



Meeting Minutes  
May 19, 2023  
Marshall University and Zoom

**MEMBERS PRESENT**

|                     |  |
|---------------------|--|
| Lindsay Morgan      | WVU Parkersburg                                  |
| Jane Fouty          | BridgeValley Community and Technical College     |
| Amy Pitzer          | Concord University                               |
| Justine Bohon       | Fairmont State University                        |
| Jeremy Carter       | Glennville State University                      |
| Teresa Meddings     | Marshall University                              |
| Erin Trump          | New River Community and Technical College        |
| J. Christopher Gray | Southern WV Community and Technical College      |
| Michael Casey       | West Virginia State University                   |
| Jenna Derrico       | West Virginia Northern Community College         |
| Barbara Sanders     | West Virginia School of Osteopathic Medicine     |
| Shirley Robinson    | West Virginia University                         |
| Dara Massey         | West Virginia University Institute of Technology |
| Verne Britton       | WVNET  |

**MEMBERS ABSENT**

|                |  |
|----------------|--|
| Vacant         | Blue Ridge Community and Technical College   |
| Deirdre Guyton | Bluefield State University                   |
| Vacant         | Community and Technical College System of WV |
| Vacant         | Eastern WV Community and Technical College   |
| Dee Preston    | Mountwest Community and Technical College    |
| Vacant         | Pierpont Community and Technical College     |
| Vacant         | Shepherd University                          |
| Yodev Ocasio   | West Liberty University                      |
| Jamey Kesner   | WVU Potomac State College                    |

**GUESTS**

Ken Harbaugh, ACCE Emeritus  
Bob Long, ACCE Emeritus  
Brad Smith, President, Marshall University  
Shelly Stewart, Southern WV Community and Technical College  
Tony Waugh, Physical Plant, Marshall University and Classified Staff Council Chair



Chair Morgan called the meeting to order at 9:03 am. The Chair determined that a quorum was present.

The ACCE welcomed a new member, Jeremy Carter, from Glenville State University.

### **ADDRESS BY BRAD SMITH**

Teresa Meddings introduced Marshall President Brad Smith. He spoke about the ASCEND WV program which financially incentivizes entrepreneurs and remote workers to relocate to WV and live here for at least two years. One million people from over 100 countries applied when the program opened with 1,000 available slots. The program also studied Ireland to see how to reverse brain-drain. WV now has a record number of startups.

He spoke about a “universities united” approach which saw all WV colleges united on issues of campus carry, healthcare, and other priorities.

Verne Britton asked about the baseball stadium. The project has been promised for 60 years, but breaking ground on a location revealed the site was contaminated and the proposed costs skyrocketed. When Mr. Smith started as president, the college reassessed the need, found a new site, and found that alumni were on board with fundraising and outreach regarding the economic impact. The state chose to provide some funding from a discretionary fund. Sports interest can drive engagement with higher education.

Bob Long asked how we can address the legislature not properly funding higher education, considering the enormous budget cut higher education experienced since 2013 once adjusted for inflation. Raising tuition may mean pricing ourselves out of the market and making education less attainable for West Virginians. Brad Smith said Higher Ed needs to prove we’re worth investing in and show that we are the solution to all the problems the state is trying to solve. For every dollar invested in higher ed, Marshall produces 14. Graduates stay in the state at higher rates. Investing in higher education means tackling the state’s biggest goals like growing the population, solving opioid addiction, and getting people healthier.

Colleges also need to think about how often they have representatives in Charleston (Marshall was present for 48 of 60 days this legislative session) and how they limit and prioritize what they ask for. Legislators may respond to a cohesive voice rather than fragmented requests from dozens of schools.

