SHEPHERD UNIVERSITY HOSTING ROBOTICS COMPETITION

The Department of Computer Sciences, Mathematics, and Engineering at Shepherd University will host the 2011 ShepRobo Fest on March 26-27. The competition will include three robotic events for various age groups: a firefighting contest for middle school through college-aged students, a mech-warfare contest for all ages, and a lego league for students in grades 4 through 8. More information - www.shepherd.edu/cmeweb/srf/
### RESEARCH TRUST FUND

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Institution</th>
<th>Amount</th>
<th>Project</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fairmont State University</td>
<td>$100,000</td>
<td>New Media Assessment Project</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shepherd University</td>
<td>$99,892.50</td>
<td>Experiments in Robotics-Based Accomplishments for STEM Students project</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### INSTRUMENTATION AWARDS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Institution</th>
<th>Amount</th>
<th>Principal Investigator</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Concord University</td>
<td>$14,861</td>
<td>Dr. David Chambers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>West Virginia Wesleyan College</td>
<td>$10,312</td>
<td>Dr. Katharine Gregg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>West Liberty University</td>
<td>$19,058</td>
<td>Dr. Heather Kalb</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shepherd University</td>
<td>$17,096</td>
<td>Dr. Adam Parks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bethany College</td>
<td>$13,511</td>
<td>Dr. Lisa Reilly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>West Liberty University</td>
<td>$7,250</td>
<td>Dr. Mohammed Youssef</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### INNOVATION GRANTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Institution</th>
<th>Amount</th>
<th>Principal Investigator</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Concord University</td>
<td>$40,000</td>
<td>Dr. Joe Allen</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### SURE AWARDS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Institution</th>
<th>Amount</th>
<th>Principal Investigator</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>West Virginia University</td>
<td>$75,000</td>
<td>Dr. Keith Garbutt</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shepherd University</td>
<td>$27,000</td>
<td>Dr. Colleen Nolan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marshall University</td>
<td>$75,000</td>
<td>Dr. Michael Norton</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>West Virginia Wesleyan College</td>
<td>$53,000</td>
<td>Dr. Jeanne Sullivan</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### MINI GRANTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Institution</th>
<th>Amount</th>
<th>Principal Investigator</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>West Virginia University</td>
<td>$5,000</td>
<td>Dr. Vagner A. Benedito</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marshall University</td>
<td>$5,000</td>
<td>Dr. Derrick R.J. Kolling</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>West Virginia University</td>
<td>$5,000</td>
<td>Dr. Daryl Reynolds</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>West Virginia University</td>
<td>$5,000</td>
<td>Dr. Kaushlendra Singh</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marshall University</td>
<td>$5,000</td>
<td>Dr. Suzanne G. Strait</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of Charleston</td>
<td>$5,000</td>
<td>Dr. Xiaoping Sun</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marshall University</td>
<td>$5,000</td>
<td>Dr. Wendy C. Trzyna</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>West Virginia University Institute of Technology</td>
<td>$5,000</td>
<td>Dr. Ufuk Tureli</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1. Chancellor Brian Noland and
2. Hannah Cavender, West Virginia
3. Matthew Boots, West Virginia
4. Grace Nyitro, West Virginia State College
5. Amy Dent, Bluefield State College
6. Alan Campbell, West Virginia
7. Amy Parsons-White and Dr. P

Photos Courtesy of Martin Valent, V
Marshall University
On January 25, nearly 90 students from 14 institutions across West Virginia presented their scientific research at Undergraduate Research Day at the State Capitol, highlighting their work ranging from the use of lipids as biofuels to the study of magnetic nanoparticles in the treatment of cancer; their research represents the breadth and depth of young researchers across West Virginia.

In conjunction with Undergraduate Research Day, the Higher Education Policy Commission recognized nearly $600,000 in state-supported research grants to faculty members in West Virginia at a ceremony at the Culture Center. Commission Chancellor Brian N. Nesselrode and Vice Chancellor Paul Hill presented awards from West Virginia’s Research Challenge Trust Fund, also known as the “Bucks for Brains” program. Also speaking at the event were Marshall University President Stephen J. Kopp and Michele Wheatly, Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs at West Virginia University.
MAR 2011: The invitation was unusual. Come to West Virginia to judge water in the Berkeley Springs International Water competition. They wanted a Canadian judge because our waters had won gold numerous times in this 21 year old contest. I couldn’t resist. Would I recognize any of our Canadian waters in the blind tasting and would we win again?

Who knew that the tiny historic town of Berkeley Springs in the Eastern Panhandle area of West Virginia had the longest running and largest water tasting event in the world. At least that’s according to them and I don’t know of any other place vying for that honour. The organizers informed me in the past 7 years Canadian waters have won 7 gold medals, 7 silver medals and 9 bronze medals. I hopped a plane to Dulles Washington and drove from there.

