

STATE AUDITOR GLEN GAINER VISITS WVNET

In case you hadn't noticed, it seems as though WVNET is Morgantown's newest *hot spot* — everyone is stopping by these days, i.e., *Governor Earl Ray Tomblin* last month and *State Auditor Glen Gainer* this (February) month. Part of the excitement currently centers around the fact that WVNET is seeking funding to support efforts relating to implementation of the new *State Advanced Solution with Integrated* centrally funded resources to new chart of accounts, develop similar to the ones currently and support business process as proposed for the community WVNET with Mr. Gainer were Kirk the Auditor, CIO Dave Williams, Treasurer's Office who is the lead higher education's role in the ERP system, known as *wvOASIS (Our Systems)*. The plan is to acquire participate in the development of the interfaces between Banner and OASIS supported for FIMS, STAR and EPICS review and best practice development and technical colleges. Visiting Rector who is the systems' person for and Matt Ellison from the State technical person for the ERP project.

The Governor, Treasurer and Auditor comprise the ERP Board. WVNET is seeking to expand its Banner support staff to provide better support on an ongoing basis for the ERP interfaces and all areas of the Banner ERP system. *This will cost significantly less* than the proposed \$4.2m SunGard contract which would do business process analysis, best practice development and implementation and combining the community and technical college databases into a single multi-entity-processing Banner instance, but would leave everyone in the same situation they are all now in — a solution lacking the necessary resources for sustained support. The intention is to spend time visiting every campus to see how Banner is being used today, what shadow systems could be replaced using Banner, what processes could be streamlined to use similar processing methods to simplify use and support and to see where staffing levels may be an issue on campus. *WVNET may also be able to identify functional areas where multiple campuses could share staff to improve processes.* Two highly important target dates in the ERP project are March 2013 and January 2014 which cannot be missed. State Auditor Glen Gainer said *"the ERP, a \$180m project, will fundamentally change the way we do business and will be a win-win for everyone."*



State Auditor Glen Gainer discusses the important role WVNET will play in \$180m ERP project

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Pictured at right, State Auditor Glen Gainer talks to staff members about the ERP project. *At left*, Glen Gainer tells WVNET Director Dan O'Hanlon he is aware of the fact WVNET is working on a new Tier 3 data center and they want to use WVNET for disaster recovery. Additionally, the Auditor commented "with WVU and WVNET in a Tier 3 data center, there would really be nowhere else to do disaster recovery" and noted "the Treasurer is 'equally solid' with him in regard to WVNET's role.



State Auditor Glen Gainer visits WVNET



State Auditor Glen Gainer at WVNET



Roman Chuby (right) and Phil Snitz (left) meet with Auditor Gainer

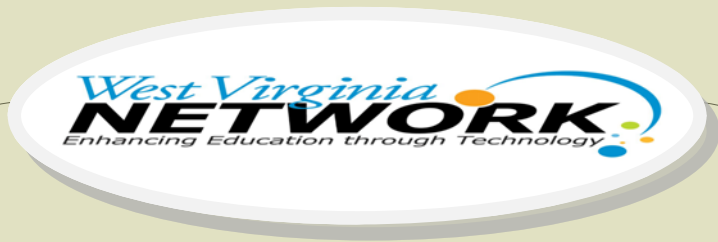


Banner ERP Support Team



Dave Williams (far left), Matt Ellison (center) and Kirk Rector (all seated)

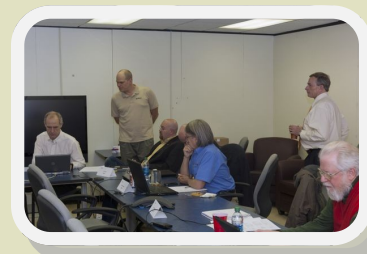
Photos Courtesy of Randy Long



A meeting was hosted at WVNET in February 2012 for several federal and state agencies who asked WVNET to partner with them to aggregate out bandwidth needs (*photo insets*). Quite a few agency heads were in attendance as well as WVNET Director Dan O'Hanlon and Deputy Director Allen Daugherty. Representatives from 3ROX, WVU, NOAA, NRAO, NETL, OARnet, Marshall University and RCBI participated. WVNET is changing its accumulating the traffic Morgantown and Pittsburgh, to building a network from Pittsburgh to Charleston to Morgantown to Huntington to Columbus and back to Pittsburgh. The ring will be fully diverse and fully redundant, with handoffs [Columbus and Pittsburgh] to different Tier 1 Carriers. It will have both Internet and Internet2 connectivity as well as access to the research and education networks.



