

MINUTES  
WEST VIRGINIA UNIVERSITY AT PARKERSBURG  
BOARD OF GOVERNORS  
June 14, 2022

A regular meeting of the West Virginia University at Parkersburg Board of Governors was held on Tuesday June 14, 2022, in the Francis & Nina Phares Board Room of WVU Parkersburg and via Zoom Video Conferencing, beginning at 3:15 p.m. Board members present were: Steve Hardman, Joe Oliverio, JP Hushion, Donna Smith, Jeff Matheny, Jason Landers, John Denbigh, Rose Beebe, Kim McFee and Lauren Hissem. Others present included Dr. Chris Gilmer and Brady Whipkey.

Guests present included administrators, faculty and staff.

**1. Call to Order**

Mr. Hardman, Chair of the WVU at Parkersburg Board of Governors, called the meeting to order.

**2. Roll Call**

Roll Call was taken by Brady Whipkey, Chief of Staff to the President and Secretary to the Board of Governors, noting that a quorum was present.

**3. President's Report**

President Gilmer and David thanked the Board of Governors, Foundation Board, and employees of WVU Parkersburg for their four years of service to the College and community.

President Gilmer also provided the following report:

**WVUP Proud**  
**A Portrait of Mission-Driven Growth and Responsiveness to Community**  
**June 14, 2022**  
**Presented to the West Virginia University at Parkersburg Board of Governors**  
**By Chris Gilmer, Ph.D., President**

**Abridged Factual Overview of WVU Parkersburg**

Total Projected Cash Reserves, as of June 30, 2022

\$19,213,461

*(increased more than 50 percent in four years)*

Total Federal Grants, July 2018 to Present

\$11,467,437

*(competitive grants won proactively)*

Total Number of Competitive Grants Received, July 2018 to Present

128

Total Number of Learn and Earn Grants Received, July 2018 to Present

50

Current Learn and Earn Grants

32

Variable, \$14 million

Total Unduplicated Academic Enrollment, fall 2021-Present 1,752 FTE	2,478 HC;
Total Number of Employees, full- and part-time 172 PT)	393 (221 FT,
Total Number of Full-time Faculty	106
Total Number of Academic Programs (17 certificates, 24 associate degrees, 15 bachelor's degrees)	56
Total Number of Skill Sets and Advanced Skill Sets	17
Ratio of Credentials/Associate Degrees to Bachelor's Degrees	3.5 to 1
Total WVUP Educational and Outreach Sites (increased from two in July 2018)	14

### **Abridged List of Recent Accomplishments and Coming Attractions**

The WVUP Proud Campaign, culminating in 2021 and tied to our 60<sup>th</sup> birthday, set a goal of raising \$3 million in three years. We doubled that goal by raising \$6.3 million in two years.

In fall 2022 and in partnership with Coplin Health Systems, we will open a full-service primary healthcare facility on our Parkersburg campus with low-cost or no-cost primary health services for students and their families and low-cost health services for employees and the broader community. In partnership with the WVU at Parkersburg Foundation, we are raising funds to defer student costs.

WVUP has won 23 national marketing awards over the last three years in competition with colleges nationwide, more than any other college or university in West Virginia, and particularly noteworthy since we do not hire ad agencies to produce our ads. We develop them in-house with student leadership as part of our experiential learning program.

While we have experienced some decline in enrollment this year based on the pandemic, WVUP posted the highest headcount enrollment growth among the 19 public colleges and universities in West Virginia immediately prior to COVID and has doubled the enrollment in our Early College high school program over the past four years. Overall enrollment is up 5 percent comparing the past three years to the three years immediately preceding Dr. Gilmer's presidency. Retention is up 9 percent comparing the past three years to the three years immediately preceding Dr. Gilmer's presidency.

WVUP has brought the Riverhawk Farm back into production in partnership with Mister Bee Potato Chips, securing \$1 million in grants and private gifts to support rebuilding the farm into an experiential learning opportunity for students and a partnership opportunity with business and industry.

Community relationships between WVUP and the business, industry, educational, and nonprofit sectors are the strongest they have been in many years through

deliberate and consistent community outreach and the opening of WVUP on Market, a new community-based center in downtown Parkersburg.

In partnership with the WVCTCS and Blue Ridge Community and Technical College, WVUP was one of only two colleges chosen by Arnold Ventures to replicate the City University of New York's proven retention model for associate degree students, receiving \$1.7 million for project implementation, the largest gift in the history of WVUP. We are already seeing tremendous results in what we named the ASCEND program, Accelerating Student Completion: Encouraging New Dreams, with passage rates of ASCEND students 30+ percent higher on the first attempt in barrier first-year English and math courses.

