

GOVERNOR EARL RAY TOMBLIN VISITS WVNET

As lady luck would have it, Friday January 13, 2012, will go down in the history book for WVNET. Early that afternoon in walked none other than **the Honorable Governor Earl Ray Tomblin** who was joined by Mr. David Satterfield, WVU Vice-President, Research and Economic Development; Mr. Russ Lorince, Director, WVU Office of Economic Development; Dr. Mridul Gautam, Associate Vice President, WVU Research and Economic Development, Mr. Michael Green, West Virginia Board of Education and others that assembled with WVNET Director Dan O'Hanlon (pictured at left) and his staff to listen as Governor Tomblin shared a story about running programs on the mainframe in the early 70's by punching cards and reading them into the card reader at WVNET!



As the visit progressed, Governor Tomblin and others visited the heartbeat of WVNET, the NOC (Network Operations Center), and listened to compelling reasons for a new data center to be built which WVU and WVNET would share and in which researchers and techies, laypeople and others could work side by side for the greater good of WVU, WVNET and the economic climate in Morgantown, West Virginia, known fondly to local legislators as the forever home of WVNET. [Continued on Page Two](#)

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At left in the NOC, WVNET Director Dan O'Hanlon speaks to the reasons for a new, shared data center for WVU and WVNET. Pictured left to right: Onlooker WVU Photographer Gerrill Griffith, (foreground) Mr. Russ Lorince, Mr. Michael Green, WVNET Deputy Director Mr. Allen Daugherty, (background) Dr. Mridul Gautam, Mr. Dan O'Hanlon and Governor Earl Ray Tomblin. Below pictured left to right (background), Dan O'Hanlon, Governor



Tomblin and Dave Satterfield listen as Michael Green (foreground) addresses the group about data center infrastructure.

A Visit by Governor Earl Ray Tomblin



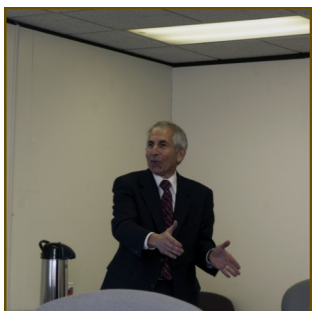
David Satterfield addresses tour group



WVNET Deputy Director (right foreground) listens to tour group



Dr. Mridul Gautam (sixth from left) discusses research collaborative

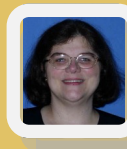


Michael Green addresses WVNET Director, staff members and others

Photos Courtesy of Randy Long

QUALITY MATTERS PROGRAM OVERVIEW

Dr. Roxann Humbert (*photo inset*) reports that tightened requirements for the quality of online courses by accrediting agencies and the reciprocity of course delivery between states by the U.S. Department of Education has resulted in the adoption of a statewide effort to review online courses using the national standards set forth by Quality Matters (<http://www.qmprogram.org>). Quality Matters (QM) is a faculty-centered, peer review process that is designed to certify the quality of online and blended courses. QM is a leader in quality assurance for online education and has received national recognition for its peer-based approach and continuous improvement in online education and student learning.



To advance the initiative, WVNET has purchased a statewide license for Quality Matters. In addition, the Higher Education Policy Commission (HEPC) has provided funding for training to develop a cohort of peer and master reviewers. Monies have been set aside for stipends to pay peer reviewers to review online courses which will be listed on a statewide portal.

Understanding how the rubric is applied and used as a basis for course development is essential to the course development process. The HEPC will be paying to train approximately 50 faculty on how to use the rubric. The training will be offered in both a one day face-to-face and a two week online format.

Peer and master reviewers are the key to reviewing the courses to assure they meet QM standards. The HEPC will be sponsoring 36 faculty members to establish the initial cohort of peer reviewers and six faculty members to establish the initial cohort of master reviewers. Faculty will be selected through a review process. Since each review team requires a content expert, every effort will be made to select reviewers from various disciplines.

In addition, to the faculty members that the HEPC will be supporting, institutions may opt to pay for training for additional peer reviewers for their campus. Peer reviewers are required to attend the "Applying the QM Rubric" (offered online and F2F) and "Peer Review (offered online only)" training classes. Master reviewers are required to review a minimum of two courses as a peer reviewer and then attend Master Reviewer Training (offered online only).

