

NETWORKING 101

WEST VIRGINIA NETWORK (WVNET)

WVHETC 2013 POST-CONFERENCE WRAP UP



West Virginia Higher Education Technology Conference (WVHETC) 2013 was held at the Waterfront Place Hotel and Morgantown Event Center in Morgantown, West Virginia, on October 28 and 29, 2013. Over two hundred attendees participated in the return of this important higher education technology conference. Judge Dan O'Hanlon, Higher Education Policy Commission Vice Chancellor for Technology and WVNET Director, offered welcoming remarks. The conference featured thought-inspiring keynote speakers [Mr. Earving Blythe](#) and [Dr. Edwin Welch](#) who spoke about "Community Engagement for Security and Safety" and "It Ain't Necessarily So." Both speakers brought up great points about the significance of having a healthy skepticism, being willing to look deeper and accept new possibilities, and the importance of proactive security in a technological age. Sixty-plus concurrent sessions, tantalizing and plentiful regional cuisine, the latest technological advances demonstrated by exhibitors, and networking with educators from all over the State of West Virginia were just a few of the opportunities available to attendees. Session topics ranged from how Software Defined Networking can help your campus, to how you can spend more time planning and less time grading, to how data mining can change the way students learn and interact with their courses. (Continued below...)



Dan O'Hanlon

Erving Blythe

Edwin Welch

Concurrent Session

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NOVEMBER 2013

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WVHETC 2013 continued...The WVHETC mobile app was also a great success with over 650 page views from over 179 individual devices; twenty-seven attendees played "Visit the Vendors QR Game" and of those twenty-seven, fifteen won gift cards to [Amazon.com](#). Conference attendees are encouraged to complete a post-conference survey at: <http://wvconference.com/survey>

Thank you to everyone that helped to make WVHETC 2013 a great success!!



Exhibit Area

Thank you, Exhibitors!

Visit the Vendors QR Game

Prize Giveaways

YEARS OF SERVICE TO STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA

Six WVNET employees received a "Certificate of Appreciation and lapel pin in appreciation and recognition of loyal and dedicated service to the State of West Virginia" from Governor Earl Ray Tomblin in October 2013.

The recipients and corresponding number of years were:

- ⇒ *Libby Cress, 20 years*
- ⇒ *Dave Watson, 20 years*
- ⇒ *Dianne Sisler, 25 years*
- ⇒ *Barry Gregg, 30 years*
- ⇒ *Fran Barnes, 35 years*
- ⇒ *Annette Dick, 35 years*

WVNET Director Dan O'Hanlon presented the awards in a meeting of the general staff on October 14.



From the Director...

In the world of technology, where change is constant, nothing is more important than continuous training for employees. WVNET invests a lot of time and funding to help our staff stay not just up to date, but ahead of the curve. In this we are blessed with a Director of Training, Marcie Layman.

Marcie has a passion for this and has organized it in a way that makes certain employees keep their certifications current while also learning new skills. This has paid off for us in something that our customers never see: problems that DIDN'T happen!



Marcie Layman

So, if your email arrives, if your students are registering without a glitch, if your online classes are up and running, say a little prayer of thanks for people like Marcie.

I know I do!
~Dan O'Hanlon

WVNET DIRECTOR CELEBRATES 3-YEAR ANNIVERSARY

"The best way to predict the future is to create it." ~Peter Drucker

The staff of WVNET wishes to acknowledge the three-year anniversary (November 18, 2013) of Judge Dan O'Hanlon's appointment as Director of WVNET. Who could possibly have been more tenacious than Dan O'Hanlon in carving out a new and improved future for WVNET? Under his directorship, we have seen several reorganizations of the staff; a major upgrade to our network; early field trial of Cisco's first GENI racks; membership in The Quilt; brought Internet2 to WVNET and West Virginia; the WVNET/K12 first ever virtual conference; Banner integration with Blackboard; an important new service offering --- Aerohive WI-FI Solution; partnership with AIR.U and WVU on wireless broadband opportunity; ELLUCIAN on-demand subscription library made available by WVNET; investment in disaster recovery equipment and ramping up of WVNET training opportunities --- just to name a few.



Once again, the WVNET staff sincerely appreciates all that Director Dan O'Hanlon has done for us!

