MLK Events Announced for Next Week

Events for the seventh annual Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Symposium have been announced and will run from January 17 through January 20. This year’s theme is “Replenishing the Dream: Continuing the Legacy into 2000 and Beyond.” Marshall University is a sponsor of the symposium together with the Mayor of the City of Huntington, the Huntington/Cabell NAACP, the Cabell County Board of Education, the Cabell County Library, and the Herald Dispatch.

The calendar of events includes:

Monday, January 17: 10 a.m. to Noon, Investment In Youth Leadership Forum, coordinated by Rev. Samuel Moore, an open discussion between youth and community leaders, at Unlimited Future, Inc., 1650 Eighth Avenue; 5-6 p.m., the traditional march from First Baptist Church, 801 Sixth Avenue to The Sixteenth Street Missionary Baptist Church, 1647 Ninth Avenue; 6:15, Greek Lighting Ceremony; 6:30-9 p.m., Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial Service, Sixteenth Street Missionary Baptist Church, Rev. A. K. Surett, presiding; presentation of the winners of the Martin Luther King, Jr. Scholar Awards Essay competition, speaker, Rev. Dr. T. Vaughn Walker, professor and chairperson of the black Church Studies at Southern Baptist Theological Seminar in Louis, Ky., and Pastor of the First Gethsemane Baptist Church in Louisville; music will be provided by the Wilberforce University Choir; “I Have a Dream” speech, presented by Arley Ray Johnson; 8 p.m., reception.

John Busley Named December Employee of the Month

John R., Busley, Jr., instructional technologist in the Graduate School of Management, has been selected as the Employee of the Month for December, according to Bill Burdette, Chairman of the Employee of the Month Selection Committee. Busley, who lives in Huntington, has been employed at the university since April of 1998. He was nominated by Dr. Don Holdren in a memorandum signed by 37 members of the Lewis College of Business (LCOB).

As the first instructional technologist in the LCOB,
MU Sponsors Toyota for Fund Raising Award

The Toyota family of companies and Toyota USA Foundation has been awarded the 1999 Outstanding Corporation and Foundation Award by the West Virginia chapter of the National Society of Fund Raising Executives after being nominated for the honor by Marshall University.

David N. Copenhaver, general manager of administration for Toyota Motor Manufacturing, West Virginia, Inc. and William E. Pauli, national Manager of the Toyota USA Foundation, accepted the award at a dinner held in November in Charleston.

Since 1996 Toyota has donated more than $1.4 million to local school systems and non-profit organizations. Locally the Toyota USA Foundation granted $285,000 to Marshall, funding an innovative project, the Marshall/Toyota Science on Wheels. Nearly 10,000 fourth through eighth grade students are benefitting from the project’s science demonstrations in seven rural West Virginia counties. Educational staff from Marshall travel in a new specially fitted Toyota Sienna van, complete with custom exterior, which was donated to the university by the foundation. The object of the project is to offer expanded educational experiences for both students and teachers to provide opportunities to learn more about science.

Next Faculty Senate Meeting Slated

The Faculty Senate meeting will be held on Thursday, January 27, at 4 p.m. in the John Marshall Room of the Memorial Student Center. Agenda information will be available on the senate website at the following URL: http://web.marshall.edu/senate/.

CIT, Library, MUGC offer seminars to staff

The Marshall University Center for Instructional Technology has announced Spring 2000 training seminars for faculty and staff. Since seating is limited, those interested should register via the web for a session at multimedia.marshall.edu/cit.

Classes to be offered in the near future include WebCT 2.0 Training, myWebCT, January 18, from 11 a.m. to 12 p.m.; WebCT 2.0 Training, Topics TBD, January 18, from 11 a.m. to 12 p.m. WebCT 2.0 Training, Assignment Dropbox, January 26, 1:30-2:30 p.m.; WebCT 2.0 Training, Topics TBD, February 1, at 11 a.m. to 12 p.m.; WebCT 2.0 Training Quiz Tool, February 3, from 11 a.m. to 12 p.m.; Introduction to Real Video, February 8, from 2:30-3:30 p.m.; WebCT 2.0 Training, Open Discussion, February 10, from 11 a.m. to 12 p.m.

Several monthly library workshops which are open to faculty, staff, students, and members of the Huntington community, have been scheduled during the noon hour.

Drinko Library tours, lasting from 30-40 minutes, are offered the first Friday each month. Morrow Library tours will be conducted on the second Friday of each month and will last an estimated 50-60 minutes. A 30-minute MILES class will meet on third Fridays and will focus on searching the online catalog to find book and periodical locations. Periodical Articles Online will demonstrate how to use electronic library databases to find periodical articles and will meet on fourth Fridays for 40-60 minutes. A sixty-minute workshop on “Getting Started with Microsoft PowerPoint” is a one-time class for beginners which will meet for 60 minutes on the second Wednesday of the month. “Saving Money by Scanning,” which will show how to use book scanners and the digital sender to scan, save, and e-mail, meets each third Thursday.

