

**WEST LIBERTY UNIVERSITY
BOARD OF GOVERNORS**

March 2, 2010

5:00 p.m.

**R. Emmett Boyle Conference Center
WLU**

AGENDA

1. Call to Order Mr. Joseph
2. Chairperson Comments..... Mr. Joseph
3. Swearing in New Board Member..... Mr. Joseph
4. Approval of Minutes*
Full Board 12/09/09
Executive Committee 12/02/09.....5 Min..... Mr. Joseph
5. Approval of Reports*5 Min..... Mr. Joseph
6. Honorary Degree*5 Min..... Dr. McCullough
7. Program Reviews*10 Min..... Dr. McCullough
8. M.S. in Physician Assistant Sciences*10 Min..... Dr. McCullough
9. Reclassification to Non-Classified Position*5 Min..... Dr. McCullough
Mr. Cook
10. Tuition Waivers*10 Min..... Mr. Capehart
11. West Liberty University Research Corporation Agreement*20 Min..... Mr. Capehart
12. President's Report25 Min..... Mr. Capehart
13. Adjournment

*Action Items

**West Liberty University
Board of Governors**

**Executive Summary
December 9, 2009**

Attendance:

Beverly Burke, Richard Carter, Brian Joseph, Paul Limbert, Shane Stack, James Stultz, Michael Turrentine

Unable to Attend:

Robert Steptoe, Michael Stolarczyk, Ann Thomas

Administration/Faculty/Staff:

John Davis, Bridgette Dawson, Mary Ann Edwards, John Gompers, Matt Harder, Jason Koegler, John McCullough, Reid Amos, Scott Cook, Jack Wright

1. Call to Order:

Chair Joseph called the meeting to order at 5:10 p.m.

2. Chairperson Comments:

Chair Joseph stated that the Finance Committee had just met with the auditors, Deloitte & Touche, and feels we are doing a very appropriate job with finances here at the University as presented in full text on the BOG web site and in the WLU Elbin Library.

3. Approval of Minutes*:

Chair Joseph asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the full Board of October 14, 2009 and the Executive Committee of October 7, 2009.

S. Stack, R. Carter, PASSED, that the listed minutes be approved by the Board of Governors as presented in full text on the BOG web site and in the WLU Elbin Library.

4. Approval of Reports*:

S. Stack, J. Stultz, PASSED, that the reports be approved as presented in full text on the BOG web site and in the WLU Elbin Library.

5. Bachelor of Music Degree Proposal*:

B. Burke, M. Turrentine, PASSED, that the West Liberty University Board of Governors approve the Bachelor of Music Degree Program to be offered within the College of Liberal Arts, Department of Arts and Communications as presented in full text on the BOG web site and in the WLU Elbin Library.

6. Honorary Degree*:

P. Limbert, B. Burke, PASSED, that the West Liberty University Board of Governors authorizes the conferral of an honorary Doctor of Humane Letters (DHL) degree from West Liberty University at the December 2009 commencement to Jeffrey V. Kessler as presented in full text on the BOG web site and in the WLU Elbin Library.

7. Finance Summit:

Mr. Stultz to give an update on the Finance Summit as presented in full text on the BOG web site and in the WLU Elbin Library.

8. Reclassification to Non-classified Position:

Dr. McCullough gave a general synopsis regarding the current campus nurse at WLU as presented in full text on the BOG web site and in the WLU Elbin Library.

9. President's Report:

Dr. McCullough stated that he would be presenting highlights of the president's report as presented in full text on the BOG web site and in the WLU Elbin Library.

10. Executive Session – Appeal of Student Disciplinary Action:

Mr. Gompers asked for a motion to move to executive session to discuss a confidential student's disciplinary action. As part of that motion he asked that John McCullough, John Gompers, and Bridgette Dawson, Director, Center for Student Success, remain as invited guests with the Board.

Pursuant to WV Code § 6-9A-4, a motion was made to retire to executive session by Jim Stultz and seconded by Richard Carter; motion passed unanimously.

Following discussion in executive session, a motion was made to rise from executive session.

11. Adjournment:

The meeting adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

Brian Joseph _____
Chair

Richard Carter _____
Secretary

**West Liberty University
Board of Governors**

**Minutes
December 9, 2009**

Attendance:

Beverly Burke, Richard Carter, Brian Joseph, Paul Limbert, Shane Stack, James Stultz, Michael Turrentine

Unable to Attend:

Robert Steptoe, Michael Stolarczyk, Ann Thomas

Administration/Faculty/Staff:

John Davis, Bridgette Dawson, Mary Ann Edwards, John Gompers, Matt Harder, Jason Koegler, John McCullough, Reid Amos, Scott Cook, Jack Wright

1. Call to Order:

Chair Joseph called the meeting to order at 5:10 p.m.

2. Chairperson Comments:

Chair Joseph stated that the Finance Committee had just met with the auditors, Deloitte & Touche, and feels we are doing a very appropriate job with finances here at the University. He then thanked Mr. Wright for a good session. On the community engagement side of the University there have been some amazing events going on. Newt Gingrich was in town, Handel's "Messiah" was presented at the Capitol Theater, and the football team is doing okay. Another big event was that Xi Beta Phi held their national meeting at WLU. Chair Joseph felt we are really raising the status of the University.

3. Approval of Minutes*:

Chair Joseph asked if there were any issues with the listed minutes. There being none, he then asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the full Board of October 14, 2009 and the Executive Committee of October 7, 2009.

A motion to approve the minutes of the full Board of October 14, 2009 and the Executive Committee of October 7, 2009 was then made by Shane Stack and seconded by Richard Carter; motion passed unanimously.

4. Approval of Reports*:

Chair Joseph asked for any discussion regarding the reports contained in the Board packet. He then asked for a motion to approve the reports.

A motion to approve the reports submitted by the Provost, Enrollment & Student Services, Development, and Community Engagement was then made by Shane Stack and seconded by Jim Stultz; motion passed unanimously.

5. Bachelor of Music Degree Proposal*:

Chair Joseph asked Dr. McCullough to address the Bachelor of Music Degree Proposal. Dr. McCullough thanked the Chair and asked that the Board entertain a motion for approval of the degree followed by discussion since the proposal has been approved by all campus constituents.

A motion was then made to approve the Bachelor of Music Degree Program to be offered within the College of Liberal Arts, Department of Arts and Communications Beverly Burke and seconded by Mike Turrentine; motion passed unanimously.

