

# Spirit

WEST VIRGINIA UNIVERSITY  
<http://wvutoday.wvu.edu/spirit/>

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### Plans to build world-class, campus child care center move forward

BY JANEY CINK

WVU is on track to have a campus child care center, which will serve families of students and employees, by the summer of 2009, WVU first lady Heather Garrison recently announced.

Plans are moving forward, she said, thanks to the dedication and hard work of a 17-member child care facility implementation team — made up of faculty, staff, students and administrators — in a short period of time.

Garrison and Joe Fisher, associate vice president for facilities and services, co-chair the committee charged with reviewing past studies of child care and developing a plan to implement in the new facility as quickly as possible.

Since its formation in October, the group has laid out an aggressive

timeline, selected a location (University-owned land adjacent to Krepps Park at the corner of Patteson Drive and Jerry West Boulevard), conducted numerous site visits and reviewed similar programs at other institutions — both in and out of state.

The result of the committee's work is a request for proposal, or RFP, which will be used to identify a state-of-the-art provider to operate WVU's new center. The University issued the RFP Jan. 15, marking an important milestone.

"During Mike's (President Mike Garrison's) public forums on WVU's future, quality-of-life issues like campus child care were raised by students and employees," Heather Garrison said. "The WVU Child Care Center is part of his

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**CHILD CARE PLANS** — WVU first lady Heather Garrison — joined by Joe Fisher (far left), associate vice president for facilities and services, and Rossi Wiles, associate director of contracting services — recently announced the child care facility implementation team has put together a request for proposal, which will be used to identify a state-of-the-art provider to operate WVU's new center.

*Photo by Greg Ellis*

### WVU's redesigned Web site features five themes, interactive elements

BY BECKY LOFSTEAD

WVU recently launched a new design for the University's main Web site ([www.wvu.edu](http://www.wvu.edu)), featuring a streamlined design, improved navigational and search tools and prominent visual links to research, curriculum innovation, student life and state and national initiatives. The site debuted Tuesday (Jan. 22).

"With an enrollment of more than 28,000 students on the main campus, some 6,000 employees, more than 165,000 alumni worldwide and a general public of millions, the home page serves a wide and diverse audience and is the primary communications portal for WVU," said Cathy Orndorff, director of Web communications. "Over a year's

worth of research, analysis and planning went into its development."

The last time the site was redesigned was August 2003, and technologies and communication strategies have changed as the University has grown in stature and impact.

Orndorff said with over a quarter million "hits" a week — many of which represent new or prospective students, prospective faculty and current and future government/corporate partners — the University's main Web site has become the dominant communications hub.

"It was time for a more robust, comprehensive and customer-friendly design to meet the escalating demands on the site," she added.

The redesigned home page features alternating photographic icons that link to five themes — Building Community, Connecting Globally, Launching Ideas, Creating Impact and the WVU Experience.

If users click on "Launching Ideas," for example, they can learn more about a new scientific research project. Clicking on "Connecting Globally" will take them to an international student-faculty project or research that links WVU to global industry. The "WVU Experience" will connect visitors to the pride and tradition that envelops the Mountaineer family.

"Building Community" takes visitors to

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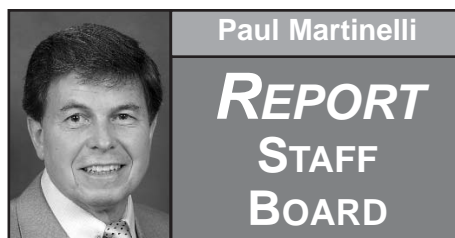
# Keep an eye on higher ed issues during legislative session

It was about this time last year that higher education officials were reviewing the governor's State of the State address. Unlike last year, there is less detailed information available at this stage of the legislative session.

Currently, all available information seems to indicate that funds will be available for salary increases. The governor's proposed budget includes approximately \$8.9 million for four-year institutions and \$1.2 million for two-year institutions' operating budgets. According to the Higher Education Policy Commission (HEPC) chancellor, these funds are intended to be used for a 3 percent salary increase pool for employees.

HEPC proposed a 3.5 percent salary increase, which would total \$16.8 million or approximately \$6.7 million more than proposed by the governor.

As noted by HEPC, the governor's proposed budget includes significant one-time funding for higher education, but far less in terms of ongoing



increases.

According to general revenue budget appropriations records I have maintained since 1994, the 2008 budget is projected at 11.1 percent for higher education. This represents a 1.8 percent increase from 2007. The largest higher education percentage increase, a total of 15.3 percent, dates back to the 1996-97 fiscal year.

The general revenue budget listed a high of 17.1 percent for higher education appropriations in the 1974-75 fiscal year. Using the 1974 percentage, the 2008 general revenue budget allocation for higher education would be \$700 million, or an increase of \$246 million compared to the 2008 total

allocation.

In comparing the general revenue budgets during the past two decades, the trend seems to show signs of increasing yearly, but the percentage decreases, which continues to make it difficult to achieve adequate funding for staff and faculty salaries.

