

# **WLU Board of Governors**

Regular Meeting

**Wednesday, October 15, 2025 – 4:00 p.m.**

Location: Shaw Hall Board Room

[Join Microsoft Teams Meeting](#)

ID: 2279178923347

Passcode: BB2MZ3Mh

- I. Call to Order/Roll Call/Quorum and Mission Statement**
- II. Introductions**
- III. Public Comment** Description: Up to 10 individuals may sign in to speak in open session for three minutes each. The sign-in sheet will be available from Cyndi Galloway fifteen minutes prior to the meeting until the noticed start time.
- IV. Agenda Order (Board may move to change order of consideration)**
- V. Approval of Minutes\***
  - A.** Minutes of the Full Board Special Meeting/Retreat August 13, 2025\* (pg. 3)
  - B.** Minutes of the Full Board Regular Meeting August 13, 2025\* (pgs. 4-6)
- VI. President's Report** (pg. 7)
- VII. Reports**
  - A.** Academic Affairs (Monteroso, pg. 8-9)
  - B.** Student Affairs/Enrollment (Cooper, pg. 10-11)
  - C.** Fiscal Affairs/Facilities (Hudson, pg. 12)
  - D.** Athletics (Forshey, pg. 13)
  - E.** Foundation (Borchers, pg. 14)
  - F.** Faculty (Kreisberg)
  - G.** SGA (Maguire/Sweat)
  - H.** Staff (Karas)
- VIII. Board Items for Approval\***
  - A.** BOG Bylaws (pg. 15)
  - B.** Focused Program Review (pg. 16)
  - C.** Policies 28, 29, 32 (pg. 17)
  - D.** Academic Program Discontinuation (pg. 18)
- IX. Discussion Items**
  - A.** Retreat Follow-up
- X. Information Gathering** (Members may ask questions or gather information to prepare for future agenda items without general discussion or action at this meeting.)
- XI. Next Meeting Date – Wednesday, December 17, 2025**
- XII. Adjournment**

**West Liberty University  
Board of Governors**

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**Minutes  
August 13, 2025**

Attendance: David McKinley, Mike Baker, Rich Lucas, Tom Cervone, Katie Kacmarik, Will Turani, Erikka Storch. Lou Karas, Robert Kreisberg, Stephanie Shaw

Unable to Attend: Jamie Evick, Luke Sweat

Administration/Faculty/Staff/Guests: Tim Borchers, Cathy Monteroso, Lori Hudson, Cyndi Galloway, Jacob Manning, Brad Forshey, Katie Cooper, Jen Latino

**I. Call to Order/Roll Call/Quorum and Mission Statement**

David McKinley called the meeting to order at 2:01 p.m. and a quorum was established.

**II. Strategic Planning Retreat with WLU BOG and Cabinet**

EAB Representative, Jen Latino, joined and led a discussion focused on strategic planning.

**III. Adjournment**

Rich Lucas motioned to adjourn the meeting with a second from Will Turani.  
The meeting adjourned at 3:54PM

**West Liberty University  
Board of Governors**

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**Minutes  
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Unable to Attend: Jamie Evick, Luke Sweat, Stephanie Shaw

Administration/Faculty/Staff/Guests: Tim Borchers, Cathy Monteroso, Lori Hudson, Cyndi Galloway, Jacob Manning, Brad Forshey, Katie Cooper

**IV. Call to Order/Roll Call/Quorum and Mission Statement**

David McKinley called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. and a quorum was established.

**II. Introductions**

None.

**III. Public Comment**

None.

**IV. Agenda Order (Board may move to change order of consideration)**

**V. Approval of Minutes\***

**A. Minutes of the Full Board June 11, 2025\***

**On motion by Rich Lucas and seconded by Erikka Storch, it was unanimously adopted by the West Liberty University Board of Governors to approve the minutes of the full Board of June 11, 2025.**

**VI. Oath of Office-Swearing in new board member, student representative, Luke Sweat**

Luke Sweat read and signed the Oath of Office.

