Shepherd University

SHEPHERDSTOWN, W.Va. — Four Shepherd University faculty members were awarded outstanding faculty medals in teaching, research, service and advising during Shepherd's McMurran Scholars convocation on April 29. The awards were presented by Dean Laura Renninger and President Suzanne Shipley.

The 2011 winners of the Shepherd University outstanding faculty awards were Rebecca Mercado, assistant professor of education; Joseph Robbins, assistant professor of political science; Gordon DeMeritt, department chairman and associate professor of business administration; and Carol Plautz, assistant professor of biology.

The Outstanding Service Award was given to Mercado for her dedication to the value of learning through service and creative outreach initiatives on campus, and throughout the community at large.

The Outstanding Scholar Award was given to Robbins for his commitment to scholarly pursuits such as research publications, presentations, grants and creative activities.

The Outstanding Adviser Award was given to DeMeritt for demonstrating that advisee retention and success are linked directly to adviser support, guidance and exemplary knowledge of campus resources.

The Outstanding Teacher Award was given to Plautz for her willingness to explore new teaching and learning initiatives (such as learning communities, research mentoring and experiential learning opportunities), strong student support as evidenced by evaluation critiques, and overall excellence in all aspects of the profession.

 Winners received medals and their names were added to the outstanding faculty awards plaque on display in the Dr. Howard N. Carper Jr. Learning Commons in the Scaraborough Library at Shepherd. They also received $500 professional development stipends from Richard Helldobler, vice president for academic affairs.
Field trip to D.C.
set for Thursday

SHEPHERDSTOWN - The Shepherd University Scarborough Society and Foundation will sponsor a bus tour to the National Archives in Washington, D.C., Thursday. The bus will depart from Shepherd University at 9:30 a.m. and return at approximately 6 p.m.

The trip will include lunch at McCormick and Schmick's restaurant. The group will be able to examine the historical documents on permanent display and the new exhibit "What's Cooking, Uncle Sam?", which examines how the federal government has affected what Americans eat. In addition, Dr. Richard Hunt, director of the Center for Legislative Archives, will take the group members into the private legislative vault to see originals of great American documents. The cost of the tour, including lunch, is $75 per person. The tour is open to the public. Reservations are needed by June 1.

To reserve a seat, send a check to the Shepherd University Foundation at P.O. Box 5000, Shepherdstown, WV 25443-5000.

For more information about the trip, call Phyllis Smock at 304-264-0560.
Shepherd students named to Phi Kappa Phi society

June 13, 2011
journal-news.net

SHEPHERDSTOWN - Sixty-five Shepherd University students were named to the campus chapter of Phi Kappa Phi honor society at the 14th annual initiation April 3 at the Frank Center Theater.

Berkeley County residents named to the honor society include Gregory P. Farris, Brandi Miller, Iveta Ruxere, Jessica Saffia, Sara Smith, Susan Sterner, Heather Webb, Elizabeth M. Apolinar, Anabelle Aviles, Katelyn Bard, Hannah Carter, Zing Cer, Cynthia Kishbaugh and Heather Cline, Martinsburg; Carl Shultz, Chris Bartley, Amy Hess and Katherine E. Cooper, Hedgesville; Alicia Doep, Carol Hutzler and Emily M. Stransky, Falling Waters; Cindy Pugh and Hannah Williams, Inwood; Stephanie N. Brooks, Joy Kerns and Jessica M. Pearson, Bunker Hill; and Rebecca Sperry, Gerrardstown.

Jefferson County residents named to the honor society include Alexandra Decker, Stolhan Belew, Kelly Powell, Roxanna Jack, Sarah Wall and Lane Rover, Harpers Ferry; Jason Smith and Michael Smith, Kearneysville; Rebecca Furby, Elizabeth Frawley and Ryan Lapina-Carriger, Charles Town; and Olivia Sundstrom, Ranson.

Morgan County residents named to the honor society include Eric Morris and Mary Ross, Berkeley Springs; and Brenda Hutchinson, Great Cacapon.

