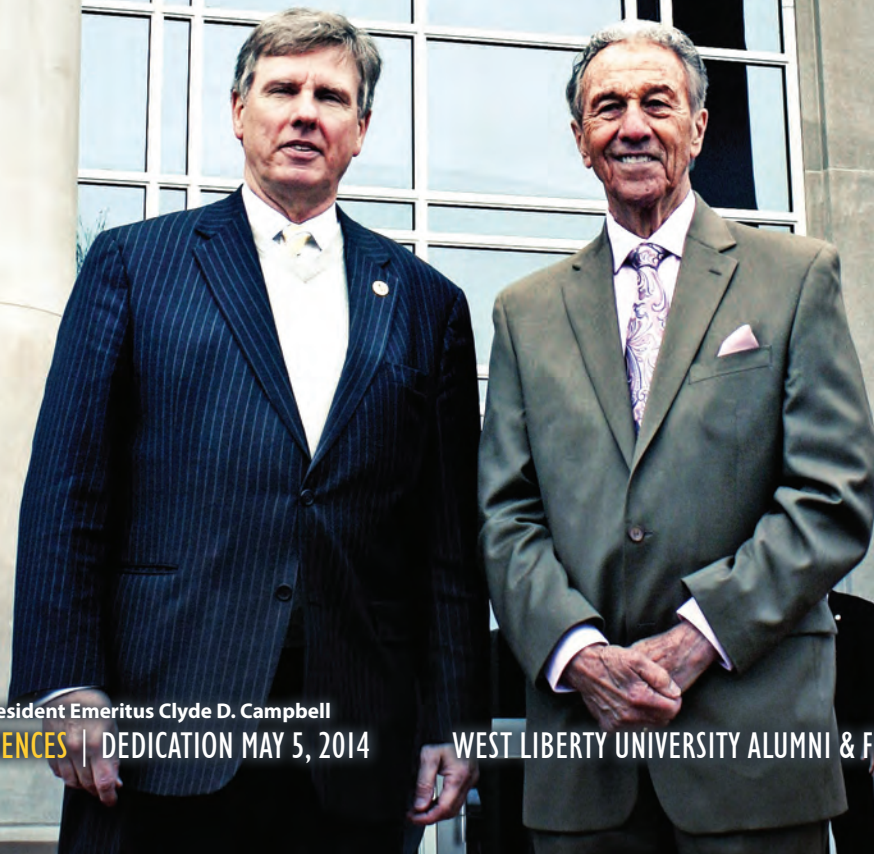


CAMPBELL HALL

# *top of the hill*



President Robin C. Capehart and President Emeritus Clyde D. Campbell  
**CAMPBELL HALL OF HEALTH SCIENCES** | DEDICATION MAY 5, 2014

SUMMER 2014



WEST LIBERTY UNIVERSITY ALUMNI & FRIENDS NEWSLETTER





## CAMPBELL HALL OF HEALTH SCIENCES POINTS TO BRIGHT FUTURE

**"West Liberty has a momentum that is unmatched by any other college or university in this state. I believe that Campbell Hall and the values and principles of its namesake will continue to guide us down a road to distinction and distinctiveness. As such, I believe the future of West Liberty University is bright and boundless."**

— President Robin C. Capehart, *remarks from the Dedication of Campbell Hall*

WLU dedicated its state-of-the-art Campbell Hall of Health Sciences building on May 5 with a festive ceremony that included speeches from both President Robin C. Capehart and President Emeritus Clyde D. Campbell '53.

The \$23 million building houses six academic departments: chemistry, dental hygiene, medical laboratory sciences, nursing, speech pathology/audiology and the newest WLU health science program, physician assistant studies.

"First, we'd like to offer our deepest appreciation to former Chancellor of Higher Education Brian Noland who understood the need for a facility that would contribute to the long-term health care needs of the people of West Virginia," began President Capehart at the dedication, attended by approximately 250 guests who also toured the building.