I stopped in Charles Town on the way, one of five 18th century towns on the Washington Heritage Trail. Founded in 1786 by George Washington’s brother Charles, it has streets named after family members. This part of West Virginia is charming and quite posh in areas – quite different from the rest of state which is more identified with hilly forested land dotted with coal mines. I had a lunch at Dish known for its wine and beer tasting events and its support of local producers. Then with a sinful cup of apple pie ice-cream from Skippers across the road, I went on my way.

Berkeley Springs boasts natural warm mineral springs and claims to be America’s first spa when George Washington and his cronies formed the town of Bath around them in 1776.
Taking the waters" has remained a popular activity though the town's name has changed from Bath to Berkeley. Visitors to the newly renovated public bath house can have a soak in a 750 gallon walk-in tub in a private chamber, a massage, Jacuzzi and sauna. The mineral content of the water is primarily magnesium carbonate with traces of other elements. All the water in town, including tap, comes from the springs.

After a walkabout I head to Lot 12 Public House, a James Beard recognized restaurant. Chef Damian Heath son of long time Berkeley Springs resident artists is renowned for his skill in the kitchen. I dine on crisp local goat cheese on fresh greens and rock fish from North Carolina in a creamy lobster sauce. I'm primed for my judging the next day.

We had 99 bottled waters from 23 states and ten foreign countries as well as 35 municipal waters from 13 states and Canada to taste.

Michael Cervin, author and senior editor of BottledWaterWeb.com served as acting watermaster and taught us the ropes. Cloudy was bad, as were odours and tastes of chlorine, plastic, chemical, musty, metallic and so forth.

Each water had a maximum of 44 points divided into appearance, odour, flavour, mouth feel, aftertaste and overall impression. The dozen media judges selected by organizer Jill Klein Rone from print, radio and the Web were instructed by Cervin to look, sniff and taste the water under those guidelines.

It was a tough slog. We tasted blind on a stage with the public watching. (Mystifying but about 150 people came to watch a dozen people sip water for hours)

After a while the water was sloshing in my stomach like a washing machine on a high. Trips to the bathroom were de rigueur. We tasted in flights of tap water, purified water, still bottled water and sparkling bottled water. There were discernable differences though it required a high level of concentration to find them in the purified category. However among the bottled waters I had distinct favourites.

Did I help my compatriots? I'll never know as the waters were only identified by numbers as we tasted. But guess what. When the results were tallied, the Best Bottled Water 2011 (out of 42 tasted) was Ontario's own Muskoka Springs. Best municipal water was from Daytona Beach. Best sparkling went to Esparanza from Tesanj, Bosnia. and best purified to Texan Independence Water from League City.

On the way back to Dulies I did one more stop on the Washington Trail.
- Shepherdstown, the oldest town in West Virginia dating to 1762.
   Home of Shepherd University and the Contemporary American Theatre
   Festival it's pretty as a picture with oodles of shopping and good dining
   at places such as Stone Soup and the Press Room

Back in Toronto the phone rang. Michael Billinghamurst, owner and
president of Muskoka Springs was on the line

He wanted me to know that Muskoka Springs won gold before in 2007
which kind of proved this wasn't a fluke or that a Canadian palate that
tipped the scales. He gets his water not from Muskoka but from near
Horseshoe Valley Road. "It's hard to find good clean water in
Muskoka," he explained. "The source for Muskoka Springs was once
water used to make Molson Golden." That explains it
'Fool for Love'

A play by Sam Shepard. May and Eddie cannot get along, yet neither can subdue their burning passion. 8 p.m. Today through Saturday continues to March 12. Shepherd University, Studio Theater at Sara Cree Hall, off King Street, Shepherdstown, W.Va. $10; $8, faculty; free for students. Call 304-876-5525 or go to www.shepherd.edu/theaterweb.
Photography
Rick Bruner will exhibit his photographs in a show, “Sabbatical Exhibition.” Exhibit continues through Friday, March 25. Shepherd University’s Frank Center Gallery, off W.Va. 45, Shepherdstown, W.Va. Go to www.shepherd.edu/artweb/. 
Chamber orchestra
What if Vivaldi's "Four Seasons" were set in Argentina? Two Rivers Chamber Orchestra concert includes a Mendelssohn violin concerto and Piazzolla's "The Four Seasons of Buenos Aires." 8 p.m. Saturday at Shepherd University's Frank Concert Center, off W.Va. 45, Shepherdstown, W.Va. Tickets cost $22. Call 304-876-5765 or go to www.sufom.org.
Lehrer to Speak at Shepherd

PBS NewsHour anchor Jim Lehrer will deliver the commencement address and receive an honorary degree at Shepherd University’s 138th Commencement ceremony.

