As the chairman of Fairmont State University’s Board of Governors (2009-2011), I would like to congratulate Dr. Maria C. Bennett Rose on her appointment to the position of Interim President. Dr. Rose has most recently served as our Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs and has been a part of the Fairmont State community for over 20 years.

I believe no one on this campus better understands the needs of our students, faculty and staff. She is well respected by all who wear the maroon and white, as well as education leaders within our Board of Governors and the Higher Education Policy Commission. Dr. Rose brings a calm, thoughtful process to every decision she makes and I am honored and proud she is serving the University she loves so very much.

As a former student, long-time faculty member, and current administrator, Dr. Rose is fully aware of the institution’s rich history and promising future. As Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs, Dr. Rose has worked tirelessly to enrich the institution’s academic core, while expanding the educational opportunities available throughout North Central West Virginia. As Interim President, Dr. Rose will engage faculty, staff, and students as well as business and community leaders regarding current and future institutional needs. Dr. Rose’s strong community ties, extensive knowledge, and relevant experience place her in a unique position to continue selfless service to the institution as it moves forward.

I would also like to take this time to thank the institution which includes a family of students, faculty, staff, alumni, and friends who work every day to plan and prepare for the University’s upcoming accreditation visit by the Higher Learning Commission. During the past two years, Fairmont State University has built partnerships with the global community in which our emerging alumni will live and lead.

I share the belief with members of the board that institutions like Fairmont State University have opened the doors of college access to our local communities and the entire State of West Virginia. Built on a 145-year history with strong tradition and alumni pride the University will preserve its focus on providing a high quality undergraduate experience, creating unique programs, and supporting professional education.

Sincerely,

Rocco Muriale
Chairman, FSU Board of Governors 2009-2011

More information about Interim President Maria Rose can be found on page 18.
For those of you who have ever wanted to don the maroon & white of the FSU mascot, here is your chance—the official Freddie the Falcon mask.

Several years ago in the bowels of Wallman Hall, a creative genius and Fairmont State icon, Bob Heffner ’73, decided that Fairmont State needed a way to more fully interact with its fans, community, and kids. His idea was to create a coloring book featuring Freddie the Falcon. As the project continued, Heffner brainstormed with colleague Shane Jordan and student worker Mark Bennett ’09. The three decided to create an image of the falcon that could be assembled into a three-dimensional mask. After a little tinkering and creative energy, the final product is presented to you today— the official Freddie the Falcon Mask.

Assembling the mask is easy and to give you a little more help we have created a special video tutorial featuring our very own Freddie the Falcon. Visit www.fairmontstate.edu/freddie for more information.

After creating the mask, we want to see you show your falcon spirit all over the world. Take your mask with you on vacation, on a hike, or while doing something wild in your own backyard. Submissions can be sent to photo@fairmontstate.edu. Look for your photo in the next edition!
The Falcon Bookshelf

The Falcon Bookshelf features published works by or about alumni and other members of the FSU community. We also highlight books edited or contributed to by alumni, faculty or administrators. To be included in The Falcon Bookshelf, send the book and the publisher’s press release to maroonandwhite@fairmontstate.edu. Fairmont WV 26554 or send publisher’s press release and a high-resolution book cover image to maroonandwhite@fairmontstate.edu.

Introduction to Geography, was contributed to by Bruce Boland, social sciences adjunct faculty member, and introduces college students to the breadth and spatial insights of the field of geography. The author’s approach allows the major research traditions of geography to dictate the principal themes. They also include information on current events, such as the earthquake in Haiti. Chapter 1 introduces students to the four organizing traditions that have emerged through the long history of geographical thought and writing: earth science, culture-environment, location, and area analysis. Each of the four parts of this book centers on one of these geographic perspectives.

Unemployment Ended by Community Restored by Craig C. White, Senior Professor of Sociology, forwards a vision bringing local citizens who face difficult problems and challenges into a mutually beneficial relationship with a class of new community workers recruited from the ranks of those who, otherwise, must themselves deal with unemployment and other forms of financial hardship. Project plans are being prepared for both Marion County and villages south of Hyderabad in India.

Malcolm X, African American Revolutionary, by Dennis D. Wainstock, Professor of History, briefly covers the early years of Malcolm X, and then details his later years which were largely dominated by his departure from the Nation of Islam and his conflict with Elijah Muhammad.

Fairmont State University alumnus, Lisa Hall ’86, released to press her book titled, Taking Charge of Your Own Health in 2009. Hall graduated from FSU with a BS degree in Psychology. Her father, William Randall Hall, continues to serve the university as an adjunct faculty member in the School of Fine Arts.

A resident of Huntsville, AL, Hall became ill in 1995 and began a long, frustrating journey through the U.S. healthcare system. Hall was seen by 37 physicians and was unable to move without the aid of a cane or wheelchair, had been the subject of numerous tests and attempted treatments, and had been told that her illness was all in her head by several doctors before she met Dr. Watkins, whose medical combination treatment gave her back the normalcy she had lost during the previous ten years.

Journal Articles and Poetry:
- A Few Cool Years after Those: Midlife at Middletown in Niederer’s Lyrics in the Journal of Modern Literature by Elizabeth Savage, Professor of Language and Literature.
- Another Pieta, Cuttings vs. Seeds, and Sorrows, Appetite, Mending in the Parthenon West Review by Elizabeth Savage, Professor of Language and Literature.
- The Lorenz System Has a Global Attractor in Infinity in the Journal of Nonlinear Mathematical Physics, co-authored by Daniel Solomon, adjunct faculty of Mathematics.

Superlatives today are often times used so casually or cavalierly that they lose their meaning. The pepperoni roll we just ate was “the greatest” or the movie we just saw was “the best ever.” But when it comes to athletic trainer Bob Cable, the words just don’t seem to do him enough justice. Ask any of the thousands of student-athletes that have come through his office and they’ll all tell you he is the best at what he does and they mean it. They know it and Fairmont State knows it.

And, the nation knows it as well. Cable received National Athletic Trainers’ Association’s 2010 Division II Head Athletic Trainer of the Year award last summer. This honor recognizes the outstanding efforts of a certified athletic trainer employed in the collegiate setting at a Division II university.

NATA’s College/University Athletic Trainers’ Committee (CUATC) selects a winner based on active community and campus involvement; volunteer service; national, district and state athletic training association participation; promotion of the profession; and exceptional performance in the role of collegiate athletic trainer.

“Bob is richly deserving of the award,” said NATA College/University Athletic Trainers’ Committee Chair Charlie Thompson, MS, ATC. “He has dedicated his career to providing quality health care services to collegiate athletes and has worked tirelessly toward the betterment of the athletic training profession.”

“It’s an honor to be considered, let alone win it,” said Cable, who was named the top trainer in the state of West Virginia in 2007. “It’s just one of those things where you keep your head down and keep working hard – this is not something I ever expected.”

While the award may not have been expected, it’s certainly not surprising. In some situations, Cable spends more time with some student-athletes than they do with their own coaches helping them get healthy. His office is a hub of activity with stories being swapped while treatments are being given. His knowledge in the field and professionalism are unquestioned but what Cable does is what all the great ones do: he gives more. If it means coming in before the sun even thinks about getting up for the day because that’s the only time the student-athlete can do a treatment, he’ll do it. If it means getting a second or third opinion, he’ll do it. If it means just listening to any kind of problems or issues, he’ll do it. He virtually never clocks out and is always there for the student-athletes. His extra effort has never gone unnoticed by the people he’s served, which is evidenced by the fact that he is one of the first people that receive a visit when a former player returns to campus.

The national award is the appropriate recognition for the work Cable has put in at Fairmont State for nearly two decades.

“Bob is a great asset for Fairmont State,” said Rusty Elliott, director of athletics. “He makes us better as an athletic department not only because of what he does in helping our student-athletes get healthy and get back into competition but also because of his love and commitment for Fairmont State.”

Cable provides extraordinary support

# Adam Zundell

Bob Cable celebrates with the 2010 women’s basketball team as they capture the WVIAC tournament title.
Competitive Cheer

The Fairmont State competitive cheer team wrapped up its first season as a member of the National Collegiate Acrobatic and Tumbling Association, which included the likes of Maryland, Oregon as Baylor. The Falcons competed in the association’s first-ever national championship in March. Fairmont State’s Shanna Akers, Courtney Reymond, Whitney Whiten and Jade Bennett won a national championship in heat one of the basket toss. Krysta Kemp was selected as the NCATA Freshman of the Year.

