

GLENVILLE STATE COLLEGE
Pioneer Update
YOUR WEEKLY UPDATE ON GLENVILLE STATE COLLEGE
A COMMUNICATION TO ALUMNI AND FRIENDS ABOUT EVENTS AND PEOPLE IN THE NEWS



Alumni Spotlight

Wes '93 and Debbie (Russell) '93 Swaim were back to visit the campus this past weekend with their two sons, Mercury and Quincy.

The Swaims, who are both West Virginia natives, have been married for 23 years and currently reside in Everett, Pennsylvania.

Wes is a teacher and coach at Bedford High School and Debbie, a product director at First Data Merchant Services in Hagerstown, Maryland.

During his spare time, Wes works to restore a local park for the kids and community to enjoy. Both Wes and Debbie spend a lot of time



GSC Needs Your Assistance: A Note from President Pellett

Dear Alumni and Friends of Glenville State College,

I am in need of your assistance on an issue of great and urgent importance to the future of Glenville State College.

As many of you are aware, the West Virginia State Legislature (House Bill 2815) asked the Higher Education Policy Commission (HEPC) to recommend a funding model for all of West Virginia's public higher education institutions. The HEPC staff has recommended a funding framework that is disastrous to Glenville State College in that it would negatively impact our state appropriation by over 17% (\$976,595).

[Click here to read about the new HEPC funding model.](#)

volunteering to help with their sons' sports teams.

It is always great when our alumni bring their families and come back to visit the campus and it was great to reconnect with Wes and Debbie as they toured the Waco Center and Football Complex on Sunday afternoon.

While at Glenville State, Wes played football as a defensive back and Debbie was a cheerleader. We fondly remember their college and sports careers at GSC, are proud to feature them in this week's Alumni Spotlight, and proud that they are alumni of Glenville State College.

Make Plans to Attend Alumni Day

Alumni and friends of Glenville State College are invited back to campus for Alumni Day on Saturday, April 28.

Alumni banquet attendees may gather in the third floor prefunction area of the Mollohan Campus Community Center from 5:00-6:00 p.m. for a social hour prior to dinner in the ballroom.

The evening's banquet spotlight will be on the Alumni Association's guests of honor: Alumnus of the Year Dr. Monica (Null) Beane '96,

Here's how I need your help--the Chancellor of the West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission is taking comments about the proposed funding model. I ask that you please consider sending an e-mail to him at chancellor@wvhepc.edu and to your local legislators so they are aware of the support of our alumni and friends to have the HEPC and legislature reconsider their proposed funding model.

Below are a few reasons why the proposed model is unfair to GSC:

1. There is greater credit given to research universities than GSC. While it intuitively makes sense that graduate level courses would cost more to deliver, it is unfair that more credit is being given to research universities for undergraduate students meeting completion milestones and degree production. This type of differentiation essentially creates a caste system of support that penalizes GSC because of its mission as a state college. It would be proposed that no additional credit in any formula be provided simply because of a "research university" designation.

2. There is greater credit given to all universities as compared to GSC in terms of teaching upper-division undergraduate courses. Although the cost of instruction at the undergraduate level is similar across all institutional types, the additional credit for universities creates inequity and disproportionately less funding to state colleges (like GSC). It would be proposed that undergraduate credit hour weighting be the same for colleges and universities.

3. The costs in providing academic support services to high risk students is immense but necessary. GSC has a large number of students that would be considered high risk (economically challenged, first generation, etc.) and are successful in progressing towards and earning a degree. It would be proposed that greater credit be given in any state funding formula to assure that GSC is able to provide proper support for these students.

