

Igniting the Flames of Success

One student at a time

ANNUAL REPORT

 **West Virginia**
Independent Colleges & Universities

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A MESSAGE from the CHAIRMAN



This is my last opportunity to speak for the WVICU in my role as Chairman. By the time you read this, I will have completed my term of office, and the WVICU will be in the capable hands of Ned Rose, the incoming Chairman.

Service to private higher education has been a source of great personal satisfaction to me. My family has a long history with private education, primarily in West Virginia. A great part of whatever success I have had, I attribute to my education at a West Virginia private college.

WVICU was created to provide financial assistance to West Virginia high school graduates who would benefit from the private college environment, but who may not be financially able to attend one of our colleges. It gives me a great deal of satisfaction to hear the stories of our students whose futures have been brightened by the financial support provided by WVICU.

Member institutions of WVICU pay all administrative expenses of the organization so that one hundred percent of donor gifts go directly to the students whom we exist to serve. Most importantly, these gifts often result in retaining exceptional West Virginia students who might otherwise go elsewhere.

Since WVICU was created in 1951, it has provided over \$37,000,000 in gifts to the students of our member institutions. Many of these students are first generation college students who have been enabled to take this life-changing step by our Circle of Vision and Legacy Endorsement Scholarship funds.

Last year, we began the additional task of monitoring the activities of the Legislature to be certain that our private colleges and their students have opportunities and support similar to those given to our public college and university students. We continue these monitoring efforts, funded by assessments to our member institutions, to be sure our representatives in the Legislature remain aware of the value of a private college education and the strong support for that type of education throughout our State.

With the strong leadership of our Executive Director, Ben Exley, we moved this year to a restructuring of WVICU. Financial matters are now being handled by the Suttle & Stalnaker accounting firm. This has given us greater accountability and a better system of checks and balances. We have moved the WVICU office to the campus of the University of Charleston with the generous cooperation of President Welch and are sharing our Administrative Assistant, Lisa Parsons, with the University of Charleston at a substantial cost savings to WVICU.

As we conclude the 2013 year, I want to express my gratitude and that of the entire WVICU Board to you, our donors, who make it possible for WVICU to make a difference in the lives of West Virginia students. Your generosity is overwhelming, and we can only say thank you for helping keep the dream of a college education alive for the exceptional students we serve through your gifts to WVICU.


Joseph S. Beeson, Chairman

Circle of Vision Scholarship Program

The Circle of Vision Scholarship Program provides a unique opportunity for West Virginia students to attend one of our eight private colleges and universities. Many of these scholars are the first in any generation of their family to attend a college or university. These students are motivated and successful.

Circle of Vision donors contribute \$10,000 or more each year designated to the program. Established in 1997, Circle of Vision Scholarships have been awarded to 3,058 students totaling \$4,451,220. In 2013, Circle of Vision members provided \$329,200 to our member institutions, assisting 53 students from West Virginia who demonstrated financial need and academic excellence.

WVICU gratefully acknowledges the generous support of the following 2013-2014 Circle of Vision Scholarship Program sponsors:

- | | |
|--|---|
| Appalachian Power Company | The Bernard H. and Blanche E. Jacobson Foundation |
| BB&T West Virginia Foundation | Maier Foundation, Inc. |
| Cecil I. Walker Machinery Co. Charitable Trust | Martha Gaines & Russell Wehrle Memorial Foundation |
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| The Driehorst Family Foundation | The Schenk Charitable Trust |
| H. B. Wehrle Foundation | Steptoe & Johnson, PLLC |
| Highmark West Virginia | United Bank, Inc. |
| The Jeanne G. Hamilton and Lawson W. Hamilton, Jr. Family Foundation, Inc. | West Virginia Independent Colleges & Universities Legacy Endowment Scholarship Fund |

Make a Difference in the Lives that Follow One Student at a Time THE LEGACY ENDOWMENT SCHOLARSHIP FUND

WVICU established the Legacy Endowment Scholarship fund in 2010. By contributing to this fund, you can make a permanent and positive difference in the lives of deserving West Virginia college students through planned or current giving. Bequests from generous West Virginians helped establish this fund, which awards scholarships annually to West Virginia students at our member colleges and universities through the Circle of Vision Scholarship Program. This is another way of:

“Igniting the Flames of Success, One Student at a Time.”