"It was through Dr. Noland's support that the Higher Education Policy Commission identified this facility that we dedicate today as the highest priority among all new construction projects for higher education in the State of West Virginia."

President Capehart also thanked the West Virginia Chancellor of Higher Education Dr. Paul Hill for his support of

the building project and thanked United States Senator Joe Manchin, who was West Virginia governor at the time the project began, and current Governor Earl Ray Tomblin, for their help in making the new science building a reality.

Named in honor of Dr. Campbell, who graduated from West Liberty in 1953 and later served as a chemistry professor and then president of the University from 1984 – 1995, the dedication marked the formal opening of the 72,000 square-foot educational building.

"West Liberty has been such a large part of my life and now I can literally be part of West Liberty's life even into the future," remarked Campbell at the dedication, which was attended by his family, students, employees and invited guests.

"It's an exciting time to be a student majoring in the sciences at West Liberty University," said Dean of the College of Sciences Dr. Robert Kreisberg. "Campbell Hall brings together the health sciences in one central location and enhances our student academic experience. The classrooms, laboratories and clinical spaces add to our strong curriculum to create the best research and learning environments for our students and faculty."

The four-story administrative and classroom structure was designed using neoclassical architectural elements, consistent with the overall look of the university. Architect for the project was Perfido, Weiskopf, Wagstaff and Goettel of Pittsburgh. Nello Construction of Canonsburg, Pa. was the builder. WLU employee Larry Skrzypek was the project manager.

The position of the new science building on Faculty Drive overlooking a green wooded vale, creates an attractive path that accommodates students walking to other campus locations. Other inviting features include an outdoor veranda attached to the back of the structure that leads to the new path.

The state of West Virginia provided \$12.75 million of the total building budget and the University invested an additional \$1.1 million from gas and timber rights. An additional \$500,000 was provided through private fundraising thanks to generous donors, with another sum of \$400,000 committed to Campbell Hall through planned giving and pledges. The remaining balance was funded through a \$10 million bond issuance.



# ALUMNI NEWS

W



Organizations are ever evolving. As education, specifically higher education, has changed over the past 40 years, so too have the wants and needs of current students and alumni. Let's examine the future of alumni associations:

A student entering WLU for the 2015 academic year may be stepping onto the same campus as a student in 1975, but they are entering a whole different world of educational opportunities. What's different today? Education is viewed as a right, not a privilege. It's a new kind of education that involves distance learning and other major technology influences. With that comes a lack of class identity. Graduates of the 50s, 60s & 70s wore mortarboards on graduation day with the same classmates that wore "Dinks" during Freshman Week.

Today, students experience the five or six-year syndrome and do not graduate in the traditional four years.

Society in general has become individualistic and students and alumni are no different. Alumni don't need us to connect with each other; they are using social media like Facebook, LinkedIn, Twitter, etc. Alumni are time poor. They want to communicate and participate on their own terms in a personalized manner.

In order to adapt to the needs of current students and alumni, the WLU Alumni Office has changed and will continue to change. Our priorities for the future include:

- Work closer with the Development Office
- Do more data mining
- Use more electronic communication
- Take advantage of social networking and online communities
- Understand the need for affinity groups
- Be the keepers of campus tradition
- Become more creative
- Worry less about participation numbers
- Worry more about who is involved
- See our alumni as investors in the institution
- Assist with career services

We hope that all alumni will consider participating in the life of West Liberty University. Please contact our office with your needs and ideas.

