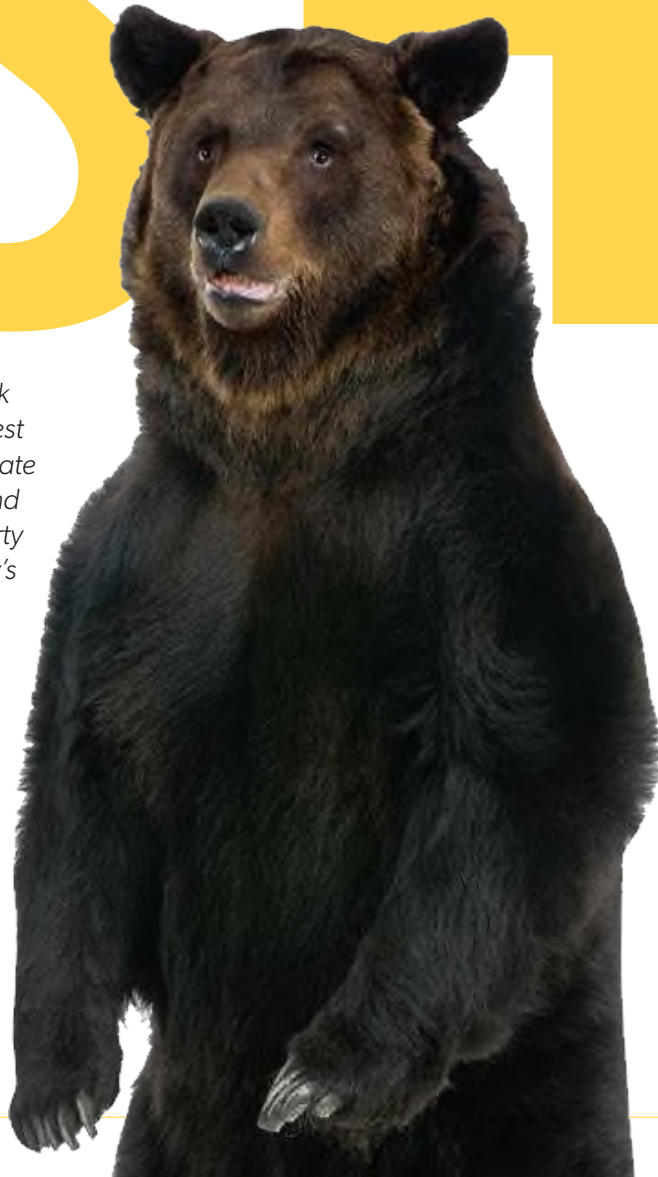




RAISE

TOP OF THE HILL
SPECIAL EDITION

AND...



The black bear is West Virginia's state animal and West Liberty University's mascot.

High on the Hilltop, set in the rolling hills above Wheeling, West Virginia, West Liberty University stands strong. Led by determined and focused Weirton, West Virginia, native Dr. Stephen Greiner, WLU is experiencing unprecedented growth.

When he arrived in January of 2016, President Greiner bypassed an inauguration ceremony to engage with students, faculty and staff. This act kicked off an ongoing theme that is student-centered, growth-orientated, and financially responsible. WLU is on a path of sustainability, creating an environment that has the university poised to take advantage of opportunities and to serve its community and state.

Over the past two years, WLU has emerged from a significant budget deficit, has doubled the number of graduate programs offered, has experienced a 25 percent plus growth in endowment returns, and has increased overall enrollment each year.

The following report details the measurable progress accomplished during a short, but critical, period of time.

RANKINGS

US News Regional
Ranking 2019

#6

West Liberty University is ranked #6 in Top Public Schools. Schools are ranked according to their performance across a set of widely accepted indicators of excellence.

2018 Most Affordable
Colleges & Universities

#41

West Liberty University is ranked #41 in College Consensus' most affordable colleges and universities in 2018

2019 Study.com
regional ranking

#26

West Liberty University is ranked #26 in Study.com's regional rankings for total value in and out of state.

Niche 2019 Safest
Colleges in WV

#2

West Liberty University is ranked #2 in Niche's top safest colleges in West Virginia receiving a A for safety.

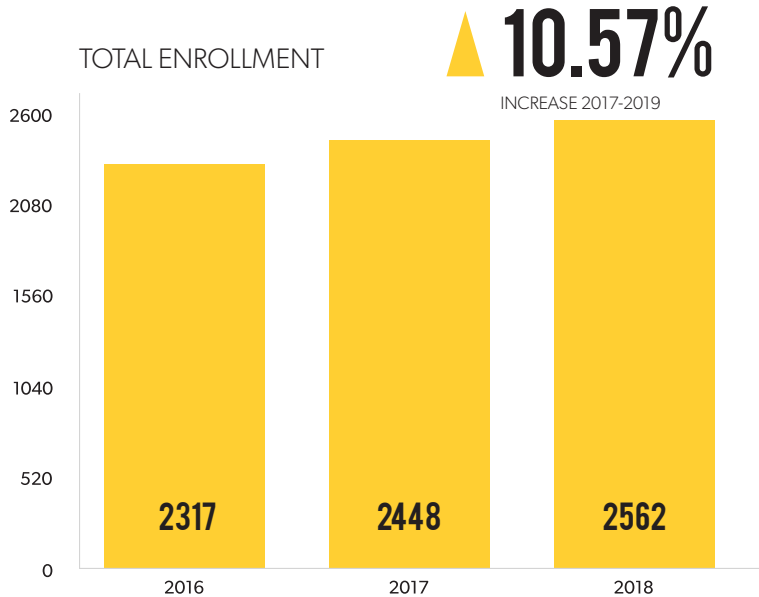
Well-known for his accessibility to students, President Stephen Greiner is shown here with students Olivia Kilbane and Yodev Ocasio. Now in his 46th year in higher education as a professor, dean, vice president and president, he was named President of West Liberty University in 2016. Dr. Greiner enjoys meeting prospective students, families, and alumni in his office or on campus as he carries out his duties on the Hilltop. He is proud of the beautiful, safe and growing campus and is pleased to have completed the first campus Master Plan since 1999. This plan maps out a successful future for the university, its students and its staff.

"I'm here to serve our students, staff and the community and I welcome visitors and encourage folks to stop by. We have much to be proud of and I'm pleased to serve as president of West Liberty University." - Dr. Stephen Greiner

Also a big fan of Hilltopper Athletics, he cheers on the men's and women's teams as much as his calendar permits. You may contact him at stephen.greiner@westliberty.edu or by stopping by the Presidential Suite in historic Shaw Hall.



ENROLLMENT



Over the past three years, WLU was one of two West Virginia public institutions to experience two consecutive years of enrollment growth. Indeed, WLU enrollment is on the rise, and the academic quality of first-time freshman continues to increase as well. The average GPA for entering freshmen increased to 3.42, and the average ACT composite score increased to 20.4.

The fall 2018 class also marked the largest number of Elbin Scholars (138) ever to be enrolled at WLU, including 35 new freshman Elbin Scholars.

Other Highlights:

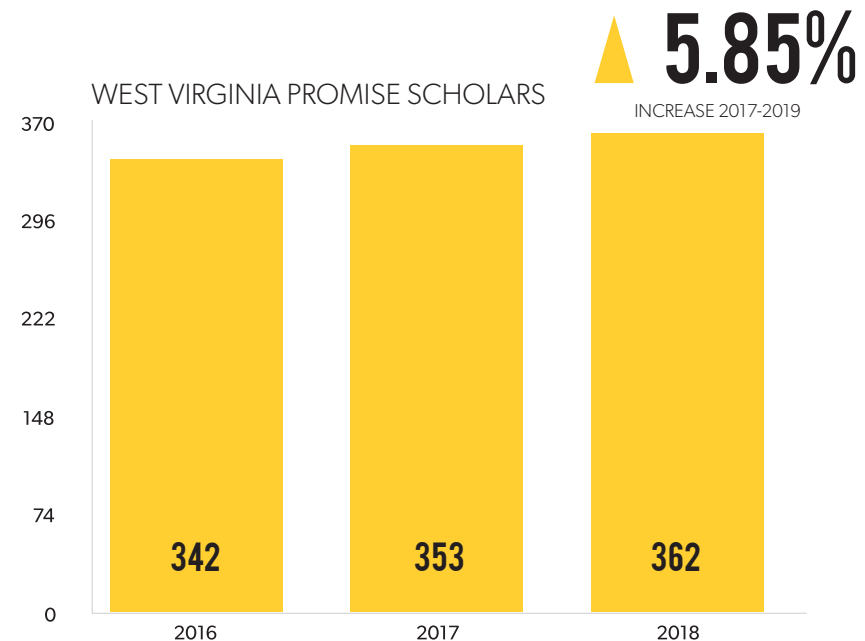
- 5.4 percent increase in students living in campus housing
- Five first-year students were class valedictorians for their respective high schools
- The largest number of students ever enrolled in the WLU Scholars Program (416)
- An increase of first year students from Pennsylvania and Ohio.

