

WEST VIRGINIA UNIVERSITY
BOARD OF GOVERNORS

April 17, 2026

The two hundred thirty eighth meeting of the West Virginia University Board of Governors was held on April 17, 2026 in Morgantown, WV, in person and via zoom webinar. Board members in attendance/participating via zoom included Chair Rusty Hutson and members Charles Capito, Bray Cary, Lesley Cottrell, Elmer Coppoolse, Scott Crichlow, Kevin Craig, Michael D’Annunzio, Dr. Patrice Harris, Terry Hauser, Susan Lavenski, Oliver Luck, James Martin, Paul Mattox, Robert Reynolds, Steve Ruby, Colin Street, Dianne Stewart and Charles Wilfong.

Other participants included:

President Michael Benson;

General Counsel, Stephanie Taylor;

Vice President for Strategic Communications and Marketing, Heather Richardson;

Vice President and Director of Athletics, Wren Baker;

Senior Deputy Athletics Director, Rob Alsop;

Vice President and Executive Dean of Health Sciences, Clay Marsh;

Senior Associate Vice President for Finance, Barbara Weiss;

Incoming Chief Financial Officer, Chris Kabourek;

Vice President and Director of Athletics, Wren Baker;

Interim Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs, Paul Kreider;

Incoming Provost, Dr. Beverly Wendland;

Vice Provost, Mark Gavin;

Vice President of Enrollment Management, Fabrizio D’Aloisio;

Associate Vice President for Finance, David Kosslow;

President, Government Relations and Collaboration,

Travis Mollohan;

Vice Provost, Mark Gavin;

Associate Vice president of Talent and Culture, Mario Barge;

Associate Vice President and Chief Strategy Officer, Health

Sciences, Leslie Miele;

Executive Director of Strategic Priorities within Strategic Communications and Marketing, Katie Farmer;

Vice President, Student Life, Gary G. Furbee, II;

Director of Internal Audit, Bryan Shaver;

Associate Provost for Curriculum and Assessment, Louis Slimak;
Associate Provost for Undergraduate Education, Evan Widders;
Associate Vice President for Strategic Executive Initiatives, Erin
Newmeyer;
Director of Curriculum Development, Robynn Shannon;
Executive Director of Strategic Communications, Shauna
Johnson;
Several members of Staff Council and the Student Government
Association were present;
Executive Officer and Assistant Board Secretary, Jennifer Fisher;
and Special Assistant to the Board of Governors, Valerie Lopez.

Members of the Press also attended.

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Chair Rusty Hutson at 8:33 a.m.
A roll call was taken to determine who was in attendance and a quorum
established.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Robert Reynolds moved that the board approve the minutes for the February 20,
2026 board meeting. This motion was seconded by Paul Mattox and passed.

ANNUAL PRESENTATION FROM STAFF REPRESENTATIVE

Dianne Stewart, BOG classified staff representative, presented an annual
report. She covered the follow topics: Core Values, Steady Leadership in Transition,
From Behind the Scenes to Front & Center, Hidden Gems Series, Monthly Staff
Showcase, Support and Development, and Looking Ahead. Ms. Stewart's presentation
is attached hereto and made a part hereof, by reference.

ANNUAL PRESENTATION FROM STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE

Colin Street, BOG student representative, presented an annual report. He covered the following topics: SGA Overview, Embracing a Healthy Student Life, Fighting Apathy on Campus, Reducing Student Costs, Building Relationships in Charleston, Internal Branch of SGA, External Branch of SGA, SGA Committees, Looking to Next Year, including Brooks Hall Grocery Store, Hardesty Festival Podcast, Student Syallabi Input, Campus Parks Plan, Judicial Branch Reform, New Internal Branch, New External Branch, and New SGA Committees. Colin's presentation is attached hereto and made a part hereof, by reference.

REPORT FROM PRESIDENT MICHAEL T. BENSON

President Benson provided the following report.

- I appreciate the opportunity to be with you today as near the end of the spring semester.
- The final day of classes is May 1, which is two weeks from today.
- We have great news to share today.
- West Virginia University continues to operate on solid financial footing.
- Evidence of that is in the latest ratings, now out, from the three major ratings agencies — Moody's, S&P Global and Fitch.
- These ratings represent a continuation of the University's high level of fiscal stewardship with a stable outlook for the future.
- For Moody's, the rating is defined as "high quality and very low credit risk."
- For S&P Global, the rating means indicates "strong capacity to meet financial commitments."

- For Fitch, the rating indicates “very strong capacity for payment of financial commitments. This capacity is not significantly vulnerable to foreseeable events.”
- Our financial house is in order and this will pay huge dividends as we consider issuing bonds to address acute capital needs. These strong, credit-worthy ratings will guarantee lower interest rates, thus saving the university millions of dollars.
- Everyone at the University is to be commended for the steps we’ve all taken together to operate in a fiscally responsible way.
- President Benson introduced incoming Chief Financial Officer, Chris Kabourek, who made a few brief remarks.
- Chris brings nearly 30 years of significant fiscal experience in higher education to the role of vice president and chief financial officer. He most recently served as senior vice president for administration and planning at The Ohio State University where he led one of the university’s largest administrative portfolios, spanning public safety, information technology, campus planning, facilities, real estate and major capital projects.
- In Chris, we’ve found a creative, dynamic, forward-looking and solutions-focused CFO who is steeped in the workings of large, public, flagship research institutions, like West Virginia University. I’m pleased to present Chris to you to say a few words.
- Such financial stability will benefit us as we work toward academic excellence, exemplified by Dr. Syd Peng — my choice for the first Presidential Honorary Degree I will bestow here at West Virginia University.
- Dr. Peng:
 - Charles E. Lawall Chair of Mining Engineering Emeritus in the WVU Benjamin M. Statler College of Engineering and Mineral Resources Department of Mining Engineering
 - Retired in 2013
 - First hired at WVU in 1974
 - Served as chair of the Department of Mining Engineering from 1978 to 2006.
- Known for:
 - Visionary teaching
 - Unwavering commitment to excellence