Lehrer started his journalism career as a newspaper reporter and editor, eventually joining PBS as a public affairs coordinator. In 1975, the “Robert MacNeil Report” premiered with Lehrer serving as the Washington correspondent. The show eventually became “The MacNeil/Lehrer NewsHour” and continued until 1996 when it became “The NewsHour with Jim Lehrer,” after MacNeil’s departure from the program.

Lehrer, who also has a home in Jefferson County, has served as the moderator of 11 nationally televised presidential debates during the last six presidential elections. He is the author of 20 novels, two memoirs, and three plays. Lehrer has also won two Emmy awards and was inducted into the Television Hall of Fame along with MacNeil.

Valerie Owens, executive director of university communications, said Lehrer was selected, as those before him, based on his distinguished career in the field of journalism.

“We select people at the top of their field who would have something to tell our graduates about life, and living and what’s ahead,” she said.

Lehrer will address more than 600 graduates as well as guests on May 14 at the university’s Butcher Center. Last year’s speaker was West Virginia Supreme Court of Appeals Justice Margaret Workman. Playwright Richard Dresser, who has written several plays for Shepherdstown’s Contemporary American Theater Festival, delivered the commencement address in 2009.

Also honored at commencement will be Shepherdstown residents Bob and Tia McMillan, who will receive the President’s Award for their contributions and commitment to Shepherd University and to the community.

Bob McMillan is the chairman of Shepherd’s Create the Future fundraising campaign and served on the Shepherd Board of Governors from 2001 to 2009. He was one of the original members of the university’s governing board. Tia McMillan was a founding member of the board of the Contemporary American Theater Festival and now serves as a member of CATF’s honorary board. The McMillans also established the McMillan Family Scholarship for Theater, which provides scholarships for theater students at Shepherd.
Shepherd cuts credit hours required for degree

SHEPHERDSTOWN, W.Va. Freshmen entering Shepherd University for the first time this fall will only need 120 credit hours to graduate instead of the 128 currently required, making the college the statewide leader in putting the new policy in effect.

"This might sound little, but it's really big news. It represents about two years work by our faculty," Shepherd President Suzanne Shipley said.

Not only will the reduction in credit hours make it quicker and less expensive to earn a bachelor's degree, more importantly it will benefit students academically, Shipley said.
efficiency. It's about quality. They need to know what they're learning and why. They're given too many choices at too early an age. We aren't giving them enough structure," she said.

The credit-hour change, which follows a national trend, could reduce the time to graduate by a full year, saving students about $15,000 based on Shepherd's cost of attendance, Shipley said.

About 90 percent of Shepherd's nearly 4,500 students are full time. About 21 percent graduate in four years, while 44 percent take six years.

The national average for students taking six years is less than Shepherd's at 39.6 percent, according to a summary provided by the university.

"Twenty-one percent is no brag. We want to turn that around," she said.

Colleges used to tell students to prepare for a well-rounded education. Today, the national trend is on preparing students for the future, whether it is a good-paying job or graduate school.

"Their parents want it, and the public wants it," Shipley said. "The investment needs to be tied to results, or we haven't done our jobs. We're adding connection to career all the way through.

"This is still a liberal arts school, but with more focus on professional preparation," she said.

The new policy will foster more independent learning by students outside the classroom, she said.

"You can't equate credit hours with learning," she said. "Just because they sit in a classroom doesn't mean they're learning."
MORGANTOWN, W.Va. — The West Virginia Mason-Dixon Civil War Round Table will have the annual Civil War Symposium, at West Virginia’s Erickson Alumni Center from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, April 9.

This year’s program will showcase the following speakers and subjects:

Mark Snell, Director of the George Tyler Moore Center for the Study of the Civil War at Shepherd University, will present the keynote address - (West) Virginians at First Manassas.

W. Hunter Lesser, author of the widely-acclaimed “Rebels at the Gate: Lee and McClellan on the Front Line of a Nation Divided,” will speak on Mass Meetings & Mayhem: First Steps to West Virginia Statehood.

David T. Javersak, Professor Emeritus at West Liberty University, will address the symposium on The Wheeling Convention of 1861, where Western Virginians formally declared that Virginia, having left the Union, had vacated all state offices under the Constitution.

Daniel C. Toomey, Guest Curator for the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad Museum, will tell the story of the role of railroads in the early conflict in western Virginia in his talk, The War Came by Train.

Richard A. Wolfe, President of the Rich Mountain Battlefield Association, will tell the story of The First Virginia (Federal) Infantry, the first unit raised in western Virginia for the defense of the Union.

There will also be exhibits of Civil War memorabilia, vendors of books relating to the periods and Civil War reenactors.

The cost $50 and includes lunch as well as morning and afternoon snacks. The cost for students
and members of sponsoring organizations is $30.

