



Senior Vice President and Chief Development Officer

Leadership Profile

May 2024



WittKieffer

Executive Summary

The West Virginia University Foundation seeks a dynamic Senior Vice President for Development and Chief Development Officer (SVP) to lead a highly motivated, complex development operation to even greater levels of success. This position is perfectly suited for an innovative, forward-looking fundraiser who is energized by developing fundraising strategies that could have a lasting impact well into the future of the Foundation and University. This executive succeeds BJ Davisson, who has served in this role with great distinction since 2015.

The WVU Foundation houses a team of collaborative professionals dedicated to maximizing charitable support for the University, its faculty and students, as well as for WVU Medicine and its patients. WVU is committed to promoting education, healthcare, prosperity, and purpose as part of its land-grant mission. The WVU Foundation is poised for a transformative period and has achieved results unprecedented in the history of the Foundation. This positions the Foundation for the next phase of growth and continued impact among the WVU and WVU Medicine Community. The future for West Virginia University will be rooted in purpose, focusing on market-driven programs delivering in-demand skills. Therefore, the next Foundation strategic plan will support initiatives aimed at boosting student success, advancing health and wellness, and discovering solutions to real world problems.

The SVP is the chief architect of fundraising strategies and reports directly to the President of the Foundation. The role involves oversight of all aspects of development activities, from annual giving to major, and to leadership and planned giving. The SVP is expected to lead with an innovative approach to developing fundraising programs that align with WVU's strategic objectives, ensuring the Foundation's goals are met and exceeded. Additionally, this leader will mentor and manage a talented team of development professionals, fostering an environment that encourages professional growth and high performance.

This new leader will bring a robust portfolio of skills in fundraising, leadership, organizational change management, capable of partnering with the President of the Foundation to steer the organization into its next era of success. This is an exceptional opportunity to influence the future of West Virginia University and its affiliates, requiring a leader who is visionary yet pragmatic, with a deep understanding of complex fundraising landscapes and the ability to align them with strategic academic and institutional goals.

The ideal candidate will have a master's degree or equivalent and 10-15 years of fundraising experience in roles demonstrating progressive levels of fundraising management and leadership. Significant experience leading a fundraising operation in a complex and decentralized academic setting where ambitious comprehensive campaign goals were established and achieved is preferred.

To submit a nomination or express personal interest in this position, please see Procedure for Candidacy at the end of this profile.

Role of the Senior Vice President and Chief Development Officer

The Senior Vice President and Chief Development Officer (SVP) is the Chief Fundraising Officer for the West Virginia University Foundation (WVUF). The position reports to the President and CEO and acts on behalf of the President, when necessary, as second-in-command in the organization. The SVP is responsible for the successful execution of all fundraising programs of the WVUF; any entrepreneurial activities undertaken by the WVUF; as well as for spear-heading all activities that will engage the WVUF in projects that may bring additional sources of revenue to strengthen the WVUF's operating income.

The primary functions of the Senior Vice President and Chief Development Officer relate to the day-to-day management of all resource development activities. The SVP will oversee a budget of \$16.5 million and the activities of seven senior executives and a team of 86 staff members and 19 students/interns. This leader provides major guidance to the President in the formulation of revenue-producing opportunities presented to the WVUF, fundraising policies and the implementation of all WVUF fundraising projects and programs conducted on behalf of West Virginia University (WVU) and its affiliated organizations.

The SVP works closely with the President and CEO in representing the WVUF in key relationships with University leadership, including activities with the University President, Provost, and Chancellor and Executive Dean, Health Sciences, and the President and CEO of the WVU Hospital System (WVUHS).

