

Donors help fund full-ride scholarships for five West Virginia students

Ready to take on the world, West Virginia University's latest class of Foundation Scholars represent the top high school seniors from across the state. All five will be pursuing science-based careers, using their talents to make contributions in this world and beyond.

The 2016 Foundation Scholars are:

- **David Laub**, Martinsburg, Martinsburg High School
- **Caroline Leadmon**, Hurricane, Hurricane High School
- **Delana McCoy**, Ravenswood, Ravenswood High School
- **Hayden Nichols**, Elkview, Herbert Hoover High School
- **Travis Rawson**, Ravenswood, Ripley High School

"These five students represent the best hope for our future," said President Gordon Gee.

"David, Caroline, Delana, Hayden and Travis are excited to start discovering, exploring and making a difference. At WVU, we will give them the tools to build successful careers and make world-changing breakthroughs."

WVU Foundation Senior Vice President of Development and Chief Development Officer B.J. Davisson said, "Our five scholarship winners all have excelled in academics, leadership, and community service. But more than that, they have been tireless and passionate in their pursuit of excellence, and we are delighted that they will be attending WVU in the fall."

Established in 1987, the Foundation Scholarship will



The 2016 Foundation Scholars are from left, Travis Rawson, Delana McCoy, David Laub, Caroline Leadmon and Hayden Nichols.

provide in excess of \$80,000 to cover college costs for four years of undergraduate studies, including tuition and fees, room and board, and a book stipend. They will also each receive a \$4,500 stipend to be used to broaden their horizons through study abroad or academic enhancement opportunities such as internships.

IN THIS ISSUE

President's Message.....	2
Flood Relief.....	2
Recent Gifts.....	5
Woodburn Circle Society.....	5
Irvin Stewart Society.....	6

Maximizing Private Charitable Support for West Virginia University

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From the President and CEO

Greetings from Morgantown! I hope the summer season is giving you a chance to step away from the normal routine and enjoy some time with family and friends.

As you are well aware, our fellow West Virginians have been working hard to rebuild their lives and for many, their homes, in the wake of some of the worst flooding our state has seen in nearly 100 years. And in true Mountaineer spirit, you have answered the call in so many ways, unselfishly, which makes me so proud to be part of the Mountaineer family.

So, to that end, I want to begin this message by expressing my deep gratitude for the amazing generosity that thousands of you have shown for both WVU and the citizens of West Virginia.

During the fiscal year that ended June 30, new gifts and pledges totaled \$110 million. Wow! What a testament to the passion and loyalty people have for our great University. Our comprehensive campaign, “A State of Minds”, is very close to reaching its \$1 billion goal with close to 18 months remaining. Your gifts, some of which are highlighted in this newsletter, are making a positive impact across the University – on students, faculty, researchers and patients. Thank you!

Yes, we are on the verge of reaching a historic milestone in the life of WVU. While preparations are underway to appropriately celebrate reaching our \$1 billion goal, there are no plans to shift into a lower fundraising gear for the

University. In fact, we intend to keep moving full steam ahead because the University’s needs remain great.

President Gee’s call to reinvent WVU and the state of West Virginia in light of challenging economic times sends the message that private support is needed now more than ever. Mountaineers must band together to strengthen the areas of education, healthcare and broad-based prosperity across our state. This will translate into new opportunities and initiatives where philanthropy can and will make a big difference.

If you have not joined us yet on this Campaign journey, now is the time. Help us to not only reach our goal, but extend far beyond it. I personally invite you to visit the Campaign web site at www.astateofminds.com to learn more, or call us at 800-847-3856 for information. It’s an honor and privilege to serve you. Thank you again for your unfailing support this past year. Continuing to partner, I know we will take WVU to even greater philanthropic heights in the months ahead.

Let’s go.



Cindi Roth



Kendrick issues challenge match for flood relief efforts



Ken Kendrick

Southern West Virginia native Ken Kendrick says even when you are far away, you never really leave West Virginia. The WVU alumnus and managing general partner of Major League Baseball’s Arizona Diamondbacks has generously given \$500,000 to assist with flood relief efforts in hopes that fellow alums and donors will match his gift dollar-for-dollar.

