

April 15, 1999

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U Theatre to present comedy April 20-25

A set that revolves and a fast-action comedy that will make your head spin. These provide the fun as the Division of Theatre presents the final play of the spring semester, *Noises Off*.

The performance opens Tuesday, April 20 and runs through Saturday, April 24. All performances will be held in the Creative Arts Center Studio Theatre on the Evansdale campus.

Evening performances begin at 7:30 p.m. In addition, there will matinee performances Saturday, April 24, and Sunday, April 25, at 2 p.m.

Noises Off is a three-act comedy, written by Michael Frayn, about a touring company of second-rate actors dress-rehearsing a play called Nothing On. It includes a hilarious melee of stock characters and situations, along with a revolving set that allows the audience to see what really goes on behind the scenes.

The two-story revolving stage is the key function in telling the story, according to the play's director, Professor Jim Brown of the theatre faculty. "The first act allows the audience to see a play as normal, while the second act turns the set around and you see the back stage follies," he said.

Tickets are \$10 general admission, \$9 for faculty/staff and senior citizens and \$7 for children and students. Tickets are available at Lair and CAC Box Offices, 293-SHOW.

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Sport Psychologist to give lecture at U

A sport psychologist who specializes in performance enhancement training will visit WVU tomorrow as a guest lecturer in the School of Physical Education's Sport and Exercise Psychology program.

Kate F. Hays' lecture, *Working It Out: Practice and Research Questions in Exercise and Sport Psychology*, will begin at 1 p.m. in Room 251 of the Coliseum.

Dr. Hays is director of The Performing Edge in Ontario, Canada. The clinical and consultation practice specializes in sport psychology and performance enhancement training.

Hays earned her doctorate in clinical psychology from Boston University. She is a fellow in the American Psychological Association and is certified as a consultant by Association for the Advancement of Applied Sport Psychology. She has written several books and is awaiting publication of her latest book, *Working it Out: Using Exercise in Therapy*.

She was an adjunct professor at the University of New Hampshire and a recipient of the Distinguished Service to Psychology Award.

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Community Music schedules auditions for scholarships

The WVU Community Music Program announces scholarship auditions for the 1999-2000 fall and spring semesters.

The Community Music Program develops performance skills and musicianship of Morgantown-area residents of all ages through music classes, private lessons and performance ensembles.

Two types of scholarships are available this year: Community Music Scholarships, based on talent and need, require an audition that will take place on Monday, May 10, at 5 p.m. Applicants for this scholarship should prepare two contrasting musical pieces.

West Virginia Wine and Jazz Festival Community Music Scholarships are based only on need. Recipients must be residents of West Virginia.

Students may apply for both awards. If eligible for both, the largest of the two scholarships will be awarded. All scholarships are partial scholarships.

Applications are due to the Community Music Program Office by April 28.

Info: 293-4842, ext. 3185.

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Four Outstanding alums to be honored Friday

Four outstanding alums will be honored for their continued service to WVU at 7:30 p.m. tomorrow during the Weekend of Honors Convocation Ceremony in the Mountainlair ballrooms.

They are: Howard Abe Martin, from Wheeling; Samuel Sutton, Kanawha Valley; N. Blaine Groves, Martinsburg; and Linda Kessinger, from Harts.

Martin, WVU class of '31, will receive the David W. Jacobs Award for support and lifelong service to the WVU Alumni Association by a member of the organization.

He has been involved with the Ohio County Alumni Chapter leadership for four decades. He was chapter president in 1964 and an active participant in the Emeritus Club.

Dr. Martin, a lifelong Wheeling resident, also received a master's degree from the University of Pittsburgh. He is a retired school administrator and former principal of Warwood High School.

Former Student Administration President Sam Sutton, class of '91, will receive the Margaret Buchanan Cole Young Outstanding Alumni Award. This award recognizes a WVU graduate of ten years or less who has provided outstanding service to the Alumni Association or a local chapter.

