

Minutes
November 13, 2023
West Virginia University

MEMBERS PRESENT

Jane Fouty	BridgeValley Community and Technical College
Amy Pitzer	Concord University
Justine Bohon	Fairmont State University
Jenny Boggs	Glennville State University
Teresa Meddings	Marshall University
Dee Preston	Mountwest Community and Technical College
Erin Trump	New River Community and Technical College
Chip Hawkins	Pierpont Community and Technical College
Yulia Friman	Shepherd University
Shelly Stewart	Southern WV Community and Technical College
Marcella Snyder	West Liberty University
Verne Britton	WVNET
Jenna Derrico	West Virginia Northern Community College
Shelden Mullens	West Virginia School of Osteopathic Medicine
Michael Casey	West Virginia State University
Jodi Vincent	West Virginia University
Dara Massey	West Virginia University Institute of Technology
Jolene Sink	West Virginia University Parkersburg

MEMBERS ABSENT (Excused)

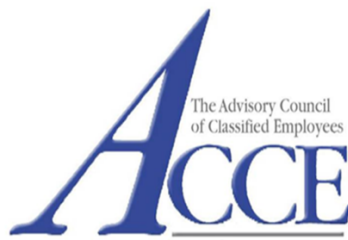
Vacant	Community and Technical College System of WV
Vacant	Eastern WV Community and Technical College
Vacant	West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission

MEMBERS ABSENT (Unexcused)

Deirdre Guyton	Bluefield State University
Eric Unger	Blue Ridge Community and Technical College
Aaron Smith	West Virginia University Potomac State College

GUESTS

Ken Harbaugh	ACCE Emeritus
Bob Long	ACCE Emeritus
Jay Bucklew	West Virginia University Staff Council
Shirley Robinson	West Virginia University
Travis Mollohan	Director of Government Relations, West Virginia University
Evan Hansen	West Virginia House of Delegates



Chair Derrico called the meeting to order at 9:04 am and determined that a quorum was present.

HIGHER EDUCATION POLICY COMMISSION

No HEPC visitors

Introductions

Conducted around the room for the benefit of new ACCE representative from West Virginia University Parkersburg – Jolene Sink

Travis Mollohan, Director of Government Relations, West Virginia University

Mr. Mollohan represents West Virginia University at the WV Legislature and the Governor's Office. During legislative sessions he works with many counterparts across the state, i.e., Marshall University and West Virginia School of Osteopathic Medicine.

Most recently, he spoke to ACF. Right now, at the higher education level, he is tracking information on a limit or ban of DEI (Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion). Waiting to see what the legislature will mandate. When asked if he thinks the legislature will take this issue up in January's session, Mr. Mollohan responded that he has heard that it will. Other states are debating this, and it is the social issue being most talked about at this time so WVU is talking about it so they are somewhat ready to discuss if and when it comes up. They want to make sure that the legislature is aware that these initiatives are broad and benefit many different student populations (i.e., Appalachian, rural, first generation).

PEIA – Reforms last year moved quickly. The Finance Board of PEIA is requesting an additional 10% premium increase this year. Last year, PEIA increases cost West Virginia University approximately 10 million dollars, and should the requested increase pass this year, it will cost them about 5 million dollars.

Campus Carry – he is the chair of the WVU task force to review and implement the law for WVU. They are tracking costs and whether they will need additional funding support for the implementation. However, currently, he feels it more important to focus on the costs of PEIA and its effect on employees. Discussion about asking for additional campus carry implementation funding, but he does not recommend this approach until institutions know what it will cost and if they will need more funding.

He is aware that institutions do not receive enough funding to completely fund the 5% increases the governor offers. Chair Derrico questioned if he is aware that even when funds are allocated for pay increases, some institutions are not using the monies to fund pay increases and that employees are not benefiting from them. While he is not aware of any institutions that do this, it is not surprising to him, and they do always remind the legislators that the allocations received are never enough to fully fund 5% increases for all employees.

Bob Long noted that we no longer have as much access to legislators, and Mr. Mollohan stated that it is easier for him as he is there every day, as it is his job. He understands our frustration with this situation.



Cybersecurity Initiatives – He is working with both the two- and four-year colleges to certify these initiatives. All institutions are looking at what type of micro credentialing will be needed to bring these to fruition.

Dual Enrollment – He is not aware of dual enrollment courses offered at West Virginia University.

Evan Hansen, West Virginia House of Delegates

Delegate Hansen met virtually with the group. He discussed the potential for changes to DEI (diversity, equity and inclusion), as well as upcoming PEIA premium increases. He advised that he is pleased to be our contact at the legislature and open to meeting with us when we feel it is necessary. Delegate Hansen provided his personal cell phone number, stating that during session it will be the most expeditious way to reach him as he is not always able to respond to email in a timely manner.

MINUTES

September 2023 minutes reviewed and amended.

Jenny Boggs motioned to approve minutes as amended, Jodi Vincent seconded. Minutes approved as amended.

ACCE Presentation to the Commission and Council

The group worked on a presentation for the Commission and Council. Chair Derrico will provide the group with the presentation via email for our information and review prior to presenting.

Committee Reports/Discussion

No updates shared in the interest of travel time for members. As always, use the ACCE LISTSERV discussion list should issues come up that need to be addressed between meeting dates.

Old Business

None reported.

New Business

None reported.

ACCE extends their appreciation to West Virginia University for their hospitality for today's meeting.

Adjournment

Jenny Boggs motioned to adjourn at 3:13pm, Jodi Vincent seconded. Meeting adjourned.

Minutes submitted by:

Teresa Meddings
ACCE Secretary