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*The*  
INAUGURATION *of*  
MARIE FOSTER GNAGE

AS  
THE SIXTH PRESIDENT  
OF  
WEST VIRGINIA UNIVERSITY AT PARKERSBURG



APRIL 2, 2005

WVU Parkersburg  
College Activities Center  
Multi-purpose Room

“One Moment  
*in Time*”

# WEST VIRGINIA UNIVERSITY AT PARKERSBURG

State-supported higher education began in Parkersburg in 1961 with the development of a branch campus of West Virginia University, evolved to the establishment of a free-standing community college and has come full circle with West Virginia University at Parkersburg serving as a regional campus of the University.

The College was founded in 1961 as the Parkersburg Branch of West Virginia University. As a result of efforts by area residents, the college became (and remains) the only state-supported institution in West Virginia funded by a local initiative. A \$3.6 million bond issue, with matching federal funds, was passed by Wood County voters in 1965 to build an educational complex on land provided by the Wood County Court. On July 1, 1971, the institution became Parkersburg Community College, the state's first comprehensive community college. In a reorganization of West Virginia's public higher education system in 1989, the institution was redesignated West Virginia University at Parkersburg, a regional campus of WVU.

WVU Parkersburg is WVU's largest regional campus. It is one of 15 public institutions in the country classified as Baccalaureate/Associate's Colleges by the Carnegie Foundation. The Parkersburg campus is the only community college in West Virginia accredited to offer baccalaureate programs. WVU Parkersburg's role as a regional WVU campus focuses on access. The Parkersburg campus extends WVU's capacity to fulfill its statewide mission by responding to the educational needs of the Mid-Ohio Valley region. WVU Parkersburg accomplishes this through delivery of a blend of technical, transfer and baccalaureate programs as well as the availability of graduate offerings and other University programs and services.

As an open admission institution, WVU Parkersburg serves as a "close to home" entry point to WVU for those area residents who may be geographically, culturally and/or economically placebound. Students have options: they may complete certificate or associate programs and enter the job market; they may complete one or two years at WVU Parkersburg and transfer to WVU or other institutions or they may pursue one of several baccalaureate degrees locally. Approximately 3,800 students enroll in courses each semester at the Parkersburg campus.

WVU Parkersburg serves the west central counties of Jackson, Pleasants, Ritchie, Roane, Tyler, Wirt and Wood. The Parkersburg campus offers affordable, convenient higher education opportunities and customized training tailored to demand-indicated needs in a student-centered environment. The college maintains its Jackson County Center, which first opened in 1974, to meet the educational needs of area residents in Jackson and Roane counties. More than 700 students attend the Ripley center.

# Marie Foster Gnage, Ph.D.

## BIOGRAPHY

Marie Foster Gnage became the sixth president of West Virginia University at Parkersburg in July of 2004. In addition to serving as president of the Parkersburg campus, she also is a regional vice president of West Virginia University.

Prior to assuming the presidency at WVU Parkersburg, she served as Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs at Raritan Valley Community College in North Branch, NJ; Assistant Vice Chancellor for Education Services at Pima Community College in Tucson, Ariz.; Vice President for Instruction at Central Florida Community College in Ocala, Fla.; Dean of Academic Affairs at Broward Community College, North Campus in Coconut Creek, Fla., and Department Head of English/ESL at Broward Community College. She was an ACE Fellow through the American Council on Education Fellows Program with Winthrop College, Rock Hill, S.C., serving as the host institution. She also served as Assistant Professor of English at Florida A&M University in Tallahassee.

She currently serves as a member of St. Joseph's Hospital Board of Trustees, The Parkersburg Art Center Board of Trustees, and the local Workforce Investment Board. She is a member of the Wood County Schools Steering Committee to develop its strategic plan, and she continues to serve on the Midland School Board of Trustees in New Jersey.

Dr. Gnage has several publications including "Voice, Mind, Self: Mother and Daughter Relationships in Amy Tan's Fiction," in *Women of Color*, UP Press (Fall 1996), "Book Review: *Portrait* by Naomi Madgett Long," *SAGE*, 1990, and *A Bio-bibliography of Southern Black Creative Writers, 1829 – 1953*, Greenwood Press, Inc., 1988.