AVERAGE GRADE POINT FOR ENTERING FRESHMEN INCREASED TO

3.42
2016-2018

AVERAGE ACT COMPOSITE SCORE INCREASED TO

20.4
2016-2018

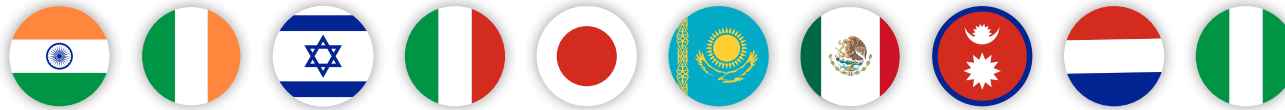


ENROLLMENT

COUNTRIES REPRESENTED



- BAHAMAS - BELGIUM - CANADA - CHINA - COLUMBIA - DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO - UNITED KINGDOM - FRANCE - GERMANY - HONDURAS



- INDIA - IRELAND - ISRAEL - ITALY - JAPAN - KAZAKHSTAN - MEXICO - NEPAL - NETHERLANDS - NIGERIA



- PAKISTAN - PARAGUAY - RUSSIA - SCOTLAND - THAILAND - TRINIDAD & TOBAGO - TUNISIA - TURKMENISTAN - VIETNAM

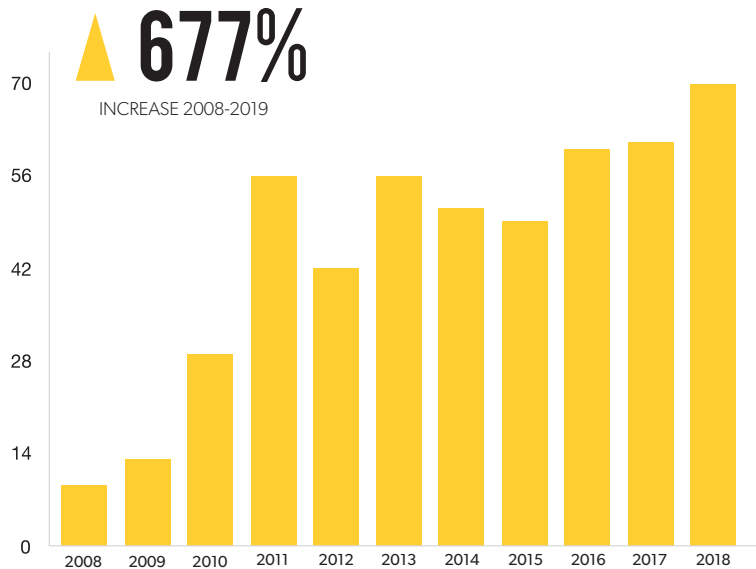
West Liberty University is a second home for many international students from all over the globe, seeking to earn high-quality education on the Hilltop.



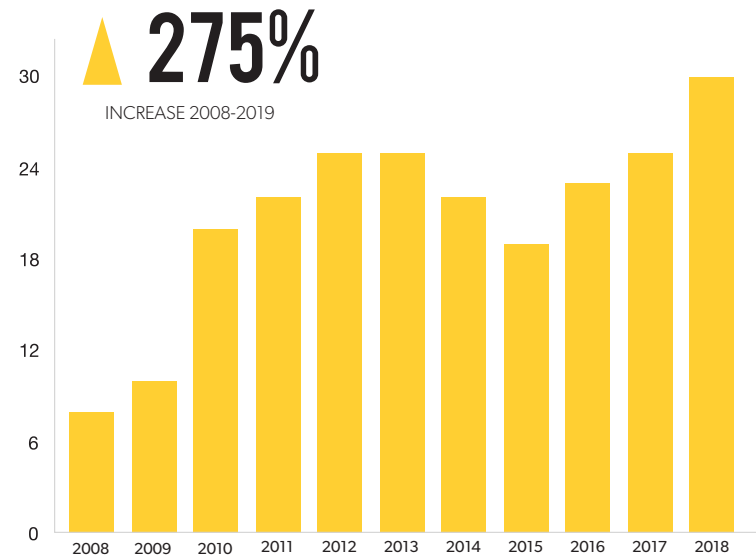
Megumi Maruta from Japan is currently working on his master's degree and adds: *"My favorite thing about WLU would be its unique environment. I believe that it is unusual to find this kind of welcoming*

community where everyone feels safe and everyone is connected."

INTERNATIONAL STUDENT ENROLLMENT



INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS / COUNTRIES REPRESENTED



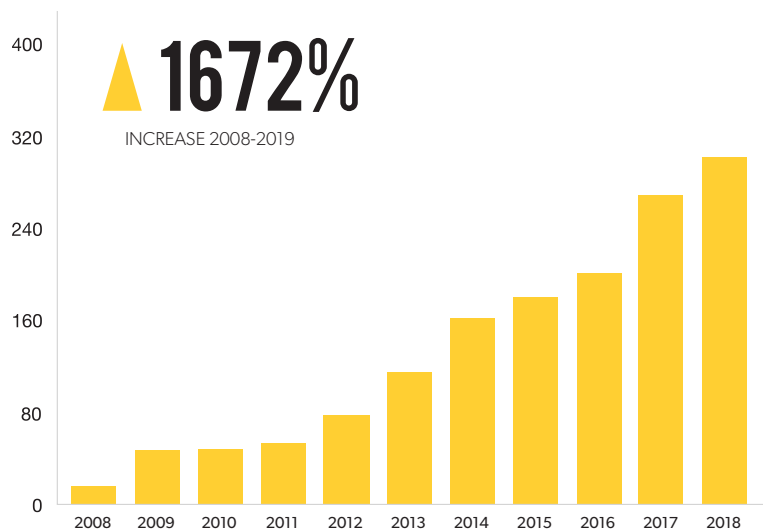
GRADUATE PROGRAMS

- MA IN EDUCATION
- MBA (ONLINE)
- MA IN PROFESSIONAL STUDIES
- MS IN CRIMINOLOGY (ONLINE)
- MS IN DENTAL HYGIENE (ONLINE)
- MA / MS IN BIOLOGY
- MA IN CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGY
- MS IN PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT STUDIES

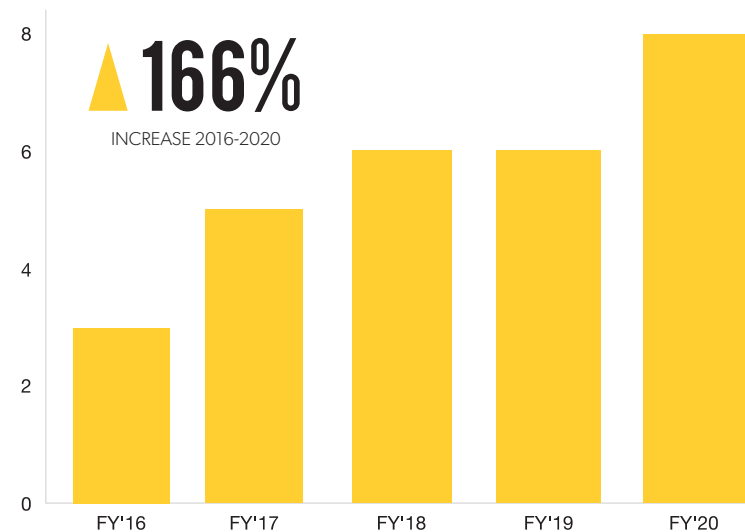
West Liberty University awarded its first master's degree in 2010. Almost a decade later, WLU's graduate programs are on the rise, and WLU recently received approval from the Higher Learning Commission for two much-needed master's degree programs, the Master of Science in Dental Hygiene (MSDH) and the Master of Arts in Clinical Psychology. Student applications are now being accepted for fall of 2019.

"With this announcement of our two newest masters degree programs, I am proud to say West Liberty University now has eight master's degree programs up and running. This is important to our state and our workforce and we look forward to continuing to provide opportunities for students who wish to advance their careers and earn their graduate degree on the Hilltop." - Dr. Stephen Greiner

GRADUATE ENROLLMENT



GRADUATE PROGRAMS





West Liberty University has a new online master's degree that is just what the doctor ordered for healthcare professionals.

The recently announced MBA track focuses on healthcare management and is designed for business professionals seeking advancement in the healthcare setting. This accelerated degree program can be completed in as few as 12 months, with two courses per seven-week term.

