

# WCOHP

**The College of Health Professions**  
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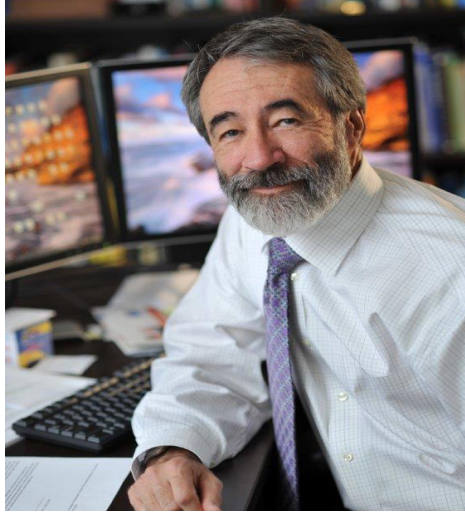
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# A Message FROM DEAN PREWITT

Our spring semester is off to a great start with many new and exciting developments in our college. With a recent collaboration between the COHP, the Marshall University Research Corporation and the Public Employees Insurance Agency, we have an opportunity to strengthen health and wellness programming resources throughout the state of West Virginia. Later this month, we will produce and distribute our very first College of Health Professions



Alumni Newsletter, *Connections*, which will feature stories and news about recent graduates of our college. If you have any ideas for future publications, please share those with us. As always, I want to thank you for your continued commitment and dedication to making the COHP one of the best colleges on campus. Feel free to visit me in my office anytime with any comments or ideas you may have. Have a great week!

Michael Prewitt

## Carter Awarded for Outstanding Faculty Service



During this year's Diversity Luncheon, held Jan. 23, 2014, Professor Phil Carter was presented the 2014 Living the Legacy Award for Outstanding Faculty Service for his ongoing efforts which have served the Marshall community for many decades. Since 1980, Carter has been responsible for teaching and developing coursework in the areas of social welfare in Appalachia, human behavior in social work, social welfare legislation and various other culturally and politically focused social work courses on Marshall's campus. He earned his B.A. in political science from Marshall University and his master's of social work from the University of Pittsburgh. He completed his doctoral work in the Graduate School of Public and International Affairs, also through the University of Pittsburgh. Professor Carter is currently finishing his first book and hopes to raise the level of cultural and political consciousness of those who will read it. When asked why he chose social work as a lifelong endeavor, he said he it was for three simple reasons: *to care, to counsel and to change.*

# Marshall COHP Joins PEIA to Promote Health and Wellness throughout WV

The Public Employees Insurance Agency (PEIA) is pleased to announce its partnership with Marshall University College of Health Professions and the Marshall University Research Corporation for the administration of PEIA's Pathways to Wellness worksite program.

According to PEIA Director Ted Cheatham, "For years, PEIA has been working on the development of a full continuum of prevention, health promotion and disease management services. We view this new partnership with Marshall as a logical extension of that effort which will further enhance the best possible outcomes."

Marshall University President Stephen J. Kopp said he is very pleased and proud that PEIA has chosen to collaborate with the university to aid in the prevention of some of the most pressing health problems confronting our state and region.

"The Marshall University College of Health Professions has the requisite resources to provide worksite wellness and healthy lifestyle programming which will improve the quality of life for thousands of West Virginians," Kopp said. "The support provided by PEIA offers great promise to help strengthen the health and wellness of public employees and their organizations."

This unique collaboration will assist PEIA-participating employers in implementing practice-based

prevention and wellness strategies that will lead to specific, measurable health outcomes, according to Dr. Michael W. Prewitt, dean of the College of Health Professions. "Our college is well suited for this effort as we have undergraduate and graduate programs in exercise physiology, kinesiology, nutrition and dietetics, physical therapy, nursing, social work and public health," Prewitt said. "This collaboration will complement the educational goals of our college while creating opportunities to make and sustain health improvements. This is truly a win-win situation for everyone."

Sharon Covert, Marshall's newly appointed Supervisor of the PEIA Pathways to Wellness program, said these programs will include worksite wellness services to be delivered to PEIA worksites through nine regional health promotion consultants throughout the state of West Virginia. "Classes on fitness, nutrition and stress management will be offered as well as lifestyle coaching services, research and promotion of the various programs offered by PEIA," said Nidia Henderson, Health Promotions Director of PEIA. "We want to promote good health through prevention, reduce chronic illness and disability and improve productivity outcomes for public employers throughout the state"

For more information on PEIA's programs and services, visit [www.peia.wv.gov](http://www.peia.wv.gov).

## Dates To Remember

- **Feb 6-7th:** WV Society for Respiratory Care annual conference held in Canaan Valley.
- **Feb. 7th:** Deadline for May Graduation Applications to be turned into Academic Dean's Office.
- **Feb. 14th:** All-Faculty Meeting with President Kopp, Memorial Student Center in BE5, 3-5 p.m.
- **Feb. 19th:** Department Chair Meeting, Prichard Hall, Dean's Conference Room, 9:30 - 11 a.m.
- **March 7th:** HOSA Educational Symposium, Don Morris Room, 2-3 p.m.
- **March 17-22:** University's Spring Break - Rest, Relax and Enjoy.