Academic Success

Fairmont State continues to be among the best in the WVIAC when it comes to the academic success of its student-athletes. FSU had the top federal graduation rate (76 percent) in the conference, with seven individual sports (football, men’s and women’s golf, men’s and women’s swimming, softball and women’s cross country) having the best federal graduation rate in the league.

Women’s Basketball

The women’s basketball team was given the Sam Marchio Award for sportsmanship at the conclusion of the 2010-11 season. The award is given to a women’s basketball team who best exemplifies sportsmanship on the court and is voted on by the league’s officials. They select the team that displays the highest level of sportsmanship on the court in their eyes. It is the first time that Fairmont State has won the award since its inception in 1989.

Perry Baker

Perry Baker, Fairmont State’s speedy wide receiver became the first Falcon player in a decade to sign a free agent contract in the NFL by signing with the Philadelphia Eagles in July. The New Smyrna, Fla., native played in two Division II All-Star games, and also earned an invite to the East-West Shrine game that is typically reserved for Division I players. He received the 2011 Colebank Award given to the student-athlete who has promoted the best interest of Fairmont State throughout his career.

Fairmont State vs. West Liberty

On Sept. 30, 2010, Fairmont State University had a moment in the spotlight in front of a nationally televised audience for its football game against West Liberty. The university and the community partnered on several initiatives in the weeks leading up to the game to help attract excitement, and over 5,000 fans turned out to pack Duvall-Rosier Field.

Volleyball

The Falcon volleyball posted one of its top records in recent history with a 20-10 record and 12-2 in the WVIAC – good for second in the league. Fairmont State’s Haley Lippert and Theresa Zapach were first team All-WVIAC selections, and Lippert was a second team all-region pick for head coach Larry Hill.

Logan Moore

Fairmont native Logan Moore was named WVIAC Freshman of the Year. The Fairmont Senior grad set the school record for total offense as a freshman averaging 2,226 yards. His 202.4 yards of total offense per game was second in the country among freshmen. His 1,874 passing yards were second in school history among freshmen. He 18 touchdowns passing and added five more on the ground. Moore’s pass efficiency rating of 253.6 against Seton Hill was the highest of any quarterback in the WVIAC in the 2010 seasons and the 18th best rating for a single game in all of NCAA Division II. Moore was also named All-WVIAC Honorable Mention.

Fabien Mevs

Fabien Mevs became just the third player in school history to be named WVIAC Player of the Year. The senior from Port-au-Prince, Haiti, posted a 15-8 overall record and was 6-2 in conference play. He also maintained a 3.9 grade-point average in mechanical engineering, and was awarded the Feaster Award for the highest GPA among letterwinners.

Kathryn Saurborn

Fairmont native Kathryn Saurborn is off to a hot start in her sophomore season. The East Fairmont grad has already posted NCAA Division II ‘B’ times in several events and broken several school and pool records.

FROM THE SIDELINES
Imagine a high school with no bells, yet students are engaged and on task. Imagine students taking initiative and responsibility for their own education while working and learning collaboratively in a team environment. Imagine teaching and learning that directly relates to real-world business, industry, and professional careers. Imagine high schools where students learn to be engaged, responsible citizens of their local community.

For teachers and students in a New Tech High School, this may be a reality. For West Virginia educators, Fairmont State University’s School of Education, Health and Human Performance is helping to make this a reality by facilitating the exploration of New Tech’s innovative educational approach.

“Our goal at Fairmont State is to educate the most creative and innovative teachers we can, and to partner with school districts across the state to facilitate professional development opportunities that will significantly enhance the success of our schools, our communities, and our region,” stated Dr. Van Dempsey, dean of the School. “New Tech presents a tremendous opportunity for us and our partners in public education.”

New Tech’s philosophy is based upon three primary elements: a culture that empowers, teaching that engages, and technology that enables. The culture component is vital, according to Jon Reinhard, New Tech’s regional director of the Midwest. In fact, the culture of empowerment—which focuses on trust, respect and responsibility—sets the tone for the entire educational experience. Project-based learning—the teaching that engages—involves students in defining problems, group planning, research and investigation, guided activities, developing solutions, and presenting those solutions. The one-to-one ratio of fully-equipped computers to students enables the level of learning and experience that is mandated in our technology-driven economy.

“Our students achieve high levels of educational attainment and thrive academically. They become self-directed, lifelong learners,” said Reinhard. As for the Network’s success, he added: “In 2008-09, 85% of the reported New Tech seniors applied to one or more colleges and had very high graduation rates; in many cases schools had 100% graduation.”

The School of Education has hosted a series of informational sessions and meetings regarding the New Tech Network and several school district officials and teachers continue to explore the option of transforming into a New Tech school. As a result of these meetings, they have made site visits to current New Tech High Schools to witness this approach to 21st Century education first-hand. FSU’s School of Education, Health and Human Performance secured a grant from the Knowledge Works Foundation to assist local school districts with planning and travel costs associated with the site visits.

For more information about this initiative, please contact Dr. Dempsey at (304) 367-4241 or Van.Dempsey@fairmontstate.edu.

By: Amantha Cole ’03

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As part of our growing network of alumni, you know that FSU helped you start in the right direction. Help set someone else on the right path. Refer a student today, …

Refer a student by contacting Beth Martin at 866-372-ALUM. Please have the student’s contact information available when you call.

www.fairmontstate.edu • (800) 641-5678
For my contribution to the Alumni Magazine, I offer positive remembrances of significant times as a student at Fairmont State College, a career in the public schools, a return to FSC as a professor, and my time as an administrator at Fairmont State University. I offer as well, reflective thoughts of a personal and professional nature. I am humbled at being chosen to have my words published as the charter writer of “The Last Letter.”

Fairmont State College, 1967: just close enough to Weirton, West Virginia, to make a small town girl with no prior travel experience feel safe, yet far away enough to establish her independence. I had such fear of this big adventure that I prayed it somehow would not happen, but happen it did. I dutifully participated in Freshman Orientation wearing the requisite maroon beanie, and met fun, funny, sweet, and odd (to me) people in the dormitories and classes. I learned from the Art Appreciation teacher to recognize great masterpieces; from the Choral Director to stand properly and have my singing voice heard; from the strict English faculty to express myself correctly on paper; from the Speech teacher to be proud of what I had to say and enunciate it clearly; from the biology professor that the world would someday be “chocolate,” and from the elementary education faculty to prepare lessons thoroughly, teach competently, evaluate fairly, and to feel compassion for youth. Thank you, Fairmont State College; you were the excellent choice I envisioned, and you prepared me well for my life’s work.

Students who have been in my classrooms: I saw your worth and shared my knowledge and enthusiasm for learning with you. I prepared you to achieve next steps in your academic and personal lives. Little ones: While giving you information and skills, I also taught you responsible, respectful behavior. College-age ones: I presented the teaching profession as a dignified calling, provided you with the ability to keep it thriving for future youth and to do so with competence and a sense of caring.

Marion County Schools and the Fairmont State College School of Education: I believe I gave the best version of myself: a diligent employee with the willingness to do what was expected of me and more. I hope that each institution is better for my having been a part of it.

Fairmont State University Administration: this has been a great challenge, a steep learning curve and the opportunity to develop an entire new aspect of myself professionally. I have studied at Harvard and with ABET in order to develop skills in management and assessment; traveled to four countries with students and colleagues; performed in Fine Arts productions; interacted with donors and dignitaries. I assist students who have academic and personal challenges and plan awards celebrations for those who have achieved excellence. I attempt to find reasonable solutions to issues that have no clear resolution. Every day presents something different from the previous one, and I derive great satisfaction from having learned to handle it all with a minimum of frustration or angst. Leadership is a quality I have often been recognized for by others; this position has provided me the opportunity to recognize it in myself.

Those whom I have loved and who have loved me: Thank you for teaching me to see my best self and to recognize my strengths and talents. Through your eyes, I have learned that I am a worthy human being who deserves to be loved and that in giving freely of myself I am given many rewards in return. For the still open pages and new chapters of my life, I hope to live them graciously, to maintain wonder and delight in the beauty I see around me, to minimize the sad and difficult times, to focus on the privileges I have: health, American citizenship, a fulfilling career.

Maroon and White staff: Thank you for considering me a worthy contributor to your magazine and for giving me the opportunity to share my life’s perspective with others.

Dr. Chris Lavorata
Saving Lives, One Mouse Click at a Time

By Nita Coleman ’10

Identity Theft, Muslim Religious Persecution, and Online Child Exploitation

Ring Uncovered were a few of the headlines on today’s morning news show. Anyone with a television knows that the world we live in seems to be growing more restless and volatile by the day. The bad guys of today are a new breed – they no longer have to be in close proximity to blow up a building. They can remotely access your computer and use it to commit numerous crimes without ever stepping foot into your home. They can use the internet to recruit and train a new generation of terrorists without ever appearing in person. We live in a digital world, fully equipped with high-tech criminals. Fortunately, the security world has also changed, and the people behind the computers may surprise you.

