

The Erma Byrd Center Faculty Spotlight is on Marshall University's Charles Bethel, Assistant Professor, Leadership Studies, COEPD

An Interview with Marshall University's
Charles Bethel, Assistant Professor, Leadership Studies
by Lisa Moten, Erma Byrd Center Director

Lisa Moten: How long have you been teaching at the Erma Byrd Center?

Charles Bethel: *This is my first year teaching full-time at Marshall University; and, prior to this, I taught adjunct at Marshall University for 15 years.*

Lisa Moten: What do you enjoy most about teaching/working at the Erma Byrd Center?

Charles Bethel: *It is close to home! And, I can also meet and work with local students (from the Beckley and surrounding areas). Working at the Erma Byrd Center gives me an opportunity to interact with faculty members from other institutions as well.*

Lisa Moten: Share your best teaching tip to keep students engaged in learning.

Charles Bethel: *At the beginning of the semester, I tell students that they can do very well and finish the course successfully (if they apply themselves). I also collect a data sheet on each student to learn a little bit about their background and goals. Then, through-out the semester, I stay connected by conversing with them about their background and goals. They really appreciate this approach; and it shows them that I also care about them as adult learners.*

Also, when working with them as adult learners, I try to understand and take into consideration that they are coming into the learning environment with other responsibilities (such as a full-time job and a family).

Last but not least, I always provide feedback on all of their assignments! Constant feedback is key in helping them to become better writers!



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