Several large donations from individuals who believed in private higher education were combined to create this fund. Many others have contributed to the fund over time.

The Legacy Fund has contributed a total of \$60,000 to the Circle of Vision Scholarship Program over the last three academic years. An additional \$20,000 has been pledged to the 2014 campaign.

The Legacy Fund's goal is to provide more than two Circle of Vision Scholarships each year through additional contributions and investment growth.



Alison BRADFORD

Sophomore: University of Charleston
Major: Pharmacy

Circle of Vision Scholarship: H.B. Wehrle Foundation

Alison has long known that she wanted to work in the medical field because she likes the idea of helping others. A high school medical skills class gave her the opportunity to shadow pharmacists in both hospital and retail settings. After that experience, she decided to study pharmacy.

"It's an opportunity to really help people without having to become a doctor," Alison explains. "I like that you get to have a personal relationship with patients that come in. You get to help them decide what meds they need and answer their questions. Pharmacists are trusted."

The Circle of Vision Scholarship enabled Alison to attend the University of Charleston (UC), where she is on a fast-track program that allows her to complete both her undergraduate and graduate coursework in 4 years.

Alison is thankful for the funding she has received to attend UC. "There is no way I'd be able to go to a private school like this without the financial help I've received from the Circle of Vision Scholarship," she says. "It provided me the opportunity to get an education at the university that I chose. I could have ended up at a big school where you are just a number. But at the University of Charleston, I'm not."

Circle of
Vision
Scholarship

"There is no way I'd be able to go to a private school like this without the financial help I've received from the Circle of Vision Scholarship."



Location: Charleston, WV	2012-2013 Graduates: 568
Founded: 1888	Operating Budget: \$43,369,000
Enrollment: 1,935	Endowment: \$34,995,280
President: Dr. Edwin H. Welch	Website: www.ucwv.edu

Academics: An independent, co-educational, residential university offering baccalaureate programs in 15 academic fields, master's degree programs in physician assistant studies, business administration and forensic accounting, and a doctoral degree program in pharmacy.

Amy LILLEY

Junior: Wheeling Jesuit University
Major: Nursing

Circle of Vision Scholarship: The Schenk Charitable Trust

As a girl, Amy Lilley observed her mother working as a nurse and decided that she wanted to follow that example. "Becoming a nurse has been a lifelong dream of mine," says Amy. "Helping others is something I really enjoy, and nursing allows me to do this on a daily basis."

Amy wanted to attend Wheeling Jesuit University (WJU) both because it was close to home and due to the program's stellar pass rate for nursing board exams. But just before her freshman year started, Amy realized she didn't have enough financial aid to cover her expenses. Thanks to the quick work of a savvy adviser, Amy learned about the Circle of Vision scholarship. "I applied and was lucky to get it," she says. "I would have never been able to attend without receiving the scholarship, it was a blessing."

Amy is anxious to get to work and put the education and skills she has gained at WJU to use. She plans to look for work with a critical care unit after she graduates. Ultimately, she would like to go to anesthesia school to become a certified registered nurse anesthetist.



"Becoming a nurse has been a lifelong dream of mine . . . Helping others is something I really enjoy, and nursing allows me to do this on a daily basis."



WHEELING
JESUIT
UNIVERSITY

Location: Wheeling, WV

Founded: 1954

Enrollment: 1,619

President: Rev. James Fleming, S.J.

2012-2013 Graduates: 343

Operating Budget: \$35,329,847

Endowment: \$19,242,940

Website: www.wju.edu

Academics: Offers Bachelor of Arts or Science degrees in more than 50 programs of academic or pre-professional areas, and Master Degrees in MBA, MSA, MSOL, Nursing, and Education Leadership. Founded upon the Jesuit tradition of academic excellence and service to others.

Andrew JONES

Senior: Ohio Valley University
Major: Biblical Studies, Minor: Missions

Circle of Vision Scholarship: Maier Foundation, Inc.

After high school, Andrew Jones was undecided on a career path. But at church camp that summer, he had an epiphany. The camp director asked Andrew to do a campfire lesson. It went well. Andrew truly enjoyed the exercise of preparing the lesson and preaching for the first time. "I don't think I've ever felt that kind of passion before for a career," says Andrew.

