



MEETING AGENDA

February 7, 2020

Michael J. Farrell, Chair

James Dailey

Diana Lewis Jackson

Dale Lowther

Andrew Payne

Donna Schulte

Steve Paine, Ed.D., Ex-Officio

Robert Brown, Ex-Officio

Sarah Armstrong Tucker, Ph.D.

Interim Chancellor

WEST VIRGINIA HIGHER EDUCATION POLICY COMMISSION MEETING

February 7, 2020 | 9:00 a.m. | By Phone

AGENDA

- I. Call to Order
- II. Chairman's Report
- III. Chancellor's Report
- IV. Council of Presidents' Report
- V. Consent Agenda
 - A. Approval of Minutes (*Pages 4 – 10*)
 - B. New Program Post-Approval Audits (*Pages 11 – 13*)
 - C. Underwood-Smith Teaching Scholars Program (*Page 14 - 19*)
 - D. 2019 Higher Education Almanac (*Page 20*)
 - E. 2019 Financial Aid Comprehensive Report (*Pages 21 - 24*)
- VI. 2020 Census Update (*Page 25*)
- VII. Approval of Fiscal Year 2021 Distribution Plan for the West Virginia Higher Education Grant Program (*Pages 26 - 27*)
- VIII. Approval of Eligibility Requirements, Annual Award Amount, and Summer Awards for the PROMISE Scholarship Program (*Pages 28 - 30*)
- IX. Approval of Presidential Search Procedure (*Page 31 - 33*)
- X. Possible Executive Session under the Authority of West Virginia Code §6-9A-4 to Discuss Personnel Issues
 - A. Approval of Presidential Contract at Fairmont State University (*Page 34*)
- XI. Additional Board Action and Comment
- XII. Adjournment

DRAFT MINUTES

WEST VIRGINIA HIGHER EDUCATION POLICY COMMISSION

DECEMBER 5, 2019

I. Call to Order

Chairman Michael J. Farrell convened a meeting of the Higher Education Policy Commission on December 5, 2019, at 3:00 p.m., in the Student Center Conference Room of the West Virginia School of Osteopathic Medicine, 400 North Lee Street, Lewisburg, West Virginia. The following Commissioners participated: James W. Dailey, Michael J. Farrell; Diane Lewis Jackson; Dale Lowther (by phone); and Andrew A. Payne. Absent were Commissioners Robert Lee Brown, Ex-Officio; Steven L. Paine, Ex-Officio; and Donna L. Schulte. Also in attendance were Interim Chancellor Sarah Armstrong Tucker, institutional presidents and their staff, Higher Education Policy Commission staff, members of the Advisory Council of Faculty, and others.

II. Chairman's Report

Chairman Farrell secured a quorum and welcomed Commission members and the audience to the meeting. He reported that higher education is making great progress communicating to the legislative leadership what we do as a system. They appear very pleased with the quality of information we are providing and the continued dialogue. Chairman Farrell expressed appreciation to the Chancellor and her staff and to the institutions for their efforts in reaching out to the legislature.

III. Chancellor's Report

Dr. Sarah Armstrong Tucker, Interim Chancellor, thanked President Nemitz and the West Virginia School of Osteopathic Medicine community for accommodating the Commission meeting. Chancellor Tucker reported that she and State Department of Education Superintendent Steven Paine recently convened an interagency leadership team consisting of staff from the West Virginia Department of Education, the Commission and the West Virginia Council for Community and Technical College Education with the goal of creating a seamless P-20 system. The group divided into these subcommittees: Teacher Preparation, P-20 Data System, Perkins Plan, Strategic Plan, Social-Emotional Mental Health, and Communications. She stated that the groups will continue their work to ensure alignment among the systems.

Chancellor Tucker further reported on other activities at the Commission including the launching of the online application for the Underwood-Smith Teaching Scholars Program, the College Application and Exploration Week, the FAFSA Completion Campaign, and the Board of Governors Summit.

Chancellor Tucker introduced and welcomed Dr. Carl Powell as the new director

of WVNET.

IV. Updates from Constituent Groups

A. Advisory Council of Faculty

Karen Carter, representative of the Advisory Council of Faculty and Associate Professor of Psychology at New River Community and Technical College, reported on the mission of the Council, its goals for the upcoming legislative session, and its initiatives for the new academic year. These include efforts to increase funding for higher education, funding for PEIA and exploration of alternative sources of health insurance, promoting inclusion of faculty in the decision-making process, ensuring transparency across the system, and supporting the authority of the boards of governors to regulate their institutions. Ms. Carter further reported on the ways in which faculty supports the legislative investment in higher education. She emphasized that communities are enhanced by the role of their institutions of higher education.

B. Advisory Council of Students

The Council requested to report at a future Commission meeting.

V. Campus Report -- West Virginia School of Osteopathic Medicine

Dr. James W. Nemitz, President of West Virginia School of Osteopathic Medicine, reported on the state of the institution. He gave an overview of the school's mission and indicated that the West Virginia School of Osteopathic Medicine is dedicated to serve, first and foremost, the state of West Virginia and the health care needs of its residents, emphasizing primary care in rural areas. He shared the school's Points of Pride to include: WVSOM was ranked by U.S. News and World Report as one of the nation's top medical schools for 21 consecutive years; it is number one in the nation among all medical schools graduating physicians who practice in rural areas such as West Virginia and Appalachia, according to Academic Medicine; and it has been recognized seven times for being a great college to work for by the Chronicle of Higher Education. Dr. Nemitz provided a summary of major improvements to the campus, innovative academic programs, and outreach efforts statewide and within the community.