"With the growth of careers in the healthcare industry, this MBA is much needed and because it's 100 percent online, it's a convenient choice at a reasonable cost. We also just hired a full-time faculty member who is responsible for both undergraduate and graduate students majoring in healthcare management. He brings years of experience in the healthcare industry and has worked in today's medical settings, making the program even stronger." - Dr. Rickard Briggs, Director of MBA/Assistant Professor of Entrepreneurship

The MBA in Healthcare Management online courses are designed to provide students with an understanding of the business of healthcare, with an academic and real-world foundation in healthcare issues, trends and practices. The traditional business administration courses like accounting, finance, leadership, marketing, economics, and information technology, round out the program and provide a solid base in business management.

Contemporary issues like the social, ethical, and organizational challenges faced by healthcare workers, how to manage clinical information systems and their effects on patients and interdisciplinary teams also are addressed.

"We cover all current trends in healthcare informatics practices and technology, which can improve patient care and is a vital topic for today's leaders and one that is always changing." - Dr. Rickard Briggs

Networking and career tips, student support, and dedicated faculty are also trademarks of the 30-credit hour MBA.

CAMPUS ENHANCEMENTS



WLU has been working hard in an effort to enhance its current facilities and infrastructure. President Greiner saw an opportunity in student housing options, bringing back Rogers Hall and Boyd Hall, which had been shut down for years due to a declining trend in on campus housing numbers. Greiner initiated the conversion of traditional double rooms to singles, and, as of FY'19, WLU has five dorms offering 100 percent single rooms.

Other updates to current buildings include the ongoing renovation of Arnett Hall of Natural Science to allow for an expansion of classroom and laboratory spaces due to the growth in undergraduate and graduate research programs.

The Arnett Hall update will include space for the growing Zoo Science major.

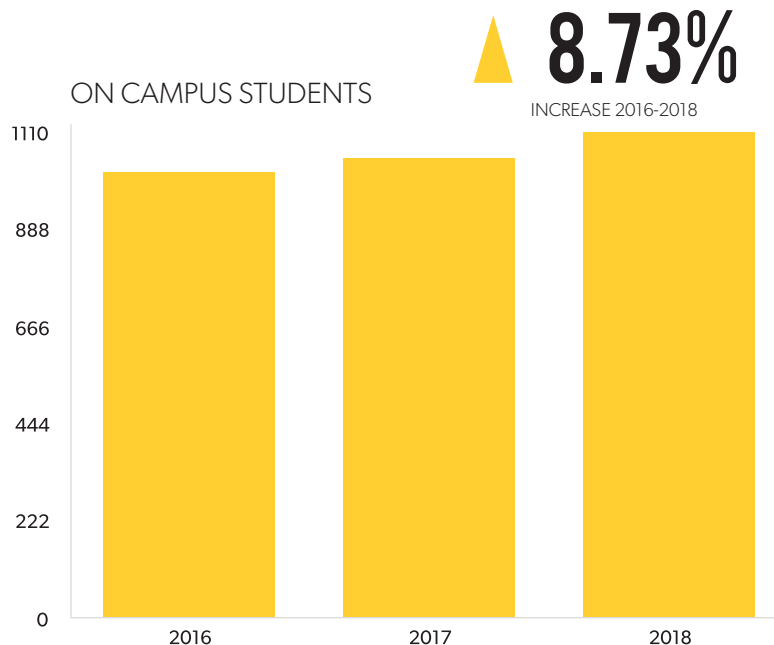
WLU has also engaged with CMTA, a guaranteed energy savings vendor who is replacing the boilers and HVAC units of Arnett Hall.

On the horizon is the development of additional space in Campbell Hall of Health Sciences that will be used for a speech pathology and audiology clinic and clinical psychology lab. This is in the early design stages and will include the finishing of the fourth floor.

Eventually, the science cadaver lab will move from Arnett Hall of Natural Sciences to this upcoming clinical space.

Shotwell Hall, too, will continue to be updated to allow for better use of office and student life spaces. One of WLU's oldest buildings, listed on the National Register of Historic Places, it dates to 1937.

In order to meet student tech needs, WLU has also made significant improvements to its IT infrastructure. Investing over \$1 million in the last three years, WLU has completely upgraded and revamped its broadband/wireless network increasing Internet bandwidth by 250 percent. A new surveillance platform was installed to assist with student safety. Three computer labs in the Gary E. West College of Business were refreshed with 90 new computers and its "server farm" was moved. Storage to the cloud to create redundancy and disaster recovery/backup capabilities was also added.



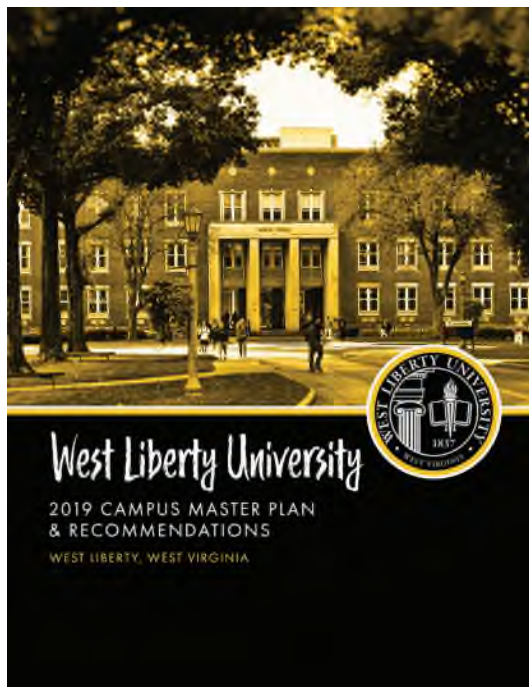


West Liberty University continues to move forward as it completes projects that will soon increase housing and academic options for its students.

“West Liberty University values its students and wants to give them a great campus experience along with strong academics. Even though state funding has diminished, we continue to find ways to meet the needs of our students and provide them with a quality education. New housing is especially important to attracting students and we look forward to the opening of this apartment complex now being constructed just outside our main gate,” - Dr. Stephen Greiner

The latest housing option is a three-building structure being constructed by private developer R&D Holdings that will include two bedroom apartments. Two of the three buildings are expected to be completed in time for the 2019 fall term.

This convenient location will offer WLU students 72 new single rooms with private baths and other amenities.



In 2019 WLU engaged with the Mills Group of Wheeling to develop a Campus Facilities Master Plan



In 2017 WLU opened Bear Necessities, a student-centered convenience store

FACULTY HIGHLIGHTS



Cambarus loughmani
was named after
Dr. Zachary Loughman

Over the past decade, West Liberty's biology program course offerings have doubled, allowing for more focused instruction specific to biological sub-disciplines (microbiology, ecology, molecular biology, zoo science, etc.) and increased recruiting of students to the program. WLU has also differentiated itself by becoming one of the nation's premier institutions with research opportunities not often available to undergraduate students.

Along with the addition of new courses, West Liberty's biology program also has witnessed a strong dedicated research effort, resulting in an increase in the acquisition of research dollars, publications, and the associated culture that follows research in higher education. This has culminated with the inauguration of the WLU's MA/MS in Biology Program that graduated its first class of students in August 2017. This program further separates West Liberty University from the other small universities in West Virginia, as we are the only one to offer a graduate degree in Biology.

Number of Publications 2014-2018

▲ 53

WEST LIBERTY UNIVERSITY
TOTAL PUBLICATIONS

DID YOU KNOW?

Total Faculty Research Dollars 2018

\$501,481



Dr. Joseph Horzempa (2017) and Dr. Zachary Loughman (2014)
West Virginia Merit Foundation Professors of the Year

In recent years, two WLU professors have been honored as the West Virginia's Faculty Merit Foundation Professor of the Year. In 2014 Dr. Zachary Loughman and in 2017 Dr. Joseph Horzempa, both of the College of Sciences, were honored.

Loughman is an associate professor of Biology (Zoology/Ecology) and performs research that focuses on North American Freshwater Crayfishes, gaining him a reputation as having one of the top crayfish labs in the world. In fact, Dr. Loughman has discovered 13 new crayfish species from across the Appalachian Region and he has completed work with his students in 13 states and visited over 5,000 streams. Loughman's work was instrumental in listing two species of crayfish as threatened and endangered by the United States Fish and Wildlife Service. As a result, Loughman was awarded the Nobel Crayfish Award for crayfish conservation by the International Association of Astacology, and he recently was awarded a National Geographic Photo Ark Conservation Hero Award. To date, Loughman has published over 40 peer-reviewed articles on crayfish biology and conservation. Loughman just finished his tenure as the President of the West Virginia Academy of Sciences.

Loughman was instrumental in the development of a Master of Arts in Biology or a Master of Science in Biology, as well as the Zoo Science and Applied Conservation major, serving as both the major's coordinator and as the curator of the living collections.

Since joining the Biology faculty in 2011, Horzempa has received nearly \$3 million in research funding to support the activities of his lab. He and his students continue his work on the discovery and characterization of new antibiotics and novel vaccine development. Much of Horzempa's research effort focuses on dissecting the biology of *Francisella tularensis*, a pathogenic bacterium.

