

WLU Board of Governors

Regular Meeting

Wednesday, February 11, 2026 – 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 Regular Meeting December 17, 2025* (pgs. 3-6)
- VI. President's Report (pg. 7)**
- VII. Reports**
 - A. Academic Affairs (Monteroso, pg. 8-9)
 - B. Student Affairs/Enrollment (Cooper, pg. 10)
 - C. Fiscal Affairs/Facilities (Hudson, pg. 11)
 - D. Athletics (Forshey, pg. 12-13)
 - E. Foundation (Delk, pg. 14)
 - F. Faculty (Kreisberg)
 - G. SGA (Sweat)
 - H. Staff (Karas)
- VIII. Board Items for Approval***
 - A. Focused Program Review Recommendations (pg. 15)
 - B. Spring 2026 Commencement Speaker & Honorary Degree (pg. 16)
- IX. Discussion Items**
 - A. BOG Self-Assessment
- 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, April 15, 2026**
- XII. Adjournment**

**West Liberty University
Board of Governors**

**Minutes
December 17, 2025**

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

Unable to Attend: None.

Administration/Faculty/Staff/Guests: Tim Borchers, Cyndi Galloway, Jacob Manning, Brad Forshey, Andrew Lewis, Katie Cooper, Cathy Monteroso, Lori Hudson, Sherri Theaker, Betsy Delk, Jared Clark

I. 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

1. Jared Clark-CLA

For the year ending June 30, 2025, the audit resulted in an unmodified (clean) opinion. No internal control deficiencies were identified or reported. Required governance communications, including updates to auditing policies, were reviewed as part of the audit process. The auditors noted that there were no difficulties or disagreements with WLU management. CLA also shared that its Higher Education Virtual Conference will be held on February 18 and 25, with free registration available online. Mike Baker congratulated Lori and her team on achieving a positive audit outcome.

2. Andrew Lewis

Andrew presented a new Watermark-based system, Student Success and Engagement, that is being piloted this fall, with full implementation planned for the spring semester. The platform is designed to improve student retention and degree completion by centralizing student information and enabling proactive outreach. It allows faculty and staff to submit academic alerts and add internal notes that are not visible to students, giving the Student Success Team a single, reliable place to monitor and support students. During the pilot semester, 234 staff-initiated alerts were submitted—significantly more than under the previous system—helping the team connect with students more consistently. All messaging within the system is trackable and recordable, including direct text communication. Students will also have access to a mobile app launching in the fall. There are no third-party communications; all interactions occur directly between university faculty, staff, and students. The system integrates with Canvas, includes all students automatically (with text messaging as an opt-in feature and email required), and provides access for coaches to support their athletes. Over time, the data collected is expected to inform stronger, campus-wide, data-driven decisions.

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 October 15, 2025*

1. On motion by Rich Lucas and seconded by Mike Baker, it was unanimously adopted by the West Liberty University Board of Governors to approve the minutes of the full Board of October 15, 2025.

B. Minutes of the Full Board Special Meeting November 10, 2025*

1. On motion by Will Turani and seconded by Katie Kacmarik, it was unanimously adopted by the West Liberty University Board of Governors to approve the minutes of the Full Board Special Meeting of November 10, 2025.

VI. President's Report

Dr. Borchers shared updates on student community engagement efforts, including ongoing service projects and outreach initiatives. Moving forward, meetings will begin with a review of three high-level indicators to keep priorities clear and focused: revenue, which is currently on target and will be discussed in more detail by Lori; expenses, also to be covered in Lori's report; and key performance indicators related to admissions, which Katie will address.

An Impact Report was distributed to all attendees, outlining how the organization is delivering value to stakeholders and making a measurable difference in the community. This report will be shared broadly with community leaders, donors, and the campus community. In addition, meetings with state legislators have begun to communicate these outcomes and outline priorities for the year ahead.

VII. Board Reports

A. Academic Affairs (Monteroso)

Cathy Monteroso reported that the Education Program received full accreditation from CAEP, earning a seven-year term—an important achievement that reflects the program's strength and quality. Student Success and Engagement recorded 157 alerts this fall, with numbers expected to increase in the spring as all faculty and staff are fully onboarded into the system. The platform has also proven useful for the Business Office, particularly in streamlining payment processing. Two new microcredentials were approved: one in Psychology focused on Canine Cognition, and another in MAED emphasizing Collaborative and Inclusive Teaching. In addition, a Workforce Connection meeting with HEPC was hosted on campus on November 18. The current student retention rate stands at 69%, with a goal of reaching 72% through continued use and expansion of the Student Success and Engagement software.

