



SHEPHERD UNIVERSITY

BOARD OF GOVERNORS



Meeting Agenda

June 11, 2026

Board Members

Dr. James Cherry, Chair

Austin J. Slater, Jr., Vice Chair

Susan Mentzer-Blair, Secretary

Gat Caperton

Lara Omps-Botteicher

Henry Kayes, Jr.

Bernard Lee Snyder

Jonathan Mason

Tyler Furbee, Student

Guillermina Garcia Moore

Dr. Heidi Hanrahan, Faculty

Danielle Stephenson, Classified Staff

Dr. Mary J.C. Hendrix, President



SHEPHERD UNIVERSITY

Board of Governors
June 11, 2016 3:15pm
Storer Ballroom, Student Center

Virtual Access: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86535874131?pwd=KtRldE9YN0ecqV4S2iz2hZEemoINwE8.1>
Meeting ID 86535874131 Pass Code 049203

AGENDA

3:15pm Call to Order Chair, Dr. James Cherry

3:16pm Public Comments

Consent Agenda

3:25pm Consent Agenda Items The Chair

- a. Approval of the Minutes of April 16, 2026 meeting
- b. Approval of the Athletics Program Philosophy
- c. Authorization to Seek and Receive USDA Rural Business Development Grant

Presentation Agenda

3:30pm 1. President's Report President Mary JC Hendrix

3:45pm 2. Faculty Senate Annual Report Dr. Larry Daily

4:00pm 3. Report of the Academic Programs and Enrollment Committee Mr. Gat Caperton

4:12pm 4. Report of the Student Affairs, Athletics, and University Relations Committee Ms. Sue Mentzer Blair

- a. Student Affairs Division Update
- b. Athletics Annual Report
- c. Development Division Update
- d. University Foundation Annual Report

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| 4:30pm | 5. Report of the Finance and Facilities Committee
a. Capital Projects Annual Report
b. Third Quarter Financial Report
c. Approval of Proposed FY2027 Budget
d. Approval of Proposed FY2027 Capital Initiatives
e. Approval of FY2028 Capital Funding Priorities
f. Approval of Supplemental Changes in Required Fees | Mr. Henry Kayes, Jr. |
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Discussion Agenda

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| 5:00pm | 1. Election of Officers, 2026-2027 | The Chair |
| 5:05pm | 2. Election of Audit Committee and Nominating Committee | The Chair |

Regular Session

- | | |
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| 5:10pm | New Business |
| 5:30pm | Adjournment |

CONSENT AGENDA

Per the Board's Consent Agenda protocols:

- 1) Any member may email the Board Chair and the President to request extraction of one or more items from the Consent Agenda and inclusion in the Discussion Agenda. Any such request should be emailed before end of day Sunday, June 7, 2026. The Agenda Book would not be re-formatted, but the formal Agenda for the meeting would be adjusted to accommodate such requests, and modified draft resolutions would be completed and distributed prior to the June 11 meeting.
- 2) During the Board meeting, as the Consent Agenda is initiated, any member may move the extraction of one or more items to the Discussion Agenda. Upon a majority vote of the Board, the agenda would be so modified.

The following resolution is recommended for adoption by the Board:

RESOLVED, That the Shepherd University Board of Governors approves:

- 1) The Minutes of the Meeting of April 16, 2026, as presented in the Agenda materials of June 11, 2026; and
- 2) The Athletics Program Philosophy, each as presented in the Agenda materials of June 11, 2026.

FURTHER, RESOLVED, That the Shepherd University Board of Governors authorizes the application for, receipt of, and administration of a grant under the USDA Rural Business Development Grant Program for fiscal year (FY) 2026 and authorizes Collin Alexander, Interim Vice President for Finance and Administration, to execute all required documents in the implementation thereof, subject to approval as to form by counsel.

SHEPHERD UNIVERSITY BOARD OF GOVERNORS

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF APRIL 16, 2026

The Shepherd University Board of Governors met on April 16, 2026, in a regular meeting at the Storer Ballroom, Student Center, on the Shepherd University campus. Members participating were: Dr. James Cherry (Chair), Gat Caperton, Tyler Furbee, Dr. Heidi Hanrahan, Henry Kayes, Jr., Susan Mentzer-Blair, Guillermina Garcia Moore (joining after the vote on the Consent Agenda), Austin J. Slater, Jr., Lee Snyder, and Danielle Stephenson. Mr. Mason and Ms. Ompps-Botteicher were unable to attend. Also present were Shepherd University President Mary J.C. Hendrix, members of the executive leadership team, and others.

1. PUBLIC COMMENTS

No public comments were made at the beginning of the meeting.

2. RECOGNITIONS OF FACULTY AND STAFF EMERITI

Dr. Jack DeRochi, Provost and Vice President of Academic Affairs, presented and recognized

Dr. Ben Martz, Dean, College of Business and Recreation, Emeritus
Dr. Larry Daily, Professor of Psychology, Emeritus, and
Dr. Greg Place, Professor of Recreation and Sport Studies, Emeritus,
and acknowledged other faculty emeriti listed in the Agenda Book.

Tammy Gill, Director of Human Resources / CHRO, presented and recognized

Robert James, Campus Police Investigator I, Emeritus
Mary Beth Myers, Student Success Coach, Emerita and
Tracy Seffers, Registrar, Emerita

3. CONSENT AGENDA

M (Snyder), S (Mentzer-Blair), PASSED, that the following resolution be adopted by the Board:

RESOLVED, That the Shepherd University Board of Governors approves

- 1) the Minutes of the Meeting of February 19, 2026, as presented in the Agenda materials of April 16, 2026; and
- 2) The Administrative Re-Alignments of the Academic Transformation, each as presented in the Agenda materials of April 16, 2026.

Each of the three Advisory Members indicated that they supported adoption of this resolution of the Board.

3. **PRESIDENT’S REPORT**

President Hendrix presented a full review of the advancement of institutional goals established in summer 2025. Those goals were integral to the Strategic Plan, addressing the Student and the Employee Experience, the Academic Mission, and efficiencies in administrative operations. Dr. Hendrix noted the continuing success in securing fair appropriations levels and the ongoing efforts to obtain additional deferred maintenance funds which could be used for the Frank Arts Center. She expressed appreciation for the ongoing collaborations between the Development Office and the staff of the Shepherd University Foundation.

4. **REPORT OF THE ACADEMIC PROGRAMS AND ENROLLMENT COMMITTEE**

On behalf of the Academic Programs and Enrollment Committee, Mr. Caperton succinctly reported on the extensive updates provided in the Agenda Book and emphasized the ongoing initiatives as to student retention and improvement of the student experience. He then asked Will Bell, Associate Vice President for Enrollment, to provide a full update for the Board as to the enrollment outlook. Acknowledging that some of Shepherd’s technology systems transitioned to new systems this year and contributed earlier to some lagging processing of new students, a great deal of staff effort has gone into resolving those issues and the projection for the new freshmen class is slowly but sequentially rising, while still below the target. Enrollment, academic support, and student support divisions of the University are working in unison in these efforts.

