

Robert L. Marshall Building Dedication Speech
By Dr. Marshall
2:00 – 4:00 April 8, 2005

Thank all of you for coming today and I would like to thank the people who arranged this affair.

I plan to briefly review a series of events that I believe led up to this dedication ceremony.

In 1948, while attending the University of Kansas, Mary Anne and I were offered teaching positions at Hill City, Kansas. The school system needed a mathematics teacher and a driver education teacher. I was a math major at KU so math was no problem. I was not qualified in Driver Education. We learned that a Dr. Norman Key was offering a one week course at KU in August offering the certification I needed. I took the course. Norm and I stayed in touch for the rest of his life. He was my mentor. I am especially pleased that his wife, Mrs. Marguerite Key, is able to be here today. The Key Scholarship was established at CMSU in 1984. As of this year 23 graduate students have received scholarships and accepted safety related positions.

I am also pleased that a number of our relatives are here today. Would you all please stand. I will introduce our family:

My wife of 58 years, Mary Anne she is a CMSU Graduate.

Our daughter, Suzanne Broussard, New Orleans and a CMSU safety graduate.

Our son, Robert Craig Marshall of Arlington, Va. and a CMSU graduate.

Dr. Adriane Durey, our granddaughter and her husband, Dr. Lincoln Durey of Atlanta, Georgia.

We will enjoy a family gathering this evening.

I was recalled to the Navy during the Korean War. After my 2 year tour ended I accepted the new position as Director of Safety and a Driver Education Teacher in my hometown of El Dorado, Kansas.

While in El Dorado, Dr. Key invited me to describe our Driver and Safety Education program at a National Education Association meeting in Parkland, Washington.

In the audience was Mr. Joe Bryan, Director of Secondary Education with the Kansas City Missouri Public Schools. After the meeting Mr. Bryan invited me to come to Kansas City for an interview. The school system had a new open position as Supervisor of Safety Education. I accepted in September of 1956.

In June 1961, Dr. Key offered me the position of Associate Executive Secretary, National Commission on Safety Education National Education Association. Our task was to work with schools and colleges nationwide to develop/refine promote safety education programs.

Dr. Key asked Mary Anne if she would take some materials that a former temporary staff member had not completed and put them in order. She drafted what was later called "University Transportation and Accident Prevention Centers". This publication is used across the country by Universities to develop these centers. Dr. Key had a committee of University presidents and others to steer this effort.

In November 1966, Dean Tieszen, CMSU, called me and asked if I could help them (CMSU personnel) develop a proposal for the establishment of a State Safety Center here at CMSU. Dr. Key agreed we should help. Dr. Tom Edmunds and Dean Tieszen put together a very fine proposal and in December of 1966 the three of us drove to Jefferson City for a meeting with the Coordinating Board for Higher Education. The Coordinating Board had requested proposals for the establishment of a State Safety Center. The University of Missouri representation handed in a one page proposal. Southwest Missouri State Teachers College also submitted a proposal. Dean Tieszen said CMSU was interested but, he wanted to discuss it on campus. Remember, he had a very thorough proposal in his brief case. Needless to say I was surprised. A few days later Dean Tieszen hand carried the proposal to Jefferson City and soon CMSU was designated as the home of the Missouri Safety Center. Dean Tieszen said in the car on our way back to Warrensburg, that he did not want the other two institutions representatives to see the extensive proposal CMSU had developed. A very clever move.

On the way to the Kansas City Airport in late December 1966, Dean Tieszen said I am giving you this job offer. (Envelope). You and your wife and family consider it and let us know what you think. (Full professor, report directly to the Provost (Dean)). Two important recommendations in the university and accident prevention centers publications.

Mary Anne and I discussed the job proposal and accepted in January 1967 after I discussed it with Dr. Key. I reported to CMSTC July 1, 1967. At this point I was in charge of a new statewide Safety Center. How was I to staff it? How was I to inform potential students about it?

Staff

Dr. Richard Tossell came with me from Washington, D.C. He was a member of President John F. Kennedy's Committee for Traffic Safety. This Committee had just finished a Traffic Safety Film, featuring President Kennedy speaking on the importance of traffic safety when the President was assassinated. We had planned

to use the film in workshops across the country. The White House approved our use of the film in spite of the tragedy. It was a very moving experience whenever the film was shown. There was not a dry eye in the audience.