Sutton is currently president of the Kanawha Valley Chapter of the WVU Alumni Association. Under his leadership, the chapter has grown substantially in both members and the number of events it sponsors. Most recently, the Kanawha Valley Chapter endorsed academic scholarships at WVU and there are plan to add additional scholarships soon.

A former aide to Gov. Gaston Caperton, Sutton is currently a pharmaceutical representative.

Groves, class of '49, will be honored with the James R. McCartney Award given to a WVU graduate who has demonstrated outstanding citizenship and services to his or her community.

Dr. Groves, also a graduate of Philadelphia's Jefferson Medical College, is a well-known physician and respected citizen of Berkeley County and the Eastern panhandle. He has been a leader in county and state education circles since 1980. His service includes significant participation in both the Berkeley County Board of Education and the West Virginia Board of Education. He also is a charter member of the State School Building Authority.

Additionally, Groves has served on the Mountaineer Athletic Club, the Eastern panhandle chapter of the WVU Alumni Association and is a 4-H Club volunteer.

Linda Kessinger, class of '75, also will receive a McCartney award.. Dr. Kessinger earned three degrees from WVU including her bachelor's, master's and medical degrees.

Nominators said she faithfully serves Southern West Virginia as a family doctor in the small rural town of Harts. Colleagues also say she is positive about her work and deeply committed to caring about the people of Lincoln County.

Kessinger is the founder and organizer of the Harts Health Fair, an event that annually draws about 1,500 people for health screening, the arts and community understanding.

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Orchesis to present Works in Progress Friday

WVU's Orchesis Dance Ensemble will present its 12th annual Works in Progress concert, an informal evening of dance choreography by WVU students Friday, April 16, at 8 p.m. in the Eiseland Hall auditorium on WVU's downtown campus.

Mary Kathryn Wiedebusch, artistic director of Orchesis, said the concert will be an informal showing of student choreography which may be further developed and staged for the annual Orchesis Dance Concert to be held in February.

"The performance is open to the public. Students, faculty and friends of the community are most certainly welcomed to this spring performance. Come and enjoy a beautiful evening of dance!" she said.

There is no formal charge, although a \$3 donation is requested.

The program will include lyrical ballet, primitive-style modern dance, Irish dance, abstract modern dance, two tap pieces and an African-American interpretation with live percussion accompaniment by WVU alumnus Brian Wolfe.

Carole Wiedebusch and Beth Barnes are other dance faculty members involved in the production. The Orchesis Ensemble is part of the WVU Division of Theatre and Dance in the College of Creative Arts.

Student choreographers include Amber Anderson, Katie Johnson, Angela Dennis, Janelle Humphrey, Amanda Hatfield, Whitney Brodsky, Kim Moore, Melinda Urani, Jill Yang, and Megan Hartley.

For more information about the informal dance concert or the WVU dance program, call the WVU Dance Office at 293-8623.

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B&E to honor Morgantown entrepreneur

By Lynn Price Reinke

College of Business & Economics

Don Gallion, president and CEO of FCX Systems in Morgantown, has been named Entrepreneur of the Year by the College of Business and Economics.

FCX Systems is a relatively young company that has become a technology leader in the field of aviation. Founded in 1987 by Gallion, Matt Howell, Richard Kowalski, Allen Wright and Richard Vernon, FCX quickly made its mark manufacturing fixed frequency converters that supply aircraft ground power to commercial, military, and corporate airlines.

Within their first six months of operation, they produced a unit with four times the power rating of the largest unit ever made. Today the converters are used for power supplies in avionics shops, ship yards, dry docks, radars, missiles, high speed welders, lasers and computers. FCX has units operating in places as diverse as the New York City Subway to the Space Station.

Gallion's entrepreneurial drive has also led him to expand his market internationally. He spends 50 percent of his time out of the country, especially in Asia. He was one of the first American businessmen to enter Vietnam after President Clinton established trade relations. His visit was at the invitation of Vietnam's Director General of Civil Aviation Administration.

