



Board of Governors Regular Meeting

August 5, 2025 | 1 p.m.

Brad. D. Smith Center for Business and Innovation, Room 113

COMMITTEE MEETINGS:

Athletics Committee - 10 a.m., Brad. D. Smith Center for Business and Innovation, Room 113

Finance, Audit and Facilities Planning Committee - 11 a.m., Brad. D. Smith Center for Business and Innovation, Room 112

Academic and Student Affairs Committee - 11 a.m., Brad. D. Smith Center for Business and Innovation, Room 113



August 5, 2025 Board of Governors Regular Meeting

AGENDA

Lunch

Lunch for board members will be provided from Noon to 1 p.m.

1 p.m.

Call to Order

Geoff Sheils, Chair

Swearing in of New Members

H. Toney Stroud, Chief Legal Officer / Vice President for Strategic Initiatives and Corporate Relations

Approval of Prior Minutes

Geoff Sheils, Chair

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Special Meeting of July 28, 2025	24

Committee of the Whole

Geoff Sheils, Chair

Approval of Board of Governors Rule No. GA-10 - Policy on Non-Voting, Advisory Members	26
<i>H. Toney Stroud, Chief Legal Officer / Vice President for Strategic Initiatives and Corporate Relations</i>	

Committee Reports

Academic and Student Affairs Committee

Kathy D'Antoni, Chair

Action Items

None

Information Items

Provost Report

Robert Bookwalter, Interim Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs

Student Representative Update

Connor Waller, Student Representative

School of Medicine Update

*David Gozal, Dean and Vice President for Health Affairs,
Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine*

Finance, Audit and Facilities Planning Committee

Kathy Eddy, Chair

Action Items

Approval of Revisions to Board of Governors
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Approval of Revisions to Board of Governors
Rule No. FA-5 - Capital Project Management
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Deferred Maintenance Grant Program
*Brandi Jacobs-Jones, Senior Vice President for
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Matt Tidd, Chief Financial Officer 102

Facilities and Operations Update
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Athletics Committee *Jim Smith, Chair*

Action Items None

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*Debra Boughton, Executive Associate Athletic Director for
Championship Planning and Resources*

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Athletic Teams Updates

NCAA Legislation Updates

National Issues Updates

Budget Updates

Capital Projects Update

President's Report *Brad D. Smith, President*

Executive Session under the Authority of WV Code §6-9A- 4 *H. Toney Stroud, Chief Legal Officer / Vice President for Strategic Initiatives and Corporate Relations*

Commercial Competition Matters
*Robert Bookwalter, Interim Provost and Senior Vice President for
Academic Affairs*

Chairman's Report *Geoff Sheils, Chair*

Announcements *Geoff Sheils, Chair*

Adjournment

Upcoming Meeting Dates

October 7, 2025 (Shared Governance Conference)

October 8, 2025

December 3, 2025

February 4, 2026

April 8, 2026

June 10, 2026

MINUTES

Marshall University Board of Governors

Microsoft Teams Meeting at

Brad D. Smith Foundation Hall

Livestream and In-Person

June 11, 2025

Present: Shawn Ball, Brea Belville, Kathy D’Antoni, Kathy Eddy, Donnie Holcomb, Carol Hurula, Samuel Moore, Geoff Sheils, Bill Smith, Jim Smith, Rusty Webb

PH: Kipp Bodnar, Ginny T. Lee, Angel Moore, Robin Riner

Absent: Chad Pennigton

I. Call to Order

After confirming the presence of a quorum, Chairman Sheils called the meeting to order. He then introduced the next agenda item: the swearing-in of new Marshall University Board of Governors member Rusty Webb, administered by Cabell County Circuit Judge Greg Howard. Chairman Sheils also took a moment to recognize and thank outgoing board members Shawn Ball, Carol Hurula, and Student Body President Brea Belville for their service. Each was presented with a gift from the board in appreciation of their time and contributions.

II. Minutes Approval

Upon a motion by Samuel Moore, seconded by Kathy D’Antoni, the minutes of the meeting held on February 5, 2025, were approved.

III. Classified Staff Council Update

Tony Waugh, Classified Staff Council Chair, gave the Classified Staff Update. During his report to the Board, Tony shared several updates and reflections on behalf of the Classified Staff Council. He began by thanking the Board for allowing him time on the agenda and explained that the Classified Staff Council was established in 2003 by the state of West Virginia. He stated that the council consists of 25 elected members, chosen by their peers every odd-numbered year. Tony noted that staff roles span across five major employment categories and emphasized that while faculty lead academics and research, staff serve in essential roles across all campuses, often being the first individuals prospective students interact with. He reported that there are currently over 509 classified staff members at Marshall University.

Tony stated that elections are held not only for general council membership but also to select individuals for three key leadership roles: Staff Council Chair, Board of Governors Representative, and Advisory Council of Classified Employees (ACCE) Representative. He mentioned that he has had the honor of serving as Chair and participating in the Shared Governance Charter, where he has contributed to university-wide discussions on policy, communication, and strategic planning under the direction of the university president.

He went on to say that over the past year, staff have been involved in various important campus initiatives. Tony reported that the Council participated in the Employee Engagement Survey, the John Marshall Leadership Fellows Program, and training related to the new incentive-based budget model and the performance evaluation system. He said staff also supported student engagement through college fairs, recruitment events, and new student orientations, in addition to attending professional development seminars, conferences, and taking part in Community Cares Week.

Tony also addressed compensation, stating that in 2024, staff saw the rollout of a new market-based salary schedule developed through [payscale.com](https://www.payscale.com). He explained that this new system eliminated the previous first two pay grades, grades 1 and 2 which included positions such as housekeeping, landscaping, accounting clerks, financial aid secretaries, and library assistants. Tony stated that many of these positions were reclassified under a revised Pay Grade 1, which now includes a larger number of job titles. According to Tony, the midpoint salary under the new schedule reflects a 12–14% increase from 2017, adjusted for inflation. He stated that the university's goal is to bring all employees to at least 80% of their position's midpoint salary.

He also reported that a performance management system has been added to the HR website and that compensation edits are being developed to align with performance levels in the new system. Tony stated that changes to relevant policies will go through the Shared Governance process, allowing classified staff the opportunity to review and comment on any proposed revisions.

Tony then shared that beginning July 1, there will be a change in leadership in two of the three staff representative roles. He stated that Carol Hurula, who has represented staff on the Board of Governors for eight years, will be stepping down. He shared that Carleen O'Neill will assume that role at the August Board of Governors retreat.

He also informed the Board that he has submitted his notice of retirement, effective August 29, after 38 years of service to Marshall. Tony stated that he looks forward to traveling and continuing with home remodeling projects. He shared that Lacie Bittinger will take his place as Chair of the Classified Staff Council and serve as part of the Five Families governance committee. He said that new leadership is excited to be involved and looks forward to contributing to meaningful discussions and decisions.

Tony closed his report by saying that he is proud to have served the staff, administration, students, and the university, calling it a rewarding career. He added:

"I would like to say it's been an exciting 38 years of working here. I've enjoyed working with everyone and have learned a lot, especially over the past seven years as Chair. Thank you all very much."

V. Committee Meeting Reports

Academic and Student Affairs

A) Approval of Degree Addition: Bachelor of Science in Health and Movement Sciences

The following resolution was read:

*Resolved, that the Marshall University Board of Governors approve the degree addition:
Bachelor of Science in Health and Movement Sciences*

** The School of Health and Movement Sciences (SHMS), housed within the College of Health Professions, currently offers degree programs in Athletic Training, Biomechanics, and Exercise Science. Each of these programs has a foundational core stemming from the study of kinesiology. The SHMS is proposing to consolidate these programs into a single degree program, the B.S. in Health and Movement Sciences (BSHMS). With our current degree programs' common core and new accreditation requirements, we wish to move our current degree programs as majors under a single degree program—the B.S. in Health and Movement Sciences (BSHMS).*

The mission of the Marshall University B.S. in Health and Movement Sciences is to advance the scientific study, understanding, and application of human physical activity, health, and wellness. Recognizing these as complex human phenomena, the holistic health and movement sciences discipline integrates an interdisciplinary approach to examine them comprehensively.

The School of Health and Movement Sciences is committed to rigorous scientific, theoretical, and practical inquiry into physical activity, health, and wellness. This multidisciplinary perspective enables the members of the School of Health and Movement Sciences—both faculty and students—to engage in diverse fields such as athletic training, biomechanics, disease prevention, exercise science, strength and conditioning, fitness, wellness, rehabilitation (cardiac rehabilitation, pulmonary rehabilitation, diabetes exercise, physical therapy, and occupational therapy), medicine, chiropractic, physician's assistant, health promotion, and other health-related fields.

The B.S. in Health and Movement Sciences (BSHMS) degree program will align with the M.S. in Health and Movement Sciences (MSHMS) and reflect the College of Health Professions' and the institution's mission, goals, and objectives.

Upon a motion by Samuel Moore, seconded by Bill Smith without further discussion, a vote of aye, no objections and the motion carried unanimously.

B) Approval of Degree Addition: Bachelor of Science in Sonography

The following resolution was read:

*Resolved, that the Marshall University Board of Governors approve the degree addition:
Bachelor of Science in Sonography*

** Ongoing discussions with sonography technical directors across local hospitals and medical imaging facilities revealed a significant demand for a specialized education pathway in sonography that would effectively prepare students for the evolving needs of the healthcare industry. The St. Mary's/Marshall University Sonography Degree program offers a comprehensive curriculum designed to equip students with the knowledge and skills necessary to excel in the dynamic field of diagnostic medical sonography. This program provides a strong foundation in both Adult Echocardiography and General Sonography, preparing graduates to work effectively in diverse healthcare settings, such as hospitals, clinics, and imaging centers. Key areas of emphasis include:*

1. Adult Echocardiography: The Adult Echocardiography track focuses on using ultrasound technology to assess the structure and function of the heart and vascular system. Students learn to perform and interpret various echocardiogram procedures, including transthoracic and transesophageal echocardiograms.

2. General Sonography: The General Sonography portion of the program covers a broad spectrum of diagnostic imaging techniques, focusing on imaging the abdominal organs, pelvic structures, and other soft tissues.

3. Program Structure: The program combines classroom instruction, laboratory work, and clinical practice, ensuring that students develop both theoretical knowledge and hands-on experience. Key components of the program include:

- Coursework: Focuses on the fundamentals of human anatomy, medical imaging physics, ultrasound principles, patient care, and specialized techniques in vascular sonography, echocardiography, and general sonography.*
- Clinical Rotations: Students gain practical experience in accredited healthcare facilities, working directly with patients and under the supervision of registered sonographers. These rotations are critical for mastering the skills required for real-world diagnostic imaging.*
- Certification Preparation: The program is designed to prepare students for certification exams, such as those offered by the American Registry for Diagnostic Medical Sonography (ARDMS), enabling graduates to become registered sonographers in adult echocardiography, vascular sonography, abdominal sonography, and OB/GYN sonography.*

Upon a motion by Kathy Eddy, seconded by Carol Hurula without further discussion, a vote of aye, no objections and the motion carried unanimously.

C) Approval of Degree Addition: Master of Science in Mathematics

The following resolution was read:

*Resolved, that the Marshall University Board of Governors approve the degree addition:
Master of Science in Mathematics*

** Marshall University has offered a Master of Arts degree in Mathematics since 2004. The transition from a Master of Arts (MA) to a Master of Science (MS) in Mathematics reflects a deliberate and forward-looking alignment with the evolving expectations of the discipline, the needs of students, and the demands*

of the broader professional and academic communities. While both degrees are rooted in rigorous mathematical training, the MA has traditionally emphasized a broader, more theoretical approach. In contrast, the MS centers on a deeper and more focused engagement with advanced mathematical theory, quantitative reasoning, computational tools, and applied problem-solving.

This shift to the MS model positions students to better meet the demands of a data-driven, technology-intensive world. The MS curriculum typically offers more intensive coursework in areas such as real analysis, linear algebra, statistics, and mathematical modeling – equipping graduates with a stronger foundation for roles in industry, government, research, and doctoral study. Additionally, the MS degree often incorporates capstone projects or thesis work that emphasizes original research or application of mathematical methods to real-world challenges. From a practical standpoint, the change enhances graduates' competitiveness in the job market. Increasingly, employers and research institutions regard the Master of Science designation as indicative of a candidate's advanced technical and analytical preparation.

By adopting the MS framework – for our program and for our courses – we ensure that our students are not only academically prepared but also professionally positioned for success in a landscape where the demand for quantitative and computational expertise continues to grow. The transition from an MA to a MS degree program will not require students to take any courses not already offered by the department. MS students can complete a thesis (optional) or pursue an area of emphasis in Statistics (also optional). If approved, the Mathematics program will no longer accept students into the MA program. Instead, they will invite those students to apply for the MS program. Once all MA students have either changed into the MS program or graduated with their MA degrees, the MA program will be removed from our inventory of offerings.

Upon a motion by Carol Hurula, seconded by Kathy Eddy without further discussion, a vote of aye, no objections and the motion carried unanimously.

Information Items:

Provost Report

Provost Avi Mukherjee gave the Provost's Update. During his report, Provost Mukherjee shared several important updates and achievements from across the university. He began by announcing positive news about enrollment, noting that Marshall University saw a 10.6% increase in Spring 2025 enrollment compared to Spring 2024. He emphasized that this growth reflects the collective effort of many departments, faculty, staff, and students, and credited it as a remarkable achievement.

As the university transitions into the summer months, Provost Mukherjee reflected on a successful academic year and expressed excitement about the upcoming one. He announced the hiring of two new academic deans. Dr. Rohan Christie-David, coming from Texas A&M University–San Antonio, will begin serving as the Dean of the Lewis College of Business in August. Dr. Kelly Bradley, formerly of the University of Kentucky, will begin her role as Dean of the College of Education and Professional Development in September.

Provost Mukherjee then shared campus-wide highlights and accomplishments. Within the College of Arts and Media, Marshall's production of *A Doll's House* received the Citizen Artist Award at the 2024–2025 Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival, a recognition given to institutions that use theatre to

promote justice and meaningful societal change. Additionally, JMCTV received national recognition, winning Best Comedy Show and Best Commercial at the Intercollegiate Broadcasting System Conference in New York.

In the College of Engineering and Computer Sciences, the Department of Mechanical and Industrial Engineering, in partnership with the Occupational Safety and Health Program Advisory Board, hosted the “Safety for All” conference from April 30 to May 1 in Huntington. This event brought together safety professionals, industry leaders, and students to explore emerging trends in occupational health and safety.

The College of Education and Professional Development expanded its teacher leadership training through the VoLT (Violence, Loss, and Trauma Counseling) certificate program. This initiative engaged 70 students, delivered 17 course sections, revised curriculum, and onboarded new instructors to meet program needs. In the College of Health Professions, the Doctor of Physical Therapy program earned national distinction, ranking in the top third of programs nationwide and leading the state in first-time licensure exam pass rates. These accomplishments reflect both excellence and affordability.

Within the College of Liberal Arts, the Thundering Word Speech and Debate Team won the national championship in persuasive speaking and secured multiple top five finishes in tournaments nationwide. Additionally, Dr. Rachael Peckham, professor of English, was named the 2024 Professor of the Year by the West Virginia Faculty Merit Foundation. Dr. Peckham, who has taught at Marshall since 2009, has published three books and over 60 creative works. She has served as an advisor to the student literary journal *Etc.*, coordinator of the Visiting Writers Series, and as a writing mentor for the Yeager Scholars Program.

In the College of Science, nearly \$1.8 million in NSF CAREER grants were awarded to Drs. Kyle Palmquist and Eugene Shakirov for their groundbreaking research in plant biology and ecology. This achievement elevates the college’s national research profile.

In the Division of Aviation, the university successfully completed the Department of Homeland Security’s annual inspection with zero findings, reflecting exceptional compliance with safety and national security standards.

The Lewis College of Business hosted the Business Leadership Symposium in partnership with industry collaborators. This event provided more than 20 business students with opportunities to demonstrate innovation and engage in real-world learning experiences.

At the School of Pharmacy, faculty secured two NASA EPSCoR Research Seed Grants. These projects support cutting-edge pharmaceutical research, including hypnosis reversal agents and investigations into reward-seeking behavior, strengthening the school’s national research impact and interdisciplinary partnerships.

Within University College, advisors presented at the NACADA Region 1 & 2 Conference, showcasing Marshall’s innovations in academic advising and reinforcing the institution’s leadership beyond its immediate region.

The University Libraries launched a new Design Thinking course for juniors and seniors. This course is designed to help students develop creative problem-solving and career planning skills, positioning the libraries as a key contributor to student success and post-graduate readiness.

Lastly, the Center for Student Success hosted over a dozen peer mentoring events during the spring semester, reaching more than 300 students and fostering community and connection among new

freshmen, sophomores, and transfer students. The Office of Online Education also collaborated with the Presidential AI Task Force to deliver campus-wide AI training sessions, including workshops, an AI Showcase, and a panel discussion featuring university leadership and national partners.

Student Representative Report

Brea Belville, Student Body President, gave the Student Representative update. During her final report to the Board, Student Body President Brea Belville acknowledged that this meeting marked her last as a member of the Board of Governors and expressed how honored she felt to have served in this role.

Brea shared that she and her Student Government Association team are proud to be leaving Marshall University better than they found it. Since June, she said, the team has learned firsthand the value of collaboration. She highlighted a joint effort with student leaders from West Virginia University to advocate for student representation in higher education governance. Although the final outcome was not what students had hoped for, she noted that the experience strengthened bonds between student leaders across the states, something she believes is meaningful and lasting.

Throughout the year, the SGA coordinated multiple community initiatives and drives, made possible by the generosity of individuals across the university, many of whom were present at the meeting. Together, they were able to donate 5,236 items and \$5,120 to the Marshall Food Pantry, along with more than 100 items of formal clothing to directly support students in need.

The team also focused on promoting student wellness and safety. They hosted suicide prevention and overdose response training sessions, organized campus cleanups, and led leadership development events. Under her leadership, Marshall University became an official member of the United States Health Promoting Campuses Network, a designation that connects the university to research-based strategies for fostering health and wellbeing across campus, a legacy that will continue beyond her tenure.

Brea noted that the Student Senate allocated approximately \$20,000 to support registered student organizations, empowering student-led projects and activities. As the semester came to a close, the SGA hosted food trucks on campus, providing a moment of relaxation and connection for students ahead of final exams.

She concluded her report by expressing sincere thanks to the Board for their kindness, support, and willingness to include the student perspective in meaningful conversations. She shared how deeply grateful she is for the opportunity to have served and for the lasting impact the experience has had on her.

School of Medicine Report

Dr. David Gozal, Dean and Vice President for Health Affairs presented the School of Medicine report. During his report, Dr. Gozal shared numerous accomplishments and updates from the Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine. He opened by highlighting the school's 45th annual doctoral graduation and third Physician Assistant hooding ceremony. This year, the school conferred 67 Doctor of Medicine degrees and one Ph.D. in biomedical research. Keynote speaker Ross Bernstein delivered an inspiring address that encouraged graduates to embrace teamwork, grit, and heart as they move forward in their careers. His comparison between competitive sports and the practice of medicine resonated deeply with the audience.

Dr. Darshana Shah was also honored as the 2025 Honorary Alumna in recognition of her long-standing service to the institution.

Dr. Gozal reported that the School of Medicine is preparing to welcome 114 incoming residents and fellows this July. Among them is the inaugural cohort of the rural internal medicine residency program based in Gallipolis, Ohio. Marshall now sponsors 64 residency and fellowship programs across 14 states and 18 specialties. With a total of 312 trainees enrolled in 28 distinct programs, this represents the largest cohort in the school's history. Dr. Gozal emphasized that this diversity in training sites enhances collaborative learning and interdisciplinary teamwork across the field of medicine.

He also shared personal stories of two exceptional graduates. Dr. Cora Miracle, who completed both her MD and Ph.D., was inspired by her Appalachian upbringing and a family member's illness to pursue pediatric medicine. She matched with Nationwide Children's Hospital in Columbus, Ohio. Dr. Justin West will enter an OB-GYN residency at Morehouse School of Medicine, where he plans to serve underserved populations. Their achievements reflect the school's mission of compassionate, community-focused care. Dr. Gozal noted that as residency applications become increasingly competitive, students are seeking to distinguish themselves through research, volunteerism, and leadership—areas where Marshall students continue to excel.

Dr. Gozal highlighted a renewed commitment to student research, appointing Dr. Krista Denning as Assistant Dean for Medical Research. In less than three months, Dr. Denning successfully connected 65 first-year students with faculty-led research projects, many of which are expected to result in national presentations and publications. These efforts will be further showcased during the upcoming Health Sciences Research Day. To strengthen this focus, the school also welcomed Dr. Trupti Joshi as the new Senior Associate Dean for Informatics and Population Analytics. With expertise in both engineering and computer science, she will build a data infrastructure to support health research and academic collaborations across Marshall Health Network and statewide partners.

Dr. Gozal also spoke about the 12th Annual Quality & Safety Summit, held in April and co-hosted by the School of Medicine and Marshall Health. The summit featured 60 innovative projects presented by students, residents, fellows, and faculty. Keynote speaker Dr. Scott Holliday from Ohio State University highlighted the need to connect academic medicine with real-world safety initiatives. Dr. Gozal addressed the nationwide rise in physician burnout and reported that the school's lower-than-average burnout rates are due in large part to strong faculty engagement, a sense of community, and belief in the school's mission.

He highlighted the May 2 Lunch & Learn session featuring Intermed Labs CEO Dr. Tom McClelland, who discussed the process of bringing medical technologies from concept to market. This event, attended by faculty, students, and healthcare professionals, supports the school's efforts to foster innovation in healthcare delivery.

Community engagement remains a cornerstone of the school's mission. During National Volunteer Week (April 20–26), more than 75 medical students participated in service projects throughout Huntington. Activities included volunteering at Facing Hunger Foodbank, organizing a Ronald McDonald House kitchen event, cleaning up Fifth Avenue, and performing maintenance at Hospice of Huntington. The week concluded with Marshall Medical Outreach and a free cancer screening event for uninsured and underinsured community members.

Dr. Gozal also highlighted Marshall's role in hosting Governor Morrissey's Mountaineer Mile initiative on May 16, a community walk at Ritter Park that promoted health and wellness and drew nearly 200

participants. He also mentioned the School of Medicine's Day of Giving, which raised \$46,000 thanks in part to a \$25,000 challenge gift from alumnus Dr. Bob Hess and \$10,000 from the Ohio Valley Physicians Foundation.

During the Focus Forward: Long Live West Virginia 2025 conference, Dr. Gozal emphasized the importance of healthy sleep as a key pillar of wellbeing. He encouraged attendees to prioritize rest as part of personal and community health. Scott Raynes, the new CEO of Marshall Health Network, joined a panel discussion on building resilient healthcare infrastructure for West Virginia.

Dr. Gozal concluded by recognizing three outstanding faculty members. Dr. Brandon Henderson, Associate Professor, received the prestigious SRNT Service Award and was appointed co-chair of the Society for Research on Nicotine and Tobacco's Basic Science Network. Dr. Shelvy Campbell-Monroe, Ph.D., was appointed Senior Associate Dean of Admissions, Advising, and Student Life and elected Vice Chair of the AAMC Southern Group on Student Affairs. Dr. Jennifer Tregoning, M.D., received the Resident Committee Award for Innovation in Medical and Adolescent Gynecology from the North American Society for Pediatric and Adolescent Gynecology.

Finance, Audit and Facilities Planning Committee

The following are action items from the Finance, Audit and Facilities Planning Committee:

A) Approval of FY2026-31 Capital Project List

The following resolution was read:

Resolved, that the Marshall University Board of Governors approve the attached FY2026-31 Capital Project List

** The Capital Project Budget Request forwarded to Marshall University by the West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission requires each spending unit to annually submit a listing of capital projects. After board approval, this capital expenditure projects list for FY2026-31 appropriation request will be forwarded, as required, for submission to the West Virginia Budget Office.*

Inclusion on this list does not guarantee funding for a specific project. The purpose of the list is to outline in priority order all desired projects, should funding become available. Only items on the university's deferred maintenance list and approved capital expenditures are included.

Upon a motion by Bill Smith, seconded by Jim Smith without further discussion, a vote of aye, no objections and the motion carried unanimously.

B) Authorization of Reallocation of Funds from the State Institutions of Higher Education Deferred Maintenance Grant Program

The following resolution was read:

Resolved, that the Marshall University Board of Governors authorize reallocation of funds from the State Institutions of Higher Education Deferred Maintenance Grant program as described below.