4. The timeline for implementing the new state funding model could occur as soon as next year, although it is expected to be phased in over the next three years. While GSC has introduced several initiatives to increase student enrollment and retention, activities and efforts take time to develop, implement, assess, and readjust. It would be proposed that funding "hold-harmless" provisions be in effect for no less than six-years to allow GSC adequate time to

Alumni Achievement Award recipient Thomas J. Gallagher '63, Alumni Service Award recipient Bob Marshall '66, Community Service Award recipient William J. Frost '69, Outstanding Teacher Award recipient Dr. Tonya (Gray) Propst '91, Outstanding Young Alumna Coach Kim Stephens '11, and Outstanding Young Alumnus John Matthew Lamb '05.

Members of the Class of 1993 will also be celebrating their 25 year reunion. Additionally, in memoriam tributes will be presented for Billy B. Burke '77, Professor Emeritus George D. Harper '70, and Lisa Michelle "Shelly" (Hardman) Kraus '92.

Social Hour/Banquet tickets are \$20.00 each and for planning purposes reservations are required. Call (304) 462- 4122 or e-mail at Debra.Nagy@glennville.edu for more information and to make your banquet reservations.



Mountaineer Mart - \$5,000 for Spring Sport Sponsorship

The Estate of Luanna T. Smith - \$1,632 for the Luanna T. Smith & Ernest H. Smith Scholarship Fund

plan, implement, assess, and adapt its plans for enrollment recruitment and retention improvement.

Thank you in advance for your consideration in sending comments to the [HEPC Chancellor](#) and your local legislators. Time is of the essence—as the comment period for the HEPC closes **April 27th**.

I will keep you updated with any other news pertaining to the funding formula as it becomes available.

Sincerely,

Dr. Tracy L. Pellett, President



(l-r): PK Coon, Steve Keenan, Larry Taylor, Coach Jesse Skiles, Chris Cress, Aaron Mann, Coach Rick Conklin, Coach Steve Harold, Katrina (Riggelman) Westfall, Kent Pilant, and Karen McGinnis

Track, Cross Country Teams Honored

Four separate anniversary conference title teams were recognized last Friday. Members of the 1983 Men's Cross Country Team, the 1988 Men's Cross Country Team, the 1988 Women's Cross Country Team, and the Men's Track Team were on hand to celebrate milestone anniversaries.

The 1982 famed "Blue Flex" team was represented by three time league MVP and GSC Curtis Elam Athletic Hall of Famer Larry Taylor '84; All Conference title recipient Steve Keenan '84; and P.K. Coon '82, who was team captain of the first GSC team to win any title in one of the running sports. The team's Head Coach Jim Hilgenberg was unable

Mary Helen Murin - \$1,000
for the Nick Murin Memorial
Scholarship

to attend but sent his regrets, which were read during the
evening's recognition.

Greenbrier Physical
Therapy, LLC - \$500 for
Spring Sport Sponsorship

The 1988 GSC "Crush Crew" - which had rolled to their third
consecutive title that year and was the first WVIAC team to
place in the National Top 20 - was represented by Head
Coach Jesse Skiles '88.

Ted Valentine '80 - \$300 for
the Annual Fund

The 1988 first women's team was represented by Katrina
(Riggleman) Westfall '93, the first league MVP ever in GSC
women's cross country, the league individual champion and
number one runner on the 1988 team, along with Head
Coach Jesse Skiles '88. To this day, this is the only title in
the history of GSC women's cross country.

Premier Bank - \$275 for
Spring Sport Sponsorship

Steve Keenan '84 - \$250 for
Spring Sport Sponsorship

The 1993 men's track team was represented by Karen
McGinnis, mother of the late GSC Curtis Elam Athletic Hall of
Famer Chup Robinson '01; All American hurdler Chris Cress
'98; long and triple jump multi title recipient Aaron Mann '10;
Two-time league MVP, All American hurdler, and GSC Curtis
Elam Athletic Hall of Famer Kent Pilant '97, Assistant Coach
Rick Conklin '95, and Head Coach Steve Harold '87.

Julia (Murin) Lee '71 - \$200
for the Nick Murin Memorial
Scholarship

Thanks to everyone who attended this recognition!

[Click here to see photos from the event.](#)



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