

INTERNET2 COMES TO WVNET

We are pleased to announce that an additional agreement between WVNET and Marshall University has been reached that will transfer the administration of the Internet2 connection and function to WVNET from Marshall University. Under this agreement, Marshall University will transfer its physical connection to Internet2 through OARnet to WVNET and will begin to receive Internet2 service *as a member of WVNET*. In the photo, WVNET Director Dan O'Hanlon (*left*) and MU Assistant Vice President Information Technology Arnold Miller (*right*) hold related paperwork. Marshall University will remain the sponsor of the consortium as services will now be provided by WVNET.

and improvements to networking services Providing Internet2 as a SEGP service with a K20 initiative which will enable transformative ways, resulting in the applications, tools, services and content to that further the mission of elementary, Virginia. The West Virginia research universities, community colleges, libraries find ways to share ideas, results, first be shared on the closed Internet2 for ideas and applications and later provide a better mechanism of enabling not just the research, technology and clinical communities, but also education, education research, arts and cultural communities to engage the opportunities of the new technologies. This could provide research specialists at major research institutions with a method to truly collaborate with other faculty and students. Marshall University and WVU were joint recipients of an EPSCoR grant entitled "Enhancing Inter- and Intra-campus Cyberinfrastructure at West Virginia's Research Institutions." Prime Award No.: EPS-1006576, Sub award No.: HEPC.dsr.11.10 from the NSF in September of 2010. Marshall University was tasked with establishing a SEGP relationship in the state and getting the members connected to Internet2. That has been accomplished and with the remaining grant money, Marshall University wishes to have that service continue into the future as the sustainability plan is implemented. **Continued below...**



required by Internet2 but all delivery of the This change adds to the momentum of change provided by WVNET to the State of West Virginia. combines the efforts of colleges and universities advanced technologies to be used in development and use of advanced network enhance teaching and learning and in other ways secondary and postsecondary education in West community wants to bring interested K12, and museums to the table as early as possible to technology, and other information. Ideas would high bandwidth network to ensure a testing arena deployed to the commodity Internet. This will

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Internet2 Comes to WVNET continued...

In anticipation and as part of joint recipients of an EPSCoR grant, Marshall University changed its membership status in Internet2 in order to sponsor the group, established the routing and connection to Internet2 and established a connection to WVNET in order to share the existing Internet2 connection with other institutions in the state participating in the SEGP agreement. As a result, Marshall University received funding to offset costs associated with implementing the SEGP service, specifically, Internet2 membership, the Internet2 connection and routing fees, and provided the connection to WVNET. Some of these expenses were borne by Marshall University and reported as matching funds for the grant. The remaining funds in the grant would allow Marshall University to continue this configuration until June 30, 2014. However, it was felt that it would be more efficient and a cost saving to the State to allow the configuration to be rearranged to enable Marshall University to be connected to WVNET via the soon to be implemented 10Gb ring and use the new WVNET connections to OARnet and 3ROX through WVNET for its Internet2 access and apply these residual funds to this effort in lieu of the current configuration — truly a win-win situation for all!!

HOW I SPENT MY SUMMER INTERNSHIP WITH WVNET



Mary Stewart, Josh Friend, Justin Robinson, Aaron Daniels

Dr. Mary Stewart who came to us to "assist WVNET's ventures into online course development" reports, "I have thoroughly enjoyed working at WVNET this summer. Everyone with whom I have come into contact has been helpful and has expressed interest in the WVROCKS project. In the past, my experience with Blackboard involved development, course design, delivery, and mentoring other faculty. Now, thanks to the internship at WVNET and WVROCKS, I have learned guided user interface, more about the manipulation of cascading style sheets, and how to address compatibility issues between them. I have also learned a great deal from my fellow interns, and I want to thank them for their collegiality."

Josh Friend who came to us as a web designer with a gift for aesthetics which he has learned to apply to the online world reports, "I have really enjoyed working at WVNET these past few months. The one thing that really struck me was the trust that WVNET has in its people. It is truly an "innocent until proven guilty" society. I came in to work and there wasn't someone restricting every move I made and breathing down my neck impeding the creative process. This freedom to work really created a desire within me to work harder and take pride in that work. The one thing I told Mike (Karolchik) that I didn't want was to end up as a "pixel pusher" (someone who sits and pushes buttons as someone else tells them "how to be inspired") and that I wanted the freedom to take an idea and create a masterpiece, something that everyone can enjoy and be pleased with. I love the people here and have had a ton of fun working with Karen, Marcie, Fran, Kathy, and Bob just to name a few. There is an atmosphere of excellence here that is uncommon. I truly enjoy working here and hope that we can work together to make a brighter future for both WVNET and the entirety of West Virginia."

