West Virginia University students received the most individual nationally recognized scholarships in 2012 than in any other year.

The University had nine students earn prestigious scholarships:

- Five students—Lisa Beans, Danielle Capano, Alanna Markle, Jeremy Munza and Stefni Richards—received a Fulbright Scholarship. Markle is actually the first WVU student in more than a decade to receive a research/study grant from the Fulbright Foundation.

- WVU can also celebrate two Goldwater Scholars—Tonia Ahmed and Jessica Carr. Those two are part of a group of five chemistry and math double majors at the University.

- For the fourth straight year, the Mountaineers can boast a Boren Scholar, as Chelsea Hodgkins was awarded the scholarship this year, as well.

- “I ended up having far more opportunities than I thought I would. WVU has really exceeded my expectations, especially when it comes to international exposure, progressive thinking and faculty involvement,” said Markle. “There were so many international opportunities that I got to experience because of WVU. Some would think WVU would be a bit impersonal, because it’s such a large institution. But, in my experience, it’s the opposite.”

- “It’s really surreal, because I feel like as a student you’re continually working toward your future. Each and every time you do something it makes you think either ‘wow this hard work is paying off’ or ‘wow, I need to do something differently,’” said Hodgkins, a Sudlersville, Md., native. “To see my hard work go in my favor is very humbling.”

WVU junior international studies and political science major Ben Seebaugh was named a Truman Scholar in 2012.

“I’ve always looked at the Truman Scholar honor with such admiration. In fact, when I’d meet a Truman Scholar, I’d say, ‘wow, you’re a real Truman Scholar. I want to be just like you,’” said Seebaugh. “I dreamed about this day, and I dreamed about what it would feel like. It’s like whenever you get your driver’s license, whenever you turn 21—it’s a milestone in my life.”

West Virginia University students can now grant access to relevant student records via a new parent/guest portal as of July 1.

The parent/guest portal will allow students to grant proxy access to STAR—WVU’s student information system. Students can grant access to information in categories such as grades, financial aid, housing, dining and billing.

“This portal will allow a more user-friendly and streamlined experience for everyone involved,” said Katie Gallagher, parent relations director in the WVU President’s office. “It’s going to be much easier for the students and parents, as well as staff members at WVU who provide assistance in our student service units.”

Through the new portal, students will...
Dear Mountaineer Parents Club members,

As the semester begins, BIG things are happening here at West Virginia University. For example, as I’m sure you have heard by now, on July 1, we became an official member of the Big 12 Conference. As you can imagine, the new membership is creating quite a buzz with our students.

As we transition to the Big 12, I have included a “Big 12 tip list” to help you and your student make a smooth transition to college life...

1. Encourage your child to do well and set expectations. Whether you are a parent of a first year student or an upperclass student, this is an important conversation to have.

2. Encourage your student to go to class! The number-one predictor of academic success continues to be regular class attendance.

3. Encourage your student to establish regular study habits from the start. The key to effective studying isn’t cramming, but scheduling study time just as class time is scheduled.

4. Encourage your student to read, read and read some more! First, it is important to read, the material that the teachers assign your students; they give it for a reason.

5. Encourage your student to take advantage of study resources on campus. Tell them to find out about our Academic Resource Centers. The Academic Resource Centers are an excellent way for students to receive free, walk-in tutoring for many subjects, including, math, biology, chemistry, geology, physics, statistics, and general engineering.

6. Encourage your student to get to know their professors and advisors. Professors and advisors can be valuable resources. The connections students make in college can carry long after graduation. Students who establish a relationship with professors tend to enjoy class more, be more motivated to do well and get better grades. Advisors can help avoid repeating or taking unnecessary courses, and professors and advisors also make great job references.

7. Encourage your student to get involved in campus life. Remember, not all learning occurs in the classroom. Encourage your student to contact our Student Organizations Services to find out about our 300 student organizations—from service honoraries and Greek organizations to international groups and club sports. Involvement will help them in the classroom because they will have a sense of belonging to WVU. In addition, the WVU Center for Civic Engagement provides opportunities for students to get involved in volunteerism, service learning, and other community outreach efforts.