Dr. McCullough stated that Matt Harder, Interim Program Director of Music is with us tonight. Matt and his colleagues in the Music Division, Interim Chair Brian Fencl and Interim Dean Bill Baronak did a tremendous job on the proposal. This music program will be in addition to the Bachelor of Arts in Music Education, which has been nationally accredited for many years. It is also in response to student demand for a music performance and music technology track. This degree will be 128 hours with no major infusion of resources or additional faculty, and the program is estimated to eventually generate 30 to 40 new students per year. This degree is the perfect complement to what we've had

for many years; professional music performance and music technology. Dr. Harder added that the idea for creating the new degree came from the students on one hand, but also on the other hand came from the desire to attract a high quality music student interested in intensive study in music performance and technology to make full use of the new facility in the Media Arts Center. Dr. McCullough stated that this will be an outstanding program for WLU. The current B.A. in Music Education has a rock solid reputation and this will fuse into this great reputation. Chair Joseph noted some successful people coming out of WLU's music program, such as Brad Paisley.

6. Honorary Degree*:

Per WLSC Policy 238, "Guidelines for Honorary Degrees and Recognition," the Honorary Degrees and Recognition Committee met to review the nomination of Jeffrey V. Kessler, to receive an honorary degree of Doctor of Humane Letters (DHL) from West Liberty University. Senator Kessler has been invited to be the featured speaker at the December 2009, commencement. The Board is asked to approve this nomination.

A motion was then made that in affirmation of the recommendation of the Honorary Degrees and Recognition Committee and the President of the University, the West Liberty University Board of Governors authorizes the conferral of an honorary Doctor of Humane Letters (DHL) degree from West Liberty University at the December 2009 commencement to Jeffrey V. Kessler by Paul Limbert and seconded by Beverly Burke; motion passed unanimously.

7. Finance Summit Update:

Chair Joseph asked Mr. Stultz to give an update on the Finance Summit. Mr. Stultz stated it was a truly interesting day to attend the WV Higher Education Policy Commission Finance Summit held in Morgantown at WVU. It was interesting because there were folks from the academic side and pretty heady on how they see the climate in higher education from a funding prospect. Mr. Stultz stated the sense of the summit was that we have an urgency here to ensure, as we move forward, to plan for the future. The State is currently running two-years behind the recession and the revenue loss isn't going to occur within our element of concern for a couple more years. Without boring the group with a lot of info, a look at one bit of information given was regarding general revenue. General revenue approval to the State of West Virginia for Higher Education in fiscal year 2010 is going to be \$407 million; in 2011 it drops to \$398 million; in 2012 another drop to \$398 million. This is a significant deficit. The general revenue for 2014 goes back up to \$400 million but is still obviously significantly under where we are state-wide. This is a big problem to look at allocations forthcoming, especially when we are not yet aware of what will happen with health care legislation, Medicare, Medicaid, and other appropriations. All of this means we have to be pretty proactive on how to address these issues as we go forward.

A Board retreat has been scheduled for January 5th to begin this process and think going forward with Mr. Wright's leadership. We should look at putting together an ad hoc committee, which includes Board members if appropriate, multi-disciplinary, various constituents, to take a look at how we will react. We don't want to react one day when we get a call from Charleston and be faced with layoffs, etc. We need to plan as best we can to incorporate the reduction in appropriations with our ability to generate revenue with great efficiency and effectiveness for employees. Dr. Paul Stanton, Jr., President of East Tennessee State University was talking about the horror stories of being told the State of Tennessee had a reduction in state appropriations after the school year had already been planned. The state held an emergency session and reduced appropriations by another 12% two weeks later. What do you do? Dr. Stanton gave various scenarios on how they dealt with the situation. WLU hasn't had that kind of dramatic situation but we have to be prepared. We need to advance plan on how we will react, even if we may not have to implement the plan. Mr. Stultz stated that attending the finance summit was part of the continuing education required in statute by Board members and he was glad he had a chance to go. WLU was well represented, along with all of the colleges and universities in the State system as well.

Ms. Burke stated that although she did not attend the finance summit, she did attend the retreat held in August for Board members. There were finance sessions at this retreat and a lot of information was shared then. It is scary when you hear the Chancellor say in a year you will have some reductions. Ms. Burke agreed 100% that we should look at the budget now and plan so we're not shocked like we were with the cuts a few years ago. Ms. Burke asked if anyone remembered what percentage the cuts were when we had the layoffs. Dr. McCullough stated that the largest have been half-year cuts, thinking the percentage at that time was 5%. Future cuts have the potential to be significantly larger. Ms. Burke stated that is scary to look back at 40 lost staff positions and this cut

could be bigger. We have been adding new faculty and staff but we need to be prepared for the future. The campus needs to know what we could be facing in another year. When we had the cuts a few years ago it shocked a lot of people. Dr. McCullough stated that we don't want those types of cuts to happen again. He also noted that WLU is in a much better financial position than it was at that time. Reserves exist today that did not exist six or seven years ago. Mr. Wright has worked hard, along with the Finance Committee. Dr. McCullough and Dr. Lukich recently attended a meeting in Charleston and the Chancellor met with them for 45 minutes, making the same statement everyone has been hearing; we're looking at an 18-month window to prepare for 2012. The Chancellor referenced a possible 8% to 10% overall reduction in funding.

Mr. Turrentine stated that he also attended the Board retreat in August and financial matters were mentioned. Although we had cuts this year the stimulus money in the State softened the blow a little and backfilled the reduction. The stimulus money will be totally exhausted, making the reductions higher. We can hope for a turn around in the economy, but we can't bet on it. Mr. Joseph asked Mr. Limbert for his thoughts on inflation in the future from a banker's perspective. Mr. Limbert stated that, depending on who you want to listen to, interest rates are going to stay low for most of 2010 and there are no predictions beyond 2010.

Mr. Stultz stated that there were a lot of other statistics given that bring home the issues we have in the State of West Virginia such as the age of the population, the potential negative impact of other casinos and gaming center in adjacent states, the impact of the environmental issues involving coal and so on. One thing that was shocking was the major funding needs in West Virginia. If we had a blank check to fulfill all of the needs of the state, whether it be roads, bridges, K-12 issues, retirement, workers compensation, unfunded liabilities, or drinking water issues, it would take \$46 billion dollars to bring the State up to an appropriate level.

Chair Joseph thanked Mr. Stultz for his update on the Finance Summit. This information is good timing in terms of the Board with seasoned managers as members of the Board who have been through some hard times and have a much better vision of how to deal with these matters.

8. Reclassification to Non-classified Position:

Dr. McCullough gave a general synopsis regarding the current campus nurse at WLU. She is a registered nurse being paid the salary of approximately \$20,000. That is a meager salary in 2009-10 for a registered nurse. The current classification system allows very limited flexibility for increasing this salary to make it a bit more marketable for a quality individual. There is the possibility of this staff position being changed to a non-classified position with Board approval with a possible title of Director of Health Services. The reason for the classification change is for a more competitive market salary to attract and retain people in this position.