In addition, the SVP will have the following duties and responsibilities:

- Assists in evaluating the University's objectives and its fundraising potential and is responsible along with the President for ensuring that the two are balanced when developing the Foundation's fundraising strategies.
- Exerts leadership in striving to operationalize and ground institutional priorities into compelling fundraising opportunities.
- Translates broadly framed fundraising plans into carefully conceived programs to be carried out within the resources available to the Foundation.
- Engages in direct contact with constituents of WVU for purposes of (1) identifying prospective donors, (2) cultivating interest in the University by interpreting its programs and plans, (3) soliciting support through outright and/or planned gifts, and (4) evaluating, planning, and executing other revenue producing programs as deemed appropriate to the WVUF's mission.
- Maintains appropriate liaison with members of the University's academic and administrative staffs.
- With oversight by the President, is responsible for the implementation of all fundraising functions including: comprehensive or focused campaigns, prospect development and strategy, principal and leadership gifts, major gifts, annual/ leadership annual giving, planned giving, corporate/foundation giving, and communications and donor engagement. Is responsible also for the support services and personnel functions of the Development Office.
- Prepares development budget plans and presents to the President an annual outline of the Foundation's operational needs for fundraising purposes.
- Performs special assignments as requested by the President.

Opportunities and Expectations for Leadership

Building on the fundraising success of the Foundation, the new Senior Vice President and Chief Development Officer will have the opportunity to be part of a remarkable story of excellence and growth moving forward.

The Senior Vice President and Chief Development Officer will be expected to:

- **Provide strategic leadership**

The SVP will play a pivotal role in advancing the mission of the Foundation, University, and Health System by providing strategic leadership in fundraising and philanthropic initiatives. The new leader will join the Foundation at an important point in history with West Virginia University's presidential transition set for June of 2025. The SVP will be a steady hand and offer innovative thinking and a deep commitment to fostering enduring relationships with donors and stakeholders amid leadership changes. The SVP will partner with the Foundation President to review fundraising goals and provide strategic leadership across the stakeholders of the University, Health Science Center and the broader West Virginia University community. The successful candidate will build on the tremendous support of the Foundation and integrate the power of philanthropy with the Foundation's strategic priorities.

- **Continue to strengthen a culture of philanthropy**

The Foundation enjoys a rich history, and the new SVP will enjoy positive fundraising momentum toward the conception and announcement of the next campaign effort. The University saw the largest private fundraising campaign in WVU's history in 2018 with the more than 90,000 donors contributing just over \$1.2 billion to the University for the "State of Minds" fundraising campaign. The next leader will have the extraordinary opportunity to work with fellow leaders at the University eager to develop a new philanthropic blueprint with the success of a groundbreaking campaign at their back to fuel this new vision.

WVU is in a position to invest and innovate, thus setting the University on a course to become the modern, land-grant University of the future. While respecting its 19th century roots, the University will evolve to meet vastly different 21st century needs, unafraid to make changes to ensure its relevance, value, and importance. WVU will be the great connector – building partnerships that drive industry, education, and public sector growth. It will seek to transform lives through education, research, and excellence in patient care. Mountaineers go first.

Now, in the quiet phase of a \$2 billion comprehensive campaign, "Go First, Go Far, West Virginia University's Campaign for the Future," will ensure that WVU goes far, helping our students and our state to achieve the promise of their potential. This effort is built on three pillars with the individual campaign priorities being supported by those pillars. They are:

- a. Student Success – fueling aspirations of every student
- b. Health and Wellness – enhancing the vitality of all we serve
- c. Solutions to Real-World Challenges – pursuing vital keys to a better future

It is anticipated that the Campaign will launch its "public phase" in the Fall of 2026, giving the new WVU President approximately 12-15 months to ensure their priorities are included so they can easily "own" it as their campaign.

The SVP will inherit a strong leadership team and their leadership will help with the continued expansion of the Foundation's success and footprint. It will be critically important that the Foundation and its new leader continue to build a culture of philanthropic support across the University and its donors about their impact especially going into a new comprehensive campaign. This should be an individual with the ability to envision and help execute a significant fundraising campaign for a major public university. The SVP will contribute to

support in all strategic efforts of philanthropic plans but will also lead by example in managing a portfolio of principal gift prospects with the support of the President and the Board.