8. Encourage your student to maintain physical and mental well-being. The Student Recreation Center offers a number of healthy, fun activities—weight/fitness equipment, six-lane fitness and leisure pools, a climbing wall, elevated jogging track, intramurals, outdoor trips, Zumba, and much more—and some of you might have been involved in the Adventure WV outdoor orientation program this summer. Well WVU: The Students’ Center of Health also offers many helpful resources such as, medical appointment, psychological and psychiatry services, and substance abuse prevention and intervention.

9. Get involved in your local MPC Chapter. Whether your student is a freshman or a senior, the MPC is great way to be more closely connected during your student’s college experience. Staying involved in your local Chapter will help create will help you develop a closer relationship with other WVU families and a support network. You will probably find that you have a lot in common with them as you enter this next phase of your child’s life.

10. Like our WVU Mountaineer Parents Club Facebook page. The MPC Facebook page is another way to stay connected and informed on upcoming events.

11. Attend Fall Family Weekend. During this annual event, October 5-7, 2012, WVU parents will have the chance to get a first-hand look at life as a WVU student. Many activities are planned for the whole family and it is a great time to experience what it is truly like to be a Mountaineer.

12. Send your student good old snail mail!! Although students are texting and tweeting, there is still nothing like the feeling of opening the mailbox and finding something there. Brighten up your student’s day by sending an old picture of them or a short note or card saying how proud you are of them. Most students will also appreciate care packages or gift cards.

Sabrina M. Cave, Executive Director

Sabrina M. Cave, Executive Director

Fall 2012 Issue
The Mountaineer Parents Club newsletter is a free publication for Mountaineer Parents Club members. It is a joint project of WVU Foundation, Enrollment Services, University Relations, and Mountaineer Parents Club. Letters and suggestions are welcome. Send mail to: Editor, Mountaineer Parents Club newsletter, PO Box 6240, Morgantown, WV 26506 or parentsclub@mail.wvu.edu.

Funding for this newsletter was provided in part by the Susan B. Hardesty Parents Club Endowment. West Virginia University is governed by the West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission and the WVU Board of Governors. West Virginia University is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Institution. Designed by University Relations/Design.
West Virginia University is about to head west. As of July 1, the Mountaineers are in the Big 12 Conference. WVU will take on new universities like Oklahoma and Texas from now on and begin to build new rivalries with its Midwestern peers.

“The move into the Big 12 is exhilarating for everybody involved. You’re joining a really rich heritage and you’re bringing your own rich heritage along,” said Big 12 Commissioner Bob Bowlsby when visiting Morgantown earlier this summer. “This is a special place.”

The Mountaineers’ first fall sports season in the Big 12 gets underway on Aug. 17 when the women’s soccer team takes on La Salle at Dick Dlesk Soccer Stadium. West Virginia’s first Big 12 battle takes place in volleyball, as the team faces Texas at home on Aug. 29.

“I’m really excited about the Big 12. It is really competitive and I think it will be really good for our program. We will get to see a lot of new teams and new places and it will be fun and challenging,” said volleyball player Karly Rasmussen. “I’m expecting bigger crowds and louder crowds in volleyball—it will be fun.”

WVU fans, families and students should wear their favorite gold and blue apparel on Aug. 31 as part of College Colors Day.

The next day, the Mountaineer football team takes on Marshall in the Friends of Coal Bowl at Milan Puskar Stadium to open the 2012 season.

Students from the Southern New Jersey Parents Club enjoy a great Summer Send-off with the WVU Mountaineer.

Let’s Go Mountaineers!

Photo courtesy of Ed McMahon
**Tobacco-Free Campus**

The West Virginia University Board of Governors approved a policy prohibiting tobacco use by employees, students and visitors on the main campus beginning July 1, 2013. The change amends an earlier decision by the Board to approve a similar policy on the Health Sciences Center campus.

The policy extends to the premises owned, operated, leased or occupied by WVU. However, an exemption can be made for events that attract a large number of off-campus visitors, with the approval of the vice president for administration and finance, provided smoking is restricted to designated outdoor smoking areas. That could include concerts and athletic events.