- How he seamlessly integrated emerging technologies with practical applications
- Generosity
- Scholarship
- Leadership

- University's first National Academy member, inducted into National Academy of Engineering in 2007.
- Syd Peng represents the best of West Virginia University.
- He will join me and University graduates during the Statler College Commencement ceremony at 12:30 p.m. Sunday, May 17, at the Hope Coliseum.
- From May 15-17, we'll celebrate with thousands of graduates during nine Commencement ceremonies.
- It is awards season. In the coming weeks, we'll see our students recognized for their class and research work.
- I would like to recognize two of our students.
- Rozaireo Jones and Colin Street, who sits on the Board, have been named finalists for the prestigious Truman Scholarship, the nation's premier graduate fellowship for students pursuing careers in public service.
- The Scholarship recognizes students with outstanding leadership potential, a commitment to public service and academic excellence.
- People make our points and that is evident in the stories we're telling, as a University, about our priority programs, including sport management, neuroscience, and environmental, energy, and land management.
- Nicholas Menarchek, Sport Management
 - From Parkersburg.
 - Nic came to West Virginia University without knowing his intended major or life plan.
 - A former teaching assistant professor suggested that he join the Sport Management Club.

- He is now student manager for WVU Baseball.
- Works directly with players.
- Organizes equipment.
- Has access to some of the nation's most cutting-edge technology at the WVU Baseball Biomechanics and Performance Center.

- Bella Herrod, Environmental, Energy, and Land Management

- From Shinnston

- Always had interest in nature and natural resources.

- Will graduate a year early in May

- Will continue her education at the WVU College of Law, studying Energy Law and Sustainable Development

- Isabella Linton, Neuroscience

- From Glen Dale.

- Double major in neuroscience and psychology.

- Will graduate in May with plans to go to graduate school.

- Started imagining herself as a WVU student when she was 8.

- She notes, "No one will ever figure the brain out completely. It's such a complex structure, so resilient and mysterious.

- She chose to study neuroscience at West Virginia University because it's still such a new and rapidly changing field.

- For more on neuroscience, President Benson showed a fishing video.

- This is an example of how we're telling the stories of our priority programs.

- Turning to our University leadership and two critical vacancies:

- Vice President for Research

- Chief Financial Officer

- Decide WVU last Saturday (April 11) was a huge success.

- "Mountaineer March Madness" has come to an end.

- We're reaching out to our admitted students in all kinds of ways.

- It's been an especially successful spring for Athletics.
- We were happy to welcome Gov. Morrissey to Morgantown on April 10 to help celebrate.
- Women's Basketball Tournament Run and Hosting
- Men's Basketball winning Crown Tournament in Hodge's first year.
- It's always great to be able to end the season with a win.
- Baseball is firing on all cylinders.
- 13 counties remain for my "Welcome Home Tour"
- Still to come:
 - April 27 to May 1: Webster, Marion, Hardy, Hampshire, Morgan and Pocahontas
 - May 5 to 9: Putnam, Mason, Cabell, Wayne, Wyoming and Fayette
 - May 11: Monongalia County
- We've seen some things along the way.
- Since we last met, the regular legislative session has closed and primary election day is ahead.
- Gov. Morrissey signed a budget compromise that:
 - Increases the University's base appropriation by rewarding its performance in the higher education funding formula.
 - Provides adjustments to help with pay raises.
 - Increases employer share costs for the Public Employees Insurance Agency or PEIA.
 - Reverses a 2% cut to higher education institutions.
- The Legislature approved a supplemental appropriation of \$32 million in one-time funding for projects at the WVU School of Medicine, which offers the largest number of accredited residency and fellowship programs in West Virginia.

- Upwards of 2,330 West Virginians are studying health programs at WVU.
- The funding will be used to expand programs and improve classrooms, lab space and student-facing areas.
- More than 14,300 Health Sciences alumni live and serve the health care needs of West Virginians in all 55 counties.
- Investments in our School of Medicine and Health Sciences programs help ensure we are preparing our students to serve their patients now and far into the future.
- Thanks to Gov. Patrick Morrissey and the Legislature for \$5 million in supplemental funding for the WVU School of Dentistry.
- State funding is a match for more than \$27 million in federal funding.
- To be used for improvements to main student clinic.
- Next phase of large-scale upgrades for West Virginia's only dental school.
- Over 80% of practicing dentists in West Virginia are graduates of the WVU School of Dentistry.
- We have so much support as an institution as we saw on Day of Giving.
- March 25 Ninth Day of Giving Results:
 - Record number of gifts, more than 11,000.
 - Upwards of \$22 million raised.
 - Every state was represented on the donor map for the first time since 2019.
- As a close in on my first anniversary as president of West Virginia University, I am so proud of what we've been able to accomplish by working together.
- With the momentum we have, let's stay focused on the future.