- **Strengthen relationships across the University**

The work of the Foundation impacts every part of the University. The SVP plays a critical role in working with the President of the Foundation, President of the University, Provost, Deans, Chancellor and Executive Dean of Health Sciences, and other units in shaping and executing institutional strategy. The SVP should understand the complexity and mission of an institution like West Virginia University, be able to represent all parts of the institution and proactively engage a variety of constituents from across the institution in fundraising efforts. The next SVP will play a vital role in setting the strategic direction of the Foundation and the University, especially as the Foundation will be developing the next five-year strategic plan, running from 2025-2030. The next leader will work to strengthen this trust through open communications and clear dialogue about individual philanthropic strategies, and the development of strong partnerships with leaders throughout the organization.

- **Manage and lead a team**

The Foundation team is hard working and dedicated, collaborates exceptionally well with one another, appreciates the strong and supportive leadership it has received from the outgoing Executive Vice President and Chief Development Officer. The team is excited about welcoming a new SVP who will have the qualities of a servant leader and maintain a supportive development culture within the Foundation. The SVP will organize, manage, and motivate Foundation staff for maximum performance by communicating clearly and applying motivating goals and measuring outcomes. As important is the retention of current staff by creating an empowering, supportive culture, as well as providing opportunities for growth and development. The new SVP will work in concert with the Foundation President and West Virginia University leadership to ensure that the development enterprise is adequately staffed, supported, and has the necessary tools to accomplish its goals.

Professional Qualifications and Personal Qualities

The Senior Vice President and Chief Development Officer will be a strategic leader with the ability to manage a substantial, complex advancement operation, possessing the professional background necessary to analyze the Foundation's current advancement program. The SVP is expected to lead with an innovative approach that aligns with the Foundation's strategic objectives, ensuring the Foundation's goals are met and exceeded. Additionally, this leader will mentor and manage a team of development professionals, fostering an environment that encourages professional growth and high performance.

In addition, the successful candidate will possess the following:

- **Education and Experience:** Master's degree (M. A.) or equivalent required; 10-15 years of fundraising experience in roles demonstrating progressive levels of fundraising management and leadership. Significant experience leading a fundraising operation in a complex and decentralized academic setting where ambitious comprehensive campaign goals were established and achieved. Direct experience raising funds for an academic medical center preferred. Demonstrated personal success securing leadership gifts required.
- **Multi-tasking:** Ability to work on multiple tasks simultaneously.
- **Analytical:** Synthesizes complex or diverse information; Collects and researches data; Uses intuition and experience to complement data; Designs workflows and procedures.
- **Design:** Generates creative solutions; Translates concepts and information into images; Uses feedback to modify designs; Applies design principles; Demonstrates attention to detail.
- **Problem Solving:** Identifies and resolves problems in a timely manner; Gathers and analyzes information skillfully; Develops alternative solutions; Works well in group problem solving situations; Uses reason even when dealing with emotional topics.
- **Project Management:** Develops project plans; Coordinates projects; Communicates changes and progress; Completes projects on time and budget; Manages project team activities.
- **Technical Skills:** Assesses own strengths and weaknesses; Pursues training and development opportunities; Strives to continuously build knowledge and skills; Shares expertise with others.
- **Customer Service:** Manages difficult or emotional customer situations; Responds promptly to customer needs; Solicits customer feedback to improve service; Responds to requests for service and assistance; Meets commitments.
- **Interpersonal Skills:** Focuses on solving conflict, not blaming; Maintains confidentiality; Listens to others without interrupting; Maintains being "present" and fully focused when interacting with others – physically, intellectually, and emotionally. Keeps emotions under control; Remains open to others' ideas and tries new things.
- **Oral Communication:** Speaks clearly and persuasively in positive or negative situations; listens and gets clarification; Responds well to questions; Demonstrates group presentation skills; Participates in meetings.
- **Written Communication:** Writes clearly and informatively; Edits work for spelling and grammar; Varies writing style to meet needs; Presents numerical data effectively; Able to read and interpret written information.
- **Teamwork:** Balances team and individual responsibilities; Exhibits objectivity and openness to others' views; Gives and welcomes feedback; Contributes to building a positive team spirit; Puts success of team above own interests; Able to build morale and group commitments to goals and objectives; Supports everyone's efforts to succeed.