** In June 2023, the Board of Governors approved the submission of thirty-one (31) deferred maintenance projects under the State Institutions of Higher Education Deferred Maintenance Grant Program. Several of Marshall University's projects were completed under budget. As a result, staff now seeks authorization to reallocate the remaining funds to support other priority projects, as outlined below:*

- Reallocate \$11,895 from Classroom and Restroom Repair and Renewal (WVHEPC-M019) to South Charleston Roof Replacement (WVHEPC-M008) to expand the project scope to include the installation of snow guards and replacement of stairway hallway lighting.*
- Reallocate \$141,000 from Classroom and Restroom Repair and Renewal (WVHEPC-M019) and \$38,000 from Roof Replacement (WVHEPC-M025)-a total of \$179,000- to Fine Arts Renovation (WVHEPC-M009) for window replacement, weatherproofing, and glass block and mortar replacement.*
- Reallocate \$410,000 from Roof Replacement (WVHEPC-M025) to Holderby Hall Demolition (WVHEPC-M014) to cover higher-than-expected abatement costs and electrical line relocation. Page 85 of 166*
- Reallocate \$159,000 from Classroom and Restroom Repair and Renewal (WVHEPC-M019) to Stormwater Improvements Phase I (WVHEPC-M016) due to increased costs driven by market conditions, project complexity, and contingency needs.*
- Reallocate \$166,064 from Classroom and Restroom Repair and Renewal (WVHEPC-M019) to MRI Building HVAC Replacement (WVHEPC-M017) to address additional requirements including ductwork, Variable Air Volume (VAV) boxes, exhaust fan installation, and other necessary equipment. Approval of this request will enable Marshall University to optimize the use of available funds by reallocating savings from under-budget projects to address critical needs in other deferred maintenance initiatives.*

Upon a motion by Samuel Moore, seconded by Kathy D'Antoni, without further discussion, a vote of aye, no objections and the motion carried unanimously.

C) Approval of the Sale of Property Situated at 1403, 1405, 1457 and 1459 11th Avenue

The following resolution was read:

Resolved, that the Marshall University Board of Governors approve the sale of property situated at 1403, 1405, 1457 and 1459 11th Avenue.

** Marshall University owns property situated at 1403, 1405, 1457 and 1459 11th Avenue in Huntington, West Virginia. The property is located behind Stephen J. Kopp Hall, which houses the School of Pharmacy. This property is being marketed for the purpose of building luxury townhomes on the subject property, which would further economic development in Huntington. Currently, the property consists of vacant lots with no permanent fixtures thereon. This property will be sold at a price in accordance with the appraised value and the sale price will include recovery of any associated costs incurred by Marshall University pursuant to the appraisal and sale procedure.*

Upon a motion by Kathy Eddy, seconded by Kathy D'Antoni, without further discussion, a vote of aye, no objections and the motion carried unanimously.

D) Approval of the Sale of Property Situated at 2400 Benedum Industrial Drive, Bridgeport

The following resolution was read:

Resolved, that the Marshall University Board of Governors approve the sale of property situated at 2400 Benedum Industrial Drive, Bridgeport

Marshall University owns a .75 acre parcel on which is situated a light industrial building with office/research space of approximately 28,000 square feet (known as the Robert C. Bird Institute/RCBI) and adjacent parking lot located at 2400 Benedum Industrial Drive, Bridgeport, West Virginia, collectively referenced herein as "the Property" and more particularly described on attached Exhibit A. Presently, Marshall University and Sub-Lessor Marshall University Research Corporation lease the property to Aurora Flight Sciences of West Virginia. Marshall University desires to list this property on the market for sale and has contacted a listing agent willing to assist in that process. At this time, there is no identified prospective purchaser for the property. The property will be sold at a price in accordance with the appraised value and the sale price will include recovery of any associated costs incurred by Marshall pursuant to the appraisal and sale procedure.

Upon a motion by Bill Smith, seconded by Donnie Holcomb, without further discussion, a vote of aye, no objections and the motion carried unanimously.

Information Items

Of note, in the package, there are updates for:

Finance Update

Facilities and Operations Update

Internal Audit Update

Athletic Committee

The following are action items from the Athletic Committee:

A) Approval of Recommendation from Athletics Committee Granting Express Consent to President for Terms and Conditions of Personnel Contract

The following resolution was read:

Resolved, that the Marshall University Board of Governors approve the recommendation from the Athletics Committee granting express consent to the President for the terms and conditions presented for the position of head men's basketball coach. The Board further authorizes the President of the University to execute the necessary documents to enter into a personnel contract in accordance with these terms and conditions.

** Marshall University has reached tentative agreement with a coach within the Department of Athletics and the President seeks express consent for the terms and conditions of such agreement.*

Upon a motion by Kathy D’Antoni, seconded by Donnie Holcomb, without further discussion, a vote of aye, no objections and the motion carried unanimously.

Information Items

Of note, in the board package, there are updates for:

*Athletic Team Update
NCAA Legislation
National Issues Updates
Budget Update*

VI. President’s Report

**The President’s report is attached as an addendum to the Board of Governors minutes.*

VI. Report from the Nominating Committee/Election of Officers

Board of Governors member Kathy Eddy was then given the floor to present the Nominating Committee report. She explained that each June, the committee meets to discuss officer positions for the upcoming year. Ms. Eddy shared that she spoke with each of the nominees, all of whom agreed to continue serving if elected for an additional term. The current officers, Geoff Sheils as Chairman, James (Jim) C. Smith as Vice Chair, and Dr. Kathy D’Antoni as Secretary have all agreed to continue in their respective roles. In accordance with the Board rules, members had the opportunity to submit additional nominations by the Friday prior to the meeting, but none were received. Ms. Eddy respectfully submitted the committee’s report and thanked the Board. She then asked if there were any nominations from the floor. Hearing none, she called for a motion to approve the proposed slate of officers.

Upon a motion by Donnie Holcomb seconded by Kathy Eddy, without further discussion, a vote of aye, no objections and the motion carried unanimously

VII. Executive Session under the authority of WV Code § 6-9A-4

Upon a motion by Brea Belville, seconded by Carol Hurula, the board entered Executive Session under the authority of WV Code §6-9A-4 to discuss Matters involving Commercial Competition and Personnel Matters.

After a brief session, the Board entered open session. No votes were taken during the Executive Session.

IV. Committee of the Whole

A) Approval of Extension of Contract

The following resolution was read:

Resolved, that the Marshall University Board of Governors approve an extension of the employment contract of Marshall University President Brad D. Smith for an additional three (3) years.

** President Smith's current employment contract expires at the end of 2026. He has agreed to accept an extension of three (3) additional years of service. The new, extended contract will have an expiration date of December 31, 2029.*

Upon a motion by Donnie Holcomb, seconded by Kathy Eddy, without further discussion, a vote of aye, no objections and the motion carried unanimously.

IX. Chairman Sheils Report

Chairman Geoff Sheils began his report by thanking everyone for their attention and participation throughout the day. He acknowledged that another academic year has quickly come to a close and expressed appreciation to Ms. Kathy Eddy and the Nominating Committee for their confidence in his continued leadership as Chairman of the Board. He noted that it has been an honor to serve and welcomed anyone interested in chairing a committee or taking on leadership roles to reach out to him before the next meeting.

Chairman Sheils extended his sincere gratitude to outgoing Board members Shawn Ball, Carol Hurula, and Student Representative Brea Belville. He commended their service, insight, and dedication to Marshall University, emphasizing that their contributions have been deeply appreciated and will be missed. He also welcomed Rusty Webb as a new member of the Board and noted that Connor Waller, the incoming Student Representative, will officially join in August. Additionally, Carleen O'Neill will begin serving in Carol Hurula's position starting in August.

He then spoke about the upcoming Board of Governors retreat, scheduled for August 4–5 at the Brad D. Smith Center for Business and Innovation. Chairman Sheils reflected on his own orientation experience seven years ago and remarked on how much the process has evolved. He praised the thoughtful planning that now goes into the retreat and orientation and expressed hope that new members will find it both valuable and meaningful.

Chairman Sheils also recognized Dr. Mary Beth Reynolds and Dr. Teresa Eagle, both of whom are retiring, and thanked them for their long-standing service to the university. He gave special acknowledgment to Provost Mukherjee. Chairman Sheils reminded attendees that a farewell reception for Provost Mukherjee will be held on Monday, June 16, from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. at Drinko Library, and encouraged those in the area to attend.

In closing, Chairman Sheils reflected on the public perception of universities, noting that while athletics often receive the most attention, the academic accomplishments and positive developments happening across Marshall University deserve greater focus and recognition. He credited university leadership, including Provost Mukherjee and President Brad D. Smith, for their continued efforts to elevate Marshall's academic profile.

With no additional business brought before the Board, Chairman Sheils reminded members of the retreat date, Monday, August 4, and adjourned the meeting.

X. Announcements

XI. Adjournment

Without objection, the Board Meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy D'Antoni, Secretary

DRAFT

President's Report – June 2025

- Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
- It's that time of year when the Spring semester is behind us and many assume that things slow down on campus, but as you can attest, the opposite is true ...
- This is a very busy time for our Board of Governors, leadership and campus as we calibrate our progress in support of our strategic roadmap, reflect on lessons learned during the past year and make the necessary adjustments for the coming year.
- This past academic year has been an extraordinary year ...
 - One filled with challenge and accomplishment ...
 - But here we stand ...
 - United by a common purpose ...
 - Moving in unison through shared governance ...
 - And continuing to build momentum, despite the headwinds and external forces that surround us.
- With this context, I thought I would focus today's report on a sample of the Marshall Moments – milestone events - that have occurred since our last meeting in April.
 - The first Marshall Moment was a very inspiring Spring Commencement ceremony that honored 1,490 students who graduated on May 10th.
 - More than 10,000 family members and friends converged on the Marshall Health Network Arena to celebrate the amazing Class of 2025 ...
 - Which included a student who returned to complete his degree after retiring from the US Navy ...
 - As well as three students who completed their bachelor's degrees at age 19, thanks to the benefit of dual credit courses while attending high school.
 - If that isn't inspiring enough, 54% of the Class of 2025 were the first in their families to earn a degree!
 - These graduates and their guests were treated to an inspiring commencement address delivered by Ms. Soledad O'Brien.
 - Soledad is an award-winning documentarian, journalist, speaker, author, philanthropist, and founder of Soledad O'Brien Productions ... where she anchors and produces "Matter of Fact with Soledad O'Brien," a nationally televised show that airs in 95% of the country.
 - We were humbled when she chose to highlight our Marshall for All program and its promise of a debt-free education on Matter of Fact last year.

- Soledad was presented with an Honorary Doctorate of Humane Letters and was excited to join the ranks of Herd Nation.
 - As our graduates moved their tassels and walked across the stage, they received their first Herd Alumni gear and joined the illustrious ranks of the 120,000 alumni who've walked before them ... a Marshall Moment indeed!
- Shifting to our incoming students, our campus-wide recruitment and admissions efforts have been actively navigating the secular headwinds which are impacting higher education enrollment ...
 - Headwinds that we regularly summarize as the 3 Ds – demographics, digital and doubt.
 - Thanks to the hard work of our Enrollment and Admissions team ... we've navigated through these headwinds and are once again experiencing promising early indicators for Fall 2025 enrollment.
 - This momentum doesn't happen by accident – our teams continue to capitalize on best practices and innovative approaches informed by experiments & external benchmarking.
 - I applaud their efforts to counter the macro headwinds and build such positive momentum.
 - Those efforts matter ... and they're attracting national attention as well.
 - A noteworthy example is our Marketing Department recently receiving a Platinum Award for the Marshall for All Campaign, and two Gold Awards for our Marshall Magazine and our heartwarming Christmas video ... think of these awards as the Oscars for Marketing ... and they aren't easy to win!
 - Thanks to these breakthrough campaigns, our Marketing team has achieved a cost-per-inquiry of \$50, which is incredibly efficient marketing spend when compared to the national benchmark of \$120.
- While our commencement ceremony for our graduating students, the momentum of prospective incoming students and innovative marketing serve as amazing examples of Marshall Moments ... none of these would be possible without our amazing alumni and community ...
 - As we often say, the most important word in our rally cry “We Are Marshall” is the first word ... “WE.”
 - During the week of May 20th, we hosted our 4th annual Community Cares Week, where we invited members of our community and alumni across the globe to join us in some good old fashioned Spring Cleaning on each of our campuses, and as well as in communities where alumni live around the world.
 - When we first launched this program, many thought that we would be lucky to recruit 50 volunteers ... but as we have seen in previous years, the actual results continue to exceed expectations.
 - This year, despite being challenged by thunderstorms, we leaned into the “Thunder” in the Thundering Herd ... and hosted 985 volunteers who actively participated in Community Cares Week!

- 685 volunteered on our various campuses, and 300 volunteered in their hometowns as far away as China!
 - And when I say the community showed up ... I mean everyone from:
 - The Marshall Early Education STEAM Center and the Child Development Academy ... these are pre-school children!
 - To Leadership West Virginia, staff members from federal, state and local leaders' offices, and Marshall's ROTC program.
 - As well as employees from our various partners and suppliers... and 24 of our alumni chapters!
 - And trust me when I say they worked ...
 - They worked 2,970 service hours ...
 - Planted more than 2,020 flowers and shrubs,
 - Spread 3,500 bags of mulch,
 - Painted dorms, arenas and stadiums,
 - And hand-carried and placed **28 tons** of gravel, stone, pavers and rock!
 - The campus has never looked better ... and our hearts are filled with gratitude for everyone's contributions ...
 - Both on our campuses and in their communities ...
 - As our alumni brightened our campus, as well as their local neighborhoods, they left with a smile and simply stated ... "tell them the Herd was here!"
 - This was an amazing "**We Are** Marshall" Moment!
- Marshall Moments happen because of the dedication and hard work of incredibly talented people ...
 - Which is why we place such a premium on who joins our ranks and who leads our teams.
 - As we've publicly shared, we are bidding farewell to two such leaders who have contributed so much during their time at Marshall ...
 - Avi Mukherjee who has served as our innovative, action-oriented Provost ...
 - And Christian Spears who has served as our transformational Athletic Director ...
 - Both of these gentlemen are dear friends and are leaving us much better than they found us ...
 - Please join me in thanking them for all they've contributed and for creating special Marshall Moments at every step along the way.

- The searches for our next Provost, as well as our next Athletic Director are well underway.
 - Search Committees have been formed, search firms have been engaged, and applications are already being collected.
 - Our Provost search is being led by Academic Search, the same firm who conducted the last Presidential, Provost and key Cabinet searches for Marshall.
 - To build on the work that Avi has put in place, we are seeking a visionary, transformational Provost:
 - One who is steeped in the practice and appreciation of academic excellence, advancing research, scholarship and creativity.
 - One who is oriented to blaze trails versus follow paths, adopting best practices and piloting new approaches that will advance the transformational change occurring across our campus and across higher education,
 - And one who is skilled as a facilitative leader, furthering our strong commitment to shared governance, while doing so with the appropriate sense of urgency ... making bold decisions with agility and speed.
 - Given the academic calendar, we are using the summer months to market the position and encourage applications, with on-campus interviews scheduled for the beginning of the Fall semester and a finalist to be selected in October for a January 2026 start.
 - Shifting to our Athletic Director search, we have once again partnered with CarrSports who has worked with us in the past to complete a comprehensive assessment of our Athletics Program in 2021, as well as conducted the search that led us to Christian.
- This is an important moment in time for higher education, collegiate athletics, and Marshall University - and we are seeking to recruit an Athletic Director who is purpose-built for this moment in time:
 - One who possesses **strong business acumen**, while striving to achieve academic excellence and athletic competitiveness.
 - One who is **an innovative trail blazer**, adopting best practices and piloting new approaches that will advance the transformational change occurring across our campus and across collegiate athletics.
 - And one who is **skilled as a facilitative leader**, furthering our strong commitment to One Marshall ... capable of making bold decisions with agility and speed ... in a collaborative manner.
- Thanks to Christian, much of the foundation is in place:
 - From having hired talented coaches, establishing winning programs and conducting successful fundraising efforts,

- To facility enhancements and engaging fan experiences,
 - We have received very strong interest and are on track to advance semi-finalists to campus for interviews in mid-July, with a final selection for our next AD by the end of July.
- Wrapping up, we are in the dawn of a new era at Marshall University, powered by our campus-wide strategy - Marshall for All, Marshall Forever.
 - This strategy is grounded in our enduring Vision and Creed, written nearly 25 years ago ...
 - While our aspirations have been lifted ... to become the nation's benchmark in delivering the most affordable, flexible and achievement-oriented education to prepare students to thrive in the 21st century society and economy.
 - Make no mistake, we have heavy lifting ahead of us ... but it is important to pause and celebrate shining achievements ... special Marshall Moments such as these ... and to thank all who have brought these moments to life.
 - Because of them ... because of you ... Marshall is making strides to become an exemplar in higher education ...
 - And in doing so, we're providing a roadmap to future prosperity for our students, our employees, our communities and for the country.
 - **Marshall For All, Marshall Forever!**
- And with that, Mr. Chairman, I'll conclude my comments.

MINUTES

Marshall University Board of Governors

Special Board Meeting Held Virtually

July 28, 2025

Virtual: Kipp Bodnar, Kathy D'Antoni, Kathy Eddy, Donnie Holcomb, Samuel Moore, Geoff Sheils, Bill Smith, James Smith, Charles Webb

Non-Voting Members: Carleen McNeill, Robin Riner, Connor Waller

Absent: Shawn Ball, Ginny T. Lee, Angel Moore, Chad Pennington

I. Call to Order

After confirming that a quorum was present, Chairman Sheils called the meeting to order. He announced that the first item of business would be to enter into executive session.

II. Executive Session under the authority of WV Code § 6-9A-4

Upon a motion by Kathy D'Antoni, seconded by Jim Smith, the board entered Executive Session under the authority of WV Code §6-9A-4 to discuss Personnel Matters.

After a brief session, the Board re-entered open session upon a motion by Kathy D'Antoni, seconded by Kathy Eddy, with no discussion, a vote of aye, and no opposition, the motion carried. No votes were taken during the Executive Session. Chairman Sheils then turned the floor over to James Smith, Chair of the Athletics Committee, to present the Athletics Committee report.

III. Athletic Committee

Action Item

A) Express Consent of Athletics Committee for Terms and Conditions of Personnel Contract

Resolved, that the Athletics Committee hereby grants its express consent to the President for the terms and conditions outlined for the position of Athletic Director.

Upon a motion by Donnie Holcomb, seconded by Kathy Eddy, with no discussion, a vote of aye, and no opposition, the motion carried.

IV. Board of Governors

Action Item

The following resolution was read:

Resolved, that the Marshall University Board of Governors approve the recommendation from the Athletics Committee granting express consent to the President for the terms and conditions presented for the position of Athletic Director. The Board further authorizes the President of the University to execute the necessary documents to enter into a personnel contract in accordance with these terms and conditions.

* Marshall University has reached tentative agreement with a candidate for Athletic Director and the President seeks express consent for the terms and conditions of the agreement.

Upon a motion by Donnie Holcomb, seconded by James Smith, with no discussion, a vote of aye, and no opposition, the motion carried.

III. Adjournment

Hearing no opposition, Chairman Sheils thanked the board for their attendance and the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy D'Antoni, Secretary

**Marshall University Board of Governors
Meeting of August 5, 2025**

ITEM: Approval of Board of Governors Rule No. GA-10 - Policy on Non-Voting, Advisory Members

COMMITTEE: Committee of the Whole

RECOMMENDED RESOLUTION: *Resolved*, that the Marshall University Board of Governors approve Rule No. GA-10 - Policy on Non-Voting, Advisory Members.

STAFF MEMBER: H. Toney Stroud
Chief Legal Officer / Vice President for Strategic Initiatives and Corporate Relations

BACKGROUND:

Rule GA-10 is being introduced in order to govern the roles and responsibilities of non-voting, advisory members who sit on the Marshall University Board of Governors.

As of 2025, pursuant to West Virginia Code §18B-2A-l(c)(3), the faculty representative, student body representative and staff representative shall be non-voting, advisory members.

The enactment of that provision creates the need and opportunity for Marshall University to address what it means to be a "non-voting, advisory member" of its Board of Governors, which we now do through this policy.

Upon approval of this resolution, a comment period will open and remain open until 10:00 am on Wednesday, September 17, 2025. If substantive comments are received, a final rule will be presented to the Board for approval at a subsequent meeting. The rule changes for any individual rule are approved as final at the conclusion of the comment period if no substantive comments are received for that rule.

Comments should be sent via email to: commentstorpap@marshall.edu.

MARSHALL UNIVERSITY BOARD OF GOVERNORS

Rule No. GA-10

POLICY ON NON-VOTING, ADVISORY MEMBERS

1 General Information

- 1.1 Scope: This policy governs the roles and responsibilities of non-voting, advisory members who sit on the Marshall University Board of Governors.
- 1.2 Passage Date:
- 1.3 Effective Date:
- 1.4 Controlling over: Marshall University.

2 Preamble

- 2.1 At Marshall University, we recognize and deeply value the insights, experience, and perspective brought by our faculty, students, staff and all shared governance communities. It has long been the protocol of Marshall University to include representatives of those groups within the membership of the Board of Governors, and their input and contributions have been and continue to be invaluable. As of 2025, pursuant to West Virginia Code § 18B-2A-1(c)(3), the faculty representative, student body representative and staff representative shall be non-voting, advisory members. The enactment of that provision creates the need and opportunity for Marshall University to address what it means to be a “non-voting, advisory member” of its Board of Governors, which we now do through this policy. Marshall remains committed to recognizing and benefitting from the participation of our faculty, student, and staff communities through their representatives as non-voting, advisory members on the Board of Governors, which reflects our ongoing commitment to the principles of shared governance, a commitment also embodied within Marshall’s Shared Governance policy. Each and every Board member’s voice is integral to Marshall’s decision-making process, and we thank each of them for their service, leadership, and thoughtful contributions to the continued success and progress of our institution.
- 2.2 Non-voting, advisory members shall be referenced herein as “Advisory Members.”
- 2.3 Non-voting members are defined by West Virginia Code as:
 - 2.3.1 A full-time member of the faculty with the rank of instructor or above duly elected by the faculty of the respective institution, who shall serve as a non-voting, advisory member;
 - 2.3.2 A member of the student body in good academic standing, enrolled for college credit, and duly elected by the student body of the respective institution, who shall serve as a non-voting, advisory member; and
 - 2.3.3 A member from the institutional classified or non-classified employees duly elected by the classified or non-classified employees of the respective institution, who shall serve as a non-voting, advisory member.

3 Powers and Duties of Advisory Members

- 3.1 Advisory members shall be entitled to take the following actions to the same extent that a voting member of the Board would be so permitted:
 - 3.1.1 Fully participate in and actively engage in discussions and deliberations during regular, special, and emergency Board of Governors meetings.
 - 3.1.2 Request that a meeting of the Board be called, in accordance with the University's rules governing special meetings.
 - 3.1.3 Submit items for inclusion on the Board meeting agenda in accordance with the University's established procedures.
 - 3.1.4 Raise points of order when necessary to clarify rules or procedures during meetings.
 - 3.1.5 Serve on and participate in the meetings of standing and ad hoc committees established by the Board.
 - 3.1.6 Attend and participate in discussion during executive sessions of the Board.
- 3.2 Advisory members shall not:
 - 3.2.1 Vote on any motion, resolution, or action item before the Board or any of its subcommittees, working groups, or task forces.
 - 3.2.2 Make any motions that require a vote by the Board or any of its subcommittees, working groups, or task forces.
 - 3.2.3 Serve as an Officer of the Board.
 - 3.2.4 Chair any standing or ad hoc committee established by the Board.

4 Selection and Service of Employee Representative

- 4.1 The selection of the University's "institutional classified or non-classified employee" member of the Board shall be determined as follows:
 - 4.1.1 The opportunity to place a representative on the Board to fill the "institutional classified or non-classified employee" member position shall be shared by the Classified Staff and Non-Classified Staff on a rotating basis, with the rotation occurring every two years, and the identity of the representative being determined by vote of the employee classification to which said representative belongs (Classified or Non-Classified).
 - 4.1.2 Beginning with the 2027 fiscal year, a duly elected Non-Classified Staff representative shall hold the "institutional classified or non-classified employee" member position for a term of two years.
 - 4.1.3 Beginning with the 2029 fiscal year, a duly elected Classified Staff representative shall hold the "institutional classified or non-classified employee" member position for a term of two years.
- 4.1.4 Thereafter, this selection process shall continue on an alternating, rotating basis in the same manner.

PROVOST REPORT

AUGUST 2025





A MESSAGE FROM ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

Greetings!

As summer ends and a new academic year begins; there's renewed energy across campus. We welcome new faces, ideas, and projects shaping the months ahead.

This report highlights academic achievements and student support programs making a real impact.

College of Arts and Media

The School of Theatre and Dance celebrated students securing summer theatre roles nationwide—from Theatre West Virginia to technical positions in Texas and New Hampshire.

College of Engineering and Computer Sciences

Dr. Isaac Wait (Civil Engineering) secured a \$457,965 WV Department of Highways grant to advance culvert maintenance and infrastructure resilience.

College of Education and Professional Development

The June Harless Center's Hall of Fame Induction honored WV Superintendent Michele Blatt, STEM advocate Emily Calandrelli, Dean Teresa Eagle, and philanthropist Sheryl Sandberg.

College of Health Professions

The School of Physical Therapy overfilled its Class of 2028 and launched new early admission and PTA-to-DPT pathways—outpacing national enrollment trends.

College of Liberal Arts

Dr. Kelli Prejean was named Interim Dean, bringing leadership as Associate Dean, interim chair, and coordinator of strategic planning and general education updates.

College of Science

Dr. Robin O'Keefe and Robbie Clark co-led a team that discovered a new plesiosaur genus in Canada, published in *Journal of Systematic Palaeontology*, boosting Marshall's research profile.

Division of Aviation

Marshall Aviation earned FAA approval for dispatcher training, launching in fall 2025, with plans for microcredentials and a degree program.

Lewis College of Business

The Health Informatics program earned seven-year CAHIIM Continuing Accreditation, affirming national standards and leadership preparation.

School of Pharmacy

Partnering with Heart of Appalachia Talent Search, the School of Pharmacy hosted a Career Camp introducing middle school students to pharmacy education.