An Ohio Valley University (OVU) recruiter called Andrew after he returned from camp. "I told him I would love to go to a Christian college, but that I couldn't afford it," says Andrew. "I wanted to go to OVU from the start but I wasn't able to because of money."

The Circle of Vision Scholarship helped make Andrew's ambition a reality. "The scholarship wasn't in control of the whole situation," says Andrew. "It was His plan to help me with that. But the scholarship ended up being a great tool to help me accomplish it."

Andrew will be the first person in his family to complete a college degree. He hopes to become a pulpit preacher and is willing to travel around to where he is most needed. "My ultimate goal is to reunite Christians who just can't get along—people who believe in the same God but believe that they can't love each other," he says.



"I wanted to go to OVU from the start but I wasn't able to because of money . . . the scholarship ended up being a great tool to help me accomplish it."



Location: Vienna, WV

Founded: 1958

Enrollment: 459

President: Dr. Harold Shank

2012-2013 Graduates: 100

Operating Budget: \$8,745,228

Endowment: \$1,416,595

Website: www.ovu.edu

Academics: A private, independent, regional, faith-proclaiming, liberal arts university founded by members of Churches of Christ offering over 17 Baccalaureate degree programs with special certifications and degree endorsements in particular areas of concentration.



Audreanna HAINES

Junior: Alderson Broaddus University
Majors: Biology and Chemistry

Circle of Vision Scholarship: The Bernard McDonough Foundation

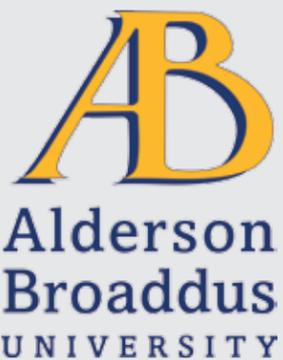
Audreanna Haines' dream is to become a doctor. She's considering either family medicine or neurology. Audreanna was particularly interested in Alderson Broaddus University (AB) because it was a smaller school with a good acceptance rate for medical school.

When in high school and applying for college, Audreanna was determined not to put a financial burden on her family or herself. The Circle of Vision Scholarship has enabled her to achieve that goal. "So far I'm debt free; the scholarship helps me not only now but when I go to medical school as well—because I'll have an even bigger financial burden then. It's a springboard to achieving future goals and allows me to be really successful while at AB too."

Audreanna appreciates AB's small class sizes and has found a tremendous support system there. Professors went out of their way to help her find scholarship and research opportunities. "You can just sit down with a professor and tell them what you are interested in," she says, "and then they open gateways for you and do everything in their power to help you achieve goals. It has taught me to ask questions and to think that it's possible to achieve anything."



"It has taught me to ask questions and to think that it's possible to achieve anything."



Location: Philippi, WV

Founded: 1871

Enrollment: 1,117

President: Dr. Richard Creehan

2012-2013 Graduates: 96

Operating Budget: \$18,520,008

Endowment: \$16,764,486

Website: www.ab.edu

Academics: Deeply rooted in the liberal arts, Alderson Broaddus College is a health-related and professional educational institution. Alderson Broaddus College is affiliated with the American Baptist Churches, USA, and the West Virginia Baptist Convention.

Jeffrey "David" SIZEMORE

Appalachian Bible College
Majors: Bible and Theology, Pastoral

Circle of Vision Scholarship: Maier Foundation, Inc.

David Sizemore is pursuing his passion. "My dad is a pastor and I really felt a calling to preach—to the ministry. I like the idea of fully being dedicated to God's work and taking care of His people," he says.

After high school, David's father made it clear that he would need to finance his own education. Since Appalachian Bible College (ABC) cost twice as much as the other school David was considering, he was a bit discouraged, but scholarships made it possible.

David says the Circle of Vision Scholarship was particularly helpful. "When I got the scholarship last year, it was life-changing. It's been an unbelievable blessing," he says. "I know a lot of students on campus that are struggling to pay bills. I try to be a good steward of what God has given me, particularly related to the scholarships." Even with scholarships, David works up to 30 hours a week during the school year. He is determined not to have to take out student loans for additional expenses.