The current policy does not extend to the divisional campuses; however, the president has the authority to extend it once appropriate input and comment have been obtained.

Cessation programs and resources will also be available to employees and students. Also approved was an amendment to WVU’s sexual harassment policy, now a sexual misconduct policy. The change to the policy will broaden it to cover all types of sexual discrimination and misconduct, not just sexual harassment.

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**WVU receives in-kind software gift with a commercial value of more than $425 million**

Benjamin M. Statler College of Engineering and Mineral Resources students will now be able to use the same product lifecycle management software in their classrooms that is utilized by leading companies around the world thanks to Siemens PLM Software’s in-kind software grant with a commercial value of more than $425 million, the largest in-kind grant in the history of the institution.

The in-kind grant was provided by Siemens PLM Software’s Global Opportunities in PLM, a program that delivers PLM technology to more than one million students yearly at more than 11,000 global institutions, where it is used at every academic level—from grade schools to graduate engineering research programs.

The software will be integrated in two Statler College departments: the Department of Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering and the Lane Department of Computer Science and Electrical Engineering. It is estimated that the grant will immediately benefit more than 700 students throughout WVU.

“We extend a huge thank you to Siemens PLM Software for this generous gift of advanced engineering software used by some of the most successful companies in the world,” said WVU President Jim Clements. “Our students in the Statler College will now have additional opportunities to learn and train on applications used by industry experts, adding even more real-world experiences to their academic pursuits.”

For counting purposes in the “A State of Minds” campaign, the commercial value of the software gift—in-kind was significantly discounted, a common practice among university foundations across the country.

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**Portals (continued from page 1)**

have an opportunity to set their own FERPA passphrase that will replace any existing five-digit FERPA pins that current students may have developed during their freshman year. The old five-digit pins are set to expire on Sept. 15. All students will be notified via MIX email to log on to the new parent/guest portal and establish or reestablish what FERPA access they wish to grant.

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act regulations are designed to safeguard student information by ensuring it is only used when necessary.

WVU employees will ask only for the new FERPA passphrase instead of the FERPA pin number from callers to student service offices to authenticate the identity of the caller as of Sept. 15.

“Even if you’re about to be a senior, and you’ve had this five-digit pin number for three years, you will still have to create a new passphrase,” Gallagher said.

With online access to adjust specific access, start and stop dates, and reset FERPA passcodes, students can adjust access to parents/guests anytime and those changes will be made instantly.

“This will be a wonderful opportunity for families to be better connected when it comes to student information,” said Sabrina Cave, executive director of the Mountaineer Parents Club.

A parent/guest will have the opportunity to log onto the account and pay any necessary fees or bills at any time so long as the student permits access.

If a student does not permit access, the parent won’t be able to see any student information.

“The parent/guest portal allows students to securely share information with their parents,” said Brice Knotts, director of Student Systems Management.

“Parents now have a convenient way to view the information their student has shared with them.”

All WVU campuses will be affected by this change—not just Morgantown.

For more information, visit [http://parent-guest.portal.wvu.edu/](http://parent-guest.portal.wvu.edu/). On the website, you will see important directions for students, parents and guests, step-by-step tutorials and frequently asked questions.

For more information on FERPA rules and regulations, visit [http://ferpa.wvu.edu/](http://ferpa.wvu.edu/).
WVU has a lofty goal for the next few years—raise $750 million.

President Jim Clements joined WVU Foundation representatives in June to announce the official kickoff of a comprehensive campaign to raise private dollars for the state’s flagship university and its regional campuses through December 2015.

“A State of Minds: The Campaign for West Virginia’s University” will ensure WVU’s continued prominence in delivering high-quality education and building pathways for innovation, research and opportunities between the state, nation and world,” Clements told a group of several hundred invited guests at a campaign kickoff luncheon at the Morgantown Event Center.

“Now, more than ever, in our current economic climate, donor generosity is helping us fulfill our land-grant mission to West Virginia,” he said.

