



December 16, 2019

Fall 2019 Commencement and Pre-Commencement Events

Marshall University's **Winter Commencement** was held on Saturday, Dec 14, at the Big Sandy Superstore Arena in Downtown Huntington, with the presentation of Bachelor's, Master's and Doctoral degrees in a well-attended ceremony from 10 am to noon. 122 students graduated with a Bachelor of Business Administration degree. Jeff Archambault and Margie McInerney served as Faculty Marshals, and Robin McCutcheon served as Reader.

The guest speaker for Marshall University's 2019 Winter Commencement was Dr. April Fugett, Professor of Psychology, who is a graduate of Morehead State University and completed her doctoral degree in cognitive psychology at the University of Kansas. She joined the College of Liberal Arts faculty in 2008 and has served the university in a variety of academic and administrative positions. Dr. Fugett was named the 2019 recipient of the Hedrick Outstanding Faculty Award at Marshall. Her interests are in the psychology of learning as well as the psychology of popular culture.

The LCOB **Graduate Programs Hooding Ceremony** was held on Dec 13 at the MSC Don Morris Room. 88 graduate students from the Brad D. Smith Graduate School of Business, who have completed their programs in Summer and Fall of 2019, were hooded by their faculty: Master of Business Administration (MBA) –47 (21 General, 9 Management, 7 Finance, 3 Accounting, 3 HCA, 2 HRM, and 1 Marketing), MS in Human Resource Management –17, MS in Health Care Administration –9, MS in Health Informatics – 8, and MS in Accountancy –7. This also included 8 online students.

The Calvin A. Kent Outstanding Graduate Student Leader Award, started in Spring 2019, is designed to recognize a graduate student, who, through his/her dedicated leadership and involvement, has made significant contributions to the Brad D. Smith Graduate School of Business in a positive way during the past year. For those who may not know, Dr. Kent served Marshall University as Dean of the College of Business from 1993 to 2003, making him the longest serving Dean in the college's history. During his tenure as Dean, the college earned AACSB accreditation. After retiring with over 20 years of service for the college and university in various leadership roles, Cal remains involved as a Distinguished Professor of Business Emeritus and as member of the College's Executive Advisory Board. Additionally, Dr. Kent was Mayor or Chair of the City Council in three different cities including Huntington, WV. The recipient is being honored to receive this award that bears his name.



The Calvin A. Kent Outstanding Graduate Student Leader Award for Fall 2019 was awarded to **Kasun (Owitagala) Wijayagurusinghe**, an international student from Sri Lanka, who graduated with a B.B.A. in accounting in 2018 and an M.S. in accountancy in 2019 from Marshall. While at Marshall, Kasun worked on campus as an accounting intern at INTO Marshall, a graduate assistant at the Office of Intercultural Affairs, and a research assistant in the Dean's Office at the Lewis College of Business. He participated in the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance program and was President of the International Student Organization and the Kappa Phi Chapter of Beta Alpha Psi for which he had previously served as Vice President of Finance. Kasun was the proud recipient of the Marshall University's Division of Student Affairs Spirit of Excellence Award and the WVSCPAs Graduate Student Scholarship. He was also a Kathy Eddy Scholar in 2017 and a Presidential Ambassador for 2017-2018. Kasun interned with the accounting firm, Ernst & Young in Charleston and began working full-time at this prestigious firm in fall 2019.

Beta Alpha Psi organized its Fall Induction Ceremony and Banquet at the Guyan Country Club. Two graduates and nine inductees were honored in the presence of our Accounting faculty, corporate partners, accounting advisory board members, and students. G. Lane Ellis, Partner at Arnett Carbis Toothman LLP, Charleston, was the Honorary Speaker. Lane is a Partner and Coordinator of System and Organization Controls (SOC), Business Valuation and Litigation Support Services Groups of Arnett Carbis Toothman LLP. Lane has over thirty-nine years of accounting, auditing and consulting experience. Lane has experience in several industries, including financial, retail and wholesale, distributors, natural resources, construction, state and local governments, non-profit, manufacturing, and health care providers. A few highlights of Lane's experience follows: Frequent teacher and lecturer on financial and statistical topics; Authored a significant number of publications and continuing education courses; Testimony as an expert witness and forensic accountant; Completed well over 800 business valuations; Considered a strategic resource by long-term care professionals; and Conducted audits of Service Organizations for over 25 years. Lane graduated magna cum laude from Marshall in 1978 with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Business Administration with a concentration in accounting.

Our nationally recognized BAP chapter is strongly connected to the profession and provides excellent opportunities for community service and professional development.



Cohen Business Professionalism Speaker Series

The seventh semester of the Cohen Business Professionalism Speaker Series continues to be successful in offering outstanding professional enrichment activities to Marshall University students.

During the Fall 2019 Semester, 73 students graduated with the Business Professionalism Certificate, having met all the requirements:

- Attend five events of the Business Professional Speaker Series.
- Have an approved resume on JobTrax with Career Services.
- Participate in the Career Fair and the Etiquette Dinner.
- Develop a LinkedIn profile and join the Lewis College of Business LinkedIn page.

The series provides students with opportunities to make the connection between classroom learning and real-world business applications through interactions with experienced and successful business people. The following twelve speakers presented this semester:

- Jeff Morrison (CEO, C.I. Thornburg Company (CITCO))
- Cam Wadley (District Marketing Manager, Federated Insurance)
- Josh Juckett (Financial Wellness Consultant, BB&T)
- Dr. Kathy D'Antoni (Assoc. State Superintendent, West Virginia)
- Jim Greer, Jr. (Leadership Consultant)
- Jenna Ramsey (Chief Values Officer, C.I. Thornburg Company (CITGO))
- Dr. Jean-Pierre Auffret (School of Business, George Mason University)
- Dave Meyn (Sr. Director of Distribution, Cintas)
- John Ebert (Business Owner/Entrepreneur)
- Thomas Hawighorst (Senior Executive Advisor on Talent, Change and HR)
- Bruce Felder (Director of HR, Marshall University)
- Siye Weng (Visiting Scholar from China)

For interest in speaking or attending the speaker series, or to recommend a speaker, please contact Glen Midkiff, Director of our Center for Stakeholder Engagement, by emailing midkiff2@marshall.edu or calling 304-696-3431.



MONDAY MORNING MEMO

Lewis College of Business

Dr. Avi Mukherjee, Dean



WARMEST THOUGHTS AND

Best Wishes for a Wonderful Holiday

AND A VERY HAPPY NEW YEAR!



LEWIS COLLEGE
OF BUSINESS



BRAD D. SMITH
SCHOOLS OF BUSINESS

Avinandan Mukherjee

Dr. Avinandan Mukherjee, Dean