Established in 2009, Fairmont State University’s Open Source Intelligence Exchange (OSIX) is the laboratory and applied research component of the university’s National Security and Intelligence (NSI) program, which is the only program of its kind at a higher education institution in the state. The NSI program provides the necessary background for students to pursue careers as intelligence officers, diplomats, law enforcement professionals, foreign affairs specialists, and private sector competitive intelligence analysts.

OSIX Program director and faculty mentor David Abruzzino explained, “The goal of OSIX is to give students hands-on experience producing intelligence assessments for real customers in the national security and law enforcement communities. OSIX intelligence products have been provided to the CIA, FBI, Department of Defense, and Department of State, as well as to state and local law enforcement agencies in West Virginia.”

NSI students are handpicked and rigorously screened to participate in OSIX. Student intelligence analysts working in OSIX leverage emerging information technologies and new media to identify and assess national security and law enforcement threats to provide real products for the local, state and federal law enforcement and security intelligence agencies.

When asked how hands-on this program is for the students involved, Abruzzino detailed a recent occurrence that has evolved into a potential revenue generating project for the group and the university. “A few months ago we picked up on discussion about huge pro-democracy protests in Iran. We set up a 24-7 operations center, monitored events in real time, and sent update reports to a number of government agencies. We provided them with information that they were not getting through other channels in terms of location of protests, size, what people were saying, and what was happening on the ground. This information wasn’t available through other sources because there was a total media blackout, so traditional media was banned from the country. Our information was coming from local Iranians on site through Twitter and Facebook. When the Iranian government started cracking down, we were able to provide regular updates about tanks being spotted on a particular street, soldiers firing in a particular square, and those sorts of things. Based off of this event, our group began to look at the Middle East more broadly and decided to compile a weekly report which is now going to a variety of customers in the national security community. Right now, we are solely grant funded. Our ultimate goal is to contract our services out to the government and private sector so that we can not only fund ourselves, but be a source of revenue for the university.”

The students of OSIX also supported the West Virginia Intelligence Fusion Center during the visit. Through their monitoring of the web and social media, they were able to provide useful information to the Fusion Center that was passed on to the Secret Service.

“I provided top level director support, but at the end of the day the students were responsible for getting the work done and for taking care of the management of tasks. The Fusion Center told us that at least one of the reports we provided caused the Secret Service to say, ‘Wow, we didn’t know that.’ Working with students and the level of enthusiasm they bring is remarkable,” Abruzzino said.
Fairmont State was one of only two schools in the state to receive funding in 2010 from the West Virginia Research Trust Fund’s STEM Grant Program for State Colleges and Universities, also known as “Bucks for Brains”. OSIX-FSU’s New Media Assessment Project was awarded a grant in the amount of $100,000, but there’s a catch. In order to actually receive these funds, Fairmont State will need the help of its alumni, friends and corporate partners. Through this matching grant challenge, the West Virginia Research Trust Fund will match private donations to OSIX-FSU up to $100,000. Since this is a dollar for dollar match, donors to OSIX-FSU can double the impact their gift will have on this exciting and innovative program. These donations, matched by the grant, will fund stipends for student-analysts and technology enhancements that will create an efficient process to capture, parse, store and search large amounts of new media content related to national security and law enforcement. Through this program, students will have real-life, hands-on experience producing work that may be of direct benefit to the U.S. Intelligence Community. Through participation in this matching grant challenge and the support of donors, Fairmont State is able to offer students these meaningful and industrous educational experiences.

Established in 2008 by the state legislature, the Bucks for Brains program is intended to spur STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics) research. It has been designed as a matching grant program in order to encourage and leverage philanthropic support from individuals, corporations and other non-governmental sources to state colleges and universities. For information on how you can support the OSIX-FSU student-analysts and further STEM research at Fairmont State by participating in this limited-time matching grant challenge, please contact Devanna Corley, vice president for Institutional Advancement at (304) 387-4375 or Devanna.corley@fairmontstate.edu.

“Professor Abruzzino is an incredible addition to the fastest growing major at Fairmont State,” Noone said. 

In the fall of 2010, Gov. Joe Manchin announced the award a $100,000 matching grant to OSIX as part of the state’s “Bucks for Brains” Research Trust Fund that supports programs in science, technology, engineering and mathematics areas.

“With the Bucks for Brains program, our goal was to not only spur research and intellectual capital at our state’s major research institutions — but also to encourage greater learning in STEM fields at colleges and universities statewide,” Manchin said. “By providing opportunities for more of our students to innovate and compete, we’re planting the seeds for a more diverse, high-tech economy in West Virginia.”

The funding will go toward a New Media Assessment Project, which will enable OSIX to strengthen its capabilities through student stipends and technology enhancements.

“This grant award speaks to the distinctiveness of OSIX and the ingenuity of its director, David Abruzzino,” said Dr. Maria Rose, Interim FSU President. “Fairmont State is committed to building and delivering programs that respond to regional, state and national needs and opportunities. Our programs are targeted, selective and strategic.”

OSIX students continue to provide valuable intelligence on topics such as pro-democracy movements in the Middle East, terrorists’ use of the Internet, and online money laundering. OSIX students will continue to move FSU and West Virginia forward as national leaders in next-generation knowledge-based industries.

For more information, please contact:
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A Dream is a Wish
Your Heart Makes

Abzuzzino came to FSU in January 2010 as the director of OSIX and a faculty member in the NSI program. He has served in several positions within the national intelligence community, including the Central Intelligence Agency and the U.S. Department of Treasury’s Office of Intelligence and Analysis.

“Professor Abruzzino is an incredible addition to the fastest growing major at Fairmont State,” Noone said. 

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A “Rose”y Future

Meet Fairmont State’s Interim President Dr. Maria C. Rose

by: amantha Cole ’03

Fairmont State’s Interim President Maria C. Bennett Rose always knew she would be a teacher, but she never dreamed of becoming the president of a university, let alone her alma mater.

“Growing up I always wanted to be a teacher. I was one of those kids who played school,” Dr. Rose shared. “Never in my wildest dreams did I think I would someday be sitting here.”

Head of the Class

Dr. Rose has made education her life’s work. She began her career as a teacher in a two-room school in Idamay upon graduation from Fairmont State College in 1969. She is now serving as her alma mater’s interim president. While administration was admittedly never her goal, it appears that certain qualities have naturally prepared her for this current leadership role. An individual will not go long in a conversation with faculty, staff and other Fairmont State constituents without hearing about Dr. Rose’s “sincerity,” “depth of knowledge,” “professionalism,” “collegiality,” “dedication,” “selfless service,” and, perhaps heard most often, “student-centered focus.”

Having served as both a member of the faculty and of the administration, she understands the inner workings of higher education. Her longevity at Fairmont State provides a solid frame of reference and a well-rounded perspective.

With only a few weeks on the job as interim president, Dr. Rose could speak knowledgably and thoroughly about campus issues and initiatives ranging from cloud computing to HVAC renovations in Hunt-Haught Hall to the transferability of classes to developing the state’s only accredited Masters of Architecture program.

Lesson Plan for Success

When asked about her goals and priorities during her interim presidency, Dr. Rose promptly began numbering off a list of initiatives, then paused and said with a laugh, “This is probably going to turn into the Top Ten List.” Even so, the depth and breadth of this inventory gives promise of forward momentum and progress during a time of institutional transition.

High on Dr. Rose’s list of priorities is relationship building—specifically to continue to develop an optimal working relationship between the University and Pierpont Community & Technical College. “Even though we have distinctively different missions, we still have a lot of opportunities to collaborate and work together. I think we need to make a greater effort to work on that collaboration as we move forward.”

Dr. Rose acknowledges the need for private fundraising to provide University programs with a margin of excellence.

“Never in my wildest dreams did I think I would someday be sitting here.”

– President Maria C. Rose

Dr. Rose's "sincerity," "depth of knowledge," "professionalism," "collegiality," "dedication," "selfless service," and, perhaps heard most often, "student-centered focus.”
The growth and advancement of the University is a goal Dr. Rose hampers with due diligence and the responsibility of keen decision-making. “We want to see the university grow, but we don’t want to grow beyond our capacity. We need to grow strategically.” She candidly said, “We need to take a hard look at all of our programs and academic offerings. We need to make sure we are giving our students exactly what they need to succeed in higher education.”