Dr. Gnage holds a bachelor's degree in English from Alcorn A&M College, Lorman, Miss.; a master's degree in English from University of Southwestern Louisiana, and doctoral degree in English (American Literature) from The Florida State University.

## PRESIDENTIAL INAUGURATION PLANNERS THE PIPS

Dr. Joseph Badgley, Dean of Academic Affairs  
Kelli Barton, President of Student Government  
Patsy Bee, Executive Secretary to the President  
Pam Braden, Director of Jackson County Center  
Tina Buchanan, Chair of Faculty Senate  
Beth Cox, Assistant Professor of Art  
Paul Daugherty, Executive Director of WVU at Parkersburg Foundation  
Connie Dziagwa, Executive Director of Communications and Public Relations  
Cecelia Malhotra, Director of Admissions/Registrar  
Dr. Dotty Muir, Dean of Students  
Luanne Wiseman, Cafeteria Manager  
Tom Yench, Director of Student Activities  
Dr. H.G. Young III, Professor of Music

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THANKS THE GENEROUS SPONSORS  
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# One Moment *in Time*

The Inauguration of Marie Foster Gnage, Ph.D.  
2 p.m., Saturday, April 2, 2005  
College Activities Center

Prelude .....	Eastlawn Brass Quintet
Call to Assemble .....	Joe Campbell
	Chair, WVU Parkersburg Board of Advisors; Member, West Virginia University Board of Governors
Academic Processional .....	Eastlawn Brass Quintet
	Triumphal March from <i>Aida</i> Giuseppe Verdi Ron Atkinson, Grand Marshal Maggie Berdine and Gary Waggoner, Marshals
Presidential Processional .....	Eastlawn Brass Quintet
	Alla hornpipe from <i>Suite in D</i> G. F. Handel
Welcome and Call to Order .....	Dr. Gerald Lang WVU Provost Vice President of Academic Affairs
Presentation of Colors .....	Boy Scout Troop 7 Parkersburg, WV
National Anthem and Pledge of Allegiance .....	Assembled Group
Meditative Reflections .....	The Rev. Jack Neilson
College Chorale .....	Dr. H.G. Young III, Conductor Professor of Music
	<i>Festival Jubilate: Psalm 100</i> Daniel Pinkham
Significance of the Occasion .....	Dr. Joseph Badgley WVU Parkersburg Dean of Academic Affairs
Greetings and Affirmations WVU Parkersburg Student Government .....	Kirsten Simmons

Greetings and Affirmations

WVU Parkersburg Student Government .....	Kirsten Simmons Vice President	
WVU Parkersburg Faculty Senate .....	Tina Buchanan Chair	
WVU Parkersburg Staff Council .....	Rodney Parker President	1971 WASHINGTON STATE COMMUNITY COLLEGE Dr. Charlotte Hatfield, President
WVU Parkersburg Alumni Association .....	Randy Law Treasurer	
WVU at Parkersburg Foundation .....	Paul Daugherty Executive Director	2003 NEW RIVER COMMUNITY AND TECHNICAL COLLEGE Felica B. Wooten Blanks, Ph.D., Interim President
Higher Education Policy Commission .....	Dr. Bruce Flack HEPC Director of Academic Affairs Interim Vice Chancellor of State Colleges	2004 THE COMMUNITY AND TECHNICAL COLLEGE AT WEST VIRGINIA UNIVERSITY INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY Dr. Beverly Jo Harris, President
Community and Technical College System of WV .....	Dr. James Skidmore Chancellor, Community and Technical College Education	
WV Independent Colleges & Universities .....	Paul Chewning President	AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF STATE COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES Constantine W. Curriss will be represented by Dr. Robert N. Freeman, President, of Glenville State College
WV Public Education .....	Bill Niday Superintendent, Wood County Schools	
WV Legislative Delegation .....	Senator Donna Boley	
City of Parkersburg .....	Jimmy Colombo Mayor	
WV Department of Education and the Arts .....	Kay Goodwin Cabinet Secretary	
Remarks on the Occasion .....	David C. Hardesty, Jr. President, WVU	
Music .....	<i>One Moment in Time</i> Kendra Foster, Soloist Marie Mallory, Pianist	
Presidential Investiture .....	President Hardesty Joe Campbell	
Inaugural Address .....	Dr. Marie Foster Gnage President, WVU Parkersburg	
Benediction .....	The Rev. Jack Neilson	
Closing Remarks .....	Dr. Lang	
Recessional .....	Eastlawn Brass Quintet	

Allegro Maestoso  
Victor Ewald

A reception will be held in the cafeteria concourse following the ceremony.

