OUR REPRESENTATIVES

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Please contact any member listed above if you have questions or need additional information. Our goal is to present a unified approach in support of higher education to the members of the 83rd West Virginia Legislature. We will strive to demonstrate and inform our state leaders about the value of investing in West Virginia University. Our goal is to protect WVU’s current state budget and guard against additional cuts to higher education.
2016 FACULTY AND STAFF LEGISLATIVE REQUESTS

The members of West Virginia University’s Faculty Senate and Staff Council endorse a system based on fairness, accountability, credibility, transparency and a systematic approach to compensation and classification decisions throughout West Virginia University.

This 2016 legislative fact sheet presents WVU higher education facts along with concerns that impact over 4,739 WVU classified staff and faculty on the main campus and in all 55 counties of our state.

WEST VIRGINIA UNIVERSITY STATE GOVERNMENT AGENDA

We ask that our elected officials support legislation that would:

1. Appropriate adequate funding to update the current market salary levels and maintain future market levels via State Code.
2. Increase the state’s pension contribution to 7.5 percent and lower employees’ contribution to 4.5 percent.
3. Provide a cost-of-living adjustment to ALL state employees each year.
4. Retain the $0.01 pop tax dedicated to the WVU School of Medicine.
5. Introduce and pass legislation that would increase longevity pay from the current $60 per year of service to $75.
6. Please supplement the PEIA shortfall to ease the state workers burden on healthcare.
7. Support the Healthy and Safe Workplace Act that addresses bullying in the workplace.
8. Increase the cigarette tax which would then generate an increase in revenue. Ensure that a percentage of the increased revenue would be earmarked for higher education.

WVU FAST FACTS

/ West Virginia University is the state’s largest public institution of higher learning, serving youth, adults and families from every county. Currently there are 2,390 classified staff.

/ WVU is the second-largest employer participating in PEIA. WVU participants pay a total of $56.3 million each year for this insurance.

/ With an office and faculty agent in every county, WVU Extension Service people, programs and volunteers reach more than 35 percent of our state’s population. WVU Extension’s 4-H programs reach 80,000 — one in four — West Virginia youth.

/ WVU and its affiliates account for more than 45,500 jobs in the state.

/ West Virginia University remains a vital link between the state economy and the workplace: for each dollar received from the State, $40 is generated by WVU. Maintaining WVU budget funding will contribute to the goal of increasing West Virginia’s per capita income to the national average during the next decade.

/ WVU understands difficult budget years and has worked diligently to manage budget cuts totaling over $20 million over the past two fiscal years.

For more information about WVU and our state government agenda, initiatives and facts, please visit: staterelations.wvu.edu