B. Student Affairs/Enrollment (Cooper)

Katie Cooper shared enrollment data. Undergraduate and graduate enrollment currently stands at a total headcount of 1,545, with an additional 400 dually enrolled students anticipated. Undergraduate FTE is 1,233, graduate credit hours total 2,083, and campus housing occupancy is 814. For Fall 2026, there are 981 undergraduate applications to date, with 801 acceptances. A new process allowing students to upload their own transcripts—while still verified—has streamlined application review and improved turnaround times.

Student engagement efforts included Winterfest, Posing with Ponies (yoga), multiple food-centered events, and a late-night breakfast during finals week that drew over 400 students. Marketing efforts continue to show positive momentum, with increased website traffic and stronger performance across EAB and digital/DOM campaigns. Additionally, the admissions office is undergoing reorganization to improve efficiency, combining operations and recruitment, adding one recruitment counselor, and introducing a director role to better streamline the department.

C. Fiscal Affairs (Hudson)

Lori Hudson presented the budget status report through November 4. Overall, both revenue and expenses remain on target, with tuition-related revenue meeting projections and all expenses tracking within acceptable ranges. An update was provided on deferred maintenance funding, noting that the institution is wrapping up projects supported by the \$12 million allocation and was among the first to have projects fully invoiced, completed, and paid, leaving only minimal funds remaining with plans already identified for their use. Of the original allocation, 18% was initially held back; since the institution has completed its portion, an application is underway to access these remaining funds, estimated at approximately \$2 million, along with plans for how they will be spent.

Facilities updates included plans to host a ribbon-cutting event for Arnett and Campbell Hall on February 11, installation of the aviation simulator, and the start of the Blatnik flooring replacement project on December 18.

D. Athletics (Forshey)

Brad Forshey provided an overview of recent athletic achievements and highlights across the department. He also shared that the new head football coach, Coach Salisberry, was officially announced yesterday. Additionally, representatives from WLU attended the NCAA Impact Forum, where the institution was selected as one of only 26 Division II schools invited to participate in the enhanced portion of the event. As a result of ideas generated at the forum, the group is planning to launch a leadership development program in Fall 2026 that will bring together six student-athletes and six non-athletes. The program will focus on strengthening leadership skills through peer engagement activities and tools such as CliftonStrengths, among other planned experiences.

E. Foundation (Delk)

Betsy Delk reported that several significant gifts and endowment additions have been received. A \$15,000 gift from the Jackson Family Foundation was designated for the Jackson Family Retention Scholarship. Additions to the endowment included \$20,194.32 from the estate of Edwin B. VanLynn to support a general endowed scholarship and \$620,000 from the estate of Jack E. Cisney to establish an endowed business scholarship. Additional contributions were made to permanently endow the Bravo Zulu Veterans Scholarship (Denise and Karl Penz) and the Todd and Joyce Kimpel Family Financial Planning Scholarship.

Recent activities included Scholarship Day, with participation from over 170 students, a Washington, PA alumni gathering, and the Tri-State Tax Institute held on October 28, with the next institute scheduled for October 27, 2026. It was also noted that some NIP tax credits remain available. Upcoming events include the WLUF Quarterly Board Meeting on Friday, January 16 at 2:30 p.m., a DMV Alumni Gathering/Watch Party on Saturday, February 7, and the Day of Giving on Wednesday, March 25, 2026.

F. Faculty Representative (Kreisberg)

Robert shared that WLU currently offers an early acceptance program with Lewisburg, and Nordic has expressed interest in establishing a similar program through the Biology Department. This possibility is currently under review. In biomedical research, equipment is being relocated into the laboratory to support ongoing projects.

Robert reported receiving two emails from alumni concerning the removal of their WLU email addresses. He noted that the "Hilltopper Forever" fee had previously indicated that graduates would retain their email accounts. Dr. Borchers requested that Robert forward the details so the matter can be investigated further. Additionally, Robert has been in communication with Cathy regarding recurring issues in classrooms, and they are actively addressing these concerns.

G. SGA Representative (Sweat)

Homecoming and Winterfest were both successful events, with Winterfest seeing particularly strong participation in Bingo and the late-night breakfast. Overall, student engagement on campus has noticeably increased. Looking ahead, Spring Fling is planned for the upcoming semester. The SGA is currently reorganizing with a new office and has refreshed its social media presence. Additionally, students will participate in a Hilltopper Day at the Capitol and will have another DC trip organized with the SGA.