— Shane Stack '10  
Alumni Director

WEST LIBERTY UNIVERSITY ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

**FOREVER**  
*Hilltopper*

SAVE THE DATE:

**October 10, 2014**

- **NOTABLE SCIENCE ALUMNI CEREMONY**  
*Campbell Hall*
- **CAMPBELL HALL OPEN HOUSE**
- **BENEFACTORS GALA**  
*President's Circle Member Event*

**October 11, 2014**

- **WALL OF HONOR**  
*Gary E. West Event Center*
- **HOMECOMING**  
*WLU vs Fairmont State, 1 pm kick-off*

**HOMECOMING LODGING INFO:**

Rooms Available Oct. 10-12

*Oglebay Resort & Conference Center*  
304.243.4000  
Room Block ID# 22714

Traditional Room Rate - \$115  
Intermediate Room Rate - \$150  
Premium Room Rate - \$200

*Hampton Inn - Wheeling*  
304.233.0440  
Room Block ID# WLU Homecoming  
Room Rate - \$129

**More INFO:**

Shane Stack, 304.336.8888

UPDATE YOUR CLASS NOTES:  
[westliberty.edu/alumni/class-notes](http://westliberty.edu/alumni/class-notes)



## BASEBALL

Coach Eric Burkle's baseball team posted its first winning season since 1998, set a school record with 23 conference wins and earned its second straight trip to the conference tournament.

## BASKETBALL

Coach Lynn Ullom's Lady Hilltoppers came on strong down the stretch to earn runner-up laurels in their first season of Mountain East Conference competition and picked up yet another NCAA Division II Tournament bid. It was the 16th 20-win season for the perennial Atlantic Region power and the 12th NCAA Tournament trip of the Ullom Era.

It was an historic year for Toppernation as the four-time defending Atlantic Region champion Hilltoppers advanced all the way to the NCAA Division II national championship game in Evansville, Ind. Head coach Jim Crutchfield and his powerhouse men's basketball program are the cover story in the May-June edition of Winning Hoops national coaching magazine after winning eight of the last nine national scoring titles and averaging more than 100 points a game for Crutchfield's entire coaching career!

## GOLF

Coach Mike Ricci's regionally-ranked men's golf team earned its fourth NCAA Division II post-season bid in the past six seasons. Matt Iceton was named to the All-Region Team after earning MEC Freshman of the Year honors.

## TENNIS

Coach Heather Gallagher's regionally-ranked women's tennis team earned its fourth straight NCAA Division II Atlantic Region tournament bid and dropped a 5-4 heartbreaker to Mercyhurst (PA) in a regional semifinal.

## TRACK

Coach David Bell's men's track team finished fourth in the MEC Championships with Cameron Benson (javelin) and Taven Rohrbaugh (800-meter run) claiming individual titles. Freshman Alexis Montes (javelin) was one of only three MEC women's track standouts to earn a spot on the NCAA Division II All-Atlantic Region Team.



# SPRINGSports WRAPUP



# "Pay Attention, Be Astonished, Tell About it!"

Spring 2014 Commencement was a special moment for all the graduates but especially for the inaugural class of WLU physician assistants who began the journey to their master degree just two years ago.

The Master of Physician Assistant Studies degree program welcomed its first class in July 2012 and the class participated in Spring Commencement, finished their clinical rotations in June and then took their board exams.

The May 10 ceremony also included inspiring words from West Virginia Poet Laureate Marc Harshman who received an honorary Doctor of Humane Letters degree from President Robin C. Capehart. A resident of Wheeling, Harshman is married to Elbin Library Director Cheryl Ryan Harshman.

Harshman encouraged graduates to look for their own stories to tell.

"Stories can connect the old West Liberty to today and the future. West Liberty was founded as an academy in 1837, founded to raise-up good teachers. This continues throughout life. You are not done. Leave here with the potential to be a teacher and a leader. You bear responsibility to preserve our great nation and do your part to create the world. The best can always be better."

"One way you can teach will be as an example giver. Be a story of the passion in your career. You'll find your stories everywhere."

"Pay attention, be astonished — tell about it! You hold great if not divine possibilities. You are leaving with the seeds of your future. A wide-open future, filled with surprises. You must follow your heart."

Harshman also paid tribute to the value of a small university like West Liberty.

"How lucky you are to be educated in this small University. Because of its relative size it allowed you to know your administrators and professors, to not fall through the cracks."