- **Visionary Leadership:** Displays passion and optimism; Inspires respect and trust; mobilizes others to fulfill the vision; Provides vision and inspiration to peers, constituents, and subordinates.
- **Change Management:** Develops workable implementation plans; Communicates changes effectively; Supports and manages change; Builds commitment and overcomes resistance; Prepares and supports those affected by change; Monitors transition and evaluates results.
- **Delegation:** Delegates work assignments; Matches the responsibility to the person; Gives authority to work independently; Sets expectations and monitors delegated activities; Provides recognition for results.
- **Leadership:** Demonstrates a commitment to excellence in all activities; Exhibits confidence in self and others; Inspires and motivates others to perform well; effectively influences actions and opinions of others; Accepts feedback from others; Gives appropriate recognition to others.
- **Managing People:** Includes staff in planning, decision-making, facilitating, and process improvement; Takes responsibility for subordinates' activities; Makes self-available to staff; Provides regular performance feedback; Develops subordinates' skills and encourages growth; Solicits and applies customer feedback (internal and external); Fosters quality focus in others; Improves processes, products, and services.; Continually works to improve supervisory skills. Fully understands how to "manage up" and "manage down."
- **Quality Management:** Looks for ways to improve and promote quality; Demonstrates accuracy and thoroughness. Practices continuous quality improvement methodology.
- **Business Acumen:** Understands business implications of decisions; Displays orientation to profitability; Demonstrates knowledge of market and competition; Aligns work with strategic goals.
- **Cost Consciousness:** Works within approved budget; Develops and implements cost saving measures; Contributes to profits and revenue; Conserves organizational resources. Constantly encourages the team to focus on those activities that are most important to achieving fundraising success and actively works to reduce clutter and noise.
- **Diversity:** Demonstrates knowledge of EEO policy; Shows respect and sensitivity for cultural differences; educates others on the value of diversity; promotes a harassment-free environment; Builds a diverse workforce.
- **Ethics:** Treats people with respect; Keeps commitments; inspires the trust of others; Works with deep integrity and ethically; Upholds organizational values.
- **Organizational Support:** Follows policies and procedures; Completes administrative tasks correctly and on time; supports organization's goals and values; Benefits organization through outside activities; Supports affirmative action and respects diversity.
- **Strategic Thinking:** Develops strategies to achieve organizational goals; Understands organization's strengths & weaknesses; Analyzes market and competition; Identifies external threats and opportunities; Adapts strategy to changing conditions.
- **Judgment:** Displays willingness to make decisions; Exhibits sound and accurate judgment; Supports and explains reasoning for decisions; Includes appropriate people in decision-making process; Makes timely decisions.
- **Motivation:** Sets and achieves challenging goals; Demonstrates persistence and overcomes obstacles; Measures self against standard of excellence; Takes calculated risks to accomplish goals.