REPORT FROM INTERIM PROVOST AND VICE PRESIDENT OF ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

Interim Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs, Paul Kreider, provided the following updates:

Good morning, everyone. Happy spring to all of you. It's a beautiful day here in Morgantown, and campus has been buzzing with the excitement of springtime activities.

Eberly Dean Search

Just last week, we shared some exciting news about the dean search for the Eberly College. On July 1, we will officially welcome Clayton Thyne as the inaugural Linda and Don Brodie Dean of the WVU Eberly College of Arts and Sciences.

Clayton Thyne, who is known for his people-centered approach to leadership, most recently served as associate dean of academic affairs at the University of Kentucky College of Arts and Sciences where he supported the strategic planning, curriculum development, and enrollment strategy for the unit's 21 departments and more than 5,500 students since 2023.

His research focuses on domestic conflict/instability, coups d'état, regime types and democratization, and international education policy. Thyne's scholarly foundation has shaped his expectations for research quality, mentoring and institutional supports necessary for faculty success across diverse disciplinary cultures.

With an official start date of June 30, Thyne will follow Dean Gregory Dunaway, who will conclude his tenure as dean of the Eberly College of Arts and Sciences at the end of this academic year. Dunaway has served two terms as dean since 2016 and plans to continue working with the Eberly College and WVU in his professorial position.

I want to express my gratitude to the entire search committee and its co-chairs Associate Provost Evan Widders and College of Creative Arts and Media Dean Keith Jackson. We also had great participation during the on-campus visits with all the candidates, and it shows how dedicated our colleagues are to this important process.

Libraries Dean Search

I'm sure you've also seen by now the announcement about our new incoming dean of Libraries and Press. Later this month – on April 27 – Mark Paris will join the Mountaineer family to lead that unit.

Most recently, he served as the associate university librarian for Scholarly Resources and Discovery at Brandeis University, where he provided strategic leadership for a multimillion-dollar portfolio encompassing collections, scholarly communication, interlibrary loan, metadata and core library systems. Mark also led major initiatives to modernize research infrastructure, expand open-access publishing in partnership with faculty and students, and implement data-driven approaches to collection stewardship and service design.

Thank you as well to committee chair Honors College Dean Ken Blemings and all the members of the search committee on a job well done.

We look forward to welcoming him and to celebrating the 40-plus-year career of current Dean Karen Diaz. Dean Diaz will officially retire May 1, after spending her last week helping to acclimate the new dean to his team and role.

FACULTY AWARDS

There's a lot of good news to share these days – and a lot of reasons to celebrate. Spring is also awards season at WVU, and my office has been working with faculty committee members across campus to select the recipients of a number of internal WVU teaching, research, and service awards.

Caperton Award

Congratulations to Catherine Gouge, who was named the 2025-2026 recipient of the Caperton Award for Excellence in the Teaching of Writing. Established in 2007, the award was made possible by the generosity of former West Virginia Governor and College Board president Gaston Caperton. Caperton's intent was to “increase awareness of the need for improved writing skills,” identifying writing as a critical and cross-disciplinary skill necessary to maintaining America's competitive edge in the global market.

Gouge is a professor of English in the Eberly College of Arts and Sciences' Department of English, where she coordinates the minor in health humanities. She is recognized for more than two decades of work in teaching writing and rhetoric across interdisciplinary academic settings.

Foundation Award

Each spring, WVU recognizes selected faculty members for their commitment to impactful and innovative teaching. This year, the 2026 WVU Foundation Awards for Outstanding Teaching honor four faculty members.

Cody Hood – teaching assistant professor in the Eberly College of Arts and Sciences, School of Mathematical and Data Sciences – was honored for his dedication to curriculum revision focused on improving student success and fostering greater student engagement in a welcoming, personalized environment.

Jignesh Solanki – teaching associate professor in the Benjamin M. Statler College of Engineering and Mineral Resources, Lane Department of Computer Science and Electrical Engineering – was recognized for his engaging pedagogy that incorporates meaningful formative assessment and feedback and even guided meditation to help students focus before beginning rigorous technical work.

Erin Brock Carlson – associate professor in the Eberly College of Arts and Sciences, Department of English – was honored for her use of real-world applications for teaching students across a number of disciplines in a wide range of courses (13 different courses in the last five years!) and for her role in developing two new undergraduate degree programs.

Muzibur Rahman – assistant professor of construction management at West Virginia University Institute of Technology's Leonard C. Nelson School of Engineering – has been a foundational member of the Construction Management bachelor's degree program at WVU Institute of Technology, where he has helped design a rigorous, industry-aligned curriculum

Heebink

Congratulations to Angela Wowczuk – who has been recognized for her exceptional service to the University, students and community. Professor Wowczuk is the recipient of the Ethel and Gerry Heebink Award for Distinguished Extended State Service, which recognizes a faculty or staff member who has provided distinguished service to West Virginia for more than eight years.

Wowczuk is a service assistant professor in the WVU School of Pharmacy. Since 2019, she has served as the director and then administrative director for the Rational Drug Therapy Program. Her work integrates clinical pharmacy, public health and statewide health system collaboration, providing improved care for over 825,000 West Virginia residents covered by Medicaid, the Public Employees Insurance Agency, and the WV Children's Health Insurance program.

Advising Awards

Each year, at the direction of the Office of the Provost, the Academic Advising Council selects honorees for the Nicholas Evans Awards for Advising Excellence in recognition of outstanding advising and mentoring provided by faculty and professional advisers at WVU.

The awards are in honor of Nicholas Evans, a lifelong proponent and exemplar of undergraduate advising at WVU.