Horzempa's work has been published in a wide variety of scholarly and scientific journals, including *PLoS Pathogens*, the *International Journal of Antimicrobial Agents*, and *Frontiers in Microbiology*, to name a few. A member of the West Virginia Academy of Science, he is editor-in-chief of its open access, online peer-reviewed scientific journal, *Proceedings of the West Virginia Academy of Science*.

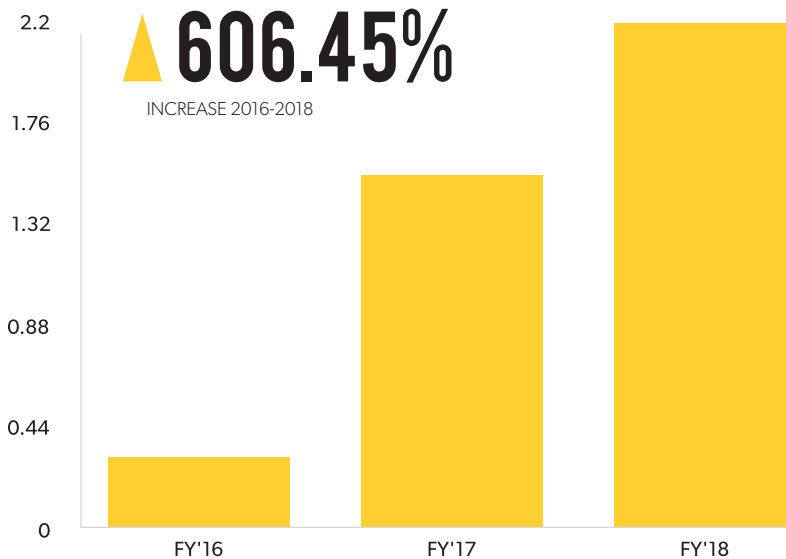
FINANCIALS

West Liberty University stands alone amongst its peers. Innovative programs and bold leadership have WLU's financial strength on the rise.



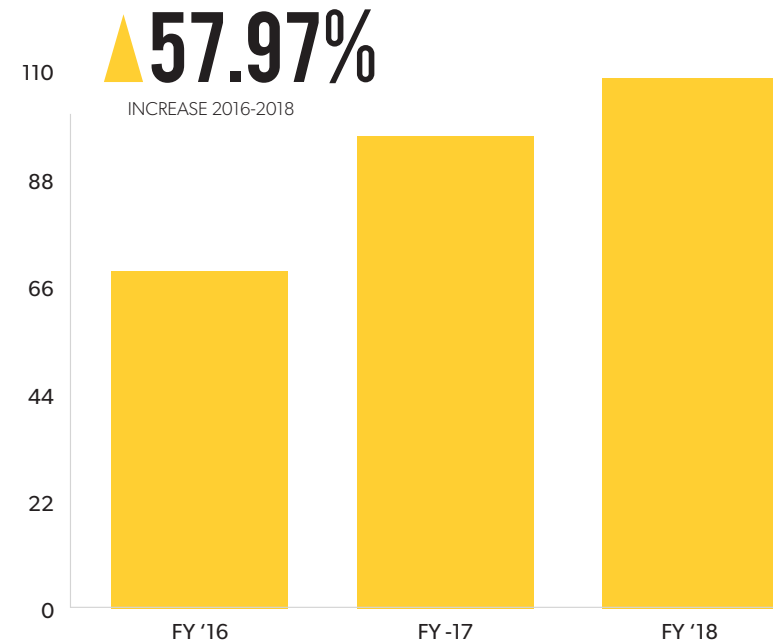
WLU CFI INDEX

The composite financial index (CFI) is a measure of financial health used widely throughout higher education. It relies on information from audited financial statements and utilizes four core ratios measuring various aspects of an organization's financial well-being. A minimum score of 1.25 is required to receive a classification that reflects Financial Health.



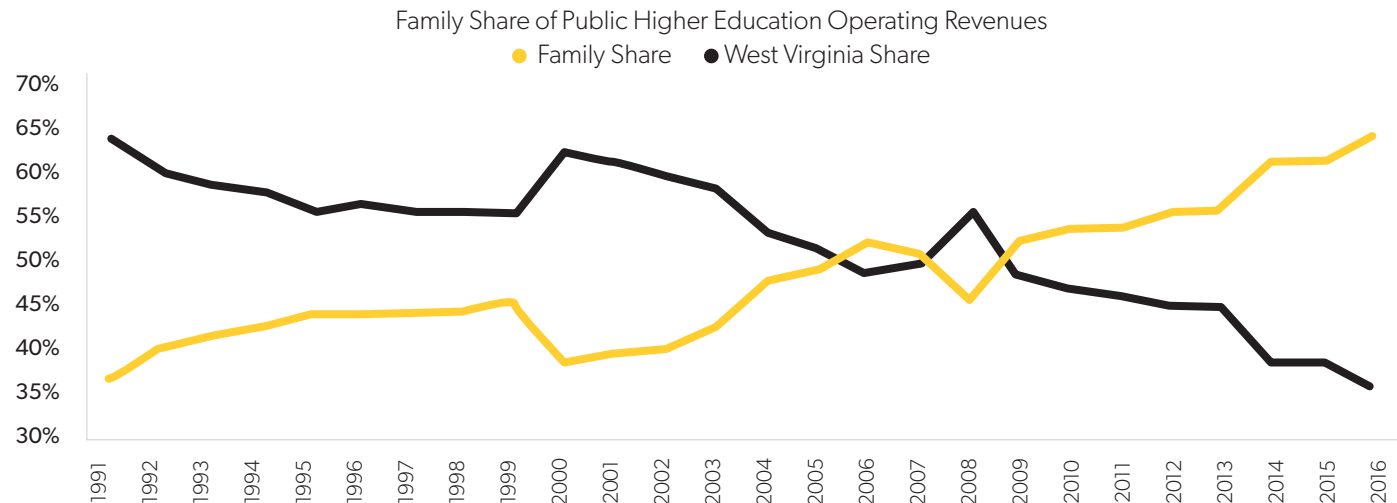
NUMBER OF DAYS CASH ON HAND

"Number of Days Cash on Hand" is the number of days that an organization can continue to pay its operating expenses, given the amount of cash available.

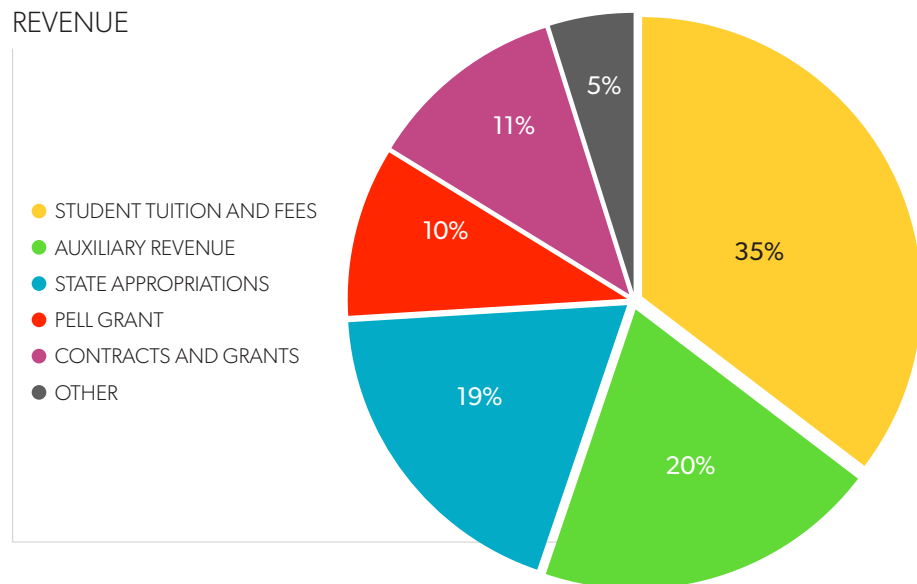


WLU continues to thrive despite continual state financial decline.
In 2018, West Virginia funded only 19 percent of West Liberty University's operating budget.