- **Planning/Organizing:** Prioritizes and plans work activities; Uses time efficiently; Plans for additional resources; Sets goals and objectives; Organizes or schedules other people and their tasks; Develops realistic action plans.
- **Professionalism:** Approaches others in a tactful manner; Reacts well under pressure; Treats others with respect and consideration regardless of their status or position; Accepts responsibility for own actions; Follows through on commitments.
- **Quality:** Demonstrates accuracy and thoroughness; Looks for ways to improve and promote quality; Applies feedback to improve performance; Monitors own work to ensure quality.
- **Quantity:** Meets productivity standards; Completes work in timely manner; Strives to increase productivity; Works quickly.
- **Safety and Security:** Observes safety and security procedures; Creates a safe working environment for employees; Determines appropriate action beyond guidelines; Reports potentially unsafe conditions; Uses equipment and materials properly.
- **Adaptability:** Adapts to changes in the work environment; Manages competing demands; Changes approach or method to best fit the situation; Able to deal with frequent change, delays, or unexpected events.
- **Attendance/Punctuality:** Is consistently at work and on time; Ensures work responsibilities are covered when absent; Arrives at meetings and appointments on time.
- **Dependability:** Follows instructions, responds to management direction; Takes responsibility for own actions; Keeps commitments; Commits to long hours of work when necessary to reach goals; Completes tasks on time or notifies appropriate person with an alternate plan.
- **Initiative:** Volunteers readily; Undertakes self-development activities; Seeks increased responsibilities; Takes independent actions and calculated risks; Looks for and takes advantage of opportunities; Asks for and offers help when needed.
- **Innovation:** Displays original thinking and creativity; Meets challenges with resourcefulness; Generates suggestions for improving work; Develops innovative approaches and ideas; Presents ideas and information in a manner that gets others' attention.

About West Virginia University Foundation

Overview

The WVU Foundation, established in 1954, plays a key role in West Virginia University's progression, particularly in its educational and healthcare missions. Now in its 69th year, the Foundation has experienced notable growth, particularly in the past 10 years under the leadership of President & CEO Cindi Roth.

As of fiscal year 2023, the Foundation's assets have impressively grown to over \$2.8 billion. This period also marked a significant increase in philanthropic support, with the Foundation receiving over \$164 million in donations from nearly 21,000 donors; giving to more than 5,500 funds, of which over 3,500 are endowed. In fact, as of May 1st, 2024, gifts and pledges have hit yet another record high, exceeding \$250 million. This indicates an expanding support base and a growing impact of the Foundation's work.

From its beginnings with an 11-member Board, the Foundation has expanded to a 27-member Board, which has furthered its ability to support WVU effectively. Its contributions are vital in education, research, patient care, and program development. Additionally, the Foundation's operations are supported by nearly 200 professionals, demonstrating its significant role in supporting the broader University system.

Mission

The mission of the WVU Foundation is to enrich the lives of those touched by West Virginia University by maximizing charitable support and providing services to the University, its students, and affiliated organizations.

Vision

The WVU Foundation will be the model for excellence in fundraising, investment management, and stewardship.

Core Values

- Relationships - We value relationships, teamwork, and community involvement as fundamental to achieving our goals and at the core of our mission.
- Integrity - We conduct our activities in an independent, fair, trustworthy, and honest manner.
- Accountability - We are responsible for our actions.
- Courage - We support an environment where people feel safe to speak up and take bold, appropriate action with open communication.
- Innovation - We encourage creative, effective ideas in a collaborative environment to drive successful outcomes.
- Exceptional Performance - We lead by setting new standards of excellence.

For additional information, please visit <https://www.wvuf.org/>

Governance

The WVU Foundation is governed by the [Board of Directors](#) elected by its members.

Strategic Plan

The WVU Foundation has experienced nothing short of a transformation in the course of the last 10 years. When the first ever five-year strategic plan was adopted by the WVU Foundation Board in 2015, expectations were set high to accomplish core pillars that would: maximize private support in all forms to WVU, create new/enhance existing WVUF revenue streams while maximizing operational efficiency/effectiveness, engage/align with all WVU entities as “One WVU,” and maximize the WVU Foundation Board effectiveness at all levels. These pillars served as a North Star to begin achieving the levels worthy of the students, faculty, researchers, and patients of WVU in the new era of philanthropy.

As the second five-year plan nears its completion, the WVU Foundation has achieved results unprecedented in the history of the Foundation. This positions the foundation for the next phase of growth and continued impact among the WVU and WVU Medicine Community. The plan is created with four pillars forming a Strategic Compass: Purpose, Engagement, Talent, and Impact.