University Libraries

Dr. Anne Marie Casey was named Founding Director of the new School of Library Science, leading the state’s first MSLS program, opening spring 2026.

Beyond our academic colleges and schools, Marshall’s student support units are driving student success, well-being, and workforce readiness.

Center for Student Success

All 22 students in the *With Flying Colors* stress-reduction program graduated or re-enrolled—100% success. Provost Mukherjee honored 21 Student Success Champions, reinforcing our commitment to retention and support.

Division of Student Affairs

Key advancements include a new academic accommodation testing center, a strengthened Counseling Center practicum, and the Office of Student Advocacy handling over 2,600 excused absence cases in Spring 2025.

Online Education

Marshall Online, with MUIT, earned the Anthology Catalyst Award for Leading Change. New initiatives include an “Intro to Neurodiversity” microcredential and partnerships with Coalfield Development and Adobe Creative Campus to enhance digital literacy and workforce readiness.

Sincerely,



Dr. Robert B. Bookwalter, Ph.D.
Interim Sr. Vice President for Academic
Affairs & Provost



Karen McComas, Ed.D.
Associate Vice President for Academic
Affairs & Associate Provost

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COLLEGE OF ARTS AND MEDIA (DEAN: DR. MARIA GINDHART)

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

- On April 25, *Us & Them* host Trey Kay celebrated the podcast's tenth anniversary with the members of Marshall University's Dead Podcasters Society. The episode of the podcast based on the event was released by West Virginia Public Broadcasting on May 7.
- The MUJMC Society held an English afternoon tea fundraiser on July 15.

FACULTY & STAFF ACHIEVEMENTS

School of Art & Design

- Ian Hagarty had a solo exhibition of new paintings, *Anemoi*, at the Phoenix Athens Gallery in Greece, June 5-July 5.
- Dr. Tacie Jones attended the 16th Currents Festival in Santa Fe, NM, entitled Art + Technology in a Culture of Speed. While in attendance, she collected videos for her *Gossamer Bodies* project, which is funded by a John Marshall University Scholars summer grant.

School of Journalism & Mass Communications

- Dan Hollis served on the faculty of the West Virginia Governor's Honors Academy in July.

School of Music

- Dr. Edwin Bingham attended a camp for bassoon performance in Little Switzerland, NC, May 26-June 5. Dr. Bingham is retiring from full-time duties in August but will be continuing in an adjunct capacity teaching saxophone and bassoon lessons.
- The school has hired new faculty member Dr. Aaron Hynds to lead the music technology area and further development the music industry degree.
- Dr. Martin Saunders attended, performed for, and was a clinician for the 11th Annual William Adam International Trumpet Festival, June 18-23. As a member of the William Adam Seminar Board of Directors, Dr. Saunders was also responsible for all registration matters for the festival and created the "handbook" for future festival hosts.

School of Theatre & Dance

- Logan Reagan designed sets for the Alchemy Theatre Troupe's production of Shakespeare's *Love's Labour's Lost*.
- Leah Turley directed *Hadestown (Teen Edition)* for the First Stage Theatre Company in Huntington.

STUDENT & ALUMNI ACHIEVEMENTS

- Several students in the School of Theatre and Dance were hired to work in a variety of summer positions in professional theatres throughout the country.
 - George Kinley and Eliza Aulick performed in Theatre West Virginia's productions of *The Hatfields and the McCoys* and *Into the Woods*.
 - Faith Young served as a theatre technician for the Texas Outdoor Musical Theatre in Amarillo, TX.
 - Roza Beller, Gabby Bellomy, Noah Ritchie, and Sam McElwain completed an internship with microcredential certifications in Arts Administration with FestivALL in Charleston, WV.

- Landon Mefford was a resident technician for the Interlakes Theatre Company in Meredith, NH.
- Alum Morgan Napier (BFA, Graphic Design, 2025) has been hired by the Huntington Regional Chamber of Commerce as a photographer and graphic designer.
- Alum Sarah Davis (BA, Journalism, 2025) has been hired as a digital reporter at WOWK 13 News in Charleston, WV.
- Alum Craig Burletic (BFA, Jazz Studies, 2014) performed on the *Tonight Show with Jimmy Fallon* with American singer/songwriter and country artist Lukas Nelson on June 23.
- Alum Tayro Mesquita (MA, Guitar Performance, 2025) secured a teaching position in his native Brazil at the Escola do Futuro do Estado de Goiás Luiz Rassi (Luiz Rassi School of the Future of Goiás State) in Goiânia.
- Alum Nathan Mohebbi (BFA, Theatre, 2012) starred in *Andy Warhol in Iran* at the Mosaic Theatre Company in Washington, DC.
- Alum Gavin Spiewak (BFA, Theatre, 2025) was an artistic intern for the Lantern Theatre Company in Philadelphia, PA.
- Alum Courtney Susman (BFA, Theatre, 2007) was named Managing Artistic Director of the Greenbrier Valley Theatre in Lewisburg, WV.
- Alum Christina Baroniel (BFA, Theatre, 2014) continued her tenure as Resident Stage Manager for the Broward Center for the Performing Arts in Fort Lauderdale, FL.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

- An exhibition from the Tamarack Foundation for the Arts, *The Art of Fellowship*, was on display at the Carroll Gallery in the Visual Arts Center, June 2-July 11.
- An exhibition by artist Chase Bowman, *All the Saints in Heaven*, was on display at the Birke Art Gallery in the Visual Arts Center, June 30-July 24.

COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING AND COMPUTER SCIENCE

(DEAN: DR. DAVID DAMPIER)

FACULTY & STAFF ACHIEVEMENTS

- Dr. Isaac Wait, Civil Engineering, was awarded a \$457,965 grant from the WVDOH for his project "Hydraulic and Statistical analysis of culvert maintenance and condition."
- Dr. Simon Shim, Biomedical Engineering, submitted a patent for "Methods for the Diagnosis and Treatment of Alzheimer's Disease and Chronic Hydrocephalus," filed under Application Number PCT/US2025/032689 and the Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT), administered by the World Intellectual Property Organization.
- Associate Dean Dr. Greg Michaelson, Civil Engineering, co-authored the article, "Applicability and validation of improved live load distribution factors for commercially available shallow steel tub girders," published in *Bridge Structures*.
- Dr. Yousef Fazea, Computer Sciences, co-authored the article, "Disease Infection Classification in Coconut Tree Based on an Enhanced Visual Geometry Group Model," published in *Processes*.
- Dr. Sudipta Chowdhury, Industrial Engineering, and Dr. Ammar Alzarrad, Civil Engineering, co-authored the article, "Advancing Community-Based Education: Strategies, Challenges, and Future Directions for Scaling Impact in Higher Education," published in *Trends in Higher Education*.
- Drs. Sudipta Chowdhury and Ammar Alzarrad along with Sungmin Youn (University of Texas at El Paso) presented their paper, "Evaluating the Impact of a Summer NSF REU Program on Undergraduate Students' STEM Career Aspirations and Educational Goals: A Case Study," at the 2025 American Society of Engineering Education (ASEE) North Central Section Annual Conference in held in Huntington.
- Dr. Ananya Jana, Computer Science, co-authored and presented the paper, "Comparative Analysis of OpenAI GPT-4o and DeepSeek R1 for Scientific Text Categorization Using Prompt Engineering," at the 2025 ASEE North Central Section Annual Conference.
- Dr. Pingping Zhu, Electrical Engineering, co-presented, "Risk-Aware and Scalable Hierarchical Swarm Robotic Motion Planner with CVaR Constraints," at a workshop at the 2025 Robotics: Science and Systems Conference.

STUDENT & ALUMNI ACHIEVEMENTS

- Biomedical Engineering students Emma Barrett and Tyera Pemberton co-presented a poster with Dr. Joon Shim, "Optimizing geometric configurations for turbulence control in mini-osmotic implant design," at the 2025 ASEE North Central Section Annual Conference.
- Biomedical Engineering students Logan Evans and Isaac Raines co-presented with Dr. Joon Shim their poster, "3D simulation of saline flow in a mini-osmotic pump: streamlines from membrane to Lynch coil," at the ASEE North Central Section Conference.
- Computer Science graduate students Geanina Tambaliuc and Yusuf Adamu and Dr. Yousef Fazea, "Evaluating lightweight and standard encryption algorithms for IoT security and efficiency," accepted in IEEE 4th International Conference on Computer Machine Intelligence at Central Michigan University.
- Cyber Security graduate students Abdullah Jawad and Noah Quesenberry along with Drs. Husnu Narman and Paulus Wahjudi, faculty in Computer Science and Electrical Engineering, co-presented their paper, "Enhancing Workforce Cyber Resilience: Bridging the Gap in ICS Protection," at the 15th IEEE Integrated STEM Education Conference.
- Compute Science graduate student Daron Weekley, Data Science graduate student Anastasiia Sukhanova and Computer Science undergraduate Jace Duckworth co-presented with Dr. Ananya Jana their

paper, "Evaluating the Suitability of Different Intraoral Scan Resolutions for Deep Learning-Based Tooth Segmentation," at the 2025 ASEE North Central Section Annual Conference.

- Electrical Engineering graduate student James Gao co-presented with Drs. Mohammed Ferdjallah and Dr. Pingping Zhu their paper, "Applications of Computer Vision Segmentation in Hematology and Blood Cell Medical Imaging," at the ASEE North Central Section Conference.
- BSEE students Dylan Lester and Samuel Sutphin and graduate student James Gao co-presented with Drs. Husnu Narman, Ammar Alzarrad, and Pingping Zhu their paper, "A YOLO-Based Semi-Automated Labeling Approach to Improve Fault Detection Efficiency in Railroad Videos," at the ASEE North Central Section Conference.
- BSEE students Matthew Allen, Ben Taylor, and Preston Sellards co-presented with Dr. Pingping Zhu their papers, "Gesture-Based Drone Control: Enhancing Precision with Code Algorithms," and "Robotic Wildfire Detection Using Computer Vision," at the ASEE North Central Section Conference.
- Graduate student James Gao and BSEE student Jacob Lee co-presented with Dr. Pingping Zhu their paper, "SwarmCVT: Centroidal Voronoi Tessellation-Based Path Planning for Very-Large-Scale Robotics," at the 2025 American Control Conference.
- BSEE students Ben Taylor, Matthew Allen, and Preston Sellards and graduate student James Gao co-authored with Drs. Haroon Malik and Pingping Zhu their paper, "Enhancing Drone Navigation and Control: Gesture-Based Piloting, Obstacle Avoidance, and 3D Trajectory Mapping," published in *Applied Sciences*.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

- The Health Science Technology Academy (HSTA) Fun with Science Institute at Marshall University was held July 7-11. HSTA is a statewide initiative that helps high school students with an interest in STEM fields thrive in high school and college. The event featured several hands-on activities and demonstrations in gaming, robotics, and other STEM fields.

COLLEGE OF EDUCATION & PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT
(DEAN: DR. TERESA EAGLE)

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

- The June Harless Center for Rural Educational Research hosted its annual Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony on April 25. This year’s inductees included: Michele Blatt, West Virginia state superintendent of schools; West Virginia native Emily Calandrelli, who is nicknamed the “Space Gal” and is an MIT engineer, TV entertainer, author and promoter of science education; Dr. Teresa Eagle, dean of Marshall’s College of Education and Professional Development; and Sheryl Sandberg, renowned business executive, author and philanthropist whose charitable foundation has donated \$5 million to Marshall For All, Marshall Forever.
- Marshall University’s Neuroscience Literacy in Mental Health Project was highlighted in the Dana Foundation newsletter, “Strengthening Public Understanding of Brain Science Through Health Practitioners.” The project, which is funded by the Dana Foundation, is a professional development program for mental health workers in West Virginia to promote knowledge transfer from basic and applied neuroscientists to professionals and the public they serve.

FACULTY & STAFF ACHIEVEMENTS

- The following faculty were honored during the 2024-2025 COEPD annual awards:
 - Dr. Feon Smith and Dr. Jennifer McFarland-Whisman received the Dr. Barbara Guyer Faculty Award for Excellence in Service.
 - Dr. McKenzie Brittain and Dr. Tammy Johnson received the Dr. Dorothy "Dot" Hicks Award for Excellence in Teaching Award.
 - Dr. Jill Minor and Dr. Yvonne Skoretz received the Dr. C. Robert Barnett Faculty Award for Excellence in Research Scholarship and Research.
- Dean Teresa Eagle and committee (Drs. Isaac Larison, Ruthann and Neil Arneson, Mike Huesmann, and Ms. Brean Stewart) facilitated the annual Country Schools Association of America Conference on MU’s campus during the week of June 8, 2025. During the conference, a bench was dedicated to honor Freedom Rider and civil rights activist Joan C. Browning. In 2024, Browning was a recipient of an honorary degree from Marshall University.
- Dr. Ron Childress, Curriculum and Instruction, and C&I doctoral student Amanda Davis co-presented “Classroom Use of Cellphones: Findings from a Pilot Study” at the National Social Science Association Virtual Conference in June.
- Drs. Wendi Dunham, Debra Lockwood, and Jennifer McFarland-Whisman in the Special Education department have been invited to present at the Teacher Education Division (TED) Conference of the Council for Exceptional Children in Kansas City, Missouri in November 2025. The title of their presentation is: “Strengthening Teacher and Learner Dispositions: Uniting Habits of Mind, Multicultural Social-Emotional Learning, Collaboration, Inclusivity, and a Growth Mindset.”
- Dr. Tammy Johnson, Leadership Studies, presented at the National Association of Branch Campus Administrators Annual Conference on May 29.
- Dr. Yvonne Skoretz, Curriculum and Instruction, and C&I doctoral student Lindsey Lucas co-presented "Bridging the Gap: Key Findings from a Needs Assessment Supporting Underrepresented Students in Graduate Education" at the National Social Science Association Virtual Conference in June.
- Dr. Wendi Dunham was selected by the Council for Exceptional Children Program Advisory Committee (PAC) to serve as a proposal reviewer for the CEC 2026 Convention and Expo.

STUDENT & ALUMNI ACHIEVEMENTS

- Leadership Studies doctoral student Jay Rader was a recipient of a Graduate Creative Discovery and Research Award for Summer 2025. He is being mentored by Dr. Tammy Johnson.
- C&I doctoral student Jennifer Badzek was a recipient of a Graduate Creative Discovery and Research Award for Fall 2025. She is being mentored by Dr. Yvonne Skoretz.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

- COEPD faculty and staff participated in the annual MU Community Cares Week in May.
- Dr. Brian Kinghorn is serving as the Principal Investigator on the Governors School of Tourism this summer.

COLLEGE OF HEALTH PROFESSIONS (DEAN: DR. MICHAEL PREWITT)

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

- BSW certificate programs in Child Welfare and Social Work in Healthcare are slated to begin in Fall 2025. These certificates are available to any undergraduate student but are particularly aimed at health professions majors.
- The School of Physical Therapy overfilled its Class of 2028 by one student, a noteworthy achievement as many U.S. physical therapy programs struggle to fill their cohorts.
- The School of Physical Therapy has also launched two new pathways to admission. College juniors can now apply for conditional acceptance to the Doctor of Physical Therapy (DPT) program. This optional pathway allows eligible students to bypass the standard admission process through the Physical Therapist Centralized Application Service (PTCAS), which is typically completed during the senior year. Students may instead apply as juniors and receive early conditional admission and receive \$3,000 in scholarship assistance during their first year of the DPT program. Additionally, licensed physical therapy assistants can pursue a DPT at Marshall through the new Bachelor of Applied Science program.
- The Huntington Scottish Rite was among one of 164 nonprofits selected by the Pallottine Foundation of Huntington to receive a \$20,000 grant for their 2025 Healthy Communities Initiative. The grant will continue to grow literacy programs at Marshall University, helping even more children in the area.

FACULTY & STAFF ACHIEVEMENTS

- Ernay Adams, Communication Disorders, was a panelist for the Clinical Supervision session at the Parkinson Voice Project's Lead with INTENT Symposium. Her dedication to the SPEAK OUT! Therapy program at Marshall, which serves individuals with Parkinson's disease, is making a lasting impact on the community.
- Communication Disorders faculty participated in a powerful day of connection and community at the Huntington Coalition for Autism and Neurodiversity (H-CAN) "Ask the Expert" outreach event. The event was filled with meaningful conversations, shared stories, and expert guidance. Faculty are actively involved with H-CAN and collaborate with other professionals in this coalition to provide insights, support, and resources for families and individuals in the autism and neurodiverse community.
- Robin Looney facilitated a signed affiliation agreement with Project Hope for the WV TIME4K project and graduate social work students to engage in therapy services for mothers and children beginning this fall.
- Dr. Scott Davis recently published a perspective article, "Are There Speed Limits in Doctor of Physical Therapy Education? Future Research Directions" in the *Physical Therapy & Rehabilitation Journal*. The article showcased Marshall's leadership in Doctor of Physical Therapy (DPT) education and its influence on shaping the national direction of the profession.

STUDENT & ALUMNI ACHIEVEMENTS

- Communication Disorders student Rachel Parker recently completed the Speech-Language Pathology-Assistant Certificate program at Marshall University and earned national certification from the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA). Rachel has been accepted into the 2025 cohort at Yeshiva University in New York as a full-time student in their Speech Pathology distance program.
- Patricia Hunt and her group of undergraduate Communication Disorder students presented their research at a Lion's Club meeting in May. The group received a donation through the John Marshall Scholarship Award for their upcoming project on trauma, substance use disorder, and autism spectrum disorder.
- MSW students NaShayla Fauver and Michael Stanley co-presented with faculty members Jessa Dingess and Dr. Theresa Hayden at the National Association of Social Workers WV chapter spring conference.

- Biomechanics graduate student Yasmine Jutt is interning with the Los Angeles Dodgers this summer at their state-of-the-art performance lab to help players stay healthier and perform their best.
- Undergraduate student Ethan Bowens was named the Sun Belt Conference 2025 Overall Male Postgraduate Scholarship Award Winner. He is the top male award winner and one of eight postgraduate student-athletes from the conference named as award recipients. A three-year letterwinner in Men's Track & Field, Bowens graduated from Marshall this spring with a bachelor's degree in exercise science. The scholarship will go towards his future work as he applies for M.D. and D.O. graduate degrees at several universities including the Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

- Robin Looney coordinated graduate social work students' direct assistance with youth events at the Huntington Children's Museum in June.
- The Communication Disorders department hosted a Gather & Grow event on July 26 for families of children with autism. The free event for children ages 3-10 included autism-friendly activities, meaningful conversations with licensed professionals and fellow caregivers, a complimentary lunch, and an opportunity to participate in a collaborative research small group discussion.
- The School of Nursing hosted a Herd Nursing Day Camp in June for middle school and high school students interested in pursuing a degree in nursing.

COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS (INTERIM DEAN: DR. KELLI PREJEAN)

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

- Dr. Kelli Prejean will serve as Interim Dean of the College of Liberal Arts beginning July 1. Dr. Prejean has been an outstanding Associate Dean for the past 5 years and is intimately familiar with the work needed while completing the search process for a new dean, whom we anticipate hiring this fall. Dr. Prejean joined the Marshall English department faculty in 2005. She has a record of excellence in the classroom, earning the Marshall & Shirley Reynolds Award for Outstanding Faculty in 2017. As Associate Dean in COLA, she directs student services activities and works with Student Affairs and the advising staff of all the academic colleges. She recently led projects updating the COLA general education requirements, creating the COLA Strategic Plan, and updating the Tenure & Promotion guidelines for the college. She has extensive administrative experience serving as Director of the Writing Center, as Assistant Director of the Center for Teaching & Learning during the 2012 academic year, and as Composition Coordinator from 2012-2020. She twice served as interim chair of the English department during sabbaticals in Fall 2015 and Fall 2018. Kelli served as Faculty Senator for 8 years, was a John Marshall Leadership Fellow in 2019, chaired the faculty Technology Committee this past year, and worked with Academic Affairs last year as coordinator of the Dean searches in COLA, COEPD, and LCOB.
- Dr. Melissa Atkins, professor of Psychology, will serve as Interim Associate Dean during this transition. Dr. Atkins is Professor of Psychology who has been teaching at Marshall since 2004. She is the Advising Coordinator and Undergraduate Program Coordinator for the largest department in the college. Melissa serves as Assistant Chair of the Psychology department, Program Director for the MU Rural Behavioral Health Scholars Program, and representative to the Faculty Advisor Committee. She was a 2025 John Marshall Leadership Fellow. She has worked closely with the COLA student services and advising staff on summer orientation and will have a smooth transition into the role of Interim Associate Dean.

FACULTY & STAFF ACHIEVEMENTS

- Dr. Del Chrol, Humanities department chair, has been elected the Chair of the Council of Chairs beginning in Fall 2025. Del joined the Marshall faculty in 2006 and has served as chair of Classics and the Humanities department since 2016.
- COLA faculty were active in study abroad programs this summer. Dr. Brian Hoey (Anthropology) led 17 students in a program funded through the US Department of State IDEAS grant to Dundalk Institute of Technology in Ireland. Students from MU and Bridge Valley Community & Technical College learned about cultural landscapes and visited archaeological sites such as Newgrange.
- Five faculty members participated in study abroad groups as part of the KIIS Consortium. Dr. Robin Riner (Anthropology) taught a course in legal anthropology on a trip to Austria. Dr. Cicero Fain (History) accompanied students to the Caribbean to learn about Afro-Caribbean culture. Dr. Del Chrol (Humanities) taught a course about food culture in Italy. Dr. Zeli Rivas (Japanese) led a group of students abroad in Japan and Korea.

STUDENT & ALUMNI ACHIEVEMENTS

- Celia Burke, double major in Anthropology and Spanish, and Mike Andry, double major in Communication Studies and Spanish, attended the summer program at the University of Nabrija in Madrid. Burke attended for one month and Andry opted for the two-month experience.
- Psychology major Chelea Hayes earned a 2025 KIIS scholarship to study abroad in Austria.

- Japanese major Kayla Roberts earned a 2025 KIIS scholarship to study abroad in Japan and a US State Department Gilman International Scholarship award. The Gilman award provides funding for students to gain skills critical to national security and economic prosperity through study abroad.
- Marissa Dillon, who earned a BA in English in 2011 and an MA in English in 2013, won the Appalachian Studies Association's Stephen L. Fisher Award for Excellence in Teaching for K-12 Educators. The award honors individuals dedicated to intellectual rigor and pedagogical integrity in constructing and delivering inclusive knowledge about Appalachia and its people.
- Jessica Leffingwell started a new position as Recreation Therapist at River Park Hospital in June 2025. Jessica is a two-time Psychology graduate, earning her BA in 2020 and her MA in 2022. She worked as a graduate assistant tutor with the HELP program at Marshall. After graduation, she was a therapist at Pretera for a year before starting work at River Park.
- Dr. Kayla Johnson received a Great Teacher Award from the University of Kentucky in January 2024. The award goes to six faculty members each year in recognition of their record of outstanding teaching. Kayla previously received the NACADA National Outstanding Faculty Academic Advising Award in 2023. She earned three degrees at Marshall in 2012 as a triple major in English, French, and Secondary Education. She later earned an MS in Higher Education from Kentucky and a PhD in Higher Education from Penn State.
- Dr. Sarah Kercksmar was named the Thompson Prize recipient at the annual meeting for the Association of University Programs in Health Administration. Sarah is the chair of the Department of Health and Clinical Sciences at the University of Kentucky. The Thompson Prize recognizes faculty at member institutions for excellence in teaching, learning, health services research, and collegial relationships. Sarah earned two Communication Studies degrees at Marshall, a BA in 2000 and an MA in 2002.
- Austin Sanders, 2020 BA in Political Science, began a new position as Director of Economic and Community Development in Brown County, OH in June 2025. Austin previously worked as Civic Strategy Consultant for CivicBridge and spent nearly 5 years working for the City of Huntington as a Program Director and Director of Innovation.

COLLEGE OF SCIENCE (DEAN: DR. WESLEY STITES)

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

- Jessica Johnson and Drs. Laura Stapleton and Raid Al-Aqtash are coordinating a College of Science initiative to provide freshmen the opportunity to be placed in the appropriate math classes through the MATH STAMPEDE program (Mastery, Achievement, and Tutoring for the Herd: Students Thundering Ahead in Math Preparation, Empowerment, and Development to Excellence) using the ALEKS PPL (Placement, Preparation, and Learning) assessment. The program gives away 200 licenses to students to determine if reassessment of their math placement, combined with the ability to prepare and learn in between assessments, makes a difference in math performance in their first mathematics class.

FACULTY & STAFF ACHIEVEMENTS

Biological Science

- Dr. Robin O'Keefe, Academic Lab Manager Robbie Clark, and a team of colleagues identified a new genus of plesiosaur from fossils discovered in Canada. Their article, "A name for the Provincial Fossil of British Columbia: A strange new elasmosaur taxon from the Santonian of Vancouver Island," was published in the *Journal of Systematic Palaeontology*.

Chemistry

- Dr. Laura McCunn was named Organizer Advisor of the Year at the Division of Student Affairs' Leadership and Service Awards. She is the faculty advisor for the Delta Upsilon Chapter of Delta Zeta Sorority.
- Dr. Rosalynn Quiñones published "A Novel Solid Form of Erlotinib: Synthesis by Heterogeneous Complexation and Characterization by NMR Crystallography" in the *Journal of Crystal Growth & Design*. The study was a collaboration with faculty from West Virginia University, Washington and Jefferson College, Amherst College, and Florida State University. The paper also included undergraduate students as co-authors, including former students Kerrigan Parks, Sarah Nickel, and Deben Shoup from Dr. Quiñones' lab.