**VII. President's Report**

Dr. Borchers provided an update on several key initiatives. An appropriation bill was recently passed that includes \$436,000 in external funding to support upgrades to police and campus security. The Higher Learning Commission has approved the institution's Quality Initiative, marking an important step forward for academic and institutional goals. Homecoming preparations are underway, with ribbon-cutting ceremonies scheduled for the afternoon of Thursday, October 23. In addition, plans for the Campus Woods Trails were discussed, highlighting continued investment in campus amenities and community spaces.

Dr. Borchers also shared some financial updates for the West Liberty University Foundation along with grants recently awarded. WLUF has a quarterly board meeting coming up on October 24<sup>th</sup> and the President's Recognition Dinner will also be held that evening. The Tri-State Tax Institute will take place on October 28<sup>th</sup>.

**VIII. Board Reports**

**A. Academic Affairs (Monteroso)**

Six new faculty members will be joining the university this fall. Canvas, the new Learning Management System, will be fully implemented this semester. The Student Success and Engagement Retention software is currently in its pilot phase with department chairs testing the system this fall, and full implementation planned for Spring 2026. Student Learning and Licensure (SLL), which supports assessment of student learning,

accreditation reporting, and licensure tracking, has been adopted and replaces LiveText. The Nearby Data Project Grant, awarded in partnership with CMU by the Benedum Foundation, totals \$35,200 with an additional \$3,000 supporting micro credentials. In addition, a student submitted a design for Wheeling's City of Lights graphic, which was featured in a recent news article.

**B. Student Affairs/Enrollment (Cooper)**

Katie reported that headcount currently stands at 770, with approximately 400 dual-enrolled students yet to be entered. Undergraduate FTE is 1,446, exceeding the budgeted projection of 1,357. Graduate hours (excluding PA) total 2,035 for the fall semester. Housing projections stand at 1,012, well above the projected 829. Katie noted that the university will be able to better track ROI using EAB. For Fall 2026, 132 applications have already been received. EAB representatives will be visiting campus Friday to meet with the admissions team and assist with a new marketing campaign. Over the summer, the university hosted 450 families during orientation sessions. Katie also shared the TopperFest schedule, highlighting events such as Topper Wars, Build a Topper, and Dessert at the President's House, all designed to foster early student engagement and retention.

**C. Athletics (Forshey)**

Athletics announced a new partnership with Chick-fil-A at The Highlands, which will provide concessions at all athletic events except football. Students have responded positively to this addition. Social media efforts have shifted from "Throwback Thursday" to "Timeless Toppers," highlighting prominent WLU athletes every two weeks, with the first feature on Lance LaFollette. Facilities Friday posts have also gained traction. On August 27, a fall season coach's kickoff event will be held on campus, featuring Panhandle Cleaning and Restoration's tailgate truck, live interviews by Scott Nolte, and a pep rally-style atmosphere. Athletics has also purchased a custom WLU wrestling belt and chain necklace to serve as fun media props for students during events.

**D. Fiscal Affairs (Hudson)**

Lori provided a budget status update through June 30, 2025. Undergraduate tuition revenue exceeded projections, while graduate tuition, housing, and meals fell short, resulting in a \$361K tuition shortfall, which was ultimately covered. Expenses remained within budget, though HEPC loan payments, Bettermynd, Canvas implementation, and the EFK website rebuild contributed to an overall overage of \$289K. Cash on hand as of June 30 was estimated at 90 days, consistent with prior years (85–110 days). After accounting for restricted funds, \$4.2 million remains in unrestricted usable funds. Revenue goals are progressing: undergraduate tuition billing is at 52% (target 50%), graduate tuition at 35%, and housing/meals at 59%. The first allotment of the state appropriation has been received.

On the physical plant side, grant dollars and deferred maintenance funding have supported numerous projects. Roof replacements have been completed on ASRC, Krise, Myers, and part of Fine Arts. Replacement doors and windows were installed across 12 buildings, and HVAC replacements are underway in ASRC, Fine Arts, Student Union, Bonar, and Curtis. Additional projects include campus beautification, near-completion of AACC renovations (flooring, lighting, card access), and nearing completion of Arnett Hall upgrades. Architects are finalizing details for the Aviation Center, with furniture orders forthcoming.

**E. Faculty Representative (Kreisberg)**

Robert noted that the Arnett Hall lab renovation is nearly complete and looks excellent. Additionally, faculty member Holly Racine received a two-year grant from WV IMBRE. Of the four grants awarded statewide, three have been secured by WLU faculty.