The future for West Virginia University will be rooted in purpose, focusing on market-driven programs delivering in-demand skills. Therefore, the next Foundation plan will support strategic initiatives aimed at boosting student success, advancing health and wellness, and discovering solutions to real world problems. This new plan offers yet another moment in time, one that will guide the WVU Foundation to yet a new pinnacle of excellence, working as a strong partner across all aspects of the WVU Community. It is expected that the third five-year plan will be ratified by July of 2025, launching both a new fiscal year, and under the leadership of a new University President.

Like the current 2020-2025 Strategic Plan, this new roadmap will be equally ambitious, that when accomplished, will once again move the WVU Foundation to new levels of success in providing philanthropic support to its partners WVU and WVU Medicine.

View the complete WVU Foundation Strategic Plan [here](#).

Leadership

Cynthia L. “Cindi” Roth, President and CEO of the WVU Foundation



Cynthia L. “Cindi” Roth began work as President and CEO of the WVU Foundation on January 1, 2014, after spending eight years at the University of Pittsburgh (Pitt), serving as Associate Vice Chancellor of Institutional Advancement. Before her role at Pitt, Roth served from 2002 to 2005 as Executive Director of Family House, Inc., in Pittsburgh. Before that, she served as Vice President of patient care services at several hospitals across western Pennsylvania, including West Penn Allegheny Health System/Forbes Regional Hospital, South Hills Health System, and Sharon Regional Health System. Roth earned her Master of Public Management degree from the Heinz School of Public Policy at Carnegie Mellon University and her bachelor’s degree in nursing from the University of Pittsburgh.

About West Virginia University

Overview

WVU is a family of distinctive campuses united by a single mission. From the groundbreaking research of our flagship in Morgantown to the career-oriented programs of WVU Potomac State in Keyser to the technology-intensive programs at WVU Tech in Beckley — we are leveraging our talents and resources to create a better future for West Virginia and the World.

Mission

As a land-grant institution, the faculty, staff, and students at West Virginia University commit to creating a diverse and inclusive culture that advances education, healthcare, and prosperity for all by providing access and opportunity; by advancing high-impact research; and by leading transformation in West Virginia and the world through local, state, and global engagement.

Vision

As one West Virginia University, we are purposeful in our studies and our work so that we can partner with our communities – both near and far – to bring needed and valued solutions to real-life problems within the pillars of education, healthcare, prosperity, and purpose.

Core Values

- Service: We seek opportunities to serve others and are committed to providing the highest quality of service.
- Curiosity: We ask questions, seek new opportunities, and change through innovation.
- Respect: We are respectful, transparent, and inclusive with each other.
- Accountability: We perform at our very best every day to create a University that is responsive, efficient, and effective.
- Appreciation: We support and value each other's contributions as we build a community that is One WVU.

Governance

The WVU Board of Governors is the governing body of WVU. The Higher Education Policy Commission in West Virginia is responsible for developing, establishing, and overseeing the implementation of a public policy agenda for the state's four-year colleges and universities.

Campus Locations and Facilities

The [WVU](#) System is a family of distinctive campuses united by a single mission. From the groundbreaking research of our flagship in Morgantown (ranked R1, the highest research category institution) to the student-centered focus of WVU Potomac State College in Keyser to the technology-intensive programs at WVU Institute of Technology in Beckley — we are leveraging our talents and resources to create a better future for West Virginia and the world.

The [WVU Institute of Technology](#) in Beckley offers more than 30 majors, including one of the top 100 undergraduate engineering programs in the country, as ranked by *U.S. News & World Report*.

[WVU Potomac State College](#) in Keyser has one of the lowest tuition rates of all the nation's four-year institutions. Offering more than 65 majors, this campus combines the personal attention of a small college with the benefits of a major university.

