

NZCOHP

The College of Health Professions
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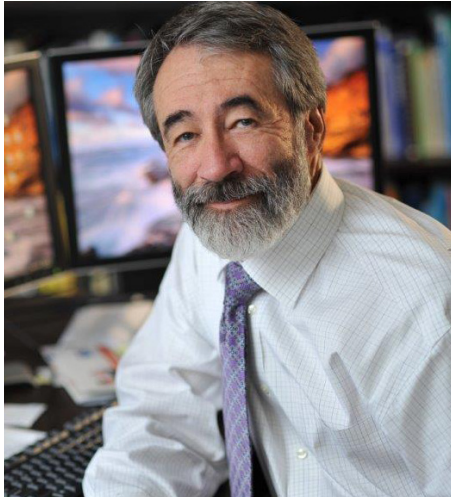
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A Message FROM DEAN PREWITT

Our semester is in full swing and I'm looking forward to many exciting opportunities in store for our faculty, staff and students. As you know by now, our college and the College of Arts and Media have teamed up to create the Center for Wellness in the Arts. As a part of its inauguration to our campus, we have invited Dr. Eckart Altenmueller from Germany to give a keynote address about the unique collaboration between health and wellness and the performing arts on Oct. 13th at 7:30 p.m. in the Francis-Booth Experimental Theatre in Smith Hall. I



hope you'll take advantage of this opportunity to learn more about team-based partnerships between other departments on campus. Our Department of Social Work will also host an exciting guest speaker later this semester - Mr. Robert Meeropol of the Rosenberg Foundation so stay tuned for more details about this! I hope you're settling into the fall semester and enjoying this beautiful weather. As always, my door is open so feel free to stop by and say hello. Until next month ---

Michael Prewitt

Gravano recognized as DKB Geriatric Scholar

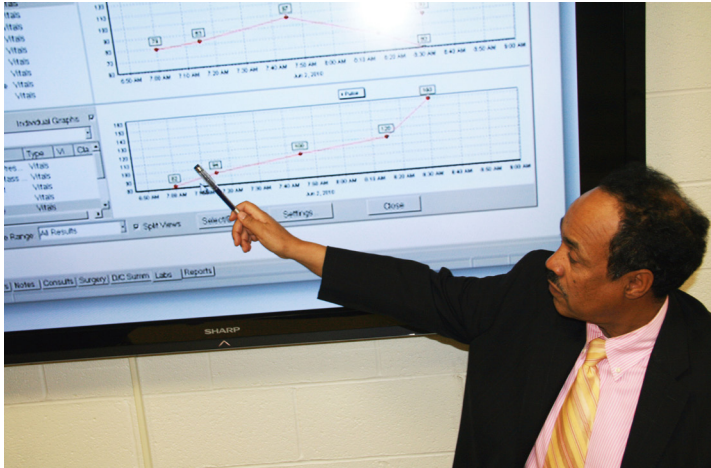


Dr. Tamara Gravano of the Marshall University College of Health Professions is the first physical therapist in the state to complete the requirements to be recognized as a David K. Brown Geriatric Scholar through the West Virginia Geriatric Education Center (WVGEC).

Gravano, an assistant professor and director of clinical education in the college's School of Physical Therapy, said she has worked toward the promotion and advancement of geriatric physical therapy since 2004.

"With this scholarship, I hope to have more insight and training to help strengthen our geriatric community," Gravano said. "Being the first physical therapist to receive this honor was a surprise to me. Through this, I hope to encourage other colleagues who are interested in geriatrics to go through these courses and find out how they can also care for this growing population in our state." Gravano received an award of \$1,000 to use toward further training in geriatric care. She will attend the Advanced Geriatric Skills program March 26-28 at Lakeview Conference Center in Morgantown, W.Va., where she will present her research on balance and falls.

Health Informatics Program Ranked No.1 Most Affordable in the Nation



Dr. Girmay Berhie, program director for health informatics, said the graduate program in health informatics is the perfect combination of quality and affordability.

The Marshall University Health Informatics graduate program has been ranked the No. 1 most affordable program in the U.S. according to MBA Healthcare Management. The program was ranked first among 25 other universities in the nation based on criteria determining the overall quality, flexibility and research trends within each program.

Dr. Girmay Berhie, program director for health informatics, said Marshall University's program is a prime example of how both affordability and quality can go together.