Math and Physics

- Dr. Tom Cuchta visited the Banach Center in Bedlewo, Poland for a week in June for a workshop on time scale calculus. He co-organized the workshop as well as gave a talk. Dr. Cuchta's book chapter "Solutions of Dynamic Sturm-Liouville Conformable Initial and Boundary Value Problems," co-authored with Dr. Nick Wintz from Lindenwood University and Dr. Ayca Cetinkaya from the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga, appeared in the newly published book *Functional Differential Equations and Dynamic Equations on Time Scales*.
- Dr. Sean McBride was recognized as a Student Success Champion by the Center for Student Success for his efforts in making a significant difference in the lives of many students at Marshall.

Natural Resources and the Environment

- Dr. Tom Jones was selected as a Student Success Champion for 2024-2025 by the Center for Student Success. This award is initiated from student comments and goes to faculty who have been inspirational and instrumental in student success.

- Adjunct instructor Lee Wright's FFA team from Tygarts Valley Middle/High School won first place at the WV Wildlife Habit Education Program (WHEP) competition. The team will compete in the National WHEP competition in Tennessee later this summer.

STUDENT & ALUMNI ACHIEVEMENTS

- Zak Bartholomew, graduate student in Biological Sciences in the Palmquist lab, received a \$15,000 NASA WV Space Grant Consortium Graduate Research Fellowship for his project "Effects of sea-level rise and storm intensification on salt marsh resilience and migration." The award will support his ongoing research that integrates field data collection and remote sensing to investigate salt marsh decline and die off in response to sea level rise and storm surge intensification. The research is being conducted on a sea island in South Carolina, which has recently been mapped as a global hotspot of salt marsh loss.
- Dylan Andrus, graduate student in Criminal Justice, was awarded a Graduate Creative Discovery and Research Scholar Award for Fall 2025.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

- Dr. Nadja Spitzer and students Elli Williams and Rianna Smith worked with teachers at the Marshall Brain Camp on June 16. This camp is offered through the NSF Track 1 RII WV-NFNT grant as part of the Education and Workforce Development project. Dr. Spitzer and her students led the teachers through the development of activities to investigate the functions of the autonomic nervous system. The focus was on teaching core principles like experimental design and developing activities with easily accessible equipment.
- Dr. Laura Stapleton and Kacy Lovelace (University Libraries) held a Design for Delight (D4D) Lemonade Stand activity as community outreach on July 7 for Huntington Dance Theater.
- Dr. Sachiko McBride ran the portable planetarium for the Pre-K through 5th grade students at Our Lady of Fatima Parish School on May 28. She also gave the same demonstration at the YMCA to students from Highlawn Elementary School and elementary and middle school students participating in the Heart of Appalachia Talent Search (HATS) program.
- Dr. Autumn Starcher-Patton volunteered 24.5 hours during KidsFest 2025 to lead soil science outreach programs at eight Cabell County Public Library branches from June 2-6. She facilitated 15 hands-on workshops for grades 4–6 designed to engage children and their parents in learning about soil properties through art and crayon-making activities. Dr. Starcher-Patton also served as a coordinator for the Try This Food and Yoga event during KidsFest.

DIVISION OF AVIATION (CHIEF AVIATION OFFICER: MR. BILL NOE)

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

- Marshall University Aviation completed a First Responder UAS “Train the Trainer” course and is now certified to offer First Responder UAS training in WV and beyond. Aviation UAS instructors provided their first UAS Center of Excellence training to the Valley Fire Department in July. Under this newly earned certification, Marshall University provides training to first responder units in West Virginia and the surrounding areas as several agencies look to add UAS operations to their emergency response protocol.
- Marshall Aviation received their final inspection and approval for dispatch training from the Federal Aviation Administration regional office in July. Marshall’s dispatcher courses will evolve as microcredentials and eventually as part of a degree program. The curriculum approval phase is the final FAA action needed to begin training with a planned roll out for fall 2025 evening class certification.
- Marshall Aviation will hold several virtual and on-site orientations for aviation students this summer. All flight students from four locations participated in a virtual orientation in July to review upcoming FAA requirements to start flight training. AMT and Flight students will attend in-person orientations on August 14 at Tri State and Charleston airport locations to discuss daily flight and hangar safety protocols as well as the program layout. Student families are welcome to attend these events.
- Marshall Aviation completed two annual inspections at its Huntington and Charleston locations. These inspections cover all student training, instructor standardization, and regulatory requirements. Additional inspections for Wheeling and Lewisburg locations will take place later this summer.
- Marshall Aviation will participate in a NASA grant involving the potential impacts of UAS activity in Appalachia. The grant studies community engagement, STEM education, and impact on economic development in the region as the result of the growing air mobility industry. In this study, Marshall Aviation will provide field trips to interested students and teachers so that they may explore the tenets of UAS operation in their classrooms and communities. The flightline also welcomes the FAA to the Bill Noe Flight School as they kick off a 10-week study on the use of Virtual Reality and Augmented Reality technology in rotorcraft training. Twelve students will participate in the fully funded study. Each will receive 20 hours of ground training, 35 hours of simulator training, and 12 hours of helicopter training. Marshall Aviation has the only commercially certified virtual reality simulator in the US.
- Both the flight line and maintenance hangars remain active this summer with 80% of students training throughout the break.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

- The flight line welcomed the top 10 US aircraft insurance underwriters on July 7 for a tour and discussion on current trends in flight training and the introduction of technology in pre-solo flight training.
- Marshall Aviation also welcomed the Central Appalachia Highway and Economic Development Authority for their quarterly meeting, a tour, and an update on aviation in West Virginia.
- The Bill Noe Flight School will host middle and high school teachers in August for aviation training and qualification as West Virginia moves toward a standardized aviation curriculum for K-12 students.

LEWIS COLLEGE OF BUSINESS (INTERIM DEAN: DR. BEN ENG)

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

- The Commission on Accreditation for Health Informatics and Information Management Education (CAHIIM) has awarded Continuing Accreditation for seven years to Marshall's Health Informatics program. The program's next comprehensive review for continuing accreditation will be in 2032- 2033. This recognition ensures the curriculum continues to meet the highest standards of quality and industry relevance, preparing students for impactful careers in the evolving field of health informatics.
- Marshall University's chapter of the Student Center for the Public Trust has achieved the highest tier ranking of Ambassador for the 2024-2025 academic year. This is the seventh year in a row that Marshall University has achieved the highest national recognition. The Student Center for the Public Trust is a national network of college students who demonstrate a commitment to ethical leadership. Tiers are hosted on college campuses across the country which provide students with opportunities to participate in training sessions, conferences, community service, and business ethics competitions.

FACULTY & STAFF ACHIEVEMENTS

- Dr. Ralph McKinney, Management, had his article "How Can Higher Education Better Support International Students with Disabilities" published in *Times Higher Education*. The article emphasizes the importance of proactive communication, tailored accommodation, and fostering inclusive campus environments to ensure these students' academic success and well-being.
- Assistant Director of Graduate Programs Kelly Sowards and Project Coordinator Brandi Waiters were recognized for 10 years of service for their dedication to Marshall University at the Staff Service Awards Luncheon.

STUDENT & ALUMNI ACHIEVEMENTS

- Shad Mitchell, Doctor of Nurse Anesthesia Practice student, received the Margie McInerney Award at the department's hooding ceremony for best doctoral project. Mitchell was advised by DNAP faculty Cassandra Taylor and Dr. Alberto Coustasse-Hencke, Health Informatics, for his project, "Is long-term survival higher in patients who receive propofol-based total intravenous anesthesia during colorectal cancer surgery compared to volatile anesthesia."
- MBA students Chloe Gilkerson, Tennia Dennis, Masden Ball, Ethan Starkey, and Kyras Williams recently visited Italy taking part in an incredible opportunity to immerse themselves in Italian culture while earning academic credit in Economics. Led by Dr. Boniface Yemba, the students collaborated on a project with a local business and an international organization. They also toured the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) headquarters while there.
- Health Informatics graduate student Tejaswi Chelikani was awarded the Healthcare Information Management and Systems Society (HIMSS) West Virginia Chapter Education Series Scholarship for Spring 2025. The purpose of this scholarship is to provide financial assistance and recognition to qualified students with the potential for future leadership roles in the healthcare information and management systems industry.
- Several students participated in the WV Society of CPAs Committee Day at the Charleston Marriott in May. Committee Day is an annual meeting where members can network, meet in interest groups, and plan service for several committees throughout the year. Scholarship winners and new CPAs were also honored during lunch at the meeting including several current students and alumni from Marshall. Karis Shannon

was awarded a \$1,000 scholarship from the Accounting Education Foundation. Alumni and new CPAs Hunter Craig (Baker Tilly US), Isabelle Karnes (Suttle & Stalnaker), Stacy Simmons (Toyota Motor North America), and Ashlee Smith (Brown Edwards & Company) were also recognized.

SCHOOL OF PHARMACY (DEAN: DR. ERIC BLOUGH)

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

- The School of Pharmacy has created a new partnership with the Heart of Appalachia Talent Search (HATS) program at Marshall to introduce middle school students to pharmacy as a possible career choice. A Career Camp was held in June bringing together middle school students from the HATS program for an interactive introduction to pharmacy as a career. The event included a tour of the school facility, a hands-on pharmacy activity, and information about MUSOP's accelerated pathways and degree programs. The goal is to spark early interest in pharmacy and pharmaceutical sciences to help students envision their future in health care.

FACULTY & STAFF ACHIEVEMENTS

- Dr. Katie Burns was hired for a shared faculty position with St. Mary's Medical Center and began working in July.
- Dr. Mary Catherine Platz presented "Benzodiazepine Deprescribing and Anticholinergics" at the WV Wellness Conference in Huntington, WV.
- Drs. Mary Catherine Platz and Brittany Riley received a \$7,500 grant to initiate pharmacist services at the Tri-State LifeCare Medical Adult Day Center. This grant is in partnership with Hospice of Huntington and will be used to start educational programming for employees, patients, and family members in hopes of reducing medication-related adverse events and improving patient adherence.
- Dr. Jen Sparks presented a poster "Provider Report Cards as a Scalable Tool for Outpatient Antibiotic Stewardship: Insights from a Medicaid Claims-Based Approach" at the Pediatric Academic Societies meeting in Honolulu, HI.
- Dr. Amanda Capino published "Incorporating Pediatrics into Clinical Education: A Call to Action in Inpatient Pharmacy Practice" in the *Journal of Pediatric Pharmacology and Therapeutics*.
- Dr. Craig Kimble was selected to serve on the American Pharmacists Association (APhA) Public Health Special Interest Group Programming Committee. The committee will select speakers, education, and programming for the next year, including the annual meeting.
- Dr. Gayle Brazeau was a keynote speaker at the University of Buffalo School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences Department of Pharmacy Practice Retreat held on June 9 with her presentation entitled "Experiences and Lessons Learned as the Foundation for Successfully Publishing Your Scholarship of Teaching and Learning." Dr. Brazeau also presented "Navigating and Resiliency During Professional and Leadership Transitions in Your Academic Career Journey" and "Elements in Providing and Writing Constructive Feedback in the Manuscript Peer Review Process" during the retreat.
- Drs. Melinda Varney and Michael Hambuchen along with SOP students Jyostna Yalakala and Wesley Tackett and clinical researcher Todd Davies, PhD, in the Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine, co-authored the article "Co-administration of atipamezole with naloxone restores consciousness and physiological parameters in a rat model of xylazine-fentanyl overdose" published in the *Journal of Translational Research*. Their study found a promising treatment to address overdoses involving fentanyl and the veterinary sedative xylazine. By combining naloxone with the drug atipamezole, recovery outcomes dramatically improve in animal models of fentanyl-xylazine overdose.

STUDENT & ALUMNI ACHIEVEMENTS

- P4 student Carley Carter was selected for the United States Public Health Service Excellence in Public Health Pharmacy Award. The prestigious award recognizes pharmacy students who have made significant contributions to public health, including advancing the objectives of Healthy People 2030, supporting the Surgeon General's priorities, and furthering the pharmacy profession.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

- P4 student Alexis Atkinson presented "Heartbreaker: The Hype about Hypertension" at the Woodlands Retirement Community in Huntington. Alexis and Marshall Health's Brittany Messer, PharmD, reviewed proper blood pressure monitoring, BP goals, and the importance of medicine compliance with residents.
- Dr. Brittany Riley led a session on Emulsions and Medication Properties for the MU HATS Career Camp.
- SOP faculty, staff, and students participated in the MU Community Cares Week activities.
- Dr. Mary Catherine Platz volunteered as medical personnel at a local 4H Youth Camp.

UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES (DEAN: DR. MONICA BROOKS)

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

- Dr. Anne Marie Casey was appointed as the Founding Director of the new School of Library Science, effective July 1, 2025. Dr. Casey brings more than four decades of experience in librarianship and academic leadership to this pivotal role. She retired in 2023 as Director of the Hunt Library at Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University and previously served as Associate Dean of Libraries at Central Michigan University. Her extensive career also includes leadership in the American Library Association, its Distance Library Section, and multiple state library groups. Her expertise in online learning, vision for libraries, and relationships in our national network will be instrumental in shaping West Virginia's first Master of Science in Library Science (MSLS) program to meet the evolving needs of our communities and profession. Applications will be accepted starting this fall with a full program launch taking place in the spring of 2026.

FACULTY & STAFF ACHIEVEMENTS

- Kacy Lovelace, Dr. Anne Casey, and Eryn Roles represented the new School of Library Science at the American Library Association conference in Philadelphia. The conference attracts up to 25,000 librarians from all over the country.
- Sarah Mollette and Kacy Lovelace presented at the 5th annual Library Instruction Together (LIT) Conference in June. Geared towards academic librarians, the 2025 LIT conference theme was "A Seat At All Tables." Sarah and Kacy presented "Micro but Mighty: Creating a Self-Paced Research Skills Credential" to an audience of 80+ information professionals.
- Gena Chattin reviewed 34 theses and dissertations for publication. Gena also completed the HOME Framework training for course design at Marshall.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

- Gena Chattin gave a plenary speech and presentation at the Open Learning WV annual OER Meeting.

CENTER FOR STUDENT SUCCESS (DIRECTOR: DR. KATERYNA SCHRAY)

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

- All 22 students who participated in *With Flying Colors*, a psychoeducational, art-based counseling group provided for students to help reduce stress during midterms, have either graduated or re-enrolled for Fall 2025 (100% success rate).
- The Supplemental Instruction (SI) Program, which supports students in courses with historically high D/F/W rates, recruited, hired and trained six new SI Leaders for the Fall 2025 semester.
- Provost Avi Mukherjee recognized 21 individuals as Student Success Champions in a ceremony on May 6. The recipients represented eleven academic departments as well as Housing, Food Service, Campus Ministries, Athletics, and four additional campus units. Most of the recipients were introduced by the students who nominated them. In addition, the Student Success Champions program recognized the Chemistry department for going above and beyond to promote a culture of student success at Marshall. The wide range of nominations reminds us that retention and student success is a campus-wide effort. While teaching excellence is the basis for student success, many campus employees take the extra step to make sure that students feel seen, heard, cared for, and supported. The list of 2024-2025 Student Success Champions includes: Jeremy Bailey, Marybeth Beller, Dean Crawford, Robert Ely, Bethany Felinton, Jessica Hutchinson, Ashlee Hutchison, Thomas Jones, Emilea Justice, Eugene Lacy, Jacob Longoria, Haden Maloney, Sean McBride, Katherine Meek, Bryan Moore, Shelby Nelson, Nasim Nosoudi, Carmon Plante, Yousef Sardahi, Donny Speas, Teanna Stubbs, Sarah Trautwein, and the Department of Chemistry.

FACULTY & STAFF ACHIEVEMENTS

- CSS Director Kateryna Schray has been appointed Assistant Provost for Student Success beginning July 1, 2025.
- CSS Assistant Director for Student Success Initiatives Morgan Conley was a speaker at the 2025 Summer Conference of the West Virginia Collegiate Initiative to Advance Healthy Campus Communities (WVCIA) in Wheeling on June 27. Her session was titled “Surviving to Thriving: Supporting Foster & Kinship Care Students on Their College Journey.” Counselors in attendance also got Continuing Education Credit for their licensure.
- Morgan also completed an intensive three-day training in June for Accelerated Resolution Therapy (ART) at the Cabell Huntington Hospital Counseling Center. ART helps students reprogram the way in which distressing memories and images are stored in the brain so that they no longer trigger strong physical and emotional reactions. ART has proven effective in treating test anxiety, PTSD, phobias, addiction, depression, and grief.

COLLABORATION & PARTNERSHIPS

- Fostering Independence (FI) completed its first year as a pilot program, serving five students, four of whom are re-enrolled for the Fall 2025 semester. FI is a psychoeducational support group for students who have previously been in foster care or kinship care. The program connects students to resources and teaches independent living skills and is a collaboration between the Center for Student Success, Marshall University Counseling Center and Level Up, a program through the Marshall University Center of Excellence for Recovery.

DIVISION OF STUDENT AFFAIRS (VICE PRESIDENT: DR. MARCIE SIMMS)

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

Vice President's Office

- The Division of Student Affairs staff participated in a summer meeting on July 17. Staff members were introduced to the updated Plan on a Page, learned about upcoming initiatives, painted Marshall pictures, and enjoyed some good food.
- The Vice President of Student Affairs greeted new students and family members at the summer orientation sessions.

Office of Accessibility and Accommodations

- The Office of Accessibility and Accommodations recently secured space within East Hall to establish an academic accommodation testing center and will relocate staff to this new space.
- The Office has continued to see an increase in students receiving services. For comparison, the Office helped 845 students during the Spring 2025 semester, up from 665 students helped during the Spring 2024 semester.
- The office proctored 439 exams (including final exams) in the Spring 2025 semester.
- A total of 52 Emotional Support Animals were approved for Spring 2025 semester.

Behavior Intervention Team

- Of the 187 cases promoted to BIT for academic year 2024-2025, 31% were resolved, 35% were assigned, and 33% were monitored.

Office of Student Advocacy and Accountability

- The Office of Student Advocacy and Accountability received 626 reports in April and 82 reports in May.
- The office also received 2,671 excused absence cases during the Spring 2025 semester with 74% being for student illness.

Counseling Center

- The MU Counseling Center participated in the New Student Orientation sessions this summer with a display table and a parent mixer.
- The Center is coordinating with the Minority Health Initiative Team on a fall conference for the underserved population.
- The Center has revamped its practicum and internship program to be a true learning facility with 2 graduate assistants and 3 student interns returning for the Fall 2026 semester.

Violence Prevention and Response

- The Violence and Prevention Response team provided Hazing Prevention and Awareness training for the campus.

Women's Center

- In total, the Women's Center held 28 programs and events, 21 event collaborations, and volunteered 26 hours during the 2024-2025 academic year.

Esports

- The Esports team met with designers to cultivate a new space and finalized a jersey design.
- The team has also created a fundraising site to sell branded merchandise.

STAFF ACHIEVEMENTS

- The BeHERD counselors met with the University of Michigan Sports Psychology Team to improve services to student athletes.
- Sharon Stackpole in the Counseling Center received a scholarship to obtain CBT-I certification and completed her licensure supervision. She also attended the Moving Forward Facilitator training.
- April Lucas was hired as the new Counseling Center Assistant Director in June. Olivia Lauhon will start in July as a new case manager for the Center.
- Counseling Center Director Amy Kennedy-Rickman was accepted into the Doctor of Education Leadership Studies program at Marshall for the fall semester.
- Counseling Center staff Olivia Woody, Taylor Pennington, and Tiffany Bowes are currently working on becoming Gatekeepers for QPR Training.
- Tiffany Bowes attended the 2025 American College Health Association Annual Meeting.
- Olivia Woody attended the National Association of Social Workers (NASW) WV Chapter Spring Conference.
- Olivia Woody and Jessica Woodrum attended the Higher Education Case Managers Association Conference.
- Taylor Pennington attended a 2-day training for Perinatal Mood Disorders: Components of Care.
- Tiffany Bowes and Stephania Fonseca Tovar attended the WV Suicide Prevention Conference.
- Alyssa Hager, the Violence Prevention and Response Program Coordinator, has joined the BRANCHES Domestic Violence Shelter Fundraising Committee.

ONLINE EDUCATION (DIRECTOR: DR. JULIA SPEARS)

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

- Marshall Online, together with MUIT, won an Anthology Catalyst Award for Leading Change.
- Marshall Online hosted a special graduation reception for online students on May 9 in the Memorial Student Center. This in-person event was a wonderful opportunity for online graduates to celebrate their achievements, enjoy great food, and network with fellow graduates, faculty, and staff. Graduates received special commencement cords marking their significant accomplishment. The reception fostered a sense of community and connection, highlighting the importance of celebrating milestones together for online learners. A total of 33 students attended the event.
- The May issue of the Marshall Online Newsletter highlighted resources and events related to accessibility. The issue featured Dr. Hillary Adams discussing UDL strategies, UDL tips from the Design Center, and the Designing for All, Habit by Habit workshop series.
- A new Intro to Neurodiversity in Higher Education microcredential was launched. This new microcredential, the first in the Digital Identity microcredential suite, was developed by Dr. Hillary Adams, Director of the HELP Program, in collaboration with the West Virginia Autism Training Center and Marshall Online. It provides a foundational understanding of neurodiversity in higher education, covering common diagnoses, their impact on learning, and practical strategies for fostering inclusive environments using Universal Design for Learning (UDL) principles.
- The 2025 Annual Report is now available and highlights what Marshall Online has done to further enhance online education at the university over the past year. The report was also distributed through the monthly newsletter.

STAFF ACHIEVEMENTS

- Lalicja Brydie-Johnson, Online Student Engagement Coordinator, completed coursework to become a certified Academic Life Coach.
- Michelle Morrison, Senior Director of Online Student Engagement, co-presented “Khanmigo AI for Tutoring and Learning Support: A Demonstration and Pilot Study Analysis” at the Southeastern Learning Center Association Conference. Michelle was also a plenary panelist at the First2 Network and WV Jobs Network Spring 2025 Co-Conference.
- Dr. Julia Spears, Assistant Provost of Online Education and Certification, was invited to participate in Coursera’s Future of Higher Education Forum. The exclusive event brought together global thought leaders across academia and industry.
- Marshall Online's "Helping Students Connect the Dots Between College and Career" pitch advanced in the Advising Success Network Pitch Competition, earning an invitation for a full proposal. This collaborative project aims to enhance student learning through cutting-edge career-readiness resources and personalized support, empowering their academic and professional journeys.
- Mary Welch, Hilary Gibson, Diana Adams, Chase Lucas, and Heidi Blaisdell in the Design Center and Michelle Morrison delivered several presentations at Marshall’s iPED Conference hosted by the Center for Teaching and Learning.

COLLABORATIONS & PARTNERSHIPS

- As part of the collaboration with Coalfield Development, MU Online has made progress on transforming their *Professional & Personal Development Journal* into a structured, interactive experience in Blackboard. This

initiative supports Coalfield's workforce development efforts by offering their participants an organized, accessible tool for guided reflection and goal setting aligned with Coalfield's unique 33-6-3 model. The course structure encourages both individual reflection and cohort-based engagement. The first phase of development is nearing completion, with the course content and journal framework drafted and reviewed in collaboration with Coalfield's leadership. Final design refinements are underway to ensure the experience is intuitive, culturally responsive, and aligned with Coalfield's mission. The journal course will be launched on Blackboard in the coming months, with plans for iterative feedback and continuous improvement based on participant use.

- As an Adobe Creative Campus, Marshall University is partnering with the English department to integrate Adobe Express and other Creative Cloud tools into undergraduate courses. This initiative aims to boost student engagement, digital literacy, and communication skills through creative, multimodal assignments. Ready-to-use teaching kits and templates with Adobe are being developed which will be embedded directly into Blackboard for easy faculty access. English faculty will receive hands-on training this summer to utilize these intuitive and flexible tools effectively. This pilot program with the English department will serve as a model for future expansion across other departments on campus.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

- An Online Student Engagement Survey was conducted to learn more about Marshall online students and their experiences. The survey found that online students are highly satisfied with success resources (92%) and resource access (94%). Students favor flexible online delivery, with 55% preferring Asynchronous Online and 34% HyFlex or Sync Choice. Interest is strong in support programs such as career development (58%) and mental wellness (50%), with 59% likely to attend virtual growth sessions. We are happy to report that online students overall feel connected and supported.
- Marshall Online participated in Community Cares Week by painting the Student Center rec area.



August 5, 2025

EDUCATION

School of Medicine welcomes MD Class of 2029

The Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine welcomed its newest class of 82 medical students to campus on July 23 with a series of orientation activities, followed by the official start of classes. The Class of 2029 was selected from a pool of 3,026 applicants and includes students from 37 undergraduate colleges and universities across the country. The traditional White Coat Ceremony, which officially welcomes medical students into the medical profession and instills the values of professionalism, humanism and compassionate care, was held July 25. More than 100 donors sponsored white coats and medical instruments for the incoming class. The deadline to apply for entry into the MD and MD/PhD programs for fall 2026 is November 1.