VI. Approval of Minutes

Commissioner Payne moved to approve the minutes of the Commission meetings held on September 18 and September 27, 2019. Commissioner Lewis Jackson seconded the motion. Motion passed.

VII. Approval of Bachelor of Science Allied Health Education

Dr. Corley Dennison, Vice Chancellor of Academic Affairs, provided an overview of the proposed Bachelor of Science Allied Health Education at Bluefield State College.

Commissioner Payne moved approval of the following resolution:

Resolved, That the West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission approves the Bachelor of Science Allied Health Education at Bluefield State College for implementation in August 2020. This approval expires two years from the date of Commission approval if the program is not fully implemented.

Commissioner Dailey seconded the motion. Motion passed.

VIII. Approval to Offer the Doctor of Business Administration

Vice Chancellor Dennison provided an overview of the proposed Doctor of Business Administration at Salem University.

Commissioner Payne moved approval of the following resolution:

Resolved, That the West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission approves the request for Salem University to offer the Doctor of Business Administration, effective January 2021. This approval expires September 2021 if the program is not fully implemented.

Commissioner Dailey seconded the motion. Motion passed.

IX. Approval of Revisions to Series 11, Procedural Rule, Submission of Proposals for Academic Programs at Public Regional Institutions and the Monitoring and Discontinuance of Existing Programs

Vice Chancellor Dennison provided an overview of the proposed revisions to Series 11, Procedural Rule, Submission of Proposals for Academic Programs at Public Regional Institutions and the Monitoring and Discontinuance of Existing Programs.

Commissioner Lewis Jackson moved approval of the following resolution:

Resolved, That the West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission approves revisions to Series 11, Procedural Rule, Submission of Proposals for Academic Programs at the Public Regional Institutions and the Monitoring and Discontinuance of Existing Programs to be filed with the Secretary of State for the 30-day public comment period and if no substantive comments are received the Commission extends its final approval.

Commissioner Payne seconded the motion. Motion passed.

X. Approval of Appointment to the Higher Education Student Financial Aid Advisory Board

Mr. Brian Weingart, Senior Director of Financial Aid, provided an overview of the Higher Education Student Financial Aid Advisory Board, its membership, and the

proposed appointment.

Commissioner Payne moved approval of the following resolution:

Resolved, That the West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission approves the appointment of Tresa Weimer to the Higher Education Student Financial Aid Advisory Board.

Commissioner Lewis Jackson seconded the motion. Motion passed.

XI. Approval of Fiscal Year 2021 Capital Project Priorities

Dr. Edward Magee, Vice Chancellor of Finance, provided an overview of the proposed approval of Fiscal Year 2021 capital project priorities.

Commissioner Payne moved approval of the following resolution:

Resolved, That the West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission approves the prioritized capital project list for Fiscal Year 2021 and directs staff to report the capital project priorities to the Legislative Oversight Commission on Education Accountability in January as statutorily required.

Commissioner Lewis Jackson seconded the motion. Motion passed.

XII. Report on Fall 2019 Enrollment

Dr. Chris Treadway, Senior Director of Research and Policy, presented an analysis of current enrollment data derived from the Fall Census 2019 data collection along with a discussion of historical enrollment trends. He reported on the college-going rate, the Fall to Fall retention rates, headcount enrollment, and FTE enrollment. Dr. Treadway explained that consistent with national trends, overall credit headcount enrollment is down approximately 0.8 percent to 62,145. He provided additional enrollment metrics as listed in the recently released West Virginia Higher Education Enrollment Report 2019.

XIII. Update on Bluefield State College

Robin Capehart, President of Bluefield State College, briefed the Commission on the state of the school. He focused his presentation on the need for the school to offer graduate programs based on its mission statement. He asked the commissioners to revisit and approve the proposed Master's degree in Engineering Management and the Master's degree in Business Administration. President Capehart stated that the college's Board of Governors fully supports the offering of master's programs. He said that he has driven around the state to meet with alumni and noticed that students from low-income families come to the college and enroll in high paying degrees. President Capehart concluded by saying that he wishes to move forward a school that has done so much for its students.

President Capehart introduced Board of Governors' members Reverend Garry

Moore, its chairman, who addressed the Commission; Vice Chairman Charlie Cole; and Mr. Ron Hypes.

XIV. Presentation of Fiscal Year 2019 Consolidated Audit

Vice Chancellor Magee presented information regarding the audited financial statements prepared for the West Virginia Higher Education Fund.

Commissioner Dailey moved approval of the following resolution:

Resolved, That the West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission accepts the audited financial report for the Higher Education Fund for the Fiscal Year ending June 30, 2019.

Commissioner Payne seconded the motion. Motion passed.

XV. Adjournment

Commissioner Payne moved to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Lewis Jackson seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Michael J. Farrell, Chairman

Diana Lewis Jackson, Secretary

DRAFT MINUTES

WEST VIRGINIA HIGHER EDUCATION POLICY COMMISSION SPECIAL MEETING

January 7, 2020

I. Call to Order

Chairman Michael Farrell convened a special meeting of the Higher Education Policy Commission at 8:30 a.m. in the Ninth Floor Conference Room at 1018 Kanawha Boulevard, East, Charleston, West Virginia, and by conference call. The following Commission members participated by phone: Robert L. Brown, James W. Dailey, Michael J. Farrell, Diane Lewis Jackson, Dale Lowther, Donna L. Schulte, and Andrew A. Payne. Others participating by phone included state college and university representatives. In attendance were Interim Chancellor Sarah Armstrong Tucker and Commission staff.

