Marshall Celebrates Academics Mar. 29-30

The “Celebration of Academics”, which will recognize outstanding students and faculty, will feature the Drinko Symposium and the Elizabeth Gibson Drinko Honors Convocation on March 29-30. The events are free and open to the public.

The Drinko Symposium will feature Dr. Beverly Twitchell-Marchant speaking on “Pictures Tie Memory to the Truth: Some 1890’s Lakota Drawings,” on March 29 at 2 p.m. in the Joan C. Edwards Performing Arts Center. Following her presentation, a reception and book signing for John Marshall Professor Jean Edward Smith will take place in the Arts Center beginning at 3 p.m. His latest book, *Grant*, about Ulysses S. Grant, has been heralded by Pulitzer prize winning author David Herbert Donald as “by far the best life of Grant ever written.”

The Elizabeth Gibson Drinko Honors Convocation, which will honor outstanding students, will take place March 30 at 7 p.m. in the Joan C. Edwards Performing Arts Center with Pulitzer Prize winning author, David Halberstam, as the guest speaker. He will speak on “The

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Marshall University Day at the Legislature is April 11

MU’s Alumni Association will sponsor Marshall University’s day at the West Virginia Legislature on Wednesday, April 11, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. As is customary, MU alumni, faculty, staff, students, and friends will wear their Marshall green and representatives from various university departments will have information and displays available in the capitol rotunda.

Representatives of departments interested in having displays that day should make arrangements through Stephanie Neal in University Communications (ext. 6397) by April 1.

The day will culminate with the evening performance of “The Third House,” a witty legislative satire which will be performed by area news personalities. The performance will take place at the Cultural Center Theater at 8 p.m. Tickets for the “Third House” may be purchased from the alumni office at $25.00 each. Proceeds will benefit Marshall’s W. Page Pitt School of Journalism and Mass Communications.
WebCT Conference Returns to Marshall

Last year’s WebCT conference held at the MU Graduate College was so successful, it’s returned again this year to the South Charleston campus.

The Almost Heaven II WebCT Conference will take place April 2 beginning with registration at 8:30 and running through 3:00 p.m. The conference will feature presentations from experienced faculty and developers related to online instruction and delivery at both the higher education and K-12 levels. Sessions will be available for faculty, instructional designers, tech support ers, and institutional decision makers from around West Virginia and the surrounding area.

Key WebCT personnel will be attending the conference and will provide the keynote address.

WebCT is a software program for delivering Internet-based education that has been used successfully by the university over the past few years. Organizers of the conference say that information discussion groups will be offered for both the new and experienced WebCT user.

To date, WebCT has been used very successfully at Marshall, according to Sherri Ritter, instructional technologist and one of the organizers of the conference.

“We started out with our first beta-test class in the fall of 1996 and today, five years later, we have 850 courses online with well over 12,000 registered WebCT users,” she says.

According to Murray Goldberg, president of WebCT, it “is an environment for authoring and delivering educational material via the Internet.”

Registration for the conference is $90 which includes a continental breakfast, lunch, and admission to presentations. For those interested in registering, checks can be made payable to Marshall University Graduate College, Attn: Lisa Copeland, in care of MUGC in South Charleston. For additional information, call ext. 8960 or visit the conference web site at www.marshall.edu/ahwebct.

Community Clinical Services Center Showcases New Location

The Community Clinical Services Center, operated by the MU Graduate College, will have an open house in its new quarters in Dunbar on April 4 from 6 to 8 p.m.

The clinic, housed for the past several years at the West Virginia Rehabilitation Center at Institute, moved to 1213 Ohio Avenue in Dunbar last month.

The clinic operates as a training facility providing low-cost psychological assessment, counseling and educational services to the community. It provides a community setting in which clinical skills are practiced by graduate students who are seeking advanced degrees.

As a training facility for graduate students, the Community Clinical Services Center pro-

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CLC Continues Computer Seminars

Several classes are being offered over the next few weeks in South Charleston by the Computer Learning Center of the MU Community and Technical College.

They include, Advanced Visual Basic, which will run for five days from March 26-30; PowerPoint, March 30; DreamWeaver, three days, from April 10-12; Adobe Photoshop, April 18; PageMaker Advanced, April 20; and Cold Fusion, three days, April 24-26.

To register, or for additional information, contact Martha Pierson, program coordinator for Continuing Education and the Computer Learning Center, at 746-2062 or e-mail her at mpierson@marshall.edu.
Denise Giardina to Speak at Glenwood Series Apr. 1

Noted author and West Virginia native Denise Giardina will be the final speaker in the current Glenwood Series when she presents “The Story Behind the Story: The Process of Novel Writing,” April 1 at the Glenwood Estate in Charleston.

The lecture begins at 4 p.m. Tickets are $10 with a reception to follow.

The historic estate, located on Charleston’s west side, is owned by the Marshall University Graduate College Foundation. The series is designed to showcase the talents of artists and scholars from both Marshall University and the community, according to organizers.