Those interested in attending should contact George Trapp, 1377 Braewick Drive, Morgantown WV, 26505 or by calling 304-599-1175.
Snyder named W.Va. professor of the year


SHEPHERDSTOWN, W.Va. (AP) - Around the Shepherd University campus, Ed Snyder is known for his ability to teach theory and how to apply it in real life.

His windmill and "veggie van" are examples of how he reaches out to his students.

The 62-year-old professor of environmental studies has been named West Virginia professor of the year. The award is given by the Faculty Merit Foundation of West Virginia and includes a $10,000 check.

His students learn about the developing science of sustainable energy through such sources as wind and solar power.

1 of his most popular classrooms is a renewable energy lab set up in a small, fenced-in yard outside his office building. He used grant money to install a 30-foot-high windmill that generates electricity. Photovoltaic-cell technology is also in place. And then there's the veggie van, an aging GMC diesel van that runs on vegetable oil.

Information from: The Herald-Mail of Hagerstown, Md., http://www.herald-mail.com

Copyright 2011 The Associated Press. All rights reserved. This material may not be published, broadcast, rewritten or redistributed.
Shepherd instructor wins professor of year

March 13, 2011 @ 12:00 AM
The Herald-Dispatch

CHARLESTON – Edward Snyder, a geology professor at Shepherd University, was named the Faculty Merit Foundation’s Professor of the Year at a banquet March 1, in Charleston.

Robert Ruop, a history and political science professor at West Virginia Wesleyan College, was the first runner up.

Other finalists that also received prizes were Marshall University professor Maria Carmen Riddel, Albert Buckelew from Bethany College and John Taylor from Glencoe State College.
Forging an Artist

Scott’s journey to becoming an artist took time and a leap of courage and, surprisingly, didn’t include art school. After graduating from Middletown High School in 1972 and finishing a stint in the Coast Guard, Scott studied blacksmithing under Frank Turley, founder of Turley Blacksmithing School in Santa Fe, N.M. “Frank told me I was more of an artist than a blacksmith,” Scott recalls. A subsequent job in museum services gave him “the nudge over the edge to start.” Surrounded by the work of sculptors whose work he saw daily at the National Gallery of Art and other museums, Scott gained courage to make art his life. “You have to unlearn some of what you learned in school,” he says. “You have to be willing to spend a lot of time on something without knowing if there will be a place for it.”

Over the last 20 years, Scott’s willingness to dedicate time to the creative process, coupled with talent and diligence, has resulted in a varied body of work — work that has brought recognition, patrons and art gallery showings for his creations. His “Siren Chopper,” created in collaboration with Metropolitan Choppers, stands in the Treasure Island Casino in Las Vegas. “I love the idea of my art being something that people can ride,” he says of the motorcycle, designed to translate the energy of the bike into the motion of a seductive siren rising from the sea.

Scott’s public sculpture, “Spire,” was commissioned for the 75th anniversary of Frederick’s Baker Park. “Booby Traps,” a sculpture series inspired by visits to the Williamsburg neighborhood of Brooklyn and featuring depictions of women’s lingerie, was shown right alongside celebrities’ work at a gallery in Hawaii. Locally, Scott’s work is shown at The Bridge Gallery in Shepherdstown, W.Va., and he’s enjoyed an ongoing relationship with Shepherd University’s annual Contemporary American Theater Festival, creating works for installations shown there. Of the pieces he makes to order, Scott says his steel tables featuring lifelike depictions of patrons’ favorite cities fare among the best. “It’s art and it’s functional, too.” A table he’s currently making features Annapolis, right down to tiny boats in the harbor.

He has pursued his work with determination, and admits that it can be difficult for anyone who isn’t an artist to understand his passion. “My life is my job. My motivation is to challenge myself. I don’t take the easy road — I take the hard one. The idea for me is that there is no limit.” A typical workday runs from about 9 a.m. to 6 p.m., but sometimes Scott’s at work in the middle of the night. “If you’re lazy, you’re in trouble. It’s the hardest job I ever had,” he says. But he wouldn’t think of backing down from the challenge. “The world makes sense to me this way,” Scott explains. “If I hit the lottery, I’d still do this.”
Area professor, student honored

SHEPHERDSTOWN — Shepherd University’s Melissa Scotton, assistant professor of art in the Department of Contemporary Art and Theater, and John Parks, senior graphic design major of Warrenton, Va., received honors at the American Advertising Federation (AAF) of the Greater Frederick’s Addy Awards at the Holiday Inn Conference Center in Frederick, Md., on Feb. 26.

Scotton received a Silver Addy award for the recruitment materials she designed for the Department of Contemporary Art and Theater. The materials, which were designed in coordination with other faculty in the department, will be used at open houses and sent to high schools for recruitment.

This was Scotton’s first time to enter and win an award. “The department is excited not only because of recognition of the award, but also for the department as a whole and the notoriety it brings to the department,” Scotton said.