"This news should be important to students because of the growing debt ratio concern. Students will spend less money on tuition and after graduation will have a better chance of finding good-paying jobs to repay any loans," Berhie said. "Students graduating with a master's degree in health informatics can typically get jobs as CIOs, program managers, data analysts, consultants, professors or security officers. The salary range for most of our graduates is from \$60,000 to \$125,000 a year."

Berie said the program consists of a partnership between three of Marshall University's colleges including the College of Health Professions, the College of Business and the College of Information Technology and Engineering. Berhie said he believes it is the combined

knowledge, expertise and skills from the three colleges that make the health informatics program unique. "This is the only health informatics program in the state of West Virginia, and one of three programs in the United States to be accredited by the Commission of Accreditation for Health Informatics and Information Management (CAHIIM)," Berhie said. "In addition, the fact that the program was accredited within its first three years only speaks to its quality."

Chief Information Officer for the West Virginia Health Information Network David M. Partsch serves on the advisory committee for the program. Partsch said students should take advantage of this opportunity to get quality education at an affordable cost.

"In this day and age of soaring tuitions and shrinking career opportunities, it is imperative to offer the best education at the lowest cost," Partsch said. "Marshall University has clearly accomplished both of those goals and set itself as a visionary in the field of health informatics."

Michael Jones, a 2014 graduate of the program, said it wasn't until receiving his degree at Marshall that he found the career where he could truly succeed.

"As a nurse with a background in neuroscience, health research and data analysis, I had been seeking the right graduate program that could combine the kind of education and experience with today's cutting-edge health information sciences," Jones said. "I found my answer at Marshall University's health informatics program. As a recent graduate, I now have an exciting and rewarding career as a health informatics specialist working in the area of informatics and health data analytics."

For more information about the program's No.1 ranking, visit the MBA Healthcare Management web article at: <http://mba-healthcare-management.com/best/masters-healthcare-informatics/>. For more information on Marshall's master's program in health informatics, visit www.marshall.edu/cohp online.

COHP and College of Arts and Media team up to offer Center for Wellness in the Arts



Elliot Smithson (far left) is shown leading warm-ups for theatre students in the Joan C. Edwards Playhouse before they begin rehearsals for their upcoming play, *Tom Sawyer*.

Two of Marshall University's largest colleges have joined together to provide a new opportunity for students in the performing arts.

Since August 2014, the College of Health Professions and the College of Arts and Media are offering performing arts students the chance to work with athletic trainers to prevent injury from occurring during performances. This idea was initiated by two young faculty members and has developed into what is now being called the Marshall University Center for Wellness in the Arts (CWA).

Dr. Henning Vauth, assistant professor of music in the College of Arts and Media, said he and his colleague, theatre professor Nicole Perrone, visited Ohio University last year and toured their Clinic for Science and Health in Artistic Performance. Vauth said the clinic is a place where injured performing artists can be evaluated by licensed athletic trainers who have the proper knowledge and equipment to treat their injuries.

"We met with the director of the Ohio University clinic and brainstormed ways to implement this same type of program at Marshall University," Vauth said. "When we first envisioned CWA, we thought there would be three components: education, treatment and research. Many performing arts students have

developed a mentality that a certain amount of pain is a part of the performer's process. We want to change the culture and educate students so they look at pain as a problem and treat it accordingly so they can enjoy long careers."

Dr. Mark Timmons, an assistant professor of athletic training and a facilitator of the CWA, said finding the right athletic trainer was a very important part of this unique collaboration.

"We wanted to find an athletic trainer who had worked with musicians, dancers, actors someone who could appreciate the type of treatment we are trying to provide for our performing arts students," Timmons said. "The most qualified candidate we chose had previous work experience with Disney and the Varsity Spirit Corporation."

Elliot Smithson was recruited by the college's School of Kinesiology to work with the performing arts students to prevent injuries before they happen. Smithson is a licensed athletic trainer and a graduate assistant in the College of Health Professions.

"My experience working at Disney made me realize these performers do the same type of intense movements for hours at a time and at the same intensity as many professional athletes," Smithson said. "Many well-known organizations such as Cirque du Soleil and Broadway have implemented athletic training into their industry. We need to start considering these performers as a part of the active population because leaving them out is doing them a great disservice."

Timmons said there have been discussions about the possibility of offering an interdisciplinary degree program for wellness in the arts in the future.

The Marshall Center for Wellness in the Arts clinic is open 4-6:30 p.m. on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays in the athletic training lab located in Gullickson Hall room 209 on the Marshall Huntington campus. For more information about the CWA, contact Van Horn at vanhorn@marshall.edu, Timmons at timmonsm@marshall.edu or by visiting the center's Facebook page at www.facebook.com/MarshallCWA online.

