

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



Alumni Spotlight

Miranda (Hathaway) Hawkins '08 is currently serving as a Licensed Insurance Agent at Ramsey Insurance Services d.b.a. Bray and Oakley Insurance. She has been with Ramsey since November 2021. Miranda recently became licensed in life, health, property, and casualty insurance. Prior to her career in insurance, she served as an Assistant Store Manager with the Kroger Company.

While a student at Glenville State, Miranda was active in Residence Life and served as a Resident Assistant at both Pickens Hall and Pioneer Village. She was in



Students at GSU's Commencement Ceremony

Congratulations Graduates

Glenville State University's 148th Commencement Ceremony took place on Saturday, May 7.

The Class of 2022 includes graduates who completed requirements for an Associate or Bachelor's Degree in a variety of academic areas including business, criminal justice, teacher education, and natural resource management, among others. The Class of 2022 is made up of students from throughout West Virginia and Florida, Georgia, Maryland, Michigan, New Mexico, New York, North Carolina, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Tennessee, Virginia, Washington DC, Sweden, and Japan.

the first group of resident assistants at Pioneer Village after its opening in the early 2000's. Miranda received her Bachelor of Arts Degree in Elementary Education from GSU in December 2007.

A native of Weston, West Virginia, she currently resides in her hometown with her husband Jason and their son Collin. In her spare time she enjoys hiking and listening to classic rock music.

When asked what Glenville State means to her, she said, "It was a great school to attend due to the class size and the ability to get to know your professors one-on-one. Not to mention, the campus is beautiful and the school spirit makes you excited to be a Pioneer. I count my years at GSU as some of the best times of my life with fond memories of my professors and the lifelong friend that I made."

We are pleased to feature Miranda in this week's Alumni Spotlight and proud to call her an alumna of Glenville State University.



GSU President Dr. Mark Manchin at 2021 GSU Night at Power Park

GSU Night at Power Park

Make plans to join your fellow Pioneers at Appalachian Power Park in Charleston, West Virginia for an evening of baseball and fun. Saturday, June 11 will be Glenville State Night at Power Park – wear your royal blue and cheer on the Charleston Dirty Birds while reconnecting with old friends! Glenville State University is also the game day sponsor and will be providing a fireworks show at the conclusion of the game.

Party Patio tickets (which include admission, food, and drinks) are available for \$25 through the Glenville State University Office of Alumni Affairs by [clicking here](#). General admission tickets for the game can be purchased through the Charleston Dirty Birds Box Office, [online](#), by phone at (304) 344-2287, or the day of the game.

Gates open at 5:30PM and game time is set for 6:35PM.

For more information or questions about the event, contact GSU Director of Alumni Relations Conner Ferguson '17 by [clicking here](#) or calling (304) 462-6116.



50 Year Graduate Jackie (Elping) Milliken '72, John McKinney '73, and Andy Kniceley

Commencement Honorees

Twenty members of the Glenville State Class of 1972 returned to campus and were honored as fifty-year graduates. The returning alumni had an opportunity to reconnect with former classmates, enjoy a dinner, and tour campus on Friday before being officially recognized during the ceremony on Saturday. Recognizing alumni celebrating their fiftieth reunion has become a tradition during the spring Commencement Ceremony at Glenville State.

Additionally, retired Professor of Music John McKinney '73 received emeritus professor status, Marcus Kelley '22 and Sabrina Gonzalez '22 were recognized as Student Pioneers of the Year, and Dr. Wenwen Du was honored with the Outstanding Faculty Award.

Andy Kniceley, Publisher of WV News, provided the keynote address. Kniceley shared several keys to success with the graduates during his remarks. He and WV News Executive Editor John Miller both received honorary doctor of journalism degrees at the ceremony.



(l-r) Marshawn Kelley, Kristen Tunno-Mullins, Trenton Holcomb, Delaney Lohr, Avalon Green, Jonathan Williams, Leslie Mason, Marcus Kelley '22, and Dr. Mark Sarver. | Photo by J. Alex Wilson

GSU Students Earn Over \$15,000 in Business Investments

Glenville State University student Avalon Green recently competed in the WV Business Plan Competition hosted by the Encova Center for Innovation and Entrepreneurship in the West Virginia University John Chamber College of Business and Economics. She walked away with \$15,000 to help launch her business.