Mr. Cook stated that we do have a position review for this position that is outdated, but primarily this position would be Director of Health Services. The current nurse, Christy Bennington, handles more than the job originally entailed. Christy assesses and treats students, but also represents the department in campus meetings and coordinated the H1N1 clinic on campus. Having reviewed the position the best option seems to be to move to a non-classified position. Mrs. Burke stated that she thought there was something in the Mercer system where you could rewrite a PIQ or create a job within the Mercer system. She thought WVU had done this on numerous occasions and that the process was institution specific. She also stated that we were close to the limit on the percentage of non-classified positions. If we could create a new position in the Mercer system with a higher pay grade it could leave room for other non-classified positions. Dr. McCullough stated that this is a valid point as we start to move toward the ceiling on non-classified positions. The problem here is moving from a pay grade 15 to a 17 would only move the pay to approximately \$22,000. A 10% raise is not significant enough for this position. The current salary is so low that there's not a great deal we can do in the Mercer system. Mr. Cook stated that they did revise the PIQ and submit it to Human Resources and the President. Mrs. Burke asked if we did move someone to non-classified, can we move them back if a new position would be made available. Dr. McCullough stated that could be done if a revised position came through. Mrs. Burke preferred the position remain a classified position as opposed to non-classification for job security purposes.

Mr. Wright stated that an alternative solution would be to include the nurse in the doctor's contract. This was discussed last year with Wheeling Hospital when working on the contract and is still a possibility. Mrs. Burke asked if that person would lose their benefits if they were contracted out in this

way since they wouldn't work for the University. Mr. Wright stated that the benefits would be covered by the doctor's contract.

9. President's Report:

Dr. McCullough stated that he would be presenting highlights of the president's report. WLU has been awarded \$100,000 for the Bucks for Brains program. WLU, along with Concord University, are the only two universities awarded the \$100,000. This outlay is in support of Science and Math students. This award is a reflection of the quality we have in those programs. Dr. McCullough stated that he would try to answer any questions regarding the president's report but thought the president had clearly done a good job of summarizing activities at WLU. Also part of this report are two presentations; one by Reid Amos, directly involved in some contemporary polling of focus group responses at WLU. Reid will make his presentation, followed by John Davis' report on another initiative at WLU. Mr. Turrentine asked why President Capehart is not at tonight's Board meeting. Chair Joseph stated that it's his understanding the president is traveling due to family issues.

Mr. Amos then gave his presentation on the survey of tenth to twelfth graders. At one point in the presentation Mr. Cook stated that if we can get a student to schedule a campus visit through the web site and get that student to campus, we are more likely to have them enroll. Mr. Turrentine asked what the cost to the University is on this type of survey. Mr. Amos stated that to date it has cost approximately \$16,000 to \$17,000. There will be more results to come in and most likely, this information will probably save us that amount of money in the next three to five months. We will be able to quickly determine where we've spent money where there was no need. It sounds like a lot of money but it will eventually save West Liberty money.

Chair Joseph stated that the place to be and where WLU needs to be is the internet with the social networks such as Facebook. 15% of a student's time in America is spent on Facebook or some other sharing network such as Google. Mr. Amos stated that this is at the top of our list. There is some very direct data with regard to the success of our advertising, what ads pay well, attract students, and get them to our web page. We want to turn our online strategy into leads on students. Students will be able to view a 30 second WLU commercial imbedded in a page, give them an opportunity to fill out an online form, what they're interested in learning at WLU, and hopefully create a more seamless and less expensive process to generate leads to Admissions.

Mr. Turrentine stated that a lot of work has been done to the current web site and asked for a summary on where we are with the roll out of the new site. Mr. Amos stated that the existing web site is in its final months. We had to keep the site going longer than we anticipated. There were more issues in keeping the current site operable than we realized when we took it over. That being the case, it delayed the timeline for the new site, which will be available in January. Social networking will be a very integral part of the new web site. There will be quite a difference in how we deal with prospective and existing students. Chair Joseph stated that we can't move quickly enough in this area. It's also very important that the site work well with current technology such as the iPhone. Chair Joseph thanked Mr. Amos for his presentation.

Mr. Davis referred the Board to the President's Report which mentions a meeting that he (Mr. Davis) and Jim Shaffer had with WVU Research Corporation folks. The meeting which was on November 30 represented moving from the back burner to the front burner President Capehart's initiative to create a research corporation at West Liberty. Eighteen months ago the President first mentioned the topic to Mr. Davis. Since that time, they and Jack Wright, Dr. McCullough, and Jim Shaffer have had conversations among themselves and with Robert Kreisberg about the benefits of establishing a research corporation. At the meeting last week, Mr. Davis and Mr. Shaffer met with Curt Peterson, President, WVU Research Corporation, Joe Hrabik, General Counsel, and Dave Satterfield, Director of Asset Development. Mr. Davis' part of the conversation dealt with legal aspects - preparation of operating documents such as articles of incorporation, an affiliation agreement, and bylaws. Mr. Shaffer dealt with the technical aspects of administering such things as technology transfers and sponsored programs. The administration is looking to establish the corporation as soon as possible in the new year.

Ms. Burke asked Mr. Davis to define research corporation and what it would encompass. Mr. Davis stated that, without getting into too much detail, WVU set up its research corporation in the mid 80's. Their corporation is used to streamline the way in which grant money is handled. In the public sector, the rules and regulations imposed on public colleges and universities by HEPC often make it difficult for institutions to move quickly and adjust to varying needs. A research corporation is a more flexible

entity that isn't encumbered by nearly so many rules and regulations. It in effect can serve as a bank through which grant money can be channeled to serve West Liberty's interests in a variety of areas. Mr. Davis indicated that the President may invite Mr. Shaffer to a future Board meeting to provide additional information on this subject.

Dr. McCullough stated that the staff of our research corporation would be paid by the corporation not by WLU. Officers of the research corporation would be paid out of grants and income generated; they would not be paid by our payroll. There is no direct correlation between the size of institutions and whether they establish research corporations. Bluefield, for example, is about half the size of WLU, yet it already has a research corporation. Ms. Burke stated that the subject was confusing and that the clarification was helpful. Dr. McCullough stated that most people don't think of a research corporation at a smaller university.

Mr. Davis said he wanted to add, for the particular benefit of Mr. Turrentine and Ms. Burke, that our corporation will have a board of directors charged with ensuring input from various interests. For example, the corporation's board will include a faculty representative. That representative would be selected by Faculty Senate and would not necessarily have to be the same faculty member who serves on the Board of Governors. There will be a very real connection to the Board of Governors in any event because the research corporation's president will have to be a full-time employee of the University. Ms. Burke asked if the research corporation will be separate from the Foundation or if monies intended for the corporation will be funneled through the Foundation. Mr. Davis stated that the research corporation and the Foundation will operate in a mutually exclusive manner. One will deal with grants, and the other will deal with gifts. Grants to the corporation cannot be credited to the Foundation. Mr. Turrentine asked whether the research corporation will be non-profit. Mr. Davis replied, "yes."

