West Virginia University Institute of Technology

A Short History of WVU Tech

The West Virginia University Institute of Technology (WVU Tech) was established in February 1895 under the name, Montgomery Preparatory School located in Montgomery, WV. In its earliest years, the school provided academic preparation for students from Southern West Virginia who were bound for West Virginia University. With the passing of time, as new community needs emerged the school changed in response to these needs. In 1917, the curriculum became vocational in nature and the school was renamed the West Virginia Trade School. In 1921, the school became a junior college, the New River State School. Ten years later, the school name was changed to New River State College reflecting its mandate to provide baccalaureate education. Then, in 1941, when technical and business programs were added to serve regional businesses and industries, the college became the West Virginia Institute of Technology. In 1952, baccalaureate degrees in engineering were added. In 1996, the college was named West Virginia University Institute of Technology, when it became a regional campus of West Virginia University. Subsequently, in 2006, WVU Tech became a full division of West Virginia University. In Fall 2016, following the acquisition of a campus in Beckley, WV, WVU Tech offered classes on both the Montgomery and Beckley campuses for one academic year. WVU Tech moved in its entirety to Beckley in the summer of 2017. WVU Tech offers a broad array of baccalaureate degrees in business, science, the humanities and social sciences, and offers 9 degrees in engineering, computer science and engineering technology that are ABET accredited and have received national rankings. Degrees include a general education curriculum that fosters educational breadth and career skills, and students engage in a wide range of service learning, athletic and extra-curricular activities. A WVU Nursing degree is offered on the Beckley Campus through WVU Tech, and the campus is also home to the Raleigh County Co-operative Extension Service and the LaunchLab to promote regional economic success.

Location

BECKLEY CAMPUS

WVU Tech (Beckley Campus) is located in Beckley, West Virginia. Situated in scenic Raleigh County in southern West Virginia, Beckley has a population of about 17,500. Beckley is a vibrant and growing community in close proximity to many of West Virginia’s wild and wonderful outdoor recreation areas.

Major U.S. highways serving the Beckley campus of WVU Tech include Interstate Routes 64 and 77 and the US Route 19, a four lane highway. Within 11 miles of Beckley is Amtrak’s Prince Station. Air services are provided through Yeager Airport in Charleston, WV or Beckley Raleigh County Memorial Airport.

Within sixty minutes of both the Montgomery and Beckley campuses are some of the best “wild and wonderful” recreational opportunities in the eastern United States. Hawks Nest State Park, with its aerial tram to the bottom of the New River Canyon, is within 20 miles. Thirty miles away is the New River Gorge Bridge, the longest arch bridge east of the Mississippi River and third longest in the world, that plays host to the extreme adventure event, Bridge Day. Other nearby parks, Kanawha State Forest, Coonskin Park, Babcock State Park, Summersville Lake and Stephen’s Lake, are between one and two hours away and afford abundant opportunities to picnic, swim, boat, and fish. Adventure enthusiasts have next-door access to such highly desirable sports as zip lining, whitewater rafting, rock climbing, hiking, mountain biking, off-road riding and driving, Frisbee Golf and the exhilarating winter sports of snowboarding, snowshoeing, snow tubing, and alpine, cross-country, and downhill skiing. Adjacent to Beckley is the Summit Bechtel Reserve, national high adventure base of the Boy Scouts and host to national and international jamborees.

Tech Golden Bear Alumni Association

The goals of the Tech Golden Bear Alumni Association are twofold: to promote the interests of the University and to establish mutually beneficial relationships between the University, its alumni, and other appropriate constituent groups. All former students who completed academic courses at New River State College, West Virginia Institute of Technology, the Community and Technical College of West Virginia Institute of Technology and West Virginia University Institute of Technology qualify for active membership. Members of the faculty, both current and emeritus, hold honorary memberships, and friends of the University may be named to associate membership. Details about the Tech Golden Bear Alumni Association are available online at http://alumni.wvutech.edu/, by email at tech-alumni@mail.wvu.edu, by telephone at 304.929.1254, or by writing WVU Tech Alumni Relations, 410 Neville Street, Beckley, WV 25801.