The WVU System also includes Health Sciences campuses in Charleston and Martinsburg, as well as seven farms and five forests throughout the state and [WVU Jackson's Mill State 4-H Camp](#). The WVU System includes 518 buildings on 15,880 acres. The Morgantown campus has 245 buildings (11 on the National Register of Historic Places) on 1,892 acres.

The [WVU Morgantown campus](#) is in a town named "No. 1 Small City in America" by BizJournals.com for its exceptional quality of life. Morgantown, population 30,855, was also rated the ninth-best college town in America by Business Insider and is within easy traveling distance of Washington, D.C., to the east, Pittsburgh, Pa., to the north, and Cleveland and Columbus, Ohio, to the northwest. Other rankings: Kiplinger.com included Morgantown in their 10 great places to live list; one of "Best Sports Cities" by Sporting News; 5th "Best Small Metro" by Forbes; one of "50 Smartest Places to Live" by Kiplinger's; and the "#1 Place to Live in West Virginia" by Money magazine.

Research Funding

In the fiscal year ending in 2023, WVU received a record \$231 million in externally supported expenditures, which are mainly designated for research. Federal expenditures made up 48% of external support. The remaining expenditures came from state government at 21%, the WVU Foundation at 14%, business and industry at 8%, and other external sources at 9%.

Enrollment

Fall 2023 WVU System enrollment is 26,791:

- Potomac State College - 1,143
- WVU Tech - 1,448
- Morgantown campus - 24,200

WVU Morgantown Campus

Students at the Morgantown campus come from 90 nations, 50 U.S. states (plus D.C.) and all 55 West Virginia counties; 10,949 are West Virginia residents.

Academic Excellence

WVU recipients of prestigious scholarships include 2 Beckman Scholars, 25 Rhodes Scholars, 26 Truman Scholars, 47 Goldwater Scholars, 4 George C. Marshall (British) Scholars, 6 Morris K. Udall Scholars, 5 USA Today All-USA College Academic First Team Members (and 11 academic team honorees), 29 Boren Scholars, 106 Gilman Scholars, 81 Fulbright Scholars, 3 Department of Homeland Security Scholars, 39 Critical Language Scholars, one Jack Kent Cooke Foundation Graduate Scholar, 34 National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowships and one Schwarzman Scholar.

Faculty and Staff Profile

Excellent faculty – 19 of whom have been named Carnegie Foundation Professors of the Year – guide and mentor students.

66% of full-time instructional/tenure-track faculty hold the highest academic degree in their field.

70% of WVU Morgantown classes are taught by full-time instructional faculty.

Instructional Faculty: 2,478 Full-time / 591 Part-time

Extension Faculty: 114 Full-time

Staff (Classified and Non-Classified): 2,955 Full-time / 76 Part-time

Academic Programs

[13 Morgantown colleges and schools](#) offer [310 majors](#) in agriculture, natural resources, and design; applied and human sciences; arts and sciences; business and economics; creative arts; dentistry; engineering and mineral resources; law; medicine; nursing; pharmacy; public health. Hundreds of [distance education and online classes](#) are available.

Freshman Class Profile

WVU's fall 2023 freshman class had an average cumulative GPA of 3.63 on a 4.0 scale, an average ACT score of 23 and an average SAT score of 1099. WVU does not require ACT/SAT scores for admission.

Student Organizations

Students can choose from 450+ student organizations, or participate in an active intramural program or a variety of club sports.

Service and Learning

The Center for Service and Learning develops and organizes service learning and volunteer opportunities for students and faculty. WVU is one of only 75 schools recognized by the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching for Community Engagement (recognized since 2010).

Scholarships and Aid

In 2022-23, WVU Morgantown disbursed \$157.8 million in scholarships.

Athletics

A member of the Big 12 Conference, WVU competes in 18 [intercollegiate varsity sports](#).