Department of Social Work provides job opportunities through child welfare program

For the past 20 years, the Marshall University Department of Social Work has given students the chance to secure jobs before they even graduate. This opportunity is sustained through the Title IVE Child Welfare Scholar program, which allows social work students to receive a stipend if they agree to work for the West Virginia Division of Health and Human Resources (WV DHHR) for the amount of time they received the stipend, with a one-year minimum after graduation.

Jo Dee Gottlieb, primary investigator for the Title IVE Child Welfare project and a social work professor in the College of Health Professions, said the purpose of this program is to professionalize child welfare services while preparing students to be potential employees at the WV DHHR.

“Our students receive a stipend each semester for up to \$3,000 and sign a contract to complete a 400-hour practicum and work for DHHR in child welfare after they graduate,” Gottlieb said. “Students gain amazing clinical experience during their practicum work and have the opportunity to obtain jobs in Child Protective Services, foster care, adoption and youth services.”

Hope Smith, community services manager at the Cabell County DHHR and a 1995 graduate of the Department of Social Work, was one of the very first students to receive the child welfare stipend. Smith said this program gave her the chance to experience a profession she otherwise would not have chosen for herself and one she still enjoys to this day.

“When I went into social work, I wasn’t sure where I wanted to go in my career. The last place I thought I would work was in public child welfare, but the stipend gave me the opportunity to experience something rewarding and I fell in love with it,” Smith said. “Child welfare is a great starting place for any social worker, especially at DHHR, because you get exposed to everything in our field. It’s a great stepping stone to just about any job in the social work profession.”

Social work student Mikyla Stewart, 22, of Parkersburg, West Virginia, said she knew she wanted to work in Child Protective Services before learning about the program. When Stewart realized she could get financial assistance while working closely with experienced profes-

sionals in her field, she said the decision was simple.

“When I heard about the child welfare program, I knew I would be able to get my education while working toward a lifelong career,” Stewart said. “I am so grateful I made this decision in the first place because it just shows the heart of my profession. They have taught us everything we need to know about social work and how to be good people. I hope this program sets an example for other departments on campus and across the state, so they too can provide these amazing opportunities for their students.”

Five Marshall students have received the program’s stipend for the 2014 academic year:

Mikyla Stewart, Alyssa Hall, Cindy McDaniel, Melissa Nibert and Tiffany Adkins.

For more information on the Title IVE Child Welfare program, contact Gottlieb at gottlieb@marshall.edu. To learn more about WV DHHR and their career opportunities for recent graduates, visit www.dhhr.wv.gov. To find out more about our Department of Social Work, visit www.marshall.edu/cohp.



(From left to right): Cindy McDaniel, Mikyla Stewart, Tiffany Adkins and Alyssa Hall have received the Title IVE Child Welfare Scholar stipend for the 2014 academic year. Not pictured: Melissa Nibert.

Marshall athletic training faculty and students travel to State Capitol to discuss state licensure



Faculty and students from the Marshall University College of Health Professions visited the State Capitol earlier this month to meet with senators and delegates about the importance of obtaining athletic training licensure in West Virginia. Currently, 42 states have athletic training licensure and six states, including West Virginia, only require athletic trainer registration.

Zach Garrett, assistant professor of athletic training within the college, said he and his students were given the opportunity to educate state legislators about their profession and discuss the seriousness of mandating regulation for athletic trainers.

“We want to define a scope of practice for our field because there is a concern amongst the athletic training community that there are individuals who practice, but aren’t qualified to do so,” Garrett said. “You want your nurses to be licensed and you want your doctors to be licensed so why wouldn’t you want your athletic trainers to be licensed?”

Garrett said the state of West Virginia has 290 secondary schools with athletics and only 49 high schools have certified athletic trainers with less than half who work full-time. Of these 290 schools, only five are recognized by the National Athletic Training Association (NATA) to be “Safe Sport Schools,” according to Garrett.

West Virginia Democratic State Del. Richard J. Iaquina said he supports the idea of athletic training licensure in West Virginia. Iaquina said it seems like a necessary step

when one considers the increasing number of injuries occurring in high school sports.

“We want to protect the safety of our young athletes and any time an injury occurs, we want to set our state’s standards at the highest level for preventing injury,” Iaquina said. “It makes me sad to know our state is lagging behind and we aren’t providing a necessary service in this competitive sports environment to allow our students to perform to the best of their ability.”