Green, who is working to launch a line of performance golf apparel for women under the moniker Avalon Green Apparel, was presented \$10,000 in prize money as part of the competition. Additionally, 3 Steps to Startup also awarded her with an additional \$5,000 during the awards ceremony.

Glenville State also had four students compete in the WV Innovation and Business Model Competition that was held at Marshall University. Marcus Kelley '22, Marshawn Kelley, Trenton Holcomb, and Jonathan Williams were awarded \$1,000 and a third-place position in the competition. Their concept, the SCup, is a new venture that aims to address safety and security in public settings. The SCup is a restaurant-style beverage container with a lid that uses processors and circuits to notify the owner when the lid is removed without authorization, helping prevent the owner from ingesting doped or poisoned drinks.

[Click here](#) to read more.



Incoming Glenville State University student Carrah Ferguson (left) with Pre-Nursing Curriculum Coordinator Denise Campbell.

Glenville State University, Marshall University BSN Partnership Approved

During its May 12 meeting, the West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission approved Marshall University's request to offer the BSN degree on the campus of Glenville State University.

Marshall University and Glenville State University have developed a partnership that intends to alleviate West Virginia's nursing shortage by offering an educational opportunity that is not currently available in the central part of the state. Beginning in fall 2023, Marshall plans to extend its existing BSN program to Glenville's students on Glenville's campus. Students have already begun to enroll in a Pre-Nursing track at Glenville State for the fall 2022 semester.

The program is among 27 nursing education programs at colleges, universities, schools of nursing, and career technical education centers across the state that have received a total of \$25.5 million through Gov. Jim Justice's Nursing Workforce Expansion Program.

"Glenville State University is excited about this opportunity, and I want to again thank Governor Justice for his leadership with this Nursing Workforce Expansion Program. We see the need for nurses in West Virginia and throughout the nation and this initiative will allow us to train more nurses for the future right where we need them the most – in rural areas of our state. So, with this endeavor, I believe that it will make a real difference in the clinics and small hospitals of the Mountain State and beyond," said Glenville State University President, Dr. Mark A. Manchin.

[Click here](#) to learn more about the program at GSU.



(l-r) Standing Dr. Rico Gazal, For. Leilani Castillo and Dr. Rogelio Andrada; seated Dr. Gary Morris, Provost and Dr. Mark Manchin, President

University of the Philippines Los Baños Researchers Visit GSU

Earlier in the spring semester, Glenville State University hosted two scholars from University of the Philippines Los Baños (UPLB) College of Forestry and Natural Resources. The scholars – Dr. Rogelio Andrada and Leilani Castillo – delivered a series of lectures and presentations on ecotourism and biodiversity conservation in the tropics. They were also invited to judge the Poster Presentation at the Pioneer Showcase, Glenville State's annual forum in which undergraduate participants present on their research, experiential learning, and creative projects in all disciplines in a formal setting.

The visit was supported by a West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission J1 - Support Grant through the West Virginia Established Program to Stimulate Competitive Research (WVEPSCoR) Travel Grant and Glenville State University Professional Development Funds.

"It was a great honor to host Dr. Rogelio Andrada and For. Leilani Castillo. They delivered lectures and presentations on biodiversity and ecotourism, which are very relevant to what we teach in the Department of Land Resources. We hope to continue to collaborate with the UPLB by establishing a faculty, researcher, and student exchange program," said Dr. Rico Gazal, Professor and Chair of the Department of Land Resources. Gazal and three Land Resources students – Ciera Heine '22, Adem Hupp, and Corey Foster – will be traveling to the Philippines this summer to visit the UPLB campus and conduct research on tropical plant biodiversity and ecophysiology. That trip is being supported with funding from a West Virginia

Higher Education Policy Commission Opportunity Grant, GSU Professional Development Funds, an EQT STEM Grant, and the GSU Foundation.