With the start of the legislative session, several significant bills were introduced that will affect higher education:

- HB 2230 — providing an employee the right to decline to work more than 40 hours in a work week

- HB 2279 — salary increases for public employees based upon residential housing costs

- HB 2995/SB 69 — increasing the amount of annual and incremental salary increases

- HB 4034 — allowing public employees to acquire a lump sum payment for unused annual leave days in excess of those that can be carried over from year to year

- SB 18 — allowing paid sick leave to be used as paid family leave

- SB 125 — requiring PEIA Finance Board provide retirees' medical and prescription coverage in certain circumstances

As in previous years, no funding has been provided for employees paid from nonappropriated/auxiliary positions or athletics. We know that this means that once again, tuition and other revenue increases must be considered to meet the requirements of 3 percent salary increases.

The WVU budget office will soon provide updated information regarding the amount needed to fully fund the 2001 salary schedule. The Staff Council Legislative Committee plans to visit the state Capitol in early February. By this time, more information should be available regarding the specifics of salary increases.

— *The opinions expressed in this column are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect those of faculty, staff and administration, nor those of The Mountaineer Spirit.*

## Making gifts now can be excellent way to save taxes later

Many think that since they are not "rich," they do not need to have an estate plan. The simple truth is that everyone who owns property should take the time to set up an estate plan.

Good estate planning often involves more than having a will prepared. It may be advisable to make gifts now to loved ones and favorite charities to reduce estate taxes later.

Each one of us can make annual gifts of up to \$12,000 per recipient to reduce the taxability of our estate. That amount is excluded from gift taxes.

In the coming years, the annual amount will be indexed for inflation.



Married couples can make a combined gift of up to \$24,000 per recipient, even though only one owns the property, and the gift will escape taxation.

Just like estate taxes, gift tax rates are high — from 41-45 percent currently (the top gift tax rate will drop

to 35 percent in 2010 for that year only). The \$12,000 annual gift tax exclusion is very useful for reducing estate taxes by giving away property that is likely to increase in value over time.

Gifts to your favorite charitable or educational, tax-exempt organizations now, like the WVU Foundation, can lower estate taxes later. The asset or item donated will not be taxed in your estate and will provide an income tax deduction to offset current income. If the asset donated has appreciated in value, the tax on the gain will also be avoided.

A clever option for those who would otherwise make a cash gift to a nonprofit organization is to donate low-basis stock and then use cash to purchase new shares of the same stock. The benefit is that the cost basis of the newly acquired stock will be higher than the donated shares' basis -- an instant step-up in basis for your

portfolio, avoidance of taxes on capital gain and a full tax deduction, too!

If desired, your gift can also be used to provide a new source of income for yourself, your spouse or others that will have tax-free growth over the years. Since none of the donated asset's value is lost to taxes (which would occur if it were sold), 100 percent of the asset goes to work to provide income for those you select.

The benefits from the tax savings are compounded by the satisfaction you receive from choosing how your gift will help WVU — whether that is a medical research project, program, scholarship, faculty support funds or anything else you that you select. Such gifts can be named for you or another special person.

That's good planning.  
— *This column is written by Deborah Miller, director of planned giving for WVU Foundation Inc.*

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**The next Spirit will be published Thursday, Feb. 7. Deadline for submissions is noon Monday, Feb. 4.**

*In the meantime, check the Intranet (<http://intranet.wvu.edu>) for daily news updates.*

## WVU official: Service fee will improve county's infrastructure, quality of life

BY NARVEL WEESE, VICE PRESIDENT,  
ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE

As residents of Monongalia County, we enjoy many advantages — a stable economy with good paying jobs, diverse cultural opportunities, festivals galore, wonderful secondary and higher education systems, stellar high school and college sports teams, boundless recreational opportunities, unlimited civic engagement projects, excellent health care facilities. But traffic tie-ups and congestion will prevent us from reaching our full potential.

State and federal funding for road projects is always limited. It is clear that if we are going to make meaningful improvements to our roads, some resources will have to come from our local area.

The University, the WVU Hospital

system and others, including the citizens of Monongalia County, have benefited from the county's growing economy. Clearly, a prosperous community is not without its problems — traffic issues affect all of us who live and work here. Investment in our road system has not kept pace with the expanding community.

WVU has a responsibility to give back to the community. We have a proud record of doing just that, both as an institution and as individuals. The University's economic impact is significant, more than a billion dollars annually. More specifically, WVU has donated land to help construct a new fire station for the Morgantown Fire Department, constructed water retention ponds to reduce flooding in the Suncrest Neighborhood and numerous other

public service initiatives.

Several years ago, a group of local visionaries decided to do something about our South University Avenue entrance and Morgantown's undeveloped riverfront. WVU participated in developing the anchor building. Today, that area is producing jobs and business that benefit the entire region.

On the transportation front, WVU provides \$650,000 annually to support the public transportation system, taking hundreds of cars off the roads.

If the proposed service fee is passed, WVU employees and students who work in the county will pay a \$2 per week service fee for each week they are employed in the county. This will result in another estimated \$1 million annually in service fees to support the county commission's

road improvement proposal. (The estimate excludes employees at WVU Hospitals and other affiliated organization.)