The 2026 recipients of the Nicholas Evans Faculty Advising Excellence Award include:

- Carolyn Kitchens, teaching associate professor, Eberly College of Arts and Sciences C. Eugene Bennett Department of Chemistry and Department of Biology; and
- Mikel “Micky” Holcomb, associate professor, Eberly College of Arts and Sciences Department of Physics and Astronomy.

The 2026 recipient of the Nicholas Evans Primary Role Advising Excellence Award is:

- Aaron Hawley, program coordinator for the Multidisciplinary Media Studies major and academic adviser in the College of Creative Arts and Media.

The 2026 recipients of the Nicholas Evans Primary Role Advising Excellence — New Adviser Award are:

- Sarah Deem, senior academic adviser in the School of Medicine; and
- Allegra Dishner, student success adviser at WVU Institute of Technology.

First-Year Seminar

Also at the direction of the Office of the Provost, the First-Year Seminar Advisory Council recognizes a First-Year Seminar (191) instructor who demonstrates excellence in teaching, a commitment to student success and innovation in course design.

WenJuan (Helen) Mo is this year's recipient. She is a graduate teaching assistant for the Fundamentals of Engineering Program for first-year Statler students and is a doctoral student in the Educational Theory and Practice program in the College of Applied Human Sciences.

Congratulations to all of our award recipients so far. Be sure to watch ENEWS for more upcoming announcements, including the prestigious Benedum Distinguished Scholar Awards.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Chair Hutson requested a motion to move into Executive Session, under authority in West Virginia Code, Section 6-9A-4(b)(2)(A), (b)(9) and (b)(12) to discuss potential strategic initiatives relating to financial priorities for the University; confidential and deliberative information on draft FY27 budgets; the potential investment of public funds and other deliberative matters involving

commercial competition which, if made public, might adversely affect the financial or other interest of the University; legislative priorities for the University; and a legal update from the General Counsel.

Kevin Craig so moved, which motion was seconded by Charles Capito and passed. Following the discussions in Executive Session, Elmer Coppoolse moved that the board rise from Executive Session. The motion was seconded by Scott Crichlow and passed.

Chair Hutson stated that during Executive Session the Board received a series of preliminary, deliberative, and, in certain respects, confidential updates. Also, the Board received a legislative update from the Associate Vice President for Government Relations and Collaboration, and then a legal update from the University's General Counsel.

No actions or votes were taken during Executive Session.

DIVISIONAL CAMPUS COMMITTEE REPORT

Committee Chair Paul Mattox provided this report.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We held an Audit Committee meeting on April 9, 2026 via Zoom.

First, we heard from the WVU Interim VP and Chief Financial Officer, Barbara Weiss.

Barbara reported that the WVU Research Corporation Single Audit for fiscal 2025 was completed with no findings and was filed with the Federal Audit Clearinghouse on March 30, 2026.

Barb also reported that the WVU's portion of the State of West Virginia's Single Audit had one finding that has since been cured and the audit was completed and filed with the Federal Audit Clearinghouse on March 30, 2026.

In addition, CLA, WVU's financial auditors, are in the process of completing a mid-year review. Results will be shared when the mid-year review and the report is finalized.

Barb also presented information related to the January 29, 2026 engagement letter from Forvis, LLP, for the WVU Research Corporation 403B plan audit. No vote is needed, but the Audit Committee is required to receive information regarding the letter.

We also met in Executive Session. During Executive Session, we received a confidential and privileged report regarding legal matters from the University's General Counsel, including a report from the Risk Manager regarding risk management and insurance claim matters. Next, we received a report from the Director of Internal Audit discussing confidential and ongoing audit investigations and reports. No votes or actions were taken during Executive Session.

Mr. Chairman, this concludes my report.

FINANCE, FACILITIES AND REVITALIZATION COMMITTEE REPORT

Committee Chair Steve Ruby provided this report.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The Finance, Facilities, and Revitalization Committee met earlier this week on April 13th via Zoom.

We met in Executive Session to discuss potential strategic initiatives relating to financial, administrative, athletic, and academic priorities for the University; confidential and deliberative information on draft FY27 budgets; potential corporate collaborations; the potential investment of public funds and other deliberative matters involving commercial competition which, if made public, might adversely affect the financial or other interest of the University.

During Executive Session, the Committee received a series of preliminary, deliberative, and in certain respects confidential financial and strategic updates, including progress of FY27 planning and priorities and planning for tuition and fee rates, which included review of impacts from potential federal financial aid changes. The Committee also received updates on key Athletics projects and initiatives, and also was provided written reports on current capital and financial matters.

No actions or votes were taken during Executive Session.

In public session following the executive session, we received an overview of the bond issuance proposals and voted to recommend to the Full Board approval of 3 Authorizing Resolutions that will be overviewed later in this meeting. More specifically the Committee:

Resolved: That the Finance Committee of the West Virginia University Board of Governors recommends the approval of the execution of an Authorizing Resolution for the financing of the Phase III and IV Modernization Plan through the issuance of Revenue Bonds in an aggregate principal amount not to exceed \$40,000,000; and reimbursement of related costs incurred prior to issuance of such bonds.

Resolved: That the Finance Committee of the West Virginia University Board of Governors recommends the approval of the execution of an Authorizing Resolution for the financing of the Steam Plant Facilities through the issuance of Revenue Bonds in an aggregate principal amount not to exceed \$40,000,000; and reimbursement of related costs incurred prior to issuance of such bonds.