Chair Joseph stated that there are similarities between the Foundation and the research corporation; they are both long-term and provide more stability to the University; both bring money to the campus. He said this initiative is a tremendous idea. The University will be better able to attract money because of the process the research corporation will create. Ms. Burke asked if there will be a full-time grants coordinator within the research corporation. Mr. Davis said he couldn't speak to that. Dr. McCullough stated that each college of the university should have a major grants person. This individual would initiate the project event, even if they might not end up being the final writer on the grant proposal. Because of their particular expertise, they will be responsible for providing most of the data and information needed for the proposal. The research corporation could employ or contract out a specialist as a grant writer if there is enough activity and possibly add a full-time staff member, again, depending on the level of activity.

10. Executive Session – Appeal of Student Disciplinary Action:

Mr. Gompers asked for a motion to move to executive session to discuss a confidential student's disciplinary action. As part of that motion he asked that John McCullough, John Gompers, and Bridgette Dawson, Director, Center for Student Success, remain as invited guests with the Board.

Pursuant to WV Code § 6-9A-4, a motion was made to retire to executive session by Jim Stultz and seconded by Richard Carter; motion passed unanimously.

Following discussion in executive session, a motion was made to rise from executive session.

11. Adjournment:

The meeting adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

Brian Joseph _____
Chair

Richard Carter _____
Secretary

**West Liberty University
Board of Governors**

**Executive Committee
Minutes
December 2, 2009**

Executive Committee Members: Brian Joseph, Jim Stultz, Richard Carter

WLU Administrators: Robin Capehart, John McCullough

1. Chair Joseph called the meeting to order at 8:05 a.m.
2. Board of Governors Business – The next Board meeting will be held at the WLU R. Emmett Boyle Conference Center at 5:00 p.m. on Wednesday, December 9, 2009. The BOG Finance Committee will meet at 4:00 p.m.
3. Bachelor of Music (B.M.) New Degree Proposal – Proposal has already been approved by all appropriate internal constituencies and, upon BOG approval, will be submitted to the HEPC for final action. If all approvals are granted, the program would be launched in August, 2010.
4. Honorary Degree – An honorary Doctorate of Humane Letters to be awarded to State Senator Jeffrey Kessler, who will be the speaker at the December 12 commencement ceremony, will be recommended for approval by the full Board.
5. Board of Governors Finance Retreat – President Capehart provided an overview of the retreat conducted in Morgantown in November. Jim Stultz commented on the value and importance of the retreat and of the Board's role in providing assistance in extraordinary financial matters.
6. President's Report – President Capehart provided an update on (1) the preliminary spring-semester registration/enrollment figures – which have increased over a year ago, (2) the "Try College" program, (3) possible creation of a new non-classified staff position for Director of Health Services, (4) "Bucks for Brains" grant award of \$100,000 to WLU, (5) Neighborhood Investment Tax Credit, (6) President's Council Retreat and NCAA meeting in January, and (7) various civic engagement activities.
7. Executive Session – The Executive Committee moved to executive session.
8. Meeting adjourned at 9:35 a.m.

Brian Joseph

Chair

Richard Carter

Secretary

ENROLLMENT & STUDENT SERVICES BOG REPORT

03/02/10

- 1) As of February 1, the enrollment headcount was 2406. This is an increase of 4% over last spring.
- 2) As of February 1, we have 1134 students living in the residence halls. This is an increase of 5% over last spring.
- 3) As of February 1, applications for the fall 2010 semester are up 12%.
- 4) As of February 1, accepted students for the fall 2010 semester have increased 10%.
- 5) The Department of Health Services submitted a grant request to the HEPC and received \$24,000 to help in the response to, and preparation for, the H1N1 flu virus.

Submitted by Scott Cook

February 2, 2010

Provost Report
March 2, 2010

- The University Curriculum Committee approved the Master of Science Physician Assistant Science Degree Program. It will be on the agenda this month as an action item. Pending your approval, it will be presented to HEPC and HLC (Higher Learning Commission) for consideration and approval. The Accreditation Review Commission of Education for the Physician Assistant (ARC-PA) Program will be on campus in June 2010 for a site visit. It is anticipated that the program will begin in July or August 2011, if all approvals are granted.
- NASM's (National Association of Schools of Music) has affirmed our re-accreditation after thorough review of the additional detailed documentation sent in September 2009. A significant number of the concerns related to physical plant upgrades needed. Some have been completed and others are being scheduled for later this year and next year. Jack Wright provided a report of the planned work. Congratulations were given to the faculty, Dr. Harder, Program Director, Interim Chair, Brian Fencl, and Interim Dean, William Baronak at the last Faculty Senate meeting on this positive outcome.
- The proposal for the Bachelor of Music Degree is nearly complete and will be sent to the HEPC in the next couple of weeks. We anticipate their consideration in April and hope to begin the program in fall 2010, if approved. We are also awaiting their review of the Social Work degree program proposal sent to them last fall. We also anticipate an August 2010 start date for this program.
- An Adult Degree Completion Program—Bachelor of Arts in Organizational Leadership and Administration (BLA) is in its final stages of development. It will be presented to the University Curriculum Committee and Faculty Senate this semester. If all goes according to plan, it will be an item for your consideration in April, and sent to HEPC for their July meeting. The goal is to begin the first cohort of students in September or October and to plan for 3-4 cohorts during the first year.
- The Arts faculty are completing final revisions to the Intent to Plan for a Digital Media Design Degree Program. We will keep you informed when it is ready for submission to the Policy Commission.
- The Higher Learning Commission has accepted a team of faculty and administrators to participate in the Assessment Academy in March. The focus of their work will be on general studies assessment and will span four years. Our participation will allow us to “set aside” the progress report due in February 2011 on general studies assessment. Participants include: Paula Tomasik, Director of IR & A, Dr. Donna Lukich, Vice Provost, Faculty—Brienne Bayer, Dr. Steve Criniti, Dr. Robert Kruse (Assistant Chair, Dept. of Social and Behavioral Sciences), Dr. Jeremy Larance and Dr. Peter Staffel.



Office of Development Report January 2010

Total Gifts Received: As of December 31, 2009, the West Liberty University Foundation had received \$602,878 in contributions since July 1, 2009. This compares to \$579,387 for the same period last year, a 4% increase. Also, as of December 31, 2009, we have received 1,324 gifts compared to 1170 gifts for the same period last year. A 13% increase.

Annual Giving:

Phonathon: The Fall Phonathon, which supports the *Annual Campaign for Excellence*, kicked off in late September. Our student callers, (The Route 88ers), again had the opportunity to use our new automated software calling system, "Dialvision". Each student used a desktop station to call alumni and friends. In the ten week span of our '09 Fall Phonathon, the automation enabled us to dial nearly 20,000 times. A total nearing 1,000 contacts were made with \$32,052 being pledged. As of December 31 we had received \$18,264 from those pledges.