## "STORIES can connect the old West Liberty to today and the future."

The 177th Spring Commencement Ceremony began with music provided by the Wind Ensemble, under the direction of Dr. Matthew Inkster, conductor. Also performing was the WLU Concert Choir, under the direction of Alfred R. de Jaager, who was one of two faculty members honored during the ceremony for years of service.

de Jaager served 48 years as a music instructor and Judy Carney served 16 years as a math instructor. Both retired at the end of the academic year.

Alumni were represented by Joelle Connors '03 who delivered an encouraging statement from the Alumni Association known as "Forever Hilltopper," asking all graduates to remain connected to WLU throughout their professional careers.

The Class of 2014 included students from 11 states and the District of Columbia, plus three foreign countries.

View the ceremony as taped by WLUTV-14:  
[vimeo.com/95276288](https://vimeo.com/95276288)



LINDSAY CERVENAK



The Concert Choir, under the direction of Alfred de Jaager, typically presents a “farewell” concert in the spring to mark the departure of the choir for its overseas tour. Begun in 2007, the Concert Choir spring tour offered students a chance to perform internationally as they visited Spain, Italy, Poland, Czech Republic and Austria.

This year, the concert had special meaning since it was the final concert for de Jaager who retired at the end of the 2014 academic year.

“We wish Al well as he enters retirement and we thank him for his many years of excellent service. He has touched the lives of countless students and left a mark on West Liberty University that will not soon be forgotten,” said President Robin C. Capehart.

It was standing room only at the concert, held at Vance Memorial Presbyterian Church on April 27, as former students, fellow faculty, administration, family and friends filled the church located along National Road in Woodsdale. The concert featured sacred and secular music and ended with a touching rendition of the alma mater as de Jaager invited all alumni in the church to come up to the altar and join the choir in singing, “Dear Old West Liberty!”

de Jaager was director of Choral Activities and an associate professor of music at the time of his retirement. After joining West Liberty in August 1966, he went on to lead the University Chorus, the Madrigal Choir, the Concert Choir and the Opera Workshop. He also taught conducting and music literature classes.

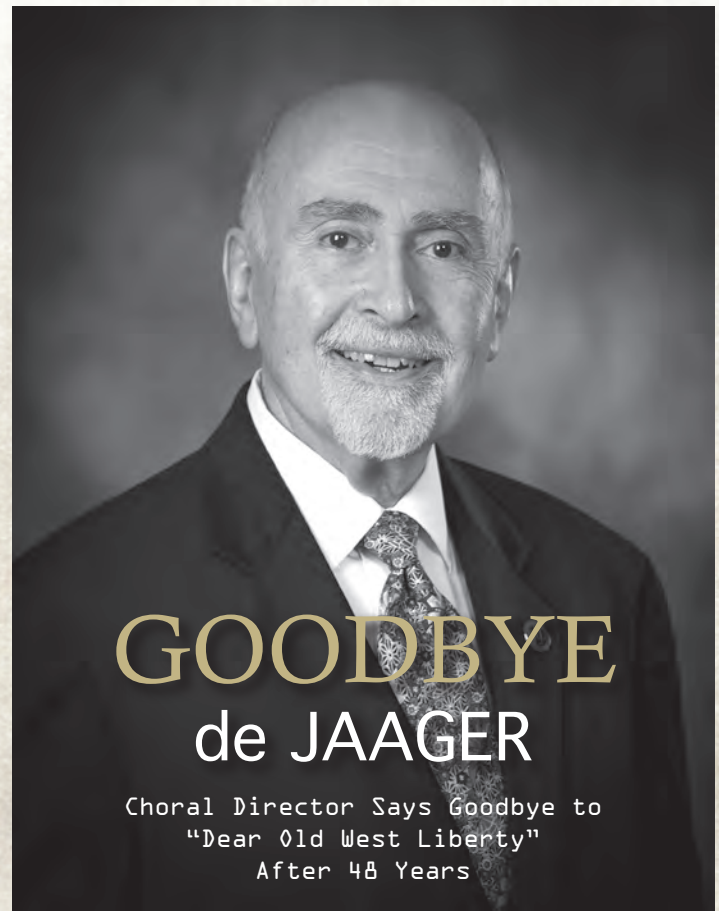
“Al has been an ‘institution’ within our institution. Beyond his extensive and excellent service as a professor, academic administrator and director of choral groups, he has always represented a truly human side of West Liberty in terms of his positive interaction with students, parents, the public and his colleagues. Al’s record-setting 48 years of service have been permeated by his sense of commitment to his students,” said Dr. John McCullough, executive assistant to President Capehart, who has known him for 43 years.