Maryland residents named to the honor society include Anna Abbott, Sara M. Sandeen and Christina Oliver, Hagerstown; Kasie Beaver, Smithsburg; Asya Brown, Clear Spring, Paul Smith, Middletown; Emily DeTroye, Monrovia; Katherine Tregoe, Brunswick; and Matt Richards, Cumberland.

Virginia residents include Kristyn Roy and Jaely Chamberlain, Winchester; Brad Coleman, Leesburg; Ashley Wilmeth, Hamilton;
Courtney Bullock, Annandale; and Brett Shaffer, Richmond.
Shepherd University students participate in social research conference

Twelve Shepherd University students presented papers in the 31st Annual Mid-Atlantic Undergraduate Social Research Conference on Thursday, April 7.


Maryland residents included Anna Abbott, Hagerstown, “Eating Behavior and Body Image Among Sorority and Non-Sorority Members”; Michael DeBarge, Keedysville, “Factors Affecting Knowledge of Criminal Justice Procedures”; and Laura Sheffield, Hagerstown, “Family Visitation and Life Satisfaction Among Elderly Clients.”

Also participating in the conference was Virginia resident Amber Daniel, Clearbrook, “The Effect of the Family Structure on Teenage Delinquency.”
Contemporary American Theater Festival | July 8-31

Original plays from five American playwrights. Plays include "From Prague" by Kyle Bradstreet; "Race" by David Mamet; "Ages of the Moon" by Sam Shepard; "We Are Here" by Tracy Thorne; and "The Insurgents" by Lucy Thurber. Shepherd University, Shepherdstown, W.Va. For tickets, call 304-876-3473 or 800-999-2283 (CATF). For the schedule, visit www.catf.org.
CATF announces summer lineup

SHEPHERDSTOWN - The 2011 Contemporary American Theater Festival will be held July 8-31 throughout Shepherdstown. Plays include "From Prague," "Race," "Ages of the Moon," "We Are Here" and "The Insurgents." Tickets range from $30 to CATCards for all five shows at $225.

For more information or tickets, call 304-876-3473 or visit www.catf.org.
WVU Libraries presents West Virginia Day Celebration

Broadsides tacked on buildings and telegraph poles spoke to the fierce debate swirling around western Virginia at the start of the Civil War in 1861. While one poster rallied citizens to follow their brothers in Richmond and join the Confederacy, another called for people to remain loyal to the United States and stand firm against their treasonous eastern brethren.

"When Virginia’s Richmond leaders decided to join the Confederacy, citizens who were loyal to the United States were faced with a dilemma," said John Cuthbert, curator of the West Virginia and Regional History Collection. "They didn’t want to be part of a Virginia that was not going to be part of the United States."

What transpired between the start of the Civil War and two years later when President Abraham Lincoln welcomed the 35th state, West Virginia, into the Union will be the focus of the annual West Virginia Day Celebration presented by the West Virginia University Libraries and the WVRHC on Monday (June 20).

Activities begin at 9 a.m. with a reception in the Wise Library’s Milano Room. At 10 a.m., distinguished historian and author Dr. John E. Stealey, III will talk about the political developments that took place in western Virginia in 1861 in response to the Richmond government’s secession.

Stealey, a history professor at Shepherd University, is an authority regarding the conventions and events that led to the establishment of the Reorganized Government of Virginia and the new state of West Virginia. He has written or contributed to several books and articles that pertain to this critical period of West Virginia history. His article, “West Virginia’s Constitutional Critique of Virginia: The Revolution of 1861-1863,” appears in the current issue of the journal Civil War History.