In 1968 Dr. Robert Baldwin (South Dakota) was offered a position to direct a School Bus driver training project. Bob went on to become a full professor as well as director of the Missouri Safety Center. Bob Baldwin is the best grant/project writer I know. At my retirement 15 years ago, he had obtained grants of more than \$10,000,000.00 for projects and research studies. This facility and driving range was one of his projects.

In 1968 Dr. Robert Ulrich – a traffic safety specialist from Michigan State University joined our staff. Bob developed the Safety Department.

In 1970 Dr. Robert Semonisck joined our staff. Bob was with Dr. Key in Washington D.C. as a staff member working with student safety committees in secondary schools.

Over the years many faculty members in Safety, Criminal Justice, fire science, industrial hygiene, and security joined our staff.

Congressional Legislation

Timing is so important for any new endeavor. During the early years of the Center, The U.S. Congress passed more than 100 safety or criminal justice laws that helped determine our growth:

Highway Safety Act
Mine Safety Act
Occupational Safety Act
Criminal Justice Administration laws and many others

These laws created the need for thousands of safety and criminal justice administration personnel nationwide.

Missouri Safety Center

The center led to the development of a number of units and academic departments on campus: They were:

Safety Department
Industrial Safety and Hygiene Department

Criminal Justice Administration Department was transferred over to this area.

National Traffic Management Institute
National Public Services Research Institute housed in Alexandria, Va.

These units in time formed the new School of Public Services which was created in September of 1971

Director of Public Relations

How do you let the nation and other countries know about your new degree programs and training activities. We need to thank Mr. Carl Foster, Director of Public Relations, Emeriti, at this university. For making us known. CMSU is a small university in the center of the nation. Mr. Foster helped inform students and others through the printed word, radio, and television. This helped our degree programs and training activities grow. One day at a School of Public Services Colloquium (national figures) Carl was making a presentation and he, in jest, said he was Director of Public Relations for the School of Public Services. President Lovinger was seated at the head table and heard Carl make this statement. The next day the President called Carl to his office and reminded him who he worked for – the entire University.

Growth of Departments

The growth of the Academic Departments was unprecedented. In 1990 when I retired the School of Public Services had produced:

5,000+ undergraduate and graduate safety majors
5,000+ undergraduate and graduate CJAD majors
More than 450,000 individuals had been trained on this campus and elsewhere by the Center. These attendees were from all 50 States and 40 countries.

Administrative Support

Over the years we have had out-standing support from the CMSU Board of Governors and the President and his Administrative staff. They, of course, fund and promote these efforts.

Support organizations

I would be remiss if I did not mention the organizations that have greatly helped and supported the School of public service the past 38 years:

The Missouri Safety Council, Dale Findlay is Executive Director

The Missouri Division of Highway Safety, Bob Burgess (initial Director) and all subsequent Directors

National Academy of Sciences and its various units, such as the Transportation Research Board.

The Occupational Safety and Heal Administration

The National Commission on Safety Education

The National Safety Council.

Veterans of Safety – this organization's staff is located here on the campus of CMSU. Dr. Baldwin has been the executive Director of VOS for the past 19 years. The officers and Board Members are meeting on campus this week. I will mention just 2 of their many projects and activities:

- (1) Development of 9-1-1
- (2) Establishment of The Safety and Health Hall of Fame International – now located in Chicago

The Warrensburg Chamber of Commerce. When the center needed help to host people or whatever the need was, the Chamber and its members were always there. Tammy Long is the present Executive Director.

Mrs. Maurine Achauer was always willing to host receptions or functions in her home. The Center has held many events in the home of this gracious lady.

There has been some reorganization from time to time on campus. However the Missouri Safety Center continues to serve the State and Nation well under the leadership of Dr. Leanne Depue, the current director. The Safety Department continues to thrive under the leadership of Dr. Dennis Lester and the faculty. For example, 95% of their graduates accept safety related positions. In addition these graduates have the highest starting salaries of graduates from this campus.

Naming a Building

When you name a building for someone, others in this case, the faculty, staff, and students should be acknowledged for their contributions in bringing this about. When the students leave CMSU they do well. Our graduates include chiefs of Police, Directors of Safety in industry and government, college Presidents, Deans of Universities, Fire chiefs, college professors and many other job categories in this country and overseas.

The naming of this building for me was a complete surprise! I am humbled by the honor but want you to know that there were many individuals and organizations involved in this 38 year effort.

Thank you,

Dr. Robert L. Marshall