“A State of Minds” is the largest private fundraising campaign in WVU’s history. The $750 million goal is three times larger than the previous “Building Greatness” campaign from 1998-2003.

To date, $538 million has been raised during the silent phase of the campaign that began July 2007.

Fundraising will focus on six University-wide campaign priority areas that align with the University’s 2020 Strategic Plan for the Future:

- Enhance the undergraduate student experience and global education
- Advance the research initiative of the University
- Enable WVU to improve West Virginia’s health, economy and quality of life
- Foster faculty excellence
- Enhance WVU through professional and graduate education
- Support healthcare through research, education and patient care

Visit www.astateofminds.com for information on how you can help support the campaign.

Foundation President and CEO Wayne King announces $538 million already has been raised in the ‘silent phase’ of the campaign which began in July 2007.

Music alumna Lydia E. Weisser and her husband, Roland J. “Bud” Weisser, an alumnus of the School of Medicine, have established an endowment in the WVU School of Music to fund the James Miltenberger Piano Scholarship, honoring Professor of Piano James Miltenberger, who celebrated his 50th year on the WVU music faculty this past academic year. The first scholarship will be presented for the 2012-13 academic year to an undergraduate or graduate student studying piano in the College of Creative Arts.
Join us for a BIG time in Mountaineer Courtyard for Alumni Game Day!

You’ve heard it all around: BIG things are happening at WVU. To celebrate, we’ll be doing it up BIG for WVU alumni and fans for all home football games as part of our Game Day celebrations at The Erickson Alumni Center! Join us in the Mountaineer Courtyard for delicious food, as well as great entertainment and a wonderful environment that is sure to get you geared up for BIG-time Mountaineer football! WVU’s U-92 Radio Station also will be broadcasting live.

The cost for the Alumni Game Day celebration is just $20 per game and includes entrance to the event, a game day souvenir, one boxed meal, and iced tea/water. Additionally, soda, beer and a limited cash bar will be available. Season passes are just $125 (for seven games). For more information or to register online, visit http://alumni.wvu.edu/game-day.

The Blue Man Group is coming for Fall Family Weekend!! Be sure to join us for this amazing event. Information on how to purchase tickets will be available on the Fall Family Weekend website at http://familyweekend.wvu.edu/

Photo credit: ©Paul Kolnik

Jonathan Kimble

Hometown—Franklin, WV

Best Mountaineer moment so far—The Big 12 Media Days in Dallas, Texas

Most looking forward to as the Mountaineer—Firing off the gun and having the whole team run out on the field to start off Mountaineer Football

Favorite place on campus—Rec Center

The best fans are from... West Virginia!

Since taking over on April 26, how many events have you attended as the Mountaineer? Over 150 in my first three months!

Favorite color/s? Blue

Favorite Food/s? Deer meat and brownies

Favorite Mountaineer tradition? Singing “Country Roads” after the game
Did you know?

Check out the new WVU fan shirt for 2012. As WVU heads to the Big 12, wear the official fan shirt with pride as the Mountaineers take their competition to the next level in a new conference. You can purchase the shirt at a local WVU Nike retailer or online at http://shopwvu.com. Make sure to buy your official fan T-shirt prior to the Mountaineers’ Gold Rush football game on Nov. 17 vs. Oklahoma.

The 2012 Foundation Scholars were announced during a ceremony May 22 at Blaney House. They are Tess McCloud of Bluefield, Joy Wang of Charleston, Eric Kinney of Bridgeport, Clara Beth Novotny of Falling Waters, and Emily Vandevender of Smoot. The scholarship, WVU’s most prestigious, is valued at $75,000 and provides full tuition and fees plus room-and-board to five of the best and brightest West Virginia high school seniors.

Dean’s List/President’s List—More than 5,200 students were recognized on the Dean’s List, including more than 1,600 who received President’s List honors, for the spring 2012 semester. To see if your student made the list, visit http://www.nis.wvu.edu/deanslist/. West Virginia students are searchable by county. Students must have a GPA of 3.5 or higher in 12 credit hours of graded courses with no incompletes or withdrawals to be named to the Dean’s List.