Iaquina said the athletic training community should expect to see this issue put on the table for the upcoming legislative session in January.

“We want to make this happen no matter how long it takes...it’s too important to ignore,” Iaquina said.

Rachel Blum, an athletic training student within Marshall’s program, said having the chance to discuss important issues such as these with state legislators was an amazing experience.

“This is the future of our profession and being given the opportunity to weigh in on this topic that has such impact in the athletic training community was awesome,” Blum said. “Students and faculty from University of Charleston, West Virginia University and Concord will be visiting the State Capitol during the next several months and we hope with our combined efforts, we will be able to make athletic training licensure a possibility in West Virginia.”

Marshall faculty and staff compete in “Babes with Barbells” Crossfit Competition



Earlier this month, two ladies of the COHP threw down in an all-female Crossfit competition called the “Babes with Barbells: Girls-Only Bash” held in Huntington. Susan Welch, nursing faculty member and a member of Crossfit Thunder since 2012, said she enjoyed competing in her first competition. Despite a mishap with an additional 20lb weight accidentally placed on her barbell, Susan still finished 16th overall in her division. Go Susan!



Megan Archer, a COHP communications staffer since 2013, said her favorite part of the competition was pulling a large truck with a harness tied to her body because “hey, when will I get a chance to pull a two-ton object again?” Archer tied for 17th overall in her division out of 54 competitors and pulled a 75lb PR for her deadlift, welcoming herself to the 300 Club at Crossfit Thunder.

#StrongerThanYesterday

Dates To Remember

- **October 1st:** United Way Day Health Fair, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m., MSC Plaza, Free health screenings
- **October 8th:** Department Chair Meeting, Dean's Suite, PH 224, 9:30 a.m.
- **October 13th:** SOK hosts Dr. Altenmueller for CWA Keynote Address, Francis-Booth Experimental Theatre, Smith Hall, 7:30 p.m.
- **October 15th:** Department Chair Meeting, Dean's Suite, PH 224, 9:30 a.m.
- **October 20/21st:** Flu Shot Clinic for students hosted by SON, MSC Don Morris Room, 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. on Monday and 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. on Tuesday
- **October 23th:** Dietetics students host the 100 Mile Meal, Twin Towers Marketplace, 4-7 p.m.
- **October 28th:** National Public Health Graduate Fair, Washington Convention Center in D.C.

Welcome New Faculty and Staff: Fall 2014



Kelly Rutherford M.S., CCC-SLP, is an assistant professor within the Dept. of Communication Disorders. Ms. Rutherford's areas of interest include dysphagia, aphasia, and cognitive-communication disorders relative to the adult and geriatric population. Her clinical expertise has focused on rehabilitation with these individuals and has lead to an additional interest in interdisciplinary management to better meet an individual's needs. Ms. Rutherford teaches undergraduate and graduate courses as well as supervises graduate clinicians working in the Marshall University Speech and Hearing Center. She received her Master's of Science from Marshall University in 2004 and is a certified member of the American Speech Language Hearing Association. As new faculty, she is excited to be a part of the Dept. of Communication Disorders and the COHP.