"Don Gallion and his company, FCX Systems, are wonderful examples of the true entrepreneurial spirit, seeking new customers and new markets, wherever they may be found," said Sydney V. Stern, dean of the College of Business and Economics. Gallion will be the keynote speaker at the College's annual awards banquet today.

Today his products are sold in the 52 countries including the U.S. Exports represent 50 percent of the company's sales today with China being the primary market. His efforts have not gone unnoticed. The U.S. Small Business Administration has named him West Virginia's "Exporter of the Year" in 1996 and 1998 and "1998 Small Business Person of the Year" for West Virginia and Region 3 which includes West Virginia, Virginia, Pennsylvania, Maryland, New Jersey, Kentucky, and Washington, D.C. Governor Cecil Underwood gave him the 1998 "Excellence in Exporting Service Award" for his efforts to help other West Virginia companies export. He also received the "Excellence in Exporting Award" in 1995.

Gallion has a B.B.A degree in accounting and finance from Marshall University. He is chairman of the West Virginia Export Council, member of the National District Export Council Steering Committee, Small Business Exporters Association, and was selected to Who's Who in International Business Leaders.

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Mining engineering's Peng receives award

By Judith J. Dinardi

College of Engineering and Mineral Resources

Syd S. Peng, chairman and Charles T. Holland Distinguished Professor in the Department of Mining Engineering, has received the Howard N. Eavenson Award.

The award, presented recently at the annual meeting of the Society for Mining, Metallurgy and Exploration (SME) in Denver, commends Dr. Peng for his "outstanding and sustained contributions to the coal mining industry as an educator, researcher and consultant."

Allen C. Cogley, dean of the College of Engineering and Mineral Resources, pointed out that "the college and University is fortunate to have Dr. Peng as a faculty member who has a worldwide reputation with both the academic world and the coal industry."

His contributions over the years are substantial and continue at a very high level of productivity, Cogley added.

On receiving the award, Peng said, "I am very much honored to receive the top award in the Coal Division of SME. It is especially meaningful to me that my professional efforts have been recognized by my peers in the industry."

Along with the award, Peng received \$3,000, which he donated to the Syd and Felicia Peng Endowed Scholarship Fund. The scholarship fund was created in 1991 by Peng and his wife, Felicia, an associate professor at WVU in mining engineering.

Peng is an internationally recognized leader in mining engineering. From 1970-74, Peng worked for the U.S. Bureau of Mines, Twin Cities Research Center, in charge of rock physics in research. He joined WVU in 1974 and was appointed department chairman in 1978. In 1985, Peng established the Longwall Mining and Ground Control Research Center at WVU and assumed its directorship.

In 1998, the Legislature recreated the Coal and Energy Research Bureau at WVU, and Peng was appointed director. In 1981, he initiated the annual international conference on ground control in mining, which is now recognized as the annual forum for exchange of information on ground control.

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Indian author to give public reading tonight

By Bonnie Anderson

Department of English

Indian author Vikram Chandra will be in Morgantown for a public reading April 15 at 7:30 p.m. in the Ali Baba Upstairs Banquet Room. The reading is free and open to the public.

Chandra received critical acclaim for his debut nove, *Red Earth and Pouring Rain*, which won the 1995 David Higham Prize for fiction from Book Trust in London, England.

In 1997 he published *Love and Longing in Bombay*, a carefully crafted collection of five stories linked by a single narrative frame. This work was awarded the prestigious Commonwealth Writer's Prize for Best book that same year. In a *New York Times Book Review* Shashi Tharoor commented: "*Love and Longing in Bombay* stands out as a considerable achievement, one in which the author marries his storytelling prowess to a profound understanding of India's ageless and ever-changing society..."

One of the outstanding Indian authors featured in a 1997 New Yorker special edition on Indian writers, Chandra has already emerged as a major international talent. His appearance occurs in conjunction with the offering of new India-based academic offerings, in particular Indian literature, offered by the Department of English.

