms was also the keynote speaker at the Carter G. Woodson Annual fundraiser on April 22.
- Weekend of Welcome planning and coordination has moved to the division of Intercultural and Student Affairs. Dr. Andy Hermansdorfer and Katie Stanley will serve as co-chairs.

### COUNSELING CENTER

- The Counseling Center held the Men's Mental Health Week from April 3-6.
- As of March 29, 2023, the Counseling Center helped 1,215 students. There were 5,838 individual appointments and 274 group/couple appointments.

### WOMEN'S AND GENDER CENTER

- A Women's History Month Kick-Off Reception was held March 1 in Drinko Library.
- A discussion panel on International Women's Day was held March 8.
- Leah Tolliver and Blair Bocook attended the WV Women's Leadership Summit in March.

### DISABILITY SERVICES

- The Office of Disability Services hosted a Limited Vision Awareness training on April 19. The training provided vision simulators to allow participants to experience different vision levels and diagnoses.

### INTERNATIONAL & INTERCULTURAL AFFAIRS

#### *Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Queer/Questioning+ Office (LGBTQ+)*

- The Lavender Graduation Ceremony was held April 19.

#### *Center for African American Students*

- The Center sponsored the Women of Color Celebration on March 7.
- The Donning of the Kente graduation ceremony was held April 20.

#### *Fraternity and Sorority Life*

- The Office of Fraternity & Sorority Life presented its annual Greek Sing on March 26. The event, held in front of a packed crowd at Huntington City Hall, raised over \$800.

- Greeks from all councils volunteered their efforts to rebuild the basketball court for the J. W. Scotts Community Center Philanthropy Event on March 29. Participants engaged in board games with children, served food to kids in the community, and donated money to the J.W. Scotts Summer Scholarship.
- The PanHellenic Council donated over 200 items from their Supply Drive with the Humane Society to help with local animal shelters.
- The Interfraternity Council is working with Mr. Marshall Calvin Hunter to start a Hygiene Drive with the Local City Mission.
- Sororities of the National Pan-Hellenic Council helped facilitate the Community's Day of Audre, an event centered around self-care.

#### *Student Conduct*

- Lisa Martin, Director of Student Conduct, has been accepted into the 2023 National Association of Student Personnel Administrators Certificate Program in Student Affairs Law and Policy.

#### *Violence Prevention and Response Program*

- The Violence Prevention and Response Program partnered with Housing and Residence Life to host a Trauma-Informed Yoga Event to educate students on March 23.
- In partnership with CONTACT Rape Crisis Center, the Clothesline Project displayed t-shirts across campus as a visual display of violence statistics in honor of Sexual Assault Awareness Month.
- A virtual Bystander Intervention Training was held on April 4 for faculty, staff, and students.
- A discussion panel called "Supporting Survivors" was hosted on April 5. Students and staff heard from those in the community regarding sexual assault prevention.
- Denim Day was held on April 11 in honor of Sexual Assault Awareness Month.
- A retreat was hosted on April 15 in collaboration with CONTACT Rape Crisis Center to educate the community about sexual assault.

#### *Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participants (LSAMP)*

- LSAMP students participated in a four-hour advanced study course taught by David Cartwright. Students also toured the University of Kentucky's graduate schools and will participate in the KY-WV LSAMP symposium.

#### CAMPUS ACTIVITIES BOARD

- The Campus Activities Board held several events this spring including a Paint & Sip, Summer Countdown Bingo, a Trivia Game Show, and a bus trip to Malibu Jack's. Events to celebrate Stress Relief Week were also held the week of April 17-21.
- The Board displayed a table at the organization fair during Green & White Day on April 1.
- The Campus Activities Board end-of-year banquet was held April 13 at the MU Hall of Fame Café.



## UNIVERSITY COLLEGE (DIRECTOR: DR. SHERRI STEPP)

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### PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

- The Herd Start Early Academy's proposal to the West Virginia Department of Education was selected to participate in a summer pilot program for virtual intersession courses for currently enrolled high school students participating in the Grow Your Own Program.
- The Herd Start Early Academy has been approved to identify and enroll their first cohort of Herd Academy Fellows who will be high school teachers we are funding to become fully credentialed to teach dual credit courses in their home high schools. This fellowship will allow them to teach under the supervision of the Academy and the respective academic department while completing their credentials.

### FACULTY & STAFF ACHIEVEMENTS

- Sarah Davis, Director of Undergraduate Advising, has been recognized as an advisor who is committed to #CAREOUTLOUD by the office of Appreciative Education at Florida Atlantic University.
- Sarah Davis (Director of Academic Advising), Tammy Reynolds (Program Manager, COLA), Robyn Messenger-Stafford (Student Support Specialist, University College) and Dr. Kandice Rowe (Director of SCOPES, COEPD) presented at the National Academic Advising Association (NACADA) Region III Conference in Wilmington, NC, on March 25. Their presentation was titled: "Relate, Recharge, Reconnect: Designing a Post-Pandemic Training & Development Program that Promotes Connection and Renewal."