On June 23, torrential rains over parts of southern West Virginia caused devastating flooding in many counties, resulting in loss of life and severe damage to entire communities. Many WVU students and their families were impacted.

“My heart goes out to the people hit by this disaster.

Many of them live just outside the back door where I grew up. It’s very sad,” Kendrick said.

The WVU Extension Service and Office of Student Life have funds established as they coordinate efforts to assist flood victims. You can make a gift to one or both funds by visiting www.mountaineerconnection.com/WVFloodRelief and selecting from the “Designation” drop-down. Gifts can also be mailed to the WVU Foundation, One Waterfront Place, PO Box 1650, Morgantown, WV, 26507-1650. Checks should be made out to the WVU Foundation and include “WV Flood Relief” on the memo line.

More than \$300,000 has been donated so far since Kendrick issued the challenge match. “I just want to help out where I can,” he said. “I challenge all Mountaineers to do the same.”

Chemistry department receives \$1 million gift from C. Eugene Bennett Family Foundation

Thanks to a recent \$1 million gift, the C. Eugene Bennett Department of Chemistry will now be able to explore its options regarding the modernization of the general chemistry laboratories.

Edna Bennett Pierce pledged the gift through both personal funds and the C. Eugene Bennett Family Foundation, which is in memory of her late husband, C. Eugene Bennett, the WVU alumnus for whom the chemistry department is named.

"When Gene was a student at WVU, he lived in what was then the attic of the chemistry building. He was particularly fond of that building, so it seemed meaningful to donate the money to its renovation," Pierce said. "I hope this gift allows the department to continue to be as great as I understand it is."

R. Gregory Dunaway, dean of the Eberly College of Arts and Sciences, said the support of the Bennett Family Foundation over the years has created endless opportunities for the WVU community.

"For more than two decades, the C. Eugene Bennett Family Foundation has made an invaluable impact on the education of West Virginia University's students through its generous support of the C. Eugene Bennett Department of Chemistry. As dean of the Eberly College of Arts and Sciences, I

am extremely grateful for this most recent gift from the Bennett family," Dunaway said. "This new gift will provide support for much needed renovation and enhancement to our chemistry teaching laboratories which will allow for even greater learning opportunities for our students. The Eberly College of Arts and Sciences is very appreciative of the long-lasting and generous support from the C. Eugene Bennett Family Foundation, and particularly thankful to the entire Bennett family."



*Edna Bennett
Pierce*

Former WV Senator Jay Rockefeller establishes public service scholarship

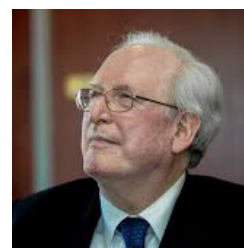
WVU students studying within the new John D. Rockefeller IV School of Policy and Politics now have the opportunity to earn a scholarship also bearing the former U.S. Senator's name.

A \$100,000 gift from Rockefeller to the WVU Foundation has created the John D. Rockefeller IV Leadership Award in Policy & Politics. Former Senator Jay Rockefeller endowed the scholarship in the hope that it would enable our best and brightest students to experience meaningful public service or research that would also help us collectively address some of our biggest policy questions or community challenges.

"My sincere hope is that this scholarship will allow star students to take an important step on their journeys to better understand how they can change

their world today and into the future," said Rockefeller.

The first recipient of this new scholarship is Michelle Sloane of Paramus, N.J., a student in the Master of Public Administration program. As a graduate student, Sloane has been involved in several public service projects, including developing community capacity in Fairmont, W.Va., and exploring budget frameworks for the WVU Extension Fire Service.



*Former U.S. Sen.
Jay Rockefeller*

Close ties to WVU inspire graduate to create new endowment

A favorite expression among WVU alumni are words to live by for a College of Physical Activity and Sport Sciences graduate. The sentiment, "Once a Mountaineer, always a Mountaineer," lands close to the heart for CPASS grad James Higginbotham and has led him to establish a new scholarship for the College.

Higginbotham is quick to credit his experiences as a WVU student as the "best four years of my life. The friends that I made almost 50 years ago in

Morgantown remain as my closest companions today," Higginbotham said.