H. Staff Representative (Karas)

Melissa Carroll, HR Officer, serves on the Staff Council as the representative for classified employees. The council is a state-wide group that meets monthly. Members plan to engage with state legislators to advocate for the restoration of voting rights for staff, faculty, and

student Board of Governors members. They also intend to discuss key issues with legislators, including the state funding formula and ongoing concerns related to PEIA.

VIII. Board Items for Approval*

A. FY 2025 Audit

On motion by Rich Lucas and seconded by Katie Kacmarik, it was unanimously adopted by the West Liberty University Board of Governors to approve the FY25 Audit Report as presented.

IX. Executive Session

Pursuant to WV Code § 6-9A-4 (b)(9)and(10), at 5:09PM, a request for a motion to retire to executive session was made by David McKinley. The motion was made by Mike Baker and seconded by Jamie Evick; motion passed unanimously.

Executive Session began at 5:10PM

A motion to rise from executive session at 5:21PM was made by Mike Baker and seconded by Katie Kacmarik; motion passed unanimously.

Executive Session ended at 5:21PM

There was discussion in executive session about the speaker and honorary degree for the Spring 2026 Commencement. The board authorized Dr. Borchers to extend the invitation to speak and receive an honorary degree to a selected individual, pending that individual's availability.

Gift-West Cabins

Flip West has gifted WLU the cabins and acreage that adjoins the new conservation center.

David McKinley requests a motion to accept a gift from West Rentals/Cabins and authorize BOG or Dr. Borchers to accept the conveyance. Dr. Borchers will be authorized to sign. Rich Lucas motions, Will Turani seconds the motion. Motion passes unanimously.

X. Information Gathering:

Jamie Evick shared that she is currently reviewing college options with her daughter. Her daughter found West Virginia University overwhelming and was not impressed, so they decided to visit WLU. Their tour at WLU was excellent, with Dr. Horzempa spending one-on-one time with them, which Jamie greatly appreciated. She emphasized the importance of communicating the quality of WLU's programs to local schools to improve their perception of the university. Overall, she found the student ambassador, Emily, and the admissions representative, Hannah, to be wonderful.

XI. Adjournment

On motion by Mike Baker & seconded by Stephanie Shaw, the meeting adjourned at 5:30PM

David McKinley _____
Chair

Tom Cervone _____
Secretary

Minutes submitted by: Cyndi Galloway

President's Report to Board of Governors
February 11, 2026

1. Key Updates Since December Meeting

- Our Congressionally Directed Spending request for \$463,000 was approved by the President on Jan. 23. We are awaiting guidance on how to access the funds for security upgrades.
- Impact Report was published and provided to legislators, faculty and staff, President's Circle members and key community leaders.
- We hosted a Nonprofit Roundtable on Dec. 1 and are following up with a Nonprofit Opportunity Fair on March 4, from 10-1.
- Executive Director Delk and I conducted donor outreach throughout Florida and Atlanta recently.
- I have met with four local legislators before break to share our Impact Report and priorities and am planning to meet with the staff of our three federal representatives on Feb. 9.
- The WLU Day at the Capitol is being planned for Feb. 27.

2. Other Activities and Accomplishments

- We held Alumni Reunions in Morgantown on Feb. 4 and Washington DC on Feb. 7. Upcoming events include Charleston, WV on Feb. 26 and Weirton, WV on March 12.
- We'll host Topper Takeovers at River City prior to each WLU MEC game.

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

- None at this time.

Respectfully submitted by: Tim Borchers, President

Academic Affairs Report to Board of Governors
February 11, 2026

I. Student Retention and Engagement Software

The Student Success and Engagement platform (Watermark) full implementation started in January.

II. 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. Training with faculty in January and will continue throughout the semester

III. Program and Initiative Update

New program development:

- **Master of Arts in Counseling** – HLC Desk review moved to Institutional Action Council (IAC). Most likely on the March 30-31 agenda.
- **Bachelor of Applied Science** – Reintroduction under development; anticipated start **Fall 2026**

HLC Quality Initiative

The Quality Initiative, Passport, is designed to strengthen community and external partnerships by creating seamless transitions from education to employment. This strategic effort will benefit students and regional employers and contribute to overall economic growth and workforce development in the Ohio Valley. By aligning academic pathways with industry needs, Passport ensures that students are prepared for meaningful careers while supporting the vitality of our local economy.