5. **REPORT OF THE STUDENT AFFAIRS, ATHLETICS, AND UNIVERSITY RELATIONS COMMITTEE**

On behalf of the Student Affairs, Athletics, and University Relations Committee, Ms. Mentzer-Blair provided a brief update of the Committee’s discussions, which reviewed the updates in the Board Agenda Book. She asked Lori Maraugh, Chief of the Shepherd University Police Department, to make a full presentation of the annual crime statistics report in the Agenda Book. Ms. Mentzer Blair then asked Melanie Ford, the Student Affairs Principal Systems Analyst, to explain the new SLATE program and how it will enhance the student experience.

6. **FRANK CENTER PROJECT PROSPECTUS And AUTHORIZATION FOR GRANTS**

Mr. Kayes summarized the project, which was discussed in the Committee meeting, and the anticipation of an opportunity to obtain additional deferred maintenance funds from the WV HEPC.

M (Caperton), S (Slater), PASSED, that the following resolution be adopted by the Board:

RESOLVED, That the Shepherd University Board of Governors approves the Frank Center Project Prospectus and project budget and authorizes the University President to proceed with the project as described; and further, approves the Grant Application Authorizing Resolution, all as described in this April 16, 2026 Agenda Item.

Each of the three Advisory Members indicated that they supported adoption of this resolution of the Board.

7. **PROPOSED 2026-2027 ENROLLMENT, HOUSING, DINING, AND OTHER FEES**

Mr. Kayes asked Collin Alexander, Interim Vice President for Finance and Administration, to assist in the discussion of the proposed increases and changes in fees, which were reviewed also during the Committee meeting. Mr. Alexander also discussed the institutional priorities which could be supported by the additional level of revenue. Members discussed the degree to which the extremely competitive conditions for recruiting out of state students might be a concern as to the proposed increases applicable to non-residents. Mr. Alexander noted the charts in the Board Book, comparing costs at Shepherd to costs at other universities and Shepherd's competitive aggregate costs, especially when the Metro Rate discount is applied. Mr. Furbee noted that the Student Government had voted to support the increase.

M (Caperton), S (Slater), PASSED, that the following resolution be adopted by the Board:

RESOLVED, That the Shepherd University Board of Governors approves the adjustments to Undergraduate Tuition and Required Enrollment, Housing and Dining, and Other Fees for FY2027, effective August 2026, as presented in the Agenda materials of April 16, 2026.

Each of the three Advisory Members indicated that they supported adoption of this resolution of the Board.

8. Executive Session

M (Kayes), S (Caperton), PASSED, that the following resolution be adopted by the Board:

RESOLVED, That the Shepherd University Board of Governors, pursuant to Section 4 of Article 9A of Chapter 6 of the W V Code, enter into executive session for the purpose of discussion of matters relating to confidential legal matters, matters relating to personnel matters as to one or more specific employees of the University and matters that would be an invasion of privacy if publicly discussed, and as to business negotiations and as to potential real property transactions.

The Board subsequently arose out of Executive Session, and thereafter the Board adjourned.

Dr. James Cherry
Chair

Susan Mentzer-Blair
Secretary

APPROVAL OF THE ATHLETIC PROGRAM PHILOSOPHY

National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) regulations require the Shepherd University Board of Governors to review and approve the institutional Athletic Program Philosophy on an annual basis. The current Athletic Program Philosophy is contained on the following page, and there are no staff recommendations for updates.

SHEPHERD UNIVERSITY Athletic Philosophy

At Shepherd University, athletes shall be treated as all other students in reference to admissions, scholarships, programs of study, part-time employment, eligibility, and participation in activities representing the University. Shepherd University provides opportunity to all prospective and current members of the student body, faculty, and staff on the basis of individual qualifications and merit without regard to race, sex, sexual orientation, religion, age, national origin, or disability.

The purposes of the University's Athletic Program are to:

- provide friendly competition and cooperation with other colleges and universities in a sportsmanship-like game environment;
- develop the physical, mental, emotional, social and moral well-being of each participant;
- stimulate participants to a high caliber of citizenship;
- furnish recreational value to University students, faculty, and community;
- provide practical experiences for careers in coaching and teaching; and
- provide opportunities for community engagement between athletes, Shepherd University and the greater Shepherd community.

In order that the University may continue to carry on intercollegiate athletics programs pursuant to policies recommended by the Higher Learning Commission, the following minimum standards have been specifically approved by the University.

- a. The conduct of the intercollegiate athletics program is exercised by the President upon the recommendation of the Athletics Committee, which is composed of representatives of the faculty, staff and the student body.
- b. Students who plan to participate in athletics, like all other students, are admitted by the Office of Admissions subject to policies set by the Committee on Admissions and Credits. Athletes are required to maintain the same academic standards as non-athletes.

- c. The award of any student aid, student loan, or student employment to an athlete is made through the regular agency of the University for aid to all students. Such aids are awarded on a basis, which will not discriminate for or against presumed or recognized athletes. An athlete is required to give full and honest return for aid received.
- d. All athletic funds are controlled by the Vice President for Finance and Administration. An audit of the receipts and disbursements of these funds is made annually by the auditors of the State and a report made to the President and to the Board of Governors.
- e. An effort is made to compete with colleges having similar educational and athletic policies.
- f. Consistent with our obligations in the National Collegiate Athletic Association and in our athletics conference, Shepherd University is committed to the principles of sportsmanship and ethical conduct, rules compliance and amateurism. All eligibility rules from these associations govern the intercollegiate program.

Shepherd University Board of Governors
June 11, 2026
Consent Agenda Item c.

Authorization to Seek and Receive Heritage Tourism USDA Rural Business Development Grant

The Rural Business-Cooperative Service, a Rural Development agency of the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), invites the submission of applications for grants under the Rural Business Development Grant Program for fiscal year (FY) 2026. Dr. Zahra Pourabedin, Assistant Professor of Business, has developed a new grant application for this USDA program.

The Jefferson County Heritage Tourism and Business Development Initiative is a community-based project designed to strengthen the local economy by leveraging the county's rich Appalachian heritage, history, culture, and tourism assets. The project will develop a county-wide digital tourism platform, Visit Jefferson County, that promotes local businesses, historic sites, cultural attractions, agritourism experiences, events, and visitor itineraries. Through partnerships with Shepherd University, heritage organizations, tourism stakeholders, and local businesses, the initiative will enhance visitor engagement, increase tourism-related spending, and expand market opportunities for small businesses throughout Jefferson County.

A key component of the project is the creation of an engaging heritage tourism trail supported by QR codes and digital storytelling. Through the Student Digital Marketing and Storytelling Lab, Shepherd University students will work with businesses and community partners to develop business profiles, historical narratives, photography, videos, and digital content that will be featured on the website and linked through QR-code stations at selected heritage sites and businesses. The project will also provide tourism marketing training workshops for local businesses and culminate in a marketing campaign and community launch event. Together, these activities will support workforce development, entrepreneurship, business visibility, and sustainable economic growth in Jefferson County and the Appalachian region.