In addition to Turley Center renovations, several other construction projects will be managed and completed during the interim period, including the completion of the second floor of the Frank and Jane Gabor West Virginia Folklife Center, remodeling the press box at Duvall-Rosier Field, HVAC renovations in Hunts-Haught Hall and Hardway Hall, the acquisition of property adjacent to the Caperton Center, and installation of an external elevator at the Ruth Ann Musick Library to improve accessibility to parking.

Amid relationship building, community engagement, and academic and capital improvements, reaccreditation is a paramount presidential priority. Also, with the Higher Learning Commission’s accreditation site visit scheduled for October 2012, a steering committee has been formed as well committees to address each of the accreditation criteria. In November of 2010, then-Provost Rose and all committee chairs met with the HLC liaison. The University will receive its final report from the HLC in the spring of 2013.

Dr. Rose went on to discuss improving retention and graduation rates, stating that the “consolidation of all student services in the new Turley Student Success Center will help our students, especially first-generation college students, to have the tools they need to succeed in higher education.”

While actively involved in myriad Fairmont State activities, Dr. Rose also enjoys spending time traveling, reading, cooking and flower gardening.

**It Only Takes One**

While Dr. Rose was a first-generation college student, “there was never a doubt in my mind or in my parents’ minds that I would go to college,” she said. “I could not have had more loving and supportive parents than I did. They are both gone now and I miss them every day.”

Coincidentally, Dr. Rose is an only child and her husband of 42 years, Tom, is also an only child. Tom and Maria also have an only child—their son, Alex. Alex, a computer systems analyst, is married to Tanya, a mortgage broker, and they make their home in Florida. Tanya has a daughter, Shelby, who lives in Connecticut with her eight-month-old daughter, Juliette. Dr. Rose uses Facebook to stay connected to her long-distance family.

Tom, an electrical engineer, recently retired from Consol and continues to do consulting work. Tom and Maria attend many events on campus and his mother will often join them for the Masquers or Town and Gown performances in Wallman Hall or at Pritchett Fort. Dr. Rose affectionately spoke of the four golden retrievers that have shared their home over the years and their 16-year-old cat. Although the Roses do not have a dog now, they enjoy dog-sitting for Pierpont President Doreen Larson’s standard poodle, Jack.

Dr. Rose has a clearly defined vision for Fairmont State, which is “to provide the best educational experience for all students. Obviously that means academic programs but also so much more—lectures, fine arts performances and exhibits, participation in club sports, internships, co-ops and study-abroad programs,” she said. “We want our students to be equipped to enter the workforce as highly-qualified and well-prepared employees, but we also want to prepare them for lifelong learning.”

As she finds herself in this leadership position, Dr. Rose is served well by what has been and continues to be her guiding philosophy: “Treat everyone fairly and always do the best job I can do.”

While Dr. Rose may have never dreamed of being the president of a university, she has stepped up to the challenge and is leading Fairmont State into a new era.

Dr. Rose has a lifetime dedication to education and the arts. After graduating from West Virginia University with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Education, she went on to complete a Master of Arts degree in Reading at Virginia Tech and an Ed.D. in Curriculum and Instruction with an emphasis on family and community literacy issues at West Virginia University. In 2010, Dr. Rose was named a Fellow in the Higher Learning Commission’s accreditation site visit scheduled for October 2012, a steering committee has been formed as well committees to address each of the accreditation criteria. In November of 2010, then-Provost Rose and all committee chairs met with the HLC liaison. The University will receive its final report from the HLC in the spring of 2013.

Clockwise: Students pose with President Rose during an informal chat on campus; President Rose meets with many faculty and staff each day to keep an eye on the pulse of campus; Beltime: a senior at Fairmont State, President Rose never imagined that one day she would serve as the president of the school she loved.

**Dr. Rose’s Fast Facts**

- Bachelor of Arts degree in Education, Fairmont State College
- Master of Arts degree in Reading, Virginia Tech
- Ed.D. in Curriculum and Instruction
- Served as Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs
- Member of Governor’s Council on Literacy during the administrations of Gaston Caperton, Cecil Underwood and Bob Wise
- Authored and served as the Principal Investigator for the Fairmont State Title III Strengthening Institutions grant
- Received national recognition as Outstanding First Year Student Advocate, presented by the National Resource Center for First Year Experience and Students in Transition
- Served on the Higher Education Policy Commission’s Adult Learner Initiative Task Force
- Currently serves on the Higher Education Policy Commission’s College Completion Task Force
- Participates in the FSU School of Education’s Professional Development School initiative as the liaison for White Hall Elementary School
- Served as Director of Retention and Vice President of Academic Services
- • Bachelor of Arts degree in Education, Fairmont State College
- • Master of Arts degree in Reading, Virginia Tech
- • Ed.D. in Curriculum and Instruction
“Teams are judged on four parts, each weighted equally,” explained Neuhauser. “They include the canoe races, a technical paper, canoe aesthetics, and a five minute presentation highlighting the technical paper.” The students must follow strict rules that dictate what their concrete matrix can consist of and, of course, the boat must float, to be eligible for the races.

ASCE faculty advisor, Tia Como, P.E., said that this year’s canoe theme is “Backbone”, which honors our nation’s everyday heroes including teachers, coal miners, doctors, and firefighters. “This country’s everyday heroes are the backbone of our country and it is our honor to create this canoe and race it for them,” explained Como.

Fairmont State currently holds the record for the most consecutive appearances at the national competition and remains the only university in the state to be invited to compete at the national level. With regional competitors including West Virginia University, Catholic University of America, and Virginia Tech, and national competitors including, Clemson University, Michigan State University and University of California, Berkeley, these records take backbone to have.

William Postlethwait ’05 of Rivesville was part of the program from the beginning and came back to town to cheer on the Falcons at this year’s regional competition. “As an alum, it is exciting to see that the tradition of success that we began is still going strong. These students put in a huge amount of extracurricular hours and having this history of success is something to be proud of.”

Founded in 1852, the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) represents more than 137,500 members of the civil engineering profession worldwide, and is America’s oldest national engineering society. ASCE’s vision is to position engineers as global leaders building a better quality of life.

Duct Tape is the only product allowed to repair canoes during competition. Oddly enough, the product was originally used to keep dampness out of ammunition cases during World War II.
Changing the World – Non-traditionally

BY: JESSICA SHARPS

On a warm day in early June, Fairmont State senior, Alicia Nieman and I meet at a local lunch spot. To most people we may look like colleagues or friends who are taking some time to reconnect. In actuality I am stealing a few moments of her time to witness her crossroad moment and to share it with you.

Let’s start at the beginning – Due NORTH

Nieman was born in Morgantown on a winter day in 1979. Seventeen years later she was in love and freshly out of high school when she decided to get married, move to Florida and start her family. After a few years, Nieman longed for the hills of West Virginia and so she returned home with her family in tow.

“My husband and I were just kids and we tried to make our marriage work. But after several attempts we realized it just wasn’t going to happen,” Nieman explained. “I decided that I was going to get a fresh start and move to Hawaii to develop my love of scuba diving and try something new.”

Moving thousands of miles away would end up being the first of many non-traditional decisions that would lead Nieman on a wild journey. While in Hawaii, both of Nieman’s maternal grandparents fell ill and she once again returned home to care for them. During this time she had a daughter and took a few years to focus on her family and her children.

As her daughter prepared to begin her journey through elementary school, Nieman’s life was also about to head in a whole new direction.

Head WEST - To the Land of Opportunity

Granted, Fairmont may not be thousands of miles to the west of Morgantown, but for Nieman, it was the perfect place to start her new journey.

“I first enrolled in Pierpont Community & Technical College with a general business major because I wasn’t exactly sure what I wanted to do.” Her “a-ha” moment happened in American Government class with Dr. Greg Noone, less than a year later.

As she heard Dr. Noone describe his experiences as a Captain in the U.S. Naval Reserve and as the Commanding Officer of the Navy Judge Advocate General (JAG) International and Operational Law reserve unit, Alicia says she knew her personality would be well-suited for a career in international justice. She declared political science as her major and is pursuing minors in geography, international business, international studies and philosophy.

“My characteristics and past work experience helped me understand that my need for a global perspective would directly meld with my career.”

At the same time, Nieman decided that she wanted...
to participate in a few student clubs even though she was a non-traditional student. “I first joined S.T.A.N.D (students taking action in nature’s defense) and attended several student government meetings. During one of those meetings I realized that government was something I could definitely participate in and so when I was nominated for student body president I immediately accepted.”

So at this point in the story, Nieman has been married, divorced, had two kids, lived in three states, began college and is now student body president. I told you this was going to be a wild journey and the best is yet to come.

