



# The Buzz



WEST VIRGINIA STATE  
UNIVERSITY

WVSU Alumni and Friends eNewsletter

November 2015



## **BrickStreet Foundation Donates \$1.75 million to West Virginia State University**

*This transformational gift was announced Monday, November 9, by WVSU President Brian O. Hemphill and Greg Burton, Chief Executive Officer of BrickStreet Mutual Insurance Company, alongside WVSU Board of Governors, Campaign and WVSU Foundation leaders.*

## Upcoming Events

November 13-14 **Earl Lloyd Conference Challenge Classic**, *Institute, W.Va.*

November 13-15 **Wingate Conference Challenge**, *Institute, W.Va.*

November 14 **WVSU/FOOTMAD Present Andes Manta at the Capital Center Theater**, *Charleston, W.Va.*

November 21-29 **Campus Closed for Thanksgiving Break**, *Institute, W.Va.*

December 12 **WVSU Commencement**, *Institute, W.Va.*

December 19- January 3 **Campus Closed for Winter Break**, *Institute, W.Va.*

[More information about Upcoming Events](#)

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# BrickStreet Foundation donates \$1.75 million to WVSU

## Funds Will Support Students Through Endowed Scholarship Program

Up to 30 West Virginia State University (WVSU) students will receive scholarship support each year due to a \$1.75 million dollar gift from The BrickStreet Foundation to the West Virginia State University Foundation. The donation will expand and permanently endow the BrickStreet Scholars Fund, which was established in 2013. The first scholarships from the endowed fund will be awarded in fall 2016. Students in any area of academic study will be eligible; however, preference will be given to students in business, information technology, mathematics, natural sciences, health sciences, safety or loss, or insurance fields.

“With this endowment, we are able to help a number of students fulfill their dreams of attending and graduating from college,” said Greg Burton, Chief Executive Officer of BrickStreet Mutual Insurance Company. “A portion of the scholarship will be used for students from West Virginia who are from families of a parent who received a permanent total disability award or unfortunately died from a work place injury. Helping families of injured workers in West Virginia is something our board feels very strongly about, and we want to give back to the communities in which we live and work. This is a fundamental part of our core values at BrickStreet.”

BrickStreet will be involved in the selection process through a Scholarship Committee, comprised of BrickStreet employees, as well as representatives of WVSU. In addition to the support of the student scholarship program, part of the BrickStreet Foundation’s donation will provide funding for student-centered initiatives such as the Gregory V. Monroe Athletic Complex, located in the end zone of Lakin Field at Dickerson Stadium.



*BrickStreet’s donation comes as part of the University’s ongoing Campaign for West Virginia State University, “Realize the Promise, Deliver the Future.” The Campaign goal is to raise \$18 million by 2017. With the BrickStreet Foundation donation, the campaign has raised more than \$16.8 million to date.*

[View the entire video of the announcement on WVSU’s YouTube Channel!](#)

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# WVSU Walker Convocation Center Conference Challenge Weekend

## Earl Lloyd Classic and Wingate Conference Challenge Set for This Weekend, November 13-15

The WVSU Walker Convocation Center Conference Challenge Weekend will be held this Friday through Sunday. The Weekend, which includes the Earl Lloyd Conference Challenge Classic and the Wingate Conference Challenge, will feature the WVSU Men's and Women's basketball teams as well as the University of Charleston, Edinboro University of Pennsylvania and Clarion University Women's teams and University of Virginia at Wise, Chowan University and Elizabeth City State University Men's teams.

Tickets are \$5 per person, per game, or \$20 per person for a full weekend pass to all Men's and Women's Basketball games.



*The WVSU Walker Convocation Center Conference Challenge Weekend starts Friday, November 13!*

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# West Virginia State University Accreditation Reaffirmed for 10 Years

## WVSU maintains longest record for continuous accreditation in W.Va.

West Virginia State University has had its accreditation reaffirmed for another 10 years by the Higher Learning Commission (HLC) of the North Central Association. The HLC granted WVSU's 10-year reaffirmation of accreditation, the maximum length of time granted by the



*WVSU was first accredited in 1927. Of all West Virginia's higher education institutions, WVSU has the longest record of continuous accreditation.*

educational accrediting body, with no findings or deficiencies.

The University hosted a visit April 13-15, 2015, from peer reviewers with the HLC who evaluated the school's ongoing adherence to the HLC's Criteria for Accreditation, a set of standards that institutions must meet to receive and/or maintain accredited status. The HLC is a regional accreditation agency that accredits degree granting institutions of higher education that are based in the 19-state North Central region of the United States.

HLC accreditation assures quality by verifying that an institution meets standards and is engaged in continuous improvement. In addition, all institutions are required to complete an annual institutional update, undergo annual monitoring of financial and non-financial indicators, and adhere to HLC policies and practices on institutional change.

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## Are You CONNECTed?

**Get CONNECTed with WVSU! Sign up for your FREE account, today!**

Congratulations to Ms. Gail Parker, '79, and Mr. William Dillinger, '13, our September and October winners of the WVSU Connect raffle!