In addition, WVU is willing to explore opportunities with the Department of Highways to mitigate right-of-way costs that are attributable to the University.

This transportation proposal is an opportunity to bring about needed change and improve our quality of life. We all complain about traffic woes and the lack of infrastructure improvements. Let's do something about it. Get involved. Listen. Learn.

I would encourage voters to learn more about the plan by visiting <http://www.monservicefee.com>, and in the end, consider supporting the enhancements a service fee could bring to Monongalia County.

### Meet the media



'BUCKS FOR BRAINS' — WVU President Mike Garrison (right) and researchers are praising Gov. Joe Manchin for his \$50 million "Bucks for Brains" research endowment aimed at slowing the state's "brain drain." Garrison, along with Marshall University President Stephen Kopp, discussed the benefits of the program at a news conference Wednesday (Jan. 23) in Charleston. "With this proposal, we will work together to keep and attract West Virginia's best and brightest to the state," Garrison said. If approved, the endowment would be the single largest, research-based initiative in West Virginia's history, he said. The \$50 million one-time appropriation would come from the state's surplus and could only be used to match private donations to the universities.

Photo by Brian Persinger

## Technology-based learning, academic programs report online

SUBMITTED BY WVU 2010 PLAN  
IMPLEMENTATION TEAM

The WVU 2010 Plan Implementation Team charged the Task Force on Technology-Based Learning and Academic Programs in January 2007.

Over the spring and summer of 2007, the group worked to fulfill its charge to:

- understand the competitive context for technology-based learning and academic programs,
- analyze institutional resources required to support technology-based learning and
- recommend best practices for increasing the availability and effectiveness of online offerings and other technology-based learning tools and approaches.

The task force submitted its report to the 2010 Plan Implementation Team in October; it is available at <http://www.wvu.edu/~2010plan/>.

The report emphasizes that technology-based learning has moved from the periphery of the academic mission at WVU to its core. Given WVU's position as a land-grant university and as the educational leader in the state, the University must work

proactively to integrate pedagogically-sound, technology-based instructional tools and approaches into its academic programs.

Instructional technologies can enhance the learning experience by supplementing traditional, face-to-face classes with innovative technology-based learning activities.

In addition, WVU should continue to develop online courses and programs to meet the educational needs of state residents and to recruit high-quality students into niche distance learning programs linked to campus-based programs with national recognition. To increase the accessibility, integration and value of technology-based learning tools, the University must begin to align related expectations, resources and support.

The task force makes recommendations for actions by the central administration, colleges and academic units, the Office of Information Technology and Extended Learning in the areas of pedagogy, organization and communication. A coordinated effort among these various academic units is crucial to facilitate the effective use of technology-based learning tools and approaches at WVU.

## WVU sets minimum hiring rate above \$8 an hour on main campus

BY BECKY LOFSTEAD

WVU's main campus has raised its minimum hiring rate for classified positions to just above \$8 an hour. The change, effective Dec. 1, 2007, applies to new hires on the Morgantown campus and affects about 20 current staff members — mostly food service workers and some clerical/receptionist/clerk positions — whose job responsibilities were broadened to reflect the adjustment.

"The new rate makes us a more attractive employer to those interested in working in the service-oriented sector," said Margaret Phillips, vice president for the Division of Human

Resources. "Plus, broadening the roles and responsibilities of these current employees helps us better meet daily organizational and operational needs."

She added, "This change in classification pay is a win-win for the employees and the supervisors. The employees receive pay increases, and the supervisors have more flexibility in assigning tasks."

Phillips said changes such as this, coupled with the University's attractive retirement, vacation and medical benefits, continue to advance WVU as the region's employer of choice.

The state job classification system goes from a pay grade 1 to a pay grade 25. With the new minimum, WVU and its regional/division campuses will not have any employee working at less than a pay grade 6.

New minimums are as follows:

- WVU, Potomac State College of WVU, HSC, including Charleston and Eastern Divisions - \$8.02 an hour
- WVU Institute of Technology CTC - \$8.06 an hour
- WVU Institute of Technology - \$7.89 an hour
- WVU at Parkersburg - \$7.87

## Coal conversion technology

# WVU research may help reduce U.S. dependence on foreign oil

BY SUSAN CASE

COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING  
AND MINERAL RESOURCES

Chemical engineering researchers from WVU have developed and successfully tested a new coal conversion process that may help reduce North American dependence on foreign oil through the development of high-value products derived from West Virginia coal.

The researchers recently displayed some of their results, including a one-ton graphite electrode manufactured partially with binder pitch derived from West Virginia coal, at the Industries of the Future-West Virginia Day at the Capitol co-sponsored by WVU and the West Virginia Division of Energy.

In a project funded by the U.S. Department of Energy's National Energy Technology Laboratory, the researchers have succeeded in converting West Virginia coal to a tarry liquid similar to heavy crude petroleum. Heavy crudes are used to produce products such as pitches and cokes in addition to yielding a small quantity of light products such as gasoline and diesel fuel.

"The discussion about America's reliance on imported energy often focuses on fuels such as gasoline and diesel," said Al Stiller, WVU professor of chemical engineering. "But in reality, we need to also consider pitches and cokes, which are equally important to the American economy as strategic and commercial materials."