David hopes to find a youth pastor position after he graduates so that he can do some hands-on learning and be mentored in ministry. After that, he's open to travelling abroad, particularly if it was for an opportunity to start a new church.



"When I got the scholarship last year, it was life-changing. It's been an unbelievable blessing."



Location: Mt. Hope, WV

Founded: 1950

Enrollment: 285

President: Dr. Daniel Anderson

2012-2013 Graduates: 49

Operating Budget: \$6,303,439

Endowment: \$1,322,216

Website: www.abc.edu

Academics: Offers associate and bachelor's degrees in Bible and theology, and a master's degree in ministry. Independent non-denominational.

Kayla CARR

Freshman: Davis & Elkins College
Major: Business Management

Circle of Vision Scholarship: Steptoe & Johnson, PLLC

Kayla Carr chose to go to Davis & Elkins College (D&E) for a number of reasons. "I loved how small the campus was and how close to home it was," Kayla says. She also liked the way she was welcomed by staff when visiting. "I'm a very family-oriented person. The close-knit, family feeling the staff gave me during the visit was amazing."

Kayla's twin sister goes to a bigger, public university. "She likes the hustle and bustle and big classes, but that's not for me," Kayla says. "I like that I can easily go talk to professors. We have small classes and so I get to really talk during class as well, not just during office hours."

Scholarships were a big factor in determining where Kayla would attend college. She would not have been able to attend D&E without them since her family has the financial strain of trying to support two children in college at once.

Even though she's just a freshman, Kayla already has lofty plans for herself. She wants to study business and accounting and hopes to own a business one day. Ideally, she would combine her passion for dance with her business expertise and open her own dance studio.

Circle of
Vision
Scholarship

"I'm a very family-oriented person. The close-knit, family feeling the staff gave me during the visit was amazing."



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Location: Elkins, WV

Founded: 1904

Enrollment: 874

President: Dr. Michael Mihalyo

2012-2013 Graduates: 115

Operating Budget: \$15,425,446

Endowment: \$27,642,574

Website: www.dewv.edu

Academics: A small liberal arts college offering more than 30 academic programs leading to baccalaureate and associates degrees ranging from the traditional arts and sciences to professional studies, as well as innovative programs such as sustainability studies and hospitality and tourism management. Affiliated with the Presbyterian Church (USA).

Notashia BAUGHMAN

Junior: West Virginia Wesleyan College
Major: Chemistry, Minor: Biology

Circle of Vision Scholarship: Appalachian Power Company

The Circle of Vision Scholarship made a tremendous difference for Notashia Baughman. Before she received the scholarship, she was unsure if she'd be able to afford to continue her education after the first year. The aid has allowed her to minimize her debt—which is particularly helpful since she aspires to go to graduate school.

The first in her family to attend college, Notashia is studying chemistry and biology. "I really like knowing how things work," she says. "It's one of my hobbies—to find out how things work and how everything operates in the world. It's interesting to know that everything is composed of molecules."

Last summer, Notashia was excited to participate in Wesleyan research that aimed to isolate antibiotic compounds to fight the spread of deadly MRSA infections. Notashia is undecided on an exact career path, but she thinks graduate school is likely, possibly to study chemistry. She likes the idea of finding a niche that allows her to contribute to the world through science. "I would really like to work in drug synthesis or a similar area so that I can contribute to medicine or cure diseases," she says.



"I really like knowing how things work, . . . It's one of my hobbies—to find out how things work and how everything operates in the world."



Location: Buckhannon, WV

Founded: 1890

Enrollment: 1,469

President: Pamela Balch

2012-2013 Graduates: 287

Operating Budget: \$28,100,000

Endowment: \$35,930,058

Website: www.wvwc.edu

Academics: Prepares its students through its curriculum of arts and sciences, pre-professional and professional studies, and its rich campus life program. Affiliated with the United Methodist Church.

Shannon MARKS

Senior: Bethany College
Major: Communication & Media Arts

Circle of Vision Scholarship: The Ogden Newspapers, Inc.

When she started college, Shannon Marks wasn't sure what field to pursue. She took advantage of Bethany College's liberal arts education to explore a variety of subjects. "I couldn't find one thing I was passionate about," says Shannon. "But then I took an advertising class and just fell in love with it. Advertising was something different, it allowed me room to be creative and explore."