Class of 2029

Physician Assistant program earns continued accreditation

The Accreditation Review Commission on Education for the Physician Assistant, Inc. (ARC-PA) has granted Accreditation-Continued status to the Marshall University Physician Assistant Program sponsored by Marshall University. Accreditation-Continued is an accreditation status granted when a currently accredited program is in compliance with the ARC-PA Standards. Accreditation remains in effect until the program closes or withdraws from the accreditation process or until accreditation is withdrawn for failure to comply with the Standards. The approximate date for the next validation review of the program by the ARC-PA will be July 2035. The review date is contingent upon continued compliance with the Accreditation Standards and ARC-PA policy. The program's accreditation history can be viewed on the ARC-PA website at

<https://www.arc-pa.org/accreditation-history-marshall-university/>



School of Medicine approved for class expansion

The Liaison Committee on Medical Education (LCME) has approved the School of Medicine's proposal to increase the medical school's entering class size from 83 to 99 students annually, beginning with the 2025-2026 academic year.

Preparations for the class size increase are already underway. The next full LCME accreditation site visit for the School of Medicine is scheduled for March 15-17, 2027.

Student Spotlight

HANNAH TURNER: ON THE PATH TO PHD



Hannah Turner, a first-generation college student from Matewan, West Virginia, is blazing a trail as the first student to enter the PhD phase of Marshall University's BS to PhD in Biomedical Research program.

From a young age, Hannah was captivated by science, a passion that evolved into a focused interest in neurobiology and addiction research. At Marshall, she has excelled academically—graduating with honors in Biological Sciences while having gained extensive lab experience, from studying opioid exposure in neonates to exploring the gut-brain axis. Her leadership as president of the Astronomy Club (MUAC) and her outreach to local schools reflect her commitment to both science and community. Now pursuing her PhD, Hannah aspires to publish impactful research, complete a postdoctoral fellowship and eventually lead her own lab. Hannah is working alongside her PI, Todd Davies, PhD, associate director of research and development for the Division of Addiction Sciences at the Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine. One long-term goal for her entails a directorial position within a research institute.

Marshall University's BS to PhD Biomedical Research program is a collaborative initiative between the Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine and the College of Science. Designed to streamline the academic path for aspiring researchers, the program enables students to earn both degrees in just seven years—accelerating their journey toward impactful scientific careers.

Accolades

Medical Student Katherine Germann has received a **Fulbright U.S. Student Program Award** from the U.S. Department of State and the Fulbright Foreign Scholarship Board. Katherine has been awarded a Fulbright-Fogarty Fellowship in Public Health. During the 2025-2026 academic year, Katherine will focus her research on enhancing surveillance of respiratory infections in Peru by utilizing artificial intelligence technologies to streamline data mining and analysis, ultimately supporting stronger public health responses in the region.

The Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC) Group on Faculty Affairs (GFA) named Darshana T. Shah, PhD, professor of pathology and senior associate dean for faculty advancement at the School of Medicine, its the recipient of the **2025 Carole J. Bland Phronesis Award**. The Phronesis Award recognizes members of the faculty affairs community who embody the spirit of phronesis—acting for the welfare of others without self-interest and championing the growth and success of others.

Sidney Strause, a doctoral student in the biomedical research PhD program at the School of Medicine, received the highly competitive **Porter Physiology Development Fellowship** from the American Physiological Society (APS) for the 2025-2026 academic year. The one-year Porter Fellowship is awarded annually to outstanding underrepresented graduate students pursuing full-time study toward a PhD in the physiological sciences. Sidney's research explores how the cardiac Na⁺/K⁺-ATPase—a vital membrane protein—regulates heart cell metabolism and signaling under stress.

Two graduate students in the biomedical research PhD program received prestigious **NASA Graduate Research Fellowships**. Julia Cardot, mentored by Dr. Lydia Bogomolnaya, was awarded a \$15,000 fellowship for her research on the *ushA* gene in *Serratia marcescens* and its role in immune fratricide. Sidney Strause, under the mentorship of Dr. Sandrine Pierre, was also awarded a \$15,000 fellowship for her proposal on preventing cardiac atrophy in microgravity by targeting Na/K-ATPase signaling. However, Sidney declined the NASA Fellowship after receiving the Porter Fellowship from APS.



Summer programs ignite interest in health careers

Two dozen high school students from across the region experienced college life and explored careers in health care during the **Health Care Pathways Initiative (HCPI)** at Marshall University. The free, residential summer camp is funded by the U.S. Army Educational Outreach Program (AEOP) and UNITE, with additional support from Marshall Health Network and the Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine.

During their week on campus in June, students engaged in hands-on learning and gained exposure to a variety of health-related fields, including medicine, pharmacy, and 3D printing. This year, the Charleston Area Alliance enhanced the experience by leading a walking tour of Charleston, providing participants with real-world insight into the region's health care and business ecosystem.

In addition to HCPI, Marshall University hosted in July **Project PREMED** (Providing Real-World Experiences for Marshall-Educated Doctors), an immersive program for undergraduate students interested in pursuing a career in medicine. Participants learned about the admissions process, medical school curriculum, and life as a medical student. This year's Project PREMED cohort included 16 students from West Virginia and seven states, with attendees traveling from as far away as California to participate.

These programs reflect the School of Medicine's ongoing commitment to building a robust pathway of future health care professionals at Marshall University.

LEADERSHIP UPDATES

School of Medicine announces leadership transitions in Admissions, Pediatrics

Effective Aug. 1, 2025, Dr. Christine Gilkerson announced her resignation as associate dean of admissions and chair of the admissions committee. Dr. Gilkerson will continue as faculty in the Department of Internal Medicine and will become the director of clinical efficiency and patient flow at St. Mary's Medical Center.

Dr. Susan Flesher, professor of pediatrics and an alumna of Marshall's medical school and residency program, has been appointed as senior associate dean for admissions. Dr. Flesher will step down as chair of pediatrics, with Dr. Joe Werthammer serving as interim chair while a national search for a permanent replacement is conducted.

School of Medicine welcomes new faculty

The School of Medicine is pleased to welcome more than 43 incoming faculty members to its clinical and research faculty (June – October 2025) in the following areas: admissions and advising, biomedical sciences, biochemistry, cardiology, dentistry, endocrinology, family medicine, gastroenterology, general pediatrics, geriatrics, government and healthcare policy, informatics, general internal medicine, hematology, neurology, obstetrics and gynecology, oncology, orthopaedic surgery, pathology, pediatric critical care, pediatric hospital medicine, pediatric neurology, pharmacology, physician assistants, psychiatry, urology and veterinary medicine (animal resources).

INNOVATION & RESEARCH

New study links popular vape flavorings to increased nicotine reward



A new study from the Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine revealed that flavor additives commonly used in e-cigarettes may increase vaping behavior in adolescents—even without nicotine. Published in July 2025 in the *Journal of Pharmacology and Experimental Therapeutics*, the preclinical study found that popular flavorings like vanilla and cherry can trigger reinforcement-related behaviors similar to those seen with nicotine exposure.

Medical students played a key role in this research by working with lead author Brandon J. Henderson, PhD, associate professor of biomedical sciences, to train adolescent mice to self-administer flavored vapor—both with and without nicotine—using operant chambers. This hands-on experience provided valuable insight into behavioral neuroscience while supporting the study's broader goal of understanding how flavored e-cigarettes may influence developing brains.

Informatics & population analytics at Marshall University



Under the leadership of Dr. Trupti Joshi, senior associate dean and professor at the School of Medicine, the informatics and population analytics team is transforming how Marshall University advances health care, research and education. This interdisciplinary field harnesses large-scale clinical and population data—paired with highly advanced computational tools—to drive preventive, personalized and predictive care.

At Marshall, informatics supports targeted health interventions for rural Appalachian communities, fosters cross-disciplinary collaboration, and equips students and faculty with in-demand skills in data science and AI. Dr. Joshi's team also provides access to powerful tools for disease prediction, genomic research and multiomics integration.

Marshall University hosts statewide summer research symposium

Dozens of undergraduate students showcased their summer research projects on July 29 at the DoubleTree hotel in downtown Huntington during the 23rd Annual West Virginia IDeA Network for Biomedical Research (WV-INBRE) Summer Research Symposium. The students represented nearly all West Virginia colleges and universities and had spent the previous nine weeks conducting research at their home institutions, Marshall University or West Virginia University. Projects covered topics such as cancer, heart disease, stroke, nicotine addiction and obesity. WV-INBRE, supported by a grant from the National Institutes of Health (NIH #P20GM103434), promotes biomedical research across the state in partnership with Marshall and West Virginia University.

Marshall Health hosts sold-out event to support Project Hope for Women & Children

Marshall Health hosted its second annual Hope Blooms fundraiser event Saturday, June 14, at Marshall Health Network Arena. The sold-out brunch and fashion show, presented by title sponsor Innsena, raised vital support for Project Hope for Women & Children and Hope House.

“The stories of the families we serve at Project Hope truly embody what our name stands for—hope,” said Kathleen Maynard, MA, LPC, director of Project Hope. “Hope Blooms 2025: A Chapter in My Story, celebrated the strength and resilience of these women as they turn the page and begin writing a new chapter—one filled with support, healing and renewed hope—while raising critical funds that make the work of Project Hope possible.”



UPCOMING DATES:

- **August 23:** Standing Out In Our Field 10
- **September 12-13:** School of Medicine Homecoming
- **November 3:** Health Sciences Research Day

Meet the Class of 2029

MD CLASS PROFILE



MARSHALL UNIVERSITY
Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine



3,026

TOTAL
APPLICATIONS

195

TOTAL
INTERVIEWS

83

INCOMING
STUDENTS

10% — FIRST GENERATION
COLLEGE STUDENTS

19% — STUDENTS FROM
RURAL AREAS

22% — ECONOMICALLY
DISADVANTAGED BACKGROUND



3.81

OVERALL
GPA AVG.

3.75

MATH / SCIENCE
GPA AVG.

506

AVERAGE
MCAT

Undergraduate Institutions Represented

16

DIFFERENT
MAJORS

98%

SCIENCE
MAJORS

2%

OTHER
MAJORS



43 — FEMALE

39 — MALE

1 — ANOTHER GENDER IDENTITY



57% — STUDENTS FROM
WEST VIRGINIA

9 — OTHER STATES
REPRESENTED



20 - 35

AGE RANGE

25

AVG. AGE

Meet the Class of 2027

PA CLASS PROFILE



PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT
PROGRAM



219

TOTAL
APPLICATIONS

72

TOTAL
INTERVIEWS

28

INCOMING
STUDENTS



3.63

OVERALL
GPA AVG.

3.54

SCIENCE
GPA AVG.

3.63

PRE-REQ
GPA AVG.

23% – GRE QUANTITATIVE AVERAGE

41% – GRE VERBAL AVERAGE

10% – FIRST GENERATION
COLLEGE STUDENTS

7% – UNDERREPRESENTED
MINORITIES

14% – ECONOMICALLY
DISADVANTAGED BACKGROUND



79%

FEMALE

23

MALE



79% – STUDENTS FROM
WEST VIRGINIA

21% – OTHER STATES
REPRESENTED



20 - 31

AGE RANGE

21%

AVG. AGE

**Marshall University Board of Governors
Meeting of August 5, 2025**

ITEM: Approval of Revisions to Board of Governors Rule
No. FA-3 - Purchasing Policy

COMMITTEE: Finance, Audit and Facilities Planning Committee

RECOMMENDED RESOLUTION: *Resolved*, that the Marshall University Board of
Governors approve the revisions to Board of
Governors Rule No. FA-3 - Purchasing Policy.

STAFF MEMBER: Brandi Jacobs-Jones
Senior Vice President for Operations

BACKGROUND:

This Rule establishes the rules and policies governing and controlling purchase, acquisition and inventory management of materials, supplies, equipment, services, construction and printing by the Governing Board of Marshall University, created pursuant to West Virginia Code §18B-2A-1 and hereinafter referred to as the "Governing Board." This Rule is being revised to allow for updates related to emergency purchases and bids tasks.

Upon approval of this resolution, this Rule will be posted at <https://www.marshall.edu/policies/> and a comment period will open and remain open until 10:00 am on Wednesday, September 17, 2025. If substantive comments are received, a final policy will be presented to the Board for approval at a subsequent meeting. If no substantive comments are received, the policy will be considered approved in its current form with an effective date of the end of the comment period.

Comments should be sent via email to: commentstorpap@marshall.edu.

MARSHALL UNIVERSITY BOARD OF GOVERNORS

Rule No. FA-3

Purchasing Policy

1 General Information.

- 1.1 Scope: *Establishes the rules and policies governing and controlling purchase, acquisition and inventory management of materials, supplies, equipment, services, construction, and printing by the Governing Board of Marshall University, created pursuant to West Virginia Code §18B-2A-1 and hereinafter referred to as the "Governing Board".*
- 1.2 Authority: West Virginia Code §18B-5-3 through §18B-5-9.
- 1.3 Passage Date: August 6, 2024
- 1.4 Effective Date: September 18, 2024
- 1.5 Controlling over: Marshall University
- 1.6 Background: This policy amends the original policy FA-9 approved on January 25, 2006, updated April 22, 2010, further amended on April 17, 2012 and June 12, 2015. Statutory References: West Virginia Code §18B-5-3 through §18B-5-9. Amended on April 29, 2021, to clarify monetary threshold for bidding requirements for architectural, engineering, and other consultant services on projects. Amended on April 26, 2023 to clarify bids may be submitted by paper, facsimile or electronic means. Amended on August 6, 2024, to update persons with contractual signature authority.

2 Definitions

- 2.1 As used in this policy, all terms have the same meaning as provided in West Virginia Code, and as follows:
 - 2.1.1 "Board" means the Governing Board of Marshall University.
 - 2.1.2 "Best Value Purchases" mean a procurement method that emphasizes value over price. The best value might not be the lowest cost. Generally achieved through the Request for Proposals (RFP) method. An assessment of the return that can be achieved based on the total life cycle cost of the item; may include an analysis of the functionality of the item; can use cost-benefit analysis to define the best combinations of quality, services, time, and cost considerations over the useful life of the acquired item.
 - 2.1.3 "Chief Financial Officer" means the individual designated by the president of Marshall University for that function in administrative procedure ADMIN-1.
 - 2.1.4 "Chief Operations Officer" means the individual designated by the president of Marshall University for that function in administrative procedure ADMIN-1.
 - 2.1.5 "Chief Procurement Officer" means the individual designated by a President of a

state institution of higher education to manage, oversee and direct the purchasing and acquisition of supplies, equipment, services, and printing for that institution.

2.1.6 ————"Commodity" means an article which is useful or serviceable, particularly an article of merchandise movable in trade; a good, or service of any kind, including construction; and

- | 2.1.6 _____ article of trade or commerce; things that are bought and sold.
- | 2.1.7 "Director of ~~Facilities and Operations-Physical Plant~~" means the individual to manage and direct the inventory management of materials, supplies, and equipment, and receipt of inventory for Marshall University.
- 2.1.8 "Essential Service" means something basic; a commodity that is necessary, indispensable, or unavoidable and is purchased in a routine, repetitive, and noncompetitive manner.
- 2.1.9 "F.O.B. Destination" and "Free on Board Destination" mean the seller or vendor must transport or pay for the transportation of the materials, supplies, equipment, services and printing, to the point of destination specified in the contract.
- 2.1.10 "Governing Board" means the institutional board of governors at Marshall University as provided for in the West Virginia state code.
- 2.1.11 "Higher Education Institution" means an institution as defined by Sections 401(f), (g) and (h) of the federal Higher Education Facilities Act of 1963, as amended.
- 2.1.12 "President" means the chief executive officer of Marshall University.
- 2.1.13 "Purchasing Agent" means an individual designated by a Chief Procurement Officer to perform designated purchasing and acquisition functions as authorized by the Chief Procurement Officer.
- 2.1.14 "Responsible Bidder" and "Responsible Vendor" mean a person and/or vendor who have the capability in all respects to perform contract requirements, and the integrity and reliability which will assure good faith performance.
- 2.1.15 "Responsive Bidder" and "Responsive Vendor" mean a person and/or a vendor who has submitted a bid which conforms in all material respects to the invitation to bid.
- 2.1.16 "Single Source" means that the desired product or service is available from only one supplier because of the uniqueness and characteristics of the product or service offered.
- 2.1.17 "Sole Source" means only one vendor can supply the desired product or service.
- 2.1.18 "Statutory Bid Minimum" means the amount in dollars identified in WV Code §18B-5-4 and §18B-5-4a (or their subsequent amended sections) as the value under which purchases do not require competitive bids. As of June 12, 2015, the statutory bid minimum is \$50,000 for general purchases and \$100,000 for construction projects.
- 2.1.19 "Vendor" means a seller of goods and services.
- 2.1.20 "Vice Chancellor for Administration" means that person employed by the Commission with the advice and consent of the Council in accordance with West Virginia Code §18B-4-2. The Vice Chancellor for Administration shall assume all powers and duties that were assigned to the Senior Administrator.

3 APPLICABILITY

- 3.1 This policy applies to all areas within Marshall University.

4 AUTHORITY OF THE GOVERNING BOARD

- 4.1 Pursuant to West Virginia Code §18B-5-4, the Governing Board shall adopt rules governing and controlling acquisitions, purchases and inventory management of materials, supplies, equipment, services, construction, and printing.

5 AUTHORITY AND DUTIES OF THE PRESIDENT FOR MARSHALL UNIVERSITY

- 5.1 The President of Marshall University shall, in the name of the Governing Board, have the authority and duty to:
- 5.1.1 Administer and oversee the purchasing system of the Governing Board;
 - 5.1.2 Recommend to the Governing Board additional rules or modifications as may be required for efficient and cost effective management of purchases, inventorying of materials, supplies, and equipment. ;
 - 5.1.3 Develop administrative manuals, guidelines, procedures, and forms which shall be followed by the institutions for purchase, acquisition and inventory management.
 - 5.1.4 Provide for a periodic audit of the institution for compliance with the rules and policies that have been adopted by the Board and the administrative manuals, guidelines, procedures and forms developed by the Board;
 - 5.1.5 If requested, provide assistance to other institutions in the purchase, acquisition and inventory management of materials, supplies, equipment, services, construction, and printing;; and

6 DELEGATION OF PURCHASING AUTHORITY AND RESPONSIBILITIES

- 6.1 The Governing Board, through the President, or as shall be delegated by him or her, shall purchase or acquire materials, supplies, equipment, services, construction, and printing as required by that Governing Board. The Governing Board shall have fiduciary responsibility to ensure that purchases and acquisitions are made within the limits of available appropriations and funds in accordance with applicable provisions of West Virginia Code §5A-2-1 et seq., and for the inventory of materials, supplies and equipment.
- 6.2 In order to assist the Governing Board in carrying out its duties, obligations and responsibilities under this policy, the Board may, by resolution of the Board, delegate authority to the President of Marshall University who shall have overall control and management of the institution's purchases, inventory. The President shall appoint the Director of Purchasing as the University's Chief Procurement Officer to assist the President in carrying out the duties, obligations and remedies imposed by the Governing Board and this rule. This appointment shall be made in writing and filed with the State Auditor and the Attorney General.

- 6.3 Unless otherwise stated in writing by the President, the Chief Procurement Officer shall have full authority to act as the designee of the President for purchase, acquisition, supplies, equipment, services, construction, and printing, as may be required by the institution. Contractual signature authority shall be held solely by the President, the Chief Legal Officer, Chief Financial Officer, and the Chief Procurement Officer. Others may be designated by the President for approval of specific contracts.

7 AUTHORITY, DUTIES AND REMEDIES OF THE CHIEF PROCUREMENT OFFICER

- 7.1 The Chief Procurement Officer shall, unless otherwise stated in writing, have full authority to act in matters of institutional purchasing as the designee of the President and shall serve as the central procurement officer for the institution.
- 7.2 The Chief Procurement Officer may appoint buyers and delegate authority to them as designees, or to any department within the University. Delegation of authority by the Chief Procurement Officer, and any limits thereupon, shall be in writing and filed with the State Auditor and the Attorney General. Responsibility for ensuring institutional compliance with the West Virginia Code and this rule shall rest with and be the responsibility of the Chief Procurement Officer.
- 7.3 As required by law and this policy, and consistent with administrative manuals, guidelines and procedures developed by the Board, the Chief Procurement Officer shall have the duty and/or authority to:
- 7.3.1 Purchase and contract for the materials, supplies, equipment, services, construction and printing required by Marshall University;
 - 7.3.2 Establish administrative procedures for purchases not exceeding the statutory bid minimum;
 - 7.3.3 Review specifications and descriptions before soliciting bids or proposals to ensure that they are competitive and fair and do not unfairly favor or discriminate against a particular brand or vendor;
 - 7.3.4 Advertise and post or otherwise make available notices for bids on all purchases exceeding the statutory bid minimum, or all purchases for which competitive bids or proposals are being solicited by the University's purchasing office;
 - 7.3.5 Maintain the purchasing files;
 - 7.3.6 Accept or reject any and all bids in whole or in part;
 - 7.3.7 Waive minor irregularities in bids, bidding documents and/or specifications;
 - 7.3.8 Apply and enforce standard specifications;
 - 7.3.9 Prescribe the amount of deposit or bond to be submitted with any bid or contract;
 - 7.3.10 Prescribe contract provisions for liquidated damages, remedies and/or other damages provisions in the event of vendor default;
 - 7.3.11 Exempt from competitive bidding purchases of materials, supplies, equipment, services and

printing purchased from within state government, from West Virginia sheltered workshops,

from cooperative buying groups and consortia, and from the federal government or federal government contracts when price, availability and quality are comparable to those on the open market;

- 7.3.12 Perform chemical and physical tests on samples submitted with bids and samples of deliveries to determine compliance with specifications, if deemed necessary and prudent;
- 7.3.13 Hear and render opinions on vendor complaints and protests;
- 7.3.14 Register vendors with the Purchasing Division of the Department of Administration in accordance with the West Virginia Code;
- 7.3.15 Apply the preference for resident vendors required by the West Virginia Code;
- 7.3.16 File contracts and purchase orders that exceed the dollar limit required for competitive bidding with the State Auditor;
- 7.3.17 Submit contracts and purchase orders to the Attorney General for approval as to form or administrative procedures and guidelines as may be required by law.
- 7.3.18 Apply and enforce other applicable provisions of state and federal laws pertaining to purchases.
- 7.4 Remedies that are available to the Chief Procurement Officer when appropriate circumstances arise include:
 - 7.4.1 In the event that a vendor fails to honor any contractual term or condition, the Chief Procurement Officer may cancel the contract and re-award the contract to the next lowest responsible and responsive bidder;
 - 7.4.2 Vendors failing to honor contractual obligations may be held responsible for all differences in cost;
 - 7.4.3 Declare a vendor or bid non-responsible or non-responsive and refuse to award a purchase order. All such instances shall be substantiated in writing giving the reason(s) thereof, and such documentation shall be considered a public document available for inspection at all reasonable times; and
 - 7.4.4 Suspend, for a period not to exceed one (1) year, the right of a vendor to bid on purchases when there is reason to believe that such vendor has violated any of the provisions of the terms and conditions of a contract, this rule and/or state law.

8 PURCHASE OR ACQUISITION OF MATERIALS, SUPPLIES, EQUIPMENT, SERVICES, CONSTRUCTION AND PRINTING

- 8.1 Unless otherwise authorized by law, all purchases or acquisitions of materials, supplies, equipment, services, construction and printing shall be awarded by competitive bidding, except as provided in the following paragraphs of this rule:
 - 8.1.1 (a) Purchases not exceeding the statutory bid minimum;

8.1.1.1 The Chief Procurement Officer shall establish administrative procedures for purchases not exceeding the statutory bid minimum. These procedures shall provide for obtaining adequate and reasonable records to properly account for funds and to facilitate auditing. They shall be approved by the President and be on file in the University's purchasing office and made available to the public upon request.

8.1.1.2 Purchases in this category do not require competitive bids under \$50,000. Signed quotations may be required for all non-contract material purchases exceeding \$25,000. Fax and electronic signatures are acceptable.

8.1.2 (b) Competitive Proposals

8.1.2.1 For purchases exceeding the statutory of \$50,000.01 bid threshold, competitive bids are the preferred method of procurement; however, if it is either not practicable or advantageous, a contract may be entered into by a request for proposals. These projects that are considered construction would still require a performance bond. The words "practicable" and "advantageous" are to be given ordinary dictionary meanings. The term "practicable" denotes what may be accomplished or put into practical application. "Advantageous" connotes a judgmental assessment of what is in the institution's best interest. The key element in determining advantageousness will be the need for flexibility.

8.1.2.2 The request for proposal method of purchasing is used to obtain goods and services when sufficient knowledge or expertise does not exist to adequately specify the details of the desired result. The desired result is written into the request for proposals. The vendor responds to the request for proposals with a proposal identifying its intended approach to meet the desired result along with a proposed price or fee. Terms and conditions of the contract shall be included in a request for proposals, along with a pre-established award criteria based on value or points. Whenever desirable, interviews may be conducted with interested parties for clarification and/or determination of qualifications and experience prior to award. Requests for proposals go beyond price alone. They also look at the vendor's ability and resources to furnish the desired service to get the desired result. Quality of service and performance are important considerations. Requests for proposals are primarily used for large dollar projects requiring a high level of expertise on the part of the vendor.

8.1.3 (c) Competitive selection procedures for professional services;

8.1.3.1 The competitive selection procedure for professional services is similar to the process used for competitive proposals; however, greater weight is given to the ability to perform the service as reflected by technical training, education and experience, and in some cases, artistic and aesthetic values and capabilities. In these cases, price may be a secondary consideration.