The fund named the Jim and Jeannie Higginbotham Endowed Scholarship will support CPASS students from West Virginia. A 1961 graduate of WVU, Higginbotham earned his bachelor's degree in physical education. He also has established a planned gift to benefit the Mountaineer Athletic Club.

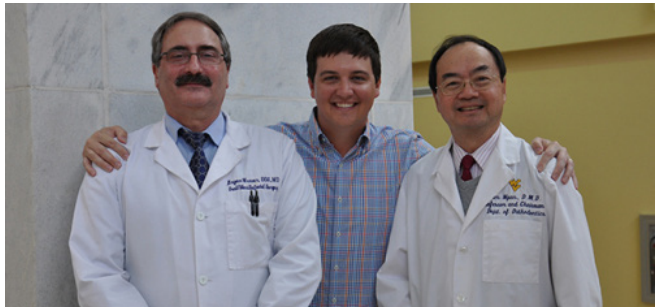
Gift from alum Dr. Chad Westfall creates dentistry endowment

School of Dentistry graduate Dr. Chad Westfall has established a new family endowment by pledging a gift to the School of Dentistry. Dr. Westfall's new fund, the Westfall Family Dental Endowment, supports the Departments of Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery and Orthodontics.

"I completed a general practice residency at the WVU School of Dentistry in 2009 and worked closely with the oral surgery program," Dr. Westfall said. "My professor, Dr. Bryan Weaver, acted as a mentor to me during my residency, which greatly influenced my experience and time with the School."

Dr. Westfall is also a proud graduate of the WVU Orthodontics program and calls the department "one of the best in the country." He said Dr. Peter Ngan, chair, and Dr. Tim Tremont, clinical associate professor, are both taking the program in the right direction.

"It is the support from alumni like Dr. Westfall that allow our School to keep moving in the right direction and lend support to our students, faculty, and patients," said Dean Dr. Tom Borgia. "We are constantly striving to have WVU remain among the best dental schools in the country and appreciate any and all support from our alumni to maintain this level of excellence."



Dr. Chad Westfall, center, with Dr. Bryan Weaver, left, and Dr. Peter Ngan

The Greater Kanawha Valley Foundation and WVU Extension partner to bring STEM programming to West Virginia youths

A grant provided by The Greater Kanawha Valley Foundation will give college students the opportunity to educate and mentor youths this summer through the WVU Extension Service STEM Ambassador program.

The \$78,000 renewed grant will help to fund the STEM Ambassador program, which allows students majoring in science-related fields to help youths learn science, technology, engineering and math concepts through hands-on, kid-friendly activities.

STEM participants explore activities that introduce a wide range of STEM-focused fields and careers. One

student from each of the six counties in the Greater Kanawha Valley region will also be chosen to attend the WVU Extension STEM Camp this summer.



A focus on philanthropic impact – Dr. John Hu

One of the provisions in the historic \$45 million gift to WVU by Ben and Jo Statler called for the establishment of three endowed faculty positions in the Statler College of Engineering and Mineral Resources. The first of these positions has now been filled.

John Hu, an experienced scientist and engineer with a proven track record of inventing, developing and commercializing innovative chemical processes associated with the oil and gas industries, has been named the Statler Endowed Faculty Chair in Engineering for Natural Gas Utilization.

Hu will lead the creation of an interdisciplinary research center related to natural gas utilization, which is a strategic area of investment for WVU. The center will operate within the WVU Energy Institute.

“This position appealed to me because of WVU’s commitment to fostering leading-edge education and research that spans all aspects of the energy cycle, from production to distribution, to utilization and conservation and management,” said Hu. “At WVU, I plan to focus not only on academic research and education but also on leading industrial-university partnerships, and developing intellectual properties that benefit the University and the state’s economy.”

Hu comes to WVU from Koch Industries, where he was charged with identifying future technological growth areas related to petrochemicals and catalytic

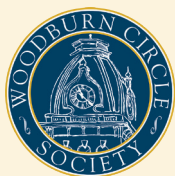
and biological processing, and developing research and development strategies for commercialization. He also supervised industrial-funded research at U.S.-based universities, national laboratories and R&D institutes.