## DELEGATES OF UNIVERSITIES AND COLLEGES

- 1817 UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN  
Logan W. Hovis, M.D., FACA, Alumnus
- 1835 MARIETTA COLLEGE  
Jean A. Scott, President
- 1872 GLENVILLE STATE COLLEGE  
Dr. Robert N. Freeman, President
- 1888 SALEM INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY  
Richard W. Ferrin, President
- 1890 WEST VIRGINIA STATE UNIVERSITY  
Sharon Smith Banks, WVSU Board of Governors
- 1890 WEST VIRGINIA WESLEYAN COLLEGE  
Mr. Richard L. Olcott, Alumnus
- 1903 PENN STATE MONT ALTO  
Dr. David C. Gnage, CEO
- 1909 KEENE STATE COLLEGE  
Suzan Schafer-Meiszner, Development Resource Specialist
- 1953 WEST VIRGINIA STATE COMMUNITY AND TECHNICAL COLLEGE  
Dr. Ervin V. Griffin, Sr., President
- 1958 OHIO VALLEY COLLEGE  
Dr. C. Joy Jones, Provost and Senior Vice President of Academic Affairs
- 1963 PARKERSBURG BRANCH OF WEST VIRGINIA UNIVERSITY  
1966 WEST VIRGINIA UNIVERSITY-PARKERSBURG CENTER  
Billy L. Coffindaffer, Ph.D., former director

## WEST VIRGINIA UNIVERSITY BOARD OF GOVERNORS

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Dr. Marie Foster Gnage  
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**Jim Hales**, Acting President, Parkersburg Community College  
President, Parkersburg Community College

**Eldon Miller**, Campus President, West Virginia University at Parkersburg;  
Regional Vice President of West Virginia University

**Erik Bitterbaum**, Campus President, West Virginia University at Parkersburg;  
Regional Vice President of University

**Dr. Joseph L. Badgley**, Interim Campus President/Regional Vice President of  
West Virginia University

**Dr. Marie Foster Gnage**, Campus President/Regional Vice President of  
West Virginia University

## PARKERSBURG CAMPUS DIRECTORS/PRESIDENTS

Parkersburg Branch of West Virginia University: 1961-66  
West Virginia University-Parkersburg Center: 1966-71  
Parkersburg Community College: 1971-1989  
West Virginia University at Parkersburg: 1989-

**Todd Bullard**, Director, Parkersburg Branch of West Virginia University

**B.L. Coffindaffer**, Director, Parkersburg Branch of West Virginia University  
Director, West Virginia University-Parkersburg Center

**Robert H. Stauffer**, President, Parkersburg Community College

**Paul Heath**, Acting President, Parkersburg Community College

**Jerry Lee Jones**, President, Parkersburg Community College

**M. Douglas Call**, Acting President, Parkersburg Community College

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### The Ceremonial Mace

The Ceremonial mace is carried today by WVU Parkersburg's Grand Marshal who is the college's senior faculty member. The mace bearer is Ron Atkinson, chair of the Social Sciences Division and professor of social sciences. He leads the procession and brings the mace to the platform to signal the beginning of the Inauguration ceremony. The mace in today's ceremony is the West Virginia University staff of authority and symbolizes the relationship of WVU Parkersburg as a regional campus of the University.

### Presidential Medallion

The Presidential Medallion is worn by the president during ceremonial occasions as a symbol of authority. The bronze medallion in today's ceremony was designed and created by WVU Parkersburg Professor Henry Aglio using the ancient technique of lost-wax casting. The technique involves first creating the work in wax; it is then coated with a clay-like material and invested in plaster. The wax is melted away leaving a hollow mold into which molten bronze is poured. At the center of the Presidential medallion is an artistic rendering of the bell which came from the original site of the college and will be rung at today's ceremony.