Chairman Farrell secured a quorum and gave a brief overview of the agenda.

II. Confirmation of Presidential Appointment and Approval of Presidential Compensation

Dr. Sarah Armstrong Tucker, Interim Chancellor, provided information regarding the presidential appointment and compensation for Bluefield State College president-elect Robin C. Capehart.

Commissioner Payne moved approval of the following resolution:

Resolved, That the West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission confirms the appointment of Robin C. Capehart as President of Bluefield State College and approves his compensation as proposed by the Bluefield State College Board of Governors.

Commissioner Dailey seconded the motion. Motion passed.

III. Additional Board Action and Comments

There were no additional board action items or comments.

IV. Adjournment

There being no further business, Commissioner Lowther moved to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Payne seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Michael J. Farrell, Chairman

Diana Lewis Jackson, Secretary

**West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission
Meeting of February 7, 2020**

ITEM: New Program Post-Approval Audits

INSTITUTION: Shepherd University

RECOMMENDED RESOLUTION: Information Item

STAFF MEMBER: Corley Dennison

BACKGROUND:

Series 11, Procedural Rule, Submission of Proposals for Academic Programs at Public Regional Institutions and the Monitoring and Discontinuance of Existing Programs, provides that “all proposals approved by the Higher Education Policy Commission shall be reviewed via a post-approval audit three years after the initial approval was received.” Shepherd University has submitted post-approval audits for the following programs:

- B.A. Global Studies
- B.S. Data Analytics

Both programs were approved by the Commission in April 2016. The reports submitted by the institutions are reviewed in relation to the original proposal approved by the Commission. In terms of enrollment, graduates and finances, both programs appear to be developing as anticipated. There were no specific concerns raised by the audits. Post-audit summaries are provided below for the two programs.

Shepherd University

Bachelor of Arts – Global Studies

Commission approved on April 1, 2016.

Program goals/mission: Global Studies is an interdisciplinary program combining courses in the social sciences, natural sciences, arts, humanities, and professional fields. It is designed for students seeking knowledge and analysis of global issues and a more in-depth understanding of today’s interdependent world.

Curriculum: As proposed in the original submission, the program offers four concentrations – Global Peace and Governance, Global Economics and Development, Global Environments, and Global Culture and History. The program requires a total of 120 hours for graduation including 42 hours in general education. Specific graduation requirements include the following; 1) completion of a core of 18 hours, 2) choose a concentration of 15 credits, 3) complete 12 semester hours in the same foreign language

or demonstrate competence in that language, and 4) participate in an international experience of at least six weeks in length outside the U.S. Courses are delivered primarily in traditional face-to-face settings. Some hybrid and online formats for delivery may be utilized as the program develops.

Faculty: The original proposal indicated that the program would be implemented without additional full-time faculty. The vast majority of courses were being taught by tenure-track faculty. The audit indicated that in the most current year, the program was served by one full-time faculty member and one adjunct. Faculty data sheets were provided for two full-time faculty, both with doctorate degrees.

Assessment: The University requires each department to identify multiple student-learning outcomes, each of which entails both direct and indirect assessment measures to determine student success. Global Studies has developed four learning outcomes that also embrace Liberal Education and America's Promise (LEAP) standards. The program director and an advisory group reviews the program annually to ensure that the program goals are being met. Course syllabi are reviewed each semester to ensure that students are appropriately informed of course expectations and assessment methods. The director makes recommendations on program development and delivery in collaboration with the department chair and steering group. LEAP goals are measured by an analysis of the work of students in the two courses – Introduction to Global Studies and Capstone in Global Studies.

Accreditation: There is no specialized accreditation available for the program.

Enrollment: The original proposal anticipated that by year three, the program would produce zero graduates and have headcount enrollment of 40 majors. The audit reveals that the program enrolled 21 majors in 2018-19 and produced five graduates.

Finance: The original proposal indicated that the program would be supported by tuition revenues and the institutional budget. In the third year, it was anticipated that program costs would total \$5,474. It was noted that the instructional costs for Global Studies was built into the current institutional budget. The program is housed in the Department of Political Science and has a separate budget line. The audit reports that actual cost for 2018-19 was \$133,829.

Bachelor of Science - Data Analytics

Commission approved April 1, 2016.

Program goals/mission: Data Analytics is offered through the Department of Computer Science, Mathematics and Engineering. The program is designed to provide professional preparation for both a career in the analysis of large data sets and a solid foundation for graduation studies in data analytics and information systems. By means of rigorous coursework, the degree is designed to provide appropriate theory and skills for undergraduate students whose intent is to pursue a career in the data science industry. The original proposal noted the moving of the Veterans Administration Health Information

System and Technology Architecture from Falling Water to Shepherdstown. Proctor and Gamble, and Macy's were also expected to be served by this program.

Curriculum: As proposed in the original submission, the program offers two concentrations – Advanced Data Analytics and Bioinformatics (originally Biology). The program requires a total of 120 hours for graduation including six hours of data analysis courses, 33 hours in mathematics, 18 hours in computer information sciences, and 42 hours of general education. Students must also complete a Data Capstone Project. Courses are delivered primarily in traditional face-to-face settings.