To the EAST - The Middle East

While making a difference on campus as the student body president is a great start, Nieman was looking for a bigger opportunity and it came at the hand of Dr. Craig White and the PACE (Pathways Advancing Community Employment) project. According to Nieman, PACE is aimed at increasing literacy and employment through decreased poverty. Although the project began with a local focus, it quickly spread, when an Indian missionary suggested that many villages in India could benefit. Nieman recalls, “We discovered that these villagers need healthcare, shoes, transportation, clean water, education on planting the best crops, etc. With a little direction they can maintain their cultural lifestyle but will not have to worry about going to bed hungry. Our hope is to take the observations we have made in the villages of India and create a plan to help abolish the poverty they are experiencing.”

Round two of the project will be to go back to India with a plan in place. “Funding is always a determining factor but we will be selecting one village and creating an advisory board. We will then team with a university in India and use their graduate students in addition to students from Fairmont to help deploy the process and monitor the results.” The overall timeframe for the project is 3-5 years and will greatly depend on funding resources.

SOUTH for the Summer

Yes, Nieman’s story is not yet over; there is one more non-traditional twist to share with you. Are you ready? Nieman is spending six weeks this summer in South Africa! That’s right. A non-traditional student who is a single mother of two is also choosing to study abroad in South Africa. “I have always wanted to go to Africa. There has always been something inside of me telling me that it is somewhere that I need to go. I never knew how I was going to do it but I knew that I needed to. I know this is going to sound strange but there is something about the strife in Africa that makes me suffer also. I just wanted to go and see it, I needed to.”

During a talk Nieman was having with her French professor, Dr. Erin Hippolyte, she learned that she could take summer classes in South Africa and earn college credit. While South Africa may not have been her first choice, the program is right on point with Nieman’s passions, growing a stronger South Africa.

Nieman did agree that it is hard to make decisions to leave her children and gain the experience and world perspective that she has gained in the last year, however she knows it is worth it.

Due NORTH, but Not for Long

As all journeys go, sometimes you have to return to camp to re-stock and prepare for your next adventure. Nieman has one year left of her undergraduate career and plans to graduate in spring 2012. This fall she will be looking at several different law schools and preparing for the LSATs. She would one day like to work for an international organization of some kind and continue her world journey. “Fairmont State has been the stepping stone that I needed to for my future. I will be sad to leave but am so excited for what my next journey will be.”
These days most people don’t have a dime to spare let alone millions of them, but that doesn’t stop FSU faculty, staff and students from giving back to the local community in other ways. During the 2009-2010 school year, an estimated three quarters of a million dollars was given in-kind through service projects facilitated through the Office of Community Service Learning.

Fairmont State’s Interim President, Dr. Maria Rose, said that providing opportunities for responsible citizenship is an integral part of FSU’s mission. “Our students participate in meaningful community service projects while faculty and staff give back through various other initiatives. I am pleased to see Fairmont State actively involved with the Humane Society, the Soup Opera, FSU Roads, and other special projects, such as providing free income tax preparation, creating a nature trail, or building a putt-putt golf course at the Fifth Street Park.”

According to Donna Nuzum, Director of Community Service Learning, “Each year there is an increase in those who volunteer their services as well as an increase in the number of agencies, causes, and people who are reached by the services.”

While making the community a cleaner, healthier and stronger place is reward enough, Fairmont State recently received national recognition when they were named to the 2010 President’s Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll. “As members of the class of 2011 crossed the stage to pick up their diplomas, more and more headed into the world with a commitment to service and the knowledge that they can make a difference in their communities and their own lives through service to others, thanks to the leadership experienced during their undergraduate career,” said Patrick A. Corvington, Chief Executive Officer of CNCS. “Congratulations to Fairmont State and it students for their dedication to service and commitment to improving their local community. We salute all the Honor Roll awardees for embracing their civic mission and providing opportunities for their students to tackle tough national challenges through service.”

Fairmont State was admitted to the 2010 President’s Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll for engaging its students, faculty and staff in meaningful service that achieves measurable results in the community.

The Corporation for National and Community Service is a strong partner with the nation’s colleges and universities in supporting community service and service-learning. Last year, CNCS provided more than $215 million in support to institutions of higher education, including grants to operate service programs and the Segal AmeriCorps Education Awards for college tuition and student loan repayment.

The alumni website is your place to read about outstanding alumni, view upcoming alumni events, see photos of recent Falcon activities and much more. Also this fall, we will be launching our most comprehensive online alumni directory. Stay tuned for more information!

Dear Friends,

As a graduate of Fairmont State University, I could not be more proud to be serving you as the director of alumni relations and annual giving. It is my goal, and the goal of the university, to keep you updated on all of the exciting things happening here at Fairmont State and to offer you plenty of opportunities to engage and reconnect with your former classmates and friends. I look forward to seeing each of you at Homecoming this year and hope you enjoy catching up with FSU in this issue of maroon&white.

Warmest Regards,

Emily W. Swain ’06
Director of Alumni Relations and Annual Giving
2010-2012 Strategic Plan Update

In 2006, Fairmont State University and Pierpont Community & Technical College released a Strategic Plan to guide faculty, staff, students, alumni and community supporters in a clear direction. The 2006-2011 Strategic Plan: Defining Our Future presented a blueprint for achieving Fairmont State’s and Pierpont’s visions and was built upon the college and university-wide core values SOAR (Scholarship, Opportunity, Achievement, Responsibility).

The years since 2006 have brought with them dramatic changes that created the need to re-examine our Strategic Plan. These included: census data showing a steady decline in the number of high school graduates over the next 10 years; a national pattern of declining appropriations for public higher education institutions; new expectations for maintaining a high level of graduate programs and faculty; a university presidential transition; heightened global economic uncertainty; and a state mandate that separated Fairmont State University and Pierpont Community & Technical College. These changes made imperative an assessment of the 2006-2011 Strategic Plan to determine progress and trajectory toward achieving the university’s strategic goals.

As the Dean of the School of Business, it has been my honor to chair the Strategic Planning Revision Committee, which presented a 2010 Strategic Plan Draft Update to FSU faculty and staff in May 2010. That fall, there was an intense but brief conversation regarding that draft plan. The 2010-2012 Strategic Plan Update: Redefining Our Future is now finalized.

Redefining Our Future does not set a new course; instead it builds upon and revises the original plan. It adjusts the university’s direction and prepares us to face challenges and embrace opportunities. This plan is incredibly important, not only to guide day-to-day operations of the university but also to serve as a road map for longer-term considerations such as preparations for FSU’s reaccreditation by the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools in 2012.

Through the new priorities of quality, distinction and financial strength and resource stewardship, Redefining Our Future sets six goals that will lead the university to a strong future. All six goals are of equal value; progress in all six areas is vital to move FSU forward.

I would like to acknowledge the hard work of the Strategic Planning Revision Committee in leading the effort to update and finalize the Strategic Plan Update. Members of the committee are Kelley Bronson, former Student Representative to the FSU Board of Governors; William Finley, Director of Institutional Research; Veronica Gallo, Assistant Professor of Nursing; Dr. Anthony Gilberti, Dean, College of Science and Technology; Charley Hively, Coordinator of Reference and Instructional Services; Dr. Gwen Jones, Associate Professor of Education; Dr. John O’Connor, Professor of Theatre; Dr. Timothy Oxley, Associate Professor of Business; Delbert “Butch” Phillips, Alumni and Community Representative; Joyce Rose, Administrative Assistant; Dr. Charles Shields, Professor of Criminal Justice; Sandra Shriver, Office Administrator Senior; and George Yost, Alumni and Community Representative. I would also like to extend thanks to those who provided input as part of the focus groups held this fall to assist the Strategic Planning Committee.

Preparations are underway to begin the implementation phase of the 2010-2012 Strategic Plan Update: Redefining Our Future. The Board of Governors set aside approximately $500,000 to fund projects such as distance learning classrooms, classroom furnishings and equipment, laptop carts and other learning technology, and other capital projects that are aligned with the goals of the Strategic Plan Update.

Fairmont State University’s future is bright, and I look forward to joining with the alumni community in achieving our goals.

Sincerely,

Dr. Richard Harvey
Dean of School of Business
When you walk through the door of the Simulation Center for the School of Nursing and Allied Health Administration, you feel like you’ve stepped off of a college campus and into an interactive clinical setting. The initiative to develop this lab, which currently has four human patient simulators and a new childbirth simulator, was headed by Connie Moore, Associate Professor/Senior of Nursing. This new teaching and learning strategy is now incorporated into all nursing courses, and is fundamental in preparing Fairmont State University’s nursing students for real-world work.

