MOUNTAINEER V PARENTS CLUB

WVU Kicks Off Million Hour Match Campaign



Students, faculty and staff are all making the pledge to donate their time to help out communities around West Virginia.

WVU has thrown down the gauntlet for goodness: Students, faculty and staff are urging West Virginia residents to match them in completing one million hours of community service by 2018.

The end result? A total of two million service hours valued at an estimated \$45.1 million.

A collaborative initiative between WVU, Volunteer WV and the Cooperation for National and Community Service, the Million Hour Match will strengthen the University's relationship with communities around the state and help students gain skills, experience and contacts that can be beneficial in finding employment.

For more information, please visit **service.wvu.edu**. 😻

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Sabrina M. Cave, Executive Director

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Dear Mountaineer Parents Club Families,

Happy New Year! I trust that you had a wonderful holiday with your students, and now they are back into the swing of things here on campus. With a new year, comes a time to reflect on changes you want to make for a fresh start. A new beginning ...

As you know, last semester our University was faced with great challenges — from the unfortunate celebration that occurred after WVU beat Baylor University at home to the unimaginable, the death of Nolan Burch that happened following an incident at a fraternity house.

These incidents caused all of us to pause and reflect. I spoke with many parents who were troubled by what was happening. Many were struggling to understand "why" this was happening. As parents, you have a vested interest in the culture at West Virginia University because your most prized possession is here – your child.

I also received numerous emails from parents. I read each one and shared with others on our campus as we move forward to change the culture at West Virginia University.

Moving forward, we all recognize that this change is going to take all of us working together: students, alumni, administrators, community members and parents.

So, what can you do?

Talk to your students about personal responsibility and the dangers of alcohol. Perhaps you had those conversations with them before they left for college, but I encourage you to have them again.

Listen to your students. Engage in meaningful conversations about what it means to be a student at WVU and a member of the Morgantown community.

Participate in your local Mountaineer Parents Club events. Many clubs partner with alumni chapters and engage in positive celebrations.

Be sure to check out President Gee's message on this important topic at **presidentgee.wvu.edu/messages/culture-change-needed-on-college-campuses**.

Please email the Mountaineer Parents Club your ideas for changing the culture at WVU to **parentsclub@mail.wvu.edu**.

We are all in this together as one Mountaineer family. I look forward to a great spring semester.

Calendar of Events: Spring 2015

March 20 Residence Halls Close at 7:00 p.m.

March 23-27 Spring Break

March 29 Residence Halls Reopen at Noon

April 3 Spring Recess, University Closed
April 24-26 Spring Family Weekend
April 26 Spring Ring Day Ceremony
May 4-9 Final Exams

For a complete list of residence hall closings, visit

housing.wvu.edu/move_in_out/hall_opening_and_closing_dates

Gifts to WVU's 'State of Minds' Campaign Top \$800 Million

With three years left in its private fundraising campaign, WVU is now at more than 80% of its \$1 billion goal.

WVU Foundation officials say alumni and friends of the University have given \$819 million through Dec. 31, 2014. The increase of \$27 million during the past quarter was bolstered by more than \$20 million in new gifts and pledges made in December alone. That represents one of the best Decembers in Foundation history for gift activity.

The contributions include endowed scholarships to enable students to attend class and relieve their debt burden; financial support for new learning facilities; and gifts to enhance cutting-edge degree programs. Over \$14 million in December 2014 alone, and \$30 million since July 1, 2014, was given for undergraduate and graduate student support, including the creation of 39 new endowed scholarships. "Alumni and friends of this University have been phenomenal in their support of our campaign," said WVU President E. Gordon Gee. "When I travel throughout West Virginia and beyond, and hear the stories of how West Virginia University changed people's lives, it warms my heart. I truly believe we have one of the most dynamic universities in the country, and with continued support we can rise even higher."

Last September, the University and Foundation announced its original Campaign goal of \$750 had been exceeded, and the Campaign was being extended through 2017 with a new goal of \$1 billion.

Visit **www.astateofminds.com** for information on how you can help support the Campaign. **♥**



Alumnus Creates Endowed Scholarships with \$1 Million Gift

Written by Eleni Skezas

WVU graduate John Forman has donated \$1 million to his alma mater to establish scholarships for undergraduate students from West Virginia enrolled in science, technology, engineering or math programs.

The John A. Forman Endowed Scholarship will be available for instate students studying in the Davis College of Agriculture, Natural Resources and Design, Eberly College of Arts and Sciences, and Benjamin M. Statler College of Engineering and Mineral Resources.

A Clarksburg native, Forman earned his bachelor's degree in engineering from WVU in 1956 and went on to a very successful engineering career that spanned more than 30 years.

Through his gift, Forman hopes West Virginia students will have the ability to achieve their educational goals.