The grant does not require an institutional match in its funding.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Advancing Shepherd University

- Shepherd University's School of Nursing is helping strengthen the healthcare workforce through applied research and clinical innovation, highlighted during its annual Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) Quality Improvement Projects and Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) Poster Presentations, held on April 14. The event showcased student-led, evidence-based projects focused on improving patient care, clinical outcomes, and healthcare delivery systems. Many addressed challenges facing regional providers, including access to care, provider communication, mental health treatment, and workforce sustainability.
- I was honored to join our campus and community in dedicating the Wilmoth Agricultural Learning Hub at the Agricultural Innovation Center at Tabler Farm, a moment that reflects the extraordinary generosity, vision, and dedication of Paul Wilmoth '74. Paul's impact on the Agricultural Innovation Center cannot be overstated. Through years of hands-on volunteerism, leadership, and unwavering support, he has helped shape Tabler Farm into a place where education, stewardship, and community come together. From creating spaces that support environmental studies classes to building venues that welcome neighbors, partners, and visitors, Paul has invested not only his resources, but his time, energy, and strategic vision into this work. The Wilmoth Agricultural Learning Hub stands as a lasting symbol of that commitment. It is a space designed to serve others—students, faculty, and community members alike—and one that will enrich learning and connection for generations to come. Paul's belief in Shepherd University and in the power of practical, place-based education continues to leave a profound mark on this institution. We are deeply grateful to Paul for the example he sets and for the legacy of service he is building at Tabler Farm and beyond.
- Shepherd University welcomed two accomplished alumni back to campus which inspired the Class of 2026 during its 153rd commencement ceremony on Saturday, May 9, 2026, in the Butcher Center. Austin J. Slater Jr. '76, a business leader and longtime champion of Shepherd, delivered the address at the graduate ceremony. Tyson Bagent '23, quarterback for the Chicago Bears, spoke at the undergraduate ceremony. A strong advocate for higher education and institutional leadership, Slater currently serves as vice chair of Shepherd University's Board of Governors and as chair of the Shepherd University Foundation Board. As an alumnus, Bagent remains deeply connected to Shepherd. He continues to mentor young athletes, support the University community, and give back to the institution that helped shape his path. His enduring commitment reflects the values that define Shepherd—excellence, purpose, and service to others. Both speakers were awarded honorary degrees in recognition of their achievements and

contributions. Both ceremonies were livestreamed and are available for viewing on the Shepherd University YouTube channel.

- Shepherd University is implementing a strategic academic realignment designed to expand multidisciplinary learning opportunities and better prepare students for today's evolving workforce. The realignment integrates related areas of study to reflect the increasing intersection of industries. A key example of the strategic realignment is the newly formed School of the Arts and Media, which brings together music, contemporary art, communication, and theater. Another example is the new College of Business and Technology, which brings together high-demand, workforce-oriented programs under a unified structure that integrates business, applied technology, and innovation.
- Dr. Jason Best, professor of astronomy and astrophysics and associate vice president for institutional effectiveness at Shepherd University, has been awarded the West Virginia Academy of Science (WVAS) Distinguished Service Award, one of the organization's highest distinctions recognizing sustained contributions to science, leadership, and service across the state. The award was presented during the Academy's 100th Annual Meeting on April 18. A member of the Shepherd faculty since 1997, Dr. Best has played a significant leadership role within WVAS for more than a decade, serving as president from 2012 to 2015, as well as president-elect, past president, and institutional representative.
- Our faculty and staff came together for Shepherd University's annual Employee Service Recognition Luncheon, a cherished tradition that honors the colleagues who have devoted years—often decades—of service to this institution and to our students. Moments like this remind me just how deeply people care about Shepherd. The commitment, knowledge, and professionalism of our faculty and staff form the foundation of our campus culture and shape the experience of every student who walks through our doors. This year, we honored nine retiring colleagues, each leaving behind a meaningful legacy of service, mentorship, and leadership. We also celebrated 38 employees reaching service milestones ranging from five to 40 years—an extraordinary reflection of loyalty to and pride in this University. To every faculty and staff member recognized, and to all who support Shepherd in countless ways each day, please know how grateful I am for what you do. Your work matters, your service is valued, and your dedication continues to shape the future of Shepherd University. ONEShepherd: One mission. One vision. One voice.
- Historian Dennis Frye '79 turned his passion into a promise for future students at his alma mater. The Shepherd University Foundation announced the establishment of the Dennis E. Frye Endowed Chair in Civil War Studies and the director of Shepherd University's Civil War Center. Endowed chairs are permanent gifts that provide funding for faculty positions outside of university operating funds. Frye, who retired after 20 years as chief historian at Harpers Ferry National Historical Park, said making the gift was fitting. "History has offered me inestimable gifts," Frye reflected. "Now is my moment to offer this gift to history." Dr. Jennifer M. Murray, director of the Civil War Center and assistant professor of history, has been named the inaugural Dennis E. Frye

Endowed Chair in Civil War Studies. Murray will continue to serve as the director, with the newly established endowment now helping to support both the directorship and the endowed chair. She said holding an endowed chair named in Frye's honor is an incredible honor.

- Shepherd University is preparing MBA students for an AI-driven economy through MBA 599: AI in Business, a course designed to build practical skills in AI and its application across industries. Students in MBA 599 complete hands-on, project-based work that applies AI theory to real-world business scenarios. Projects include developing AI systems, conducting operational analyses, and producing AI-generated textbooks on topics such as AI infrastructure, systems design, and core fundamentals. The course emphasizes evaluation and implementation in business settings, allowing students to evaluate how to use the tools across industries.
- Shepherd University recognized faculty during the 2026 faculty awards luncheon on May 4. Dr. Richie Stevens, associate provost for faculty affairs, said the annual awards are important because they highlight the great work happening at Shepherd. "We are proud of the dedication of our full-time and adjunct faculty," Stevens said. "They excel in all that they do each semester to provide quality education to our students, both in and out of the classroom." The faculty awards ceremony takes place each spring to honor Shepherd faculty for their achievements, dedication, and success.
- Shepherd University has entered into a partnership with WVU Medicine Berkeley Medical Center and Jefferson Medical Center to expand the WVU Medicine Aspiring Nurses Program. The partnership will strengthen their shared commitment to growing the next generation of nurses and supporting workforce development across the Eastern Panhandle and the surrounding region. The program is designed to connect students with WVU Medicine's facilities early in their education while helping them gain a deeper understanding of the nursing profession and the many career pathways available in healthcare.
- On May 14, more than 100 staff members came together for Shepherd University's Staff Professional Development Day, a meaningful step forward in advancing one of our key strategic goals and strengthening our shared commitment to excellence. Throughout the day, participants engaged in a variety of sessions designed to support both personal and professional development—from collaborative problem-solving and performance evaluation preparation to student-centered training and wellness strategies. The program also emphasized the importance of connection, with opportunities to learn from one another and reinforce a culture of collaboration across campus. I want to extend a special thank you to Holly Morgan Frye, Vice President for Student Affairs and Director of Community Relations; Tammy Gill, Director of Human Resources/CHRO; and their incredible teams for organizing this event and ensuring our staff had meaningful opportunities for learning, growth, collaboration, and fun. Events like these reflect our ongoing investment in the people who make Shepherd University such a special place. Your dedication to continuous improvement ensures that we continue to provide the highest level of support for our students and for one another.

