



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



Glenville State students, faculty, staff, alumni, administrators, and lawmakers inside the House chamber during Glenville State Day at the Legislature on Tuesday, February 22.

Glenville State Day at the Legislature Sees University Status Bill Approved

On Tuesday, February 22, Glenville State College students, staff, alumni, and faculty gathered at the West Virginia State Capitol for Glenville State Day at the Legislature. By the time they departed the statehouse, the school had a new designation: Glenville State University.

Representatives were on hand from each academic department, Alumni Relations, and Athletics to share information and answer questions. A special display table featuring historic photographs and artifacts from the institutional archive was also part of the setup.

Those assembled from Glenville State visited the House of Delegates and Senate Chambers for special recognitions. During the day's session, Delegates took up House Bill 4264, which changes the designation of the institution from Glenville State College to Glenville State University. The bill, which was on its third reading, passed the House unanimously. The action was met with uproarious applause from the gallery.

The bill was then communicated to the Senate for immediate consideration. It also passed unanimously in that chamber.

"What a great day it is to be a Glenville State University Pioneer," said Glenville State President, Dr. Mark A. Manchin. "The legislative actions taken by our lawmakers today mark a significant milestone in the trajectory of our institution. In the fall our students will be able to enroll in Master's-level courses in education and, by this time next year, we hope to have six graduate courses. That is of course in addition to our existing undergraduate programs."

The first graduate-level program offered at Glenville State will be the Master of Arts in Curriculum and Instruction (MAC&I). The program will offer advanced education opportunities for teachers and educators who have already earned a bachelor's degree in education and have a teaching license or certificate of instruction. The coursework will be fully online. The MAC&I program will include 30 semester hours beyond the bachelor's degree. Courses will be offered every 7.5 weeks in the fall and spring with a total of four terms between fall and spring and one full term in summer.

"I appreciate everyone who came to the Capitol today to celebrate this great occasion with us...I saw so many of our current students, faculty, and staff alongside members of our Board of Governors, Foundation Board, Alumni Council, our generous donors, community members, and of course our elected representatives. To step back and realize that we were all bearing witness to history being made is really quite something," Manchin added.

On Wednesday, February 23 a small delegation from Glenville State joined West Virginia Governor Jim Justice in his office for a signing ceremony officially changing Glenville State College to Glenville State University.



Basketball Coach of the Year!

Glennville State University Head Women's Basketball Coach Kim Stephens has been named the 2022 Mountain East Conference (MEC) Women's Basketball Coach of the Year! Kim's Lady Pioneer Basketball Team are once again a dominating force within the conference and across the nation.

The Lady Pioneers captured the 2022 MEC Regular Season Championship marking their thirteenth conference title. They are currently ranked as the number one team in the nation, completed their regular season undefeated, and are the winningest women's basketball team in Mountain East Conference history.

Congratulations to Coach Stephens and good luck to the Lady Pioneers in post-season play!

Celebrating 150 Years!

Glennville State recently kicked off its sesquicentennial celebration with several Founders Day events on Saturday, February 19, the anniversary date of the institution's founding 150 years ago.

In February 1872, the passage of West Virginia Senate Bill 52 allowed for a branch of the state normal school to be established at Glennville. The Glennville Branch of the West Virginia State Normal School was originally founded in order to serve the educational needs of West Virginia citizens by preparing teachers to serve in classrooms across the state.

Throughout the years, Glennville State has expanded its mission and now prepares students for careers in teaching, business, land resources, criminal justice, music and art, science and mathematics, the social sciences, and more.

A loyal base of alumni spanning the state, nation, and globe proudly call themselves Pioneers.

"We are ecstatic to be celebrating 150 years of Glennville State University," said President, Dr. Mark A. Manchin. "This institution means so much, not only to me, but to its student body, faculty and staff, alumni, and the surrounding Gilmer County community. Today, we look back and remember our storied past while also imagining an even brighter future with the renewed optimism that once-in-a-lifetime milestones like this bring to mind."



Founders Day of Giving Shatters Records

Glennville State donors smashed previous records for the annual Founders Day of Giving fundraising campaign, raising over \$1.1 million. The amount raised came from over 500 donors during the 2022 Day of Giving celebration on Founders Day, Saturday, February 19. The event marks the largest giving day in the history of the institution.

Donations supported nearly 50 projects across campus, including departmental and athletic projects, scholarships, alumni and student projects, the Pioneer Fund, and the President's Circle. Funds raised will go toward specific projects and needs, including keeping the campus food pantry stocked, new drumline equipment, a guest speaker series within the Department of Social Science, Praxis grants for the Department of Education, travel and equipment support for athletic teams, funding for an education abroad trip for Department of Land Resources students, and much more.

The Founders Day of Giving campaign included several challenges, including a magnanimous \$500,000 matching gift challenge from the Morris Family Foundation. Any donation throughout the day counted toward the match and, once unlocked, the \$500,000 from the Morris Family Foundation went toward the General Scholarship Fund to benefit the most students.

"I am absolutely blown away by the generosity our donors and friends have shown for this year's Founders Day of Giving. This shows exactly what makes Glennville State so special. Our alumni and friends, faculty, staff, and students all came together to celebrate our great college while setting this new record for the Day of Giving. We are so grateful for everyone who helped make this day possible and we truly appreciate each and every gift," said Vice President for Advancement and Governmental Affairs, David Hutchison.