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CHANCELLOR PAUL HILL VISITS WVNET



Chancellor Paul Hill (center)

WVNET was honored to have HEPC Chancellor Dr. Paul Hill visit with us on July 18, 2012. Dr. Hill was named Chancellor of the West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission on May 18, 2012. He previously served as Interim Chancellor beginning in January 2012 and as Vice Chancellor for Science and Research beginning in 2007. As Vice Chancellor for Science and Research, Dr. Hill oversaw the receipt and administration of more than \$50 million in federal research funding and \$76 million in state research investments. He served as Executive Director of the West Virginia Experimental Program to Stimulate Competitive Research (WVEPSCoR), a state infrastructure program of the National Science Foundation (NSF), and helped create and manage a number of competitive research programs with academic institutions throughout the state, including the West Virginia Research Trust Fund, commonly known as "Bucks for Brains," the West Virginia Research Challenge Fund, and West Virginia Eminent Scholars initiative. He formerly held a position at West Virginia University in Research and Economic Development and served as an adjunct faculty member in biology at the University of Charleston. Before joining WVEPSCoR in 2001, he was Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of the U.S. Chemical Safety Board, appointed by President Bill Clinton and confirmed by the U.S. Senate.

In the picture above, WVNET Deputy Director Allen Daugherty (left) explains the various monitoring devices employed by Network Operators as they ensure smooth operations across the State. During Chancellor Hill's visit, he toured administrative offices, the data center and met with the staff at large and said "Thanks for what you do and the greater role WVNET will be assuming in the State as we serve our customers and the institutions." WVNET Director Dan O'Hanlon stated that a new building in the WVU Research Park is of great concern because the current building no longer suffices. Chancellor Hill agreed that WVNET is in need of a new home and is supportive of moving toward a joint venture, with the appropriate approvals, of course.

Several WVU dignitaries were on hand during Chancellor Hill's visit and lent their support for a joint effort with WVNET which would successfully place WVNET in the WVU Research Park. Onlookers from WVU at right listening as the Chancellor addressed the WVNET staff were: Dr. Fred King, Mr. David Satterfield, Dr. Mridul Gautam and Mr. Russ Lorince.



EXECUTIVE VICE CHANCELLOR FOR ADMINISTRATION VISITS WVNET



WVNET's value to West Virginia was acknowledged yet again by Executive Vice Chancellor for Administration Rob Anderson (on right in photo as WVNET Director Dan O'Hanlon on left makes introductions) when he visited WVNET on July 26, 2012. When asked to write a couple of paragraphs for this newsletter about his visit to WVNET, Executive Vice Chancellor Rob Anderson said: "It was my distinct pleasure to have the opportunity to visit WVNET this past Thursday. While I have had the opportunity to meet many of you over my five year tenure in West Virginia, it was nice to be in your "home" and get a better understanding what each of you do to serve our education endeavors as well as the catalyst for technological advancement in our state.

The sense of family that I witnessed on my visit does not develop over night. Your experience and ability to work together is a trait that you have earned through hard work. You have developed in an entrepreneurial direction over the last year. This requires an ability to serve customers in a comprehensive manner that requires both technical and people skills. I have no doubt that you will continue to rise to the occasion. While you have an amazing advocate in Judge O'Hanlon, please do not hesitate to contact me if I can ever be of assistance."

For more details about the Executive Vice Chancellor's visit, check our web pages: www.wvnet.edu

How I Spent My Summer Internship with WVNET *continued here...*

Justin Robinson who came to us as a graduate of WVU with a Bachelor of Science in Computer Engineering with minors in computer science and communication studies reports, "I have really enjoyed my internship here at WVNET. It has been great learning all kinds of new skills that I can add to my repertoire, but mostly I've enjoyed working with all my fellow co-workers. Exciting things are happening here at WVNET and I look forward to being a part of it."

Aaron Daniels came to WVNET scheduled to graduate from WVU with a Bachelor of Science degree in Computer Science reports, "In general, my time here has been very enjoyable and fulfilling. People at WVNET are generally friendly and easy to work with, and I've learned a lot about a lot in my three months here. During that time, I started off with changing people's machines over to Windows 7 from Windows XP, but I've since moved on to doing what I really love to do: writing code and exploring cutting edge ideas. On that second point, I'm in the process of researching something called Open-Stack, a promising new technology that could really open up a lot of avenues for us as a company. My internship has been extended to the end of the year, and I look forward to both that and the promise of a longer-term position come the turn of the year."