And resolved to recommend an additional bond-financed project which was discussed in executive session but due to the confidential and sensitive nature of the underlying negotiations, certain specific details cannot be publicly disclosed at this time; however, the University will release additional information once those negotiations are resolved and in advance of the bond issuance closing.

Again, these 3 authorizations will be reviewed shortly for Full Board Consideration of the recommendations by the Committee to approve them.

That concludes my report, Mr. Chairman. Thank you.

STRATEGIC PLANS AND INITIATIVES COMMITTEE REPORT

Committee Chair Elmer Coppoolse provided this report.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The Strategic Plans and Initiatives Committee met yesterday on April 16th here at the Erickson Alumni Center.

We met in Executive Session to discuss potential strategic initiatives relating to strategic priorities for the University, including enrollment tactics and strategies, enterprise software modernization, and potential artificial intelligence initiatives; potential corporate collaborations; and other related deliberative matters involving commercial competition which, if made public, might adversely affect the financial or other interest of the University.

During Executive Session, the Committee received an update from Vice President for Enrollment Management Fabrizio D'Aloisio regarding enrollment strategies and tactics. The Committee also received an update on strategic matters related to the IT Modernization initiative as well as potential strategies being considered for institutional AI initiatives. The Committee also received reports on key research partnerships and commercialization. The Committee also engaged in a strategic discussion on protentional institutional goals with President Benson.

No actions or votes were taken during Executive Session.

That concludes my report, Mr. Chairman. Thank you.

ACADEMIC AFFAIRS AND ACCREDITATION COMMITTEE REPORT

Committee Chair Charles Capito provided this report.

The Academic Affairs and Accreditation Committee met yesterday on April 16, 2026 in person with some members attending via Zoom.

We primarily met in Executive Session to discuss potential and deliberative strategic initiatives relating to academic priorities for the University and other deliberative matters involving commercial competition which, if made public, might adversely affect the financial or other interest of the University.

The committee received an update from HSC Leaders related to potential expansion of the WVU School of Medicine and several updates from the Provost's Office regarding recent leadership hires or leadership searches.

We rose from executive session in order to adjourn.

No actions or votes were taken during Executive Session.

**REQUEST FOR APPROVAL FOR CERTAIN BOND AUTHORIZATIONS,
AS RECOMMENDED BY THE FINANCE COMMITTEE, ON THE
FOLLOWING PROJECTS: MODERNIZATION, STEAM PLANT PIPING
AND THE PROJECT AS DISCUSSED IN EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Chair Hutson called upon Associate Vice President for Finance, David Kosslow, to make this presentation. Following the same, Bray Cary moved that the board approve the three authorizing resolutions as contained in today's board meeting materials. The motion was seconded by James Martin and passed.

APPOINTMENT OF NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Paul Mattox moved that the board approve the following composition for a nominating committee to formulate/present a slate of officers for vote by the full board during the June 19, 2026 Regular Meeting: Oliver Luck as Chair, and members Charlie Capito and Bray Cary. Michael D'Annunzio seconded the motion, and the same passed.

CONSENT AGENDA

Next, Chair Hutson asked if there are any items on the Consent Agenda that a member would like to pull for separate consideration. He also asked if there were any questions regarding any remaining items on the Consent Agenda,

There being no such requests made, Chair Hutson requested a motion to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Bray Cary so moved, which motion was seconded by Oliver Luck and passed.

Thereupon, the following Consent Agenda items were approved:

1. Authority to lease Willow Bend Farm in Monroe County, WV to the Willow Bend Agricultural Innovation Center, Inc. for a term of ten (10) years

Resolved: That pursuant to BOG Finance and Administration Rule 5.1, the West Virginia University Board of Governors authorizes the leasing of the Willow Bend Farm in Monroe County, WV to the Willow Bend Agricultural Innovation Center, Inc., for a term of ten (10) years.

2. Approval of New Program: Certificate in Psychology of Peak Performance

Resolved: That the West Virginia University Board of Governors approves the creation of a new certificate program in Psychology of Peak Performance within the College of Applied Human Sciences, WVU.

3. Approval of New Program: Certificate in Sport Analytics and Performance

Resolved: That the West Virginia University Board of Governors approves the creation of a new certificate program in Sport Analytics and Performance within the College of Applied Human Sciences, WVU.

4. Approval of a New Certificate in Sport Analytics and Performance in the College of Applied Human Sciences

Resolved: That the West Virginia University Board of Governors approves the creation of a new certificate in Sport Analytics and Performance.

5. Approval of a New Program: AA Hospitality and Tourism Management

Resolved: That the West Virginia University Board of Governors approves the creation of a new AA degree program in Hospitality and Tourism Management.

6. Approval of New Degree Program: BS Construction Management in the Benjamin M. Statler College of Engineering and Mineral Resources

Resolved: That the West Virginia University Board of Governors approves the creation of a new degree program BS in Construction Management in the Benjamin M. Statler College of Engineering and Mineral Resources

7. Approval of New Degree Program: BS Engineering Studies in the Benjamin M. Statler College of Engineering and Mineral Resources

Resolved: That the West Virginia University Board of Governors approves the creation of a new degree program, BS in Engineering Studies in the Benjamin M. Statler College of Engineering and Mineral Resources

8. Appointment to County Extension Committees

Resolved: That the West Virginia University Board of Governors approves the nominees and alternates for positions on the County Extension Service Committees in West Virginia, as presented.