8.1.3.2 Architectural, engineering, and other consultant services for projects estimated to cost in excess of \$625,000 shall be procured through an Expression of Interest.

8.1.3.3 Emergency Exception: If a decision is made that special circumstances exist, and that seeking competition is not practicable, the agency may, with prior approval of the Purchasing Director, select a firm on the basis of previous satisfactory performance and knowledge of the facilities and the agency's needs. (State Code 6.3.1.1 D)

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8.1.4 (d) Sole source and single source procurement;

8.1.4.1 The Chief Procurement Officer may approve the purchase of materials, supplies, equipment, services, construction and/or printing directly from a vendor without

competitive bid or proposals, if any of the following conditions exist:

- 8.1.4.1.1 the item cannot be obtained through ordinary purchasing procedures;
- 8.1.4.1.2 the item is of unique nature and not available from any other source; or
- 8.1.4.1.3 the item is available from a state spending unit or other institution with preference under the West Virginia Code, provided the price, availability and quality are comparable to those in the open market.
- 8.1.4.1.4 Direct Award: A direct award is a method of procurement that allows a contract to be issued to a vendor without competitive bidding when circumstances allow. Agencies are encouraged to solicit competition through an RFO rather than process a direct award request but may make a direct award if the following steps are followed:
- 8.1.4.1.5 A. The spending unit requests in writing approval from the Purchasing Division to process a direct award.
- 8.1.4.1.6 B. The spending unit documents written justification showing that the direct award is in the best interest of the state.
- 8.1.4.1.7 C. The spending unit documents written justification showing that there is no other source or that no other source would be willing or able to replace the existing source without a detrimental effect on the spending unit.
- 8.1.4.1.8 D. The intent to make a direct award is publicly advertised for no less than 10 business days in the State of West Virginia Purchasing Bulletin, which can be found in the Vendor Self Service portal with Marshall University Office of Purchasing.
- 8.1.4.1.9 E. No other vendor expresses an interest in providing the commodity or service in question. (State Code 6.3.2 A, B, C, D, and E)
- 8.1.4.1.10 Direct Award Exceeding the Delegated Limit: All direct award solicitations exceeding the agency's delegated limit must be processed centrally through the Purchasing Division. The agency must complete the Direct Award for Consideration (WV65) form, have it approved and signed by the agency's designated procurement officer, and then submit it to the Purchasing Division for review and approval.
- 8.1.4.1.11 Once the WV-65 is approved and sent back to the agency, the agency must submit a requisition to the Purchasing Division in Marshall University Office of Purchasing, which will be used to advertise the direct award procurement for no less than 10 business days and must include a copy of the WV-65, a signed quote, and a copy of any contractual documents proposed by the vendor.
- 8.1.4.1.12 If a vendor expresses an interest in providing the commodity or service during the advertisement period, the Purchasing Division will determine the validity of the request and whether the solicitation will need to be canceled and bid competitively.

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8.1.4.1.38, 8.1.4.1.13 The Certification of Non-Conflict of Interest and the Purchasing Master Terms and Conditions should be submitted after WV-65 has been approved by the Purchasing Director and returned to the agency. The agency should not negotiate any of the terms and conditions with the vendor until the Purchasing Division has reviewed and approved the potential purchase for advertisement. (State Code 6.3.2.1)

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8.1.5 (e) Emergency procurement;

8.1.5.1 Emergency purchases exceeding the statutory bid minimum must receive the prior written approval of the Chief Procurement Officer unless made according to subparagraph 8.1.5.3. An emergency situation requiring purchase of materials, supplies, equipment, services, construction or printing must be the result of unforeseen events or circumstances, including delays by contractors, delays in transportation, or an unanticipated volume of work. Emergency purchases shall not be used for hardship resulting from neglect, poor planning or lack of organization by the spending unit. Competitive bids must be obtained if possible.

8.1.5.2 The University shall maintain a purchasing card or cards for use in and for situations declared an emergency by the President. Such emergencies may include but are not limited to partial or total destruction of a campus facility; loss of a critical component of utility infrastructure; heating ventilating, or air conditioning failure in an essential academic building; loss of campus road, parking lot or campus entrance; or a local, regional, or national emergency situation that has a direct impact on the campus.

8.1.5.3 In the event of an emergency declared by the President of Marshall University, the President or his or her designee may authorize the use of an emergency purchasing card by a designated representative in accordance with the procedures set forth in the State Auditor's Legislative Rule for the purchasing card program.

8.1.6 (f) Open end, consortium, buying group, and federal contracts; and

8.1.6.1 Marshall University may enter into open end contracts for materials, supplies, equipment, services, construction and/or printing to supply their respective needs in the form of statewide contracts, blanket orders or price agreements. Once issued, purchases and acquisitions may be made from these contracts without securing any other bids or quotations. These contracts may be made available to other institutions for their use.

8.1.6.2 The University may, without securing any other bids or quotations, make purchases from cooperative buying groups, consortia, the federal government and from federal government contracts if the materials, supplies, equipment, services, and printing to be purchased are available from these groups, consortia, or the federal government and its contracts, and if this is the most financially advantageous manner of making the purchase.

8.1.7 (g) Essential services.

- 8.1.7.1 Essential services (commodities in this category may include, but are not limited to routine, regularly scheduled payments) may be purchased and paid for by the University without securing competitive bids or proposals or issuing purchase orders. Administrative procedures will provide additional guidance on these types of purchases.
- 8.1.8 (h) Purchasing Card
- 8.1.8.1 The Chief Financial Officer shall establish administrative procedures relating to payment. All current purchasing policies must be followed regardless of payment method. The state purchasing card may be used as a purchasing and payment method as provided in applicable provisions of West Virginia Code §12-3-10a and b, §18B-5-4 (u) and §18B-5-9(d).
- 8.1.8.2 The University shall maintain a purchasing card or cards that may be used for emergencies declared by the President in accordance with WVC §18B-5-9 (d) (3).

8.2 Purchases Greater than the statutory bid minimum

8.2.1 Competitive bidding is the preferred method for purchase and acquisition of materials, supplies, equipment, services, and printing greater than the statutory bid minimum. The Chief Procurement Officer shall advertise for bids on all purchases exceeding the statutory bid minimum. The advertisement shall appear no less than 5 calendar days prior to the date bids are due.

8.2.1.1 Institutions are encouraged to advertise for at least 15 calendar days prior to the date bids are due. (HEPC 5.3.7.2)

8.2.1.2 If a pre-bid conference is advertised as mandatory, only those vendors who attend the conference are eligible to bid. A list of the attendees shall be made for the purchasing file. Addenda and supplemental information issued after the mandatory pre-bid conference should be distributed only to those vendors who are eligible to bid. Mandatory pre-bid conferences should be held when bidders need to be made aware of unique circumstances, conditions, and situations that cannot adequately be explained in the RFQs, RFB, RFP or REOI. (HEPC 5.3.10.2)

8.2.1.3 Addenda: During the bid process, it may be necessary to alter the solicitation. Alterations to the solicitation require a formal written addendum, which must be generated by the agency to address the change. The addendum is advertised and issued to all prospective bidders by the Purchasing Division.

Addenda can be used to add, delete, or change specifications or attachments; publish a copy of the pre-bid meeting attendee list; answer technical questions or seek requests for clarification or product substitutions (the latter on construction projects); extend or alter bid schedule dates/times; and more.

The agency must notify the Purchasing Division buyer of the requested change. The buyer will then post the addendum in Marshall University Office of Purchasing. When submitting a request for an addendum to the Purchasing Division, the agency should provide the following where applicable.

Specification changes, additions, or noted deletions.

Pre-bid meeting attendee list.

An attachment listing each technical question with corresponding answers.

Revised or added sketches, drawings, and/or charts.

Upon receipt, review and approval, the Purchasing Division will issue the addendum in Marshall University Office of Purchasing.

Documentation for addenda should be received by the Purchasing Division from the agency no less than seven calendar days prior to the current scheduled bid opening date. For complex transactions, such as construction bids, Requests for Proposals, or complex Requests for Quotations, the agency should submit the addenda no less than 14 calendar days prior to the current scheduled bid opening to allow vendors ample time to prepare and submit bid responses inclusive of the change(s). The Purchasing Division may, at its discretion, extend the bid opening date if determined to be in the best interest of the state of West Virginia. (State Code 6.2.1.3)

8.2.1.4 Proposal preparation time shall be set to provide vendors with a reasonable time to prepare their proposals. Thirty calendar days is recommended but the CPO/DOP shall provide no less than 14 calendar days. (HEPC 5.6.1)

8.2.1

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- 8.2.2 The Chief Procurement Officer shall, in addition to advertising, post or otherwise make available notice of all acquisitions and purchases for which competitive bids are being solicited in the University's purchasing office no less than 5 calendar days prior to making such purchase and shall ensure that the notice is available to the public during business hours.
- 8.2.3 Bids shall be delivered to the specified location for receipt of bids by the bidder prior to the date and time of the bid opening according to the instruction contained in the request for bids and any addenda or modifications officially issued.
- 8.2.4 Bids not properly delivered or received after the required time and date shall not be opened and shall be returned to the bidder.
- 8.2.5 The bid shall be signed by an authorized agent of the bidder. A corporate signature without an individual's name and signature shall not be construed as an acceptable signature.
- 8.2.6 Paper, facsimile or electronically transmitted bids are acceptable for bids over the statutory bid minimum, unless the specifications provide other instructions for such submissions in the request.
- 8.2.7 A bidder may make a written modification to a bid prior to the bid opening, provided modifications are made by the bidder in such a manner that the bid price is not revealed or known until the bid is opened. Written modifications must be received by the Chief Procurement Officer prior to the date and time of the bid opening. Facsimile and electronically transmitted modifications are acceptable if the bid price is not revealed.
- 8.2.8 Originals or copies of bids shall be available for public inspection after the bid opening.

Vendors may designate in writing with the bid submission information contained within the bid constituting trade secrets, pursuant to West Virginia Code §29B-1-4(1), which shall be exempt from disclosure. The purchasing files shall be open for public inspection after the award has been made, except for information qualifying for the exemption set out above.

- 8.2.9 The Chief Procurement Officer may reject an erroneous bid after the bid opening upon request of the bidder if all of the following conditions exist:
- 8.2.9.1 an error was made;
- 8.2.9.2 the error materially affected the bid or proposal;
- 8.2.9.3 rejection of the bid or proposal would not cause a hardship on the institution other than losing an opportunity to receive materials, supplies, equipment, services, construction and/or printing at a reduced cost; and
- 8.2.9.4 enforcement of the part of the bid or proposal in error would be unconscionable. In order to reject a bid or proposal, the purchasing file must contain documented evidence that all of the above conditions exist.
- 8.2.10 Price and other adjustments shall be allowed on any purchase order if specific provisions for adjustments have been incorporated in the prescribed forms and the purchase order. All such requests for adjustments shall be made in accordance with the specific terms and conditions of the individual purchase order. In the event no provision for adjustments has been made, discretion to grant adjustments shall rest with the Chief Procurement Officer.
- 8.2.11 Every person, firm or corporation selling or offering to sell to the University materials, supplies, equipment, services, construction and printing, upon competitive bid or otherwise, in excess of the statutory bid minimum per order, shall be registered with the West Virginia Department of Administration, Purchasing Division, pursuant to West Virginia Code §18B-5-5 and §5A-3-12. Purchase orders in excess of the statutory bid minimum may not be issued to any vendor not properly registered with the State of West Virginia.
- 8.2.12 Contracts, purchase orders and associated documents such as performance and labor/material payment bonds and certificates of insurance are not required to be approved by the Attorney General provided standard terms and conditions or standardized forms previously approved by the Attorney General are used.
- 8.2.13 Contracts and purchase orders that exceed the amount set forth in West Virginia Code §18B-5-4 for competitive bidding shall be filed with the State Auditor.

8.3 Specifications and Awards

- 8.3.1 Specifications shall be written to maximize and encourage competition. In certain cases, a "brand name or equal" may be used as a specification.
- 8.3.2 All purchases and acquisitions shall be made in consideration of and within limits of available appropriations and funds and in accordance with applicable provisions of West Virginia Code §5A-2, relating to expenditure schedules and quarterly allotments of funds.

- 8.3.3 Award shall be made to the lowest responsible and responsive vendor. Unit prices shall prevail in all cases when there is a conflict between the unit price and extended price. In some cases multiple and/or split awards may be made when determined to be in the best interest of the institution. Occasionally, purchase orders may be issued which impose no obligation to take delivery of a product and/or service and as such, these purchase orders shall be issued as blanket purchase orders or price agreements. In situations where vendors are competing to provide a service that will generate income for an institution, the award shall be made to the highest responsible and responsive bidder, taking into consideration the above factors.
- 8.3.4 The Chief Procurement Officer may accept or reject, in whole or in part, any bid or proposal when he or she believes it to be in the best interest of the institution. If any bid or proposal is rejected, a written explanation shall be placed in the purchasing file.
- 8.3.5 When tie bids or proposals are received, the tie shall be broken and an award made by allowing the tied vendors to make a "best and final offer." If a tie bid is not broken by a "best and final offer," then the tie may be broken by a flip of a coin, draw of the cards or any other impartial method deemed prudent by the Chief Procurement Officer.
- 8.3.6 Except for exemptions granted in the West Virginia Code, all material, supplies, equipment, services and printing made upon competitive bids or proposals shall be subject to any resident vendor preference set forth in the West Virginia Code.
- 8.3.7 The Chief Procurement Officer shall determine the applicability and amounts of bonds and/or deposits required of a vendor at any time, if, in his or her judgment, such security is necessary to safeguard the institution from undue risk. The Chief Procurement Officer may require the vendor to submit a certified check, certificate of deposit, performance bond, or any other security acceptable to the Chief Procurement Officer, payable to the institution. Personal checks and/or company checks are not acceptable. When a contract has been satisfactorily completed on which a surety bond or other deposit has been previously submitted, the spending unit shall certify the completion in writing to the Chief Procurement Officer. The Chief Procurement Officer, upon receipt of the notification, shall return the check or deposit to the vendor.
- 8.4 Vendor's Rights and Duties
- 8.4.1 Each vendor is solely responsible for delivery of its bid or proposal to the designated location for receipt of bids or proposals prior to the specified date and time of the bid or proposal opening.
- 8.4.2 If there is a conflict between the extension price and the unit price, the unit price shall prevail.
- 8.4.3 Any changes made by the vendor in the specifications listed in the bid request must be clearly stated. If changes are not stated, it will be assumed that items offered meet the specifications in all respects.
- 8.4.4 Vendors are responsible for the accuracy of the information in their bid or proposal and on the bid or proposal envelope.

8.4.5 All sales to the University are exempt from West Virginia consumer sales tax or excise tax by blanket state exemption and blanket federal exemption.

8.4.6 It is the vendor's exclusive duty and obligation to file protests and requests for reconsideration according to the requirements of Section 9, and for reconsideration of suspension, in accordance with the requirements of Section 10 of this rule; otherwise, they shall be waived.

8.5 Vehicle Purchase

8.5.1 The purchase and leasing of motor vehicles shall be consistent with the Department of Administration's Procedural Rule on State Owned Vehicles, Title 148, Series 3. This rule guidelines and procedures are adopted by the University.

8.6 Procurement File

8.6.1 The Chief Procurement Officer shall maintain a purchasing file for each procurement or acquisition. This file shall contain all relevant information pertaining to such purchase or acquisition, including but not limited to:

8.6.1.1 bids, proposals or quotations received in response to a request for bids or proposals;

8.6.1.2 identification and certification of the successful bid;

8.6.1.3 why any bid or proposal is rejected in whole or in part;

8.6.1.4 justification for award to other than the lowest vendor; and

8.6.1.5 vendor protests or complaints.

8.6.2 The purchasing file shall be a public record open to inspection during normal business hours. No records in the purchasing file shall be destroyed without the written consent of the Legislative Auditor, except as set forth in subparagraph 8.6.3.

8.6.3 Those files in which the original documentation has been held for at least one year and in which the original documents have been reproduced may be destroyed without written consent of the Legislative Auditor. All files, no matter the storage method, shall be open for inspection by the Legislative Auditor upon request.

8.7 Lease-Purchase Arrangements

8.7.1 The University may enter into lease-purchase arrangements for capital improvements, including equipment, regardless of value, without the approval of the Higher Education Policy Commission in accordance with West Virginia Code §18B -19-11(c).

8.7.2 Lease-purchase arrangements shall be made in accordance with West Virginia Code §18B-5-4 (d and e) and §18B -19-11.

8.7.3 Lease-purchase agreements exceeding the minimum value stated in WV Code §18B -19-11(c) (or its subsequent amended section) must be approved as to form by the Attorney

General in accordance with WV Code §18B -19-11(c).

8.8 Lease Agreements for Grounds, Buildings, Office Space, Classrooms

- 8.8.1 The University has the authority to enter into lease agreements, as lessee, for grounds, buildings, office space or other space in the name of the State for more than one fiscal year but not exceeding forty years under the following conditions:
- 8.8.1.1 Marshall University shall be responsible for all rent and other necessary payments in connection with the contract of lease; and
- 8.8.1.2 Sufficient grounds, buildings, office or other space is not available on University property or in buildings currently owned or leased.
- 8.8.2 Before executing any rental contract or lease, the University shall do the following:
- 8.8.2.1 Determine the fair rental value of the grounds, building, office space or other space to be leased in the condition in which they exist, and shall contract for or lease the premises at a price not to exceed the fair market value;
- 8.8.2.2 Leases shall contain, in substance, all of the following provisions:
- 8.8.2.2.1 That the University, as lessee, has the right to cancel the lease without further obligation on the part of the lessee upon giving thirty days' written notice to the lessor at least thirty days prior to the last day of the succeeding month;
- 8.8.2.2.2 That the lease shall be considered canceled without further obligation on the part of the lessee if the Legislature or the federal government fails to appropriate sufficient funds for the lease or otherwise acts to impair the lease or causes it to be canceled; and
- 8.8.2.2.3 That the lease shall be considered renewed for each ensuing fiscal year during the term of the lease unless it is canceled by the University before the end of the then-current fiscal year.
- 8.8.3 The University, which is granted any grounds, buildings, office space or other space leased in accordance with West Virginia Code §18B-5-4 may not order or make permanent changes of any type unless the Governing Board, as appropriate, has first determined that the change is necessary for the proper, efficient and economically sound operation of the institution. For purposes of this section, a "permanent change" means any addition, alteration, improvement, remodeling, repair or other change involving the expenditure of state funds for the installation of any tangible thing which cannot be economically removed from the grounds, buildings, office space or other space when vacated by the institution. For improvements costing less than the statutory bid minimum for construction projects, the Governing Board delegate's approval authority through the President to the Chief Operations Officer.
- 8.8.4 Leases and other instruments for grounds, buildings, office or other space, once approved by the Governing Board, may be signed by the President, the Chief Operations Officer or the Chief Procurement Officer. Leases and other instruments entered into by the University that exceeds \$1 million over the lease term must receive prior approval of the Governing Board. Leases costing less shall be approved by the Chief Operations Officer.

- 8.8.5 The University shall present to the Joint Committee on Government and Finance a copy of any contract for the purchase of real estate, any lease-purchase agreement and any construction for new buildings or other acquisitions of buildings, office space, or grounds exceeding one million dollars.
- 8.8.6 Any lease or instrument exceeding the minimum value stated in WV Code §18B -19-12(h) (or its subsequent amended section) annually shall be approved as to form by the Attorney General. A lease or other instrument for grounds, buildings, office or other space that contains a term, including any options, of more than six months for its fulfillment shall be filed with the State Auditor.
- 8.8.7 The Governing Board may promulgate additional rules deemed necessary to carry out the provisions of this section, and the President may issue procedures for complying with this section.

9 PROTESTS AND RECONSIDERATION

- 9.1 Protests and requests for reconsideration of a decision made by Chief Procurement Officer may only be made by a person and/or a vendor who is a potential or actual bidder on that particular contract and/or purchase.
- 9.2 Protests
- 9.2.1 Protests based on specifications or improprieties in any type of solicitation which are apparent or should have been apparent prior to the bid or proposal opening or closing date must be filed not later than five calendar days prior to the bid or proposal opening or closing date. A protest of the award must be filed no later than five calendar days following the notice of the University's intent to award the contract as posted or otherwise made available in the institution's Purchasing Office for competitive transactions greater than the statutory bid minimum. Protests filed prior to five calendar days following the notice of intent to award shall be resolved in accordance with this rule before an award is made. Information regarding awards may be obtained from the Purchasing Office, and a vendor contemplating a protest has a duty to obtain this information in a timely manner.
- 9.2.2 The protest must be filed in writing with the Chief Procurement Officer and contain the name and address of the protestor, the requisition number of the bid or the purchase order number, a statement of the grounds for protest and supporting documentation, the relief sought, and if a hearing on the merits of the protest is requested.
- 9.2.3 The Chief Procurement Officer shall review the protest and issue a decision in writing. In the event a hearing on the merits of the protest is requested by the protestor, the Chief Procurement Officer shall set a time and place for the hearing. The hearing shall be recorded and an official record shall be prepared. Following the hearing, the Chief Procurement Officer shall issue a written decision.
- 9.3 Reconsideration
- 9.3.1 Reconsideration of a decision on a protest by the Chief Procurement Officer may be requested by an aggrieved party to the University's Chief Operations Officer. A request for reconsideration shall be made in writing within five calendar days after receiving the Chief

Procurement Officer's written decision, and it shall contain the name and address of the aggrieved party, the requisition or purchase order number, a statement of the grounds for reconsideration with supporting documentation, the relief sought, and if a hearing on the merits is requested.

- 9.3.2 The Chief Operations Officer shall review the request for reconsideration and issue a decision in writing. In the event a hearing on the merits is requested by the aggrieved party, he or she shall set a time and place for the hearing. The hearing shall be recorded and an official record shall be prepared. Following the hearing, he or she shall issue a decision in writing to the aggrieved party and his or her decision shall be final.
- 9.3.3 The Chief Procurement Officer and Chief Operations Officer may refuse to decide any protest or reconsideration where the matter involved is the subject of litigation before a court of competent jurisdiction, or has been decided on the merits by such court. The foregoing shall not apply where the court requests, expects or otherwise expresses interest in the decision of the two.

10 SUSPENSION AND RECONSIDERATION

10.1 Suspension

- 10.1.1 The Chief Procurement Officer shall have authority to suspend, for a period not exceeding one year, the right and privilege of a person to bid on purchases at Marshall University.
- 10.1.2 The following shall be considered adequate grounds for suspension of a vendor:
 - 10.1.2.1 a vendor has exhibited a pattern of poor performance in fulfilling its contractual obligation(s) including, but not limited to, providing or furnishing commodities, materials, or services or construction late, or at a quantity or quality level below that which is specified in the contract, or repeated instances of poor performance; or
 - 10.1.2.2 the vendor has breached any contract entered into pursuant to the provisions of West Virginia Code §18B-5-4 through §18B-5-9 or this policy, or the vendor has been convicted of any federal or state law punishable as a felony if such conviction is directly related to the performance of a contract entered into pursuant to West Virginia Code §18B-5-4 through §18B-5-9 or this policy. Any such suspension must be imposed within one year of the date of the act, omission, or conviction the suspension is based upon, or within one year of the Chief Procurement Officer's discovery of such act, omission, or conviction.

10.2 Reconsideration

- 10.2.1 Reconsideration of a decision on suspension by the Chief Procurement Officer may be requested by an aggrieved party to Marshall University's Chief Operations Officer. A request for reconsideration shall be made in writing within five calendar days after receiving the Chief Procurement Officer's decision and it shall contain the name and address of the aggrieved party, a statement of the grounds for reconsideration with supporting documentation, the relief sought, and if a hearing on the merits is requested.
- 10.2.2 The Chief Operations Officer will review the request for reconsideration and issue a decision

in writing. In the event a hearing on the merits is requested by the aggrieved party, he or she shall set a time and place for the hearing. The hearing shall be recorded and an official record prepared. Following the hearing, he or she will issue a decision in writing to the aggrieved party and his or her decision shall be final.

- 10.2.3 The Chief Operations Officer may refuse to decide any reconsideration when the matter involved is the subject of litigation before a court of competent jurisdiction, or has been decided on the merits by such court. The foregoing shall not apply when the court requests, expects or otherwise expresses interest in the decision of the institution.

10.3 Vice Chancellor for Administration

- 10.3.1 When the University suspends the right and privilege of a vendor to bid on purchases of the University, the Purchasing Office shall forward a copy of the suspension notice to the Chief Procurement Officer of the Higher Education Policy Commission, who shall maintain a record of such suspension and shall notify all institutions as well as the Director of the State Division of Purchasing of such suspension.
- 10.3.2 If the Chief Procurement Officer of the Commission determines that the actions of the vendor leading to the suspension by the University are of a serious enough nature to justify imposition of a system-wide suspension, he or she shall forward the suspension and his or her recommendation to the Vice Chancellor for Administration for review. If the Vice Chancellor for Administration determines that the actions of the suspended vendor justify a system-wide suspension, he or she shall notify the vendor and all institutions of the system-wide suspension.