WVNET is currently offering these employment opportunities:

- ◆ [Telecommunications Internship](#) (2 positions available)

Go to www.wvnet.edu & click on "Jobs" at the left side bar

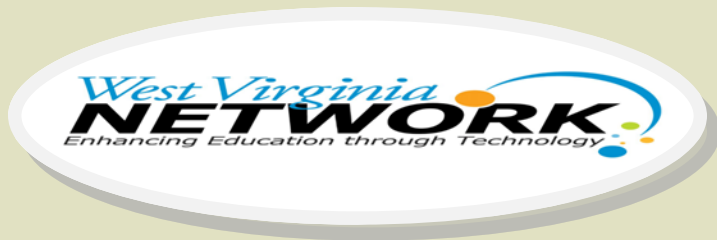


West Virginia Statewide Technology Conference

Attendance is Virtual

Learning is Real

Five hundred thirty-nine people attended the *West Virginia Statewide Technology Conference "Attendance is Virtual and Learning is Real"* from the comfort of their favorite internet-connected computer on August 8-9, 2012. The conference opened on Wednesday with a welcome and remarks from *West Virginia State Superintendent of Schools Jorea Marple*. Thursday's welcome and remarks were from *Judge Dan O'Hanlon, Director of WVNET*. The keynote speaker, *Steve Hargadon, Director of the Web 2.0 Labs and host of the Future of Education interview series*, discussed "Becoming a Lead Learner." Guest speakers *Lisa Comer and Rick Pickens of the WV State Auditor's Office* explained the *Enterprise Resource Project* that will affect every state agency in West Virginia. Twenty-two vendor booths were set up in the vendor area. Conference attendees could visit the space, view multimedia promotional materials, chat with representatives, trade contact information and download related materials all without the cost for travel and accommodations. Although there were mixed concerns in the early planning stages of the virtual conference, comments and survey responses verify that it was an outstanding success! For more details about WVSTC 2012, please visit our web pages: www.wvnet.edu



Organizational Changes

- ◆ **Andy Parker** has accepted the *Telecommunications Networking Specialist* position. Andy has been with WVNET for over 5 years where he has demonstrated an excellent ability to combine his technical skills, including CCNA certification, with his customer service skills.
- ◆ **James Wolff** has joined our staff as a *Database Administrator Senior* in the *Applications Group*. With over 16 years extensive experience with *Banner, higher education and Oracle*, we look forward to the wonderful contributions he will bring to our team.
- ◆ **Justin Robinson** has accepted the full time position of *Web Designer*. Justin came to us as a graduate of WVU with a Bachelor of Science in *Computer Engineering* with minors in *computer science and communication studies* and worked as an intern throughout the summer, proving himself to be an exceptional talent. WVNET is truly excited that Justin has joined our team as a permanent employee.



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DegreeWorks — While finishing touches are being put on the customizations for the Cohort 1 schools, work is underway preparing the production DegreeWorks application and database servers. Expected go-live is the end of August, though institutions have varying plans for rolling the product out to faculty and students over the next few months. Cohort 2 will begin work in September and October with projected go-live next spring. DegreeWorks plays an important role in helping improve graduation rates for our students by helping learners and advisors understand, verify, and explore options on the road to completion. We look forward to working with our member schools as we all learn more about the product and how to make full use of the features it offers.

Argos — We have purchased the license! We now have in place the permanent license for Argos. WVNET has covered the costs for the Argos license and for Evisions deployment services. WVNET support staff are working with Evisions consultants to fully deploy Argos for participating member campuses. The first task is to complete verification of the Argos server configuration and implement best practices for managing the server. We will also work with Evisions to develop a set of ready-to-use reports which will provide solid examples of different report types (web, email and other output formats, and dashboards), and plan to use those reports as a basis for on-site training sessions targeted to report users and developers in early October. We will be targeting commonly used or needed reports for this first deployment, including reports for Banner Finance, Student, Financial Aid, and also DegreeWorks. We are very excited to make this tool available to the WVNET community and to assist the campuses in report development.

WVNET Banner Users Group — The next BUG call will be Thursday, September 20 at 2:00 pm. These calls are open to any of our Banner user community and are held monthly on the third Thursday at 2:00 pm. Announcements with agenda and connection information are sent out the week of the call to the Banner Users Group email list: wvnetbug@listserv.wvnet.edu To join the list, send an email to: listserv@listserv.wvnet.edu with "subscribe wvnet-bug" in the message body, or send an email to Fran Barnes fran@mail.wvnet.edu

Happy Birthday — Here is a big HAPPY BIRTHDAY to the following WVNET staff members with birthdays in August:
Roman Chuby, Dana Keith and Greg Kidder.

From the Director...

What an incredible month this has been at WVNET! We survived the DERECHO that devastated this State and kept the network running through the *incredible efforts of Allen Daugherty and his team.* The 10gb ring is delivering our Internet and Internet2 traffic from our partners at 3ROX in Pittsburgh and OARnet in Columbus. Governor Tomblin's assistance in helping WVNET obtain \$3.5 million in optical networking equipment has allowed us to plan to lower the cost of internet access to all our customers by more than 50% this year. We have had the first interns in many years join us for the summer — their energy and intelligence has been a real joy for us all. Finally, with the help of our partners at K-12, WVNET put on the first completely *VIRTUAL* conference ever held here. Thanks to everyone for helping make WVNET one of the most exciting places to be in West Virginia!



— Judge Dan