Finally, the HEPC has provided support for review of 36 courses that will be included in the inaugural group of courses to be posted on the statewide portal. Institutions who wish to have additional courses reviewed must first become an affiliate of Quality Matters. The cost for an institution to affiliate is \$1100 a year and is prorated based on when they affiliate. The year runs from January 15, 2012-January 15, 2013. Once affiliated, institutions can request a review team and pay the \$450.00 fee for each course reviewed. The support of the HEPC and WVNET in establishing a statewide network for QM course review results in a 50% savings for institutions who wish to have a national review process for their online courses. *For more details contact Roxann Humbert at rhumbert@hepc.wvnet.edu or 304.293.5192 x270,*

(Governor Earl Ray Tomblin Visits WVNET continued)...Check out photos at left which were taken during the visit by the Governor and other dignitaries and the photo below left in which WVNET Director Dan O'Hanlon shows Governor Tomblin the high-end, Dual 52" High Definition (1080p) LCD screen 'Tandberg Profile 52' system which was installed in WVNET's large conference room and provided by Cisco --- below right in which Dr. Mridul Gautam speaks candidly to Governor Earl Ray Tomblin about the purpose of the visit.



Needless to say, on Friday the 13th of January 2012, it was WVNET's great honor to be visited by Governor Earl Ray Tomblin, Mr.



David Satterfield, WVU Vice-President, Research and Economic Development; Mr. Russ Lorince, Director, WVU Office of Economic Development; Dr. Mridul Gautam, Associate Vice President, WVU Research and Economic Development; and Mr. Michael Green, West Virginia Board of Education. (Above photos courtesy of WVU Photographer Gerrill Griffith)

WVNET

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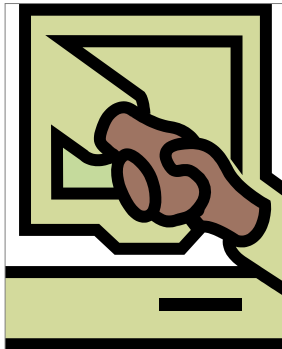
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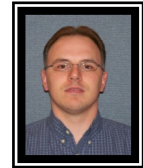
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Organizational Changes



Dr. Robert Kefferstan has joined the WVNET staff as Senior Management Analyst. His specific project is to write the next strategic plan for WVNET as well as research customer satisfaction issues. Bob has earned degrees from Dartmouth College, Harvard University, Northwestern University and WVU. He has taught public school in New Hampshire, Vermont, Ohio and West Virginia. He previously worked at WVNET from 1984-2000 with final position as Associate Director for Customer Support. He has taught online for Walden University for the past 15 years and is currently Professor of Education at Waynesburg University. Bob is married to Christine, Professor of Piano at WVU. They have two children: Sean, an architect in Baltimore, and Mary, a pianist completing her Masters in Music at Bowling Green State University. Contact Bob at bobk@mail.wvnet.edu or 1.800.253.1558 x223

Steve White has joined the WVNET staff as a Systems Programmer Lead. He will be primarily focused on providing Windows server support. Steve has earned degrees in Electrical and Computer Engineering from WVU. He has previously worked for Science Application International Corporation, Information Research Corporation, and Allegheny Science and Technology Corporation, all private companies operating in the federal government contracting arena. Steve is a native of the area originating from Bruceton Mills, and currently lives in Morgantown with his wife Jessica and 19-month old daughter Elizabeth. Contact Steve: steve@mail.wvnet.edu or 1.800.253.1558 x233



WVNET Director Dan O'Hanlon announced on January 4 that Allen Daugherty's role as Deputy Director of Operations has been expanded to that of Deputy Director for WVNET. Dan commented that 'Allen has proven himself to be an exceptional leader at WVNET and I have the utmost confidence that he will help guide WVNET smoothly through this transition'.

WVNET SENATORIAL VISIT

WVNET Director Dan O'Hanlon and staff members alike were in for a rare treat on January 4 when Senate Finance Committee Chair Roman Prezioso and Senator Bob Beach (Chair, Transportation & Infrastructure) stopped by for a meet and greet. 'Roman' and 'Bob' happened to be in the area and came in for a tour of the datacenter and administrative offices. During the tour, Dan discussed the need for \$30M new datacenter, the need for WVNET effort — perhaps with WVNET bridging the gap since higher education was exempted from ERP and other concerns involving the age of the building members Greg DeVall and Fran Barnes were particularly honored to have their picture taken with Senator Beach (left) and Senator Prezioso (right) as the tour progressed. Senator Prezioso entertained staff members with a story about his homemade, outdoor pizza oven, his retirement from Marion County Schools last year and others. Bob reported that his twin sons, Bob and Sam, will soon turn 4 (*where has that time gone*) and that he loves his work in the Senate. Both Senators have been long-time supporters of WVNET and its *forever home* in Mونغalia County.



Visit WVNET at Higher Education Day at the Legislature

Friday February 10, 2012 (outside House Foyer)

8:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.