Shannon's college experience has included an eclectic range of activities, from Japanese culture club to campus radio. She credits these experiences as well as various student leadership positions with transforming her from a shy freshman into a confident leader.

The Circle of Vision Scholarship was a pivotal part of this process, allowing Shannon the freedom to grow and discover her strengths. "If I didn't get the scholarship, it would be very stressful," she says. "I wouldn't be able to participate in as many extracurricular activities. I would have been working more and that would have dampened my experience on campus."

Shannon hopes to find employment with a public relations or advertising firm. "I think there's a lot to gain from being part of a creative team," she says. "You can work with different clients and help multiple people enhance their reputations. I like the idea of using everything I've learned, being challenged, and not doing the same thing every day."



"If I didn't get the scholarship, it would be very stressful, . . . I wouldn't be able to participate in as many extracurricular activities."

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Location: Bethany, WV

Founded: 1840

Enrollment: 1,080

President: Dr. Scott D. Miller

2012-2013 Graduates: 154

Operating Budget: \$31,000,000

Endowment: \$45,000,000

www.bethanywv.edu

Academics: A four-year private liberal arts institution offering bachelor degrees in more than 25 fields of study and a Master of Arts in Teaching. Affiliated with the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ).

Crystal BIBLE

Graduate: Davis & Elkins College
Major: History
Minor: Education



Scholarships made it possible for Crystal Bible to attend Davis & Elkins College (D&E). The support and encouragement she received from professors there helped her to hone a career plan and realize her passion for teaching.

As a junior, Crystal Bible considered dropping her education concentration so that she could graduate early with a bachelor's degree in history. Looking back, Crystal is thankful that one of her professors sat her down to talk about career options and encourage her to attain a teaching certificate as well as graduate education.

Crystal's ultimate decision to persist paid off. After graduation, she found a full time job in Upshur County, working as a special education teacher. "It's uncommon to find a full time teaching job right out of college—I'm fairly blessed," she says. "Had I gone to a big university and not had the push from my D&E professors to continue my education, I don't know what I'd be doing right now. I don't know that I'd be teaching."

Crystal teaches children with disabilities and exceptionalities in a self-contained setting, which she

admits can be very challenging. "There are some tough days," she says, "but it's also very rewarding to spend time with the students and to get to work with them one-on-one. Watching them excel is amazing. You can make a huge difference in students' lives."

D&E's education program prepared Crystal well for the field. "From the very first course, I was working in a classroom," she says. "You start out just observing, but by the time you finish, you are student teaching. You can write lesson plans, you feel confident, and you know how to manage a classroom. You really are prepared."

Though she has already found a rewarding job, Crystal is still motivated to move forward. She's pursuing a master's degree in multi-categorical special education.

"I'm never going to be done learning," she says. "Every day, I learn something new. Maybe after this, I'll get another master's degree in another, more specialized area. But I will always be teaching. I don't think I'll ever stop."

Jason PELINSKY

Graduate: Wheeling Jesuit University
Major: Athletic Training,
Minor: Chemistry



Jason Pelinsky is a wonderful example of how Circle of Vision Scholarship fund contributions multiply once in the hands of recipients. Jason plans to address one of the Mountain State's pressing problems—the need for better rural health care access in West Virginia.

When Jason was preparing for college, he didn't have a clear direction in mind. He knew that he enjoyed studying the sciences but was undecided about a specific path. "I picked Wheeling Jesuit University because I wanted to get more attention. I wanted to make sure I was going to get the best education I could," says Jason.

Wheeling Jesuit University (WJU) proved to be a favorable environment. Jason appreciated the liberal arts education, which allowed him to explore different interests and broaden his perspective. He says he benefited from small class sizes as well. "In classrooms of 20-30 students, professors are able to key in on the areas you need help with. You are not overlooked—they help push you to success."

Jason decided to study athletic training, a new area of study at WJU. As part of his training, Jason worked with the Wheeling Nailers, Bethany College's football team, and several WJU teams. He was also involved with Appalachian Outreach, which focuses on helping rural counties in West Virginia. Jason has made some trips to rural areas of West Virginia and was struck by the lack of health care options but heartened by the prospect of helping people. "I really enjoy patient interactions and the ability to create relationships with people," he says. "I like the idea of working with people with low health literacy, of helping them out and creating a relationship with family medicine."