Scotton said that the award was especially meaningful because she used a lot of layers and hand-drawn elements to make the piece more personalized and warm.

Parks, who was the only Shepherd student to enter the competition against 19 other students and 70 entries, received a Gold Addy award for his beer packaging design entry, which he designed in his advanced design course at Shepherd. Parks also received the Best in Show award overall. His Gold Addy makes him eligible to compete in the National AAF competition in New York City.

“Having done it, I think it was well worth it to meet people, even if you don’t win an award, it sets yourself apart just to be in the company of other designers,” Parks said.

Shepherd alumna Kate Rader, class of 1996 and an adjunct instructor in the Department of Contemporary Art and Theater, is Parks’ professor.

“It is a significant accomplishment for John to be awarded not only a Gold Addy in his category, but Best of Show in the student competition out of over 70 entries. John is more than simply talented, he’s a dedicated and focused student who I believe will be very successful after graduation. I think this speaks for both the quality of Shepherd’s graphic design program and the rewards of embracing opportunity. John took his creativity to the next level, and it paid off,” Rader said.

Kristin Kaineg, assistant professor of art in the Department of Contemporary Art and Theater, said that the exposure Scotton and Parks receive as participants and award winners is a “great thing” and helps with networking for freelancing and full-time jobs.
Dates: March 14, 2011
Publication: The American Chronicle

History Lesson: Terry Connelly was an unlikely hero 20 years ago

By Stan Goldberg, The Frederick News-Post, Md.

March 11—FORMER THOMAS Johnson standout Terry Connelly played a huge role in 1991 in one of the biggest upsets in NCAA basketball tournament history. The 6-foot-5 senior forward scored 14 points, had seven rebounds and four assists to lead 15th-seeded Richmond to a 73-69 win over second-seeded Syracuse in a first-round game of the East Regionals at Cole Field House.

Prior to that game, Nos. 15 and 16 seeds had been 0-49 in NCAA tournament games.

Connelly was the story of the game. He even had a behind-the-back pass that brought the crowd to its feet.

"He has the heart of a lion. Every team should have a Terry Connelly," Richmond coach Dick Tarrant said after the upset.

I covered the game. Reporters sitting around me asked about Connelly, who played 30 minutes off the bench.

He was an unlikely hero. Despite an outstanding career at Thomas Johnson in the mid-1980s, Division I schools didn't recruit Connelly. They said he was too short, too slow and couldn't jump. So he went to NAIA Shepherd College, where he averaged 24.5 points as a sophomore.

He then transferred to Richmond and averaged 8.2 points as a junior and 7.5 as a senior.

Then came the Syracuse game where he proved beyond a doubt he could play Division I basketball.

"A lot of people thought I couldn't play Division I basketball, you have to go out there and prove it," said Connelly, the current boys basketball coach at Oakdale High School.

Unfortunately for Connelly and his teammates, they couldn't pull another upset. Two days later, they were eliminated by Temple 77-64. Connelly scored 12 points with four rebounds despite foul problems. When he fouled out with 1:39 left, he left the court to a standing ovation.

It was the last of six games he would play at Cole Field House. He played four in high school and two in college. He scored 95 points and won two state titles (1985 and 1986) in the six games.

After the Temple loss, I remember waiting for Connelly in the hallway at Cole. Two days before, he was surrounded by about 100 reporters and talked about the Syracuse game and his playing days at Thomas Johnson. But after the Temple loss, it was just the two of us and he had a slight smile on his face when he saw me.

His moment of fame was fleeting.

When Northern Michigan lost to Mount St. Mary's 88-74 in the 1981 NCAA Division II quarterfinals, they not only had to deal with a tough Mount team, but also playing at Memorial Gymnasium, the team's home until Knott Arena opened in 1987. Memorial Gymnasium might have been the biggest obstacle.

Memorial Gymnasium was basically an old airplane hangar with a basketball court in the middle. Fans sat in old bleachers. When it was packed, some fans had to sit on the floor. I remember games where officials had to tell fans to move back on inbound plays. The noise in the place could be deafening.

"We've never played in a place where the crowd is on top of you like this," Northern Michigan coach Glenn Brown said after the loss.

It was surprising that Mount St. Mary's was able to host the quarterfinals and the South Atlantic Regionals during the previous week. This wasn't a first-class college facility. It wasn't even second class.

But NCAA officials felt the Mount deserved to host the games. They were the second-ranked team in the country and had been No. 1 for a month. The gym sat 2,600 people, 400 short of what was required by the NCAA for a tournament. But Mount officials convinced the NCAA they could add 400 seats and get the bid.

I loved the atmosphere at old Memorial Gymnasium. I'm not sure it has ever been equaled at Knott Arena.

