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. ToppperFest 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