"My interest in life has always been engineering, and giving back to West Virginia University was the natural thing to do," he said. "Education is all about combining ambition with ability. It is very important."

To qualify for the John A. Forman Endowed Scholarship, recipients must be full time-students in good academic standing and demonstrate the need for financial support. Recipients will be determined by the WVU Office of Student Financial Aid and Scholarships. Students are eligible for consideration each year provided they still meet selection criteria.

The gift establishing the endowed scholarship was made in conjunction with A State of Minds: The Campaign for West Virginia's University. The \$1 billion fundraising effort by the WVU Foundation on behalf of the University runs through December 2017. 😵

Enrollment Gains

West Virginia University's student population is becoming more diverse each year.

Fall enrollment figures for 2014 show that diversity among U.S. citizens on campus has grown to 13.4%, up from 12.8% in 2013. The number of Hispanic students on campus has doubled in the past decade, and virtually every other group has also grown, including African-American, Asian and multiracial students.

WVU's excellent academic programs are also attracting more students from around the world. International enrollment increased 12.5% from a year ago, and has grown by more than 50% over the past 10 years. The University now enrolls 2,048 students from outside the United States.

"We live in a diverse world, and it's important that our campuses reflect that world," said Brenda Thompson, former associate vice president for enrollment management and services. "

Scholarships Increase by 13%

It's no secret that the cost of a college education continues to climb. As WVU's State support has declined — causing tuition to go up — the University has increased scholarships to help offset higher costs.

In the last fiscal year, WVU provided \$102 million in institutionfunded scholarships, compared to \$90 million two years ago — an increase of 13%.

One source of additional support is the largest fundraising effort in University history. As of December 31, A State of Minds: The Campaign for West Virginia's University had raised \$819 million. The goal is \$1 billion by December 2017. This private support will provide even more funding for scholarships for students who could not otherwise attend WVU. 😵

Scholarships and Funding

Whether you are the parent of an incoming or current student, there are always questions about scholarships and funding. Here are a few tips that can help your students be savvy when it comes to funding their education.

Know the Requirements

Starting early and doing some research is helpful. Is an additional application needed for scholarships or are they considered simply by applying to the school? What are the deadlines? Scholarship requirements can often vary due to donor funding requirements. For instance, specific scholarships are available and designated for nontraditional or returning learners (fysis.wvu.edu/osher), transfer students (undergradscholarships.wvu.edu/transfer) and diversity scholarships (undergradscholarships.wvu.edu/diversity), in addition to freshmen in-state and out-of-state students: undergradscholarships.wvu.edu.

Achievement and Renewal

For incoming students who are close to meeting requirements but just shy of a test score, perhaps taking the test again may move the score within scholarship range and be worth the cost of the retest. For current scholarship students, making sure they know if an award is renewable and the requirements (GPA, credit hours, etc.) to maintain it, from the start, is crucial (undergradscholarships.wvu.edu/freshman/guidelines-renewal).

Always File A Fafsa Form by the March 1 Deadline

Often parents file a Free Application for Federal Student Aid and assume if they don't get any scholarships or grant aid one year, they may not get any in future years. Finances can change, and there are often additional scholarships available to students from year-to-year. Keep in mind that scholarships often have a requirement that a student have a current FAFSA on file. Don't let this step count your student out! **fafsa.ed.gov**

Have Students Check Out

Opportunities in Their Areas of Study

Through the generosity of our alumni and friends, many schools and colleges at WVU offer scholarships. Some schools reserve these for upperclassmen students, while others offer both incoming and current students the opportunity to apply. Most applications come out in the spring for the following school year: **undergradscholarships**. wvu.edu/college.

Leadership Organizations and Involvement Pay Off

Was your student involved in leadership roles within the Girl Scouts, Boy Scouts, 4-H, Civil Air Patrol or Boys and Girls Nation? WVU awards Leadership Scholarships for students with outstanding achievement in these organizations: **undergradscholarships.wvu.edu/leadership**. Other opportunities might exist from groups such as the WVU Extension Services, which hosts several other 4-H scholarship opportunities: **development.ext.wvu.edu/wvu_4_h_**scholarships. The WVU Alumni Association recognizes student body presidents and valedictorians through the Loyalty Permanent Endowment Fund (no application needed). The Fund also awards scholarships to deserving scholars who have shown exceptional academic, service and leadership to their communities. Applications can be downloaded online at **alumni.wvu.edu/awards/lpe**. WVU alumni chapters often provide scholarship opportunities, including academic and athletic-related scholarships. Visit **alumni.wvu.edu/groups** to reach out to a chapter in your area.

College-Level Involvement

Might Provide Funding Opportunities

WVU organizations such as Army and Air Force ROTC also offer scholarships: catalog.wvu.edu/archivedcatalog/ 2012-2013/undergraduate/rotc/#ROTC_Scholarship and catalog. wvu.edu/archivedcatalog/2012-2013/undergraduate/airforcerotc/ #Scholarship_Program.