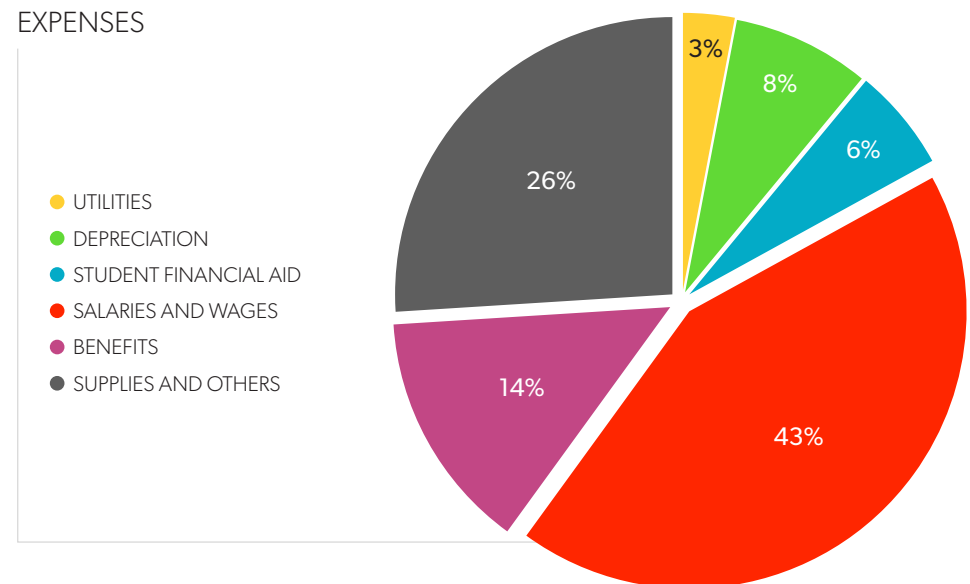
WEST VIRGINIA: FUTURE OF THE REGIONAL COMPREHENSIVE COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES



REVENUE



EXPENSES



WLU FOUNDATION



Through the generosity of its donors, the West Liberty University Foundation continues to grow its resources to support WLU and its mission. With record major gifts, bequests, planned gifts and endowment totals, the WLU Foundation is poised to play a greater role in the success of WLU in the future.

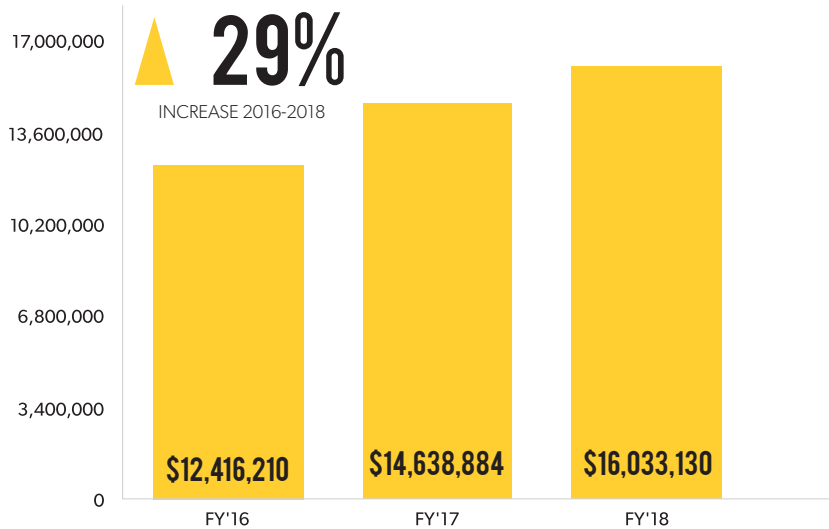
DID YOU KNOW?

During fiscal years '16, '17, '18, '19 the WLU Foundation received

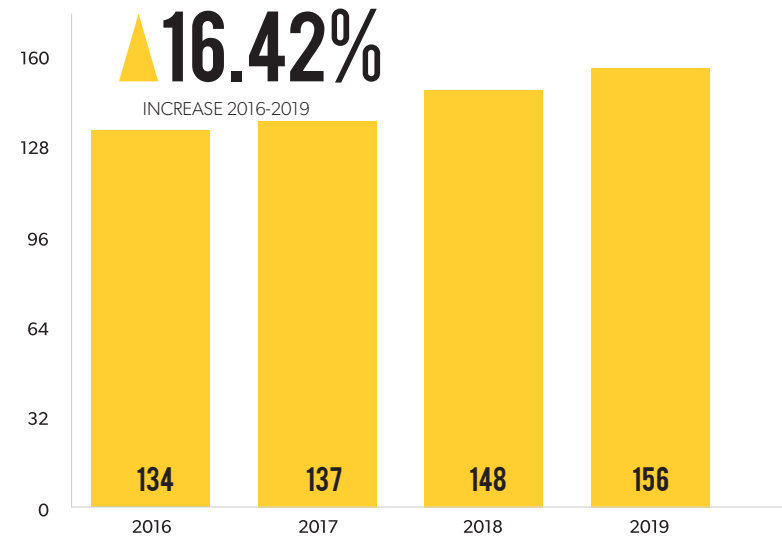
\$7.7 Million

in private contributions. These donations supported a variety of initiatives including scholarships, academic and athletic programs, capital improvements, and other programs.

WLU FOUNDATION ENDOWMENT

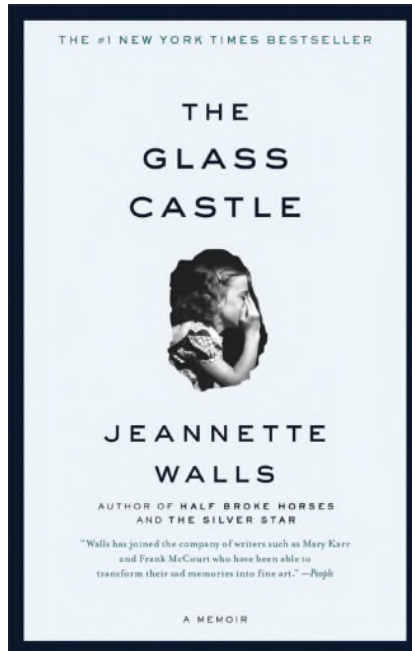


NATHAN SHOTWELL SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP



The Nathan Shotwell Planned Giving Society recognizes and honors those who have made provisions for the West Liberty University Foundation through a bequest in a will or other estate-planning arrangement.

For more information on how to support the WLU Foundation visit wlufoundation.org.



Dr. Raymond G. Hughes

HUGHES LECTURE SERIES

The Hughes Lecture Series began in 1978 and is named after Dr. Raymond Hughes. A beloved professor of English at West Liberty for nearly four decades, his generous endowment gift established a fund for the series. Thanks to this fund, the series has brought a wide range of authors and speakers to WLU, including:

- Eugene McCarthy, U. S. Senator and presidential candidate in 1968
- Ted Kooser, U.S. Poet Laureate
- Homer Hickam, West Virginia writer and NASA scientist

Recently, the WLU Foundation partnered with the College of Liberal Arts to again bring top-tier authors to campus.

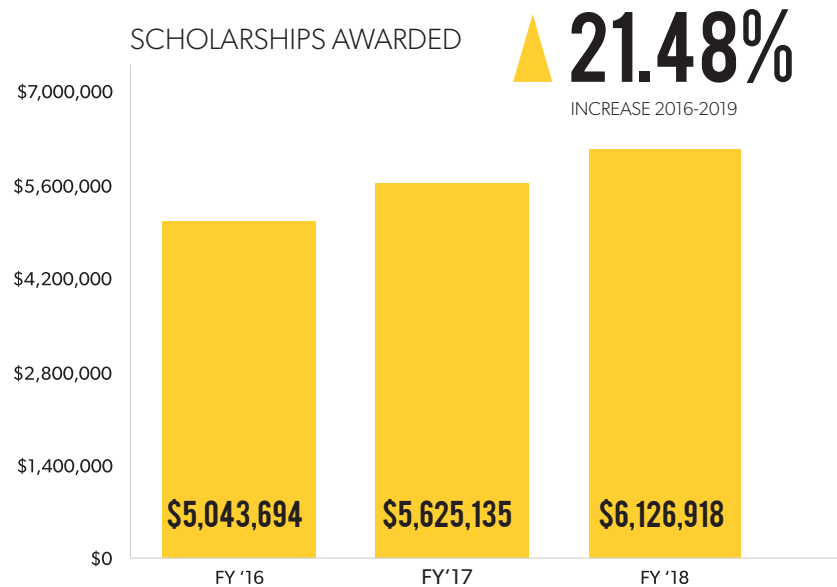
In 2018 Jeannette Walls, author of *The Glass Castle* spoke to a standing room only College Hall and wowed the crowd with her personal story that began in southern West Virginia. *The Glass Castle* is listed by many critics as one of the best books of the 21st Century.



David Sheff

In the spring of 2019, the Hughes Lecture Series sponsored an evening with David Sheff, one of *Time Magazine's* "100 Most Influential People of 2009." Sheff is the author of many books and articles, most notably the *New York Times'* number-one bestseller, *Beautiful Boy: A Father's Journey Through His Son's Addiction*. His *New York Times Magazine* article, "My Addicted Son," on which the book is based, won the American Psychological Association's award for "Outstanding Contribution to Advancing the Understanding of Addiction." This year, Sheff was named the inaugural recipient of the American Academic of Addiction Psychiatry Arts and Literature Award for his literary works and his continued efforts to provide support and research for the field of addiction medicine.

