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Civic Engagement

As we learn more about the reaffirmation of accreditation each week in *The Road to State's Reaffirmation 2025*, we will examine how select elements of West Virginia State University (WVSU) campus life and culture interact with the Assurance Argument. Following the University's mission, it is essential that the University provides opportunities for civic engagement in a multicultural society and globally connected world.

West Virginia State University offers multiple opportunities for civic engagement celebrating advancing the mission to prepare our learners to meet the social and economic needs of the state, region, and nation while contributing solutions to complex global challenges. Through WVSU's foundation as both an HBCU with a liberal arts background and as an 1890 land-grant institution, diversity and multiculturalism are paramount to advancing knowledge through access and opportunity.

One example of civic engagement is through WVSU's extensive use of community members on advisory and executive boards. At the University level, there is a Board of Visitors, comprised of local, state, and national executives and administrators who meet twice per year to assist the University in maintaining and enhancing the University's quality and standing in the region and the nation. Additionally, the WVSU Foundation Board of Directors, consisting of community members, alumni, and industry leaders, acts as support to benefit West Virginia State University through fundraising and management, encouraging support from stakeholders and fostering active engagement and lifelong relationships. At the College level, each of the four colleges has a College Advisory Board comprised of alumni, leaders, and innovators in the fields within each college who serve as ambassadors of the programs and who direct colleges on advances and trends within their fields. Furthermore, several academic departments have Advisory Boards or Committees. This includes Education, Leadership Studies, Nursing, and Social Work. These Advisory Boards are recommended or required by external accreditors and allow members of the profession to offer insight into industry trends, job development, and job placement.

WVSU also engages with the community through the arts and internships. These activities not only celebrate student talent but also foster stronger connections between educational institutions, local organizations, and the wider public. Additionally, WVSU plays a significant role in preserving and promoting the cultural and historical significance of diverse ethnic groups that have shaped the Kanawha Valley.

Another example of civic engagement is the annual WVSU Cares Day, which brings together faculty, staff, students, and alumni in a unified effort to support local organizations and communities through meaningful service projects. Each year, hundreds of volunteers dedicate their time and skills to perform service work across various sites in Kanawha and Putnam counties, making a lasting impact. WVSU Cares Day offers an opportunity for the University to actively contribute to the well-being of the local area.

For more information about *The Road to State's Reaffirmation 2025*, please click [here](#) to discover in-depth information about the process and more!

For questions or comments regarding the University's reaffirmation of accreditation process, please send all inquiries and information to academicaffairs@wvstateu.edu or call (304) 766-3189.

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