- The Bonnie and Bill Stubblefield Institute for Civil Political Communications announced the 2026 Campus Civility Award recipients at Shepherd University: Barbara Kandalis, Christopher Harris, and Dr. Larry Daily. The Stubblefield Institute Campus Civility Awards highlight members of the campus community who exemplify the qualities of a civil citizen. Awardees are selected through a campus-wide nomination process and selected by a panel of advisors at the Stubblefield Institute.

FACULTY SENATE ANNUAL REPORT

Dr. Larry Z. Daily, President of the Faculty Senate and Professor of Psychology, will present a report to the Board on the activities and concerns of the Senate. Dr. Daily will then be available for any questions from members of the Board.

The Faculty Senate has had a busy year and has dealt with many important issues. The Senate's work this year involved long and often difficult discussions and I wish to emphasize that the brevity of my summaries below does not reflect the effort expended by the members of the Senate and those we worked with. The issues that the Faculty Senate has worked on include:

- **Approval Process for New Academic Programs.** As noted in my report last year, a significantly revised approval process for new academic programs was announced at the beginning of the 2024-2025 academic year. That process was developed with no input from the faculty and, upon reviewing it, members of the faculty expressed many concerns. Working with Dr. DeRochi, a revision of that process was developed that addressed faculty concerns, one that reverted the initial phase of the process to a true intent to plan and that avoided minimizing the role of faculty in planning curricula. That revision was unanimously endorsed by the Senate in September.
- **Faculty Workload Policy.** As required by the Strategic Plan (Goal 1, Strategy 3, Tactic 1), Dr. DeRochi began developing a Faculty Workload Policy and Guidelines document meant to be a university-wide statement of general principles addressing what is expected of a faculty member at Shepherd. He invited the Faculty Senate to provide feedback on the proposed guidelines. A major focus of the Senate discussions was the general expectations concerning the time devoted to the three major areas of workload: teaching, professional development, and service. It was felt that the proposed percentages (60%, 20%, and 20%) did not accurately reflect the reality of working at a teaching institution. It was felt that a more appropriate breakdown would be teaching 75% (possible range 70% to 80%), professional development 15% (possible range 10% to 20%), and service 10% (possible range 10% to 20%). There was also concern that the credit hours assigned to a course do not always reflect the actual workload in the course (e.g., a 4 credit science course with a lab where the contact hours significantly exceed 4 hours). There was also discussion of the fact that even setting the teaching expectations at 75% may not address the reality of teaching at Shepherd. Many Senators expressed the concern that between teaching and the service expectations they simply had to "eke out" time to do research or other professional development. Revisions were made based on the Senate feedback and the Senate unanimously endorsed the document in November.
- **Graduate Council and Graduate Curriculum Approval Process.** The Senate also discussed the curriculum approval process for graduate programs, a conversation that

broadened to include the structure of the Graduate Council itself. Examination of the curriculum proposal forms for graduate courses and programs suggested that the process was meant to be similar to the process for undergraduate courses and programs, but the graduate process did not include a review at the college level. That issue will be dealt with by the implementation of Modern Campus' Curriculum software. In addition, the structure of the Graduate Council was not well-defined by the current Constitutional language (there was not even a designated chair) and the Constitution established the Council as an Administrative Council committee rather than as a faculty committee. As a result, Senators were concerned about the level of faculty oversight of graduate-level curricula. Senate developed a Constitutional amendment to move the Graduate Council from Article V Administrative Council to Article IV Faculty Senate and to clarify the membership and leadership of the committee. That proposal was approved by the Senate in March and was forwarded to the SU Assembly for consideration at the April meeting of that body. The amendment was approved by the Assembly.

- **Feedback to the Great Colleges to Work for Committee.** At the request of Dr. Hendrix, the Faculty Senate provided the Great Colleges to Work for Committee a list of issues both small and large that make work more difficult than it should be and that negatively impact faculty morale. The list varied from issues with simple fixes (e.g., course Brightspace sites were being created before the schedule was finalized which resulted in the wrong instructors or multiple instructors being given access to the site) to more complex issues (e.g., cumbersome procurement processes). All the issues raised by Senate have been discussed by the committee. Some of the simpler issues have been addressed and progress is being made on the others.
- **Selection of Candidates for Faculty Representative to the Presidential Search Committee.** For the first time that I am aware of, Senate entered executive session to select candidates for the faculty position on the Presidential Search Committee.
- **Faculty Research Forum.** The Faculty Research Forum is a monthly lecture series that was implemented by the faculty at least two decades ago. The intent was to highlight the current scholarship of Shepherd University faculty members (see <https://www.shepherd.edu/frf>). The committee that solicited and evaluated proposals to present was set up on an ad hoc basis and within the last year or so had dwindled to a single member. Senate began discussing this issue last year and Senators indicated that there was interest in preserving the Faculty Research Forum. After much consideration, the Senate passed an amendment to the Senate bylaws to formally establish a Faculty Research Forum Steering Committee.
- **Committee Representation.** The discussion about the FRF steering committee occurred within the context of a larger conversation about Senate representation on various committees on campus. There are 20 Senator and we currently send a representative (and sometimes more than one) to 20 committees. After discussion about this issue, a subcommittee was established to review the list of committees and to then determine where they were established and whether they still exist. The subcommittee found that there does seem to be some degree of redundancy of function in some committees (e.g., the curriculum committees), a topic that will require further discussion. They also

identified three committees (Budget Advisory Council, Internationalization Advisory Council, and the Threat Assessment Task Force) that do not seem to have been formally established in any of our governing documents. We're exploring the situation involving those committees. Senate did take action on one committee: the Washington Gateway Committee. That committee was established in the Senate Bylaws. It had not met in some time as there was no budget for the Washington Gateway program. There was talk of the program being revived (which has since occurred) and Senators felt that rather than encumber the reconstituted program with an old committee structure it would make sense to dissolve the Senate committee so that a new committee could be formed that would better meet current needs. Senate interest was also one of the motivating factors behind the restructuring of the Technology Oversight Committee. That committee presented a proposal for a constitutional amendment that laid out a new structure and mission at the spring 2026 Assembly meeting. That amendment was subsequently passed. Given the restructuring of the Academic Affairs division and the fact that the membership of many committees is determined by that structure, this conversation will continue in the next academic year.