# Marshall Sports Student to Present Baseball research at the 2014 National Conference for Undergraduate Research

One Marshall University student has been given the chance to present her research on Al Oliver, a Portsmouth, Ohio, native and former major league baseball player for the Pittsburgh Pirates.

Betsy Haugh, a 20-year old sport management and marketing student in the university's College of Health Professions, said her research mainly focused on the media's portrayal of Al Oliver over the course of his 18-year career.

"For better or worse, the media play a huge role in many sports," Haugh said. "I thought the media's representation of Al Oliver was interesting due to its impact on his career in baseball and its effect on his Hall of Fame status."

Dr. Jarrod Schenewark, associate chair in the college's School of Kinesiology, served as Haugh's faculty mentor and encouraged her to contact Oliver for a personal interview.

"Although I provided guidance, Betsy is a member of the Honors College and worked very independently," Schenewark said. "I would love to see her research published and find out if it makes a difference in Al Oliver's life and his chances of becoming a member of the Hall of Fame."

Haugh's manuscript, "Al Oliver: A Career Worthiness of the Hall of Fame," was chosen for a poster



presentation out of 4,000 submissions, according to Dr. Gary McIlvain, associate dean for the College of Health Professions and chair of the School of Kinesiology.

"Ms. Haugh was chosen because she brought something unique to the table," McIlvain said. "Like many Marshall students, she has held her own and done work worthy of national recognition. Betsy represents the caliber of students we have in the College of Health Professions and our School of Kinesiology."

Haugh will graduate in May 2014 with her bachelor's degree in sport management and marketing after only three years at Marshall.

Originally from Earlysville, Va., she hopes to attend graduate school next fall to study media communications.

The 2014 National Conference for Undergraduate Research will be held April 3-5 at the University of Kentucky in Lexington. According to the conference website, its mission is to promote undergraduate research, scholarship and creative activity done in partnership with faculty or other mentors as a vital component of higher education. For more information about Haugh's research, please email [haugh@marshall.edu](mailto:haugh@marshall.edu). For further information about this year's conference, visit [http://www.cur.org/ncur\\_2014/](http://www.cur.org/ncur_2014/) online.



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# Respiratory Care Students Attend Annual West Virginia Society for Respiratory Care conference in Canaan Valley

Six students from the Marshall University School of Respiratory Care will travel to Canaan Valley Resort to present research at the West Virginia Society for Respiratory Care (WVSRC) annual 2-day winter conference. Jodie Coleman, Krystal Daily, Courtney Miles, Sarah Scarberry, Alexandria Terry and Chelsea Watts will share their research in teams of two, each detailing a different case study on various diseases, interventions and treatments a respiratory care therapist can provide for a patient. Team members Scarberry and Terry said they are looking forward to the networking opportunities with other respiratory care students, department managers and therapists.

“This is our first time attending a state conference and we really don’t know what to expect,” Scarberry said. “We are excited to be able to share our research at a professional state meeting and hope to learn new, developing trends in patient care.”

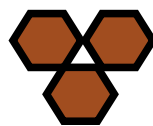
Keith Terry, associate professor at the Marshall/St. Mary’s Cooperative School of Respiratory Care, said these six students were chosen for a very specific reason.

“Although the School of Respiratory Care takes pride in all of the students, these six students were selected based on academic achievement, leadership qualities, community involvement and their passion for the profession of respiratory care,” Terry said. “Presenting at a state-level conference takes a lot of nerve, especially as a student, and we are very excited that our students will be participating again this year.”

Chris Trotter, also an associate professor at the School of Respiratory Care, said the WVSRC has been a long-time advocate for student interaction at the state level.

“The WVSRC conference will show students the importance of being a part of their professional community and encourage continued participation after graduation,” Trotter said. “Currently, healthcare is changing and the successful healthcare professionals will need to be able to not only perform tasks, but also convey information. I hope this experience serves as an exercise that enables these students to develop the necessary communication skills.”

The West Virginia Society for Respiratory Care (WVSRC), a chartered affiliate of the American Association for Respiratory Care, will hold their annual 2-day winter conference Feb 6-7 at Canaan Valley Resort and Conference Center in Davis, W.Va. For more information on the conference, please visit [www.wvsrc.org](http://www.wvsrc.org) online.



**Pictured Above (from left to right):** #MUCOHP School of Respiratory Care students Chelsea Watts, Courtney Miles, Sarah Scarberry and Alexandria Terry stand at this year’s annual WVSRC conference held in Canaan Valley.

# Respiratory Care Alum to be Featured in *Connections*: Taylor Brown shares story of success after graduation



Brown smiles with professors Chris Trotter, Keith Terry and Jim Montgomery from the St. Mary's School of Respiratory Care during graduation in May 2012.

**V**entilators. Oscillators. Continuous nebulizers. These words may be a foreign language to some, but like others in her field, Taylor Brown ('12) speaks them with fluency. As a Registered Respiratory Therapist in The Johns Hopkins Hospital Pediatric Intensive Care Unit, Brown knows how important it is to bring her "A-game" to work.