Experiential Major Maps

As part of this initiative, we are collaborating with EAB this spring in an intensive focus on Experiential Major Maps. These maps provide a structured, holistic approach to student success by helping learners make informed decisions about coursework, integrating complementary activities such as internships and co-curricular experiences, and driving engagement throughout the pathway to degree completion. This work will promote a cohesive, well-rounded educational experience that connects classroom learning with real-world application, further advancing the goals of the Passport initiative.

NSSE 2025 National Survey of Student Engagement

West Liberty University's 2025 NSSE results provide a clear snapshot of student engagement, institutional impact, and participation in high-impact learning experiences. Survey participation included both first-year students and seniors, offering representative insight into the undergraduate experience. Overall engagement results show strong performance in areas such as student–faculty interaction, effective teaching practices, and quality of advising, with seniors particularly noting significant gains in critical thinking, job-related skills, and overall satisfaction with their educational experience. The High-Impact Practices report highlights especially strong senior participation in service-learning (76%), internships or field experiences (71%), and culminating senior experiences (76%), all of which exceed comparison-group benchmarks and reflect the university's commitment to applied, experiential learning. Additionally, the NSSE Pocket Guide data, designed for prospective students, reinforces strengths in faculty engagement, academic challenge, and supportive learning environments, offering a positive and accessible overview of the student experience at West Liberty University.

IV. Community Engagement

Nonprofit Opportunity Fair – March 4 - The March Nonprofit Opportunity Fair, held at West Liberty University, will bring together a wide range of regional nonprofit organizations to connect with students interested in service, internships, and community engagement. Representatives will share information about their missions, volunteer needs, internships, and professional pathways, giving students the chance to explore meaningful opportunities that align with their academic interests and career goals. The event fostered relationship-building, encouraged civic involvement, and highlighted WLU's commitment to supporting both student development and community partnerships.

V. Contribution Margin The contribution margin analysis for all academic programs has been completed by CLA, providing a clear, data-driven view of program-level financial performance relative to instructional and operational costs. We are currently meeting with department chairs, program directors, and the Dean to review the results and discuss trends. This collaborative review process will help identify areas of strength, opportunities for improvement, and inform future decisions that support both academic quality and long-term institutional viability.

VI. Program Review

Focused Review – Submission Due Date Dec. 1

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

Five-Year Program Review – Submission Due Date Feb. 1

- Creative Art Therapy
- Chemistry
- Elementary Education
- Secondary Education
- Psychology
- MA Art Therapy

Monitoring Reviews – Submission Due Date Feb. 1

- Dental Hygiene AS/BS—Resubmission of supplemental assessment data
- English BA—Indirect measures and contribution margin
- Nursing BS—Assessment plan and contribution margin
- Pre-Professional Speech Pathology & Audiology BS—contribution margin
- Visual Communication BA—Assessment plan data

VII. Campus Event

Ribbon Cutting Biomedical Research Lab

West Liberty University will celebrate the opening of the newly renovated Hilltop Center for Biomedical Research with a ribbon-cutting ceremony on February 11 at 2:00 p.m. in Arnett Hall, followed by an open house. Supported by a \$250,000 WV-INBRE Alterations and Renovations grant, the project transforms an underused classroom into a state-of-the-art biomedical research laboratory, expanding capacity beyond the single shared lab previously used by five faculty and roughly 30 students. This enhancement directly supports the institution's rapidly growing academic and research portfolio, including a 43% increase in biology majors since 2012, the addition of two graduate programs and a biomedical research major, and more than \$1.6 million in active faculty research grants. The new facility significantly strengthens student-driven research, collaboration, and scientific innovation and positions West Liberty University to sustain continued growth in the biomedical sciences.

Book Signing and Presentation

February 4, a special meet and greet, presentation, and book signing with Assistant Professor of Biology, Dr. Zackary A. Graham, for his new book, *Crayfish, Crawfish, Crawdad: The Biology and Conservation of North America's Favorite Crustaceans*.

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

Student Affairs & Enrollment Management Report to Board of Governors
February 11, 2026

1. Enrollment

- a. Spring 2026
 - i. Headcount 2055 – UG and GR
 - ii. UG FTE – 1316
 - iii. GR Hours – 2386 less PA Hours

2. Fall 2026

- a. We have 1259 undergraduate applications which is down overall about 60 applications from last year, but nationally applications are down.
- b. We have 1026 undergraduate accepts which is up about 116 overall from last year.
- c. 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.