- **Faculty Annual Report Process.** On November 6, 2025, Associate Provost Stevens sent an email to faculty. Attached to that email were documents with drafts of proposed revisions to the faculty annual review process. Faculty were invited to share their comments with Dr. Stevens. The proposed revisions included shifting the review period to the calendar year, modifications to the classroom review process, and a draft rubric for evaluating faculty performance. The proposed revisions were discussed at the February meetings of the Senate, and a number of concerns were raised; those concerns included whether there is truly a need to revise the faculty evaluation process, whether the calendar year cycle is appropriate, whether a rubric is needed and if so, whether the proposed rubric is appropriate. This conversation will continue in the next academic year.
- **Use of the AAC&U LEAP Goals.** Circa 2010, Shepherd adopted the essential learning outcomes proposed by the AAC&U as part of its Liberal Education and America's Promise (LEAP) initiative. That 10-year initiative ended many years ago, but our catalog still references it. Senate held many conversations about whether the goals themselves still represent what we want students to learn or whether we need to transition to new goals. Senate referred this issue to our curriculum committees (the Curriculum and Instruction Committee and the Core Curriculum Committee) for their study and recommendations. One of the committees recommended retaining the LEAP goals, the other felt that more study – especially of alternatives – is needed. This conversation will also continue next year.

In addition to these issues, the Faculty Senate also discussed the number of students who currently qualify for priority registration, how to monitor and maintain online course quality, and the academic transformation. We also provided feedback for the Modern Campus Curriculum software implementation and received and passed on information concerning DEI guidance, Title II requirements, and HLC visit preparation.

ACADEMIC AFFAIRS DIVISION UPDATE

Dr. Jack DeRochi, Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs, will provide the Committee with an Academic Affairs Division Update.

PROVOST OFFICE

The following faculty were awarded promotion and/or tenure effective August 2026:

- Dr. Ben Bankhurst (History) promotion to Professor
- Dr. Zachary Musselman (Environmental Science) tenure
- Dr. James Pate (English) promotion to Professor
- Dr. Sara Reynolds (Biology) promotion to Associate Professor with tenure
- Dr. Austin Showen (Music) promotion to Associate Professor with tenure
- Dr. Ann Wendle (Counseling) to Associate Professor with tenure

The following faculty were recognized this spring for outstanding contributions to Shepherd University:

- Dr. Craig Cline (Social Work) - Outstanding Advisor
- Dr. Albina Laskovstov (Criminal Justice) - Outstanding Teacher
- Dr. Weidong Liao (Computer Information Science) – Outstanding Scholar
- Dr. Zachary Musselman (Environmental Science) – Outstanding Service and the Mentzer Award for Inspirational Teaching
- Dr. James Koshar (Business Administration) – Outstanding Adjunct Instruction
- Dr. Larry Daily (Psychology) - Stubblefield Institute’s Faculty Civility Award

COLLEGE OF ARTS, HUMANITIES, AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

- Shepherd University Graphic Design students earned exceptional recognition at The Real Show 26, a national juried design competition presented by George Mason University School of Art and sponsored by AIGA DC. Andrew Elspas captured Best of Show, the competition's highest honor, while Benjamin Akers earned Gold and Sophia Bishop earned Silver. Nine additional Shepherd students earned Merit Awards. The Graphic Design program is led by Assistant Professors Andy Dolan and Jennifer Yablonsky.
- Shepherd Lecturer and painter Evan Boggess presented three exhibitions of his work in the Spring semester at the Maryland Art Place (Baltimore, MD), Bridge Gallery (Shepherdstown, WV), and Paragon Gallery (Lewisburg, WV).

- Shea-Mikal Green, Assistant Professor of Theater, performed the role of Elizabeth Proctor in the Maryland Ensemble Theater’s production of *The Crucible* in April 2026. *Peter Rabbit and the Secret Garden Gate*, her devised and directed original piece based on the stories of Beatrix Potter, received five stars from Theatre Bloom following its premiere performance with the MET in February.
- Dr. Matt Kushin, Professor of Communication, published his article “The Alluring Deception: Big Tech and the Deployment of AI in Politics” in the *Journal of Media Ethics* in Spring 2026.
- Dr. Michael Vaclav, Assistant Professor of English, recently had his article “Wayward Witches: Macbeth and the Specter of the Overbury Scandal” published in *ELH: English Literary History*. He also presented at the Modern Language Association Conference in Toronto, Ontario in the Spring 2026 semester.

COLLEGE OF BUSINESS AND RECREATION

- Drs. Jim Dovel, Associate Professor of Business, and Zahra Pourabedin, Assistant Professor of Business, presented at the [2026 Academy of Marketing Science annual conference](#). The work, “Mapping Agritourism Activities in the Mid-Atlantic Region: A Content Analysis Approach,” is based on a recently completed USDA RBDG Agritourism grant.
- Drs. Jim Dovel and Ruwan Abeysekera (a recent visiting Fulbright Scholar to Shepherd University) have received publication approval for the first of several research publications. Recent international visitor Dr. Inyene Nkanta will be joining the research collaboration, extending the research from the US and Sri Lanka to Scotland.
- Drs. Robert Szarka, Assistant Professor of Business, Amanda Mandzik, Associate Professor of Economics, Zahra Pourabedin, and Joshua Beck, Assistant Professor of Business, presented “[The OER Adoption Challenge: Making OER Friction-Free](#)” at Florida’s Virtual Campus OER Summit 2026.
- Sophomore Business Administration student Hunter Mize recently completed an [internship with the Jefferson County Development Authority](#). One of Hunter’s most important projects was updating a 2023 study comparing childcare in Berkeley, Jefferson, and Frederick County. The study helped drive action for a collaboration between the YMCA and Shepherd University to attempt to expand childcare capacity in Jefferson County.
- Shepherd business students Stuart Tymon, Kya Hill, Mary Mauney, and Rosemary Pierpaoli received first place in the [Pitch the County](#) competition at this year’s Jefferson County Tourism Summit. Their winning concept turned visitors into storytellers, encouraging them to purchase Mountaineer Popcorn, explore Jefferson County attractions, and share their journey on social media using #popcorntrailwv for a chance to win. Shepherd University’s team, led by Dr. Zahra Pourabedin, took home both the Judges’ Choice and Crowd Favorite honors, along with well-earned prizes for each student.

COLLEGE OF SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, ENGINEERING, MATHEMATICS, AND NURSING

- Twelve Shepherd faculty and 20 students from the departments of Natural and Physical Sciences and Computer Science, Mathematics, and Engineering attended the recent conference of the West Virginia Academy of Sciences on April 18. Students presented posters on research that they have been completing under the direction of their Shepherd faculty mentors. At the conference, Dr. Jason Best, Professor of Astrophysics, was awarded the West Virginia Academy of Sciences *Distinguished Service Award*. Student Nicole Powell won the *Best Undergraduate Poster: Microbiology Award* for research she conducted with Dr. Sara Reynolds, Assistant Professor of Biology. Taruna Suryawanshi won the *Best Undergraduate Poster: Computational and Data Science Award* for her research with Dr. Weidong Liao, Professor of Computer Science
- Drs. Sytil Murphy, Associate Professor of Physics, Jacquelyn Cole, Associate Professor of Chemistry, and Lindsey Levitan, Professor of Psychology, hosted two outreach events as part of the Seeding Your Future Initiative. On April 21, local students learned about bats and built bat houses in the “Going Batty” workshop and on May 19 they learned about how their eyes work in “The Camera of Your Eye.”
- Grant-funded renovations have started on chemistry labs on the 3rd floor of the Byrd Science & Technology Center. Changes will include a collaborative upper-level lab and an organic research space.
- The School of Nursing is now affiliated with the WVU Aspiring Nurse Program. In-program BSN students may receive up to \$25k during the BSN program in exchange for a post-graduation work commitment. WVU is added to scholarship affiliations established with Meritus Health, Scholars Network, Valley Health, and WVU have implemented scholarship programs for Shepherd BSN students.
- Associate Professor of Nursing Dr. Brenda Johnston's article “Mental Health Nursing Simulation to Develop the Therapeutic Use of Self” was accepted for publication in the *Journal of Nursing Education*.
- Dr. Mary Hancock, Professor of Nursing and director of the School, was selected by the National Council of State Boards of Nursing (NCSBN) as a NCSBN/NCLEX Exam Development volunteer.