9. Facility Naming at Potomac State

Resolved: That pursuant to BOG Governance Rule 1.2, the West Virginia University Board of Governors hereby approves the naming opportunity, including an exception to BOG Governance Rule 1.2, Section 3.2.3, as presented in the Board's Executive Session materials, related to a naming opportunity for an Athletics facility at WVU Potomac State College.

10. Authority to convey A and B Street Lots in Keyser, WV to WVURC for potential sale to a private buyer

Resolved: That pursuant to BOG Finance and Administration Rule 5.1, the West Virginia University Board of Governors authorizes conveying the A Street Lots and the B Street Lots in Keyser, WV, to the West Virginia University Research Corporation for no consideration.

INFORMATION ITEM

There were no questions or concerns expressed by any board member pertaining to the Information Item contained within today's agenda.

GENERAL DISCUSSION AND ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the board Michael D'Annunzio moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Elmer Coppoolse and passed. The meeting was adjourned at 12:20 p.m.

Paul Mattox, Secretary

West Virginia University Staff Council

2025-2026 Term: Progress & Achievements

OUR CORE FOCUS

- Visibility: Enhancing awareness of Staff Council's role.
- Advocacy: Being a strong voice for staff needs.
- Community: Building a supportive staff network

STEADY LEADERSHIP IN TRANSITION

- Remaining the consistent voice for WVU's dedicated professional
- Supporting the institution's ongoing progress
- Present on personnel search committees and other University wide committees that affect staff.

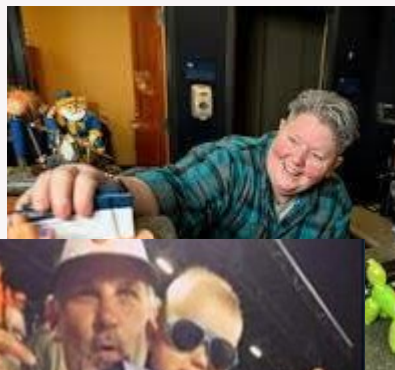
FROM BEHIND THE SCENES TO FRONT & CENTER

- **“Hidden Gems” Series:** Highlighting incredible talent in overlooked departments
- **Monthly Staff Showcase:** Featuring the dedicated individuals who power WVU
- **Revitalized STAAF Community:** Transforming appreciation from a word to an experience for all employees.

“Hidden Gems” Series



Monthly Staff Showcase



- George Cayton – PSC Maintenance
- Val Pratt – Parking Management
- Kenny Lipscomb – Roads & Grounds
- Aaron Simpson – Maintenance
- Amanda Morgan – Global Affairs
- Rochelle Everett – Student Life
- Bryan Denis – Mountainlair Rec Ctr
- Timmy Nguyen – Academic Lab Mgr
- Gwen Perrott – Student Life
- Josh Gatkin – Trades Spec - Facilities



Support & Development

- **Staff Council Scholarship Program:** Successfully managed the application cycles for the Summer, Spring, and Fall semesters helping dozens of employees pursue higher education at WVU
- **Hearts and Hands Program:** Continued administration of this emergency fund, which provides financial assistance to staff facing temporary hardships or catastrophic emergencies
- **Electronic Cookbook:** Produced a unique e-cookbook featuring recipes from employees across the Morgantown, Keyser (Potomac State), and Beckley (WVU Tech) campuses to foster community

Looking Ahead



- Seated 2025-2027 Council: Representing all five staff sectors
- Goal: Strengthening the “One WVU” culture across Morgantown, Keyser, and Beckley



Let's Go!™



A Year in Review

Street-Jones Administration



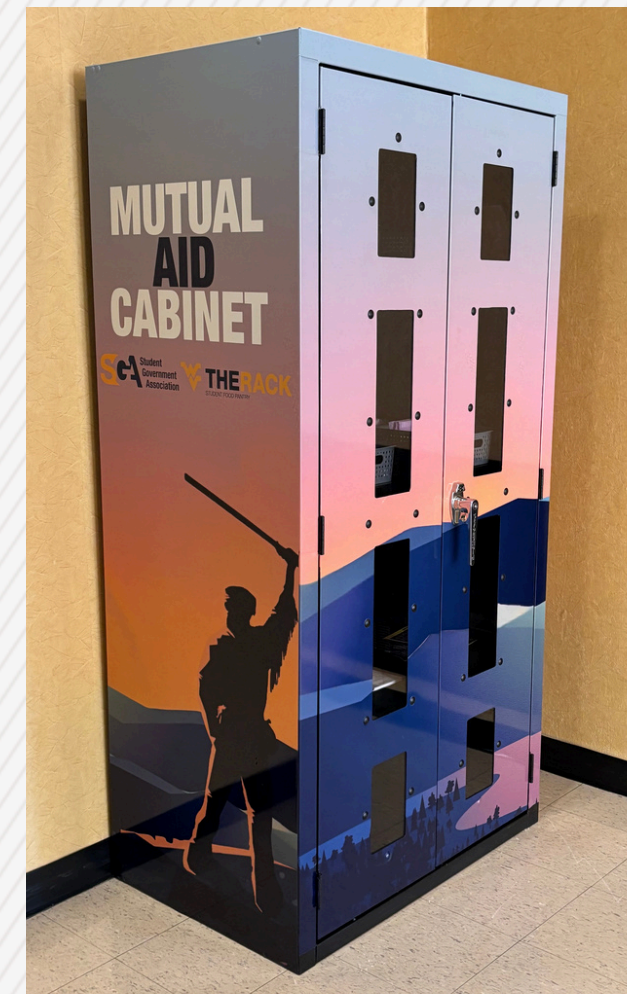
SGA Overview

- Three Branches of Government
- ~150 Active Members
- Primary Duties:
 - Advocating for Students' Needs
 - Execute Student-Focused Projects
 - Develop the WVU's Student Leaders