Because space is limited, call Jennifer Sias at 696-6577 to make a reservation.

Marshall University Graduate College’s Computer Learning Center has announced the Spring 2000 training schedule. The classes are offered through the Marshall Technology Institute and are held on the MUGC campus in South Charleston where free parking is available. Unless otherwise indicated, day classes will meet from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Seminars to be offered include Access Introduction, January 20; Introduction to PC’s, January 19 from 9 a.m. until noon; Microsoft Excel Windows Introduction, January 26; Microsoft Excel Windows Intermediate, February 29; Microsoft PowerPoint Introduction, February 25; Microsoft Word Windows Introduction, January 10; Microsoft Word for Windows Intermediate, February 16; PageMaker 6.5 Introduction, a two-day seminar, February 8-9.

In addition to the day classes, evening and weekend seminars are also being offered. To register, or for more information, call Martha Pierson at ext. 2062, fax at (304) 746-2097, or e-mail mpierson@marshall.edu.
Profile: Dr. William Kroesser
A series on interesting Marshall University people.

Dr. William Kroesser

When Dr. William Kroesser came to what was then known as The West Virginia College of Graduate Studies (COGS) in 1974, fresh from a 7-year stint as a faculty member at Tufts University, it was with great enthusiasm for what the two-year-old college had to offer—something not he felt, just to faculty members, but to the community and students as well.

Now, more than 25 years later, Kroesser, professor of chemical engineering and environmental science, still has an evangelical zeal for the college, now a part of Marshall, and the programs it offers. And his continuing dedication to his students won him, along with Dr. Laura Wyant of adult and technical education, the 1999 Moore Auto Group Outstanding Advisor Award which was presented at last May’s graduation ceremonies.

“I came here because of a unique job opportunity,” he says. “I had been teaching in Boston and became involved with the pollution problems of the Mystic River. I felt that my chemical engineering degrees and teaching experience could be a valuable asset in dealing with pollution problems. But the career choices seemed to be to work either in engineering or in environmental quality, but not in both. Then a college teaching opportunity opened up in Institute, West Virginia, half in a traditional chemical engineering master’s degree program and half in a program run by an environmental geographer. That was a perfect match with my interests.”

From the beginning, Kroesser fit right in with the small but growing institution whose faculty members willingly spent a good portion of their time on the road traveling to sometimes remote areas in southern West Virginia as well as to other parts of the state. Most of the sophisticated distance learning technologies in the LCOB. In doing this he provides direct support to the college’s teaching, research, and administrative activities.”

“Few people have made such a large and favorable impression on so many people in such a short period of time as has John R. Busley, Jr.” Holdren wrote in the nominating memo. “John is responsible to the dean for development, implementation, and overall administration and routine maintenance for computing hardware and software and related technologies in the LCOB. In doing this he provides direct support to the college’s teaching, research, and administrative activities.”

“When John arrived, the college was in the midst of developing a new major, consisting of all-electronic courses. Courses had to be developed, Web pages had to be developed, faculty needed training, computer problems needed to be solved, servers needed to be upgraded, and a T-1 classroom needed to be completed…In addition there were computers to be ordered, software to be installed, and a tremendous amount of work had piled up that needed his attention. John had to ‘hit the ground running’ and did. He completed all of the jobs that were backlogged and solved all of the problems for the faculty and staff and, of course, worked on other problems as they develop.”

Busley’s helpfulness to faculty and staff was noted in his nomination. “John has made it much easier for all of us. His service to the college and university is unsurpassed. His coordination of LCOB activities and needs with other university staff offices has provided a higher level of computer reliability for the LCOB. No one person has had such an effect on the efficient productivity of the faculty and staff of LCOB as he has. He has touched us all, and as a result we are better off because of it,” according to Holdren.

Busley will receive a plaque and $100 for being named Employee of the Month and will be eligible for the Employee of the Year Award.

Marshall Artists Series Moves

The Marshall Artists Series offices are now located in the newly opened Jomie Jazz Center on Fifth Avenue across from the Marshall University Memorial Student Center and adjacent to the Joan C. Edwards Performing Arts Center. A grand opening celebration will take place at a later date.

The Marshall Artists Series will now share box office space with the MU Theatre Department in the Joan C. Edwards Performing Arts Center. The box office is located on the front right-hand side of the building. Box office hours for both the Marshall Artists Series and MU Dept. of Theatre beginning Tuesday, January 18 will be Monday-Friday, 11:30 a.m.-5 p.m. The Marshall Artists Series box office number remains the same: (304) 696-6656.
multidisciplinary approaches to real-world problems. The engineers were learning about the chemical pollutants in air. The chemists were learning about the soil chemistry of polluted air. The geologists were learning about the geological effects of polluted soil. The microbiologists were learning how to engineer artificial wetlands.

