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### LCOB Mourns the Passing of retired Marketing professor Bob Brown

It is with great sadness that I write to inform you that our retired Marketing professor, Dr. Bob Brown, has passed away. Please join me in offering our condolences, thoughts and prayers.



Dr. Bob Brown had 43 years of service as a full-time faculty member in higher education, including 30 years as a professor of Marketing in the Lewis College of Business, before retiring in 2011. Dr. Brown graduated from WVU (BSBA) in Marketing in 1966 and with his MBA in 1968. He obtained his Ph.D. from American University (Marketing) in 1977. Bob is originally from Grafton, WV. He taught at Shepherd University prior to coming to Marshall.

Dr. Bob Brown made a significant donation to the Lewis College of Business, that generously created the Bob Brown Marketing and Entrepreneurship Scholarship which will support full-time undergraduate students, majoring in Marketing or Entrepreneurship in the LCOB, who are second semester freshman, sophomores, juniors, or seniors, residents of West Virginia and who are in good academic standing with a 2.5 cumulative/3.0 GPA in business courses.

Bob was a lover of jazz music and also endowed a scholarship at Marshall known as the Bob Brown Jazz Studies Scholarship. Bob was an avid musician and enjoyed playing his accordion (his favorite), the organ, piano and guitar, to name a few instruments. He enjoyed playing with various groups, including Dixie Jazz and Polka! He loved cars and owned a Mustang and Corvette.





### **LCOB Mourns the Passing of Advisory Board member Michael W. Gerber**

It is with great sadness that I write to inform you that our LCOB Advisory Board Member, Mr. Michael W. Gerber, has passed away. He served on the Lewis College of Business Advisory Board from 2004 to 2020, and was its Secretary and 2nd Vice President. Mr. Gerber is survived by his wife of over 50 years, Elizabeth Daniel Gerber. Our condolences, thoughts and prayers are with Betsy Garber and other members of his family during this most difficult time.

Michael Garber was a resident of Huntington, WV his entire life with the exception of years 1941-1945. He was the son of Floyd David and Georgia Wingate Gerber, and had one sister, Lucinda Jane Gerber.



Michael Gerber began his career with Hayflich & Steinberg, CPA's (now Hayflich CPA's) in 1961 as an intern while an undergraduate at Marshall University. He became a full time staff member after graduating with his BBA in Accounting from Marshall in 1963 and became a Certified Public Accountant in 1967. Three years later in 1970, he became a Partner in the firm. From 1970 through 2004, he served as the Accounting and Audit Partner and subsequently the Managing Partner. From 2005-2007, he served as Chief Operating Officer. Although Gerber retired as a partner in 2005, he continued to serve in a consulting capacity through 2009.

Mike was inducted into the 2016 Marshall University Business Hall of Fame. This is an award given annually to business leaders who have an outstanding record of achievement in their fields and have dedicated themselves to excellence. He recently instituted the Michael Gerber Scholarship for business students at Marshall.

His numerous Honors and Awards include: West Virginia Society of Certified Public Accountants Public Service Award, Commonwealth of Kentucky – Kentucky Colonel, Cabell Huntington Hospital Medallion Society, American Institute of CPAs, West Virginia Society of CPAs, Huntington Chapter of West Virginia Society of CPAs (past President), Ohio Society of Certified Public Accountants, Honorary Member Beta Alpha Psi, Sigma Alpha Epsilon Fraternity, City Club of Huntington (Secretary Treasurer), and Guyan Golf and Country Club.

Mike was known for his many charitable and civic activities. He served on citizen review panels, personnel and finance committees, and as chair of the allocation committees for United Way, as President and Board member of Huntington Pediatric Clinic and Huntington Pediatric Clinic Foundation, Inc., and as Chairman of Cabell Huntington Hospital Foundation Board.





### **Brad D. Smith Schools of Business students and faculty recognized at MU 41<sup>st</sup> Annual Leadership & Service Awards**

Marshall University presented the 41<sup>st</sup> Annual Leadership & Service Awards on January 24, 2020. Each year, the Division of Student Affairs presents awards to outstanding members of the Marshall University student community. These awards recognize the students' contribution to the university in leadership roles and in service to the university and the community. There is also an award that recognizes the outstanding contribution of a faculty or staff member in his / her role as advisor to a student organization.

The **Student Organization of the Year award** recognizes a club or organization which has continually made significant contributions to its own membership, the student body, and the Marshall University community through programming, educational opportunities, and/or service projects. The Student Organization of the Year award for 2019 for the entire university went to **Beta Alpha Psi (BAP)**. BAP is the premier international honor and service organization for students and professionals in accounting, finance, and management information systems. BAP provides students with leadership, professional development, community engagement, and networking opportunities. The annual activities of our BAP chapter include two large induction and graduation ceremonies, Meet the Professionals, Visit the Firms, Speaker Series, partnership with WVSCPA, and numerous networking opportunities with professionals. Marshall University's Beta Alpha Psi Kappa Phi Chapter had a great 2019 year. Led by Chapter President Casey Snodgrass, mentored by Faculty Advisor Prof. Amanda Thompson-Abbott and Co-Faculty Advisor Dr. Dallas Brozik, and supported by the entire Accounting faculty, our chapter received international recognition as a "Superior" Chapter by the national BAP headquarters, and was awarded a KPMG grant. In 2019, BAP completed over 150 tax returns through the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program with United Way. They also worked with the INTO office and helped international students complete their tax returns.

The **Advisor of the Year award** honors a student organization advisor who has devoted extraordinary time and service to the student organization. The selected individual demonstrates a high level of commitment to the organization they advise, and plays a central role in assisting our student leaders to reach their highest potential. The Advisor of the Year award for 2019 for the entire university went to **Dr. Monica Wei**, Assistant Professor of Marketing in the Brad D. Smith Schools of Business. Dr. Wei is the faculty advisor for the American Marketing Association (AMA) student chapter, and has energized the chapter to great accomplishments including record membership, partnerships with local businesses, participation in the annual AMA conference, speaker presentations, fashion show, and visits to marketing firms. We are proud to see Dr. Wei recognized for her strong commitment and support for student success.