"Just when you have it all figured out and you think you are going to cruise through your shift ... that's the exact moment a heart-wrenching alarm will sound and you must take off in full sprint, and in most cases, it's to help save someone's life," said Brown.

As a 2012 graduate of the Marshall/St. Mary's Cooperative School of Respiratory Care, Brown said she believes the education she received made it possible for her to be where she is today.

"I cannot say enough about the confidence I was armed with upon graduation. I had been given enough skills to obtain a position a full two months before even graduating," Brown said. "I learned so much about time management, professional conduct and teamwork ... I am not sure any other program could have prepared me the way Marshall and St. Mary's did for this position."

Growing up in Fallston, Maryland, Brown always knew, despite the distance, she had strong ties to

Huntington and the Marshall University community.

"Originally, my family is from Huntington. My grandmother was born at St. Mary's and my mother was born at Cabell Huntington," Brown said. "I am a proud Marshall Legacy because my grandparents, Robert D. Bailey ('62) and Judith Musser Bailey ('63) are both alumni. Even though I grew up in Maryland - almost 7 hours away - I always shared the sense of excitement my family had for The Herd, especially when the football team was playing on TV."

Brown came to Marshall to pursue a collegiate swimming career and through her four years as an athlete, she met her fiancé, CJ Wood ('11/'12) who played five years as #75 on the offensive line for the Marshall University football team. With wedding plans underway and the big date set for May 30, 2014, Brown said she still finds time to complete training to be an ECMO (extracorporeal membrane oxygenation) specialist.

"I chose to work in the PICU specifically because it is the only pediatric unit at Hopkins where ECMO is run and solely staffed by ECMO-trained respiratory therapists," Brown said. "What we do is always growing, changing and adapting to new therapies and trends. I want to continue to learn and become a much better therapist as my career goes on."

Brown said it was the supportive nature of each professor and the culture of the educational environment within the School of Respiratory Care, which fostered her passion for knowledge about the profession.

"Being one of only a few bachelor programs for respiratory care in the country, I think the subjects covered in the classroom as well as the clinical experience set me up with a great foundation to begin my career anywhere, but especially at Hopkins," Brown said. "Johns Hopkins tends to be one of the leading centers for research and progress. I see myself working here for many years to come."

**If you know of successful alumni within your department, contact our alumni coordinator at [archer15@marshall.edu](mailto:archer15@marshall.edu) and share their story for the next publication of *Connections*.**

# STUDENT REFLECTIONS

## Kathryn Colbert, Public Health

When Kathryn Colbert was in the third grade, she was diagnosed with human growth hormone deficiency, which meant she was destined for a short life quite literally.

"I was always much smaller than other kids and my parents knew something was wrong," Colbert said. "When I tested positive for growth hormone deficiency, it scared me. Without the necessary medicine, I would've had the bones of an 80-year old woman which could've resulted in a very short life expectancy."

Colbert, now a proud 5'1, said she would've been a legal midget as the doctors projected her height to reach only 4'7 without the assistance of modern medicine. It was this aspect of her childhood and the struggles she faced, which encouraged Colbert to pursue a career in public health.

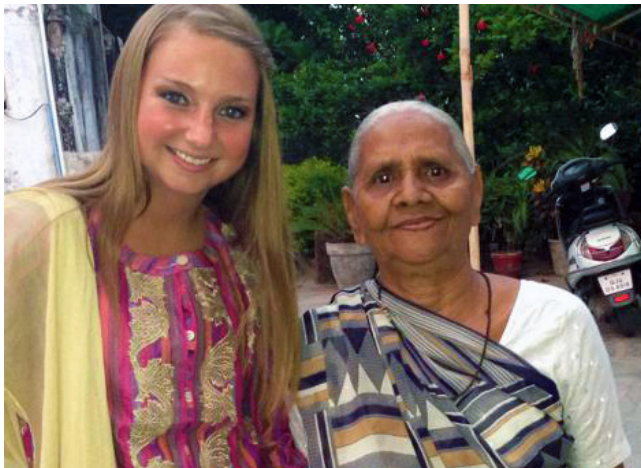
"Growing up with this condition made me realize there's so much to learn about our public health in populations around the world," Colbert said. "When I

heard about Marshall University's public health program, it seemed like the perfect fit for me."

Colbert, 21, of Louisville, Ky., will graduate with her undergraduate degree in public health in May 2014. During her four years in the program, she has had many amazing experiences, but her most noteworthy was her time spent in Gujarat, India for a public health study abroad trip.

"The big focus of my trip was working with individuals who suffered from diabetes and hypertension," Colbert said. "My favorite thing was going to the villages, meeting the people, hearing their stories about getting diabetes due to lack of resources and nutrition, and to hear how they are progressing now. It was a great thing to see how these people got better and improved their standard of living."

Colbert said she learned much about her field while in India and feels excited for what her future holds with a career in public health.



**Colbert** celebrated her 21st birthday while in India in summer 2013. In this photo, she is dressed in traditional Gujarat clothing suitable for special occasions.



**Colbert** stands and smiles with natives from Gujarat. It would take two hours to travel to the villages to provide hypertension and diabetes screenings.