Binder pitch is a tar-like material



**INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTS FROM COAL** — From left, Terry Wells and Peter Stansberry, from GrafTech, and Al Stiller and Elliot Kennel, WVU chemical engineering researchers, inspect graphite electrodes that were made using synthetic binder pitch produced from coal at WVU.

*Photo courtesy of College of Engineering and Mineral Resources*

that is a key ingredient in carbon and graphite components used mainly by the metals smelting industry. Nearly 1 million barrels are used annually in the United States. As an initial commercial demonstration, the WVU process was used to make a binder-pitch blend which was then manufactured into graphite electrodes for an iron-smelting facility.

Other WVU researchers involved in the project are John Zondlo, professor of chemical engineering, and Elliot

Kennel, research coordinator of the Carbon Products Group.

"We believe that heavy crudes from coal are an important raw material for the future," Kennel said. "The days when we could depend on light Texas crude for all of our energy, chemical and material needs are over. For many applications, coal-derived heavy crudes can be produced more simply, more cheaply and more cleanly than their petroleum counterparts. In fact, in many cases, the coal-

derived materials outperform those made from petroleum."

"We've been saying for years that coal is too valuable to simply burn," Zondlo said. "This message is starting to find support in industry, thanks to efforts not only from us, but also from state and federal leaders, especially Sen. Robert C. Byrd."

After producing the synthetic pitch, the WVU researchers worked with two manufacturers to produce 21 one-ton graphite electrodes containing a blend of the synthetic binder pitch and conventional pitch. The full-scale electrodes were successfully demonstrated at a commercial electric-arc steelmaking furnace. WVU researchers teamed with GrafTech International Ltd. and Koppers Inc., both companies with operations in West Virginia, on the production and testing of the electrodes.

In the testing, which took place in November and December, the coal-derived electrodes performed as well as conventional electrodes. Analysis of the electrodes after manufacture also showed no significant difference.

The new binder pitch is the first of what is hoped will be many economical coal-derived products through the new extraction process.

The total North American market for high quality pitches and cokes is about 5 million tons, which represents the equivalent of about 30 million barrels of crude hydrocarbons. A like quantity of lighter products, such as fuels and chemicals, could also be co-produced by the WVU process.

## Data featured on Google Maps

# Geographic center enables advanced terrain mapping online

EBERLY COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES

Want to know the lay of the land for an outdoor adventure in West Virginia?

It's easier now for nature enthusiasts and professionals to view accurate, detailed terrain maps showing elevation, thanks to the West Virginia State Geographic Information Systems (GIS) Technical Center, housed in the Department of Geology and Geography at WVU.

Data created by the center is now being featured in the "Terrain" view option of Google Maps, <http://maps.google.com>, a free online service which recently launched new 3-D mapping.

"Understanding terrain can have enormous benefits for a range of applications," research associate Frank Lafone said. "Industries as varied as tourism, outdoor recreation, hunting, fishing, real estate, land development and agriculture benefit from accurate understanding of terrain."

Because the geographic center at WVU has developed some of the most detailed publically available terrain data in the world, the effect is particularly impressive when viewing maps of West Virginia, he said.

The center created detailed elevation data in 2006. The yearlong process drew on a variety of resources, including aerial photography of the state

from 2003.

Support from the U.S. Geologic Survey, West Virginia Department of Transportation and the West Virginia Statewide Addressing and Mapping Board helped ensure that a quality product was created, Lafone said.

Elevation information for the entire planet is now available in Google Maps, but no area of the Earth is as detailed as West Virginia, Lafone said. Most of the Earth is displayed at 90-meter resolution, which represents an area of the earth 90-by-90 meters in size. The United States is represented at a resolution of 10 meters, but only West Virginia has information at the finest scale, three meters. Finer resolution means the data represents the world more accurately.

Google Maps is not the only outlet for this data. The center also maintains <http://www.mapwv.gov>. This Web site features publically accessible applications using elevation as well as more than 50 other types of geographic data. The site contains a wealth of information, including trout stream maps, flood hazard mapping, public schools information and general base maps.

The GIS Technical Center at WVU works with state agencies, nonprofits, individual users and aca-



**ADVANCED MAPPING** — The West Virginia State Geographic Information Systems (GIS) Technical Center at WVU has developed some of the most detailed, publicly available terrain data in the world. The effect is particularly impressive when viewing maps of West Virginia, such as this map of the New River Gorge area.

ademic institutions to maintain and improve the spatial data infrastructure for West Virginia. More on the Net: <http://www.wvgis.wvu.edu>

## Call to action



**TRIBUTE TO KING** — "Through King's words and leadership, America was called upon to action," said Elizabeth Dooley, chair of the Department of Curriculum and Instruction/Literacy Studies, at Monday's (Jan. 21) Unity Breakfast celebrating the legacy of Martin Luther King Jr. "This day and time should be a day of accountability and a day of restoration. Coming out to celebrate a holiday isn't enough. Can you stand up and be counted as a supporter of human rights, a supporter of equity?" To read more of Dooley's speech, go to <http://intranet.wvu.edu/>.