Faculty: The original proposal indicated that the program would be implemented without additional full-time faculty. The vast majority of courses were being taught by tenure-track faculty. Two new data courses would be developed by existing faculty. It was anticipated that two adjunct faculty would be required to cover reassignment of faculty from lower-level courses. The audit indicated that the program utilized seven tenure-track faculty, one non-tenure-track, and one adjunct faculty member.

Assessment: The University requires each department to identify multiple student-learning outcomes, each of which entails both direct and indirect assessment measures to determine student success. Ten learning outcomes have been identified which are mapped to specific courses in the curriculum. Based on these outcomes, three principal elements for assessment were identified: oral and written communication skills, experiential and lifelong learning, and ethical data analysis practices. These outcomes are also linked to Liberal Education and America's Promise (LEAP) standards.

Accreditation: The audit indicates that specialized accreditation is available for the program, but offers no details.

Enrollment: The original proposal anticipated that by year three, the program would produce one graduate and have headcount enrollment of 14 majors. The audit reveals that the program enrolled 13 majors in 2018-19 and produced zero graduates.

Finance: The original proposal indicated that the program would be supported by tuition revenues and the institutional budget. In the third year, it was anticipated that program costs would total \$41,171. The audit reports that actual cost for 2018-19 was \$206,362 and was supported through tuition revenue.

**West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission
Meeting of February 7, 2020**

ITEM: Underwood-Smith Teaching Scholars Program

INSTITUTIONS: All

RECOMMENDED RESOLUTION: Information Item

STAFF MEMBER: Matt Turner

BACKGROUND:

The West Virginia Legislature during its First Regular Session of 2019 passed House Bill 206, the “omnibus” education bill. While the bill focused on K-12 public education, it included significant enhancements to the Underwood-Smith scholarship program, which is administered by the Commission. The Commission earlier this year approved the rule related to the changes to the scholarship.

This presentation will provide a brief overview of the goals of the new Underwood-Smith Teaching Scholars Program, outline the budget and enhancements, as well as the requirements for students and the number of applications to date.

UNDERWOOD-SMITH 

Teaching

SCHOLARS

TeachinWV.com

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

- \$10K per year for 4 years
 - Up to \$40,000, plus stackable with other scholarships and grants
- Annual cohorts of 25 scholars
- National applicant pool
- Mentoring component
- Willing to teach in a West Virginia public school for 5 years

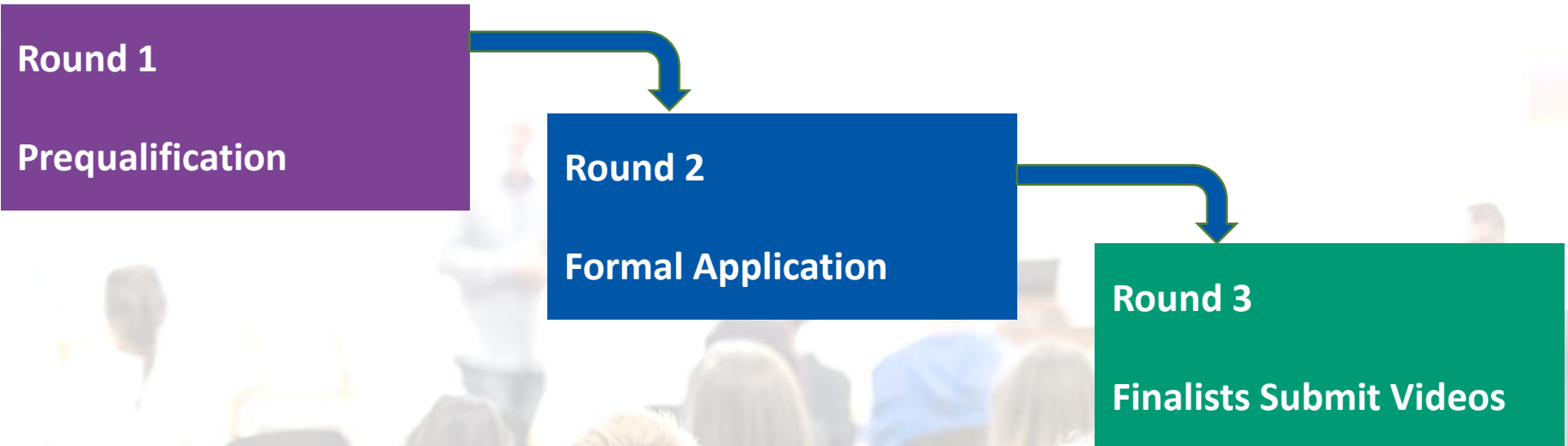


PROGRAM OVERVIEW

- Scholars receive support and guidance from a practicing West Virginia teacher mentor.
- Scholars spend valuable time in their mentor's classroom – beginning their first semester.
- Mentoring component gives Scholars a greater chance at success in college and the experience they need to graduate as highly prepared teachers.



APPLICATION PROCESS



OUR PRIORITIES TODAY...