Following his talk, the WVRHC will open its exhibit. On display will be artifacts and documents concerning the Civil War and the birth of West Virginia including:

- An array of weapons – rifles, revolvers and swords – used in battle by Union and Confederate soldiers. Collection staff has traced many of the implements to the people who used them and where they used them.
- Bullets excavated at Shepherdstown, site of an important battle.
- Items relating to Gen. Stonewall Jackson, including a family photo album containing carte de visite photographs of him and his sister, Laura Arnold, Jackson’s pen knife, and the lap secretary he used to write letters and dispatches during the Civil War.
- The Virginia Governor Francis H. Pierpont’s copies of actual telegrams exchanged between Gen. Ulysses S. Grant and Gen. Robert E. Lee outlining the South’s surrender at Appomattox.
- Personal items, including diaries and a flute of a soldier who played in his regiment’s military band.
- A selection of broadsides heralding messages from the Union and Confederacy. One printed by Col. James Evans, whose family owned property covering the area now known as Evansdale, announced that he had been authorized to raise an army of 1,010 men. Complementing the poster is a photograph of hundreds of men lining High Street to enlist.
- Music of the Civil War. In addition to sheet music, audio recordings from the 1930s will be played. "The sounds of this music will be very authentic," Cuthbert said. "When you hear this, you’re actually hearing the music of the Civil War."

The WVRHC will also use the event to launch its online version of the Francis H. Pierpont Civil War Telegram Series. Pierpont served as governor of the Reorganized Government of Virginia. The collection consists mostly of telegrams received by Pierpont between 1861 and May 1863. A majority of the communications concern military matters, including one from Gen. George McClellan requesting Pierpont to appoint military officers.

Along with viewing actual telegrams, visitors can learn how to use the new website dedicated to Pierpont’s correspondence.

"The telegrams are incredible," Cuthbert said. "They provide nearly a daily record of the progress of the war in western Virginia for the first two years."

At noon, attendees can enjoy a piece of birthday cake in the Atrium and receive a complimentary copy of the colorful 2011 West Virginia Day Poster. The poster features a map of "East and West Virginia" issued 150 years ago when no one knew what lay ahead for the two states of Virginia.
Lack of intermediate court disturbing

The Doyle Report
Delegate John Doyle

POSTED: June 16, 2011

West Virginia is one of only a handful of states that lack an intermediate court of appeals. If you lose your case in circuit court, you may request an appeal to the state Supreme Court, but it's up to that court whether or not you get it.

Many people have argued for some time that we need an intermediate appeals court. I have been in that camp. Underlying the debate is the question of whether or not a person should be guaranteed a right to at least one complete "second chance" in court should they lose at the trial court level. I think it's proper that they should.

Opponents of the idea argue that an intermediate court would cost money. Estimates vary from $3 million to $8 million per year, depending on how such a court would be structured. Will there be one three-judge court sitting in Charleston? A five-judge court sitting there? Two separate three- (or five-) judge courts - one for the northern half of the state and one for the southern?

Clearly there would be some expense. But I think the more fundamental question is will the improvement in the justice system be sufficient to justify whatever expense there is?

One proposed alternative to such a court is to require that the state Supreme Court grant a hearing to every appellant. Some of the few states without intermediate appeals courts have such a requirement. The high court has responded to this debate by making it easier to get a hearing without guaranteeing such an outcome. Clearly the system is fairer at the moment but the Supreme Court, having made this rule itself, could change it back anytime.

Another argument against such a court is that "justice would be delayed." That begs the question - justice is only delayed by an appeals process (whether it's one step, two steps or even more) if the original verdict is found to be correct. In cases where that original verdict is found to be incorrect justice is not delayed; it is done.

Much of the support for this idea comes from the West Virginia Chamber of Commerce. The Chamber says an intermediate court would make West Virginia more "pro-business." That argument falls flat with me.

Civil cases often involve one business suing another. If the plaintiff business wins over the defendant business is it an "anti-business" decision? Or is it a "pro-business" decision if the defendant business triumphs over the plaintiff business?

My support for an intermediate appellate court comes primarily from my concern for criminal defendants who were forced to have court-appointed attorneys because they could not afford to pay for their lawyers. This happens in many judicial circuits in our state and often the defendants do not get counsel that I consider adequate.

Some of the judicial circuits in West Virginia (ours is one) have active public defender corporations. I believe the
counsel provided criminal defendants by public defenders is generally far superior to that provided by court-appointed lawyers. I would be much less supportive of an intermediate appeals court if all of West Virginia were served by public defenders. But I do not expect this to happen in my lifetime.