Embracing a Healthy Student Life

- Mutual Aid Cabinet Trial Downtown
- Expansion to Evansdale & HSC and Branding
- Partnership with WVU WELL, WRC, The Rack



Fighting Apathy on Campus



- #1 Reason Students Dropout of WVU is a Lack of “fit”
- Invigorating an Academic Culture with the return of the Festival of Ideas



Reducing Student Costs

- Institutional Financial Stability Post Transformation
- Tackling Everyday Costs
 - Surveying the Athletic Fee
 - Data Collection on 3rd Party Platforms

**Solar panels are on the horizon for WVU
Evansdale campus
thanks to student efforts**

Friday, December 19, 2025



Building Relationships in Charleston



- HB 3279 Illuminated Shortfalls
- Leveraging the Advisory Council of Students
- Advocating for SB 675 and HB 4081



Internal Branch of SGA

- **Bureau of Development -**
Cultivating Leadership
- **Bureau of Finance -**
\$100,000 to Student Orgs
- **Bureau of Legislation -**
Streamlining Collaboration



External Branch of SGA



- **Communications** - Scaling with Programmatic Media
- **University Relations** - Share a Swipe
- **Community Engagement** - Connection Building Service



SGA Committees

- **College Projects -**
Peer Mentor Report
- **Campus Connection -**
Know Your Rights
Campaign
- **Safety -** Safety Walks



SGA Committees, cont.



- **STEM Help** - UTA Compensation and Credit
- **Student Experience** - Football Hydration Station
- **Sustainability** - Mon. River Clean Up