**F. SGA Representative (Sweat)**

Student government is working to bring inflatables back to the quad during TopperFest and continues planning discussions for Homecoming events.

**G. Staff Representative (Karas)**

Staff Council has welcomed new members and officers. The group did not meet this month due to the University Welcome event. Lauren Ames was recognized as June Employee of the Month, and Cory Bougher was recognized as July Employee of the Month. The Employee Engagement Committee hosted a summer picnic, which was well-attended by faculty and staff. Donations were also collected to assist those impacted by recent local flooding.

**IX. Board Items for Approval\***

**A. Revisions to BOG Bylaws**

Revisions will be shared with campus for a 30-day comment period.

On motion by Katie Kacmarik and seconded by Mike Baker, it was unanimously adopted by the West Liberty University Board of Governors to approve the Notice of Intent as presented.

**B. Fall 2025 Commencement Speaker and Honorary Degree**

President Borchers read the proclamation

On motion by Erikka Storch and seconded by Will Turani, it was unanimously adopted by the West Liberty University Board of Governors to approve the resolution as presented and authorize the President of the University to confer the Doctor of Humane Letters degree to Tom Cervone at its December 13, 2025, Commencement Ceremony. Tom Cervone abstains from this vote.

**C. Discussion Items**

**1. Zoom vs. Teams for BOG Meetings**

The group agreed to continue using Microsoft Teams instead of Zoom.

**X. Executive Session**

Pursuant to WV Code § 6-9A-4, at 4:55PM, a motion to retire to executive session was made by Mike Baker. The motion was seconded by Tom Cervone; motion passed unanimously.

Executive Session began at 4:55PM

A motion to rise from executive session at 5:44PM was made by Rich Lucas and seconded by Mike Baker; motion passed unanimously.

Executive Session ended at 5:10PM

No action was taken in executive session.

**XI. Information Gathering:**

None.

**XII. Adjournment**

On motion by Katie Kacmarik & seconded by Erikka Storch, the meeting adjourned at 5:11PM

David McKinley \_\_\_\_\_  
Chair

Tom Cervone \_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary

Minutes submitted by: Cyndi Galloway

**President's Report to Board of Governors  
October 15, 2025**

**1. Key Updates Since August 12 Meeting**

- The Artificial Intelligence Task Force has identified a list of AI literacy outcomes and will be inviting feedback from the campus in the next few weeks. We held five workshops over the summer for faculty and staff.
- The new website roll out is well underway. We are hoping to go live with the new site late fall.

**2. Other Activities and Accomplishments**

- I attended the West Virginia Chamber of Commerce Business Summit in White Sulphur Springs in August.
- Our Aspire U Employee Leadership program kicked off its second cohort in September.
- I attended the Mountain East Conference President's Retreat in Bridgeport, WV on September 22-23.
- We held Alumni Reunions in Columbus, OH on September 18 and Charleston, SC on October 11. Additional events are planned for Charleston, WV on October 29 and Washington, PA on November 20.

**3. Personnel Items at the Cabinet Level or President's Reports**

- The Marketing and Communications Specialist position was filled and the person started this week.

**Respectfully submitted by: Tim Borchers, President**

**Academic Affairs Report to Board of Governors  
October 15, 2025**

## **Program Review**

### **Five-Year Program Reviews**

The following programs are under a comprehensive five-year review as required by the West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission (HEPC) Series 10 and West Liberty University Board Policy #3:

- Creative Art Therapy – B.S.
- Chemistry – B.S.
- Elementary Education – B.A.
- Secondary Education – B.A.
- Psychology – B.S.
- Art Therapy Counseling – M.A.

### **Monitoring Reviews**

- Dental Hygiene AS/BS Assessment Data
- English BA – Contribution Margin and Assessment Data
- Nursing BS – Contribution Margin and Assessment Data
- Pre-Professional Speech Pathology & Audiology BS - Contribution Margin
- Visual Communications BA – Assessment Data

### **Focused Reviews**

The Focused Review process provides a streamlined, data-informed evaluation of academic programs **not undergoing a 5-year program review**, with the intent of ensuring quality, alignment with institutional goals, and effective resource use.

