

Fairmont State University Board of Governors – Academic Affairs Committee
Wednesday, February 11, 2026, at 9:00am
Hardway 219 and Teams
Meeting Minutes

Attendees: President Davis, Dr. Bedford, Tanner James, Jason Noland, Harrison Linkous, Drew Paton, Cheryl Lewis, Trish DeNoon

Teams: Dr. Kalka, Jessie Sharps, Angela Schwer, Wendy Adkins, John DeVaul, George Wolf, Dr. Selmeski, Jennifer Kinty, Greg Bamberger, Jason McCoy

Absent: Jason Pizatella

A. Call to Order

- The meeting was called to order at approximately 9:01 a.m. by Wendy Adkins
- Adkins mentioned that this meeting does not contain any agenda items that would need to be voted on at the Board of Governors meeting, but that they were informational items to ensure that individuals were aware of what was happening within Academic Affairs
- Adkins then turned the meeting over to Dr. Bedford

B. Overview of the Process for Developing the Academic Implementation Plan and Current Status of the Process

- The process will happen quickly between now and May
- On December 18, 2025, the Implementation Plan process was launched with a full-day workshop conducted by EAB
- On January 8, 2026, a workshop on innovation was held by Garder Institute in conjunction with the Title III grant
- There will be weekly meetings held until March by six work groups to draft the Strategic Objectives and Key Results
- The completed draft of the plan will be ready for the Strategic Planning Committee, Cabinet, Academic Leadership Team, and Faculty Senate to review by April
- The Final review of the same groups will be completed in May
- The plan will then be submitted to the Board of Governors for review and approval in June 2026
 - The plan will be submitted by June 2026 so that faculty are fully involved in the process before contracts end for the academic year

- There will be five Strategic Objectives which were presented to faculty Seante on February 10th
 - We want to ensure that we are being intentional and creating a plan for transformation and innovation
 - The Budget Summary will look at each of the Strategic Objectives, the cost involved and ways to improve the margin between revenue and expense
- The Five Focus Areas which define what the Strategic Objectives address:
 - Academic Program Portfolio
 - This will help build the Master Academic Plan
 - Student Academic Success
 - Partnering with other divisions to address the need for coherence
 - Professional Support and Development
 - Offer clear career paths and provide professional development
 - Cultural Enrichment
 - This is how we build a vibrant campus
 - Regional Service
 - Invite partnerships
- Each focus area will have a strategic objective and 3-5 key results
- AIP Focus Area 1
 - **Aspirational Goal 1:** Provide grounded educational experiences, fueled by personal relationships and holistic support, which contribute to all students' successful careers and lives.
 - **Focus Area 1.** Academic program portfolio: deliver strong academic programs that align with regional societal and career needs and aspirations.
 - **Aligns with Strategic Vision Priorities 1.1 & 1.5**
- AIP Focus Area 2
 - **Aspirational Goal 1:** Provide grounded educational experiences, fueled by personal relationships and holistic support, which contribute to all students' successful careers and lives.
 - **Focus Area 2.** Advance student academic success by creating a clear, consistent, equitable, and proactive academic experience that supports persistence, progression, and timely degree completion across all student populations and learning modalities.
 - **Aligns with Strategic Vision Priorities 1.2 & 1.4**

- AIP Focus Area 3
 - **Aspirational Goal 2:** Become the premier higher education employer in West Virginia for full-time, part-time, and student employees.
 - **Focus Area 3. Foster rewarding, equitable, supportive, and sustainable work conditions.** In collaboration with other units within the university, Academic Affairs will develop, advance, and support employment and work conditions that foster equity, innovation, trust, and professional growth for faculty and staff.
 - **Aligns with Strategic Vision Priorities 2.1, 2.2, 2.3, 2.4, & 2.5**
- AIP Focus Area 4
 - **Aspirational Goal 3:** Create a vibrant campus, where everybody is welcomed, valued, and wants to spend time, which serves as a bedrock institution for North-Central West Virginia.
 - **Focus Area 4. Cultural Enrichment:** offering intellectual and cultural opportunities and advancing the university's role as a regional steward of place
 - **Aligns with Strategic Vision Priorities 3.1 & 3.5**
- AIP Focus Area 5
 - **Aspirational Goal 3:** Create a vibrant campus, where everybody is welcomed, valued, and wants to spend time, which serves as a bedrock institution for North-Central West Virginia.
 - **Focus Area 5. Regional Service:** strengthen FSU's role as an engaged public university by integrating civic engagement into teaching, learning, scholarship, and service, and by fostering sustained partnerships with a broad range of community organizations
 - **Aligns with Strategic Vision Priority 3.3**

C. Update on the Academic Program Reviews

- None of the programs under review are in danger all are on good footing but we are looking at adjustments that can be made
- We are also starting to send out letters for those programs which are up for review during the 2026-2027 academic year

D. Update on the Four Searches being Conducted this Year for Academic Administrators

- Positions within Academic are being reviewed and roles are being defined among the Associate and Assistant Provosts
- All four of the open positions will be making presentations at open campus forums

- **Associate Provost for Faculty Affairs**
 - The finalists will be coming to campus for interviews at the end of February
- **Dean, College of Business & Aviation**
 - Posting will close on February 23rd
- **Dean, College of Nursing**
 - Posting will close February 18th
- **Director of Academic Library Services**
 - Posting will close February 17th

E. Adjournment

- Wendy stated that she was impressed with the five areas of focus in the Academic Implementation plan because those are what make Fairmont State different from other institutions
- Adkins thanked everyone for attending
- The meeting was adjourned at approximately 9:31 a.m. by Adkins

Wendy Adkins, Committee Chair

Date