de Jaager has a Bachelor of Music degree from the Oberlin College Conservatory of Music and a Master of Music degree from West Virginia University. He earned a Choir Master Certificate from the American Guild of Organists and completed graduate studies at West Virginia University, Westminster Choir College, University of Texas at Austin, North Texas State University and the University of Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music.

He received an Award of Excellence from the American Choral Directors Association of West Virginia in 2002 and in 2006, he received the Professor of the Year award from the WLU Student Government Association.

Born in Paterson, N.J., de Jaager sold his Wheeling home and moved to Siem Reap, Cambodia, where he recently built a two-story brick home.

de Jaager has visited Cambodia a couple times and has friends there, so he welcomes his relocation. His two-bedroom home has a balcony on the second floor and a tile



roof that adds to the charm by creating usable space on the rooftop!

“It will be a great adventure. It puts me close to some other places I want to visit,” he said. “I’ve done a good bit of traveling — visited 30 countries. But I want to visit Vietnam, Thailand and others in that area. And you know we have a graduate in Thailand. There are alumni all over the world.”

The Siem Reap region is an international tourist attraction due to Buddhist temples and ruins such as Angkor Wat. de Jaager already has plans to enjoy a visiting concert performance by Yale’s famous a cappella singing group, the Whiffenpoofs, performing there in July. (Sharif Youssef is a member of the acclaimed group and also the son of WLU professor Mohamed Youssef.)

“As I leave West Liberty, I’m not burning any bridges. I liked the students, the staff, the faculty and I have no regrets. I spent 48 years doing things that were very enjoyable,” he said.



## WEEK OF ELITE 8

### WLU FACEBOOK

Reach of 181,266 people

### WLU TWITTER

1,466 Tweets

### WESTLIBERTY.EDU

6,000+ new visitors

### CBS NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP NIELSEN RATINGS

3.1 million viewers



# NCAA DII CHAMPIONSHIP

## Big Win for University

Though the men's basketball team came up a few minutes shy of hoisting its first national championship trophy this past March at the NCAA DII Championship Game, the Hilltop enjoyed an entire season of winning support from its fans.

"West Liberty University put on an amazing show. This kind of basketball and teamwork doesn't happen easily. We are so proud of our Toppers and their performance in the Elite 8," said loyal fan and donor Jack Adams '63, who followed the Toppers all season long. Though this was WLU's first championship game, the Hilltoppers were playing in their fourth straight Elite Eight and have played in three of the last four Final Fours.

But the big win was not to be, as No. 20 Central Missouri caught fire down the stretch and rallied to an 84-77 victory in the NCAA Division II Elite Eight national championship game at the Ford Center. Still there are many successes to be counted.

More than 1,200 WLU fans attended the championship in Evansville, Ind. Many traveled by bus, privately paid for by local sponsors who stepped up to support the University. In a mere four hours, \$12,000 was raised.

"The display of support from the community meant so much. West Liberty enjoys a tremendous support from the community, alumni and staff. It's like a family," said Director of Development Angela Zambito Hill.

Sunday, March 30, a parade welcomed the team home. Hundreds of fans of all ages turned out to wave their Topper towels and cheer the returning Hilltoppers.