Major Gifts:

Board Giving: The goal of every not-for-profit organization is to have 100% board participation in annual contributions. Through the end of December, 18 members of the foundation board of directors have contributed \$169,939.

President's Circle: The President's Circle appeal was sent in November. The number of President's Circle members as of December 31 was 100 donors with a total of \$524,973.

Planned Giving: Development Officer Ron Witt has begun to take a more active role in planned giving. Ron attained his first charitable gift annuity in November and is attending an intensive, planned giving professional development workshop in Florida this January.

Corporate and Foundation Giving: Corporate and Foundation giving results as of December 31 were \$200,293.

Director of Development, Jason Koegler and Dean of Education, Keely Camden have submitted a Benedum Foundation grant that supports environmental education in the community.

Cultivation and Recognition Efforts:

An appeal to Dental Hygiene graduates and dental professionals in the Ohio Valley was sent in November. This solicitation requested a commitment to continue the strengthening of the Dental Hygiene Program. To date, approximately \$900 has been received.

Each Development Officer sent holiday cards to donors on their individual "worker" lists.

Technology:

The Office of Development has created the social networking entity, "WLU Outreach" in order to save costs on mailings, and in order to better communicate with its constituency. Since its inception in May, the office has obtained 1,000 working emails from alumni and friends.

Facebook and Twitter groups have also been created and are gaining new members on a daily basis.

Stewardship:

Jason Koegler, in a partnership with all deans and coaches, led an initiative to drastically improve the foundation scholarship stewardship program. As a result, the office has obtained over 125 portraits of scholarship recipients and dean and coach-approved thank you letters to send to scholarship benefactors.

President's Circle events: The Benefactors Gala was held October 9 with approximately 125 in attendance. Senior, Kristen Hendershot, made a presentation entitled, "Creation of an After School Program as part of her senior honors project.

Holiday Receptions: The Development Office in partnership with President and Mrs. Capehart hosted two holiday functions. The first was a dinner at the President's home for approximately 40 retired WLU professors on Thursday, December 3. The second was a reception held at the old Stone & Thomas building after the West Liberty University Chamber Choir performance of Handel's Messiah at the Capitol Theatre in downtown Wheeling. Approximately 115 benefactors attended the festive party, including conductor Al de Jaager and the featured soloists.

Benefactors Report: The 2008-09 Benefactors report will be mailed by the end of March.

Athletics: WOW!! What a football season! The Hilltoppers finished a very successful 2009 season at 11-2. They were undefeated in the WVIAC Conference, Number 1 in the Super Region One and Number 9 in the Division II national standings.

"It's hard to see it come to an end," Coach Roger Waialae said, "but in a couple of days, we're going to realize that we had a great season. When you look at where we've come from in the past five years – winning a conference championship, setting a school record with 11 wins and playing for the regional championship – it says a lot about the commitment from our players, my coaching staff and our West Liberty University administration. Our 11 seniors have built something nobody imagined we could build over the past four years. Our job is now to pick up where they left off and take it to the next level."

Junior quarterback, Zack Amedro, was one of three players to receive a formal invitation to the 24th Annual Harlon Hill Trophy Presentation Banquet held on December 11 to crown the NCAA Division II Player of the Year. Amedro finished the Hilltoppers' season ranked No. 2 nationally in passing yards (380.4 ypg.) No. 3 in total offense (378.5) and No. 4 in pass efficiency (169.6). He was the field general for a West Liberty offense which led the nation in total offense (542.3 ypg.), scoring offense (47.3 ppg.) and touchdowns (85).

Department News:

Director of Development Jason Koegler graduated from Leadership West Virginia in Charleston in November.

Director of Development Jason Koegler, Interim Dean of the College of Liberal Arts William Baronak, Dean of the College of Education Keely Camden and Dean of the College of Sciences Dr. Robert Kreisberg will attend the CASE conference for "Development and Deans" in New Orleans in January.

Members of the Office of Development will be attending the CASE District II Conference in Philadelphia, February 7 - 9.

The Office of Development will fill the position of "Development Officer" in January.

OFFICE OF COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

- The first of three performances scheduled for this semester at the Capitol Theatre was held on Sunday, January 31st. It featured WLU students, who auditioned in early December, performing in a variety show titled “West Liberty University and the Best of the Valley Present: The Super Bowl of Talent”. The show consisted of singing, dancing, music and comedy. Admission was free and the performance was open to the public. It was well attended and our students gained valuable experience by performing at the historic Capitol Theatre. The next two shows are scheduled for March 21st featuring WLU’s woodwind ensemble and April 18th featuring WLU’s jazz and steel bands as well as steel bands from Wheeling Park High School and John Marshall High School.
- The WLU Civics Challenge will begin on February 12th at the Media Arts Center. Eight area high schools will be competing in a “quiz bowl” format with the field of questions devoted to social studies, history, civics, business, geography and popular culture. The participating schools are Wheeling Park, John Marshall, Brooke, Bridgeport, Madonna, River, St. John’s and Toronto. The shows will be broadcasted on WLTV, Comcast Channel 14 and Fox Ohio Valley, Comcast Channel 12. Orrick Global Operations Center in Wheeling has agreed to sponsor the Civics Challenge.
- Plans are under way to develop a University based community website for the arts. This initiative would involve the creation of a master calendar of events along with information pertaining to arts organizations in the Ohio Valley.
- A Community Service Committee has been formed on campus to help connect students, faculty and staff with non – profit organizations in the community. A brochure will be developed that will detail the important role that the university community plays in its responsibility to help build stronger communities by participating as active citizens and serving as a resource for the public.
- The 2009 WLU United Way Campaign concluded in December with an 18% increase in employee contributions compared to the previous year.

Submitted by:

Jeff Knierim
Vice President for Community Engagement
February 2, 2010

West Liberty University Board of Governors
March 2, 2010

HONORARY DEGREE

Action Item

Proposed Resolution: *Resolved*, that in affirmation of the recommendation of the Honorary Degrees and Recognition Committee and the President of the University, the West Liberty University Board of Governors authorizes the conferral of an honorary Doctor of Humane Letters (DHL) degree from West Liberty University at the May 2010 commencement to David C. Hardesty, Jr.

PROGRAM REVIEW

B.S. in Biology

Action Item

The B.S. in Biology program is up for five-year program review approval before the West Liberty University Board of Governors.

The Academic Affairs Committee has made institutional recommendations and the rationale for these recommendations for this program.

Proposed Resolution: *Resolved*, that the West Liberty University Board of Governors approves the program review recommendation for the B.S. in Biology program for continuation of the program at the current level of activity.

