

Fairmont State University Board of Governors – Executive Committee
Tuesday, April 14, 2026, at 9:00am
Teams
Meeting Minutes

Present: Dr. Michael Davis, Dr. Brian Selmeski, Jason Pizatella, Lance Puccio, Drew Paton, Wendy Adkins, John DeVaul, Harrison Linkous, Dr. Jason Noland, Dr. Angela Schwer, Tanner James, George Wolf, Paul Steinhaus, Lindsey Guinn, Dr. Alicia Kalka, Cheryl Lewis

Absent: none

Call to Order

Chair Jason Pizatella called the April 14th Executive Committee meeting to order at approximately 9:02 am.

Dr. Brian Selmeski advised that the Information Technology Implementation Plan is the fourth of 11 plans the Board will review. It uses the Objectives and Key Results method and is high level. The budget contains estimates of resource requirements and alternate funding sources. However, the Board will vote on strategic investments that are not included in annual budgets.

Paul Steinhaus, Chief Information Officer, presented information on the following:

Current State of Information Technology (Hardware and Software)

- 10-year IT spend compared to total University Budget
 - Educause benchmark is 4.5% - 7.2%
 - Fairmont State University's spend has been 4.08% (2016-2025)
 - The University has underinvested in IT by ~\$2.3-\$17.8 (2016-2025)
- Technical Debt
 - Applications- 108 applications \$2,100,000 + annual costs
 1. Institutional Risks
 - Breadth over depth risk
 - Critical business processes depend on obsolete custom-coded integrations
 - In-house and external expertise is limited and declining
 - Integration failures generate unreliable data
 - Constraints of Legacy Application architecture
 - Fragmented applications
 - Increased faculty frustrations
 - Infrastructure
 - Non-residence hall building's switch infrastructure installed 2013
 - Wireless infrastructure controllers no longer supported
 - Security camera system (end of support 8/2027)
 - 30+ year old campus fiber plant nearing end of life
 - 1. Institutional Risks
 - Network infrastructure operating beyond the recommended lifecycle of 6-7 years (wireless)

- End of life network equipment no longer receives security patches
- Employee, Classroom, and Lab Equipment
 - Existing Computers vs Outdated Computers
- 1. Institutional Risks
 - Existing beyond wireless access points
- Funding Opportunities
 - New Student Technology Fee (~\$1,000,000 annually, will increase with enrollment growth or if the fee is raised)
 - Grants/Funding
 - Application Consolidation and Reduction
 - Cost Containment
 - Data Governance
 - Discussions with other WV Universities to negotiate with ERP vendors to support multi-university licensing

Information Technology Implementation Plan

- Three-year plan (July 2026-June 2029)
- Objective 1: Improve data accuracy, performance, governance, quality, and interoperability by 95%
- Objective 2: Enhance cybersecurity compliance and campus security to 70% of industry best practices
- Objective 3: Increase professional development about IT available to students, faculty, and staff by 80%
- Objective 4: Increase the reliability, performance, and coverage of the University's network infrastructure by 90%
- Objective 5: Implement and sustain a hardware lifecycle plan that upgrades the targeted percentage of employee, classroom, and lab technologies annually starting in July 2026.
- Budget Summary
 - Strategic Investments
 - 1. New Funding Requests (FY2027-FY2029)
 - FY2027- \$1,817,890
 - FY2028- \$2,483,656
 - FY2029- \$1,806,554
- Risk: If we proceed with this plan, it will reduce our institutional risk to infrastructure, applications, devices, and ERP from High to Low

Dr. Michael Davis stated the Information Technology Implementation Plan is a projection and the Board will be consulted on any expenditures.

Dr. Michael Davis advised that there is potential for a deferred maintenance funding from the state to assist with the costs associated with the Information Technology Plan.

Dr. Brian Selmeski advised that this is the first 3-year Information Technology Implementation Plan does not address all of the risks at this time, just the most crucial.

Dr. Michael Davis advised that some of the Information Technology Plan expenses will be accounted for in our budget, others will be addressed through strategic funding.

Paul Steinhaus, Chief Information Officer, advised that the biggest concern for students is wireless connectivity within the residence halls, which will be addressed this summer.

Drew Paton made a motion to recommend the AY 2027-2029 Information Technology Implementation Plan to the Full Board. Lance Puccio seconded. The motion passed.

Executive Session

Drew Paton made a motion to go into executive session, pursuant to West Virginia Code §6-9A-4(b)(2)(A),(b)(9) and (b)(12) to discuss:

1. A privileged and confidential report from General Counsel regarding pending litigation and personnel matters.
2. Matters involving or affecting the purchase, sale, or lease of property which, if made public, might adversely affect the financial or other interest of the University.

Lance Puccio seconded. The motion passed.

Drew Paton made a motion to rise from the executive session. Lance Puccio seconded. The motion passed.

Chair Pizatella advised that no decisions were made, or votes taken in the executive session.

Adjournment

Chair Pizatella adjourned the meeting at approximately 10:10 am.

Jason Pizatella, Committee Chair

Date