STUDENT CENTERED



Students are at the Top of WLU's Hill. President Stephen Greiner's leadership can be described in one way: student-centered. His open-door policy with students and parents, which includes his personal cell phone number, has provided WLU faculty and staff with a road map to positively impact WLU's bottom line: providing its students with the opportunity to attain a high quality education.

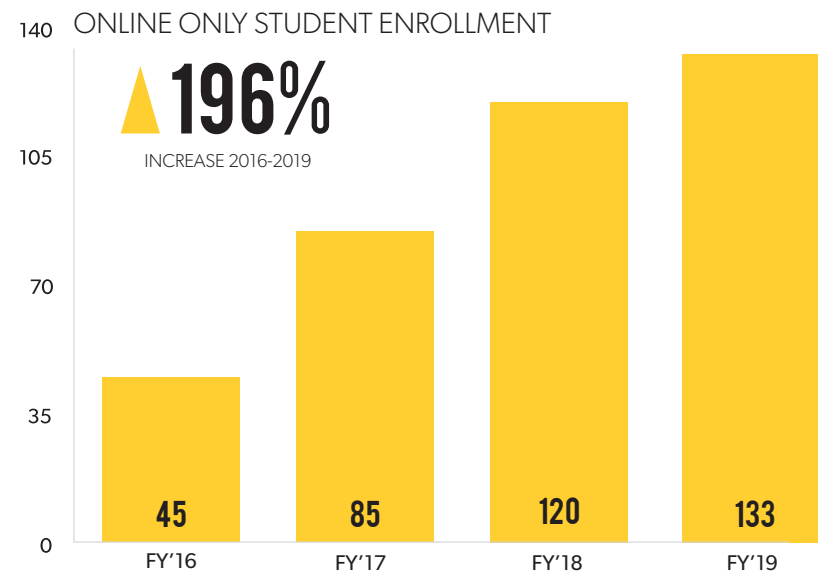
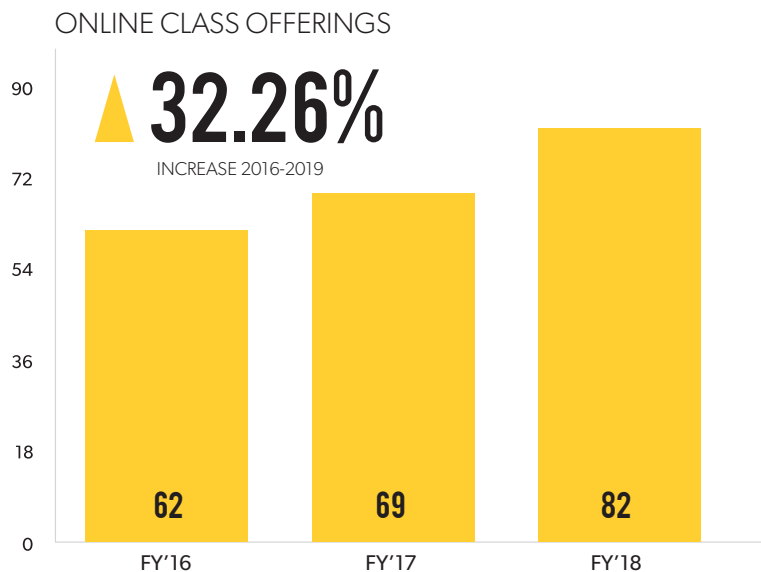
DID YOU KNOW?

Student / Faculty Ratio

15 / 1

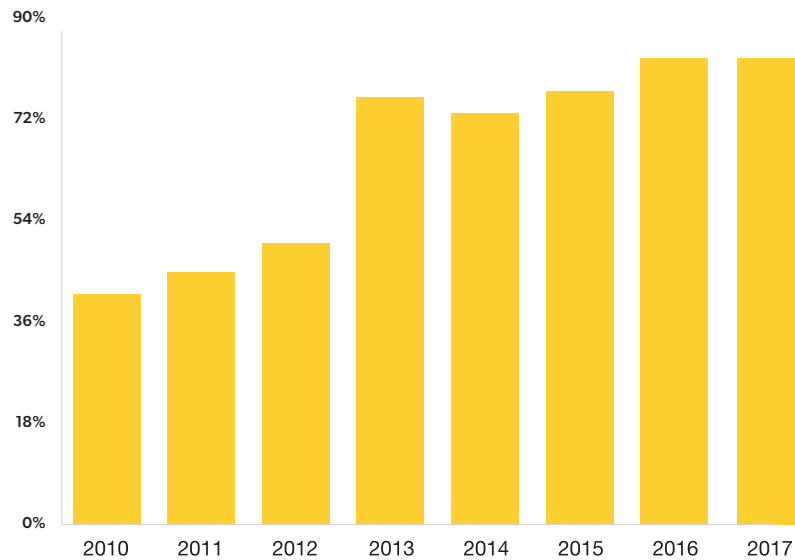
"There is no greater joy in my day than being able to interact with students." - Dr. Stephen Greiner

"I think he's a great president. He's friendly, welcoming and easy to talk to. President Greiner is always open to working with students to help us succeed in any way." - Alumna Meredith Garner '18



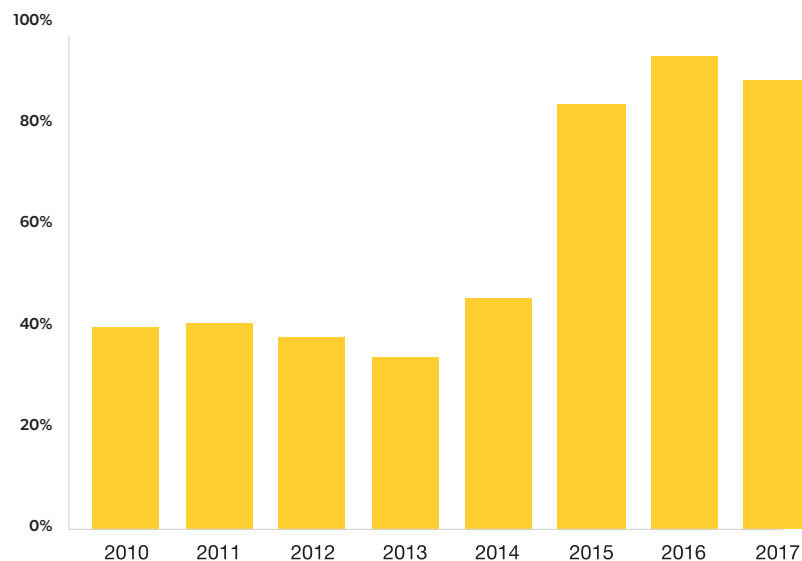
COMPOSITION

Developmental Students Passing ENG 101



MATHEMATICS

Developmental Students Passing College-Level MATH



WLU continues to make efforts in improving the student academic experience and has recently launched two initiatives that have made significant impacts.

WRITING CENTER

The E. Kent and Barbara Robinson Writing Center opened its doors in the fall of 2017 and has become one of the university's most valuable student support services. Thanks to a generous donation from the Robinsons, Dr. Amanda Tennant, Director of the Writing Center and Assistant Professor of English, worked closely with the West Liberty University Foundation to create one of the most impressive writing centers in the state of West Virginia.

Even more impressive than the physical space itself, however, are the exceptional tutors. As far as we know, West Liberty University is the only institution of higher learning in the world where undergraduates have an opportunity to earn scholarships for tutoring, the Mary Jane Ritson Scholarships. This competitive scholarship is only given to a select number of students who have demonstrated a commitment to training, pedagogical scholarship, and a desire to help their fellow students improve their writing. Thanks to the work of the West Liberty University Foundation, WLU has a one-of-a-kind scholarship program that highlights the university's exceptional commitment to student success.

COREQUISITE SUPPORT PROGRAMS

In 2013, West Liberty University became one of the nation's earliest adopters of the corequisite support model for at-risk students in composition and math. Instead of placing students in developmental courses for no credit (the model used for decades in higher education), students were, instead, placed in traditional courses but with supplemental support. After years of planning and lessons-learned, the percentage of at-risk students passing college-level gateway courses in composition and math has essentially doubled. As a result, West Liberty University has become a nationally recognized leader of student success initiatives for developmental students. Representatives from our university have served as consultants across the country in states like Arkansas, Missouri, Montana, New York, and Pennsylvania, advising universities and statewide systems as they try to replicate WLU's success.

ALUMNI

DID YOU KNOW?



ACTIVE USERS

1,084

USERS REGISTERED ON THE PLATFORM



After graduating from college, your new life begins. From starting a career to starting a family, keeping in touch with your college friends can be hard. Luckily, West Liberty University has allowed alumni to rekindle and re-connect with former graduates and expand their professional networks with their newest social platform, WLU Connect.

WLU Connect is the university's first social network directed at Hilltopper alumni. Acting like any other social networking site, WLU Connect offers members the unique opportunity to re-connect with former classmates and stay up-to-date with news and events at WLU. But WLU Connect does so much more.