West Liberty University
Board of Governors Program Review
Summary Report

Academic Program: Bachelor of Science in Biology

Date: January 29, 2010

Recommendation: Continuation of the program at the current level of activity

Rationale for the recommendation is based upon the following:

Strengths of the Program:

1. Well qualified faculty, including the addition of two positions in the past five years
2. Classrooms with current teaching technologies
3. Upgrade of electrical capacity and a new generator for the building, thereby assuring maintenance of sensitive equipment during power outages.
4. Engagement of the majority of faculty in student-oriented research, which provides undergraduate research, scholarly publication and presentation opportunities for students and faculty
5. Availability of grant funds which provide additional resources for equipment and stipends for student and faculty researchers
6. Significant growth in enrollment in past 5 years
7. Fully-developed assessment plan, which has resulted in outcome data and program improvement

Weaknesses of the Program:

1. Arnett Hall is too small for the enrollment growth in science, especially biology, majors
2. Lack of funds to purchase:
 - a. Service contracts when large pieces of equipment are purchased.
 - b. Inability to purchase computer and video dissection technology for the anatomy lab

PROGRAM REVIEW

A.S. in Dental Hygiene

Action Item

The A.S. in Dental Hygiene program is up for five-year program review approval before the West Liberty University Board of Governors.

The Academic Affairs Committee has made institutional recommendations and the rationale for these recommendations for this program.

Proposed Resolution: *Resolved*, that the West Liberty University Board of Governors approves the program review recommendation for the A.S. in Dental Hygiene program for continuation of the program at the current level of activity.

West Liberty University
Board of Governors Program Review
Summary Report

Academic Program: Associate of Science in Dental Hygiene

Date: January 29, 2010

Recommendation: Continuation of the program at the current level of activity

Rationale for the recommendation is based upon the following:

Strengths of the Program:

1. Accreditation by the American Dental Association in 2004
2. A comprehensive assessment program which reflects curricular changes as warranted by assessment findings
3. An appropriate ratio of students to clinic staff and faculty which allows for more individualized instruction and assistance.
4. Appropriate dental equipment in the Clinic for dental hygiene instruction and patient care
5. Engagement with the community for the provision of dental hygiene services
6. Entire dental hygiene faculty hold terminally/professional degrees

Weaknesses of the Program:

1. Curriculum is at its highest level of credit hours and does not permit the addition of new content without elimination of "older" content
2. Graduates are finding full time employment opportunities severely reduced since spring 2009

PROGRAM REVIEW

B.A. in English

Action Item

The B.A. in English program is up for five-year program review approval before the West Liberty University Board of Governors.

The Academic Affairs Committee has made institutional recommendations and the rationale for these recommendations for this program.

Proposed Resolution: *Resolved*, that the West Liberty University Board of Governors approves the program review recommendation for the B.A. in English program for continuation of the program at the current level of activity with corrective action focused on further development/improvement of the program's assessment plan, specifically student learning outcomes measurement.

West Liberty University
Board of Governors Program Review
Summary Report

Academic Program: Bachelor of Arts in English

Date: January 29, 2010

Recommendation: Continuation of the program at the current level of activity with corrective action. A follow-up assessment report is required in 2010-11. Further, it is recommended that the program be conditionally approved based upon the development of an assessment plan. Completion of an Assessment Follow-Up Progress Report is required to ensure appropriate steps are being taken to initiate an assessment plan. Additionally, it is recommended the Report continue on an annual basis until a productive assessment plan is established.

Rationale for the recommendation is based upon the following:

Strengths of the Program:

1. Positive evaluations from recent graduates in all areas of the program, except technology.
2. Vast majority of the faculty hold terminal degrees (Five out of six).
3. A variety of course offerings are made available to majors.
4. Positive student-faculty relationships within the Department.
5. Assessment coordinator named for 2009-10 and initial work begun.

Weaknesses of the Program:

1. Lack of cumulative assessment data to measure program effectiveness, including placement of graduates.
 - a. In addition to the recently developed student learning outcomes, the assessment plan for English should include the following:
 - i. The establishment of assessment measures (student diagnostic) which will provide data on student learning and identify program strengths and weaknesses
 - ii. Establishment of routine senior surveys and/or exit interviews to provide data on student satisfaction
 - iii. Cumulative data on graduates, employment statistics and/or graduate school
 - b. Encourage additional faculty members to attend a national higher education assessment conference such as the IUPUI Assessment Institute.
2. Classrooms are lacking in technology, such as computer-based teacher stations, TV/DVD/VCR units.

PROGRAM REVIEW

B.S. in Graphic Design

Action Item

The B.S. in Graphic Design program is up for five-year program review approval before the West Liberty University Board of Governors.

The Academic Affairs Committee has made institutional recommendations and the rationale for these recommendations for this program.

Proposed Resolution: *Resolved*, that the West Liberty University Board of Governors approves the program review recommendation for the B.S. Graphic Design program for continuation of the program at the current level of activity with corrective action focused on further development/improvement of the program's assessment plan, specifically student learning outcomes measurement.

West Liberty University
Board of Governors Program Review
Summary Report

Academic Program: Bachelor of Science in Graphic Design

Date: January 29, 2010

Recommendation: Continuation of the program at the current level of activity with corrective action. A follow-up assessment report is required in 2010-11. Further, it is recommended that the program be conditionally approved until outcome data are collected and analyzed for two consecutive academic years. Completion of an Assessment Follow-Up Progress Report is required to ensure this condition is met.

Rationale for the recommendation is based upon the following:

Strengths of the Program:

1. Highly motivated and dedicated faculty
2. Positive evaluations from students and recent graduates in all areas of the program, except frequency of course offerings.
3. Consistently increasing enrollment
4. Impressive educational facilities and technology

Weaknesses of the Program:

1. Lack of cumulative assessment data to measure program effectiveness, including placement of graduates.
 - a. While a plan has been developed, the Program needs to:
 - The establishment of three to five clearly stated student learning outcomes which describe the intended student outcome, not the subject matter (i.e. the student will solve, identify, construct, or demonstrate)
 - The establishment of assessment measures (student diagnostic) which will provide data on student learning and identify program strengths and weaknesses
 - Establishment of routine senior surveys and/or exit interviews to provide data on student satisfaction
 - Cumulative data on graduates, employment statistics and/or graduate school
 - Consider the development of a community advisory board
 - b. Recommend that one or more faculty members attend a national higher education assessment conference such as the IUPUI Assessment Institute.
2. Lack of recruitment materials that reflect a high quality graphic design program and an outdated website for the Division of Art, due to financial limitations and administrative changes that delayed transition of the website.

PROGRAM REVIEW

B.S. in Nursing

Action Item

The B.S. in Nursing program is up for five-year program review approval before the West Liberty University Board of Governors.

The Academic Affairs Committee has made institutional recommendations and the rationale for these recommendations for this program.