John McKinney, well-known for creating and directing the Percussion Ensemble concerts at Glenville State University, has retired recently with nearly 40 years of service to the institution.

Longtime Music Professor John McKinney Retires

Glenville State University Professor of Music, John McKinney '73, has retired with nearly 40 years of service to the institution.

McKinney is well-known for creating and directing the famous Percussion Ensemble concert at Glenville State for an astounding 39 annual performances. The last of those concerts was held in 2019. Plans were already underway for the 40th annual concert in 2020 when the performance was canceled due to COVID-19.

During his years at Glenville State, McKinney worked with ten different university presidents, saw the construction of several campus buildings, taught and interacted with countless students, and built a legacy of music.

[Click more](#) to read about Professor McKinney's journey at Glenville State.



Glenville State University President Dr. Mark A. Manchin (left) and West Virginia School of Osteopathic Medicine President James W. Nemitz, Ph.D. shake hands following a recent signing ceremony welcoming Glenville State into the WVSOM Pre-Osteopathic Medicine Program.

GSU and West Virginia School of Osteopathic Medicine Enter Partnership

On Friday, February 18, representatives from Glenville State University and the West Virginia School of Osteopathic Medicine (WVSOM) met to welcome Glenville State as a partner in the Pre-Osteopathic Medicine Program (POMP) at WVSOM.

WVSOM partners with affiliate undergraduate institutions for the program, which is designed for undergraduate students who have an interest in osteopathic medicine and plan to enter osteopathic medical school.

"We're excited about this partnership with the West Virginia School of Osteopathic Medicine. We see this as a win not only for our students in making a more streamlined process for them as they matriculate to medical school, but also as we work together to tackle the various issues with staffing and healthcare in this country. I am pleased that Glenville State is a partner in this pipeline program," said Glenville State University President, Dr. Mark A. Manchin.

"I am very excited that WVSOM and Glenville State University are establishing this osteopathic medicine pipeline program. This is a win, win, win! A win for WVSOM, for Glenville State University, and especially for their students who are interested in becoming an osteopathic physician," said West Virginia School of Osteopathic Medicine President, James W. Nemitz, Ph.D.

The goal of POMP is to promote osteopathic medicine, increase the number of excellent WVSOM applicants, support aspiring osteopathic physicians at all levels of education, and continue the legacy of osteopathic medicine. Students who successfully complete all program requirements will receive guaranteed acceptance to WVSOM.

The program ensures that undergraduates will have the opportunity to network with medical students and medical professionals and to receive shadowing opportunities, while improving their knowledge of osteopathic medicine.



View Pioneer Progress Magazine Online

By now, many Glenville State Alumni & Friends have probably received the fall 2021 edition of the Pioneer Progress Magazine. If you haven't received a copy in the mail, you can view the magazine, along with earlier editions of the Pioneer Progress, on the Glenville State Alumni & Friends website by [clicking here](#).

150 years. 150 stories.

Join Glenville State University in honoring our 150th anniversary by sharing memories from your time on campus.

The stories of our alumni and friends will be featured in our special anniversary issue of the Pioneer Progress in fall 2022.

SUBMIT YOUR STORY



UPCOMING EVENTS

Wednesday, March 2 - March 6 MEC
Basketball Tournament

Tuesday, March 8 Women's Leadership
Circle Reception



Remembering a Glenville State First Lady

The Glenville State family is mourning the loss of former First Lady Dr. Heidi Henschel Pellett. Heidi served as First Lady from 2017-2019. She passed away on February 25 after a courageous battle with leukemia. Our thoughts are with the Pellett family during this difficult time.



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.

The Estate of John C. Shaw – \$4,533.93 for the John C. Shaw Scholarship

Dr. Jason and Jennifer Yeager – \$1,445.86 for Student Support

Fred and Christina Layman – \$1,000.00 for PAC Wrestling

Michael and Jennifer Pugh – \$603.00 for PAC Wrestling

Shawn Negley – \$500.00 for PAC Softball

Jim Henderson – \$447.00 for PAC Wrestling

Ronald Houser – \$200.00 for PAC Wrestling

Cathy Starcher Parsons '85 – \$150.00 for the 150th Anniversary Silver Coin Project

Lela (Brooks) Bailey '53 – \$100.00 for the Lela Brooks Bailey Scholarship

Dr. Gary and Athena '17 Morris – \$100.00 for the Provost's Fund

Terry Hinger '88 – \$75.00 for the 150th Anniversary Silver Coin Project

Jason '01 and Heather (Bucheimer) '08 Phares – \$150.00 for the 150th Anniversary Silver Coin Project

Gary '71 and Cynthia Ray – \$75.00 for the 150th Anniversary Silver Coin Project

Ronald Houser – \$50.00 for PAC Wrestling

William and Carol Rutherford – \$50.00 for PAC Wrestling

Jeremy and Tanya Hay – \$14.00 for PAC Wrestling

***Thank you to those who participated in our Founders Day of Giving!
That list of donors will be shared once all online donations are posted.***

**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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