

NEWS FROM

# A STATE OF MINDS

## The Campaign for West Virginia's University

### Campaign tops historic \$1 billion goal

WVU has achieved a historic milestone in its private fundraising efforts, surpassing the \$1 billion goal in its "State of Minds" Campaign more than a year before the deadline.

Alumni and friends of WVU contributed \$1,003,650,037 to the campaign through Aug. 31, putting WVU on a list with only 36 other four-year public universities across the country that have successfully raised more than \$1 billion.

"I believe our world's best days lie ahead. West Virginia's best days lie ahead," President Gordon Gee said. "And by supporting the 'State of Minds' Campaign, our donors are summoning that bright future, one dollar and one life at a time."

A special \$50 million "Dream First" scholarship initiative launched last year as part of the campaign has exceeded its goal at \$50.9 million.

Campaign donations thus far have established 697 student scholarships, 52 chairs and professorships, and 213 funds to assist research efforts.

Foundation officials say 86,027 donors have given 340,007 gifts to the campaign. This includes donations from 35,606 alumni. The largest percentage of donations to the campaign, 50 percent, has come from individuals. The rest of the contributions have come from a large number of different sources including corporations, foundations, trusts and estates.

Both University and Foundation officials made it clear that while the \$1 billion goal has been reached, the campaign is not over and will continue through its announced end date of Dec. 31, 2017.

Gee said the focus of the campaign for the remaining 15 months will be on the University's strategic pillars of education, healthcare and broad-based prosperity.

"While we celebrate the success thus far, there is much work yet to do," he said. "Our University – and the state of West Virginia – must continue to transform. We must work together as one to provide the best education, healthcare and economic opportunities for all."

Campaign co-chair Bob Reynolds, a 1974 graduate, said, "Now, more than ever with the financial challenges facing the University, our focus as a foundation needs to be on our mission to support the University through private philanthropy. Our loyal and generous alumni and friends have never let us down, and I am confident over the next 15 months, that they will continue to give, and we'll finish this campaign stronger than ever."

Visit [www.astateofminds.com](http://www.astateofminds.com) for information on how you can help support the campaign.

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## THANK YOU FOR OVER \$1 BILLION MORE REASONS TO GO FIRST.

**ASTATEOFMINDS**  
The Campaign for West Virginia's University

## INVESTING IN THE FUTURE: A CELEBRATION

September 30 marked a special moment in the University's history. University and Foundation officials announced that "A State of Minds: The Campaign for West Virginia's University" exceeded its \$1 billion goal 15 months early.

A press announcement, principal gift donor dinner, football game recognition, and campus celebrations helped mark the occasion, but it is truly the generosity of those who invest in this very special place and its students, faculty and staff who we celebrate.



President Gee discusses the positive impact the campaign has had on the University during the Sept. 30 special announcement.



Campaign co-chairs Verl Purdy and Bob Reynolds were Homecoming parade grand marshalls.



Foundation Scholars Cristin Dolan and Dillon Muhly-Alexander pose with campaign co-chairmen Bob Reynolds and Verl Purdy following the announcement.



Students enjoy bow tie cookies at one of the on-campus campaign celebrations.



Campaign leaders are recognized during the second quarter of the WVU-KSU football game.



## Goeres establishes first higher education administration support fund

Past dean and faculty emeritus of the College of Education and Human Services, Ernest R. Goeres, has established The Dr. Ernest R. Goeres Higher Education Administration Endowment Fund. The endowed fund will provide support to the college for research, teaching and service activities, as well as for the “extras” that come with a highly respected program.



*Dr. Ernest R. Goeres*

Goeres served as an assistant dean, associate dean and interim dean of CEHS, before serving as the director of the higher education administration program. As a retired administrator, he understands first-hand the importance of discretionary funds. His decision to give back to the college that he helmed for years was instinctual.

“Without special funds the ‘extra’ things, even just pizza and pop, aren’t possible,” said Goeres. This is why he, along with other contributors, established the unique endowment.

## Alumnus donates joint gift to Eberly, B&E

Two-time WVU graduate Mark Roth recently demonstrated how alumni of multiple colleges can blend their entire academic experience through their philanthropic goals.

Taking a “one WVU” approach to his philanthropy, Roth sought to give back to both of his academic homes, the Eberly College of Arts and Sciences and

## New endowment established to help future generations of WVU students fulfill their dreams

Peter and Linda Zulia have created a new endowed scholarship in the College of Physical Activity and Sport Sciences. It was created to launch opportunities for WVU athletic training students.

“This endowment that Linda and I have created is established in part for what CPASS, and the Athletic Training Program specifically, offered me when I was a student athletic trainer. Quite simply, we are excited to create an opportunity for the benefit of future WVU Athletic Training students so that they can fulfill their dreams,” Zulia explained.

Zulia graduated from WVU in 1983 with a secondary education and athletic training degree and earned a master’s in business administration in 2014.



*Linda and Peter Zulia*

the College of Business and Economics.

The generous alumnus designated WVU as the beneficiary of his IRA, currently valued at \$400,000. The planned gift will be equally shared between the two colleges, and Roth will be recognized with membership in the Irvin Stewart Society.

The allocation to the Eberly College will support the Department of Mathematics. At WVU’s business school, Roth’s gift will benefit continued excellence in the Accounting Department.

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*A State of Minds: The Campaign for West Virginia's University* | [www.astateofminds.com](http://www.astateofminds.com)  
WVU Foundation, Publisher | Bill Nevin, Editor

## Agricultural scholarship started

With the desire to promote positive influence and honor his family's longstanding tradition in the agricultural industry, WVU alumnus Michael "Blair" Snyder has established the Snyder Family Scholarship.

This endowed scholarship fund will benefit undergraduate West Virginia residents in the Davis

College of Agriculture, Natural Resources and Design who are pursuing a degree in an agriculture-related field.

Snyder hopes that support from this fund will "help promote the positive influence of an agriculture-related lifestyle on family, ethics, community support and character, consistent with individuals involved in ag-related businesses."

## Extension program awarded \$20,000 grant

WVU's Safety and Health Extension is bringing oil and natural gas safety training into West Virginia high school classrooms to create a future workforce that is as well versed in occupational safety as it is in other subjects.

The training is taking place thanks to a \$20,000 grant awarded to the WVU Foundation from Dominion Transmission through the Dominion Foundation.

The program will offer SafeLandUSA training to 500 West Virginia teens who are interested in pursuing a career in the oil and natural gas industry at high schools across the state.



Visit the Foundation's web site at [www.wvuf.org](http://www.wvuf.org) and click on the Campaign Celebration icon to view a video of the September 30 campaign announcement highlights.