

April 25, 2008

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Rahall Appalachian Transportation Institute (RTI), American Society of Civil Engineers
(ASCE) West Virginia Younger Member Forum, West Virginia Department of
Transportation, Co-Sponsor Statewide West Point Bridge Design Competition**

WHO: Rahall Transportation Institute, American Society of Civil Engineers WV Younger Member Forum, West Virginia Department of Transportation, Marshall University College of Information Technology and Engineering

WHAT: Middle and high school engineering students from across West Virginia will compete in the West Point Bridge Design Contest.

WHEN: Friday, April 25, from 10:45 to 1 p.m. and Saturday, April 26, from 9 to 1:30 p.m.

WHERE: Friday, Pullman Plaza Hotel. Saturday, Drinko Library, Marshall University and Memorial Student Center

WHY: The West Point Bridge Design Educational Outreach Program is a high-energy, mentoring and training program that provides middle and high school students with a realistic, hands-on, engaging introduction to engineering, bridges and transportation design concepts.

“This is an exceptional program for West Virginia’s youth,” U.S. Rep. Nick Rahall (D-W.Va.) said. “This group effort will help our students get a look at the challenges that today’s engineering provides and give them an inside look at how demanding and rewarding an engineering program can be.”

They will assist teams in design “virtual” bridges while considering factors such as cost, terrain, time constraints and environmental impact. The “virtual” bridges are designed with free software.

For more information, contact Dr. Andrew Nichols, at 803-447-1452 (cell) or andrew.nichols@marshall.edu

“Building Jobs through Transportation”

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