Students who serve as Residence Hall Assistants and Wellness Coordinators receive room and board waivers: **housing.wvu.edu/employment**. Student groups and programs may provide funding such as the McNair Scholars Program, which accepts and works with students interested in doctoral studies (**mcnair.wvu.edu**). Employment opportunities are also available through our Office of Student Employment (**studentemployment.wvu.edu**).

Parental Connections

Check with your place of work to see if they offer funding opportunities for students attending college. Were you in the military? Your military educational benefits might be transferrable to your student as a dependent: wvuveterans.wvu.edu/students. WVU is also a Yellow-Ribbon School providing discounts: wvuveterans.wvu.edu/yellowribbon. Philanthropic or service organizations often sponsor student scholarships. If you are a graduate, our WVU Alumni Association provides a limited number of legacy scholarships to children/grandchildren/siblings of alumni. Visit alumni.wvu.edu/awards/legacy.

External Searches

Students should think broadly and explore other opportunities. A lot of money is given away by organizations across the country and globe. Perhaps a business or corporation affiliated with the field of study your student has chosen has a scholarship available. Perhaps a national branch of a student organization they are involved in provides funding. A list of some free search sites for external scholarships can be found here: **financialaid.wvu.edu/aid-and-scholarships/scholarships**.



West Virginia University's Culture Change

West Virginia University continues to make the necessary culture changes needed after riots broke out following an upset by the football team and the death of a student at an off-campus fraternity house.

On Oct. 18, WVU defeated then-No. 4 Baylor 41-27 to shake up the college football landscape. However, some students participated in riotous activity around Morgantown, which led to 21 street fires, seven dumpster fires, stolen street signs and damaged property. Area police arrested seven WVU students, among others. Less than a week later, three students were expelled for their roles in the riots, and several others were being investigated.

Meetings with students continue to take place to remedy similar destructive behavior. In addition, student leaders are developing plans to create a safe post-game celebration for all fans.

A month later, freshman Nolan Michael Burch, 18, of Williamsville, New York, died following an incident that is still under investigation. Nineteen fraternity members were cited for underage drinking and possession of alcohol in a neighborhood of Morgantown.

In response, the University placed a moratorium on all fraternity and sorority chapter social and pledging activities. In addition, Kimberly Novak and Rick Barnes led a forum in December with two representatives — the president and one non-officer — from each of the 30 fraternities and sororities as well as the InterFraternity Council, National Pan-Hellenic Council, and Panhellenic Council to begin the discussion to address the serious issues affecting not just the WVU campus but others across the country.

WVU President E. Gordon Gee firmly declared "zero tolerance" for the student behavior and addressed the WVU community calling for a culture change. He has called on students to become partners in safety and to take personal responsibility, and for the entire community to address the national alcohol abuse crisis and to act on a better vision for the University's future.

Parents are also asked to stay involved. Here's how you can help: • Join in with local Alumni Association chapters and the Mountaineer Parents Club to engage in positive celebrations and events.

• Share your ideas on how we can change the culture at WVU at **PresidentsOffice@mail.wvu.edu**.

For more information on where we go from here, view our story in the latest edition of the WVU Magazine at **go.wvu.edu/1GHEL8F**. For any other updates on these issues, please follow us on Facebook at **go.wvu.edu/1IUQBQP**. *****

Adventure WV

At West Virginia University, choosing your own adventure has never been more affordable.

The University is now subsidizing its unique Adventure West Virginia orientation trips, making the cost just \$95 for most students. Pell Grant-eligible students pay nothing.

Adventure WV trips help incoming students explore our state's outdoor splendor while forming lasting friendships. Students can choose an adventure that matches their interests, from backpacking through the mountains, to building a Habitat for Humanity House, to conquering a ropes course. Specialized. trips are available for Honors College students, veterans, transfer students and certain majors.

Trip cost includes food, transportation, equipment and instruction. Students who successfully complete the summer and fall components receive 3 general education credits. For more information, see **adventureorientation**. **wvu.edu** or call **304-293-5221**.

Gift Honoring Longtime WVU Mentor Will Extend Global Reach to Alumni

Written by Hannah Force

If you ask our international graduates to name one person at WVU who helped make their time at school memorable, you are likely to hear Dr. Tom Sloane's name mentioned — a lot.

For more than 34 years, Dr. Sloane has been a driving force behind WVU's international outreach, serving in numerous roles with multicultural and international programs. As executive director of international outreach in the Division of Student Life, he spends much of his time traveling to countries all over the world engaging grads and assisting with student recruitment.