3. Marketing and Strategic Enrollment Management Plan Updates

- a. We are recruiting our own by pulling students that are pending graduation into a communication plan about our Graduate Programs.
- b. We pulled the students that completed dual credit courses with us last year that did not enroll as first-time freshmen this year. We are analyzing to see where they are attending. It looks like 30% that attended college went to WVU, 30% attended WLU, 14% attended WVNCC and the rest spread out across several other colleges. Those that did not attend any University, we are reaching out with a communication plan to hopefully re-enroll those that started their degree here but did not enroll after high school.

4. Student Affairs

- a. Student Affairs and Student Activities kicked off the spring semester with strong engagement across campus. Welcome-back events, wellness programming, and early outreach from Residence Life and Student Life supported a smooth return for students. The division continues to focus on student well-being, belonging, and retention as we begin the new term.

5. Staffing

- a. Vacant Positions
 - i. Campus Police Officers
 - ii. Two Admissions Counselors

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

WLU Fiscal Affairs & Facilities Report to Board of Governors
February 11, 2026

Budget Status Report through January 23, 2025

Revenue

- Undergraduate Tuition & Fee Revenue is exceeding the projection for the Fall 2025 and Spring 2026 semesters
- Graduate Tuition & Fee Revenue is on target for the Fall 2025 and Spring 2026 semesters
- Housing & Meal Plan Revenue is exceeding the projection for the Fall 2025 and Spring 2026 semesters
- The State Appropriation has been received for the first three quarters of the fiscal year
- Other Revenue is on target

Expenses

- Salaries and benefits are within an acceptable range with 14 out of 26 pays plus the increment posted
- All other expense categories are on target with the exception of Contractual Services and the Other categories which are due to the increased number of students which makes our cost of dining increase and maintenance issues which must be addressed.

Deferred Maintenance

- WLU has Spent nearly \$11.5 million in projects for roofs, windows and doors, and HVAC.
- We will be applying to use the 18% held back funds for other deferred maintenance projects. This amount is estimated to be between \$3-\$4M.

Budget Forum

- A budget forum has been created with approximately 35 employees across campus. They include members from Faculty Senate, Staff Council, the Deans, SGA, Staff representatives, Faculty representatives, Cabinet members, and the President.
- We have held two meetings since starting the forum.
- Transparency of the financial state of the University is of utmost importance. Discussion has included reviewing Budget Status Reports, Revenue Sources, Expenses by Category, the Outcomes Based Funding Formula adopted by the State, Budgeting, Tuition & Fees, and Waivers.

Respectfully submitted by: Lori Hudson, VP of Fiscal Affairs

Athletics Report to Board of Governors
February 11, 2026

Athletic Updates:

- West Liberty University placed 85 student-athletes on the Mountain East Conference's Fall 2025 Academic Awards list, highlighted by 50 Academic All-MEC selections and 35 Commissioner's Honor Roll honorees.
To earn Academic All-MEC recognition, student-athletes must post a minimum 3.70 GPA, while the Commissioner's Honor Roll recognizes those with GPAs between 3.25 and 3.69.
- 15th Straight Semester of 3.0 or higher. 3.16 Department GPA. 310 student athletes with a 3.0 or higher. 94 with a perfect 4.0 GPA.
- Three West Liberty University football student-athletes were recognized for their excellence on the field and in the classroom, earning spots on the College Sports Communicators (CSC) Academic All-District Football Team.
Junus McGraw, Sawyer VanMatre, and Morgan Williamson each met the program's rigorous standards for academic and athletic achievement, which require nominees to be key contributors on the field while maintaining a cumulative GPA of 3.50 or higher.
- The West Liberty University men's soccer program continues to shine in the classroom as three Hilltoppers—Joao Victor Sylvino, Jasper Newton, and Oskar Voges—have been named to the 2025 College Sports Communicators (CSC) Academic All-District Team.
- Three members of the West Liberty University women's soccer program have been recognized for their excellence both on the field and in the classroom, earning 2025 College Sports Communicators (CSC) Academic All-District honors.
This year's Hilltopper honorees—Maya Taggart, Emma Lieu, and Abigail Barki.
- Four members of the West Liberty University women's volleyball team have earned selection to the 2025 College Sports Communicators (CSC) Academic All-District Team.
Junior outside hitter Ashley Cudnik was named to the Academic All-District Team for the second consecutive season and was also selected as a CSC Academic All-America® finalist. Joining Cudnik on the team is fellow junior Adrienne Staib, senior Grace Hill, and senior Bella Dart.
- Men's Wrestling: Khyvon Grace represented WLU at the NWCA All-Star Classic, the only wrestler from Division II, he defeated the defending NCAA D III 141-pound champion. Four Wrestlers have earned MEC Wrestler of the Week:

12/8 – Tony Wood
12/22 – Carter Winegardner
1/5 – Gabe Blissenbach
1/26 – Jordan Watters

They recently won their 4th MEC Team Championship, with 5 individual champions: Tony Wood, Jordan Watters, Carter Winegardner, Oliver Byerly, and Nico Taddy. Two runners-up: James Arsmtrong Jr. Grace and Logan Davis. Three third place finishers: Parker Bentley, Gabe Blissenbach, and Khyvon Grace. Every wrestler placed in the topped 3 earning them ALL-MEC Honors. The team is currently ranked No.21 in the Open Mat Poll.

- Women's Wrestling hosted the programs first dual, defeating Point Park 46-12 on 12/13/25. Participated in the prestigious NWCA National Duals in Cedar Falls, Iowa.
WLU will host the first NCAA Super Region II championship Feb. 21-22.
- Women's Basketball Freshman Jameka Brungard was named the MEC Player of the week 1/5/26.

- Men's Basketball team is currently ranked No.13 in the country (could change Tuesday)
17-3 overall, and in first place in the MEC at 12-1
Undefeated at home 11-0
- Women in Coaching (WIC) hosted the National Girls and Women in Sports Day event (StrongHER on the Hill) on February 4th, which began at 5 p.m. and ran through the conclusion of the women's basketball game. National Girls & Women in Sports Day recognizes the achievements of girls and women in athletics while continuing to advocate for gender equity and leadership opportunities in sports. This year's theme, #LeadHerForward, emphasizes the importance of mentorship, visibility, and support for women in athletics. Fans and attendees will have the opportunity to participate in bracelet making, enjoy photo booth experiences, and interact with West Liberty female student-athletes throughout the event. Official NGWSD certificates will also be available.
- Spring Sports kick off their seasons this month and we're looking forward to an exciting spring season.

Respectfully submitted by: Brad Forshey, Athletic Director

WLU Foundation Report to Board of Governors
February 11, 2026

Total Revenue Received = \$1,518,757.05 (as of 1-26-26)

Annual Fund: \$93,218.74

Significant Gifts:

\$25,000 from Eve and LeRoy Wallin to establish a non-endowed fund to support supplemental pay for student math tutors

\$10,000 raised from 7 donors for NIP Retention Scholarship – all tax credits depleted as of January 2026

Additions to the Endowment:

\$57,876.87 from the Victoria Sleime Trust for scholarships for worthy WV students; general endowed scholarship

Recent Events and Activities:

Florida & Atlanta alumni/donor visits – January 18-22

Upcoming Events:

Morgantown Area Alumni Watch Party – February 4 @ Café Oliverio

DMV Area Alumni Watch Party – February 7 @ Home of Mike Sherman

Charleston WV Alunni Gathering – February 26 @ Fife Street Brewing

March 4-8 – MEC Basketball Tournament – Topper Takeover @ River City

Weirton Area Alumni Gathering – March 12 @ Theo Yanni's

Topper Day of Giving – Wednesday, March 25, 2026

Respectfully submitted by: Betsy Delk, Executive Director WLUF

FOCUSED PROGRAM REVIEW RECOMMENDATIONS

WEST LIBERTY UNIVERSITY

Action Item

The Board of Governors is asked to approve the Focused Program Review Recommendations as presented.

Proposed Resolution: *Resolved*, that the West Liberty University Board of Governors approve the Focused Program Review Recommendations as presented.

West Liberty University Board of Governors
February 11, 2026

SPRING 2026 COMMENCEMENT SPEAKER & HONORARY DEGREE

WEST LIBERTY UNIVERSITY

Action Item

Pursuant to WLU Procedure 238: Guidelines for Honorary Degrees and Recognition, the Honorary Degrees and Recognition Committee and the President of the University recommend 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 May 2026 commencement as presented.

Action Item: Approve the preceding resolution and authorize the President of the University to confer the Doctor of Humane Letters degree as presented at its May 9, 2026, Commencement ceremony.