SCHOOL OF EDUCATION

- Dr. LeAnn Johnson, Professor of Education, is in Kenya working to establish a third school library through the continued support and generosity of the Shepherd community. Donations from students, faculty, alumni, and local supporters have helped provide books, educational materials, and resources that will expand learning opportunities for children and schools in

underserved areas. This ongoing initiative reflects Shepherd University's commitment to global outreach, literacy, and service beyond campus borders.

- Drs. Jason Allen, Associate Professor of Education, and Tracy Nichols, Assistant Professor of Education, recently led a group of 10 Shepherd education students on an academic trip to the United Kingdom where they explored international education systems and cultural perspectives on teaching and learning. The experience gave students the opportunity to visit schools, engage with educators abroad, and gain a broader understanding of global educational practices. The trip provided valuable professional and cultural insights that will help shape these future educators as they enter increasingly diverse and interconnected classrooms.

STUDENT ACADEMIC ENRICHMENT (SAE)

- The American Association of Colleges & Universities has selected a 7-person team from Shepherd to engage nationally in their Institute on Experiential Learning and Engaged Dialogue. Team members include Drs. Michelle Perez, Assistant Provost for SAE, Dr. David Gordon, Professor of History, Dr. Amelia Davies-Robinson, Assistant Professor of Sociology, Dr. Albina Laskovtsov, Assistant Professor of Criminal Justice, and Dr. Keith Alexander, Associate Professor of History. Rachael Meads, Director of Student Activities Leadership and Andrew Shultz, Director of Career Services round out the team.
- Two full-time academic advisors are now in place for Science, Health, and Wellness, strengthening support for students in these high-demand areas; one advisor will be dedicated specifically to pre-nursing students.
- SAE has received a \$19,250 National Endowment for the Arts grant, supporting the 2026–2027 Common Reading initiative, including campus- and community-based programming in partnership with regional organizations. This was led by Hannah Williams-McNamee, Director of Student Support and Transfer Pathways in partnership with Dr. Heidi Hanrahan, Professor of English.
- Implementation of the updated First Year Experience course model is underway, emphasizing face-to-face delivery, capped class sizes, peer educator support, and a shared curriculum designed to foster belonging and engagement.
- The Spring Career Fair hosted 116 students and 41 employers, reflecting strong employer partnership and student participation.
- The TRIO Upward Bound Summer Academy will run from June 8 through July 17, 2026, serving approximately 35 Berkeley County high school students through a six-week academic experience, including a residential component.
- Shepherd will host the statewide Upward Bound Olympics on June 29, 2026, welcoming an estimated 130–150 students from across West Virginia. This event is being coordinated in partnership with Admissions to introduce participants to Shepherd University and support future recruitment efforts.

SCARBOROUGH LIBRARY

- Librarians Tara Carlisle and Theresa Smith attended the West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission’s OER Convening in Roanoke, WV. The convening highlighted emerging best practices, collaboration opportunities, and statewide initiatives aimed at normalizing the use of open and affordable learning resources in higher education.
- Scarborough Library hosted a presentation on human trafficking led by Shepherd alumna and Scarborough Society Board Member Penny Kay Hoeflinger. The event focused on how traffickers groom and exploit individuals for labor and sex trafficking, emphasizing that perpetrators are often known to their victims. The program highlighted the critical role of education and awareness in prevention and response.

OFFICE OF SPONSORED PROGRAMS

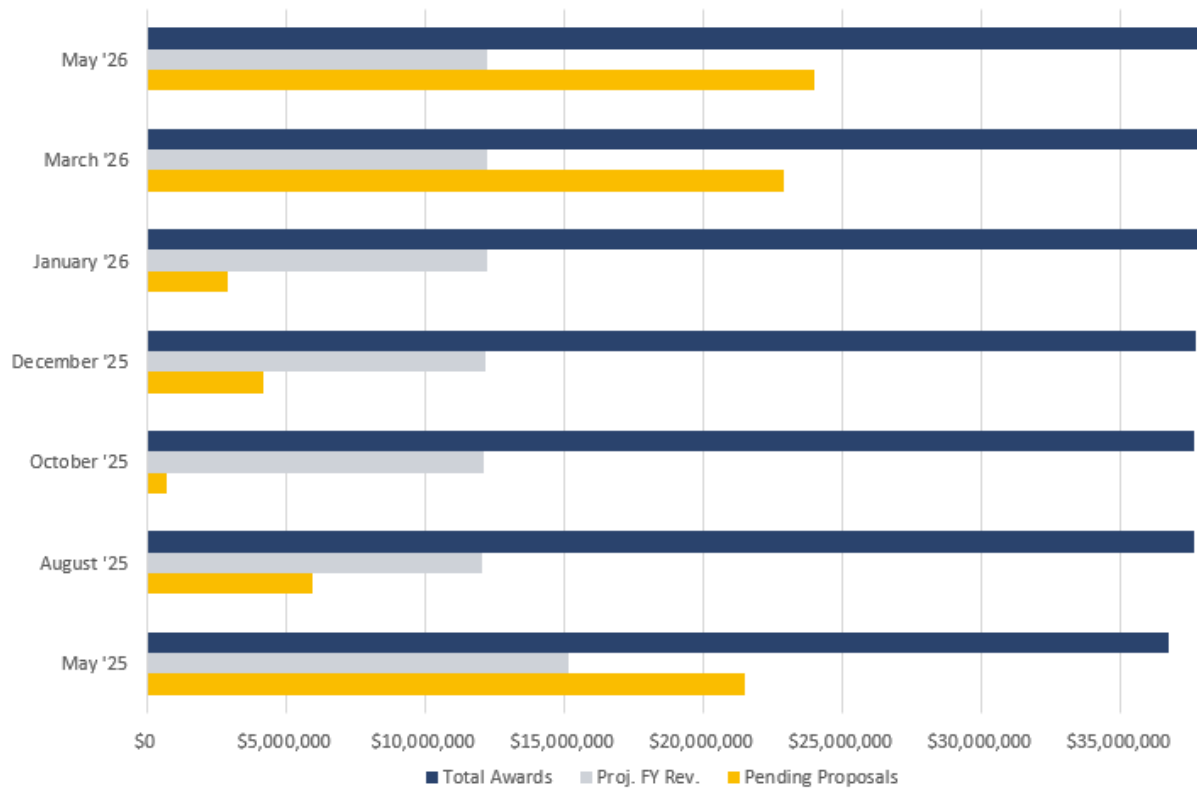
Office of Sponsored Programs (For detailed information, please visit:

<https://www.shepherd.edu/osp>)

FY2026 Active Grant Awards to Date: May 21, 2026

- Projected FY2026 revenue from active and closed grants: **\$12,195,354**
- Total current value of all FY2026 grants (active, awarded and/or closed): **\$37,906,720**

Grants Snapshot



Newly Awarded Grants to Date: May 21, 2026

- WVAbroad at Shepherd: Student Scholarships and Faculty Involvement for Campus Internationalization, Dr. Sam Greene – Study Abroad. **\$5,000**
- Common Reading: Frederick Douglass’s *Narrative of the Life*, Hannah Williams-McNamee – Student Academic Enrichment and Dr. Heidi Hanrahan – Department of English. **\$19,250**
- NIH INBRE Summer Research Internship for High School Science Educators, Dr. Qing Wang, Computer Science and Mathematics. **\$22,082**

ENROLLMENT MANAGEMENT

Undergraduate Admissions

Undergraduate admissions numbers continue to show complex variances from last year, increasing in some categories and decreasing in others.

As of May 26,

- First Time In College (FTIC) applications were up 2%. Transfers were down 8%.
- FTIC admits were up 2%. Transfers were down 7%.
- FTIC deposits were down 12%. Transfers were up 1%.

Full funnel reports are below for additional information.

Recent Initiatives

- Admissions staff adjusted their hours for the month of April through May 15 to better reach students after traditional work hours. Admissions staff will continue to call admitted but not deposited students to walk them through next steps.
- Staff visited high schools in the region presenting scholarship awards to incoming students at high school award ceremonies. Overall, admissions staff attended 14 award ceremonies this year, distributing awards at high schools in West Virginia, Maryland, Virginia, and Pennsylvania.
- The Office of Admissions is partnering with ERI (the company also designing the new Shepherd website) on two portals designed to enhance the application experience and drive new student enrollment. Working with ERI allows the portals to have the look and feel of the new Shepherd website, but the content within the portal will be new-student specific. The goal is to launch the new portals on August 1, the date the fall 2027 application opens. In addition to student-facing portals, admissions staff will have new, internal dashboards to help with timely reporting and territory management.
- In August the Office of Admissions will bring back Jeremy Tiers from Top Tier Higher Ed for admissions staff professional development. Jeremy will focus on territory management and communication strategies for new student recruitment. Jeremy will also spend time working with student “Rambassadors” on best practices for campus visits.

- The Office of Admissions welcomed two new admissions counselors, Kathleen Cole, and Anakin Carmickle, on June 1. Both Kathleen and Anakin graduated from Shepherd in May and are former Rambassadors. For this upcoming travel season, Kathleen will recruit students in Maryland and Anakin will recruit students in Pennsylvania.
- Associate Director of Admissions, Cade Miller, attended 3Enrollment’s Institute for High Education in Newport, Rhode Island. The Institute for Higher Education brings together enrollment leaders from across the country for an enrollment specific professional development experience. Cade will take what he has learned, adapt it to fit Shepherd, and apply it to how we can better serve prospective students and their families.

Applications		Fall 26	Fall 25	Fall 24	Fall 23
Freshman	2%	2028	1997	1973	2514
Transfer	-8%	367	400	423	427
Readmits	13%	34	30	41	41
Total Applicants	0%	2429	2427	2437	2982
Admits					
		Fall 26	Fall 25	Fall 24	Fall 23
Freshman	2%	1568	1542	1514	1672
Transfer	-7%	220	237	224	242
Readmits	29%	22	17	23	22
Total Admits	1%	1810	1796	1761	1936
Deposits					
		Fall 26	Fall 25	Fall 24	Fall 23
Freshman	-12%	522	593	477	561
Transfer	1%	150	148	166	148
Readmits	25%	15	12	22	13
Total Deposits	-9%	687	753	665	722
Net Deposits					
		Fall 26	Fall 25	Fall 24	Fall 23
Freshman	-11%	512	578	467	546
Transfer	5%	146	139	160	144
Readmits	17%	14	12	20	13
Total Deposits	-8%	672	729	647	703

Dual Enrollment

As of May 26, dual enrollment applications for the fall semester are up 33% (400 applications this year compared to 301 in 2025) and admits are up 47%, year-over-year (355 this year compared to 242 in 2025).

Graduate Admissions

Graduate admissions numbers continue to be strong. As of May 26, graduate applications are up 129% and admits are up 72% year-over-year. The new Masters in Mental Health Counseling was approved by the Higher Learning Commission and currently has 10 applicants for fall 2026.

		Fall 2026	Fall 2025
Applications	129%	128	56
Admits	72%	67	39
Deposits	-23%	30	39

Regents Bachelor of Arts

In May, Beth Hansen represented Shepherd University at the Regents Bachelor of Arts (RBA) Higher Education Policy Commission (HEPC) Division of Academic Affairs Meeting. A primary focus of the meetings was improving the quality, consistency, and efficiency of the portfolio assessment process used to award credit for prior learning. In alignment with these statewide initiatives, Shepherd's RBA program is currently streamlining its portfolio review process to make it more efficient, transparent, and student-friendly while maintaining academic rigor.

STUDENT AFFAIRS DIVISION UPDATE

Ms. Holly Morgan Frye, Vice President for Student Affairs and Director of Community Relations, will provide the Committee with a Student Affairs Division Update.

Accessibility Services/Title IX/Global Student Leadership Team:

- The Division of Student Affairs is pleased to announce the restructuring and expansion of student support services through the merger of the Title IX Office and Accessibility Services. This transition establishes a newly unified **Office for Educational Access (OEA)**, designed to provide a more holistic, coordinated approach to student support and compliance with federal civil rights laws to ensure equal access to educational programs and activities. This reorganization aligns responsibilities under **Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972**, **Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)**, and **Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973**, supporting consistent application of nondiscrimination requirements, streamlined processes, and improved coordination in responding to reports, complaints, and accommodation requests. The Title IX Director will assume the expanded role of **Director for Educational Access and Title IX**, providing leadership across both functional areas. This integrated model strengthens the University's commitment to fostering a safe and accessible campus environment while ensuring compliance with federal and institutional policies. The office will also include a **Coordinator for Student Advocacy and Access**, responsible for assisting students in understanding their rights, navigating institutional processes, and connecting with appropriate resources. The OEA will retain key Accessibility Services roles, including the **Student Support Specialist** and the **Proctoring and Accessibility Coordinator**, ensuring continuity of accommodation and support services. The **O E A** will serve as a centralized resource for addressing discrimination, harassment, and access to educational programs and services.
- Fifty-four final exams were proctored in the office in April.