*Photo by Shannon Dey*

## Nominations sought for 2008 Bucklew, Buswell awards

### Bucklew Award

The President's Office for Social Justice, in conjunction with the Social Justice Council at WVU, is seeking nominations/applications for the annual Neil S. Bucklew Award for Social Justice.

The February award carries a \$2,500 stipend for faculty, staff and administrators who have been or are currently involved in the promotion of social justice.

Nominations/applications should include a cover sheet with the name, title, addresses of the nominee and the person nominating the individual, and a statement not to exceed 25 words summarizing why the award should be given to the individual who has been nominated. This may be accompanied by up to five pages of additional information and as many as five one-page letters of recommendation. (NOTE: Applications exceeding these limits will not be considered.)

Nominations/applications should be sent to the Social Justice Office in

B1 Stewart Hall. The deadline is Jan. 31. More on the Net: <http://www.wvu.edu/~socjust/bucklew.htm>.

### Buswell Award

Information about the 2007-08 Mary Catherine Buswell Award is now available on the Council for Women's Concerns Web site at <http://www.as.wvu.edu/cwc/>.

This award, sponsored by the WVU Council for Women's Concerns, is presented annually to a living person who has provided outstanding service to WVU women (students, staff and/or faculty). Those eligible for the award are University employees, students and citizens of West Virginia. Regional campus personnel are included.

The winner will receive \$500 and will be honored in April.

The application deadline is Feb. 25. To download an application, go to <http://www.as.wvu.edu/cwc/PDFs/busapp.pdf>.

# CAMPUS SCENE

## News & Notes

### HEPC requests feedback from staff on professional development needs

The Professional Development Subcommittee of the Higher Education Policy Commission Personnel Study Committee has been tasked to assess the current state of professional development in higher education. In order to perform the assessment, responses to the survey at <https://www.wvhepc.org/survey/TakeSurvey.asp?SurveyID=9MI314LL75m6I> are requested to determine if the professional development needs of higher education employees (excluding faculty) are being met and where improvements are needed. The deadline for completion of the survey is Friday (Jan. 25).

### WVU wins \$3 million EPA award

A WVU environmental program has won a \$3 million, 18-month award from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency to help very small

communities learn how to protect their sources of drinking water. The National Environmental Services Center at WVU and its collaborator, the Rural Community Assistance Partnership, will train and assist small drinking water system personnel and state and community officials across the country through the SMART About Water program. To learn more, go to <http://intranet.wvu.edu/>.

### Scholarship to honor Garrison

A new scholarship honoring WVU President Mike Garrison will benefit students from his high school in Marion County. The merit-based scholarship, endowed by Eddie and Betty Barrett of Huntington, will be available to entering freshmen in the Eberly College of Arts and Sciences who are graduates of Fairmont Senior High School. Preference will be given to students who attended Fairmont Catholic Grade School. More on the Intranet: <http://intranet.wvu.edu/>

### Password expiration implemented for STAR, MIX, WVU eCampus

As part of WVU's continuing efforts to protect employee and stu-

dent information, those who use the MIX, STAR and eCampus systems will be required to change their PIN (password) for logging in. The PIN will be expired upon the first login to STAR on or after Feb. 4 and every 90 days after the PIN change has occurred. For further details, go to <http://intranet.wvu.edu/>.

### ETD deadline announced

The electronic thesis and dissertation deadline for spring graduation is 4 p.m. Friday, May 9. This includes final submission of approved ETD format as well as receipt of the required fee(s) and forms by WVU Libraries. For more information, visit <http://www.libraries.wvu.edu/theses/submit-deadline.htm>.

### Grad students, faculty, staff invited to Feb. 4 ETD Seminar

The WVU Electronic Thesis and Dissertation Task Force, in conjunction with the Provost's Graduate Student Professional Development Workshop Series, is holding a campuswide ETD Seminar from 3-5 p.m. Monday, Feb. 4, at the National Research Center for Coal and Energy, Room 101A. The semi-

nar is open to all WVU graduate students, faculty and staff. To register, send an e-mail to [Shirley.Robinson@mail.wvu.edu](mailto:Shirley.Robinson@mail.wvu.edu). Additional details are available at [http://www.wvu.edu/~thesis/New s/ETD\\_Grad\\_Seminar.htm](http://www.wvu.edu/~thesis/New s/ETD_Grad_Seminar.htm).

## Classified Clips

### Spring T&D catalog now online

Training and Development is committed to helping all WVU employees meet their professional development needs. Download a printable version of the Spring 2008 T&D Workshop Catalog at <http://www.hr.wvu.edu/t&d/workshops/>.

### Enroll for T&D programs

Enrollment is being accepted for the following employee development programs: "P.A.P.E.R. Trail to Work Site Wellness" — Wednesday, Jan. 30, 8:30-11:30 a.m.; "What Color is Your Parachute?" — Thursday, Jan. 31, 8:30-11:30 a.m.; "Benefits of Your Benefits" — Tuesday, Feb. 5, 9-11 a.m.; and "Volunteering: Make a Difference" — Wednesday, Feb. 6, 1-4 p.m. To register, e-mail [train-dev@mail.wvu.edu](mailto:train-dev@mail.wvu.edu) or call 293-7217.