As a result of this meeting, WVNET is now planning a 100Gbps per second network in order to meet everyone's needs.



WVNET Data Center and the WVU Research Park

WVNET's new data center will be a cornerstone for IT, scientific and economic development in West Virginia. This collaboration between WVNET and West Virginia University will create a welcomed and needed resource, and provide an anchor for growth in the WVU Research Park.

Check out the YouTube video [here](#)

WVNET

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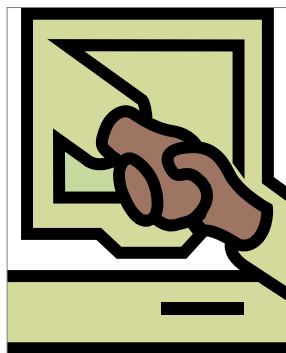
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Argos & Blackboard Analytics: WVNET is seeking central funding for Argos as a common reporting tool. We've been able to secure a very favorable quote from Evisions for Argos to cover all members of the HEPC and CTCS systems. If we can get central funding for the software license, there would be no up-front costs to institutions and the only ongoing costs would be a small hosting fee to pay for support and hardware for WVNET to host the service and a share of software maintenance (probably around \$5-6000 total). Argos can be used to report against any data source, including Banner, DegreeWorks, and Blackboard Analytics.

Also in the central funding efforts is a system license for **Blackboard Analytics**, which provides a vendor-supported data warehouse model for Banner Student, Financial Aid, and possible Finance modules. This data warehouse would be built and maintained on a daily basis to provide a continually updated database optimized for reporting purposes that could be used for dashboard-style and other business intelligence reports to provide administrators with the resources to make data-driven decisions using key performance indicators for the various components. There would also be a modest hosting fee for this service (to be determined). The combination of Argos and Bb Analytics represents a state-of-the-art resource

for both day-to-day reporting and strategic planning that will help make the best use of taxpayer funding and result in better outcomes for all our institutions.

DegreeWorks Status: Scribing has begun at most of the institutions participating in the first year of DegreeWorks implementation. The two day kickoff meetings for the first two waves will be held at WVNET April 3-4 and 10-11. This meeting will be an introduction to the processes, software, and responsibilities involved in the implementation. Following the kickoff meetings, three on-site training sessions will be held at central locations for the two waves starting the weeks following the kickoffs, with the second training weeks in June and August. Target for production is still September. The next cohort of DegreeWorks implementation will begin in late September-October. Status calls have been established biweekly on Mondays and listserv lists have been set up to communicate with the participants.

Banner 9 Faculty Self Service: A demo was held on February 24. Banner 9 is being rolled out in chunks as different products are upgraded to the new user interface and version. It is not necessary to upgrade all modules to Banner 9 at the same time.

FLYING UNDER THE RADAR

Higher Education Day at the Legislature was held on February 10. WVNET was pleased to participate once again this year. At right are *Verne Britton, Donna Meadowcroft and Karen Saffron* who staffed the WVNET display. This year, approximately 400 GEAR UP students attended Higher Education Day at the Legislature which provided the opportunity to engage with high school students and faculty while also sharing WVNET work with legislators. Higher Education Day is designed to salute West Virginia's higher education institutions and to inform potential students, policy-makers, and the general public about postsecondary educational opportunities. Each institution distributed information and had representatives on hand to answer questions.



Barbara Long and Denise Gwinn have been selected by Appalachian Information Technology Extension Services as role models for young women interested in information technology professions. Check out related details here:

<http://www.aites5.org/channel.aspx?ChannelID=10000&ReturnURL=/default.aspx>