The WVU Foundation has announced the recipients of its 2012 Outstanding Philanthropy awards. The awards, first presented in 2005, were established to honor donors who display exceptional generosity, commitment, leadership and proven records of outstanding civic and charitable devotion to WVU. This year’s recipients are: Stuart M. and Joyce N. Robbins, Milan Puskar Outstanding Philanthropists; Bob Huggins, Outstanding Volunteer Philanthropist; Jeanne G. and Lawson W. Hamilton Jr. Family Foundation, Hazel Ruby McQuain Outstanding Philanthropic Foundation; and Siemens PLM Software, Outstanding Philanthropic Corporation.

Meet the new Student Government Association President and Vice President: Zach Redding, a junior political science student from Hanover, Pa, and Jarred Zucarri, a junior multidisciplinary studies student from Fairfax, Va.

WVU Alert is the Web-based text message alert notification system available to every student, faculty and staff member and others who are regularly on campus. The system enables University officials to notify students and employees of an emergency quickly. Parents can be a part of this notification as well. Just follow this link for more information: http://emergency.wvu.edu/alert/

The Mountaineers will kick off the season on September 1 as they host the Marshall University! Students should be sure to come and hang out at the Student LOT. Located on Oakland Street across from the Ronald McDonald House, the LOT will be open before most home football games, opens three hours before kick-off and closes 30 minutes before kick-off. Free food and drinks, live entertainment, and great prizes and giveaways will be available this football season. The LOT is an alcohol-free zone, and a student ID will be required to enter the Student LOT. Students are permitted to bring one guest.

Let’s Go Mountaineers!!!

2012 Calendar of Events

- September 3, 2012, Labor Day Recess
- October 5 – 7, 2012, Fall Family Weekend
- October 7, 2012, Fall Ring Day
- November 6, 2012, Election Day Recess
- November 17 – 25, 2012, Thanksgiving Recess
- December 9, 2012, December Convocation
- December 10 – 15, 2012, Final Examination Week
WVU Baseball—Big changes are in store for the upcoming 2013 WVU Baseball season. New head coach Randy Mazey became West Virginia University’s 19th head baseball coach in June 2012. Mazey comes to WVU after head coaching stints at East Carolina (2004-06) and Charleston Southern (1994-96), and most recently as an associate head coach under Jim Schlossnagle at TCU. Also new for this year, the Mountaineers play nine Big 12 Conference games at the minor league Appalachian Power Park in Charleston. Those games are: Texas Tech (March 22-24), Oklahoma (May 3-5) and TCU (May 10-12). For more on baseball, visit: http://www.wvusports.com/teams.cfm?sport=baseball

WVU Men’s Soccer—The West Virginia University men’s soccer team began the new season with new opponents in a new conference—the Mid-American Conference (MAC). Ranked #23 in a preseason poll from Soccer America and #18 from TopDrawerSoccer.com, WVU opens the 2012 season with the WVU Nike Classic against Hartford on Saturday, Aug. 25, at 7 p.m. at Dick Dlesk Soccer Stadium. WVU’s home opener is one of three matches designated as “Dollar Days,” with all tickets, hot dogs, popcorn and Coca-Colas available for purchase for just one dollar each. The other “Dollar Days” are: Sept. 15 vs. American, 7 p.m. and Oct. 7 vs. Buffalo, 1 p.m. The home opener against Hartford also is “Poster Night” with free 2012 men’s soccer schedule posters available for fans. Other promotions and a complete schedule can be found here: http://www.wvusports.com/teams.cfm?sport=msoccer

WVU Women’s Soccer—The 20th-ranked West Virginia women’s soccer team opened the 2012 season on August 17. The 2012 campaign marks the 17th season in program history—all under the direction of coach Nikki Izzo-Brown. Seven starters are returning this season, led by senior captains Bry McCarthy, Bri Rodriguez and Mallory Smith. Now part of the Big 12 Conference, the team looks forward to facing new opponents and visiting new schools. For more information on the schedule and promotions, visit: http://www.wvusports.com/teams.cfm?sport=wsoccer

Did you know?

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