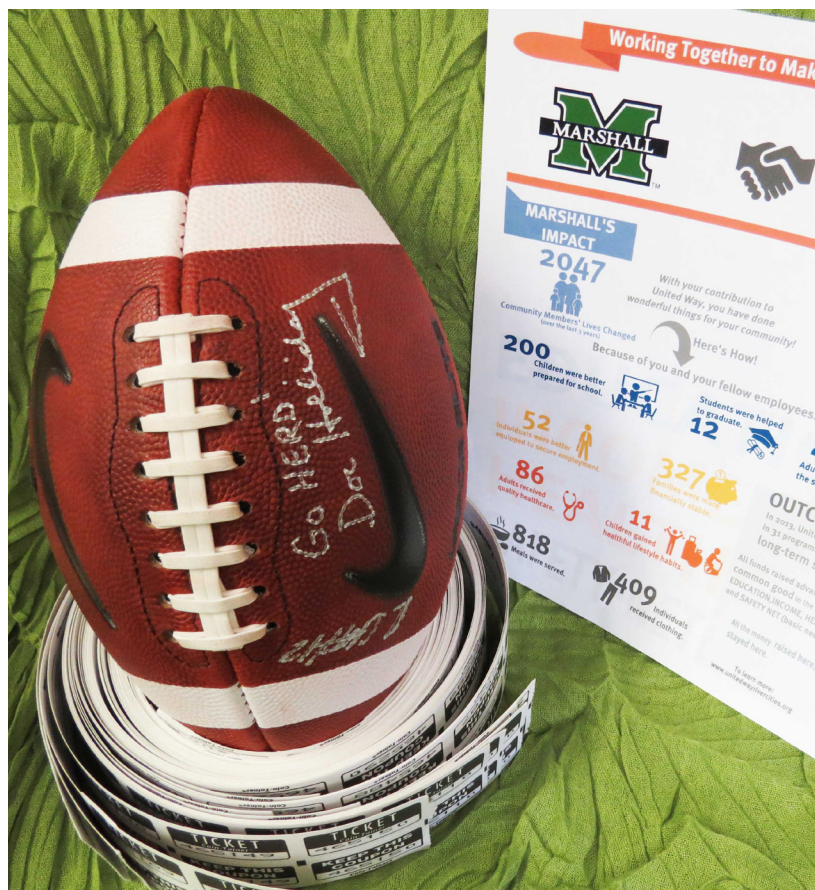
Dr. Richard Crespo serves as an assistant professor for the graduate program in public health with emphasis in Global and Community Health. Dr. Crespo is involved in community health in WV and overseas. He directs the community medicine rotation for family practice residents, teaches international track residents and advises them in selecting international assignments. Additionally he teaches community medicine to second year medical students. Internationally, he consults overseas three to five times a year in Latin America, Africa and Asia. The areas in which he works internationally are program design, disease surveillance, training trainers and evaluation. In West Virginia Dr. Crespo directs numerous grants in chronic disease management, diabetes control, school health and children's mental health. Most of these grants involve rural health centers throughout the state and community-based initiatives. Dr. Crespo will be teaching Community Health (PH671) this fall.



Since August 2014, Butch Burriss has worked as an administrative associate within the College of Health Professions. Prior to his position in the COHP, Butch worked as Supervisor of Accounts Payable in the Accounting Dept. at Marshall beginning in November 1999. In May 2009, Butch took a position, which led to Director of Accounting in the Business Services Department at Mountwest Community College. This November, Butch will have 15 years of combined service with the State of West Virginia Higher Education. In addition to this, he spent an interesting six years working at a maximum security prison for the Florida Department of Corrections. Butch graduated from Marshall University in 1991 with B.B.A. in accounting. For 25 years, Butch has been married to his high school sweetheart. They have two children: Shelsea and Tyler. When Butch isn't busy crunching numbers, he enjoys hunting, fishing, camping and anything outdoors. As a returning member to our university community, Butch said he is glad to be back home at Marshall University.


***I know there are many more new faces in the COHP so please send **archer15@marshall.edu** the name and email address of your new faculty and staff so I can get them in the next faculty newsletter. Thank you! :)*

United Way Campaign offers free health screenings and chance to win autographed football




The United Way Day Health Fair will be Wednesday, Oct. 1st from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the Memorial Student Center plaza. Free health screenings including blood glucose, blood pressure, pulmonary function tests, flexibility and weight/BMI checks will be provided for all faculty, staff and students and any interested members of the Marshall community. Participants for the United Way Day Health Fair include: MarshallHealth OB/GYN, MarshallHealth Cardiology, the Chertow Diabetes Center, the St. Mary's School of Respiratory Care, the St. Mary's School of Medical Imaging, the Marshall University Recreation Center, AGST Diabetes Clinic, Marshall University School of Pharmacy, PEIA Pathways to Wellness Program, the Marshall Departments of Dietetics and Athletic Training, Student Health Education Programs, WMUL Radio Station and United Way of the River Cities. For more information, contact the United Way campaign coordinator, Megan Archer, at archer15@marshall.edu or call 304-488-8863. For more information on United Way of River Cities and their workplace campaign initiatives, visit www.unitedwayrivercities.org.

Don't Miss and Dismiss
Free Health Screenings



United Way Day Health Fair

Wednesday, October 1st • 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.
Marshall University Memorial Student Center Plaza



▲ Enter to win

- Lung Screenings by St. Mary's School of Respiratory Care •
- Blood Pressure Screenings by St. Mary's School of Medical Imaging •
- Student Health & Wellness Info & Resources •
- Flexibility Screenings by Dept. of Athletic Training •
- Physical Activity Resources from MU Rec Center •
- Dietetics Info & Workout Stations provided by Dept. of Dietetics •



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