1971

The new gym at Frederick Community College was finally opened after a long delay. It was scheduled to be finished by June 1970 and the college had hoped to play its games there. Instead, it was not ready until March 1971. Even then, some work had to be done on the lobby. In the first game played at the gym, Thomas Johnson beat North Hagerstown 63-54 in a District I Class A semifinal game. A capacity crowd of 2,000 watched the game. I hope Hood College, which expects to have its new athletic facility ready by next fall, doesn't have such delays.
1981

Southern of Harwood beat Frederick 63–50 in the state class II championship boys basketball game at Cole Field House. Mark Hey had 19 points for the Cadets, who had advanced to the title game with a 75–54 win over Jeppitowne.

In its first trip to the state tournament, Catoctin lost to Mount Hebron 69–63 in the state class C semifinals. Larry Martinez had 26 points and 14 rebounds for Catoctin.

1991

Orioles Hall of Fame pitcher Jim Palmer, who was hoping to return after not pitching for several years, ended his comeback attempt. He said it was because of a hamstring injury. But the day before he had given up two runs in five hits in two innings against Boston, and that helped his decision.

2001

Maryland beat Georgia State, which was coached by former Maryland coach Lefty Driesell, 79–60 in West Regional NCAA action.
Shepherd University Cuts Hours Required to Graduate

SHEPHERDSTOWN, W.Va. (AP)

Shepherd University has cut the number of hours required to graduate from 128 to 120 in a move officials say could save students money and help them earn their degrees faster.

President Suzanne Shipley says the change results from two years of work. She also tells The Herald-Mail of Hagerstown, Maryland it will benefit students academically.

About 90 percent of Shepherd's 4,500 students are full time. Shipley says 21 percent graduate in four years, while 44 percent need six years.

She says the rates need to be improved.

Shipley says students are getting too many choices and not enough structure. The new rules could reduce the time they need to graduate by a full year, saving them about $15,000.

Students want the change, and Shipley says so do their parents.
Shepherd cuts credit-hour requirement for graduation, says it could save students time, money

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS
First Posted: March 15, 2011 - 9:42 am
Last Updated: March 15, 2011 - 9:42 am

SHEPHERDSTOWN, W.Va. — Shepherd University is reducing the number of hours required to graduate from 128 to 120 in a move officials say could save students money and help them earn their degrees faster.

President Suzanne Shipley said the change, which will go into effect with freshmen entering this fall, is the result of two years of work and will benefit students academically.

"You can't equate credit hours with learning," she told The Herald-Mail of Hagerstown, Md. "Just because they sit in a classroom doesn't mean they're learning."

About 90 percent of Shepherd's 4,500 students are full time. About 21 percent graduate in four years, Shipley said, while 44 percent need six years.

"Twenty-one percent is no brag," she said. "We want to turn that around."

The new requirements could reduce the time students need to graduate by a full year, saving them about $15,000.

"We will be able to better prepare our students for personal and professional success. This is not about efficiency. It's about quality," Shipley said. "They need to know what they're learning and why. They're given too many choices at too early an age. We aren't giving them enough structure."

The trend in colleges today is to prepare students for the future and for the job market, not just to provide a well-rounded education, she said.

"Their parents want it, and the public wants it," Shipley said. "The investment needs to be tied to results, or we haven't done our jobs. We're adding connection to career all the way through. This is still a liberal arts school, but with more focus on professional preparation."
SHEPHERDSTOWN, W.Va. -- Shepherd University is reducing the number of hours required to graduate from 128 to 120 in a move officials say could save students money and help them earn their degrees faster.

President Suzanne Shipley said the change, which will go into effect with freshmen entering this fall, is the result of two years of work and will benefit students academically.

"You can't equate credit hours with learning," she told The Herald-Mail of Hagerstown, Md. "Just because they sit in a classroom doesn't mean they're learning."

About 90 percent of Shepherd's 4,500 students are full time. About 21 percent graduate in four years, Shipley said, while 44 percent need six years.

"Twenty-one percent is no brag," she said. "We want to turn that around."

The new requirements could reduce the time students need to graduate by a full year, saving them about $15,000.

"We will be able to better prepare our students for personal and professional success. This is not about efficiency. It's about quality," Shipley said. "They need to know what they're learning and why. They're given too many choices at too early an age. We aren't giving them enough structure."

The trend in colleges today is to prepare students for the future and for the job market, not just to provide a well-rounded education, she said.

"Their parents want it, and the public wants it," Shipley said. "The investment needs to be tied to results, or we haven't done our jobs. We're adding connection to career all the way through. This is still a liberal arts school, but with more focus on professional preparation."
Shepherd University debate, forensics team wins awards

SHEPHERDSTOWN — Shepherd University's debate and forensics team won 12 awards in Ocean City, Md., at the CFA Tournament.