- **GETTING THE WORD OUT**
 - Mailers, social media, marketing
 - Why this program is more than a grant – service and mentorship
 - Familiarization with school counselors
 - Promotion to a regional and national audience
- **Building a pool of qualified mentors**
 - Selecting highly qualified mentors
 - Support and experience provided by mentors (one-on-one counseling, classroom experiences)
 - Follow-up after the student graduates and becomes a teacher

**West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission
Meeting of February 7, 2020**

ITEM: Presentation of the 2019 Higher Education Almanac

INSTITUTIONS: All

RECOMMENDED RESOLUTION: Information Item

STAFF MEMBER: Chris Treadway

BACKGROUND:

Senate Bill 673 afforded the Commission and the West Virginia Council for Community and Technical College Education greater flexibility in the publication of higher education accountability data. In response to this change, the Division of Policy and Planning recently completed work on the West Virginia Higher Education Almanac (formerly the Higher Education Report Card).

In this presentation, Policy and Planning staff will introduce Commission members to the new Almanac and discuss how the information it contains may be used to inform institution- and state-level policy decisions.

The Almanac is available for download in the Data and Publication Center at the following link: <http://www.wvhepc.edu/resources/data-and-publication-center/>

**West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission
Meeting of February 7, 2020**

ITEM: 2019 Financial Aid Comprehensive Report

INSTITUTIONS: All

RECOMMENDED RESOLUTION: Information Item

STAFF MEMBER: Brian Weingart

BACKGROUND:

In accordance with West Virginia Code §18C-1-1e, this report represents the eleventh annual Financial Aid Comprehensive Report. It contains (a) descriptions of and changes to West Virginia student financial aid programs, (b) policy recommendations for West Virginia aid programs, and (c) longitudinal data about recipients of state financial aid and outcomes of these recipients. The Financial Aid Comprehensive Report, along with its supplement on federal aid and student loans, provides a comprehensive view of the principal sources of financial aid at West Virginia colleges and universities. It should be noted that the data presented are for the 2018-2019 academic year. Also, starting in Fall 2018, WVU Institute of Technology and Potomac State College of WVU are reported under West Virginia University.

The 2019 Financial Aid Comprehensive Report is available for download in the Data and Publication Center at the following link: <http://www.wvhepc.edu/resources/data-and-publication-center/>

PROGRAM CHANGES:

- The Higher Education Student Financial Aid Advisory Board met three times in 2018-19 and made recommendations to the Commission regarding the academic criteria necessary to receive the Providing Real Opportunities to Maximize In-State Student Excellence (PROMISE) Scholarship, the PROMISE award amount, and the Higher Education Grant Program (HEGP) award structure.
- A new ACT/SAT concordance was released in June 2018 because of changes to the SAT test. The new concordance required changes to the SAT subscores needed to qualify for the PROMISE Scholarship. The minimum SAT scores needed to qualify for PROMISE for Fall 2019 was a 530 in the Evidenced-Based Reading and Writing section, a 520 in the Math section, and an 1100 composite SAT score. There was no change in the ACT scores needed to qualify for PROMISE.

- The West Virginia Invests Grant was created by the Legislature during the 2019 legislative session. The West Virginia Invests Grant became available for 2019-2020. During the 2019 special session, the Underwood-Smith Teaching Scholars Program and Teacher Loan Assistance program were changed to focus on areas of critical need. These changes are to go into effect July 1, 2020. An online application was developed for the Underwood-Smith Teacher Loan Assistance Program for 2018-2019 to allow current teachers to apply online for loan assistance and allow principals to certify employment electronically.

DATA HIGHLIGHTS:

PROMISE Scholarship Program

- The number of PROMISE recipients increased from 10,091 in 2014-15 to 10,398 in 2018-19. The total cost of the scholarship increased from \$45,678,021 in 2014-15 to \$47,463,511 in 2018-19.
- Approximately 89.7 percent of PROMISE recipients in 2018-19 attended a four-year public institution, an increase of 1.2 percentage points. Of these, most attended either West Virginia University (49.2 percent) or Marshall University (18.9 percent).
- Public community and technical colleges accounted for 2.9 percent of PROMISE scholars in 2018-19. In 2018-19, 7.4 percent of PROMISE scholars attended independent, non-profit institutions in West Virginia. Of these, most attended West Virginia Wesleyan College (3.3 percent).

Higher Education Grant Program (HEGP)

- The number of HEGP recipients decreased during the five-year period, from 18,305 in 2014-15 to 16,487 in 2018-19. The total amount awarded decreased by 6.8 percent or from \$40.4 million in 2014-15 to \$37.7 million in 2018-19.
- In 2018-19, 69.7 percent of HEGP recipients attended public four-year institutions. Of these, most students attended either West Virginia University (26.4 percent) or Marshall University (15.7 percent).
- Public community and technical colleges accounted for 18.7 percent of HEGP awardees in 2018-19. Four-year independent, nonprofit institutions accounted for 7.3 percent in 2018-19.
- In 2018-19, 3.6 percent of HEGP recipients attended a West Virginia for-profit institution, a slight decrease from 3.9 percent in 2017-18.