To the right of the high-tech simulated patients and hospital scenarios, you will find Connie’s small, unassuming office. Upon entering you immediately see her grandchildren, proudly displayed as a screensaver on her computer, and a collection of items given to her by co-workers and students. This warm space speaks volumes about Connie and her ability to connect with those around her on a personal and meaningful level. It is this desire to connect and interact that has fueled her dream of becoming the best nurse educator that she can possibly be – it is also the reason she has affected the lives of so many patients, students, and co-workers during her nursing career.

Since her childhood days in St. Mary’s, watching Howdy Doody and playing dress up, Connie Moore had her sights set on becoming a nurse. In fact, if asked, she will tell you she can’t remember a time when she wanted anything else. As she grew up, she went from wearing her childhood nurse’s costume to being a member of the Future Nurse’s Association in high school. Her desire to help others proved to be a catalyst throughout her life.

Offered a full scholarship to Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore, Maryland after high school, Connie instead chose to attend West Virginia University to pursue her nursing degree. She explained, “That was right around the time I met my future husband, and he was attending WVU. So, I decided to go to WVU. But, I don’t regret it. I think it was the best decision I could have made.” In the years following that decision, Connie went on to work in a clinical setting and began teaching in a nursing diploma program in Columbus, Ohio. Her career at FSU began in 1982, and she has been enriching the lives of students and colleagues ever since.

“Nursing has changed so much since I started. There is a lot technology involved today, and that wasn’t always the case. Nurses today have much more responsibility as far as the knowledge required to do the job. That is the biggest challenge for me- finding a way to help students internalize all of the information that they are required to have to work as a nurse,” Connie shared. She went on to say that while she loved working hands-on in a clinical setting, she chose to teach because she felt she could reach more people by training others than she could on her own. She pointed out that when she was working in the hospital, she could reach three or four patients at a time, but with her students in the hospital, that number grew exponentially. She said that she just wanted to be able to do the most good for the most people. That statement, all by itself, sums up Connie Moore as a person.

After 29 years, Connie is still happy to be part of FSU. “We do a lot for the students here, and for the faculty as well. When I see some of the problems that other institutions are having, I am always happy to be a part of Fairmont State,” she said.

What advice does Connie offer to new nurses or aspiring nurses? “First of all, I would tell them to believe in themselves. Second, to always do your best to make a difference in your patients’ lives. Realize that you are not going to cure everyone. A nurse cannot always make a patient live longer, but the important thing is to add quality to the amount of time that person has left.”

Now in phased retirement, Connie spends less time in the classrooms of FSU, but that doesn’t stop her from making a difference. The need to help others that she has fostered since she was a little girl is still present, and our community is better for it.

When I see some of the problems that other institutions are having, I am always happy to be a part of Fairmont State.

— Connie Moore

Moore Than A Nurse

BY: NITA COLEMAN '10
Fairmont State University began 2011 on a “happy” note with the addition of Dr. Quentin R. Johnson to serve as Senior Vice President for Enrollment and Student Services for FSU and Pierpont Community & Technical College. During the spring semester, faculty, staff and students had the pleasure of meeting and interacting with Dr. Johnson but we wanted to make sure that you got to meet him too. Below is an excerpt from two interviews recently conducted in an effort to share Fairmont State’s newest treasure.

Tell us a little about your background.
I grew up in Gary, Indiana (home of Michael Jackson). My family was pretty traditional. We went to church every Sunday and ate meals together daily.

What is your doctoral specialization and how do you plan to incorporate that into your position here?
The focus of my dissertation research was the effect of leadership training on student engagement. Engagement is a way of measuring how students view their experiences in college. Student engagement is specifically the amount of time of efforts students put into the college experience. My PhD is in organizational leadership which will be used to help FSU improve services to students.

Why are you always so happy?
I am happy because I love people, in general. I love living; I love life, and I love working with students. It is a truly fun thing to do. It keeps me looking forward to tomorrow.

If you were on a deserted island what three items and what one person would you bring with you?
I would take 1) food and water 2) a ball of some kind, probably a volleyball 3) iPod. I would also take my grandsons with me because they are the light of my life. Wyatt is 10 and Charlie is 5. They both love to swim, play ball, and love music. Theo is 6 months, so he is still figuring out who he is.

If you could be born in any era, which would you choose and why?
Definitely now. I am intrigued with technology and the enhancements to life. In 25 years, cars will fly and we will see such advanced technology that we can’t even imagine how that will impact our daily lives. I would love to be working with students in that time because of all of the opportunities that will be available through technology.

If you could have a superpower which one would you choose?
ESP – I want to be a psychic. I am a student development professional, and the whole focus of my profession is to be able to communicate with students and determine what they need to be successful. If I could look at a student and know immediately what he/she needs, I could work with my team to help them better.

What has been the most interesting student encounter you have had since you have been here?
It has really been working with student government – Past President Alicia Nieman and, now President Meagan Gibson. I enjoy watching how FSU and PCTC offer students a role in meaningful decision making. To see that process is refreshing, and it is not common. Very few institutions allow students to be in roles where they really have a voice and can be involved in the governance process.

No one knows Dr. Johnson like his administrative assistant, Raime Santee. Just for you, we dug a little deeper to find out even more.

How does Dr. Johnson interact with students?
I feel that he really tries to interact with our students. He tries to identify with them when he is helping them to work through their problems. He sees them where they are, whatever the situation is, and tries to see himself in that situation so that he can help them the best that he can.

What do you think his best quality is?
Definitely his personality. Absolutely his personality. He is always all about the students. They are his main priority. I know that sounds like ‘the right answer’, but it is the truth. He always thinks about how his actions, or the actions of his department, will affect the students. He really cares about each one of them.

Tell me something about Dr. Johnson that most people don’t know about him.
He starts every day by wishing me a Happy (insert day of the week). It is hard to have a bad day when it starts out so happy.
As spring semester classes ended and students cleared out dorm rooms, faculty and staff located in the Turley Center had cleaning out to do of their own. Beginning this summer the Turley Center will undergo substantial renovation in order to create the Student Access and Success Center, which, when completed, will be the only center of its kind in the area.

The project will be overseen by architects Perfido Weiskopf Wagstaff and Goettel and consist of a complete interior gutting of the building back to its bare structure. All existing mechanical and electrical systems will be removed. New office partitioning, along with new ceiling and floor finishes, will be installed throughout the facility. All new plumbing, HVAC and electrical systems will also be installed. The entire renovation process is expected to be completed in the fall of 2013 at a total cost of $6 million.

The center’s focus will be to aid efforts to recruit and retain students and to help them succeed with their academic degree program to graduation. The intention is to give students one central location where they can find all the support services they need. The idea is to create an all access building that will again become the hub of student academic life on campus.

Dr. Quentin Johnson, Sr. Vice President of Student and Enrollment Services for Fairmont State University and Pierpont Community & Technical College, calls the upcoming renovation project a model for colleges and universities across the country to use in planning student service centers on their campuses.

“Creating a culture of student success is what this renovation is all about,” Dr. Johnson stated, “This will be a state-of-the-art one stop shop where students will experience an immediate change in the service component of the college experience. The Student Access and Success Center will impact students from their first day on campus through the day they graduate. Financial aid, academic advising, career support services, counseling, admissions, disability services, veterans affairs, and all other services students interact and engage in will be in one place; students will no longer have to run all over campus to access the services they require—all of them will be housed in one area.”

This latest renovation has been in the planning stages for some time. During the 2009 Special Session, the state Legislature approved reauthorization of the Education, Arts, Science and Tourism (EAST) Bonds with debt service to be funded using Lottery revenue. Governor Manchin forwarded a list of 45 projects approved during the July 15, 2010, meeting of the West Virginia Economic Development Authority. On July 23, 2010, the state HEPC approved capital projects funding. The Turley Center renovation is one of those projects.

While the renovation will be substantial, the original mission of the Turley Center will once again be front and center, to offer support and resources for our students. In 1947, a student suggested that the college should have a place for students to relax and purchase snacks for a nickel a piece. The Big Nickel was an immediate success with the students, faculty, and staff. The students overflowed from the initial room provided to them and booths were placed in the hallway to accommodate them. The need for a student union building became clear, and work began on securing funding for construction of the facility.

On October 18, 1959, The Fairmont State College Student Center was officially opened to the public with an informal dedication ceremony. The building provided a ballroom, recreation room, conference room, small auditorium and other leisure-time facilities, as well as a large main-floor snack bar dubbed by students as The Nickel. The College Student Center, cutting edge for its time with a “floating” floor in the ballroom and rheostat regulators for the lights, cost a total of $317,000 to complete.