## Child care center

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commitment to families.

"I couldn't be more proud of the work this committee has accomplished," she added. "In October, we were given the charge to identify a location for the facility and to solicit proposals by January for professional child care organizations to operate it. I am pleased to announce that we have met our goals within that time frame."

Among the criteria listed in the RFP, the provider must have a proven track record of quality care, an understanding of child care in a university setting, excellent programs and services, affordable tuition costs and a plan for establishing a parent advisory council.

Plans call for securing an architect soon, and WVU expects to break ground this summer.

"We're making excellent progress," said Beth Gallon Lefevre, developmental advising specialist in WVU's College of Human Resources and Education. "We set a schedule for

ourselves that we're keeping. Everyone is very excited to receive interested parties for the proposals. I know that the University community's been waiting for this, and we're ready to get it going."

Toni Christian, director of benefits administration in the Division of Human Resources, said, "I am proud to be a part of this administration's commitment to families of WVU employees and students. Having an on-campus child care center is an important benefit in attracting and retaining a world-class work force. Coupled with WVU's child care reimbursement/assistance program for employees and other child support programs for students, I believe our services for families will be first class."

Toni Morris, instructor in the Department of Community Medicine and chair of WVU's Council for Women's Concerns, also praised the Garrison administration for its commitment to family issues.

The council — consisting of faculty,

staff and students — was created in 1977 to discuss the changing needs of women on college campuses, she said.

"Dr. Elaine Ginsberg was the first chair of the council, and she said, 'Our real goal on the council is to work ourselves out of business. If the University can become so responsive to women's needs over the next few years, we'll no longer be needed.' Well, that didn't happen, but finally after 30 years, the child care issue will be addressed," Morris said.

Child care has been an important student issue for many years, WVU Student Government Association President Jason Parsons said, and putting together the RFP is an important step toward making a campus day care a reality.

"I think it's great that the plan has moved along so quickly," he said. "I'm very pleased students at WVU will now have a child care center, and I'm looking forward to the day when we cut the ribbon."

## On the WVU Intranet:

Jan. 23: WVU, HEPC report shows public higher ed institutions contribute significantly to state work force

Jan. 23: WE CAN program to help host conservation fair

Jan. 18: Staff Council hears from WVU Foundation, discusses legislative session

<http://intranet.wvu.edu/>

## Employees urged to participate in employee wellness programs

The Division of Human Resources Employee Wellness Program is offering a free, eight-week weight management program, "The Change Starts Here," beginning Monday, Jan. 28, and ending Sunday, March 23, for employees interested in making healthy lifestyle changes and losing weight in the new year.

This self-report program — at <http://employeehealth.wvu.edu/> (click on the "Wellness Activities" tab) — will allow employees to log in, set up an account, enter personal information, set goals and track progress.

Health experts agree that eight weeks is an optimum time for most people to set and assess goals, identify changes to their lifestyle, take reasonable steps and see results — all while building better eating and exercise habits to last a lifetime.

The application tool will be operational Jan. 28.

In addition, faculty and staff are urged to register for upcoming Training and Development workshops related to wellness — the first on Jan. 30 with Sharon Covert of the Wellness Council of West Virginia; another on Feb. 13 related to a health-

ier heart; and a third one on March 13 to encourage participation in the Walk 100 Miles program offered by the Robert C. Byrd Health Sciences Center.

To register for the workshops, call 293-7217 or e-mail [TRAINDEV@mail.wvu.edu](mailto:TRAINDEV@mail.wvu.edu).

Artwork by children of employees, along with healthy recipes from faculty and staff, are also being solicited.

For more information on any of these programs, contact Employee Wellness Program Manager Kimberly Zaph at 293-8405 or [employeehealth@wvu.edu](mailto:employeehealth@wvu.edu), or log onto <http://employeehealth.wvu.edu/>.

### Help choose 'Walk 100 Miles in 100 Days' T-shirt design

The 10 finalists have been chosen; now it's your turn to vote for the best 2008 Walk 100 Miles in 100 Days T-shirt design. Just visit <http://www.hsc.wvu.edu/wellness/> to view the designs. Voting will take place through Feb. 1 (one vote allowed per day).

The 14th Annual Walk 100 Miles in 100 Days is set for March 17-June 24. Registration materials will be available beginning Feb. 1.

## 'Portraits of Consumption'



**ON EXHIBIT** — Graphic designer Juan Giraldo, an assistant professor in WVU's Division of Art, is exhibiting his recent photography, "Portraits of Consumption," through March 7 in WVU's Laura Mesaros Gallery. His series of photographs focus on American mass consumption and the role played by individuals. Gallery hours are from noon-9:30 p.m. Monday through Saturday. The galleries are closed Sundays and University holidays. Special individual or group viewing times may be arranged upon request. For more information, call 293-4841 ext. 3210.

*Photo courtesy of College of Creative Arts*

## CAMPUS CALENDAR

For movies and athletic events, go to <http://calendar.wvu.edu/>.