The Focused Review guidelines are included in your packet and will be presented to the Board for approval during the meeting. Focused reviews

- Theater
- Communications
- Community Education
- Music
- Social Sciences
- Data Science
- Exercise Physiology – M.S.
- Business Administration – M.B.A.
- Speech Language Pathology – M.S.

## **Learning Management System**

West Liberty University is completing its transition to Canvas as the official Learning Management System. Full implementation is on schedule for Fall 2025.

## **Student Retention and Engagement Software**

The Student Success and Engagement platform (Watermark) launched its pilot this fall with department chairs, program directors, and COLL 101 instructors.

- Full implementation is planned for Spring 2026.



- The platform will support early alerts, advising, and student engagement to improve retention and persistence.

### **Micro-Credential Development**

Academic Affairs is launching a micro-credential initiative with the goal of developing four credentials by 2025–26.

- Accredible will serve as the digital badging platform.
- A Workforce Connection Meeting with the HEPC is scheduled for November 18 to align institutional credentials with state and regional workforce needs.

### **Online Program Update**

Enrollment for online programs continues to grow:

- Psychology (B.S.) – 8 Students
- Business (B.S.) – 16 Students
- Criminal Justice (B.S.) – 1 Student

New program development includes:

- Master of Arts in Counseling (in progress)
- Bachelor of Applied Science (reintroduction under development)

### **Program Discontinuations and Track Changes**

#### **Tracks Being Discontinued**

- Psychology 3+3 B.S./M.S. in Clinical Psychology
- Graduate Certificate in Healthcare Management
- Biology 3+2 B.S./M.S.

#### **Programs Recommended for Discontinuation**

- Master of Arts in Clinical Psychology
- Master of Science in Criminology

#### **Action Item**

##### **Discontinuation**

- Master of Arts in Clinical Psychology
- Master of Science in Criminology

##### **Focused Review Process**

**Respectfully submitted by: Cathy Monteroso, Provost & VP for Academic Affairs**

**Student Affairs & Enrollment Management Report to Board of Governors  
October 15, 2025**

1. Enrollment

a. Current Fall 2025

**Undergraduate Fall 2025 FTE**

	<b>Projection</b>	<b>07.28.25</b>	<b>09.15.25</b>	<b>10.06.25</b>	<b>Difference</b>
<b>FTF</b>	<b>390</b>	376	354	352	<b>-38</b>
<b>TR</b>	<b>85</b>	81	149	150	<b>65</b>
<b>Continuing</b>	<b>895</b>	978	988	983	<b>88</b>
<b>Dual*</b>			396/2458	402/2476	
<b>Total FTE</b>	<b>1357</b>	1407	1458	1457	<b>100</b>

<b>TOTAL Headcount</b>		<b>2229</b>
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**342 GR**

\*Dual is headcount/hours at \$225/hours.

**Graduate Fall 2025 Hours**

Program	Major	Projection	09.15.25	10.06.25	Based on Annual Projection	Fall Historical Projection	Above 9 hours not included
MAEd	6007	864	336	336	39%	-11%	9
MS Bio	6150-6155	648	274	264	41%	-18%	27
MBA	6300-6305	1416	432	444	31%	-13%	15
MSCrim*	6400	216	63	63	29%	-21%	
MS ExPhys	6560	180	81	81	45%	-5%	9
MSDH**	6500						
MCP*	6600	162	75	75	46%	1%	
MA Art Therapy	6620	612	384	396	65%	25%	6
MS SLP	6630	455	258	258	57%	12%	Cohort
Special	6998	180	120	165	92%	62%	
Edd	8000	551	174	174	32%	7%	Cohort

\*Updated the daily numbers to only include GR hours up to 9 hours per student.

2. FY26 Budget Projection

- a. Total Undergraduate Headcount – 1385
- b. Undergraduate FTE – 1357
- c. Graduate Hours – 5284 Full Year projections
  - i. Does not include Physician Assistant hours.
- d. Housing – 829 for full year projection.