Disclaimer

This West Virginia University Institute of Technology (WVU Tech) 2017-2018 College Catalog is intended as a general reference on degree programs and their requirements, course offerings, admission, graduation requirements, and other academic rules and regulations of the institution. WVU Tech reserves the right to change, delete, supplement, or otherwise amend the contents of this catalog as necessary without prior notice. The operations of this institution are subject to continuing review and change. WVU Tech is governed by the West Virginia University Board of Governors. Many policies and rules in this catalog are identical to those for West Virginia University or may be represented on West Virginia University websites. However, other language in this catalog is unique to WVU Tech, so that WVU language should not be employed in all cases. West Virginia University language is not applicable to WVU Tech in all cases.
MISSION
West Virginia University Institute of Technology provides an accessible and supportive environment in which students are guided to be active and contributing members of society by fostering intellectual and personal growth through comprehensive educational experiences.

VISION
To be a nationally-recognized and preeminent regional undergraduate STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) teaching institution with well-balanced curricula across diverse academic disciplines.

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

Goal 1: Engage undergraduate students in a challenging academic environment.

Objectives
1. Educate, retain, and graduate the leaders of tomorrow at the undergraduate level.
2. Encourage innovation in teaching and, through assessment of outcomes and objectives, transform the curriculum to provide students with the skills they need to succeed in a rapidly changing global society.
3. Strengthen relationships with state and regional primary and secondary education systems, as well as community and technical colleges, to facilitate a seamless, life-long learning process.

Goal 2: Excel in scholarly activity, professional development, and innovation throughout the institution.

Objectives
1. Increase scholarly activity addressing challenges faced by West Virginia, the nation, and the world.
2. Strengthen interdisciplinary activity in scholarship, professional development, and creativity.
3. Encourage interdisciplinary activity in scholarship, professional development, and creativity.

Goal 3: Maintain and strengthen an environment that promotes, attracts, supports, and includes diverse groups of students, faculty and staff.

Objectives
1. Incorporate diversity broadly into the curriculum.
2. Facilitate intercultural, intercommunity, and campus-wide outreach.

Goal 4: Advance national awareness, international activity, and global engagement.

Objectives
1. Promote international activity, world-wide engagement, and awareness of national and global issues.
2. Integrate global themes broadly into the curriculum.

Goal 5: Enhance the well-being and the quality of life of the people of West Virginia.

Objectives
1. Promote sustainable economic development and a cultural environment that improve the quality of life throughout the state.
2. Increase opportunities for West Virginians through life-long learning and community outreach.
RESEARCH AND SCHOLARSHIP

As West Virginia's flagship research institution, WVU undertakes scholarly activity that addresses the challenges most critical to today's world and the practice of multidisciplinary research. At WVU Tech, a division campus where the educational mission is of paramount importance, faculty pursue an active agenda of research and scholarship which contributes to the vibrancy of their teaching and current knowledge in their fields.

WELL-BEING AND QUALITY OF LIFE

The Smith-Lever Act of 1914 created a Cooperative Extension Service for each land-grant institution. The purpose of the Extension Service was to disseminate the findings of the universities' agricultural stations and provide training and programs on home economics and other practical subjects. WVU has sustained its commitment to the state by supporting an Extension Service office with a faculty presence in all of West Virginia's 55 counties, staffed by faculty county agents.

The educational programs and initiatives of the WVU Extension Service focus on service to the state and exemplify West Virginia University's commitment to the public good by connecting the knowledge and research of WVU with citizen and community needs. The Extension Service's programs are driven by four major initiatives: (1) 4-H youth development; (2) family and health; (3) agriculture and natural resources; and (4) community, workforce, and economic development.

The Raleigh County Extension office is located in the Neville Street Building on the WVU Tech campus in Beckley.

SOCIAL JUSTICE AND MEDIATION OF CONFLICT

WVU Tech is committed to assuring that all individuals and groups have access to all of the benefits of the University. Such assurance is possible only in an atmosphere of mutual respect and trust, where basic concepts and principles of social justice are integral to daily practice. All groups on campus (students, faculty, staff, administrators, and constituent groups) have the legal and moral responsibility to promote opportunity, equality, civility, and respect for all peoples. WVU Tech is also committed to assuring the resolution of conflict through mediation, a structured process of communication in which conflicting parties are guided in discussion and resolution of matters of conflict. Information and assistance with filing a complaint or obtaining mediation services is available online at http://diversity.wvu.edu/ea/mediation-services/mediation or by telephone at 304.293.5600, by email at diversity@mail.wvu.edu, or by writing the Division of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion, West Virginia University, PO Box 6202, Morgantown, WV 26506-6202.

ACCESSIBILITY SERVICES

WVU Tech partners with WVU's Office of Accessibility Services (http://accessibilityservices.wvu.edu) which is dedicated to helping students achieve their academic goals regardless of any physical, learning, psychological, sensory, or other documented disability. West Virginia University's process for providing disability-related accommodations follows guidelines of the Americans with Disabilities Act, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, and current case law.

