

**WLU Board of Governors
Academic Affairs & Student Life Committee**

September 29, 2026– 9:00 a.m.

Location: President's Conference Room
Shaw Hall West Conference Room, 208 University Drive, West Liberty, WV 26074

Call to order/Roll Call

Approval of Minutes

- Academic Affairs & Student Life Committee Minutes of May 26, 2026
- Academic Affairs & Student Life Committee Minutes of July 28, 2026

Academic Affairs-Cathy Monteroso

Higher Learning Commission (HLC)

- a. Criterion Teams created
 - i. Leads
 - Criterion 1: Cecilia Konchar Farr
 - Criterion 2: Jacob Manning
 - Criterion 3: Co-leads, Tammy McClain and Sherri Theaker
 - Criterion 4: Lori Hudson
- b. Gallery Walk – Mission

HEPC Update

- a. 2-year institution moving to a common numbering system
 - i. First 26 courses created; 4-year institution reviewing for alignment
 - ii. Next set of 26 will be available in the spring
 - iii. Moving toward 60-60 to graduation

MLS Recommendation

Program Review Update

Enrollment-Michelle Panepucci

BOG Subcommittee Report

9/18/2026

Academic Affairs & Student Life Committee

Submitted by: Michelle Panepucci, Interim Associate Vice President of Enrollment Management and Director of Admissions and Recruitment

Enrollment/Admissions

- **Fall 2026 Headcount:** As of September 18, 2026, total enrollment is 2,148 students.
 - By level:
 - DR: 25
 - GR: 304
 - UG: 1,819
- **2027 Application Report:** Continuing to monitor application activity and trends for the 2027 entering class.
 - Spring: 49 (-8 compared with this date last year)
 - Summer: 3 (-1 compared with this date last year)
 - Fall: 307 (+58 compared with this date last year), including 100 direct admission dual enrollment applications

Enrollment/Recruitment Initiatives

- **Direct Admission:** Offering direct admission to "Level Up" dual enrollment students at local high schools.
 - Students may opt in to be admitted as first-time freshmen (FTF) for the fall term following high school graduation.
 - The initiative eliminates the need to complete a separate application while allowing the University to utilize tentative transcripts already on file.
 - To date, 100 students have opted in for Fall 2027.
- **Transfers:** Continuing to strengthen partnerships with the WVNCC Thundering Hilltopper program.
 - Director was invited to attend the Rural Pathways Conference in Dallas, TX, at no cost to WLU.
- **CFWV Pathway to Champion:** Participating in the statewide initiative to promote WLU recruitment activities and earn Champion distinction upon completion of established milestones.
 - College Application and Exploration Month
 - First-Generation College Celebration Day
 - WVACRAO College Day Tour participation
 - Hosting events for elementary, middle, and high school students
 - [Champion - CFWV.com](#)
- **EAB – Undergraduate Enrollment:** Continuing to utilize EAB resources and strategies to support undergraduate enrollment.
- **Liaison – Graduate Enrollment:** Exploring strategies and initiatives to strengthen graduate recruitment, including email campaigns and inquiry generation.
- **Black and Gold Days:** Continuing to promote and expand on-campus recruitment events.
 - Saturday, October 10
 - Wednesday, November 11

Student Life-Andrew Lewis

1. TopperFest Engagement
 - a. Highlights and evaluations
2. Housing and Residence Life
 - a. Building programs
 - b. Numbers
 - c. Concerns
3. Student Success and Engagement
 - a. Alert Update
 - b. Faculty Involvement
4. College 101 – The Hilltop Experience
 - a. 12:15 Series
 - b. Registration and EMM
5. Student Activities
 - a. Family and Parent Weekend
 - b. Upcoming Events
 - i. Homecoming

Arts Update

Athletic Update

Community Connections

Other

Adjournment