WVU Health System

- The WVU Health System is West Virginia's largest health system and the state's largest employer with approximately 30,000 employees.
- The WVU Health System comprises 24 hospitals, including the new WVU Medicine Children's Hospital, and five institutes: the WVU Cancer Institute, the WVU Critical Care and Trauma Institute, the WVU Eye Institute, the WVU Heart and Vascular Institute, and the WVU Rockefeller Neuroscience Institute.
- The WVU Cancer Institute is making strategic investments in cancer care and research to achieve the state's first National Cancer Institute designation and along with the rest of the J. W. Ruby Medical Complex is in the early stages of updating its master campus plan in Morgantown with the goal of building a multi-story cancer hospital. The Hazel Ruby McQuain Charitable Trust made a \$50 million gift as a catalyst for that project.

- The Board of Directors recently approved a nearly \$400 million strategic capital budget that will accelerate the Health System's growth and infuse West Virginia with several new healthcare facilities positioned across multiple parts of the state, including Morgantown, Fairmont, the Elkins corridor, Princeton, and Bluefield.
- The Hospital's true north remains their commitment to their patients and the ability to serve them in a caring and healing environment, and by expanding the breadth and depth of their programs and infrastructure, it ensures the Health System is well-positioned long-term to meet the needs of their patients.

Leadership

E. Gordon Gee, President of West Virginia University



Currently serving for a second time as President of West Virginia University, Dr. E. Gordon Gee has been a leader in higher education for more than three decades. In 2009, *Time* magazine named him one of the top 10 university Presidents in the United States. Recently, the website Great Value Colleges named him the nation's top university President. In addition to his service at West Virginia University, Gee served as President of The Ohio State University (twice), Vanderbilt University, Brown University, and the University of Colorado.

Born in Vernal, Utah, Gee graduated from the University of Utah with an honors degree in history and earned his J.D. and Ed.D. degrees from Columbia University. Before starting his career in higher education, he clerked under Chief Justice David T. Lewis of the U.S. 10th Circuit Court of Appeals and was a judicial fellow and staff assistant to the U.S. Supreme Court, where he worked for Chief Justice Warren Burger. President Gee will be retiring in June 2025. A formal Presidential Search Committee is being formed and will utilize a national search firm for this important next step in the life of the University.

Morgantown, West Virginia

Morgantown, the county seat of Monongalia County in West Virginia, is situated along the Monongahela River, close to the Pennsylvania state line. The city, within the Appalachian Basin, is known for its natural landscapes, offering activities like hiking, biking, kayaking, and fishing.

The city is growing in areas such as housing, manufacturing, research, and commerce, leading to a population increase in one of West Virginia's fastest-growing counties.

Culturally, Morgantown features attractions like museums, wineries, and the West Virginia University Art Museum, which houses about 4,000 works of art. West Virginia University plays a significant role in the city, especially with its popular college football games at the 60,000-seat Milan Puskar Stadium.

Morgantown has a lower cost of living compared to similar metro areas. Its location is strategic, about 75 miles south of Pittsburgh, PA, and 200 miles west of Washington, D.C., at the junction of Interstates 79 and 68. This location places it within easy reach of a large portion of the U.S. population.

For more information on the area, visit: <https://www.morgantownwv.gov/> <https://wvtourism.com/morgantown/>

Procedure for Candidacy

All applications, nominations, and inquiries are invited. Applications should include, as separate documents, a CV or resume and a letter of interest addressing the themes in this profile.

WittKieffer is assisting West Virginia University Foundation in this search, which will remain open until an appointment is made. Application materials should be submitted using WittKieffer's [candidate portal](#).

Nominations and inquiries can be directed to:

John Thornburgh and Ashlee Winters Musser

WVUF-SVP@wittkieffer.com

West Virginia University Foundation acts in a manner that supports a diverse, equitable, and inclusive Foundation. We are a world-class Foundation that embraces every community member, donor, volunteer, and employee to create a meaningful impact for those touched by the WVUF.