Members of WVSU Connect will automatically receive an entry into the raffle each month and can gain additional entries and increase their chances of winning by participating in various social media challenges (such as liking WVSU Alumni Relations on Facebook and sharing Facebook posts about the raffle, following us on Twitter and Re-Tweeting about the contest).

Not a member of WVSU Connect? [Create your free profile](#), today!

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*Stay dry with this special WVSU Alumni umbrella, November's WVSUConnect monthly member raffle prize!*

# Homecoming 2015 Wrap Up

**View the latest University and Alumni Photos on Flickr!**

We hope all Homecoming 2015 attendees had a wonderful time during this year's festivities! Follow [West Virginia State University](#) and [WVSU Alumni Relations](#) on Flickr to view all the photographs from Homecoming 2015!

If you attended one or more events during Homecoming Weekend, October 8 – 10, 2015, we would greatly appreciate it if you could take a few minutes to complete our event survey. Homecoming weekend is FOR YOU and you can help make it even better!

[Fill out the 2015 Homecoming Survey](#)



*WVSU Yellow Jackets football players emerge from the Gregory V. Monroe Athletic Complex during the Homecoming 2015 football game.*

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## WVSU Retirees Honored

**Special luncheon held November 11**

Retirees of West Virginia State gathered on campus November 11 for a luncheon held in their honor. Twenty one retirees from 1988 through 2014 were present at the event which honored their many contributions to West Virginia State. The luncheon provided yet another opportunity for retirees to remain connected to the University that benefited so much from their efforts during their years of service and continues to benefit from their current involvement with the University as board and committee members, volunteers and strong supporters.



*Click the image above to view the full-sized photograph with names of attendees.*

# 2015 Calling Campaign Nears Close

## Meet our WVSU student callers

You may have received a phone call from campus in the past few weeks about updating your contact information with the University, becoming a financial donor or continuing your support of West Virginia State University. Our student callers have done a wonderful job engaging with our loyal alumni and friends and we hope you enjoyed speaking with them as much as they enjoyed speaking with you.

Your generous gifts help State to attract students and provide them the very best education possible.

[Meet our Student Callers for the Fall 2015 Phone-a-thon](#)  
[Make your Gift to WVSU](#)



*Student callers reached out to alumni and friends of West Virginia State University over the past few weeks.*

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# National Alumni Association Far West Summit

## Area's first Regional Summit a success

Alumni and friends from the Far West Region as well as University representatives and President Brian O. Hemphill, Ph.D., gathered in September for the area's first Regional Summit. The Summit was held at The Westin Hotel Casino & Spa in Las Vegas and featured regional meetings, presentations by WVSU staff members and local activities for attendees. Photographs from this event are now available on the WVSU Alumni Flickr page.

[View photographs from the Far West Regional Summit](#)



*The Las Vegas Chapter of the WVSU National Alumni Association celebrated its 25th Anniversary during the Summit.*

# WVSU Alumni Association National Conference

**23rd National Conference to be held in Chicago,  
May 4-7, 2016**

Alumni from around the country will gather in Chicago next May for the WVSU National Alumni Association's 23rd National Conference. The conference will focus on the importance of alumni support to the continuous growth of West Virginia State University and will feature seminars, presentations, luncheons and dinners as well as sight seeing tours and activities in and around Chicago.

Full registration for the event is \$150. The registration deadline for the conference, which will be held in the Hyatt Regency McCormick Place, is April 22, 2016. Hotel discounts are also available for registrants.

[Register for the conference and view lodging information](#)



*The 23rd National Alumni Association Conference will be held in Chicago, Ill. at the Hyatt Regency McCormick Place, May 4-7, 2016.*

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## *Headlines and Announcements*

- Nov. 10 - [West Virginia State University to Host High School Science Bowl Competition](#), WVSU
- Nov. 09 - [2 West Virginia universities team up on social work master's](#), San Francisco Chronicle
- Nov. 09 - [Donation establishes \\$1.75 million scholarship fund for WVSU students](#), Charleston Gazette-Mail
- Nov. 05 - [Nationally Recognized Poets Featured at Poetry Reading at West Virginia State Nov. 9](#), WVSU
- Nov. 03 - [WVSU Education Department Receives Reaffirmation of Accreditation](#), WVSU
- Nov. 02 - [Daily Mail editorial: Hemphill showing leadership at WV State](#), Charleston Gazette-Mail
- Nov. 02 - [West Virginia State University Accreditation Reaffirmed for 10 Years](#), WVSU
- Oct. 29 - [W. Va. State University Growing "Creepy" Crops in New Garden Project](#), WVSU
- Oct. 28 - [West Virginia State University and Blue Ridge CTC Sign Transfer Agreement](#), WVSU
- Oct. 27 - [West Virginia State University Class to Adapt Stephen King Story into Film](#), WVSU
- Oct. 22 - [West Virginia State University, FOOTMAD to Present Andean Music Group Nov. 14](#), WVSU





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