Higher Education Adult Part-Time Student (HEAPS) Grant Program

- The number of students awarded HEAPS Part-Time Component decreased from 3,057 in 2014-15 to 2,809 in 2018-19, while the actual dollars awarded declined from \$3.1 million to \$2.96 million. The average award increased from \$1,019 in 2014-15 to \$1,054 in 2018-19.
- About 44.3 percent of HEAPS Part-Time Component recipients were enrolled at public four-year institutions in 2018-19. Public community and technical colleges accounted for 50.5 percent of recipients while 1.6 percent attended an independent for-profit institution in 2018-19.
- The number of students awarded HEAPS Workforce Development Component decreased from 1,185 in 2014-15 to 728 in 2018-19, while the actual dollars awarded declined from \$1.3 million to \$1.15 million. The average award increased from \$1,132 in 2014-15 to \$1,584 in 2018-19.
- About 54.0 percent of HEAPS Workforce recipients were enrolled at public two-year institutions in 2018-19. Public vocational/technical centers accounted for 21.4 percent of recipients while 24.6 percent attended an independent for-profit institution in 2018-19.

Underwood-Smith Teacher Scholarship

- The number of Underwood-Smith Teacher Scholarship recipients has declined from 32 in 2016-17 to 29 in 2018-19. The total amount of awards has slightly decreased from \$155,577 in 2016-17 to \$125,000 in 2018-19.
- The average award in 2018-19 was \$4,310, a decrease from the 2016-17 average of \$4,862.
- Most of the scholars, 93.1 percent, attended a public four-year institution. West Virginia University enrolled 27.6 percent of recipients, the most of any institution in the state.

Engineering, Science, and Technology Scholarship

- The number of Engineering, Science, and Technology Scholarship recipients has increased from 190 every year since 2014-15 except when the number of recipients decreased from 232 in 2017-18 to 190 in 2018-19. The total amount of awards has increased from \$538,644 in 2014-15 to \$561,700 in 2018-19.
- The average award has gradually increased from \$2,835 in 2014-15 to \$2,956 in 2018-19.

- Most of the scholars, 89.5 percent, attended a public four-year institution. Of those, West Virginia University enrolled 57.4 percent of those recipients, the most of any institution, followed by Marshall University at 19.5 percent.

Medical Student Loan Program

- The number of recipients from 2014-15 to 2018-19 has gradually decreased since 2014-15 from 256 to 246 in 2018-19; however, there was a slight increase from the 2017-18 to 2018-19 academic years.
- Loan deferment, or the number of borrowers who started practicing medicine in West Virginia, peaked in 2017-18 at 35 borrowers.
- Starting in 2017-18, the number reported for loan forgiveness includes the total number of borrowers in repayment seeking loan forgiveness. For 2018-19, the number was 300 borrowers. Prior to 2017-18, the number reported only included those that had completed their obligation towards loan forgiveness.
- The default on previous awards increased from 2.5 percent in 2014-15 to 7.17 percent in 2018-19.

Nursing Scholarship Program

- The Nursing Scholarship Program awarded a total of 149 scholarships to nursing students at all levels during the 2018-19 academic year totaling \$274,450 in scholarship aid. The total amount of awards has increased from \$180,579 or 51.9 percent from 2015-16 to 2018-19.
- The number of Nursing Scholarship Program recipients has fluctuated from 123 in 2015-16 to 149 in 2018-19.

**West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission
Meeting of February 7, 2020**

ITEM: 2020 Census Update

INSTITUTIONS: All

RECOMMENDED RESOLUTION: Information Item

STAFF MEMBER: Matt Turner

BACKGROUND:

Matt Turner will provide an update about state preparations for the 2020 Census.

**West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission
Meeting of February 7, 2020**

ITEM: Approval of Fiscal Year 2021 Distribution Plan for the West Virginia Higher Education Grant Program

INSTITUTIONS: All

RECOMMENDED RESOLUTION: *Resolved*, That the West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission approves the proposed Fiscal Year 2021 Distribution Plan for the West Virginia Higher Education Grant.

STAFF MEMBER: Brian Weingart

BACKGROUND:

The West Virginia Higher Education Grant Program, the state's long-standing need-based financial aid program, provides opportunities for full-time, undergraduate students with demonstrated financial need to pursue a postsecondary education at qualified institutions.

Modifications to Series 42, the legislative rule that regulates the program, have provided staff with policy latitude to determine award distribution frameworks.

Financial aid has been increased through a commitment from the Governor, the Legislature, and the Commission so that higher education can be affordable for West Virginia students. The following provides an overview of the proposed distribution plan for the 2020-2021 academic year.

Revenue

The Higher Education Grant Program receives funding from general revenue and carry forward balances. Fiscal Year (FY) 2021 funding, not including carry forward, should total just over \$40.6 million:

- *State Appropriation - \$40,619,864.* The Legislature appropriates funds annually directly to the Higher Education Grant Program. The estimated FY 2021 appropriation is the same as the FY 2020 appropriation.

Based upon current projections, funding may be used to increase the award amount for the 2020-2021 award year.

Proposed FY 2021 Higher Education Grant Program Funding Summary

	Budget Presented to Student Financial Aid Advisory Board
State Appropriations	\$40,619,864
3% Administrative Allowance	(\$1,218,596)
Estimated Carry Forward	\$7,543,417
Total	\$46,944,685

The Higher Education Student Financial Aid Advisory Board proposes to increase the award amount during the 2020-2021 year and two award levels in order to simplify the award process for institutions. The Advisory Board recommends an increase in the maximum award amount of \$2,800 to \$2,900 for students who are Pell Grant eligible and an increase in the maximum award amount from \$2,400 to \$2,700 for students above Pell Grant eligibility up to an 11,000 EFC. The Higher Education Student Financial Aid Advisory Board recommended to close the gap between the two tiers because the first tier qualifies for the Pell Grant whereas students in the second tier normally do not qualify for any other type of need-based aid. The maximum EFC for eligibility is being set at 11,000 in order provide the ability to award as many needy students as possible should funds be available.