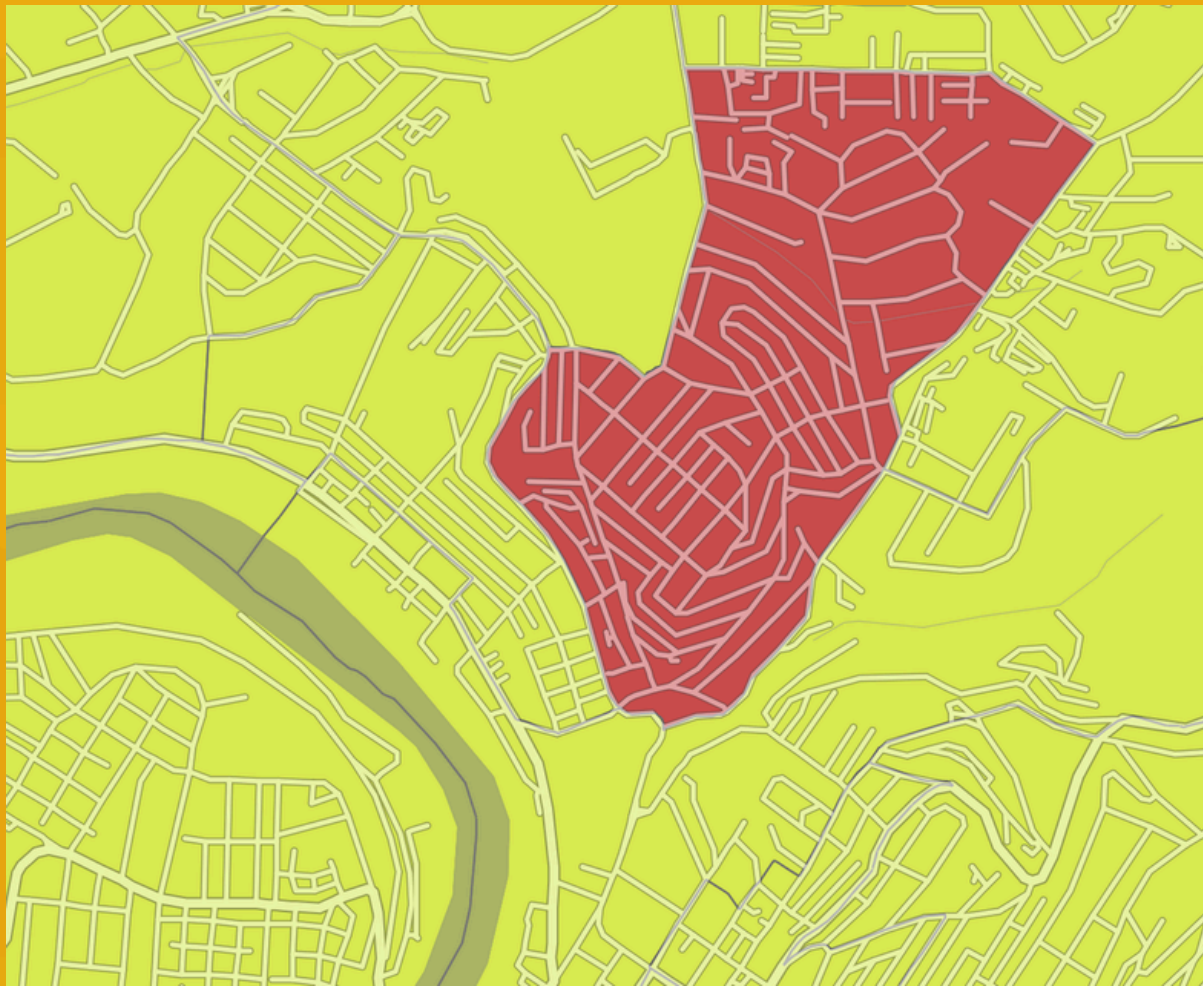




Looking to Next Year



Brooks Hall Grocery Store

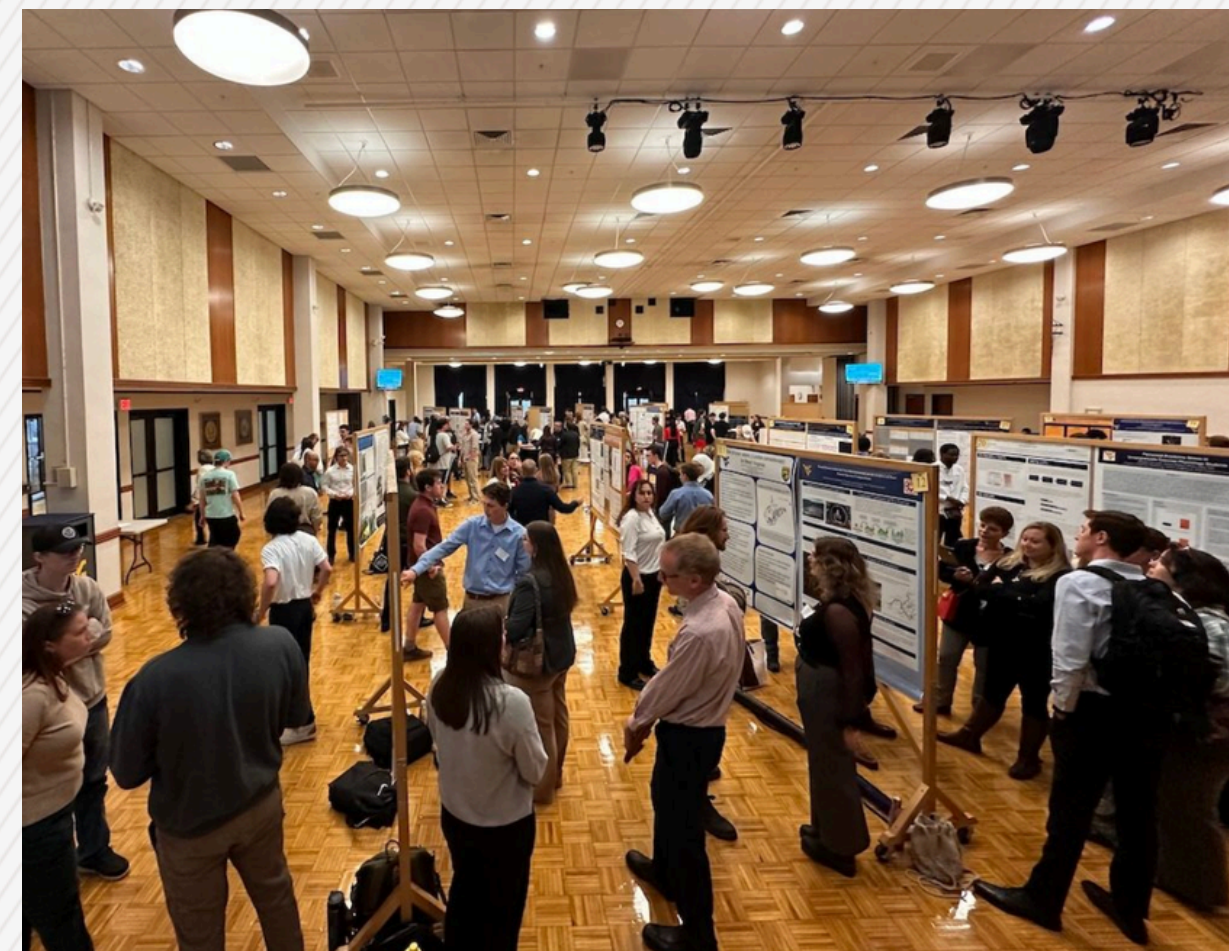


- **Food Access** and Insecurity Challenges
- Adapting **Existing Models** to Our Needs
- Helping Students **Support Local Farmers**



Hardesty Festival Podcast

- **Spotlighting On-Campus Opportunities**
- **Platforming our R1 Status**
- **Building Audience for In-Person Festival**



Student Syallabi Input



- Dramatic Variance in **Class Quality**
- **Existing Pilot** in Statler's EE Program
- **Active Participants** in their Education



Campus Parks Plan

- **Identifying Potential Areas for Connection**
- **Designing Spaces with Student Input**
- **Collaborating with Campus Plan**



Judical Branch Reform



- Students Accused of Cheating with **AI Usage**
- Informed and Available **Peers Advocates**
- Pre-Law Experiential Learning **Hearing Board**



New Internal Branch

- **Logistics** - Planning & Data Collection
- **Development** - Service Learning Course
- **Finance** - Redesign Grants
- **Committees** - Streamline



New External Branch



- **Communications** - Solidifying
- **University Engagement** - Student Org Games
- **Land-Grant Support** - State-Wide Service Trips
- **Gov. Relations** - BIG XII



New SGA Committees

- **Sustainability** -
Coalition Building
- **STEM Help** - Expanding
Lab Equipment Drive
- **Campus Connection** -
First Gen Support



New SGA Committees, cont.



- **Professional Development**
 - Embedded Credentials
- **Health and Accessibility** - Carruth Center Advocacy
- **Facilities** - Libraries and Lounges





Thank You!