Lindsay Hilditch, Falling Waters, received three awards: second place for the Lincoln-Douglas Debate, third place for the Lincoln-Douglas and sixth place for Impromptu Speaking.

Norman Guice, Shepherdstown, received three awards: fifth place for the Lincoln-Douglas, fourth place for the After Dinner Speaking and sixth place for Dramatic Duo.

Timothy Jacob Leonard, Wheeling, received three awards: sixth place for the Lincoln-Douglas, fifth place for After Dinner Speaking and fourth place for Single Dramatic Interpretation.

Bryan Staggers, Keyser, received second place in the end of year awards for After Dinner Speaking.

Katherine Martin, Martinsburg, received sixth place for Dramatic Duo.

Shepherd University also placed fourth place in Team Sweepstakes.

University of Pennsylvania, Alderson-Broaddus, Randolph-Macon, Linfield (Oregon), Lord Fairfax and Morgan State University also participated in the tournament.
Shepherd decreases credit requirement

By Cecelia Mason

March 16, 2011 · Students at Shepherd University will have to earn fewer credit hours to get a degree and the school is revamping programs to help students graduate more quickly.

On average, it takes college students in this country five years to complete a bachelor’s degree and that statistic holds true at Shepherd, so the school is lowering the number of credit hours needed to graduate from 128 to 120.

President Suzanne Shipley said this should help students finish sooner and save money.

“If you think of your normal cost to live and eat in a year and then over $5,000 in in-state tuition it ends up costing a family about $15,000 a year to study,” Shipley said. “If you save a year that’s $15,000 but if you add on top of that professional engagement where you could be working for a living then you have a significant savings.”

To help students graduate earlier Shepherd is doing more than just lowering the number of credits needed. It is also making it easier to transfer credits from other institutions and to change majors without losing credit.

Richard Helldobler, vice president for academic affairs, said there will be more courses that are applicable to many disciplines.

“So you might see a political science course in a cultural menu, and so if you’re a political science major and you’ve taken a course in the major and you decide you want to be a history major well your political science course may no longer count for you history major but it might fall into general studies,” Helldobler said.

“So that’s the type of flexibility that we’re looking to create,” he added.

Shipley said Shepherd is also designing its programs to better prepare students for their careers.

“We’re trying to start at a freshman level where we actually embed an exploration of career and line that up next to the academic exploration you’re involved in,” Shipley said.

“We’re trying to take writing and move it into writing in a major so that you don’t just learn how to write well in an English class you learn in your accounting class the type of writing you might need if you’re an accountant,” she said.

Shepherd is the first public university in the state to lower credit requirements from 128 to 120. A spokeswoman with the Higher Education Policy Commission says other schools are considering it.
Shepherd set to reduce credits for bachelor’s degree

Shepherd University is leading the way in the state of West Virginia in reducing the number of credits required for a bachelor’s degree through curriculum reform in general studies and in the majors and minors. The new curriculum will be available to students fall 2011.

Responding to calls nationally to enhance student access and success, Shepherd is reducing the amount of time students take to earn their baccalaureate degree and complete a degree in four years. Shepherd will change the number of credit hours required for a bachelor’s degree by eight credit hours, from 128 to 120, this fall semester.

The national average for earning a bachelor’s degree is five years. Shepherd’s initiative is designed to help return the undergraduate degree-earning time to four years. Additionally, an innovative core curriculum will be implemented that includes a first-year experience course, a writing intensive course within the major and a senior capstone course.

All students entering Shepherd in the fall will be part of the 120-credit hour degree changes. Currently enrolled students will have the option of selecting the new curriculum or continuing under the course catalog in effect when they enrolled at Shepherd.

An academic advising assistance center has been established to aid students in the transition process. A web-based analysis tool will also be available to current students so they can compare the new program with the one in place when they originally enrolled.

The retooling of the academic core requirements will lessen Shepherd’s reliance on part-time faculty who teach general studies and will emphasize an applied and practical application of the liberal arts, linking students to career training and planning.
Shepherd University lowers credit-hour rules for graduation (http://www.register-herald.com/local/x1498158293/Shepherd-University-lowers-credit-hour-rules-for-graduation)

Associated Press (http://www.ap.org)

SHEPHERDSTOWN — Shepherd University is reducing the number of hours required to graduate from 128 to 120 in a move officials say could save students money and help them earn their degrees faster.

President Suzanne Shipley said the change, which will go into effect with freshmen entering this fall, is the result of two years of work and will benefit students academically.

“You can’t equate credit hours with learning,” she told The Herald-Mail of Hagerstown, Md. “Just because they sit in a classroom doesn’t mean they’re learning."

About 90 percent of Shepherd’s 4,500 students are full time. About 21 percent graduate in four years, Shipley said, while 44 percent need six years.

“Twenty-one percent is no brag,” she said. “We want to turn that around.”