The Glenville State University and University of the Philippines Los Baños student and faculty exchange program, designed to strengthen international experience of students in the field of ecology and environmental science, will soon be formalized with a Memorandum of Understanding. The partnership will commit both academic institutions to provide opportunities for collaboration and positive academic engagement.

[Click here](#) to read more.



Day of Giving

HONOR ROLL OF DONORS

Thank you to those who participated in the 2022 Founders Day of Giving!

[Click here](#) to view a list of those who contributed.

[Click here](#) to see the results of our Day of Giving.



UPDATE YOUR CONTACT INFORMATION

Keep in touch with us so we can keep in touch with you!

Have you moved recently? Married? Gotten a new email address? Received a promotion or taken a new career path? Added a new bundle of joy to your family? Celebrated a milestone anniversary? Been honored with an award or accolade?

We want to know what is happening with our GSU alumni and their families.

[Click here](#) to submit your update.



THE GIVING CORNER

Click the gift icon to make a donation of your own and join the Giving Corner.

David '71 and Linda Smith – \$4,000 for the Jean Adams-Smith Memorial Scholarship

Calhoun Banks – \$2,500 for the Pioneer Fund

Drake's Used Cars, LLC – \$1,000 for PAC Women's Basketball

Little Kanawha Development Corp – \$1,000 for PAC Women's Basketball

Jerry and Jacqueline "Jackie" (Epling) '72 Milliken – \$1,000 for the Athletic Director's Fund

Mountain State Insurance Agency, Inc. – \$1,000 for PAC Women's Basketball

Chad Westfall – \$1,000 for PAC Women's Basketball

John and Cathy Arritt – \$750 for the John and Cathy Arritt Football Scholarship

Development Partners LLC – \$600 for PAC Women's Basketball and PAC Women's Golf

Grand Slam Gaming & Entertainment Inc. – \$500 for PAC Women's Basketball

Tilden "Skip" '70 and Shirley (McIntyre) '68 Hackworth – \$500 for PAC Women's Basketball

Jack's Furniture Center – \$500 for PAC Women's Basketball

William Pulice – \$500 for PAC Women's Basketball

Ratliff Insurance, LLC – \$500 for PAC Women's Basketball

S. Michael Shaver – \$500 for PAC Women's Basketball

Norman and Judith "Judy" (Cottrill) '66 Smith – \$500 for the Pioneer Fund

Stalnaker Energy Corporation – \$500 for PAC Women's Basketball

C. Greg '87 and Tina (Burkhamer) '87 Cunningham – \$350 for PAC Women's Basketball

Jesse F. Skiles '87 – \$274 for the Jesse Skiles Scholarship and PAC Football

President Dr. Mark A. and First Lady Gigi Manchin – \$250 for PAC Women's Basketball

Philip "Phil" '74 and Terry '74 Reale – \$250 for PAC Women's Basketball

Butcher & Butcher Attorneys-at-Law – \$200 for PAC Women's Basketball

Susan Holme – \$200 for the Robert F. Kidd Library

Shelmor Properties, LLC – \$200 for PAC Women's Basketball

Patterson LLC – \$125 for PAC Women's Basketball

Applied Construction Solutions Inc. – \$100 for PAC Football

David Bailey – \$100 for the Department of Science & Mathematics

Neil Christiansen '73 – \$100 for PAC Men's Golf

Dominion Energy – \$100 for PAC Football

Gil-Co Faith Pharmacy, Inc. – \$100 for PAC Football

Timothy "Tim" Moore '85 – \$100 for PAC Women's Basketball

Debbie Winkler – \$100 for PAC Volleyball

Kenneth "Ken" '72 and Monica (Borkowski) '79 Davis – \$50 for the Alumni House

Braxton-Clay Master Gardener Association – \$25 for the Judy Beane Memorial Scholarship

Phillip and Karen (Fish) '71 Gibson – \$15 for the Pioneer Fund

**OUR
MISSION**

Glenville State University prepares and inspires students to be thoughtful, productive, engaged, and responsible citizens who contribute to the well-being of their community, state, nation, and world.



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