Chandra divides his time between the United State and India. He currently teaches at George Washington University. His reading, which will be followed by a reception and book signing, is sponsored by the Department of English, the Eberly College of Arts and Sciences and Boreman Hall.

For information, contact the Department of English, 293-3107.

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Staff rep presents higher ed funding data to trustees

During the April 9 Board of Trustees meeting, held at the WVU Erickson Alumni Center, the BOT Advisory Council of Classified Employees gave a Powerpoint presentation describing the diversity of skills provided to our institutions by members of the classified staff. Each year the trustees give the elected representatives an opportunity to speak before the board. The faculty gave their presentation in February and the students late last year.

I think you will be interested in reading the contents of my portion of the presentation to the Board of Trustees. Because of space limitations some portions of my presentation will be condensed or omitted.

On April 10, 1981, the West Virginia Legislature approved the establishment of the Board of Regents Advisory Council of Classified Employees with the passage of House Bill 1230. The very first Advisory Council meeting was held in Charleston on June 23, 1982. With the approval of Senate Bill 420, July 1, 1989, the Legislature established the University Systems of West Virginia Board of Trustees Advisory Council of Classified Employees, which now has representation from seven campuses, WVNET and the Robert C. Byrd Health Sciences Center/ Charleston Division.

The ACCE has nine members with a collective total of 143 years of higher education service, an average of 16 years in the University Systems.

Classified staff in both the State College and University Systems totaled approximately 5,852 in 1995. Today this total is 5,500, a decrease of 352 or 6.01 percent over the last four years. In meeting one of the goals of SB 547, classified staff are doing more with fewer employees as is evident by this statistic.

Many citizens unfamiliar with higher education are not aware that classified staff represent approximately 60 percent of the workforce. Jobs vary from Budget Officers to Computer Analysts to Physical Plant employees and even law school graduates.. All are classified staff employees critical to the administrative and physical operation of our campuses.

The BOT ACCE chair was invited to speak before the Higher Education Governance Subcommittee last November. Staff council members have appeared before the Senate Finance Committee to discuss PEIA during the recent legislative session and Staff Councils meet monthly with their campus vice presidents and president. We also serve on the Board of Advisors, on campus Salary Task Force committees, Classified Staff Post-547 Committee, the Job Evaluation Committee and on search committees for institution presidents and most recently regional vice presidential search committees for WVU Tech and Potomac State College.

The contents of our presentation came from data and statistics provided by the State College and University System Central Office and the Legislature's Reference & Information Center. Our members chose topics that we felt would be of interest to trustee members and educate them on the importance of classified staff in the higher education system.

I concluded the power point presentation with statistical information about the 1999-2000 Fiscal Year \$2.66 Billion West Virginia General Revenue Budget. A six year percentage average beginning with 1994-95 to current is 14.9 percent, with an average of \$361.1 million budget for higher education.

- In fiscal Year 1974-75, a total of 17.1 percent of the General Revenue Budget was allocated to higher education
- There has been a total decrease from 17.1 percent to the current 14.6 percent of 2.5 percent
- During this same period public education increased from 45.6 percent to 52.3 percent, an increase of 6.7 percent
- Using the 1974-75 percentage of 17.1 percent for the 1999-2000 General Revenue Budget, higher education would have an allocation of \$454.7 million, an increase

of \$66.4 million

- Student headcount in 1974-75 was 68,962 compared to the 1997-98 total of 75,920, an increase of 6,958.

The point I was attempting to make is with enrollment increasing at 9.2 percent, then the average percentage of the General Revenue Budget for higher education should increase instead of decreasing. Likewise, with public education enrollment decreasing, its General Revenue Budget percentage would decrease instead of continuing to increase. The challenge here is how can we get a bigger piece of the General Revenue Budget pie.

Copies of the complete power point presentation can be found on the web page for the BOT ACCE—<http://wvnm.wvnet.edu/~botacce> - .

The Classified Staff Post-547 Committee continues to welcome your suggestions and ideas for a new salary schedule that will replace the current schedule once it is funded.

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