The new requirements could reduce the time students need to graduate by a full year, saving them about $15,000.

“We will be able to better prepare our students for personal and professional success. This is not about efficiency. It’s about quality,” Shipley said. “They need to know what they’re learning and why. They’re given too many choices at too early an age. We aren’t giving them enough structure.”

The trend in colleges today is to prepare students for the future and for the job market, not just to provide a well-rounded education, she said.

“Their parents want it, and the public wants it,” Shipley said. “The investment needs to be tied to results, or we haven’t done our jobs. We’re adding connection to career all the way through. This is still a liberal arts school, but with more focus on professional preparation.”
SHRPERD University in Jefferson County is taking an unusual step: It is reducing the number of credit hours students need to graduate.

Starting this fall, the number of hours required for a degree will drop from 128 to 120.

What's going on here - a dumbing down of higher education or a smartening up of higher education administration?

University officials said it's an effort to help students benefit more academically, earn market-relevant degrees more quickly, and spend less money doing it.

The move could cut the time students need to graduate by a year and save them as much as $15,000.

Only about 21 percent of Shepherd students graduate in four years, said Shepherd President Suzanne Shipley, while 44 percent need six years.

The university wants to get that down to four years, encourage more community college students to continue, and preserve the benefits of a liberal arts education while doing a better job of preparing kids for the job market.

Can higher education preserve educational rigor and cut costs instead of endlessly raising tuition?

It it can, it's an idea the world is ready to hear.
Editor's Note: Journal Junction offers the public a forum to applaud successes, discuss issues, point out problems and review the events of the day in a constructive manner. Journal Junction comments should be limited to two to four sentences. Longer comments should be submitted as "Letters to the Editor," which is a separate forum. The Journal's classified ads section offers help to those with lost or found items. This is a sampling of comments received today. All others, subject to editing, are published in the online Journal Junction at journal-news.net under opinions.

From Martinsburg:
I just finished reading the Shepherd University spring magazine and wanted to point out how pleased I was to see that the king and queen of their homecoming were dressed up. Over the past 10 years, I have recalled, not necessarily at Shepherd, but pictures at other colleges where they were wearing jeans and T-shirts. I think this is excellent. It is a good reflection of Shepherd and the magazine is great, too.
LEADING THE WAY
Shepherd redesigns curriculum; adjusts required hours

Shepherdstown — Shepherd University is leading the way in the state of West Virginia and nation-wide in enhancing the number of credits required for a bachelor's degree through curricular innovations and 'flipped' classes and modules. The new curriculum will be available retention fall 2011.

Responding to calls nationally to enhance student access and success, Shepherd University is redesigning its curriculum to help students graduate in less than four years. The university will no longer mandate the number of credits required for a bachelor's degree, allowing students to graduate in three years.

"Last year we began the dialogue around rethinking the curriculum and reducing hours to graduation to 120. It's been a long, thoughtful, inclusive process. We've brought in national experts to dialogue with faculty from the American Association of Colleges and Universities, and we've talked with employers and our own faculty," said Dr. Richard Helberger, vice president for academic affairs.

"It's been a very long and thought-provoking process, culminating with the adoption of the new framework in December and now we're populating that framework with courses and setting our course rotation into place with a launch of July 1 of this year."

The national average for earning a bachelor's degree is five years. Shepherd's initiative is designed to help meet the undergraduate degree-completion time in four years. Additionally, it's innovative one-year program in entrepreneurship includes a one-year experience component, a one-year internship component within the major and a senior capstone experience.

"The new framework provides a one-year experience which in effect cuts all majors into a one-year experience, which is part of a general studies knowledge base with a specialty in the discipline," said Helberger. "This is a wide-open field in the state of West Virginia and is being developed by our faculty," said Helberger. "This changes the landscape, it changes the student body and the course offerings, and it's leading to a new understanding of what is necessary, thus making the process even more meaningful to students and their families."

"This is not to say that the families and students have not understood, as they have at Shepherd, that they are on a pathway to becoming a student that can graduate faster than our previoustrack. We really are talking about the student graduate from the very beginning. We are committed to making this a reality. Shepherds are graduating earlier and happening a better-mentored student. Shepherds are graduating early. Shepherds are providing better-advised, and we help students move through a curriculum in a day."

All student entering Shepherd's fall will be presented with new degree changes. Currently enrolled students will have the option of selecting the new curriculum or continuing under the course outline in place currently.

"We know students are evolving, we are evolving with them, we are doing the same," said Helberger. "For the students who entered without the benefit of our advising, our students are moving through a curriculum in a day..."}

Shepherd students Karen Smiley, Tara Terry and Bethany Lewis attend an open house at Shepherd University’s Ramay Room.

Shepherd University

www.shepherd.edu

A premier public liberal arts university