11 QUALIFICATIONS OF A PURCHASING AGENT AND A CHIEF PROCUREMENT OFFICER

11.1 Buyer

- 11.1.1 No person shall be employed as a buyer unless that person, at the time of employment, is either: (a) a graduate of an accredited college or university; or (b) has at least four years' experience in purchasing for any unit of government or for any business, commercial or industrial enterprise.
- 11.1.2 Any person making purchases and acquisitions pursuant to this section shall execute a bond in the penalty of fifty thousand dollars, payable to the state of West Virginia, with a corporate bonding or surety company authorized to do business in this state as surety thereon, in a form prescribed by the Attorney General and conditioned upon the faithful performance of all duties in accordance with West Virginia Code §18B-5-4 through §18B-5-9 and this policy. In lieu of separate bonds for such buyers, a blanket surety may be obtained. Any such bond shall be filed with the Secretary of State. The cost of any such bond or bonds shall be paid from funds appropriated to the Governing Board.

11.2 Chief Procurement Officer

- 11.2.1 No new person shall be employed as a Chief Procurement Officer unless that person, at the time of employment, is:
- 11.2.1.1 a graduate of and has received a baccalaureate degree from an accredited college or

university; and

- 11.2.1.2 has at least four years' experience in purchasing for any unit of government or for any business, commercial or industrial enterprise.
- 11.2.2 The bonding provisions set forth in subparagraph 11.1.2 shall also apply to any person employed as a Chief Procurement Officer.

12 RECEIVING AND INVENTORY MANAGEMENT

12.1 Receiving

- 12.1.1 The Director of Physical Plant shall establish University administrative procedures for receiving and distributing materials, supplies, equipment, services and printing to departments and offices within the University. These procedures shall be consistent with this policy, and they shall be approved by the President, shall be on file with the Chief Operations Officer Office and made available to the public upon request.

12.2 Inventory Management

- 12.2.1 Effective July 1, 2006, the Director of Physical Plant shall inventory all equipment that has a unit value at the time of purchase or acquisition of \$5,000 or greater. Such inventory shall be kept current at all times. All equipment purchases with a unit value of \$5,000 or more must be purchased inside the University procurement modules.
- 12.2.2 The Director of Physical Plant shall set up and maintain the Marshall University's inventory management system on the basis of generally accepted accounting standards. This system shall also conform to the requirements of the Governing Board, the state and the federal government as applicable.
- 12.2.3 The Director of Physical Plant shall conduct an annual audit of Marshall's inventory with a physical audit of all equipment being accomplished every three years on a cyclical basis.

13 VIOLATIONS

- 13.1 Any person who authorizes or approves a purchase contract in a manner in violation of the West Virginia Code, this rule, or any policy or procedure adopted by the Governing Board shall be personally liable for the cost of such purchase or contract. Purchases or contracts violating the West Virginia Code and/or this rule shall be void and of no effect.
- 13.2 Any person receiving anything of value from a known interested party in the awarding of a purchase order shall be subject to the provisions of West Virginia Code §18B-5-6 and §5A-3--29, -30, -31.
- 13.3 Except as may be authorized by the provisions of Chapter 6B of the West Virginia Code, neither the Governing Board, nor any employee of the University, shall be financially interested, or have any beneficial personal interest, directly or indirectly, in the purchase of any equipment, materials, supplies, services, or printing, nor in any firm, partnership, corporation or association furnishing them. Neither the Governing Board nor any employee of the University shall accept or receive directly or indirectly, from any person, firm or corporation, known by the Governing Board or the University's employees to be interested in any bid, contract or purchase, by rebate, gift or otherwise,

any money or other thing of value whatsoever or any promise, obligation or contract for future reward or compensation.

- 13.4 Any vendor violating the West Virginia Code or this rule may be suspended from the right to bid on or submit a proposal for institutional purchases for a period of up to one year.

14 PERFORMANCE AUDITS

- 14.1 The Governing Board is required by West Virginia Code to conduct an independent performance audit of the University's purchasing functions at least once every three years. A copy of the audit shall be provided to the Joint Committee on Government and Finance and the Legislative Oversight Commission on Education Accountability within thirty days of the date the audit report is completed.

**Marshall University Board of Governors
Meeting of August 5, 2025**

ITEM: Approval of Revisions to Board of Governors
Rule No. FA-5 - Capital Project Management

COMMITTEE: Finance, Audit and Facilities Planning Committee

RECOMMENDED RESOLUTION: *Resolved*, that the Marshall University Board of Governors approve the revisions to Board of Governors Rule No. FA-5 - Capital Project Management.

STAFF MEMBER: Brandi Jacobs-Jones
Senior Vice President for Operations

BACKGROUND:

The purpose of this policy is to establish guidelines, delegate appropriate authority and assign responsibility for the governance, prioritization, financing, planning and management of capital projects at Marshall University. This Rule is being revised to allow for updates related to emergency purchases and bids tasks.

Upon approval of this resolution, this Rule will be posted at <https://www.marshall.edu/policies/> and a comment period will open and remain open until 10:00 am on Wednesday, September 17, 2025. If substantive comments are received, a final policy will be presented to the Board for approval at a subsequent meeting. If no substantive comments are received, the policy will be considered approved in its current form with an effective date of the end of the comment period.

Comments should be sent via email to: commentstorpap@marshall.edu.

MARSHALL UNIVERSITY BOARD OF GOVERNORS

Rule No. FA-5

Capital Project Management

1 GENERAL

- 1.1 Scope: *Establishes the policies and guidelines governing and controlling the planning, programming and management of capital projects at Marshall University.*
- 1.2 Authority: This rule is promulgated under the authority granted in WV Code Section 18B-1-6, 18B-1B-4, and 18B-10-8.
- 1.3 Passage Date: August 22, 2020
- 1.4 Effective Date: August 22, 2020
- 1.5 Controlling over: Marshall University
- 1.6 History: Senate Bill 603 (18B-1B-4a(12)) provides that Marshall University has the authority to adopt its own guidelines concerning extensive capital project management. This policy was originally adopted on June 28, 2006 and was revised August 22, 2020.

2 PURPOSE

- 2.1 The purpose of this policy is to establish guidelines, delegate appropriate authority and assign responsibility for the governance, prioritization, financing, planning and management of capital projects at Marshall University (the University).
- 2.2 These activities shall include but not be limited to:
 - a) developing and updating Campus Development Plans and a capital projects expenditure list;
 - b) authorizing, planning, programming, financing, acquiring, constructing and/or renovating capital facilities and equipment;
 - c) demolition of existing facilities;
 - d) acquisition of real property.

This policy shall also govern lease or lease/purchase arrangements.

3 RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE GOVERNING BOARD AND UNIVERSITY

- 3.1 Campus Development Plan and Revisions Thereto
 - 3.1.1 At the direction of the University president, the University shall develop and submit to the Marshall University Board of Governors (MUBOG) for approval a campus capital project development plan ("Campus Development Plan") covering a planning period of not less than ten years.
 - 3.1.2 A Campus "Development Plan" shall as a minimum address the following considerations:

- a) Relationship of the plan to the University's compact, its institutional master plan, its mission, and its strategic plan.
 - b) A statement of major planning assumptions upon which the plan is based;
 - c) Identification and delineation of anticipated areas of real property acquisition needed to fulfill the institution's mission;
 - d) Identification of major new facilities and potential building sites;
 - e) Renovation, addition to and/or demolition of existing buildings or facilities;
 - f) Site improvements including landscaping, parking, vehicular and pedestrian circulation and access;
 - g) Telecommunications and/or utility and infrastructure improvements; and
 - h) General assessment of deferred maintenance and life safety issues, hazardous materials identification and management, occupational health improvements, and ADA requirements.
- 3.1.3 The Campus "Development Plan" endorsed by the University president and approved by the MUBOG shall be a guideline for capital budget requests, decisions with respect to new building construction, additions, renovation, maintenance, landscaping, parking, vehicular and pedestrian circulation, demolition of campus facilities, acquisition o, etc.
- 3.1.4 If adopted pursuant to §3.1.1 of this policy, a Campus Development Plan shall be updated at least every ten years. All revisions and updates shall be resubmitted to the MUBOG for approval.
- 3.1.5 The University shall report to the MUBOG on its progress in implementing an approved Campus Development Plan.
- 3.2 Capital Plan
- 3.2.1 Five Year Capital Expenditures List
- 3.2.1.1 The University may, at the President's discretion, submit to the MUBOG for approval a five year capital expenditures list identifying the projects it intends to undertake during any five year period, which shall be updated and submitted to the MUBOG yearly. This list shall be based on the long term development objectives and recommendations in its approved Campus Development Plan, if any.
- 3.2.1.2 Once the five year capital expenditures list is approved, it may be used for institutional funding requests to the Legislature.
- 3.2.2 The campus capital projects expenditure list should include:
- a) The yearly prioritization of capital projects, as recommended by the University president and approved by the MUBOG;
 - b) Estimates of the timing, phasing and projected costs associated with individual projects.
- 3.3 Revenue Bonds and Other Financial Instruments
- 3.3.1 The MUBOG may issue revenue bonds and enter into other financial instruments permitted by law which pledge special revenue fees for debt retirement from the institution under its jurisdiction to fund capital improvements, acquire real property

- and to lease/purchase capital equipment.
- 3.3.2 The University, with the approval of the MUBOG, may partner with private developers when there is an advantage to the University. The partnership may include the design, the construction, the financing and the operations/management of the facilities or any combination which best meets the needs of the university as approved by the Board.
- 3.4 Governing Board's Process for Reviewing and Approving Capital Projects in Excess of \$1,000,000
- 3.4.1 Consistent with this policy, the University has developed a process for the review, approval and prioritization of capital projects that ensures that such projects are based on and are consistent with the objectives of its approved Campus Development Plan and the institution's long-range strategic plan. This process includes the preparation of a detailed Program Statement as outlined in Appendix A.
- 3.4.2 No capital project will be taken to the MUBOG for approval until a Program Statement has been prepared and approved by the president of the University.
- 3.4.3 The University shall provide to the Joint Committee on Government and Finance a copy of any contract or agreement for real property exceeding \$1,000,000, and shall upon request make available to said committee a summary of the terms of the contract or agreement, including the name of the owner of the property and the agent involved in the sale.
- 3.5 Capital Project Initiation and Approval for Projects up to \$1,000,000
- 3.5.1 Capital improvement projects with an estimated total cost of \$1,000,000 or less shall be managed by the University. A project which, in the aggregate, exceeds \$1,000,000 is subject to formal MUBOG approval and may not be broken into component parts of less than \$1,000,000 to avoid such approval.
- 3.6 Lease or Lease/Purchase of Capital Facilities and Equipment
- 3.6.1 Advance approval by the MUBOG is required whenever the institution desires to lease or lease/purchase capital facilities or equipment.
- 3.6.2 A Program Statement as outlined in Appendix A must be completed and presented to the University president and the MUBOG for advanced approval prior to formalizing any lease or lease/purchase where aggregate lease payments are in excess of \$1,000,000 over the lease term.
- 3.6.3 Annually, the University shall provide to the Joint Committee on Government and Finance a copy of any contract for the lease-purchase of real property in excess of \$1,000,000 (WV State Code §5-6-4a).
- 3.7 Acquisition and Transfer of Real Property and Facilities, Granting Easements and Rights-of-Way
- 3.7.1 The acquisition of real property and facilities by the University through purchase, sale or exchange, or the granting of permanent easements or rights-of-way, shall require advance approval by the University president and the MUBOG.

- 3.7.2 If so authorized by the MUBOG, utility or other license agreements which are revocable under reasonable terms and conditions, may be approved by the president of the institution.

4 EFFICIENT USE OF FACILITIES AND SERVICES

- 4.1 The University and its respective campuses are encouraged and expected to make the most efficient use of facilities under their control, thereby minimizing the need to construct additional facilities.
- 4.2 The University is also encouraged to enter into inter-institutional and inter-agency agreements for joint use of facilities and services to gain economies of scale and to foster more efficient utilization of resources.

APPENDIX A

CAPITAL PROJECTS PROGRAM STATEMENT

Prior to the process to employ or commission design services for a project, a Program Statement will be prepared, submitted and approved by the President and the Board of Governors to justify any proposed renovation, new facility and/or new addition to a facility in excess of \$1,000,000. This program statement must be documented by outlining the specific need or needs for the expansion or addition. This statement should incorporate the following elements:

- A. Rationale and Case for Project – Provide an explicit description of the program rationale by outlining the specific needs for the program requested. This should include, but not be limited to:
1. Background or history of the existing program and the rationale focus on why the expansion is necessary.
 2. Alignment (fit) of the Proposed Project with the University's Strategic Vision and Priorities.
 3. Existing facilities compared to what expansion of physical facilities is needed.
 4. Description of benefits from program expansion as it relates to the students, faculty, staff, a specific college, Marshall University, the community and the State of West Virginia. This should include any economic impact as well as growth benefits.
 5. Planning Assumptions.
 6. Describe the public value that will be created.
 7. Estimate of proposed costs.
 8. Proposed project schedule.
 9. Proposed site for the project.

Further, all new facilities must be in keeping with the guidelines established in the most recent Ten-Year Campus Development Plan. In order to properly plan the expansion of Marshall University, any deviations from the latest version of the Development Plan must be authorized by the University president and the MUBOG.

In order to foster collegiality, each project must create environments which encourage interaction and discourse among students, faculty and staff. This potential should be recognized in the development of internal and exterior environments as well as be in line with the architecture and history of our campus.

Once Items 1 through 9 of the Program Statement have been reviewed by the President, the President may choose one of the following actions:

- Proceed to soliciting MUBOG approval to continue the project under the "Programming and Design Guidelines" for Capital Projects managed by the University's **Planning and Construction** Office.
- Proceed to soliciting MUBOG approval to continue the project utilizing a private developer; specifying the design/build/financing/ownership/operations of the project and the role of the **Planning and Construction** Office.
- Take the project under further review.
- Remove the project from further consideration.

Appendix B

All Departments of Marshall University, Marshall Health Network, or any entity associated with Marshall University that plans projects that will occur at any property owned by Marshall University, Marshall University Board of Governors, State of West Virginia, Marshall Health Network and/or any other entity of Marshall University whether privately funded, gifted, donated, federal, state or locally funded must go through Operations VP and Planning and Construction. These projects must follow standard practice, regarding stamped drawings for design, must meet all approvals and requirements for contract work required by the State of West Virginia and City of Huntington Business Licensing. Contractors/workers must complete the 13-point qualification statement through the Purchasing Office. Outside vendors who have contracts with Marshall University are also required to meet these criteria. All projects must have a signed contract, meet insured requirements, and be bonded per the State Attorney General and the Office of Purchasing.

- Total collaboration between departments with design team to review drawings through Design Development phase.
- Faculty, Staff, etc. (end users) of new or remodeled space, will have input during programming and schematic design. The use of select committee (end users 3-4) throughout Design Development phase is important.
- Creation of a total project (construction and renovation) list and communicating this list between Housing, Facility Operations, and Planning and Construction. This list should follow the Master Plan.
- Total Project Cost. This lists all costs associated with project such as land acquisition, design fees, legal fees, permits, demo, abatement, utility relocation, construction cost and FF&E.
- Error and Omissions Insurance for designed projects. This procedure or policy is required so architects or engineers are to be held accountable for omitted items in drawings and specifications that cost the university additional cost.
- Planning and Construction will oversee the warranty information for new buildings and /or renovations and distribute it to needed departments. The goal is to have an electronic document that lists all warranties and share it on the Operations Teams site. Planning and Construction will also help contact contractors and work with the department on any warranty work as needed.
- Quarterly walk through on all warranted projects to discuss problems. On new construction projects schedule a 25%, 50% and 75% evaluation walk through for ongoing problems that need attention before warranty expires.
- Verify amounts of “attic stock” on projects and determine storage location with Facilities or Housing.
- Planning and Construction will contact utility companies for new services and oversee installation of services and then pass along to the utility coordinator.
- All projects \$100,000 or over must be evaluated by Planning and Construction for bonding requirements of the State Attorney General.
- No agency shall issue a series of requisitions to circumvent the \$50,000- \$100,000 threshold. Violation of the \$50,000- \$100,000 threshold is commonly referred to as “stringing,” and is prohibited by law. Instances of stringing must be reported to the Legislature.
- Construction thresholds for departments:

- o R&A projects will be up to \$150,000 with approval from the director of Facility Operations or up to \$250,000 with approval from the Senior VP of Operations.
- o Facilities Operations will be up to \$50,000 or up to \$100,000 with approval from the Director of Facility Operations.
- o Housing will be \$50,000 or up to \$100,000 with approval from the Director of Housing.
- o All other self-performing entities (past, present or future) of Marshall University, Marshall Health Network, Athletics, Aviation, Big Green, MAMC, etc. will follow \$50,000 or up to \$100,000 threshold set forth by the Marshall University Board of Governors (FA-3 2.1.18)

**Marshall University Board of
Governors Meeting of August 5, 2025**

- ITEM:** Authorization of Reallocation of Funds from the State Institutions of Higher Education Deferred Maintenance Grant Program
- COMMITTEE:** Finance, Audit and Facilities Planning Committee
- RECOMMENDED RESOLUTION:** *Resolved*, that the Marshall University Board of Governors authorize reallocation of funds from the State Institutions of Higher Education Deferred Maintenance Grant program for projects, as described below.
- STAFF MEMBER:** Brandi Jacobs-Jones
Senior Vice President for Operations
- BACKGROUND:**

In June 2023, the Board of Governors approved the submission of thirty-one (31) deferred maintenance projects under the State Institutions of Higher Education Deferred Maintenance Grant program.

Some of Marshall’s projects came in under budget; therefore, staff now seeks authorization to reallocate funding for projects, as follows:

- Reallocate **\$78,000** from *Morrow Library ADA Upgrades* (WVHEPC-M009) to *Fine Arts Renovations* (WHEPC-M010) for carpeting the balcony curb, installation of electric VAV units, materials, and supplies for additional header to support a heating coil.
- Reallocate **\$60,000** from *Morrow Library ADA Upgrades* (WVHEPC-M009) to *Holderby Hall Demolition* (WVHEPC-M014) to address relocation of electrical line, installation of lighting to replace lights lost due to building demolition, and temporary fire hydrant service.
- Reallocate **\$116,738** from *Student/Band Bleacher Replacement* (WVHEPC-M026) to *Concrete Work* (WVHEPC-M013) for concrete repairs to the Henderson Center due to water infiltration and damage to the building structure.

Authorizing this request will allow Marshall to use and transfer funding from those deferred maintenance projects that came in under budget and reduce other project budgets to address critical needs in other deferred maintenance initiatives.

See attachments for supporting documentation.

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING APPLICATION FOR THE
STATE INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION
DEFERRED MAINTENANCE GRANT**

IN THE MATTER OF AUTHORIZING Marshall University TO APPLY FOR A STATE INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION DEFERRED MAINTENANCE GRANT FROM THE WEST VIRGINIA GOVERNOR'S OFFICE FOR DEFERRED MAINTENANCE AT Marshall University AND DELEGATING AUTHORITY TO THE PRESIDENT TO SIGN THE APPLICATION.

WHEREAS the West Virginia Governor's Office is accepting applications for the State Institutions of Higher Education Deferred Maintenance Grant; and

WHEREAS Marshall University desires to continue participation in this grant program as a means of providing needed maintenance to Marshall University campus facilities; and

WHEREAS, Board of Governors and Institutional Leadership have identified deferred maintenance improvements at Marshall University as a high priority need; and

WHEREAS the highest priority need identified seeks to:

- Reallocate **\$78,000** from *Morrow Library ADA Upgrades* (WVHEPC-M009) to *Fine Arts Renovations* (WVHEPC-M010) for carpeting the balcony curb, installation of electric VAV units, materials, and supplies for additional header to support a heating coil.
- Reallocate **\$60,000** from *Morrow Library ADA Upgrades* (WVHEPC-M009) to *Holderby Hall Demolition* (WVHEPC-M014) to address relocation of electrical line, installation of lighting to replace lights lost due to building demolition, and temporary fire hydrant service.
- Reallocate **\$116,738** from *Student/Band Bleacher Replacement* (WVHEPC-M026) to *Concrete Work* (WVHEPC-M013) for concrete repairs to the Henderson Center due to water infiltration and damage to the building structure.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS OF Marshall University AS FOLLOWS:

The Board of Governors demonstrates its support for the submittal of the grant application for the State Institutions of Higher Education Deferred Maintenance Grant for this project by Marshall University; and

The Board of Governors demonstrates its support to prioritize this project as the highest priority with regard to deferred maintenance at Marshall University; and

The Board of Governors authorizes its President to execute the application for the State Institutions of Higher Education Deferred Maintenance Grant and any other documentation necessary to effectuate submittal of the grant application.

This Resolution shall be effective following its adoption by the Board of Governors.

Passed by the Board of Governors this 5th of August 2025.

ATTEST:

Signature, Board of Governors Authorized Official

Printed Name Title

DMGA 2024-2025
Request for Additional Funding

Institution: Marshall University Date: July 10, 2025

Project Name: Fine Arts Renovations HEPC #/Grant #: WVHEPC-M-009/GRNT 2400001309

Project Funding distributions

Initial request 25%

2nd request 25%

3rd request 25%

4th request 15%

Final request 10% - must include pictures of the project throughout construction.

Special funding requests

Request for additional funding above specified distributions – must include justification that demonstrates the need for a larger distribution.

Budget increase – must include justification for additional money to be added to the budget.

Distribution request (Check all that apply)

Initial _____ 2nd _____ 3rd _____ 4th _____ Final _____

Special request

Distribution increase _____ Budget increase X _____

Funding

Amount Budgeted: \$2,450,500 Current amount being requested: \$78,000

Project Update

Percent Project Complete _____ 75%
(25%, 50%, 75% or 90%)

Progress Report Enclosed (Y/N) _____ N

Progress reports must include benchmarks completed, photographs and a complete accounting of grant funds expended to be submitted to State Auditor's Office

Benchmarks described (Y/N) _____

Photos enclosed (Y/N) _____

HEPC Invoice Enclosed (Y/N) _____

Comments

The Fine Arts Renovation project has exceeded its original budget due to several necessary additions and safety-related updates that were not included in the initial scope. These include the decision to apply carpet instead of painting the balcony curb in the Performing Arts Center, the installation of electric VAV units in place of the originally specified water-based units, the addition of valves on the main piping header in the basement to allow for individual unit isolation, and the materials and labor required to install an additional header to support a heating coil.

This is a formal request to allow Marshall to use and transfer funding from those Deferred Maintenance projects that came in under budget to the Fine Arts Renovation project to cover this additional cost.

HEPC Project Number	WVOASIS Grant Number	Project Name	Original Budget	Pending Transfer Requests	Transfer To	Transfer From	New Budget
WVHEPC-M-009	GRNT 2400001309	Fine Arts Renovations	2,450,500	-	78,000	-	2,528,500
WVHEPC-M-010	GRNT 2400001310	Morrow Library ADA Upgrades	1,213,704	(60,000)	-	(78,000)	1,075,704

Project Contact name: Brandi Jacobs-Jones

Date: 7/10/25

Confirmation that the information contained within this request is true, accurate and that the work and benchmarks completed, to date, were performed in a workmanlike manner and satisfactory is evident by your signature below.