**THURSDAY, JAN. 24**

**Geology Colloquium**—4 p.m., Brooks Hall Room 325

**CAC**—Mesaros Galleries art exhibition openings, James Luna, Juan Giraldo, open through March 7; artist lecture, James Luna, 5 p.m., Bloch Hall, reception 6 p.m., Paul Mesaros Gallery

**FRIDAY, JAN. 25**

**Friendship Weekend**—members bring one friend to Student Rec Center for free **Farewell reception for Mary Collins**—3-5 p.m., Elizabeth Moore Hall Lounge

**SATURDAY, JAN. 26**

**Friendship Weekend**—members bring one friend to Student Rec Center for free

**Conservation fair**—10 a.m.-5 p.m., Morgantown Mall

**SUNDAY, JAN. 27**

**WVU Primary Data Center outage**—7

a.m.-7 p.m.; info:

<http://intranet.wvu.edu/>

**Conservation fair**—noon-5 p.m., Morgantown Mall

**CAC**—guest artist recital, Alison Brown Sincoff, flute, 2 p.m., Bloch Hall

**Friendship Weekend**—members bring one friend to Student Rec Center for free **MONDAY, JAN. 28**

**The Change Starts Here begins**—free, eight-week weight management program for employees; continues through Sunday, March 23

**GA insurance workshop**—7-8:30 p.m., Rhododendron Room, Mountainlair

**TUESDAY, JAN. 29**

**Lecture on global fraud**—7:30 p.m., Room G20, Ming Hsieh Hall

**GA insurance workshop**—7-8:30 p.m., Rhododendron Room, Mountainlair

**Appalachian Dialects program**—Kirk Hazen, West Virginia Dialect Project, 7:30 p.m., Colson Conference Center; info: 293-7029 ext. 133

**WEDNESDAY, JAN. 30**

**"P.A.P.E.R. Trail to Work Site**

**Wellness" employee development program**—8:30-11:30 a.m.; registration: [traindev@mail.wvu.edu](mailto:traindev@mail.wvu.edu), 293-7217

**Epilepsy support group meeting**—6-7 p.m., third floor conference room, Physician Office Center next to Ruby Memorial Hospital; info: Daunice Lohr, 598-4852

**THURSDAY, JAN. 31**

**"What Color is Your Parachute?" employee development program**—8:30-

11:30 a.m.; registration:

[traindev@mail.wvu.edu](mailto:traindev@mail.wvu.edu), 293-7217

**Focus the Nation environmental and social justice awareness conference**—9 a.m.-8 p.m., Mountainlair ballrooms; details TBA

**CAC**—gallery talk, Juan Giraldo, 5 p.m., Laura Mesaros Gallery

**FRIDAY, FEB. 1**

**Dependent Employee Scholarship deadline**—info:

[http://www.arc.wvu.edu/Scholars\\_Office/](http://www.arc.wvu.edu/Scholars_Office/)

**Big Brothers Big Sisters Ultimate Trivia Challenge registration deadline**—info:

<http://intranet.wvu.edu/>

**SATURDAY, FEB. 2**

**CAC**—guest artist master class, Barbara Nissman, piano, 2-4 p.m., Bloch Hall

**SUNDAY, FEB. 3**

**CAC**—guest artist recital, Barbara

Nissman, piano, 3 p.m., Bloch Hall; 5 p.m., Kent Kenyon, trombone, Bloch Hall **MONDAY, FEB. 4**

**ETD Seminar**—3-5 p.m., NRCCE, Room 101A, open to grad students, faculty, staff; registration: e-mail [shirley.robinson@mail.wvu.edu](mailto:shirley.robinson@mail.wvu.edu); info:

[http://www.wvu.edu/~thesis/News/ETD\\_Grad\\_Seminar.htm](http://www.wvu.edu/~thesis/News/ETD_Grad_Seminar.htm)

**TUESDAY, FEB. 5**

**"Benefits of Your Benefits" employee development program**—9-11 a.m.; registration: [traindev@mail.wvu.edu](mailto:traindev@mail.wvu.edu), 293-7217

**CAC**—Cathryn and Herman Godes

Concerto Competition, 5 p.m., Bloch Hall; free and open to public

**WEDNESDAY, FEB. 6**

**"Volunteering: Make a Difference" employee development program**—1-4 p.m.; registration:

[traindev@mail.wvu.edu](mailto:traindev@mail.wvu.edu), 293-7217

**THURSDAY, FEB. 7**

**CAC**—WVU Opera Theatre Concert, 7:30 p.m., Clay Concert Theatre; artist lecture,

Timothy Samara, 5 p.m., Laura Mesaros Gallery

**Dance Concert 2008**—7:30 p.m., Metropolitan Theatre, Downtown

## Faculty/Staff Idol competition returns to 'Lair in February

BY CHRISTINE LANGDON  
MOUNTAINLAIR

Last year, biology, law, academic affairs, medicine and family and consumer sciences employees competed for the title of WVU Faculty/Staff Idol.