NO SHAVE NOVEMBER

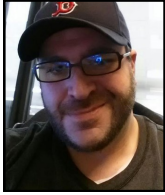
It's official — seven WVNET staff members are in fact participating in the exciting and daring "No Shave November" beard-growing contest this month. The main premise of the



contest is that participating individuals shave their entire face on November 1, and refrain from any form of shaving for the remainder of the month. At the end of the month, all participants will be judged based on beard length, beard fullness, and beard awesomeness. Participating employees from left to right: Database Administrator James Wolff, Database Specialist Russell McCormack, Web Development Specialist Chris Reed, Systems Programmer Jonathan Lynch, and our very own Director of Human Resources, Bob Roberts. Other participating employees not available for the "after shave" picture include Database Administrator Scott Hofer, Intern Michael Stern, and Network Operator Tony White. Only time will tell how the tides of this competition will turn. All participants await the results, chins exposed, willing and hoping that their beards will take shape and that they will prove to be the WVNET "No Shave November" Champion.



**EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT — —
TONY WHITE :)**



Meet team member Tony White, Network Operator, at WVNET. Tony lives in Monongalia County in Morgantown, WV and has worked at WVNET and for the State of West Virginia for a year and a half. Tony handles the WVNET Help Desk together with his teammates in operations. He hopes to have a long and fruitful career in an IT field, preferably at WVNET where he is earning certifications and working toward an initiative in cyber security.

To date, Tony has gotten his Blackboard GUI, HDI Support Center Analyst and Certified Disaster Recovery Engineer certifications. He also recently attended the Cyber Security Summit in Minneapolis, Minnesota, and is scheduled to attend Certified Penetration Testing Consultant certification in Ann Arbor, Michigan, in December --- this coupled with plans to complete his bachelor's program in Computer Science in December 2014. In his spare time, Tony likes cooking, gaming, movies, walking his dog, Lucy, and sports.

**EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT — —
GEORGE TILKO :)**

Meet team member George Tilko, Banner Student Consultant, at WVNET. George lives in Marion County in Fairmont, West Virginia and has worked at WVNET for 7 years and the State of West Virginia for 41 years. George has a B.S. in Industrial Arts from Fairmont State with an additional programming course from Fairmont State and WVU and numerous certificate Oracle database courses through WVU Extended Learning.



As a Banner Student Consultant, George assists WVNET Banner users with problems, features or questions involving the Ellucian Banner Student application. George also oversees address cleansing which authenticates and standardizes mailing addresses for our hosted schools.

George observes that the pursuit of funding, grants and expanded client services has resulted in numerous technology improvements during the years he has worked at WVNET. Throughout his career in higher education, his goal has always been to do what he can to help institutions increase their retention and graduation rates.

Under the new leadership at WVNET and how it has changed, George comments that *"It's great to see the many opportunities available for the staff to increase their learning, all of which results in a better decision making process for our clients."*

PERSONNEL NEWS

Director of Human Resources Bob Roberts comments Marcie Layman has been tasked with overseeing the training function for WVNET for sometime now. As this role has developed, it has been realized that Marcie's position would be better housed under human resources. Effective immediately, Marcie will be reporting to Bob in the Human Resources Office. Congratulations, Marcie!

Dan O'Hanlon, Director

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WVNET'S DISASTER RECOVERY SITE

In today's I.T. world you are better safe than sorry. Bad things can happen and you may not see them coming until it's too late. Data centers and data can be wiped out by a disaster. You can't afford to lose your data, nor can business tolerate an outage of critical systems.



WVNET recognizes the importance of computer assets and has taken a significant step towards avoiding interruption of service or loss of data. We have been busy building duplicate copies of our data storage and computer systems. On November 14, WVNET packed a NetApp 50 TB disk storage array and a Cisco UCS Rack Server (Computer System) into a moving van and shipped them to Charleston, WV. WVNET staff followed the van to Charleston where they brought these systems to life in another data center. As of November 15 we have duplicate computer systems and data in both northern and southern West Virginia, both attached to our 10GB fiber ring. Using a process called replication the two sites stay in sync at all times.



Thanks to this project, either site could be completely destroyed without data loss. Eventually we will implement Site Recovery Management, which provides automated fail over to the redundant site if a computer system becomes inaccessible. WVNET services will be protected from disaster by this new Disaster Recovery setup. This will also benefit our customers who can establish disaster recovery capability with either of the sites.



Setting up in Charleston



Safe and Sound



Happy Thanksgiving