Giardina has been quoted as saying “growing up (in Appalachia) is what made me a writer—staying here is what keeps me the kind of writer I want to be.”

After her first novel was published in 1984 (the critically acclaimed Good King Harry, which recounted the anti-war sentiment during the Middle Ages), the New York Times compared her work to the writings of Charles Dickens. Her next novel, Storming Heaven, was published three years later and unfolded a tale of the “mine wars” in the coalfields along the West Virginia-Kentucky border during the 1920’s. Her other novels include The Unquiet Earth and Saints and Villains.

Giardina is well versed in the tribulations of Appalachian miners, having been born into a family of miners in the coal camp of Black Wolf, in rural McDowell County. She lived there until she was 13 when the mine closed and her family moved to Charleston in order to find work.

After receiving a bachelor’s degree from West Virginia Wesleyan in 1973, she did graduate work at MU and later received a master’s in divinity from the Virginia Theological Seminary. By 1980 she had decided against ordination in favor of pursuing a career in writing. In order to fund this career choice, Giardina did secretarial work during the day so she could write in the evenings.

Her books have been awarded several prestigious literary awards. Storming Heaven was a Discovery selection of the Book-of-the-Month club and a New Voices selection of the Quality paperback Book Club. It also received the 1987 W. D. Weatherford Award for the best published work about the Appalachian South. The Unquiet Earth received an American Book Award from the Before Columbus Foundation, and the Lillian Smith Award for fiction. Saints and Sinners was awarded the 1999 Boston Book Review fiction prize.

Giardina’s op-ed pieces have appeared in the New York Times and the Washington Post, along with articles for other major publications. Currently she is teaching classes at West Virginia State College.

Seating for the lecture is limited and reservations can be made by calling 746-2072. For additional information about the series, call 746-2038.

Faculty/Staff Achievements

Dr. Bill Carter and Dr. Jim Sottile presented a paper, “Hands-On Science and Self-Efficacy,” at the recent West Virginia Science Teacher Association’s Annual Meeting in Morgantown. They also presented two hands-on sessions on matter at the conference, as well as a paper, “Matter Splatters.”
Marshall Artists Series Presents ‘Aida’

The dramatic story of an Ethiopian princess who becomes a slave at the court of the Pharaoh in ancient Egypt, comes to the Huntington Civic Arena, April 2, at 8 p.m. when Aida is presented by Teatro Lirico D’Europa.

The largest and most successful opera touring company in Europe, Teatro Lirico D’Europa will feature a full orchestra of 50, a chorus of more than 40, and a ballet ensemble. Aida will be presented in Italian with projected English subtitles.

Verdi took 15 months to complete the score of his masterpiece. The opera, long a favorite all over the world, made its debut December 24, 1871 at the Cairo Opera House.

The drama focuses on the conflicting loyalties of Aida, whose love for her country collides with her love for Radames, the captain of the Egyptian army who defeats her people.

In connection with the production, the Huntington Museum of Art will host an event on March 31 at 2 p.m. Theatre goers can get an exclusive backstage glimpse of the making of Aida in a one-time showing of the video, The Aida File, while taking advantage of the museum’s Cafe Bauhaus, while learning what makes opera such a remarkable art form.

Tickets are now on sale for $38 plus tax. Half price tickets are available for youth 17 and under. Tickets may be obtained by calling ext. 6656 or by visiting the ticket office in the Joan C. Edwards Performing Arts Center.

Along with the Artists Series, Aida is sponsored by WOWK-TV, Clear Channel Communications, and BB&T Bank.

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provides mental health and testing services for individuals in the community who need such services but lack the resources to get other professional assistance, according to Dr. Joyce Meikamp, director of Clinical and Field-based Experiences.

“Our charges are based upon the client’s ability to pay, but do not exceed $10 an hour,” she says.

The clinic provides psychological assessment services, counseling, and therapy for families, children and adolescents, adults, and people of all ages with special needs, said Dr. Robert Rubenstein, licensed professional counselor and certified school counselor, who, along with Meikamp, oversaw the move.

In addition the clinic may also provide academic assessment, instructional planning services and tutoring performed by students in the reading program. Graduate students provide services under the direct supervision of fully licensed psychologists and counselors.

The clinic operates during the academic semester and is open from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. Monday through Thursday, and 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Fridays. To make an appointment, or to ask about services, call 766-2674.

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Culture of Celebrity,” and will have a book signing immediately following the program.

As a journalist, author, and historian, Halberstam has become a legendary figure in American journalism. The author of 11 books, at the age of 30 he was awarded the Pulitzer prize for his reporting on the Vietnam War. Harper’s magazine has called him “a legend in American journalism,” and Newsday praised him as “one of our great reporters.” His books have ranged in topic from an examination of the era of 1950’s, to the chronicling of the lives of eight young civil rights activists, to entertaining sports tomes, including the 1949 baseball pennant race and the exploits and influence of Michael Jordan on basketball.

For additional information on any of the Celebration of Academics events, call ext. 3183.