Through the years, the building has seen its share of minor renovations. In 1968 an addition to the facility doubled its usable space. In 1976 The Nickel was updated and a pub was added for the sale of beer. In 1978 both decks were covered due to problems with rain leaks. In 1980 the College Student Center was renamed in honor of George H. Turley, Professor of Speech, Theatre and English, to honor his lifetime devotion to the quality of student life.

The original College Student Center evolved from a student idea that found support among faculty, staff, and administration. Through all of its stages, it has been at the heart of student activities, and has been a service to the Fairmont community as well. From campus parties to open houses, job fairs, banquets, and community events — this building has seen it all! Since its opening day ceremony, Turley has been, and will continue to be, the center of student success at Fairmont State University.
Fairmont State’s 2010-11 Community Engagement Initiative “Put Your Best Fairmont Forward” was recognized by the NCAA as the “Best In the Nation” at the annual Division II Community Engagement Workshop in June. The concept was planned and organized around Fairmont State’s football game against West Liberty that was featured on live national television on CBS College Sports.

The Community Engagement Award of Excellence recognizes Division II institutions that successfully “build bridges” with the communities in which they are located. The commitment to help member institutions build stronger civic relationships is a central part of the Division II philosophy. Schools are expected to document their engagement concept and submit it to the NCAA to be judged.

For the second-straight year, Fairmont State’s Community Engagement initiative was judged as best in the conference. FSU then went against winners from 16 other conferences and was judged to be the best in the nation.

“This national award reflects one of the core values of NCAA Division II, which is to engage the community to create a positive experience for everyone involved,” said Mike Racy, Vice President of Division II. “We were particularly pleased to see that Fairmont State has made community engagement a top priority for the school and athletic department. We congratulate the school as well as the community for coming together to create such a wonderful event.”

“We are extremely proud to be recognized in this way,” said Rusty Elliott, director of athletics. “This recognition just proves that the Fairmont community and Fairmont State are an unbelievable combination. We would not have been in the running for this award if the community had not come out and been behind us.”

“I am very excited that Fairmont State and the community of Fairmont can celebrate this award together,” said Adam Zundell, FSU Director of Athletic Media Relations and Marketing, who helped organize the initiative. “A lot of different people and organizations came together to help us pull this off, and I am so thankful to everyone that contributed. This honor goes to show how strong we can be as a university and as a community when we all pull in the same direction. My hope is that we can continue to build this support not just for one football night a year, but many other nights and evenings to help continue to bring Fairmont and Fairmont State closer together.”

Join Fairmont State for the 2011 Community Engagement Night!

Thursday, September 1
FSU vs. Clarion
7 p.m. kick-off

For more information visit:
www.fightingfalcons.com
Thursday, October 20
✦ Celebration of Ideas Lecture Series – Morris Morrison ’02
Colebank Gym
7 p.m.
Come and experience the motivational energy of Fairmont State graduate, Morris Morrison ’02, as he shares his life story and shows how a life full of passion and focus can change your direction and prepare you for success.

Tuesday, October 25
✦ Cake Decorating Contest
Colebank Center, Gym 1
6-9 p.m.

Thursday, October 27
✦ Homecoming Parade
Downtown Fairmont
6 p.m.
✦ Pep Rally
Duvall-Rosier Field
Falcon’s Nest (near concession stands)
7 p.m.

Saturday, October 29
✦ Alumni Awards Brunch
Colebank Gym
10:30 a.m.
Tickets: Advance-$15 Door-$20
Join us for our annual event honoring the six alumni award winners of 2011. See page 42 for more information.

✦ Concord University vs. Fairmont State University Homecoming Coronation at Halftime
Duvall-Rosier Field
2 p.m.
Tickets: Reserved seatbacks: $12
Adults: $9
Children 14 and under: $4
Stop by the Alumni tent for free snacks and giveaways!

✦ Post-game Reception
Eriskson Alumni Center
Immediately following the game.
Tickets: $5

Hotel Accommodations

Don’t be late for this very important date. Register for Homecoming 2011 events today!
www.fairmontstate.edu/homecoming
www.pierpont.edu/homecoming

Hotel Accommodations

♥ Please reserve your rooms early as space is limited and the North Central West Virginia area is heavily booked during October. Don’t forget to request the Fairmont State Homecoming preferred room rate.

Clarion Inn
930 East Grafton Road
Fairmont, WV 26554
Reservations: (304) 366-5500

Fairfield Inn & Suites
27 Southland Drive
Fairmont, WV 26554
Reservations: (304) 367-1370

Comfort Inn & Suites
1185 Airport Road
Fairmont, WV 26554
Reservations: (304) 367-1370

The Travelodge of Fairmont
1117 Fairmont Avenue
Fairmont, WV 26554
Reservations: (304) 363-0100

Register for Homecoming 2011 events today!
www.fairmontstate.edu/homecoming
www.pierpont.edu/homecoming
Each year the Fairmont State Alumni Association receives countless nominations for their Homecoming awards. This year we are proud to present awards to six remarkable alumni. To submit a nomination, e-mail Emily Swain, Director of Alumni Relations and Annual Giving, at emily.swain@fairmontstate.edu.

2011 Alumni Award Winners

**Outstanding Young Alumnus**

**Clinton Cooper '94**

earned a degree in marketing and management with minors in psychology and finance from Fairmont State. As a student, Mr. Cooper was actively involved in campus life. He participated in student government, freshman counseling, and was thoroughly engaged as a member of Sigma Pi.

Mr. Cooper started his career at Northwestern Mutual Financial Network as a financial representative, where he earned the title, Rookie of the Year. The impressive resume lead him to take an entry level position at Morgan Stanley Dean Witter. After several years with Morgan Stanley, he relocated to San Diego. He began networking with the investment community in San Diego in 1998 to relocate to San Diego. Mr. Cooper lives in San Diego with his wife and two children, Jackson and Emmy.

**Outstanding Young Alumnus**

**Kimberly Cheuvront ’89 ’90**

earned a degree in business administration from Fairmont State College. Dr. Cheuvront has a master’s degree in Business Administration from West Virginia University. She completed a Ph.D. in Health Care Administration from Kennedy Western University.

Dr. Cheuvront has been with Fairmont General Hospital since April 1979 and has held various supervisory and management positions at FGH. She was promoted to Senior Leadership in January 2002. Her responsibilities include the following departments: Clinical Laboratory, Pathology Laboratory, Radiology, Cardiac Rehab, Pulmonary Rehab, Electrodiagnostic Services, Physical Therapy, Respiratory Therapy, Occupational Medicine, Marketing and PR, Sleep Lab, HealthPlex Facilities, Physician Recruitment, and Practice Development.

**Outstanding Young Alumnus**

**John "Pluck" Feather ’91**

earned his degree in military strategic planning and science. He will receive his third master’s degree in military strategic planning and security; and to advance innovative and cyberspace power and its level across the range of military environment at the strategic interagency, and multinational senior leaders to lead in a joint, interagency, and multinational environment at the strategic level across the range of military operations; to develop cross-domain mastery of joint air, space and cyberspace power and its strategic contributions to national security; and to advance innovative thought on National Security, Department of Defense and Air Force issues. Upon completion, he will pursue his Ph.D. in military strategic planning and science.

**Outstanding Young Alumnus**

**Lieutenant Colonel John “Pluck” Feather ’91**

a career Space and Missile Officer, graduated from Fairmont State C&TC (the precursor to Pierpont C&T) in 1981 and bachelor’s degree in aeronautical science at Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University in 1994. In 1995, he completed the Air Force’s Squadron Officer School, and in 2006, earned his second master’s degree from the Air Force’s Air Command and Staff College in military arts and science at Maxwell Air Force Base, AL.

After assignments at the Pentagon and as a Recruiting Squadron Commander, Lieutenant Colonel Feather returned to Maxwell Air Force Base, AL this summer and is presently attending the Air Force’s Air War College. The school prepares Air Force senior leaders to lead in a joint, interagency, and multinational environment at the strategic level across the range of military operations; to develop cross-domain mastery of joint air, space and cyberspace power and its strategic contributions to national security; and to advance innovative thought on National Security, Department of Defense and Air Force issues. Upon completion, he will pursue his Ph.D. in military strategic planning and science.

**Outstanding Young Alumnus**

**Judith K. McAuley ’82**

earned her associate degree in retail management from Fairmont State C&TC (the precursor to Pierpont C&T) in 1981 and bachelor’s degree in business administration from Fairmont State. Ms. McAuley was appointed West Virginia District Director of the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) in 2004. As District Director, she is responsible for the delivery of SBA programs and services statewide and oversight of the Small Business Development Centers, Women’s Business Center and SCORE Chapters.