“We created new disciplines at the college. Environmental Studies, Engineering Management, Information Systems, Environmental Engineering, as well as sub-disciplines like Industrial Hygiene, Industrial Ventilation and Noise Control.”

A real breakthrough for the Environmental Studies program (now Environmental Science) came about when the Environmental Protection Agency carried out the Kanawha Valley Risk Assessment, Kroesser says.

“I had followed the years of research and study to understand the problems peculiar to this small portion of the country. EPA sent seven experts to explain the results of the study. As I sat in the public hearing while citizens, professors and reporters asked questions, a thought occurred to me. ‘I could explain to them what all of this means...maybe it should be a course.’”

The new course was a success. It was so successful, in fact that the Environmental Studies program rapidly over several years.

Carefully recruited adjunct faculty members were crucial to the program, Kroesser notes in a time when college budgets were not generous. “The adjuncts taught most of the courses...By 1992 the environmental program was strong enough to be operated in multiple locations, and a cohort group began in Bluefield. By 1994 courses were offered regularly in Huntington. By 1995, West Virginia University was asking for some of our courses by compressed video.”

Kroesser is optimistic about the future success of the environmental programs and the opportunity to serve not only the traditional, just-out-of-college student but also those who have decided to make a career shift in mid-life or continue studying after retirement.

“The thing I enjoy most about this job is that it is possible to work with people who are in their 30’s, 40’s, even 50’s and 60’s, who are coming back to school, sometimes attending school with their children. Our oldest student graduated from the program at age 70 after retiring from a lifelong job. I see people are being motivated to come back for more education and I see Marshall is ready to offer more to the older population. People really are taking advantage of lifelong learning with age being no barrier. A number of graduates have gone on to earn Ph.D’s inspired by their experience here.”

Kroesser finds time to be active in community affairs, having founded the West Virginia Chapter of the Air and Waste Management Association in 1997 and serving a two-year term as its president. He is also president of the state group of Mensa. But even with these groups he has ties back to his university experience in West Virginia.

“Both groups,” he says, “needed someone to reach out to members in other parts of the state. And I’ve been doing outreach for 25 years!”

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**MLK Events**

**Tuesday, January 18:** 10 a.m., ““2 Cool,” presented to public school students grades 4 and 5 by the Pittsburgh Saltworks Theatre Company; 5:30-7 p.m., The Wilberforce University Choir in concert, Joan C. Edwards Playhouse, 1658 Edwards Playhouse; 7:30 p.m., speaker John Edgar Wideman, Rhodes Scholar and Distinguished Author, Professor of Humanities and Fine Arts at the University of Massachusetts, Amherst; book signing will follow in the Don Morris Room at Memorial Student Center.

**Wednesday, January 19:** 9:15 a.m., Roundtable student panel, MU Memorial Student Center, coordinated by Brandi Jacobs, Philip W. Carter, Arley Ray Johnson and Dr. Delores Johnson.

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**Faculty and Staff Achievements**

**Dr. Anne S. Fishkin,** a research specialist in the MUGC School of Education and Professional Development and Director of the Community Clinical Services Center located in Institute, is an editor for a newly published book, *Investigating Creativity in Youth: Research and Methods,* which addressed the lack of existing research and appropriate methods to understand the development and training of children’s creativity. The book is the latest addition to the Creativity Series published by Hampton Press. Other editors are Bonnie Cramond of the Torrance Center for Creativity at the University of Georgia, and Paula Olszewski-Kubilius of Northwestern University.

**John Jay Wright,** counselor with the Upward Bound Program, was sworn in as president of the West Virginia Association of Educational Opportunities Program Personnel, at the 2000 WVAEOPP Conference which was held in Charleston November 13-16. Wright is a 1994 MU graduate.

**Dr. Laura Wyant,** Associate Professor of Adult and Technical Education, and Dr. Howard R.D. Gordon, Professor of Adult and Technical Education, participated in the Association for Career and Technical Education annual convention held December 12-15 in Orlando, Florida. The theme for the convention was “Connecting Education and Careers.” Dr. Wyant made a presentation entitled “Which Instructional Methods are Trainers Using in Providing Training and Educational Activities in Business and Industry.”

Dr. Gordon’s presentation was “Myers-Briggs Type Indicator Personality Characteristics of Beginning Trade and Industrial and Health Occupations Education Secondary Teachers.” Gordon was also elected to the Editorial Board of the Journal of Vocational and Technical Education.