This fall, Alan and Lisa Zuccari surprised their friend Tom by establishing the Tom Sloane International Outreach Fund to honor him. The \$25,000 gift, made in conjunction with the A State of Minds Campaign: The Campaign for West Virginia's University, will help the WVU Alumni Association extend its outreach programs and continue to establish chapters in key areas around the world.

"Our international students and graduates help create a positive learning environment where students, faculty and others can gain new perspectives. Tom has played an important role in helping grow and improve our relationships with our alumni living abroad, while attracting more students to campus," said Mr. Zuccari. "We have a tremendous respect for the work he has done, and this gift is the first step in ensuring that our international relationships with alumni continue to grow and thrive."

Dr. Sloane, who also was honored as Outstanding Alumnus for Homecoming 2014, was humbled by the generous gift.

"I'm so grateful for everyone at the Alumni Association and the entire Zuccari family — Alan, Lisa, Jason, Jarred and Sara. They've been so wonderful and supportive of WVU's expanding global presence," said Dr. Sloane. "I've seen so many international students come through WVU, graduate and grow up to become successful, influential professionals across the world. I'm so proud to see them represent WVU so well, and I can't wait to see how this fund will help further our relationship with them and other alumni overseas we have yet to meet."

Did You Know?

Another Big 12 Championship

The WVU women's soccer team claimed its third straight Big 12 conference championship, while Coach Nikki Izzo-Brown was named the Big 12 Conference Coach of the Year for the third straight season, becoming the first coach in conference history to earn three consecutive awards.

Rifle Team Undefeated

The West Virginia University rifle team ended its fall competition undefeated and was ranked No. 1 in the College Rifle Coaches Association (CRCA) Poll for the ninth straight week.

University Park

Opening in the fall of 2015, University Park is a new housing community in the Evansdale area for sophomores, juniors, seniors and graduate students. The development is located on approximately seven acres of land along Harding Avenue and Oakland Street.

UPlace Construction Update

Students began moving into University Place on November 18. Managed by WVU Housing, it offers sophomores, juniors and seniors modern, independent living. Located off University Avenue, in the heart of Sunnyside, it takes just a few minutes to walk to the downtown campus. For more information, visit **uplace.wvu.edu**.

Donors Support WVU Marching Band

Fans of the WVU Marching Band once again stepped up to support the Pride of West Virginia. The WVU Foundation's 2014 Pride Travel Fund received a record \$115,718 from 1,014 donors, breaking last year's record of \$103,232 from 941 donors.

Liberty Bowl

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After 50 years, the Mountaineers returned to the Auto Zone Liberty Bowl in Memphis, Tennessee, on Monday, December 29 to take on the Texas A&M Aggies. The Mountaineers were outscored 45 to 37. This was their 33rd bowl appearance and the first-ever meeting between the two teams.

"Mobile ID" App

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Students can now use the "Mobile ID" app in place of their Mountaineer Card to access some services across campus. The app enables students to authorize their smart phone or device to function as their Mountaineer Card at certain campus locations. For now, residence hall students can use it for laundry purposes. For information on downloading the app, visit wyucard.wyu.edu/mobileid.

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Office of Admissions West Virginia University PO Box 6009 Morgantown, WV 26506-6009 Nonprofit Organization U.S. Postage PAID Morgantown, WV Permit No. 34

The Mountaineer Parents Club newsletter is a joint effort 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.

Business School Alum Gives \$1 Million to Alleviate Student Debt

You would be hard pressed to go through a day without reading or hearing about college student debt. The White House is talking about

it, Congress is talking about it, and students and parents are definitely talking about it.

All of that talk and debate is what has prompted Fred Tattersall, an investment executive and finance graduate of the College of Business and Economics, to give \$1 million to help his alma mater's business students alleviate debt. Top B&E students who meet the criteria

could be awarded up to \$19,000 to put specifically toward the debt they have accrued as a college student.

"The topic of student debt is very sensitive, and is a topic that nearly every family of a soon-to-be or current college student has to address," said Tattersall, a 1970 B&E graduate. "This is a merit-based pay off in the decrease — if not the elimination — of their student debt."

B&E Milan Puskar Dean Jose "Zito" Sartarelli said this is Tattersall's second



Alumnus Fred Tattersall with students Taylor Anderson and Nicholas Kirby.

scholarship where, if you work hard and meet the criteria for the scholarship, you will be rewarded for that hard work. Students who work so hard at B&E will see their efforts major gift to the business school during WVU's comprehensive campaign, the first being a \$3 million gift in November 2010 to endow a faculty chair in the business college's Finance Department.

"Fred's commitment and dedication to his alma mater are simply overwhelming," Sartarelli said. "His first gift immediately affected business finance students by funding high-quality faculty. This gift is

designed help students reduce their college debt. His generosity is based on doing great things for students, and we are so very appreciative of him." 😵