One source predicted 50% of the nation’s colleges will go bankrupt in the next ten years. Marshall has a \$48 million deficit with a plan to break even by 2027. There’s been a shift in the student pipeline, with declines in graduating seniors and the college-going rate. Higher ed needs to align with the digital and knowledge economy, adopt digital technology in classrooms and online, and understand the competition is not other colleges but free online platforms like Coursera and YouTube. Marshall is also reaching out beyond high schoolers to recruit veterans and working adults as well as focusing on certificates, credit and noncredit classes, and micro-credentials.



A Marshall Forever campaign aims to eliminate student debt entirely by mandating paid internships or work study for all students and raising \$300 million for scholarships. The state is also promoting learn and earn opportunities, and the performance-based funding model incentivizes growth, high need areas, and workforce development. Colleges can appeal to executives to grow their businesses in WV, but they also need to align curriculum with industry needs and invest in housing to allow companies to hire within the state. Schools should keep in mind the six areas of focus in the 2016 WV Forward campaign: cybersecurity, health, advanced manufacturing, advanced energy, aviation, entrepreneurship.

When asked if offering certificates would hurt WV's career and technical colleges, President Smith said that Marshall can offer some programs that CTCs wish they could but don't have the resources for.

Lastly, President Smith addressed the implementation of campus carry legislation. Marshall has a team to reach out to other states and collect facts to share with all institutions. Tony Waugh, Marshall Classified Staff Council Chair, shared that he is on that committee and has talked with five states so far, including their physical plant and maintenance directors. The Texas A&M website has a lot of details.

#### **MINUTES**

Barbara Sanders motioned to approve April 2023 minutes as amended. Chris Gray seconded. April 2023 minutes were approved.

#### **BYLAW REVISION**

Michael Casey motioned to approve the proposed bylaw changes presented to the ACCE at the April 14, 2023 meeting. Jane Fouty seconded. The motion received 12 Yay votes from members in attendance, 0 Nay votes, and 0 Abstentions. Chair Morgan will reach out to all missing representatives to collect their votes via email by next Friday at noon.

#### **SHARED GOVERNANCE SURVEY**

Chair Morgan shared that the HEPC has withdrawn their involvement in the project. If a survey is going to be conducted, it may need to be done institutionally. ACCE reps will contact their presidents to gauge support or pushback for the project.

#### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Retreat Committee - The retreat will be July 24-25. Send tax exempt forms to Shirley Robinson and make your reservations either at the distributed link or by calling Canaan. Members should bring cash to pay their portion of the meeting room rental. Build this into travel requests; there will be a receipt provided to submit for reimbursement. The ACCE could also invite Chairs of the HEPC and CCTCE to the retreat. Teresa Meddings talked to a certified trainer in mental health first aid who could do a 10-15 minute training. An informational session will be offered by Zoom from 2 – 3 pm on Monday which will be open to all staff.



### **OLD BUSINESS**

The HEPC has a staff person or consultant working with campuses to determine a cost to implement campus carry. An initial estimate was \$250,000 - \$800,000 per campus depending on existing infrastructure. If the ACCE can determine who this person is, the group may want to invite them to the retreat.

There was no response or update from Vice Chancellor of Human Resources, Trish Humphries.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

Several institutions have not notified the ACCE of their official staff election results. By June the group needs to know all new staff leaders.

The group shared any declared plans for raises around the state. Staff at WVU-Parkersburg, Shepherd, WVSOM, and Southern WV CTC are receiving \$2,300. Marshall is providing \$1350, WVSU \$1165, and Glenville \$1000. WVNCC proposed a 4% raise with the intent to review any individual whose 4% raise will not cover the projected increase in PEIA costs.

Jeremy Carter spoke about a grant-funded, statewide initiative from the HEPC called Service Learning Champions which funded secret shopper visits and focus groups at several colleges. This resulted in a report portfolio on customer service, zoom trainings, and a project, after which those trained individuals could train others.

The ACCE thanked Marshall University for its hospitality.

Jenna Derrico motioned to adjourn. Christopher Gray seconded. The meeting adjourned at 1:35 pm.

Respectfully submitted  
Jenna Derrico, ACCE Secretary