Prior to her appointment, Ms. McAuley served as procurement center representative, commercial marketing representative, and contracting officer for SBA in western Pennsylvania and West Virginia, overseeing the release of procurement opportunities and contract awards.

She was recently appointed to the 2011-2012 Affiliate Leadership Council for the West Virginia High Technology Consortium Foundation and serves on the Board of Directors for a number of small businesses in the area.

She currently resides in Fairmont with her husband, Matt and her daughter, Lauren.

**Outstanding Young Alumnus**

**Jeff Cooper ‘86**

attended Fairmont State on a full academic scholarship and graduated with honors, receiving his bachelor’s degree in biology. Dr. Deahl continued his education at West Virginia University, where he earned a master’s and a Ph.D. in plant pathology and agricultural microbiology. He was recruited by the United States Department of Agriculture to join the faculty at the University of Georgia. Since then, he has been the head of the Plant Pathology Department and the Director of the USDA Agricultural Microbiology Research Program. His research focuses on the development of new techniques for the control of crop diseases caused by fungal pathogens.

Dr. Deahl lives in Maryland with his wife, Rebecca. He enjoys spending time with his wife, his children and grandchildren.

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**Kimberly Cheuvront ’89 ’90**

graduated magna cum laude with a bachelor’s degree in biology from Fairmont State. While a student, she was a Freshman Counselor, active in student government, and was elected as vice-president of Student Government. Dr. Knight started medical school at West Virginia University in the fall of 1998 and completed her surgical residency in 2008. Dr. Knight is an Assistant Professor of Surgery at WVU. She is board certified in General Surgery, and is board eligible in Surgical Critical Care. She teaches surgery to residents and medical students and has the opportunity to take care of injured and critically ill patients from West Virginia and the surrounding areas. In 2010, Dr. Knight received a large grant, through the Benedum Foundation, to improve the care of trauma patients in West Virginia through the development of an electronic patient transfer system. She lives with her husband and son in Morgantown and enjoys travelling, gardening and doing mom stuff. She loves living in West Virginia.

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The Fairmont State University Athletic Association (FSAA) has announced this year’s Hall of Fame inductees. They include, Maryellen (Earley) Deluca ’88, Bryan Harman ’01, Dave Moore ’77, Rich Newbrough ’58, and Mark Waslo ’81. The FSAA will continue its recent tradition of celebrating notable Fighting Falcon athletic teams. This year, the group will recognize the 1956-57 swimming team that secured their place in Falcon history when they captured the WVIAC championship.

The Fairmont State Athletic Association (formerly the Lettermen’s Association) is a group designed to unite alumni, lettermen, friends, fans and corporate sponsors to help support the competitive success of Fairmont State athletics. The FSAA represents the arm of the Fairmont State Foundation, Inc., charged with raising money in support of intercollegiate athletic scholarships. The Fairmont State Athletic Association is dedicated to providing financial support for a clean, winning athletic program which enhances the public image of the University/Community & Technical College.

Maryellen (Earley) DeLuca was a four-time All-America swimmer for the Falcons from 1985-88, among the first female swimmers to earn that recognition in that sport at Fairmont State. She was second in the nation in the 1,650 free and the 500 free at the NAIA championships in 1985, helping the team to a third place finish – the best in school history. DeLuca was also a member of two record-setting relay teams in the 400 medley and 800 free relays. Furthermore, she was an Academic All-American during her time at Fairmont State.

Bryan Harman, a Clarksburg, W.Va., native, was a standout quarterback for the Falcons from 1998-2001. A three-time first team All-WVIAC player, Harman became the first player in school history to be named WVIAC Offensive Player of the Year on two separate occasions. He matched the school record for total offense in a career (9,638), and holds the Fairmont State record with 3,293 yards passing in a single season. He has the top two seasons of total offense in school history, and his 506 passing yards against Concord still rank first in school annals. Harman also helped lead the Falcons to the WVIAC championship in 2000.

Dave Moore authored one of the most decorated careers in Fairmont State basketball history. Moore was a two-time WVIAC Player of the Year in 1976 and 1977, the first and only Fairmont State player to accomplish that feat. A three-time first team All-WVIAC honoree, he also earned All-America honors on two occasions. Moore scored 2,255 career points during his career as a Falcon, a total which still ranks fifth-best in school history. Moore was a member of four WVIAC championship teams and was a three-time All-WVIAC Tournament selection, including the WVIAC Tournament MVP in 1976, and helped lead the Falcons to the NAIA Tournament in each of his four seasons.

Rich Newbrough was a four-year lettermen in football from 1955-58. He led the Falcons in passing and total offense and each of his three seasons as the starting quarterback. Newbrough would go on to be a highly successful coach at Wilfrid Laurier University in Waterloo, Ontario. He posted a 47-23 record in 10 seasons at the helm of the Golden Hawks program, leading the team to four Ontario Universities Athletic Association championships and a Canadian Inter-University Athletic Union national championship in 1991. He was also the Canadian Inter-University Sport Coach of the Year in that year. Newbrough also spent time as the school’s athletic director and the Golden Hawk stadium, Knight-Newbrough Field, bears his name as well as another Fairmont State alum, Dave “Tuffy” Knight.

Mark Waslo excelled as both a receiver and punter during his career at Fairmont State. As a receiver, he had 84 career catches and 1,497 yards during his career, and earned first team All-WVIAC honors and NAIA All-America honorable mention recognition at the position as a senior. As a punter, he was a first team all-conference honoree in 1980 and then a second team selection in 1981. Waslo set a school record with a 73-yard punt, and established career marks for career punt yards (8,163) and attempts (219). He was a member of a WVIAC and Coal Bowl championship team in 1979, and helped the team to the NAIA playoffs in 1981.
James Bacco ’76 is using his degree for a career in sales and marketing, with a focus in medical sales. He currently resides in Berlin, MD.

Elizabeth (Jones) Curry ’95 is currently serving as a media specialist with Norfolk Public Schools. She and husband Jared reside in Norfolk, VA.

Leslie Hardesty ’99 is currently coaching men’s and women’s track and field at Truman State University. She resides in Kirksville, MO.

Jodi T. Estep-Kitzmiller ’00 spent the first ten years of her career working for a local hospital where she concentrated on hematology and chemistry. She is currently putting her career on hold to raise her first child. Jodi and family currently reside in Morgantown.

Amanda Toompas ’08 is teaching kindergarten in Harrison County at Salem Elementary. She currently resides in Bridgeport.

Serena Liller ’07, ’09 currently serves as the credential coordinator for WVU hospitals. Serena and family reside in Fairmont.

David McCrum ’67 spent 20 years teaching and serving as an elementary school principal in West Virginia. He then relocated to Chesterfield County, VA where he served for 22 years as a principal and retired in 2009. His family, including three children and four grandchildren, reside in Chesterfield, VA.

Roberts Stoneking ’76 is serving as the controller of the Packaging Corporation of America plant in Richmond, VA. In 2006 he uncovered a $3 million embezzlement when he took over the plant. He lives in Colonia Heights, VA with his wife, Johanna (Gibat) ‘00, who is a full-time artist and photographer and frequently displays her art at area exhibits.

Dr. Noble Turner ’65 currently resides in Honolulu, HI and offers spiritual counseling in his community.

James “Terry” White ’62 is retired and lives in Fairmont with his wife Edna.

Brian Withrow ’04 ’10 has been named Boone County Teacher of the Year. He has been in the Boone County school system since 2004 and currently teaches West Virginia History to 8th graders at Madison Middle School in Madison. Withrow was nominated for the award by the Madison Middle staff and had to pass a rigorous interview and observation process before being selected as the winner at the county awards ceremony in May. Withrow is now in the running for West Virginia Teacher of the Year. On receiving the award, Withrow says “There are so many great teachers in Boone County and to represent our entire county at the state level is a humbling honor”. In addition to teaching at the middle school, Withrow is involved in the WV Geographic Alliance, an organization that promotes geographical awareness and helps support teachers with materials and professional development opportunities, and is a WV Department of Education Collaborative Teams Network facilitator. Withrow is looking forward to the “once in a lifetime opportunity” to win the West Virginia State Teacher of the Year and credits his education at FSU for his success.

Oh the Places You’ll Go!
Where have you gone with your Fairmont State degree?
E-mail Maroonandwhite@fairmontstate.edu and tell us your story.
Don’t forget to include a photo!

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This mural resides outside of the book store on “Main Street” in the Falcon Center and depicts all of the services available in that building. It was painted by Frank Lopez’92.