Signature of Authorized Organization – Representative Verifying Accuracy of Information

Brad D Smith
Brad D Smith (Jul 10, 2025 17:50 EDT)

Signature

07/10/2025

Date

Brad D Smith

Printed Name

President, Marshall University

Title

Signature of Authorized WVHEPC Representative

Signature

Date

Printed Name

Title

Signature of Authorized Governor’s Office Representative

Signature

Date

Printed Name

Title

Signature of WVHEPC Director of Facilities and Sustainability

Signature

Date

Printed Name

Title







M-009 Add Funding request Fine Arts 07-10-25

Final Audit Report

2025-07-10

Created:	2025-07-10
By:	Brandi Jacobs (jacobs2@marshall.edu)
Status:	Signed
Transaction ID:	CBJCHBCAABAA-PIF4JZONhc7y7MnpVbbIE6xqTT20BfN

"M-009 Add Funding request Fine Arts 07-10-25" History

-  Document created by Brandi Jacobs (jacobs2@marshall.edu)
2025-07-10 - 8:02:32 PM GMT- IP address: 206.212.5.5
-  Document emailed to bradsmith@marshall.edu for signature
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-  Email viewed by bradsmith@marshall.edu
2025-07-10 - 9:49:27 PM GMT- IP address: 206.212.5.5
-  Signer bradsmith@marshall.edu entered name at signing as Brad D Smith
2025-07-10 - 9:49:59 PM GMT- IP address: 206.212.5.5
-  Document e-signed by Brad D Smith (bradsmith@marshall.edu)
Signature Date: 2025-07-10 - 9:50:01 PM GMT - Time Source: server- IP address: 206.212.5.5
-  Agreement completed.
2025-07-10 - 9:50:01 PM GMT



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FY25 Projection vs Budget

Marshall University

	FY25 Projection	FY25 Budget	\$ VAR
Student tuition and fees (net of scholarships)	\$ 70.1	\$ 74.7	\$ (4.6)
Grants and Contracts	\$ 119.5	\$ 110.2	\$ 9.3
Auxiliary enterprise revenue (net of scholarships)	\$ 40.6	\$ 35.1	\$ 5.5
Other operating revenue	\$ 12.2	\$ 10.3	\$ 1.9
Total Operating Revenues	\$ 242.4	\$ 230.3	\$ 12.1
State appropriations	\$ 76.0	\$ 75.4	\$ 0.6
Federal Pell Grants	\$ 21.9	\$ 17.5	\$ 4.4
Gifts	\$ 1.6	\$ 1.5	\$ 0.1
Investment income	\$ 4.0	\$ 2.5	\$ 1.5
Total Non-Operating Revenues	\$ 103.5	\$ 96.9	\$ 6.6
TOTAL REVENUES	\$ 345.9	\$ 327.2	\$ 18.8
Salaries and Wages	\$ 162.8	\$ 159.6	\$ 3.2
Benefits	\$ 39.6	\$ 38.6	\$ 1.0
Supplies and Other Services	\$ 89.8	\$ 87.0	\$ 2.8
Utilities	\$ 11.7	\$ 10.0	\$ 1.7
Scholarships and Fellowships	\$ 30.4	\$ 23.8	\$ 6.6
Depreciation	\$ 18.6	\$ 18.6	\$ -
Total Operating Expenses	\$ 352.9	\$ 337.7	\$ 15.2
Interest on indebtedness	\$ 7.3	\$ 6.9	\$ 0.4
Fees retained by Commission nonoperating	\$ 0.3	\$ 0.3	\$ (0.0)
Total Non-Operating Expenses	\$ 7.6	\$ 7.2	\$ 0.3
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$ 360.5	\$ 344.9	\$ 15.6
INCREASE/DECREASE in NET ASSETS	\$ (14.5)	\$ (17.7)	\$ 3.2

ANALYSIS

➤ Operating Revenue (+\$12.1M)

- **Grants and Contracts (+\$9.3m):** Due to increased State grant and contract activity driven by higher Promise and WV Higher Education Grants
- **Auxiliary Revenue (+\$5.5M):** Due to increased housing and athletics revenue.
- **Other Revenue (+\$1.9M):** Due to increased School of Medicine activity at MURC.
- **Tuition and Fees (-\$2.5M):** Increased gross tuition offset by the increase in Promise and WV Higher Education Grants reflected in State Grants and Contracts

➤ Non-Operating Revenues (+\$6.6M)

- **State Appropriations (+\$0.6M):** Due to higher indirect appropriations at the School of Medicine.
- **Pell Grants (+\$4.4M):** Due to increase in Pell student enrollment in FY25.
- **Investment Income (+\$1.5M):** Due to Meketa portfolio performance

➤ Operating Expenses (+\$15.2M)

- **Salaries and Benefits (+\$4.2M):** Due to increased headcount as compared to budget and increased benefits due to increased headcount and increases in PEIA employer premiums.
- **Scholarships (+\$6.6M):** Due to increased enrollment in FY25 and increases in funded scholarships including Pell, Promise, and WV Higher Education Grants. Institutionally funded scholarships remained flat to budget.
- **Supplies & Other Services (+\$2.8M):** Primarily due to Cybersecurity expenses of ~\$4M offset. Cybersecurity expenses are fully funded through State appropriation of \$45M.
- **Utilities (+\$1.7M):** Due to increases in usage and prices.

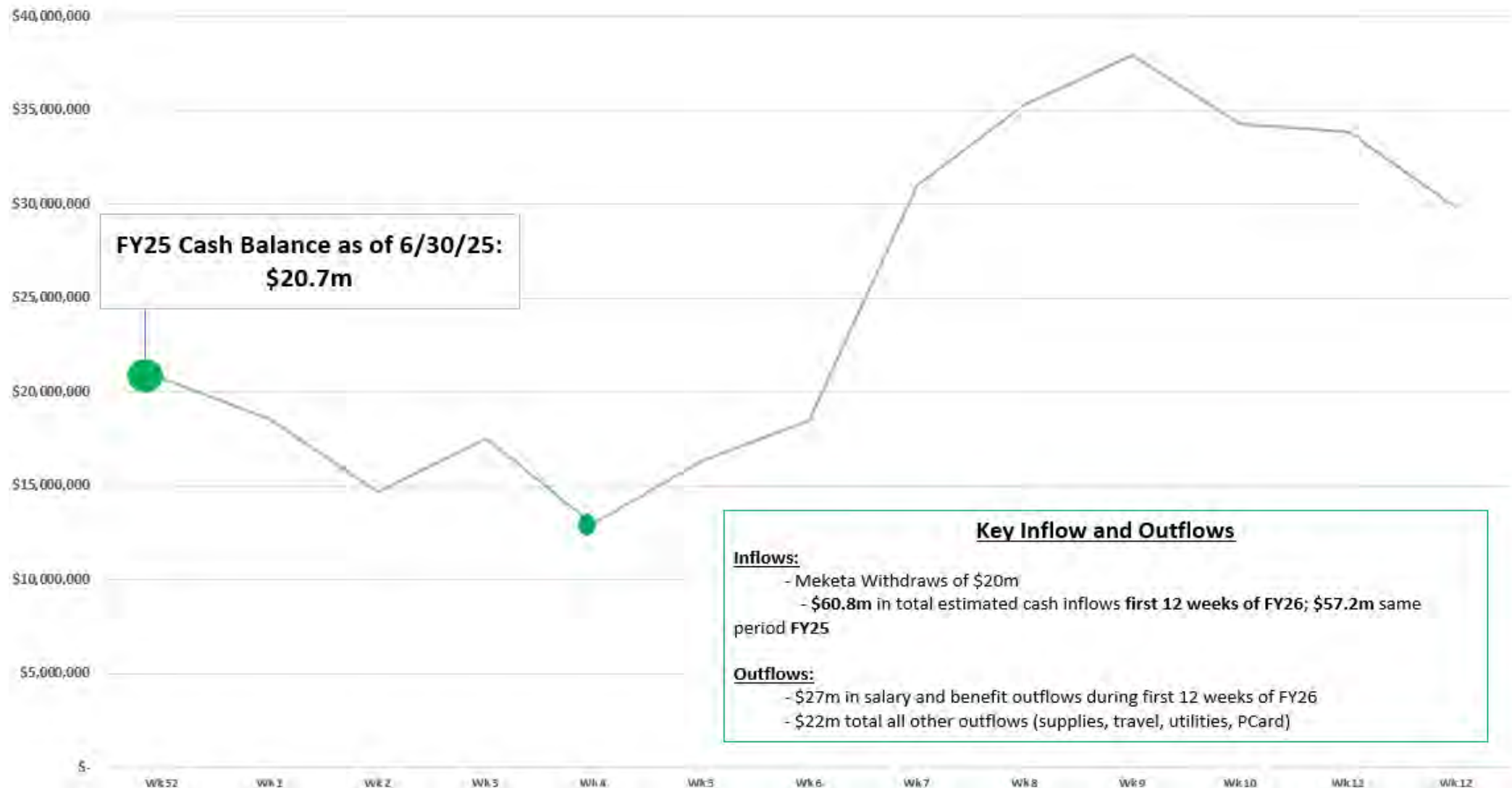
➤ Non-Operating Expenses (+\$0.3M)

- Interest (\$0.4M)



Cash Flow Forecast

First 12 Weeks of FY26



Key Inflow and Outflows

Inflows:

- Meketa Withdraws of \$20m
- \$60.8m in total estimated cash inflows first 12 weeks of FY26; \$57.2m same period FY25

Outflows:

- \$27m in salary and benefit outflows during first 12 weeks of FY26
- \$22m total all other outflows (supplies, travel, utilities, PCard)



Upcoming Key Finance Items

- **Year-End Audit**

- Preliminary field work to begin in July/August
- Full audit field work to begin in September
- Financial Statements delivered on October 15, 2025

- **AI in Finance**

- AWS Partnership to work on a tool to assist campus on procurement documentation and contractual requirements
- OneStream Partnership to provide a proof of concept on an AI Cash Flow forecasting tool
- ChatGPT contract analysis for GASB 96 - SBITA





Marshall University

Accelerating Individual Success, Innovative Ideas and Economic Impact

*August 5, 2025
Board of Governors Meeting
Facilities and Operations Update*



Enduring Financial **PRINCIPLES**

1. Grow STUDENTS, Not Fees.

- ✓ Minimize tuition and fee increases.
- ✓ Institutional success is measured by our accessibility, affordability and lifetime value for the students we serve.

2. Invest in our TEAM.

- ✓ Align employee compensation with market.
- ✓ Incentivize for performance and living the Marshall University Creed.

3. Take Care of the HOUSE.

- ✓ Investments in facilities are essential to the university mission.
- ✓ Invest in innovative technologies to meet modern challenges.

4. Manage our Strategic RESOURCES.

- ✓ Build key reserves for fiscal and operational resiliency.
- ✓ Invest available resources to new market driven opportunities.

Take Care of the House

PROJECT UPDATES

HEPC Project Number	Project Name	Projected timeline	Status
WVHEPC-M-001	Electrical Sys Upgrades-Emergency Generators/Safety - Phase I	February 2024 to November 2025	
	Emergency Generators/Safety - Phase I-Public Safety		Design Phase Paused - Budgets have come in higher than anticipated, project paused; team is looking at moving a generator from another building to the location.
	Emergency Generators/Safety - Phase I-Drinko Library		Budgets have come in higher than anticipated, project paused, discussion regarding need for possible larger fuel tank system, Fuel tank controls to be installed by DSO.
	Emergency Generators/Safety - Phase I-Prichard Hall		On schedule - Nitro Construction selected for work, two week shut down began May 27 and will last thru June 9. Shut down had no complications
WVHEPC-M-002	Campus Buildings Fire Alarm System Upgrades	February 2024 to November 2025	
	Corbly Hall		On Schedule - Work is complete; all invoices processed
	Morrow Library		On Schedule - PO Complete, parts delivered.
	Myers Hall		On Schedule - PO Complete, Parts stored on campus; next project
	Prichard Hall		On Schedule -Fire Alarm components have been installed, addressing programming issues associated with elevator.
	Smith		On Schedule - PO Complete; parts delivered and billed
	Sorrell		On Schedule - PO Complete; parts delivered and billed
WVHEPC-M-003R	Elevator Modernization	February 2024 to November 2025	
	Elevator Modernization-Corbly Hall		On Schedule - Site visits completed by potential vendors; Kone selected to complete work, materials to arrive week of July 28
	Elevator Modernization-Harris Hall		On Schedule - Site visits completed by potential vendors; TKE selected to complete work, final paperwork rec'd from vendor, materials to arrive week of July 28
	Elevator Modernization-Science Building		On Schedule - Site visits completed by potential vendors; Otis selected to complete work; final paperwork rec'd from vendor and PO received and shared with vendor on 2/28. Vendor notified projects are delayed, materials to arrive in September.
WVHEPC-M-04	Chiller Replacement	January 2024 to August 1, 2025	
	Smith Hall Chiller Replacement		Chiller installed and operational; punch list received from A&E, and vendor is completing
	Drinko Library Chiller Replacement		Chiller installed and operational; punch list received from A&E, and vendor is completing
WVHEPC-M-005	Laidley Hall Demolition	February 2024 to May 2024	Project Completed
WVHEPC-M-007	Henderson Center E Level Sanitary Pipe Replacement	February 2024 to November 2025	Work ongoing, Horizontal pipe on E Level has been replaced; Horizontal and Vertical pipe on C Level has been replaced; work continues on horizontal and vertical pipes on A level.
WVHEPC-M-008	South Charleston Roof Replacement (Both Buildings)	February 2024 to April 2025	Work is ongoing, minor delays due to Winter weather events
	South Charleston Roof Replacement-Academic		On Schedule - Roof complete, Kalwall to be delivered mid-August
	South Charleston Roof Replacement-Administration		Building complete

Take Care of the House

PROJECT UPDATES

HEPC Project Number	Project Name	Projected timeline	Status
WVHEPC-M-009	Fine Arts Renovations	February 2024 to October 2025	On Schedule - work is ongoing
WVHEPC-M-010	Morrow Library ADA Upgrades	February 2024 to November 2025	On Schedule - (Change) ; advertising anticipated mid-November; delayed caused by elevator evaluation; Civil Design work complete; meetings occurring between Pickering and ZMM to coordinate in conjunction with Storm Water Improvements project (M-016); BOI, Inc successful vendor, waiting on bonds
WVHEPC-M-011	Smith Hall Classroom Locks	May 2024 to January 2025	Completing building
	Fine Arts Locks	May 2024 to January 2025	Completed December 2024
WVHEPC-M-012	Erma Ora Byrd Floor Renovations	March 2024 to March 2025	Project complete, awaiting final paperwork
WVHEPC-M-013	Smith Hall Concrete Work (Exterior ADA Ramp)	May 2024 to April 2025	Project complete, awaiting final paperwork
	Henderson Center Concrete Work	May 2024 to Spring 2025	Pickering is reviewing steps for repair
WVHEPC-M-014	Holderby Hall Demolition	February 2024 to November 2025	On Schedule - Demo began June, building is down, Sullivan is conducting clean up of remaining debris
WVHEPC-M-015	Memorial Student Center Restroom Repairs & Renovations	February 2024 to November 2025	On Schedule - Paint complete, Ceiling grid complete, ceiling pads complete, wall tile 90%, grout 75% complete, lighting complete; work continues on schedule, awaiting delivery of doors
WVHEPC-M-016	Stormwater Improvements Phase I	February 2024 to November 2025	On Schedule - Awaiting PO for CJ Hughes for work to begin
WVHEPC-M-017	MRI Building HVAC Replacement	January 2024 to March 2025	100% Complete, awaiting final paperwork
WVHEPC-M-019	Classroom Repair/Renewal Campus-wide Phase I	Feb, 2024 to Feb, 2025	Team is work on repairs for CH436,435,408,407,467,304,302,330,336,243,244; ceiling and floor underway and working on electrical and ventilation repairs
	Restroom Repair/Renewal Campus-wide Phase I	March, 2024 to March, 2025	Team is reviewing available funding to determine next set of rooms
WVHEPC-M-023	Old Main Structure Repairs - Phase I	January 2024 to January 2025	Neighborgall on site, work ongoing
WVHEPC-M-024	Science Building Air Handler Units	January 2024 to July 2025	On Schedule - Floor 1 (AC 1-2) and floor 2 (AC 3-4) complete; Floor 3 (AC 5-6) demo underway and installation to follow
WVHEPC-M-025	Drinko Library/ Gullickson Hall Roof Replacement	March 2024 to Summer 2025	On Schedule - Drinko work on ongoing; Gullickson Hall Harris Bros. successful vendor, waiting on signed contract.
WVHEPC-M-026	Student/Band Bleacher Replacement	March 2024 to March 2025	All bleachers installed

MU Internal Audit BOG Informational Report August 5, 2025

1 ACTIVITY SINCE THE LAST MEETING

- A. Advisory Services – No advisory projects during this reporting period.
- B. Audit Projects – Year-end audit draft schedule preparation and data collection for Statement of Cash Flows, Compensated Absences, and Tuition Revenue estimation.
- C. Other – No significant Whistleblower Hotline activity for this reporting period.

2 PLANNED ACTIVITIES BEFORE THE NEXT MEETING

- A. Monitoring of Whistleblower Hotline.
- B. Adhere to planned activities in the approved Audit Plan and Continued Monitoring of other Institutional Activities. The focus for the upcoming period will be on Year-End Audit activities.
- C. Other Audit and Consulting projects as requested.

3 PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES

- A. Nothing attended in the current reporting period.

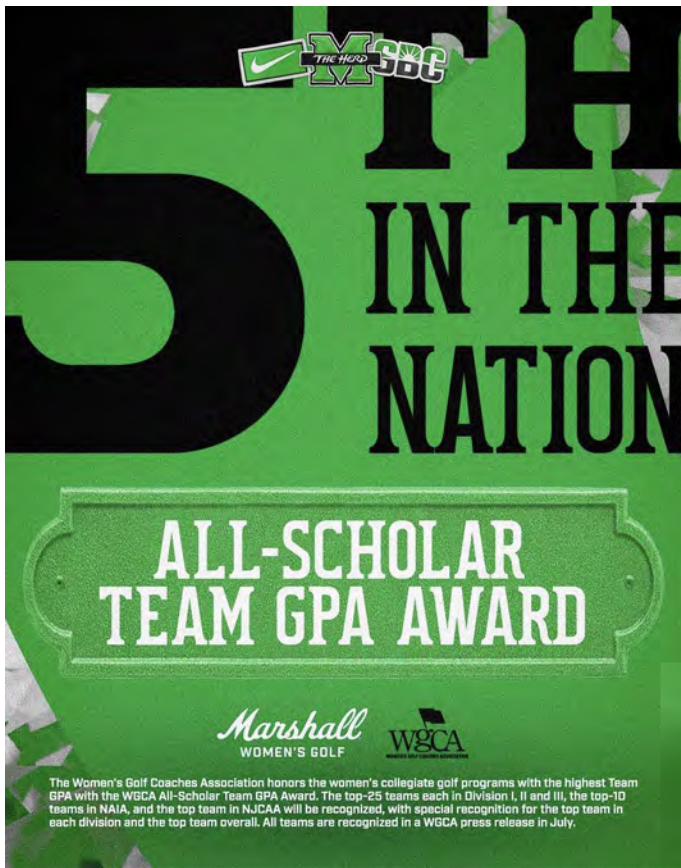
BOARD OF GOVERNORS

August 5, 2025



Debra Boughton
Executive Associate AD, Championship
Planning and Resources





Marshall Cross Country/Track and Field Programs Earn
USTFCCCA All-Academic Status

Athletic Teams Updates

National Issues and NCAA Legislation Updates



HOUSE SETTLEMENT TIMELINE

- October 18, 2024 – Notice of settlement
- December 17, 2024 – Deadline to file for litigation expense reimbursement
- January 31, 2025 – Claims period closes
- March 3, 2025 – Parties deadline to respond to objections / opt outs
- April 7, 2025 – FINAL APPROVAL HEARING
- May 15, 2025 – Final installment of back pay damages
- **July 1, 2025 – Begin revenue sharing and roster limits (permissive standards)**
 - Roster Limit challenges to settlement
 - High scrutiny on scholarship protections
 - International student-athletes and direct NIL
 - Designated student-athletes
 - *Change for Champion* / Deloitte NIL GO system



NCAA HOUSE SETTLEMENT



Decision-Making Principles

- **NCAA Framework**
- **Meet Sunbelt Conference Priorities**
- **Consider Title IX Implications/Equity & Accountability**
- **Ensure Competitive Programs are Competitive**
- **Fiscally Achievable Investment, considering**
 - University Priorities
 - 50/50 Model
 - Measure Department as Marketing Tool
 - NCAA Scholarship Protections Legislation
- **Determine Athletic Programs of Distinction**



IMPLEMENTATION TIMELINE & PROCESS

Marshall Athletic Department

- Option Two - rollout year (FY26)
 - Adopt roster limits across all sports
 - Future financial aid agreements with rules changes caveat
 - Establish baseline investment for decision making
 - Review and re-distribute financial aid components
- FY27 and beyond
 - Re-distribute financial aid components within future financial aid agreements
 - Move identified sports to tuition-only model
 - Create alternate revenue streams within Thunder Trust operation to create revenue share funding



ACTUAL STATE

Roster Comparisons by Sport

Sport Program	House Roster Limit	Actual Roster Numbers	Difference
Football	105	104	(1)
Men's Basketball	15	15	-
Women's Basketball	15	14	(1)
Baseball	34	36	2
Softball	25	21	(4)
Women's Volleyball	18	18	-
Men's Soccer	28	29	1
Women's Soccer	28	28	-
Men's Golf	9	7	(2)
Women's Golf	9	6	(3)
XC/Men's Track	45	48	3
XC/Women's Track	45	48	3
Men's Cross Country	0	0	-
Women's Cross Country	0	0	-
Women's Swim and Dive	30	28	(2)
Women's Tennis	10	8	(2)
	416	410	(6)

NOTE: From Roster Management Totals spreadsheet as of 7/25/2025. For track programs, used max of 45 participants for modeling: assuming that 17 cross country roster spots also compete indoor and outdoor.



Budget Update



Budget Update Schedule

First Quarter 2025 Financial Statement – December 2024

Second Quarter 2025 Financial Statement – February 2025

FY 2024 NCAA Membership Financial Report Overview/Training – April 2025

Third Quarter 2025 Financial Statement – June 2025

Fourth Quarter 2025 Financial Statement – October FINAL 2025 (to align with university)

Financial Statements reporting in coordination with campus financial services and reporting categories in line with NCAA Membership Financial Reporting System (MFRS).



Pivot Don't Panic Update

***YOU CAN BE SATISFIED ANY TIME YOUR SYSTEM IS RUNNING
SYSTEMS ARE THE BEST FOR MAKING PROGRESS***

—James Clear, Atomic Habits

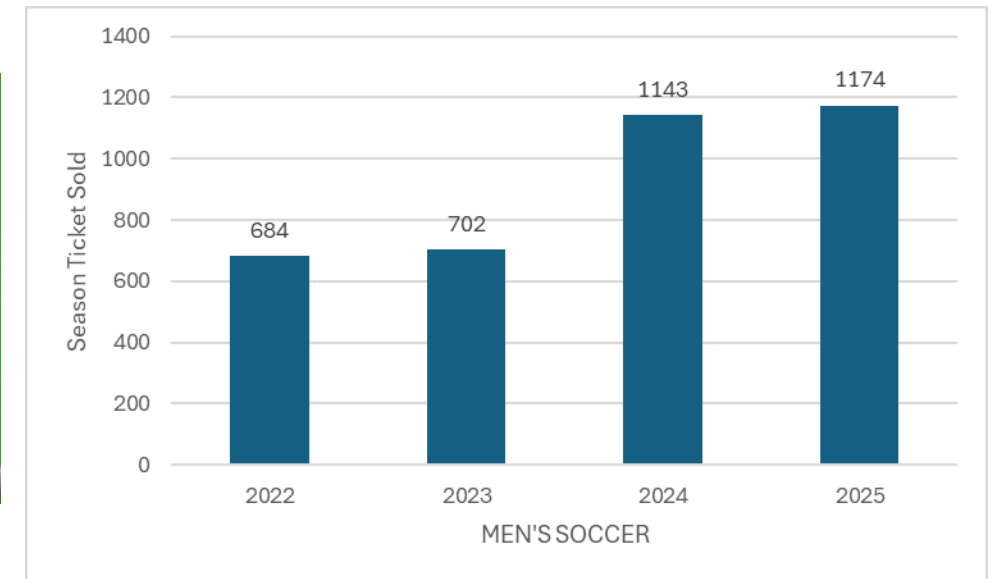
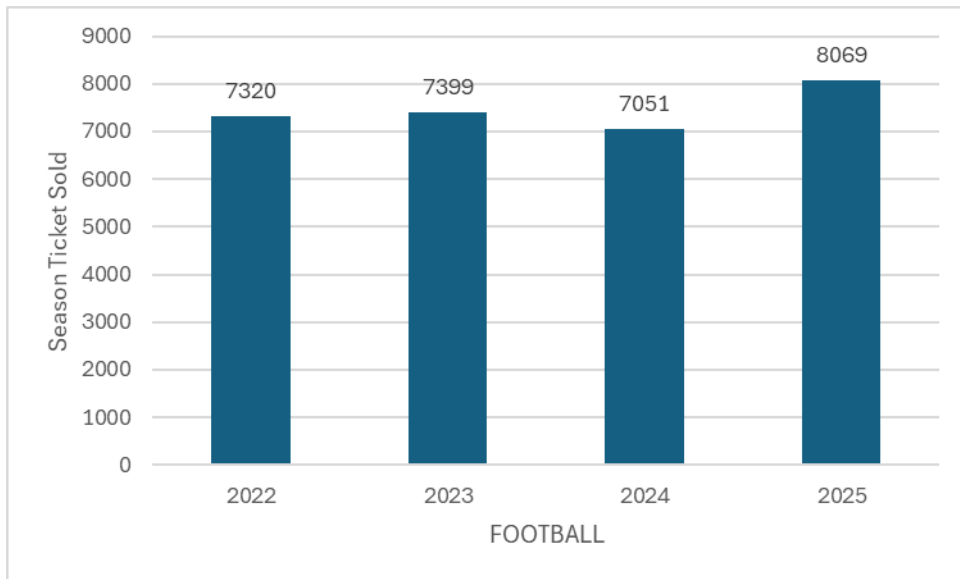
- 1) Monthly Check-Ins with University Chief Financial Officer
- 2) Banner Rules & New Coding for internal and external reporting
- 3) Power BI – *incoming! University budget to actual reports with encumbrances*



EARLY TICKET SALES “YAYs”

*FANS FIRST: CHANGE THE GAME, BREAK THE RULES AND
CREATE AN UNFORGETTABLE EXPERIENCE*

— Jesse Cole, Fans First/Savannah Bananas



Single-Game 2025 Football Tickets On Sale This Week

Football - July 22

Capital Projects Update



24-25 FACILITIES COMPLETED

- TENNIS LOCKER ROOM RENOVATIONS
- VIDEOBOARD – SOCCER
- SEATING UPGRADES @ CAM HENDERSON CENTER
- SAFE TO STAY WITH THE HERD – CONCOURSE EXPANSIONS @ JOAN C. EDWARDS STADIUM & HOOPS FAMILY FIELD
- MEN'S AND WOMEN'S BASKETBALL OFFICE AND LOCKER ROOM ENHANCEMENTS
- PATHWAY 3.0 @ CAM HENDERSON CENTER



Dedication



25-26 FACILITIES IN PROGRESS

- *DUTCH MILLER DECK*
- *GOLF HITTING & PRACTICE FACILITY @ GUYAN COUNTRY CLUB*
- *HERD FUEL 3.0 – GULLICKSON WEIGHT ROOM*
- *NEW BASKETBALL ARENA FLOOR*





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