While I think having an intermediate court of appeals would help, there are two other reforms I think are far more critical to improving the performance of our court system. We should do away with partisan elections for our judiciary and return to the legislative branch its proper role in funding the courts.

Judges are supposed to be the essence of neutrality. Yet in our state we insist that they declare a fundamental partisanship (party identification) prior to seeking this supposedly non-partisan office. As a now-hackneyed saying goes, "does not compute."

Placing the power of the purse in the hands of the people's elected representatives in the legislative branch is fundamental to the American system of checks and balances. The United States Congress appropriates the money used to run the federal court system and the legislatures of 49 states appropriate the money used for their state court systems.

But in West Virginia the high court marches into the halls of the legislature demanding whatever funds it wishes and the legislature is required to provide them. Why? Because a number of years ago the state Supreme Court discovered that this was the only guarantee of an "independent judiciary."

The United States of America and 49 of her 50 states do not have independent judiciaries? Oy vey!

I'm open to be persuaded that we can guarantee justice short of establishing an intermediate appeals court. But letting the state Supreme Court discipline itself just doesn't get it.
MORGANTOWN - Broadsides tacked on buildings and telegram poles spoke to the fierce debate swirling around western Virginia at the time of the Civil War in 1861. While one party rallied citizens to follow their brothers in Richmond and join the Confederacy, another called for people to remain loyal to the United States and stand firm against their treacherous eastern brethren.

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Board of Governors appoints officers

The Shepherd University Board of Governors appointed new officers at the June 9 meeting: Gat Caperton, chair; W. Mark Rudolph, vice chair; and Marcia Brand, secretary.

Caperton, of Berkeley Springs, is the president and CEO of Caperton Furnitureworks, a West Virginia manufacturer of hand-made, solid-wood home furniture that he acquired from its founder in 1996. He received his MBA from the University of Chicago Graduate School of Business. In 1990, Caperton received a bachelor's in Economics from Davidson College. He currently serves on the boards of the Eastern West Virginia Community Foundation, the Natural Capital Investment Fund and the West Virginia Nature Conservancy.

Rudolph, of Winchester, Va., is a 1984 graduate of Shepherd and the president and CEO of Yount, Hyde & Barbour CPAs, Winchester. He joined the firm in 1984, became a principal in 1994, and has served as president and CEO since 2005. He has been an active member of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants and the Virginia Society of Certified Public Accountants. He has served on the board of trustees of Winchester's Handley High School, is a past president of the Lions Club and is an elder of the Presbyterian Church.

Since March 2009, Brand, of Martinsburg, is the deputy administrator of the Health Resources and Services Administration, an agency of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. Brand earned a doctoral degree in higher education from the University of Pennsylvania and master and bachelor of science degrees in dental hygiene from Old Dominion University in Virginia.

Emeritus status was granted to retiring faculty members John Stealey III and J. Michael Jacobs. Stealey, retiring after 42 years of service at Shepherd, received the title Distinguished Professor Emeritus of History. Jacobs, retiring after 40 years of service at Shepherd, received the title Professor Emeritus of Physical Education. To be eligible for appointment to emeritus status, retiring faculty must have completed at least 10 years of service at Shepherd.

Also approved at the meeting were four new minors in entrepreneurship, consumer economics, communications and new media and computer and information technology.

The next meeting of the Shepherd University Board of Governors will be held Sept. 22.
Watson named new Scarborough dean

Shepherd University has named Ann Watson, of Granville, Ohio, as the new dean of the Scarborough Library, effective June 30. Watson comes to Shepherd having most recently served as the library director at Ohio University - Lancaster since fall 2008.

While at Ohio University, she was responsible for the integration of technology through participation in the campus library system and oversaw a $1.8-million renovation project. Watson previously served as head of access services, head of instruction and instruction coordinator at Denison University from 1997 until September 2008.

Watson holds a bachelor of arts degree in history from West Virginia University, a master of science in library science in library and information science from Kent State University and a master of arts degree in education from Ohio State University and is a member of the American Library Association and the Academic Library Association of Ohio.