3. Fall 2026
  - a. We already have 339 applications for Fall 2026 which is down overall from last year, but nationally applications are down.
    - i. Accepts are up, which means students are following through on transcripts and completing their next steps.
  - b. We have seen an increase in our local feeder schools and applications as well as visits from local high schools and interactions at college fairs.
4. Marketing and Strategic Enrollment Management Plan Updates
  - a. RFP – Student Search - EAB
    - i. We have launched our Senior Apply campaign which entails an email, text messaging and print material outreach campaign. Next, we will launch the sophomore, junior and parent cultivate campaign building affinity with WLU through email, social media, text messaging and print materials.
  - b. Open Houses
    - i. We are still hosting Black and Gold Days as well as individualized College Open Houses.
5. Student Affairs
  - a. Student Activities
    - i. We are still hosting 7-8 weekly activities on campus as well as several off-campus trips such as Oglebay Fest, Kennywood Fright Night and a Cedar Point Trip.
  - b. BetterMynd is still a great supplement to our Counseling Center.
6. Staffing
  - a. Vacant Positions
    - i. Two Campus Police Officers
  - b. Professional Development
    - i. Bob Wise will be attending the Statewide IT conference at Oglebay.
    - ii. Two staff members within the Student Affairs and Enrollment Management division are part of the 2025-2026 cohort for the Aspire Leadership Development program.

**Respectfully submitted by: Katie Cooper, Vice President of Student Affairs and Enrollment Management**

**WLU Fiscal Affairs & Facilities Report to Board of Governors  
October 15, 2025**

Budget Status Report through September 15, 2025

Revenue

- Undergraduate Tuition & Fee Revenue is exceeding the projection for the Fall 2025 semester
- Graduate Tuition & Fee Revenue is on target for the Fall 2025 semester
- Housing & Meal Plan Revenue is exceeding the projection for the Fall 2025 semester
- Appropriation received first quarter
- Other Revenue is on target

Expenses

- Salaries and benefits are within an acceptable range with 5 pays plus the increment posted
- All other expense categories are on target

State-funded Deferred Maintenance, Grant-funded, and Donor-funded Projects

- Many projects have been completed or are on the schedule to be completed:
  - Roofs
  - Doors and windows
  - HVAC
  - AACC
  - Arnett
  - Library Gathering Space
  - Aviation Center (in progress)
  - Blatnik resurfacing of floor (contract at Attorney General's office)

**Respectfully submitted by: Lori Hudson, VP of Fiscal Affairs**

**Athletics Report to Board of Governors  
October 15, 2025**

**Athletic Updates:**

- WLU Athletics has partnered with WinWon. WinWon is an athletic platform aimed at streamlining athletic efficiencies. Encompasses recruiting, compliance and eligibility, athletic training, facilities, scheduling, communication, electronic document signing, etc. The onboarding process has begun and we plan to begin partial usage as early as January 2025 and complete transition for the Fall of 2026.
- WLU Athletics has partnered with Fanword. Fanword is an athletic AI platform that aids in generating game recaps, website bios, online interviews, and feature stories. This greatly increases the efficiency of the Sports Information Office.
- On September 4th, WLU athletics partnered with the United Way of the Upper Ohio Valley for their annual fundraising event. Fans enjoyed special raffles, 50/50, and a FG attempt at halftime. All proceeds benefited the United Way.
- WL Elementary School 3rd grade class attended the Volleyball game on 9/19. They came to cheer on student athlete Grace Hill, who is currently their resident teacher. The WLES students enjoyed fun times with Topper, shagging ball during pregame, and complimentary Chic-Fil-A.
- WLU will serve as one of six regional host sites for a historic first in collegiate athletics, the inaugural NCAA Women's Wrestling Championships. The NCAA Women's Wrestling Super Region II Championship is scheduled for Friday and Saturday, Feb. 20-21, at the Academic, Sports and Recreation Complex (ASRC), with competition beginning at 9 a.m. each day.
- WLU Athletics welcomed seven new members into its Athletic Hall of Fame next weekend as the Class of 2025 is officially inducted on Saturday, Oct. 4, inside the College Union Ballroom. This year's distinguished class featured Damon Brooks (Football), Cory Delguzzo (Baseball), Ed Garczyk (Baseball), C.J. Hester (Men's Basketball), Mark Johnston (Football), Lena Kalvans (Women's Basketball), and Hillary Southworth (Women's Basketball).
- Men's soccer student athlete, Travis Scandalis, was named MEC player of the week for 9/15
- Men's soccer student athlete, Alex Watt, was named MEC player of the week for 9/15
- Football student athlete, Antevius Jackson, was named MEC player of the week for 10/7
- Men's Soccer scored a win over #10 nationally ranked Concord on 9/23
- Maxx Effort Partnership
- Men's Cross Country won the Bethany College Invitational on 9/13. Freshman Joshua Gill placed first in the event.
- WLU hosted the first annual Ohio Valley Soccer Night on October 5th. The event invited soccer youth from across the Ohio Valley. FC Wheeling soccer club were honorary captains and joined the teams for the Star Spangled Banner and also served as ball shaggers.