Viewed by an estimated audience of 3.1 million people, the final game offered priceless brand promotion and advertising.

"Our reach during the 2014 Elite 8 has been huge. Our analytics are through the roof and we are so proud of our team! West Liberty University, its students, staff and alumni have the right to brag," said Vice President of Institutional Advancement Jason Koegler.



## WELCOME | Jay Frey, CFRE

*Planned & Major Giving Consultant*

"I welcome Jay to the team and know that his years of experience will benefit the development office and the entire University as we advance our mission," said Director of Development Angela Zambito Hill, CFRE, who will be his supervisor. "This gives us an opportunity to focus on endowment growth and to address the needs of our Nathan Shotwell Planned Giving Society."

Frey's more than 35 years of fundraising experience ranges from serving in small development offices to large organizations. Currently, he is the interim vice president for advancement at Carlow University, Pittsburgh.

Prior to that, he was on the leadership team of the Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh Foundation, serving as vice president for development and vice president for strategic initiatives from 2010 to 2013. Other career highlights include:

- Senior major gifts officer, Rush University Medical Center, Chicago.
- Vice president for development, Chicago Historical Society, exceeded \$30 million goal.
- Vice president of philanthropy, Rush North Shore Medical Center, Skokie, Ill.
- Senior director of major gifts, University of Chicago Medical Center.
- Director of faculty patient gifts, Harvard Medical School, raising \$70 million.
- Began fundraising career while teacher at The Harvey School, Katonah, N.Y.

Frey serves on the boards of the AFP Western Pennsylvania Chapter; Pittsburgh Opera; Elmhurst, The House of Friendship; the Friends of Wheeling; the Wheeling Symphony Orchestra Society, City of Wheeling Hall of Fame and is a member of the committee on directorship for the AFP Foundation (US). He has held the Certified Fund Raising Executive (CFRE) credential since 2001.

A native of Wheeling, he is a graduate of Triadelphia High School and holds a Bachelor of Music and a Master of Music in Teaching degrees from the Oberlin College Conservatory of Music. You may reach him by calling 304-336-8888 or emailing him at [jay.frey@westliberty.edu](mailto:jay.frey@westliberty.edu).





# TOPPER

## spotlight

READ MORE ABOUT FEATURED ALUMNI AT  
[westliberty.edu/toth/spotlight](http://westliberty.edu/toth/spotlight)



**JESSICA HUFFMAN '04**

Huffman, RDH, MDH, completed a year as president of the North Carolina Dental Hygiene Association. She is a delegate to the American Dental Hygienists' Association and serves on the Council of Member Services. She earned her Master of Dental Hygiene degree from the University of Tennessee-Health Science Center and is a dental hygiene instructor at Central Piedmont Community College, Charlotte. She is a past recipient of WLU's Pallottini Memorial Scholarship for Outstanding Professional Promise.



**MIA KRISAK ICKES '11**

Krisak Ickes took a big career step recently when she was selected as assistant director of the Schrader Environmental Education Center, Oglebay Resort. The Steubenville native is a graduate of the Gary E. West College of Business and earned her bachelor's degree in business administration, with a specialization in hospitality and tourism management. "When I chose to attend WLU, I knew I would be receiving an excellent education, but I didn't realize how many career opportunities it would open up for me," she explained.



**JOHN STAVOVY '70**

Stavovy combines stellar careers as a National Guardsman and president of Mesa Wood Ltd., his custom home building company. Recently he added another dimension to his success as he initiated WLU's first scholarship for veterans. "I'm pleased to be a part of this new scholarship that supports veterans as they earn a college degree. As a retired member of the National Guard, I know first hand the time and commitment involved in serving our country and am happy to share with my fellow veterans in this way," he said.

**TOP OF THE HILL** is now printed in a newsletter format four times annually, reducing the cost of printing and environmental impact when compared to the former lengthier magazine. We strive to offer our readers a campus snapshot in an informative, brief manner. Please let us know online or via email your comments and questions.

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