Proposed Resolution: *Resolved*, that the West Liberty University Board of Governors approves the program review recommendation for the B.S. in Nursing program for continuation of the program at the current level of activity.

West Liberty University
Board of Governors Program Review
Summary Report

Academic Program: Bachelor of Science in Nursing

Date: January 29, 2010

Recommendation: Continuation of the program at the current level of activity

Rationale for the recommendation is based upon the following:

Strengths of the Program:

1. A comprehensive assessment program which reflects curricular changes as warranted by assessment findings
2. Accreditation by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE) in 2007
3. Enrollment growth to match the upper limits permitted by the WV Board of Nursing for Registered Professional Nurses
4. An appropriate ratio of students to faculty which allows for more individualized instruction and assistance.
5. Strong scholarship support from Ohio Valley Medical Center, and the WLU Foundation.
6. Addition of a computerized manikin to simulate clinical scenarios in the skills lab on campus

Weaknesses of the Program:

1. Lack of a permanent doctorally-prepared program director
2. Lack of any doctorally-prepared nursing faculty

ASSESSMENT PROGRESS (FOLLOW UP PROGRAM REVIEW) REPORTS

Action Item

The following Assessment Progress Reports are presented for approval before the West Liberty University Board of Governors:

- Social Sciences
- Criminal Justice
- Exercise Physiology

The Academic Affairs Committee has made institutional recommendations along with the rationale for the recommendations for these programs.

Proposed Resolution: *Resolved*, that the West Liberty University Board of Governors approves the Assessment Progress Reports' recommendations for the Social Sciences, Criminal Justice, and Exercise Physiology programs for continuation of these programs for 2010-11 and requires another Assessment Progress Report from each program next year.

West Liberty University
Board of Governors Program Review
Summary Report

Academic Program: Follow-up Report for Criminal Justice—Bachelor of Science

Date: February 10, 2010

Focus on Assessment in the Follow-up Report:

The Criminal Justice Assessment Committee has accomplished the following activities in the past year:

1. Establishment of the Assessment Committee for this program
2. Revision of the mission statement and Program Goals, including a listing of student learning outcomes
3. Initiation of curriculum mapping, in which the goals and outcomes are connected with specific courses. Anticipate completion of this work by May 2010
4. Planned curricular changes, including revision of several course descriptions
5. Development of graduating student rubric to assess content mastery and professional skills. This rubric has been in use for two semesters and is being refined with use. One change that is being implemented as a result of its use is an emphasis on future employment preparation, including interview skills. The capstone course has been modified to provide for this content.
6. The program faculty has determined that students are lacking in content related to research in criminal justice studies. A request has been made to add a terminally degreed faculty member to include this content among other course assignments.
7. Additionally, faculty have determined that content on victimology is deficient in the program and a new course devoted to this topic will be added, beginning in fall 2010

Implementation of these changes will require a few years for the results to be demonstrated. Continued monitoring is suggested at this time.

Recommendation: Continuation of the program with corrective action—a follow-up assessment report in AY 2010-11

West Liberty University
Board of Governors Program Review
Summary Report

Academic Program: Follow-up Report for Exercise Physiology—Bachelors of Science

Date: January 27, 2010

Focus on Assessment in the Follow-up Report:

The Exercise Physiology Assessment Committee has accomplished the following activities in the past year:

1. Development of a new set of Student Learning Outcomes (SLO) for assessment. (See examples below)
 - a. Knowledge: Exercise Physiology majors understand human movement and the concepts related to the anatomical, physiological, and biomechanical aspects of human movement.
 - b. Clinical Development: Exercise Physiology majors should understand and implement exercise tests (ranging from testing, training or analysis of blood markers). Tests should be performed and individualized based on the patient/s.
 - c. Planning and Instruction: Exercise Physiology majors should prepare and apply a variety of developmentally appropriate exercise physiology tests based on ACSM standards. Students should use ACSM standards to differentiate from normal.
2. Revised “exit interview” and follow up job/school placement for graduates of Exercise Physiology.
3. Curriculum changes to achieve national status as an ASEP (American Society of Exercise Physiologist) accredited program.
 - a. Implementing a research project for students in which they are to develop a research study over the course of two classes.
 - b. Adding Intro to Statistics to the core curriculum to increase research abilities.
 - c. Adding an Advanced Exercise Physiology course for students to grasp the skills needed for their field of study.

Implementation of these changes are in progress and will require a couple of years for results to be demonstrated. Continued monitoring is suggested at this time.

Recommendation: Continuation of the program with corrective changes—a follow-up assessment report in AY 2010-11.

West Liberty University
Board of Governors Program Review
Summary Report

Academic Program: Follow-up Report for Social Sciences—Bachelor of Science and Bachelor of Arts

Date: February 10, 2010

Focus on Assessment in the Follow-up Report:

The Social Science Assessment Committee has accomplished the following activities in the past year:

1. Development of a mission statement and refinement of the Program Goals, including a listing of student learning outcomes associated with each goal
2. Initiation of curriculum mapping, in which the goals and outcomes are connected with specific courses. Anticipate completion of this work by May 2010
3. Curricular changes to include a common capstone course for all Social Science concentrations and the revision of SS 450/451 research courses. The first offering of the new capstone course will be fall 2010.

Implementation of these changes will require a few years for the results to be demonstrated. Continued monitoring is suggested at this time.

Recommendation: Continuation of the program with corrective action—a follow-up assessment report in AY 2010-11

West Liberty University Board of Governors
March 2, 2010

**MASTER OF SCIENCE IN PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT SCIENCES
WEST LIBERTY UNIVERSITY**

Action Item

Proposed Resolution: Resolved, that the West Liberty University Board of Governors approve the Master of Science in Physician Assistant Sciences Degree Program to be offered as a graduate program of West Liberty University.

APPROVAL OF NON-CLASSIFIED POSITION

Action Item

The creation of a non-classified, critical employee position, to be titled "Director of Health Services," is necessary to benefit the needs in Health Services.

Proposed Resolution: *Resolved*, that the West Liberty University Board of Governors approve the creation of the "non-classified, critical" position of the Health Service Nurse to "Director of Health Services."

Employee Tuition Waiver Procedure

Action Item

Senate Bill 564 also allows institutions to provide full tuition waivers to employees, spouses of employees and dependents of employees. These waivers do not count against the institution's 5% awarding cap.

Beginning with the 2010-11 academic year, the Financial Aid Review Committee is recommending tuition waivers for employees, their dependents and spouses. It is recommended we waive 100% of tuition for employees. Employees would pay capital fees and course fees.

Also beginning the 2010-11 academic year, it is recommended spouses and dependents (as verified on the most recent Federal 1040 tax return) of employees receive 100% tuition waivers. Spouses and dependents would pay capital fees and course fees.