New! WLU Mobile App!

- Not just a new platform but also a new Mobile App - providing you with direct access to our institution and our exclusive network of alumni, in the palm of your hand
- Your App: full access to your alumni network with mentoring opportunities, alumni events, jobs and much more
- Connections on the go: scroll through your personalized news-feed, find old roommates or arrange a reunion or meet up



ALUMNI WILLING TO HELP

68%

USERS WHO HAVE JOINED THE PLATFORM AND INDICATED THEY ARE WILLING TO HELP AND/OR MENTOR

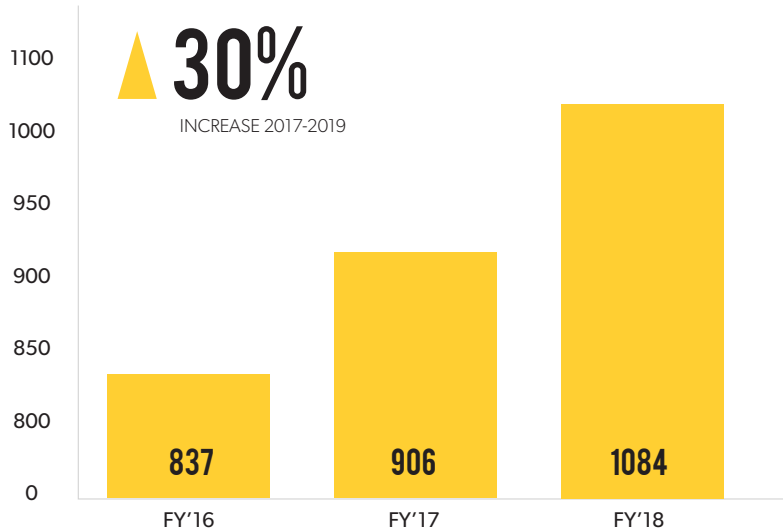


AMBASSADORS

224

USERS WHO HAVE JOINED THE PLATFORM, AND ARE ACTIVELY PARTICIPATING ON THE PLATFORM

GROWTH IN ACTIVE USERS



Nationwide® Named Official Insurance Partner of West Liberty University Alumni Association

West Liberty University Alumni Association has partnered with Nationwide® to offer members special savings on insurance. This partnership means West Liberty University Alumni Association members will have access to a suite of products and will be eligible to receive a special discount on auto insurance. Plus, members will receive an additional discount when auto and home policies are bundled.

"Nationwide Insurance is thrilled to have entered into a mutual relationship with West Liberty University Alumni Association not only helps "member type (plural)" save on Nationwide products, like auto insurance, but also helps support the West Liberty University Alumni Association's mission," said Ann Ritterspach, associate vice president of Nationwide Affinity. "We are excited about helping members with their insurance needs and supporting their good work!"

For more information call 855-550-9216, go to nationwide.com/wlualumni or visit your local agent.



Alumnus Fred Kinder tests the "All-in-One" with WLU College of Sciences Dean Dr. Karen Kettler

Those associated with West Liberty University will often describe the oldest institution of higher education in West Virginia as part of their "family." WLU's alumni are no exception, and WLU often benefits not only from alumni investment but through networking as well. Fred Kinder, a native of Glen Dale, West Virginia, attended West Liberty University and graduated with a Bachelor's Degree in Chemistry and Math in 1968. After graduation, he worked on the east coast in the semiconductor materials industry. With this experience, he moved to the Bay Area in Northern California in 1981. Currently, Kinder is the owner and President of five companies in Silicon Valley. These companies offer innovative solutions for the electronics industry and the bio-medical field and provide research and development of bio-sensors for the diagnosis and management of diseases, including multiple divisions of the BEST Group: BEST Cloud, BEST Medical, Piezo Source, and U.S. Export Authority, Inc.

Inspired by his West Virginia roots, Kinder's latest entrepreneurial effort, the "All-in-One" telemedicine device, focuses on a passion of his – addressing the needs of rural health care. In the fall of 2019, the WLU College of Sciences will serve as the first American institution to provide FDA testing for the device which will be the university's inaugural effort in this realm.

Most notably, through Kinder's global connections and introduction, West Liberty University has signed a strategic cooperation agreement with Henan Yinji Investment Group in China that may open up new avenues of health care education. After Kinder accompanied a WLU delegation to China, the *Wheeling Intelligencer* published the following on April 29, 2019:

"This is an opportunity to develop a new strategic partnership to enhance the health sciences in rural areas of China. West Liberty University was invited to visit and learn about opportunities that exist for a cooperative educational outreach. We are focusing on preparing professionals for health science careers, like nursing, at the investment group's request." - Dr. Stephen Greiner after signing the agreement a few weeks ago in China.

ATHLETICS



WLU Foundation Chair David Croft, President Greiner, Board of Governors member Jack Adams '63 and major donor Gary West '58.

New facilities in athletics are vital to the sustainability of student athlete success. WLU is fortunate to have donors like Gary West '58 and family, Charlie Annett '66, Dave Coffaro '78 and corporate sponsors Belmont Savings Bank and Main Street Bank who all have stepped up to the plate in recent years to make significant impacts for WLU athletics.

West Family Stadium – (Football) Completed 2015,
\$5 million raised in private funds.

West Family Athletic Complex – (Track and Field, Soccer) Completed 2019,
\$1.25 million raised in private funds.

Belmont Savings Bank Practice Facility – (All Sports) Completed 2019,
\$350,000+ raised in private funds.

Main Street Bank Video Board – (All Sports) Completed 2018,
\$50,000 raised in private funds.





LAST THREE YEARS AT A GLANCE WEST LIBERTY ATHLETICS

2016-19 SEASONS

INDIVIDUAL HONORS

NCAA Division II All-Americans (6)

NCAA Division II Academic All-Americans (5)

Atlantic Region Player of the Year (1)

All-Atlantic Region (23)

MEC Players of the Year (8)

1st-Team All-MEC (41)

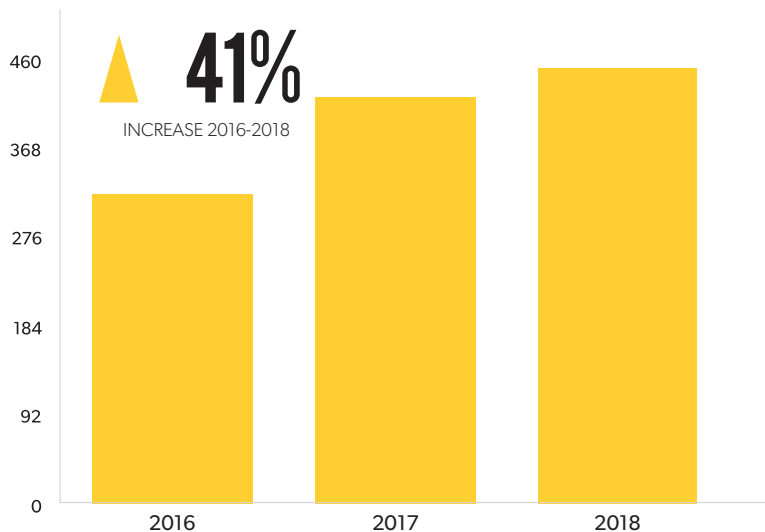
TEAM ACHIEVEMENTS

MEC Champions (3)

MEC Tournament Champions (2)

Regional Tournament Qualifiers (10)

STUDENT ATHLETE ENROLLMENT



DID YOU KNOW?

Athletics Cumulative GPA 2019

3.14

COMMUNITY



Downtown Center ribbon cutting

"West Liberty University is committed to economic development in our region and pleased to play a part in the revitalization effort that is clearly evident today in Downtown Wheeling." - Dr. Stephen Greiner

Located on the first floor of the RED Building, situated at 1100 Main Street, the WLU Downtown Center houses the WLU Foundation office and offers space to its Hilltop campus for outreach to the Wheeling community in many ways.

"Besides housing the office of our Foundation and its fundraising work, it is our vision that this new downtown location will expand West Liberty University's entrepreneurship outreach to a wider audience in a convenient location. We plan to engage with the arts, nonprofits, government and all community organizations."
- Dr. Stephen Greiner

"We are entering a period of regional growth where strong collaborations amongst municipalities, universities, nonprofits, businesses and others are of paramount importance and West Liberty University's new footprint downtown will bridge the 12 miles that separate the University and the City." - Wheeling Mayor Glenn Elliott.