**Respectfully submitted by: Brad Forshey, Athletic Director**

**WLU Foundation Report to Board of Governors  
October 15, 2025**

**First Quarter FY26**

**Total Revenue Received = \$341,380.82**

**Recent Events and Activities:**

FY25 Audit Completed  
Campus Fund Manager Trainings Conducted  
Hilltopper Athletic Club – kickoff and events

**Upcoming Events:**

Annual Fund Mailing/Appeal – October 2025  
Tri-State Tax Institute will be held on October 28  
Foundation Scholarship Day – November 5  
WLUF Quarterly Board Meeting – Friday, October 24 @ 2:30PM  
President's Recognition Banquet – Friday, October 24 @ 5:30PM

**Impact of Philanthropy Award Winners:**

*Flip West & the West Family*  
*Joan & Fred Stamp*  
*Expand Energy*  
*Rich '79 & Terry Achtzehn*  
*Peggie Dalrymple Mueller*

Day of Giving – Wednesday, March 25, 2026

**New Personnel**

Chance Maffee has joined the WLUF staff as a student intern. George Donovic has begun his second year as our Finance Intern.

**Respectfully submitted by: Betsy Delk, Executive Director WLUF**

**BOG BYLAWS REVISIONS**  
**WEST LIBERTY UNIVERSITY**

**Action Item**

At the June 11<sup>th</sup>, 2025 meeting, the Board of Governors received Notice of Intent for revision of the Board of Governors' Bylaws.

At the August 13, 2025 meeting, the Board of Governors approved proposed revisions to the Bylaws to be provided to campus for comment, the proposed revisions themselves having been provided in the Agenda to that meeting.

The proposed revisions to the Bylaws, were disseminated to campus for 30-day comment and no comments were received. The Board is asked to approve the attached revision of the Bylaws.

**Proposed Resolution: *Resolved*, that the West Liberty University Board of Governors approve the revisions to the Board's Bylaws as presented.**

## **FOCUSED PROGRAM REVIEWS**

### **WEST LIBERTY UNIVERSITY**

#### **Action Item**

In accordance with Board of Governors Policy #3 and HEPC Series 10, the Board of Governors is asked to approve the guidelines for academic program focused reviews as presented.

**Proposed Resolution: *Resolved*, that the West Liberty University Board of Governors approves the focused review process for 2025-2026.**



**NOTICE OF INTENT-RULES 28, 29, AND 32**

**WEST LIBERTY UNIVERSITY**

**Action Item**

A Notice of Intent to review and update the following Board Rules:

Policy 28: Social Justice

Policy 29: Affirmative Action, Equal Employment, and Non-Discrimination

Policy 32: Discrimination, Harassment, Sexual Harassment, Sexual Misconduct, Domestic Misconduct, Stalking, Retaliation, and Relationships.

Once updated, these Rules will be sent to campus for a 30-day comment period and BOG approval will be requested at the December 17, 2025, Board Meeting.

**Proposed Resolution: *Resolved*, that the West Liberty University Board of Governors approve the Notice of Intent of the stated Rules.**

## **ACADEMIC PROGRAM DISCONTINUATION**

### **WEST LIBERTY UNIVERSITY**

#### **Action Item**

The following programs are recommended for discontinuation, based on department recommendation and approval by the Curriculum Committee:

- Master of Arts in Clinical Psychology
- Master of Science in Criminology

**Proposed Resolution: *Resolved*, that the West Liberty University Board of Governors approves the discontinuation of the Master of Arts in Clinical Psychology and the Master of Science in Criminology.**