WVUP renovated our library into a Student Success Epicenter, bringing together many of the academic student support functions into one space and under the leadership of the ASCEND program director.

WVUP is constantly developing new and exciting partnerships with business and industry, including incumbent worker training with Chemours, the first student-staffed professional computer call desk in the nation with Ntiva, and an innovative workforce development program with Constellium, to name a few.

WVUP secured grant funding to launch the Arts Collaborative of the MOV and has brought more than a dozen free-standing local nonprofit arts organizations together in collaboration, receiving the prestigious inaugural Mark Ivester Innovation Award from the Community Colleges of Appalachia.

WVUP was chosen as one of only nine community colleges nationwide for the most recent cadre of Metallica Scholars, a nationwide effort by this iconic rock band and the American Association of Community Colleges to elevate the prestige of technical education.

In partnership with the Erickson Foundation, WVUP has announced the first endowed faculty chair in its history, the C.O. and Charles F. Erickson Distinguished Faculty Chair in Entrepreneurship.

Governors, unless there are questions and with great respect for this Board, this concludes my report.

#### **4. Approval of Minutes**

Chairman Hardman, stated the minutes from the Regular Board meeting of April 12, 2022 and Special Meeting of May 3, 2022 are submitted for review. With no corrections to be made, minutes are approved as submitted.

## 5. Committee Reports

- Executive Committee

Chairman Hardman reported that the Executive Committee met to discuss the planning of the Presidential Transition.

- Academic and Student Services Committee

Mr. Oliverio reported EVP Torie Jackson, provided an update on the C.O. and Charles F. Erickson Endowed Chair.

- Administrative Services Committee

Mr. Denbigh reported VP Brady Whipkey, provided an update and tour of facility renovations to the Business Office, Human Resources, Early Learning Center-Coplin Clinic, and River Hawk farm

## 6. Information Items

- Fiscal Update

EVP Harris provided a detailed report on the budget summary as of month ending May 31, 2022. With review and discussion, Ms. Harris answered questions from the members.

## 7. Action Items

- Approval of FY 2023 Budget

President Gilmer and EVP Harris, presented to the Board the resolution for approval of FY 2023 Budget.

After review and discussion, Ms. Smith moved to approve the following resolution:

*Resolved*, That the West Virginia University at Parkersburg Board of Governors approves a final budget for West Virginia University at Parkersburg for 2022-2023.

Mr. Denbigh seconded the motion. Motion passed.

- Approval of Pay Increase for FY 23 for Full-Time Employees

President Gilmer and EVP Harris, presented to the Board the resolution for approval of a \$2,100 annual pay increase effective for the pay period beginning July 1, 2022, for all WVUP eligible full-time employees. Eligible full-time employees are those who were employed by WVUP on March 12, 2022, when the FY 2023 budget bill (SB 250) was signed into law.

After review and discussion, Mr. Denbigh moved to approve the following resolution:

*Resolved*, That the West Virginia University at Parkersburg Board of Governors approves a \$2,100 pay increase for eligible WVUP employees as described below.

Mr. Oliverio seconded the motion. Motion passed.

- Approval of Pay Increase for Adjunct Faculty and Full-Time Overload Contracts  
President Gilmer and EVP Harris, presented to the Board the resolution for approval of a \$65 per credit hour across the board pay increase for adjunct faculty and full-time faculty with overload contracts beginning for all contracts initiated for the Fall 2022 semester and thereafter.

After review and discussion, Ms. Smith moved to approve the following resolution:

*Resolved*, That the West Virginia University at Parkersburg Board of Governors approves a \$65 per hour pay increase for adjunct faculty and full-time faculty with overload contracts beginning with the Fall 2022 term which are reflected in the proposed changes to the attached WVUP Answer Book Policy IV-16 A.

Ms. Smith seconded the motion. Motion passed.

**8. Possible Executive Session under the authority of WV Code §6-9A-4(b)(2A), to discuss confidential personnel matters.**

None

**9. Board Comments/Announcement**

Chairman Hardman reported the CTC did approve the Interim President contract for Dr. Jackson, effective July 1, 2022. Next, Chairman Hardman reported the WVU Parkersburg Board of Governors meetings will be held on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of the month, and there would be eight meetings in total for the academic year. Chairman Hardman then thanked Dr. Gilmer for his service over the past four years, noting that he is leaving the college better than he found it and that he has become a part of the University and the community and will forever be a part of our history.

**10. Next Meeting**

Next meeting will be held August 16, 2022.

**11. Adjournment**

With no further business to be discussed, Chairman Hardman, adjourned the regular meeting of the Board of Governors.

Respectfully submitted,

Brady Whipkey  
Chief of Staff to the President  
Secretary to the Board of Governors

---

Steve Hardman, Chair

---

JP Hushion, Secretary