“Dr. Hu brings excellent experience from his industry and the national labs positions, and the right blend of technical expertise and leadership we sought for this first Statler Chair,” said Gene Cilento, Glen H. Hiner Dean. “Dr. Hu will help the University make important contributions to the utilization of natural gas that will promote and support economic development for the state of West Virginia.”

Hu received his bachelor’s and doctoral degrees from Tsinghua University in China, and did his post-doctoral research at the University of Pittsburgh. He later earned an MBA from Washington State University.



Dr. John Hu



Woodburn Circle Society is the WVU Foundation’s most prestigious philanthropic society. Membership is available to those who make one-time gifts or pledges of at least \$100,000 to benefit WVU and its affiliated organizations.

Newest Members Include:

Alcon Foundation
Frank W. & Jayna Alderman
Alpha Foundation
Andrew Banko III & Jennifer Banko
Marvin T. Barber, Jr.
Charles & Shawn Bowker
Catullo Family Trust
James J. Cava, Jr.
Preston W. Chen
Chris Cline
CPM Acquisition Trust
Harry H. & Margaret Esbenshade
John T. Fahey
J. Steven & Joy Ferguson
Arthur & Millie Gabriel
Gregory J. & Leslie B. Gensheimer

John B. & Lynne F. Gianola
Thomas J. Gulliford
Heather Hale
Martin S. Heater II
Hendrickson & Long
Terry L. Hill-Stockman & Peter Stockman
Luther L. & Evelyn LaFon
Robert S. & Sara B. Long
William L. & Nora M. MacDonald
Francis X. McGreevy
Michael W. & Catherine A. McGuane
Paul G. & Lisette M. Migliore
L. Andrew & Angela K. Moore
William A. Neal & Martha D. Mullett
Christopher G. Owen
J. William & Wilma G. Pulice

Saul J. Radman
Andrea Robinson
David A. Rosen
Michelle R. Ross & Thomas Clark
Mark N. Roth
David S. & Anne Santee
Douglas & Bonita Sayre
Michael B. & Lisa Stern
William R. & Judith D. Stone
Toni Strother
Reed J. & Cynthia D. Tanner
John W. Tissue & Lynne B. Klopff
John R. & Patricia A. Tschiderer
J. Michael & Stacy M. Urtso
Stephen J. Wetmore
Ricardo D. & Cheryl A. Zambito

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West Virginia's 153rd birthday celebrated at WVU with latest gift from Blenko family

Blenko Glass is continuing its tradition of providing the WVU art collection with the latest piece of limited edition glass from the West Virginia Birthday Blenko Glass Collection.

The West Virginia Birthday Blenko Glass Collection, which began in 1980, celebrates the state's birthday by creating and selling the exact number of pieces as the state's age.

This year, Blenko Glass, located in Milton, W.Va., produced 153 original pieces to celebrate West Virginia's 153rd birthday. WVU houses one of less

than ten known complete sets. WVU's rare collection is on display at the Blaney House, home of the WVU president.

This year's Blenko West Virginia Birthday Piece, "Patience's Prize", is a tall, fish-shaped, flattened vase with a flared tail opening in spring green cased with jonquil. A dynamic curve in its body suggests a leaping fish. It includes two companion pieces.



The Irvin Stewart Society honors those who have included gift provisions in their wills, created income-producing gifts, provided for testamentary donations of retirement assets, donated life insurance, and transferred their real estate remainder interest to benefit WVU and its affiliated organizations.

Newest Members Include:

Gerard D'Souza, Morgantown, WV
Kenneth J. Foglesong '74, Glenville, WV
James D. Higginbotham '61, '73, Charleston, WV
Terry Hill-Stockman '77, '79, New York, NY
Jason M. Jedlinski, Chicago, IL
Jay E. Nitz '98, Chicago, IL
Peter Stockman, New York, NY

Fred T. Tattersall '70, Richmond, VA
William L. Turner Jr., PhD '74, '84, Arlington, VA
H. Douglas Wayt '95, '00, Wheeling, WV
Susanna A. Wayt '80, '82, Wheeling, WV

+ 1 Anonymous Member

A listing of all members can be found at www.wvuf.org, select Donor Recognition and Irvin Stewart Society.