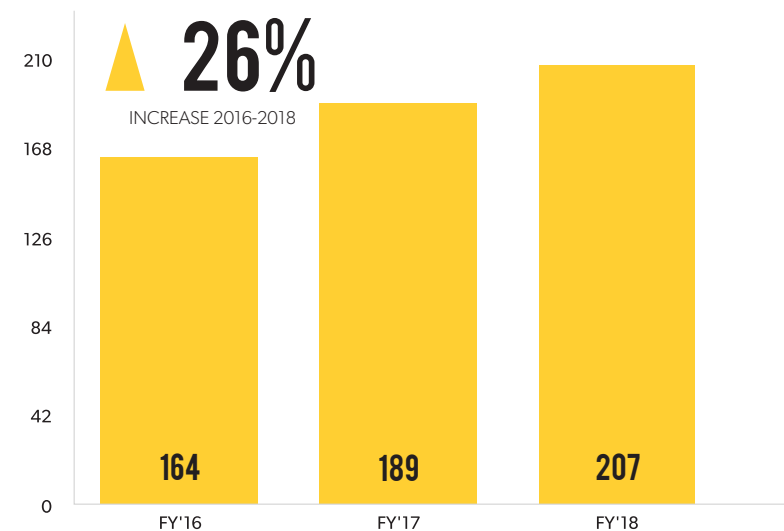
The West Liberty University Community University, held at WLU's Highlands Center, offers stimulating learning opportunities to people age 55 and older. The Community University is an organization with volunteer presenters that engages older adults as learners.

Classes are shaped by presenters' and learners' interests and include study topics from the arts and literature, sciences and technology, history, religion, business and commerce and current events.

The College Community Chorus is a large group open to all interested students, faculty, staff, members of the community, and high school students. The chorus performs once each semester and generally learns a larger work such as a cantata or oratorio. The CCC has a unique partnership with Vance Memorial Presbyterian Church in Wheeling.

"It's a privilege to join with members of the community who all love to sing and rehearse. There's a great feeling when we come together and make music, then perform in public with orchestra, for our friends and family." - WLU senior Emily Wade, a business major.

COMMUNITY UNIVERSITY PARTICIPANTS



PARTNERSHIPS

The following partnerships are just a few examples of significant affiliations WLU has with organizations that support WLU's rise.

STUDY ABROAD



West Liberty University is furthering its outreach by forging a new partnership with Julius-Maximilians University in Würzburg, Germany. The agreement offers three opportunities: a two-week intensive study abroad summer trip at JMU for West Liberty students, a semester-long study abroad program for both WLU and JMU students, and a faculty exchange program allowing professors to switch places and teach a semester abroad.



US-China Medical Exchange & Innovation Center • UHI Fund
美中国际医学交流与科创中心 • UHI基金

West Liberty University has signed a strategic cooperation agreement with Henan Yinji Investment Group (China) that may open up new avenues of healthcare education. WLU is focusing on preparing professionals for health science careers, like nursing, at the investment group's request.



한밭대학교

A partnership between Hanbat National University (South Korea) and West Liberty University builds a beneficial exchange of knowledge between a West Virginia public university and a national university in the Republic of Korea.



College of Arts and Communication signed the Proposal of Cooperation Agreement with Katowice School of Technology (KST), Poland. The Cooperation Agreement agreed to establish ties of friendship and cooperation for the purpose of promoting mutual understanding and academic, cultural, and personnel exchange.

BENEDUM FOUNDATION

CLAUDE

WORTHINGTON

BENEDUM

FOUNDATION

WLU has been the recipient of several grants from the Benedum Foundation, based in Pittsburgh PA, whose mission is: To encourage human development in West Virginia and Southwestern Pennsylvania through strategically placed charitable resources.

Carnegie Mellon University

WLU's Center for Arts and Education is a partner with the Community Robotics, Education and Technology Empowerment Lab (CREATE Lab), at Carnegie Mellon University's Robotics Institute, which explores socially meaningful innovation and deployment of robotic technologies.

the warhol:

The Andy Warhol Museum in Pittsburgh, in partnership with the Center for Arts and Education at West Liberty University, presents a special topics course designed to help West Liberty University elementary education majors learn to use art as a tool to integrate social justice, environmental, and health issues into their artwork and curriculum this spring.



WLU College of Arts and Communication professors serve as educators for the Rural Arts Collaborative (RAC), a collaborative network of local Teaching Artists that represent the two counties in the IU1 region, which includes southwestern Pennsylvania. RAC is an initiative of Fayette County Cultural Trust, funded by Claude Worthington Benedum Foundation, and also supported by Chevron, Community Foundation of Fayette County and EQT.

TOPPER STATION

Topper Station, WLU's new digital platform, reaches more than 100,000 households in the Ohio Valley and countless viewers online, has established several content and internship related partnerships with local and regional organizations.



WLU College of Arts and Communication and WLUTV-14 students and faculty help to solidify a partnership between Wheeling, West Virginia's minor league hockey team, the Wheeling Nailers, by working as in-game videographers and live streaming all home and away contests.



West Virginia Public Broadcasting shares content and provides student internships in partnership with WLU's College of Arts and Communications and its television station WLUTV-14.



WLU College of Arts and Communications and WLUTV-14 students and faculty are partnering with the Wheeling Symphony by producing video content for symphony performances.



WLU College of Arts and Communications and WLUTV-14 students and faculty are partnering with the City of Wheeling, West Virginia by broadcasting all Wheeling City Council meetings live on WLUTV-14 and online.

EDUCATION PARTNERS



West Virginia Northern Community College (WVNCC) and West Liberty University (WLU) signed a reverse transfer agreement recently, making degree completion easier for students who start at WVNCC and transfer to WLU.



The West Virginia University (WVU) School of Dentistry and West Liberty University (WLU) have partnered for a Dental Early Admission Program (DEAP). This collaborative program provides rising sophomores at West Liberty University potential early admission into WVU's School of Dentistry Doctor of Dental Surgery (D.D.S.) program.



West Liberty University students enrolled in the physician assistant studies master degree program are changing lives. One of the ways they do so is by volunteering to serve those in need of medical care in Haiti as part of the Saving Starfish Corporation.



WLU is assisting in a research project led by Wheeling, West Virginia native and Stanford University student Kayley Miller. Miller's research, sponsored by the Stanford Graduate School of Education, focuses on education policy and how policy impacts upward mobility and how education impacts the economy in a domestic and international setting.



WLU's College of Sciences and the West Virginia School of Osteopathic Medicine (WVSOM) signed a Memorandum of Understanding recently to facilitate a bridge program designed for students seeking to become physicians. The program, which is the only guaranteed bridge program to medical school in the Mountain State, assures admission to WVSOM upon successful completion.

THE ARTS



THEATER

West Liberty University's theatre program received top honors in 2017 when it was nationally recognized by the Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival (KCACTF) for its production of *Poe: Master of the Macabre*. The WLU team picked up a total of five awards:

- Distinguished Production of a Play
- Distinguished Ensemble of a Play/Musical
- Distinguished Award in Lighting Design, Alex Franke, Wheeling, fifth year senior
- Distinguished Actor, Jedidiah Shook, Wheeling, graduating senior
- Distinguished Directing Award, Michael Aulick, WLU associate professor of theatre

The image on the left is a digital rendering of the set for *The Secret in the Wings*. The WLU Theater program was honored again in 2019 when *Secret* was accepted to be performed at the KCACTF. *Secret* was the only invited show to be fully student-produced, led by senior Callie Carroll, director.

RECORDING STUDIO

The advanced recording studio, completed in 2007, is a custom-designed space that features a 450 sq ft recording room (pictured), which can accommodate anything from a soloist to a small choir/ensemble. The studio also connects to the larger WLTV television studio. The control room offers a large, comprehensive learning space which is also a comfortable working environment for commercial clients.

DID YOU KNOW?

WLU VISUAL COMMUNICATION DESIGN PROGRAM RANKED #2 IN THE STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA

West Liberty University's graphic design program was recently rebranded "VISUAL COMMUNICATION DESIGN" to stay current with industry trends. The program was honored to be ranked #2 in the state of West Virginia by animationcareerreview.com.



MAD FESTIVAL

The WLU MAD Festival is one of the biggest days of the year for the WLU College of Arts and Communication. It attracts over 300 visiting high school students from the region for a day of workshops, presentations, and awards. The Media Art and Design Festival is a chance for high school students to submit their creative works to a competition judged by industry professionals, and attend hands-on workshops with WLU art, theater, music, and communications faculty. Winners receive cash prizes and scholarships, and the competition is free to enter and attend. The MAD Fest is so popular that they have to limit the number of high school attendees due to budget restrictions.

Each year, WLU art students design the “brand” for the Festival which is then featured on MAD Fest posters and t-shirts. The image on the left is the “steampunk” design from 2017 by Jessica Bethel.

MARCHING HILLTOPPERS RETURN

After a short hiatus, the WLU Marching Band returned to the Hilltop in 2018. The Marching Hilltoppers is the most visible student organization on the campus of West Liberty University, comprised of students who represent every academic college and undergraduate degree program at West Liberty University.



WLU Retired Professor and WLU Nutting Gallery curator Robert Villamagna was named the 2016 West Virginia “Artist of the Year”





WEST LIBERTY UNIVERSITY