Non-Traditional Students (adults over the age of 25).

Application deadlines that occur well before the beginning of an academic year negatively impact the participation rate of non-traditional students, especially since a deadline is not part of the federal financial aid application process. To provide greater programmatic access and to increase adult college participation rates, the Advisory Board proposes for the 2020-2021 academic year a priority application date of July 1, 2020 for:

- 1) students 25 years of age or older,
- 2) students who have not previously received the Higher Education Grant, and
- 3) have an EFC under 11,000.

The Advisory Board proposes a secondary application deadline of July 31, 2020 for the late filing non –traditional population if funding allows, to better utilize the funding that is set aside for this subgroup.

**West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission
Meeting of February 7, 2020**

ITEM: Approval of Eligibility Requirements, Annual Award Amount, and Summer Awards for the PROMISE Scholarship Program

INSTITUTIONS: All

RECOMMENDED RESOLUTION: *Resolved*, That the West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission approves proposed eligibility requirements, the annual award amount, and summer awards for the PROMISE Scholarship Program.

STAFF MEMBER: Brian Weingart

BACKGROUND:

The PROMISE Scholarship is a merit-based financial aid program for West Virginia residents. Students who achieve certain academic goals are eligible to receive annual awards to help offset the cost of tuition and mandatory fees at public or independent institutions in West Virginia.

Eligibility Requirements

The current scholarship eligibility requirements for high school and homeschooled applicants require a 3.00 core and overall high school grade point average (GPA) and a 22 ACT composite score with a 20 in each of the four subject areas (English, mathematics, reading, and science) or a 1100 SAT combined score with a 530 score in evidenced based reading and writing and a 520 score in mathematics.

Eligibility requirements for those attending an approved alternative education program must meet the academic eligibility criteria above and average a 550 on each section of the Test Assessing Secondary Completion (TASC).

Eligibility requirements for those attending an out-of-state high school but reside in West Virginia must meet the academic eligibility criteria above and the high school must verify that the student commuted on a daily basis from West Virginia the entire time the student attended the out-of-state high school.

Staff proposes maintaining these eligibility standards for students applying to receive the scholarship for the first time in the 2021-2022 academic year.

Annual Award Amount

Due to the current budget projections, staff proposes to maintain the award level for the 2020-2021 academic year at the lesser of tuition and mandatory fees, or \$4,750 annually. Staff also recommends that the Higher Education Student Financial Aid Advisory Board continue to closely monitor the program. Staff encourages these options to not be limited merely to changing qualification criteria but also to include other policy changes that may help the PROMISE program work to further other financial aid and educational goals of the state.

Summer Awards

The PROMISE Scholarship Program provides summer school awards for eligible students. Summer awards were initially offered during Summer 2010. Student acceptance of a summer award counts toward the maximum eight semesters of eligibility with priority given to students who can utilize the summer term to graduate by year's end. Below is a chart on PROMISE awarded in the summer Staff proposes to continue summer PROMISE awards based upon available funding.

Year	Recipients	Average Award	Total Awards
2015	86	\$2,095	\$180,186
2016	99	\$2,128	\$210,658
2017	99	\$2,019	\$199,853
2018	130	\$2,128	\$276,625
2019	139	\$2,106	\$292,697

PROMISE Scholarship Cost Projections

The following table provides projections through Fiscal Year (FY) 2021 based on the following parameters:

- Annual funding has been constant at \$47.5 million beginning in FY 2012.
- The projected number of students qualifying for and accepting PROMISE as well as their choice of institution and retention levels are based on historical data.

PROMISE Projections 12-10-19

Fiscal Year 2018			
Revenue		Expenditures	
Statutory		Administrative Costs	\$661,861
Transfers	\$47,500,000	Scholarships	\$47,396,369
Investment		Total Expenses	\$48,058,230
Earnings	\$4,952		
Total Revenue	\$47,504,952	Ending Balance	
Carry Forward	\$2,228,884	(06/30/2018)	\$4,713,562
Total Assets	\$49,733,836		
Fiscal Year 2019			
Revenue		Expenditures	
Statutory		Administrative Costs	\$610,922
Transfers	\$47,500,000	Scholarships	\$47,458,994
Investment		Total Expenses	\$48,069,916
Earnings	\$121,353,94		
Total Revenue	\$47,500,000	Ending Balance	
Carry Forward	\$4,713,562	(06/30/2019)	\$1,298,683
Total Assets	\$52,213,562		
Fiscal Year 2020			
Revenue		Expenditures	
Statutory		Administrative Costs	\$635,359.02
Transfers	\$47,500,000	Scholarships	\$46,264,304
Investment		Total Expenses	\$46,899,663
Earnings	\$10,918		
Total Revenue	\$47,510,918	Ending Balance	
Carry Forward	\$1,298,683	(06/30/2020)	\$1,909,939
Total Assets	\$48,809,601		
Fiscal Year 2021			
Revenue		Expenditures	
Statutory		Administrative Costs	\$660,773
Transfers	\$47,500,000	Scholarships	\$45,248,366
Investment		Total Expenses	\$45,909,139
Earnings	\$12,379		
Total Revenue	\$47,512,379	Ending Balance	
Carry Forward	\$1,909,939	(06/30/2021)	\$3,513,179
Total Assets	\$49,422,318		

**West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission
Meeting of February 7, 2020**

ITEM: Approval of Presidential Search Procedure

INSTITUTION: West Virginia State University

RECOMMENDED RESOLUTION: *Resolved*, That the West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission approves the Presidential Search Procedure adopted by the West Virginia State University Board of Governors.