Becky Miller, an administrative assistant in the Department of Medicine, won the 2007 contest. Her successor will be named during the 2008 finale at 3 p.m. Feb. 23 in the Mountainlair Blue Ballroom.

"All of the contestants last year were really good, and it was very competitive," said Sonja Wilson, Mountainlair senior programming coordinator. "This year, we are hoping for more contestants, especially since we have several contestants returning from last year."

The first round will be Feb. 20 at 7 p.m. in the Mountainlair Side Pocket. All contestants will perform one song of their choice. Faculty/Staff duets

and groups are permitted this year, but only soloists will be eligible to win the competition.

The top five contestants will advance to the final round Feb. 23, when they will perform two songs, one of their choice and one oldies tune. The performer with the highest score will win the title and several prizes.

Last year, the winner was awarded a one-year free parking permit donated by WVU Parking and a Mountaineer statue. Prizes for the 2008 competition have not been finalized.

The judges will be student leaders on campus, including Mountaineer mascot Brady Campbell and Student Government Association President Jason Parsons.

The deadline to enter is Feb. 14 at 4:30 p.m. All interested faculty and staff should call 293-2702 or e-mail Sonja.Wilson@mail.wvu.edu.

## Web site

— continued from Page 1 —  
programs and people that are bringing the community and world closer together, while "Creating Impact" showcases unique academic experiences and partnerships.

These images and messages will be refreshed often.

Other banner features on the main site invite conversations and user-generated content, including, "What Will You Start" and "Coming Home" — links that ask students, faculty, alumni and the general public to submit stories, comment and conversation via multiple audio and video technologies. These, too, will switch to other current features periodically.

The site also features a powerful Google search engine and a A-Z index that puts the entire array of University people, resources and programs literally at the fingertips of visitors.

A calendar offers a full listing of all University events and a global news page, "WVU Today," directs media professionals and others to the latest news and offers them an RSS feed.

Gateway pages navigate future, current and graduate students; faculty and staff; alumni; parents; and visi-

tors to targeted information. Additional navigational links take users to various administrative, research, academic, medical and athletic sites.

Orndorff stressed that the new home page meets standards established by the World Wide Web Consortium and is compliant for disabled users.

Additional enhancements will appear during the 2008 calendar year, including the development of a unique community space with powerful new tools and resources to address faculty and staff internal needs. All WVU employees and constituents will be urged to engage in the process of populating and growing the new site, advancement officials stressed.

Web Technologist Adam Glenn, a WVU alumnus, was the principal designer on the project. Others instrumental in the design and development of the site include professionals from Web Services, University Advancement and Marketing, Creative Services, Photographic Services and News and Information Services.

## Group ticket price for faculty, staff WVU to host Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra Feb. 11

WVU is hosting violinist Sarah Chang and the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra at 7:30 p.m. Monday, Feb. 11, at the WVU Creative Arts Center.

A group ticket price of \$25 is open to all WVU faculty and staff groups of 10 or more. The price is only for this concert. WVU groups should call the Pittsburgh Symphony Box Office at 412-392-4818 and mention they are faculty/staff before placing their orders.

Known worldwide as one of the most captivating and gifted violin-

ists, Chang has matured from a protégé to a technically brilliant young artist. She has performed with orchestras all over the world and recently toured Europe with the Pittsburgh Symphony.

Advance tickets for the general public are only available through the Symphony Box Office at 800-743-8560 or <http://www.pittsburghsymphony.org>. Single tickets are \$38 for adults and \$12 for students. Any remaining tickets will be available at the Creative Arts Center the evening of the concert.

## Changes to Enterprise rental vehicle process announced

The following changes to WVU's Enterprise rental contract go into effect immediately:

I. Vehicles are to be rented from Enterprise using any (individual traveler or EBO held) WVU or Research Corp. P-Card.

II. All optional insurance coverage offered by Enterprise should be declined.

III. If you have an accident, please contact Risk Management. Depending on your payment method (see below), your department could be subject to a deductible of up to \$1,000 (amount depends upon the level of damage to the vehicle). The specific methods for payment are as follows:

A. If the vehicle rental was paid by the traveler's WVU (state) P-Card (VISA)

1. If the rental period was for 15 days or less

2. If the vehicle was eligible for VISA coverage (no extended passenger vans or pickup trucks), Risk Management will instruct the cardholder regarding the procedure to submit a claim to VISA. Risk Management will manage the claim once submitted, and no deductible will apply.

B. If the rental was paid by the traveler's WVU Research Corp. P-Card (MasterCard)

1. If the rental period was for 31 days or less

2. If the vehicle was eligible for MasterCard coverage (no extended passenger vans or pickup trucks), Risk Management will instruct the cardholder regarding the procedure to submit a claim to MasterCard. Risk Management will manage the claim with MasterCard once submitted, and no deductible will apply.

C. If the rental was paid by a travel coordinator's P-Card (WVU or Research Corp.), Risk Management will file the claim with BRIM, and the deductible will apply.

D. If the rental was paid by a traveler's personal credit card, any damage claims would be submitted to BRIM (via Risk Management), and the \$1,000 deductible will apply. An example would be vehicle rental in a distant location (airport) when the employee has no P-Card.