Awarding procedure for tuition waivers must be approved and entered into the minutes of an institutional Board of Governors meeting.

Proposed Resolution: *Resolved*, That the West Liberty University Board of Governors approve the Employee Tuition Waiver Procedure.

**WEST LIBERTY UNIVERSITY
RESEARCH CORPORATION RESOLUTION**

Action Item

At its December 9, 2009, meeting, the Board of Governors was presented – as part of the President’s Report – information concerning a proposed “West Liberty University Research Corporation”. The benefits of having a not-for-profit entity dedicated to securing and managing grant funds were outlined. West Virginia Code 18B-12-1 et seq. authorizes institutional boards of governance to enter into affiliation agreements with such corporations. It is in the best interests of the University that its Board of Governors enters into an affiliation agreement with the West Liberty University Research Corporation, an entity which will be established on or before March 15, 2010.

Proposed Resolution: *Resolved*, that the West Liberty University Board of Governors will - in accordance with the laws of the State of West Virginia and the rules and regulations of the Higher Education Policy Commission - enter into an affiliation agreement with the West Liberty University Research Corporation.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT TO THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS

Presented in conjunction with the
Meeting of the Board of Governors
of
Tuesday, March 2, 2010

ADMINISTRATIVE

Enrollment

- There is a 4.7% increase in enrollment for Spring 2010 in comparison to Spring 2009
- Our freshman retention rate from the Fall 2009 to Spring 2010 is an outstanding 91%.
- Applications for Fall 2010 are 12.4% ahead of Fall 2009
- Freshman accepted for Fall 2010 are 10% ahead of Fall 2009
 - Fall 2010: 56% In-State, 44% Out-of-State
 - Fall 2009: 56% In-State, 44% Out-of-State
- Transfer students for Fall 2010 are slightly behind Fall of 2009

Other matters

- We will ask the Board of Governors to approve a 100% waiver of tuition and fees for undergraduate classes for:
 - Faculty and spouses
 - Staff and spouses
 - All dependent children of faculty and staff under the age of 25.

FINANCE AND BUDGET

Budget Audit

- The audited financial reports for the Higher Education Policy Commission set forth several ratios and industry standards of which we should adhere. In particular:
 - **Unrestricted Net Assets** should be maintained within a range of 5% to 20% of expenditures which is generally regarded as an adequate balance. For FY 2009, our percentage of unrestricted net assets to expenditures was 11.14%, a decrease from a percentage of 14.41% in FY 2008. Our goal should be to move back within the **12% to 14% range**. It is generally accepted to fall below 5% if there has been a major equipment or other capital purchase and there is a plan in place to replenish the Unrestricted Net Assets.
 - An institution's **Liquidity Ratio** examines its ability to cover current liabilities. An acceptable ratio of Current Assets to Current Liabilities is 1:1. For FY 2009, our ratio was 1.79, an increase over a ratio of 1.76 for FY 2008.
 - The **Debt Burden Ratio** measures the impact of debt service on the annual operating budget. The industry views an upper threshold of 7% for this ratio as being reasonable. West Liberty University was one of three institutions who exceeded the 7% threshold in FY 2009 with a ratio of 7.22%. However, the auditors expressed little concern in light of the significant decrease from 8.58% in the prior year. Nevertheless, we anticipate falling **below the 7% standard** in the current fiscal year.

FY 2009-2010

- Governor Joe Manchin has requested a 3.4 mid-year reduction in our State appropriation. This would be in addition to the 5% cut imposed at the beginning of the year. We have been assured

that federal stimulus money would be used to backfill both reductions. We can anticipate the backfill attributable to the 5% cut in the near future. The backfill attributable to the 3.4% mid-year cut will be forthcoming at the end of the fiscal year.

FY 2010-2011

- In his State of the State address on January 13, 2010, Governor Joe Manchin called for West Virginia's public colleges and universities to freeze tuition and fees for AY 2010-2011. We are currently conducting an impact study that we are to forward to Higher Education Chancellor Brian Noland by February 7, 2010. We hope to present the report to the Board of Governors at our February 10, 2010 meeting.
- In regard to next year's budget:
 - The Mercer Scale will be fully funded.
 - Faculty promotions will be funded.
 - The Governor's Office has said not to request salary increases for faculty and nonclassified staff.
 - We intend to increase professional development fund.

ATHLETICS

NCAA Convention

- Athletic Director Jim Watson and I attended the NCAA Convention in Atlanta, GA in January.
- Two highly contested propositions in Division II
 - The first proposal was to move the date of the first football back a week to September 6th. WLU and the WVIAC opposed the move in that it would eliminate one week of two-a-day practices for schools starting in August, but not for institutions where classes begin after Labor Day. This would create a competitive disadvantage. Urbana College has already withdrawn from next year's game with WLU because of the move. It will likely reduce our number of games to 10. We did not object to the later starting date if accommodations could have been made on the other issues.
 - A second initiative would change the starting date for the first countable basketball game from November 15th to the second Friday in November. This will add an additional weekend game and allow more families to attend as well as reduce missed class time due to travel. WLU and WVIAC supported. The measure passed on reconsideration after initially being defeated.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

- On Sunday, January, 31, 2010, our students presented the "Super Bowl of Talent" at the Capitol Theater. The show was the first in a series of presentations entitled "West Liberty University and the Best of the Valley presents . . ." which will feature talent from the campus as well as the community.
- In February, we will begin filming the "Civics Challenge," a quiz bowl competition among area high school students that will be broadcast on Channel 14.

RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

Academic Activity

- Dr. Charles Ramer has organized the Center for West Virginia Studies and Social Studies Curriculum.
- Dr. Anne Gaudino has organized the Center for Teacher Excellence.

Office of Development

- Total gift amounts to the WLU Foundation for July 1 through December 31, 2009 were \$602,878. This represents a 4% increase over the same time period in 2008 (\$579,387).
- Total number of gifts to the WLU Foundation for July 1 through December 31, 2009 were 1,324. This represents an 11% increase over the same period in 2008 (1,170).

AWARDS AND RECOGNITION

- Assistant Professor of Art Robert Villamagna won the Governor's Award at the 16th Biennial West Virginia Juried Exhibition for his work “Deer Crossing.”
- Jesse Lenz, an art student, won first place nationally in NASA's “Life and Work on the Moon” art and design competition. He attended NASA's 40th Anniversary celebration of man's first walk on the moon.
- Associate Professor Jim Haizlett will present a paper at the Society for Information Technology and Teacher Education's International Conference in San Diego, CA from March 29 – April 2, 2010.
- Dr. Erik Root has published his second book on Thomas Jefferson.
- Dr. Susan Herrick will have a student, Blake Mangold, making a presentation at the Eastern Sociological Conference in Boston in March.

CALENDAR

Commencement: May 8, 2010

- Invited Speaker – David Hardesty, former President of West Virginia University