STAFF MEMBER: Sarah Armstrong Tucker

BACKGROUND:

Pursuant to Series 5, Legislative Rule, Guidelines for Governing Boards in Employing and Evaluating Presidents, an institutional governing board must adopt a search procedure when it undertakes a search for a new President. The Commission must approve the procedure before the search begins.

During the meeting, Dr. Sarah Armstrong Tucker, Interim Chancellor, will provide an overview of the presidential search procedure as adopted by the West Virginia State University Board of Governors on January 17, 2020 and for which it seeks Commission approval.

DATE	PROCESS
January 16, 2020	<p>1. The search Process developed. In consultation with the Higher Education Policy Commission, pursuant to Board of Governors Policy #61, and Title 133, Series 5, the Board of Governors shall create a process to conduct a search and select the next President for West Virginia State University. The Presidential search process shall be presented to the Board for its approval.</p>
January 16, 2020	<p>2. Search Committee Appointed. The Chairman of the Board of Governors (“Board Chair”) shall appoint a Search Committee:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Seven (7) Board of Governors (<i>includes Faculty Representative; Student Representative and Executive Committee</i>) • One (1) University Staff Representative • One (1) University Administrative Representative • One (1) Alumni Representative • One (1) W Club Representative • One (1) Philanthropy/Donor Representative • One (1) Community Representative • One (1) WVSU Research & Public Service/Research and Development Corporation Representative • One (1) Foundation Member Representative • One (1) HEPC Chancellor Representative <p>The WVSU Board Secretary shall serve as Chair of the Search Committee (“Search Chair”)</p>
January 22, 2020	<p>3. Issuance of RFP for Search Consultant.</p>
February 5, 2020	<p>4. Responses to RFP. Search Consultant RFP Due.</p>
February 7, 2020	<p>5. HEPC approval. The regular meeting of the Higher Education Policy Commission (HEPC). The proposed Search Process and Timeline are submitted for Commission review and approval for the search process to commence.</p>
February 10, 2020	<p>6. Executive Committee Meeting of the WVSU Board of Governors.</p>
February 11, 2020	<p>7. Selection of Search Consultant. Full Board Meeting to approve and select Search Consultant.</p>
February 12-21, 2020	<p>8. The search Process launched.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Search Committee meets with the Search Consultant to review and outline expectations. • Forums and town hall discussions with constituency groups to provide feedback on the desired characteristics of the next President. • Position announcement, candidate profile developed, and advertising plan established.
February 24-April 3, 2020	<p>9. Recruitment and screening of candidates.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Application deadline for the best consideration. • Screening of prospects by the Search Consultant. • Preliminary reference checks on viable candidates. • Search Committee evaluation, review, and selection of semifinalists.
April 6-21, 2020	<p>Interviews of semi-finalists.</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interviews with semifinalists (non-disclosed). • Evaluate semifinalist and select finalists. • Reference and background checks on finalists. • The search committee shall identify finalists for Board consideration.
April 27-May 1, 2020	<p>10. On-campus interviews.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Finalist invited for on-campus interviews to meet with students, staff, faculty, administrators, community leaders, alumni, and other stakeholders for evaluation. • The search Consultant shall provide feedback and review with the Search Committee for candidate presentation to the Board.
May 8, 2020	<p>11. Presentation to Board.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Search Committee Chair presents findings/impressions to the Board of Governors. <p>12. Board Selection and Appointment.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Board selects a candidate. • Initiation of Contract and signatures. • Transition considerations • Announce Completion of the presidential search and introduce the 12th President of West Virginia State University.
	<p>13. Contingency for Interim President. The Board will make every effort to select the next president of West Virginia State University in a timely fashion. However, the search process will continue and may be extended for as long as necessary for Board satisfaction. Should it become apparent that the selection process may extend beyond the time that the tenure of the current president will expire, the Board will seek the permission of the HEPC to appoint an interim president until such time as the Board selects the new president.</p>

**West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission
Meeting of February 7, 2020**

ITEM: Confirmation of Presidential Appointment and Approval of Presidential Compensation

INSTITUTIONS: Fairmont State University

RECOMMENDED RESOLUTION: *Resolved*, That the West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission confirms the appointment of Dr. Mirta Martin as President of Fairmont State University and approves her compensation as proposed by the Fairmont State University Board of Governors.

STAFF MEMBER: Kristin Boggs

BACKGROUND:

Pursuant to West Virginia Code §18B-1B-4(a)(17), the Commission must confirm the appointment of presidents of the institutions of higher education under its jurisdiction. Further, pursuant to West Virginia Code §18B-1B-4(a)(18), the Commission must approve the total compensation package from all sources for presidents of institutions under its jurisdiction proposed by institutional governing boards.

Fairmont State University

At its meeting on September 16, 2019, the Fairmont State University Board of Governors approved, subject to the approval of the Commission, the continued employment of Dr. Mirta Martin as its president and her total compensation package.

It is recommended that the Commission confirm Dr. Martin's continued appointment as President of Fairmont State University and approve her compensation package as presented.