In May, Jason will graduate from medical school. He'll perform his graduate medical education training in the department of family medicine at the West Virginia University hospital. Jason was selected for a rural scholar residency, a 3-year, early acceptance program that involves a concentration on patient care in areas with limited health care access. His current research plans involve studying lifestyle management and decisions that lead to obesity and obesity-related illness.

"My ultimate goal is to complete my family medicine residency and get a fellowship to do sports medicine training—and then to come back full circle by working in a rural area. Athletes in those areas also need access to sports medicine, I'd like to increase access to sports medicine in a rural setting," says Jason.

Honor Roll of DONORS

Donors acknowledged in the Honor Roll provided gifts for Campaign 2013 (January 1 – December 31, 2013)

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Bold Italicized denotes a board member

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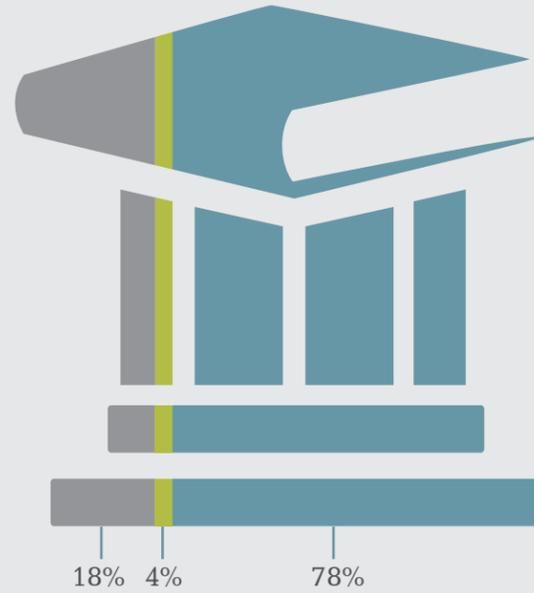
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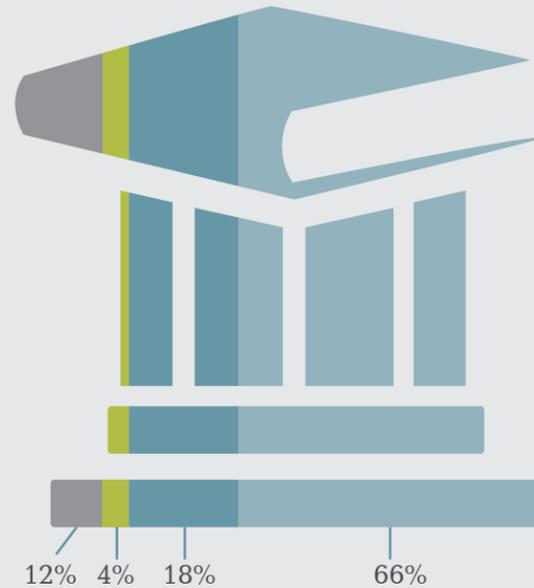
2013 Types of Gifts

■ Designated & Restricted:	\$ 120,000	18%
■ Gifts In-Kind:	\$ 25,907	4%
■ Unrestricted:	\$ 529,285	78%
TOTAL:	\$ 675,192	



2013 Sources of Funds

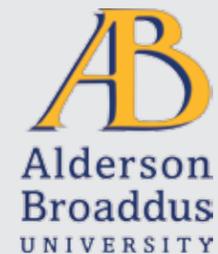
■ Corporations:	\$ 82,607	12%
■ Individuals:	\$ 26,150	4%
■ Trusts:	\$ 120,502	18%
■ Foundations:	\$ 445,933	66%
TOTAL AMOUNT:	\$ 675,192	



Composite Data – Member Institutions

Total Enrollment:	7,988
West Virginia Residents:	4,067
Total Operating Budgets:	\$186,792,968
Total Endowment:	\$182,228,713
2012-2013 Graduates:	1,709
Number of Alumni:	79,408
Alumni in West Virginia:	24,008

 **West Virginia**
Independent Colleges & Universities





West Virginia
Independent Colleges & Universities

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