Accreditation

West Virginia University Institute of Technology is accredited by The Higher Learning Commission as a division of West Virginia University. West Virginia University is a member of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools. Information regarding affiliation status may be directed to North Central Association of Colleges and Schools, Higher Learning Commission, 30 North LaSalle Street, Suite 2400, Chicago, Illinois 60652-2504.

Information Regarding specialized program accreditation may be directed to the following accrediting agencies:


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Governor of West Virginia

- Jim Justice, Governor
West Virginia University Board of Governors

- William D. Wilmoth, Chair, Wheeling
- David B. Alvarez, Vice Chair, Bridgeport
- Taunja Willis Miller, Secretary, Morgantown
- Timothy Bailey, Hurricane
- Elmer Coppoolse, Lewisburg
- Thomas V. Flaherty, Charleston
- Thomas A. Heywood, Charleston
- Dr. Stanley Hileman, Faculty Representative, Morgantown
- Blake Humphrey, Student Representative, Wheeling
- J. Thomas Jones, Morgantown
- Dixie Martinelli, Classified Staff Representative, Morgantown
- Edward L. Robinson, Charleston
- J. Robert "JR" Rogers, Hurricane
- Benjamin M. Statler, Pittsburgh
- Dr. Matthew C. Valenti, Faculty Representative, Morgantown
- Kimberly Weaver, Baltimore, MD

The West Virginia University Board of Governors (the "Board") was created by the West Virginia Legislature as the governing body of the West Virginia University system, including West Virginia University, West Virginia University Potomac State College, and West Virginia University Institute of Technology (collectively the "University"). The Board has the mission of general supervision and control over the academic and business affairs of the University.

West Virginia University is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Institution. The University does not discriminate on the basis of race, sex, age, disability, protected veteran status, religion, sexual orientation, color, national origin, or other class protected by the University's non-discrimination policy (BOG Policy 44 [http://catalog.wvu.edu/undergraduate/Policy_44_-_December_18_2015_Amendment.pdf]) in the administration of any of its educational programs or activities or with respect to admission or employment. Further, faculty, staff, students, and applicants are protected from retaliation for filing complaints or assisting in an investigation under the University's Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Plan. Inquiries regarding the University's non-discrimination policy may be sent to the Office of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion.

West Virginia University Administration

- E. Gordon Gee, President
- Joyce McConnell, Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs

West Virginia University Institute of Technology Administration

- Carolyn Long, Campus President (provides leadership for WVU Tech as a divisional campus of WVU)
- Nigel Clark, Campus Provost

Deans

- College of Business, Humanities, and Social Sciences, Stephen Brown
- Leonard C. Nelson College of Engineering and Sciences, Zeljko Torbica
- Department of Nursing, Crystal Sheaves

Effective July 1, 2001, the West Virginia University (WVU) Board of Governors is vested by law and with the authority for the control and management of WVU and the divisional campuses. The board includes thirteen lay members, two faculty members, a staff member, and one student member. The University president, appointed by the Board of Governors, is the chief executive officer of the University. A Campus President provides leadership for WVU Tech as a divisional campus of the University. The Chair of the WVU Tech Board of Visitors, an advisory body, is a member of the WVU Board of Governors.

The WVU Faculty Senate is the vehicle for faculty participation in the governance of West Virginia University and its divisional campuses, including WVU Tech. It is a legislative body with original jurisdiction over all matters of academic interest and educational policy that concern the entire University or affect more than one college or school. The senate's decisions are subject to review and approval by the president and the Board of Governors. Senators are elected by members of the University faculty to represent their colleges and other constituencies. Each senator represents twenty members of the University Faculty. The senate is presided over by an elected chair. The WVU Faculty Senate includes senators who are elected by the faculty at WVU Tech. On the WVU Tech campus, the faculty are represented by the Faculty Assembly. This body is made up of all full-time faculty, including visiting appointments, as well as those with FEAP appointments. The Faculty Assembly is presided over by an elected chair.
The Staff Council is an advisory council to the Campus President, and provides a means for all classified employees to express their opinions about employment conditions, fringe benefits, employee relations, or other areas that affect their careers.

Students are represented by the Student Government Association, which is made of executive officers and representatives elected by the student body. Members of the SGA serve on various campus committees.

2017-2018 Academic Calendar

Please visit http://techregistrar.wvutech.edu/academic-calendar for more information.