Campus Services:

- Bookstore course materials cost data FY26:

HEPC Cost Category	Fall Semester	Spring Semester
Low (<\$75)	22%	22%
High (>\$75)	14%	16%
OER/No Cost	64%	62%
Avg Cost of Adopted Materials	\$73.43	\$74.20
Sections w/materials	13	25

- Mr. Nick Mummert, Student Center Director, has recently completed over 75 hours of data collection across all campus buildings in support of onboarding 25Live, the new campus scheduling application. Mr. Mummert has recently deployed 42 new AED units, bringing total units to 52 and getting close to a 6-minute response time radius across campus. The goal is a 3-minute response time.
- Conference Services, in partnership with SUPD and Facilities, hosted graduation ceremonies for Jefferson and Washington High Schools on Sunday, March 31. Approximately 700 high school graduates, staff, and families attended the ceremonies.
- Holly Frye, Vice President for Student Affairs; Sgt. John Brown, SUPD; and Liz Sechler, Director of Residence Life attended the “Campus Safety and Emergency Response Symposium” in Charleston on April 22, 2026. The symposium was sponsored by WV HEPC, and CTCS and included FBI agents assigned throughout West Virginia with staff from almost every college and university in the State.
- Student employees have begun working as conferencing staff as Shepherd hosts overnight summer conferences as a revenue generation activity. Other student employees are completing work to enhance the appearance of the residence halls, including painting and replacing furniture.
- Residence Life has switched to a new housing software; StarRez is an industry leader and offers more functionality and reliability.

Community Services

- Relay For Life: The Student Community Services office continued its partnership with the American Cancer Society through the successful implementation of this year's Jefferson County Relay For Life presented by Shepherd University, held inside the Wellness Center on April 18. The event brought together more than 350 participants, including students, faculty, staff, alumni, and community members, in a collective effort to raise awareness and funding for cancer research, advocacy, and patient support services. Through year-long fundraising initiatives, sponsorship outreach, team engagement, and event programming, the campus community raised a total of \$88,396 in support of the mission of the American Cancer Society. The event also featured a variety of student performances, including appearances by the Shepherd University Dance Team

and a student band which contributed to an engaging and community-centered atmosphere throughout the evening.

Relay For Life also served as a significant leadership development opportunity for students involved in community engagement, event planning, and event execution. Eighteen students serving on the event leadership team dedicated their academic year to organizing and promoting the program, gaining hands-on experience in event management, fundraising strategy, marketing, volunteer coordination, and community outreach. Their work helped continue a meaningful campus tradition centered on service, remembrance, celebration, and advocacy while reinforcing the university's ongoing commitment to civic engagement and student leadership development.

- West Virginia Leadership Conference: The Coordinator of Student Community Services, Jackson Heath, attended and presented at the 20th Annual West Virginia Student Leadership Conference held May 20-22 at Canaan Valley Resort. The conference brought together student leaders, advisors, and higher education professionals from 13 institutions across West Virginia to engage in leadership development, collaboration, and statewide networking opportunities. As part of the conference programming, the Student Community Services office facilitated a presentation "Impact into Action: Service That Builds Leaders" for members of student government associations. The session focused on reframing community service and civic engagement as intentional leadership practices rooted in personal values, social responsibility, and long-term community impact rather than participation motivated solely by requirements or resume-building.

The presentation highlighted strategies for helping student leaders move beyond transactional service models and instead develop sustainable, value-driven approaches to community engagement. Participation in the conference strengthened the office's professional presence within statewide student leadership initiatives while also providing opportunities for collaboration and resource-sharing among West Virginia colleges and universities.

- Orientation: The Office of Student Community Services collaborated with Student Activities, Fraternity & Sorority Life, and Shepherd L.E.A.D.S. participants during summer Orientation programs through their participation in the Zone Fair. The collaborative effort helped create a welcoming and engaging environment for incoming students and their families while introducing them to opportunities for campus involvement, leadership development, and community engagement.

Counseling Services:

- Counselor Resignation: Karen Martin resigned from a Counselor position effective May 26, 2026, due to her family relocating to South Carolina. The open Counselor position was posted in late May, and a Search Committee was created in early June.
- Data on Services from July 1, 2025 – May 27, 2026: Counseling Services has provided 1942 student appointments and participated in approximately 448 outreach programs and activities across campus. These have included tabling events, trainings, meetings,

presentations, and professional development initiatives.

- Completed Updates to Student Affairs Assessment Plan: Findings showed overall alignment with recommended benchmarks, while also highlighting periods of increased student demand that required adjustments in scheduling and service delivery.
- Professional Development: Counseling staff and interns attended the *WV NASW Spring Social Work Virtual Conference* May 6-8, 2026. Benefits included obtaining necessary Continuing Education Credits toward professional license renewal as well as knowledge, skill building and networking. Counseling Staff also participated in the University's first Professional Staff Development Day and the Student Affairs Staff Retreat held at the National Conservation Training Center. Counseling staff led break-out sessions at both events on Work/Life Balance and Community Building Circle Practices, respectively.

Dean of Students (DOS):

- Student Conduct Cases: April/ May-18 (Total for 2025-2026: 451)
- BIT Cases: April/ May 6 (Total for 2025-2026: 111)
- The DOS presented alongside the VPSA at the Staff Professional Development Day on May 14 providing information on students in crisis and steps to take to get them to the appropriate resources. The presentation included information on the Behavioral Intervention Team and their resources, and a general overview of crisis action steps.
- The DOS served as Commencement Grand Marshal on May 9, helping to coordinate commencement steps for over 500 graduates which included virtual walk-throughs of the ceremonies with graduates, in-person training with marshals in the week leading up to commencement, and day-of leadership at the event.

Principal Systems Analyst:

- Rambler Services upgraded their online account management tool giving the campus community use of Single Sign-On, depositing funds for use on and off campus, and managing their meal plan accounts all in one location.
- Principal Systems Analyst, Melanie Ford, presented with colleagues at the Professional Staff Development Day regarding various software offered to Shepherd University employees and useful features within our Microsoft tools.

Student Activities and Leadership:

- Earth Day Celebrated: Shepherd's beautiful campus is a great place to celebrate Earth Day every day. On April 22, Program Board hosted a celebration on the Midway with live music, succulent planting, a farm animal petting zoo, and booths featuring Shepherd student small businesses including crafts, art, and plants from the Tabler Incubator Farm. The event was attended by more than 200 students and community members.
- Midnight Breakfast: Student Affairs hosted its 50th Midnight Breakfast event on Sunday, April 26 from 10 pm to Midnight in the Student Center. More than 275 students enjoyed free food, dancing, and fellowship at this semester's Minecraft-themed event. The Student Affairs staff served as the party hosts while the WSHC spun the tunes, and Program

Board transformed the Student Center with creative décor that brought students into a nostalgic Minecraft world.

- Shepherd Student Government Association Leaders attend 20th annual West Virginia Student Leadership Conference: Shepherd University played a lead role in the 20th West Virginia Student Leadership Conference (“Serving Community, Building Community”) held at Canaan Valley Resort from May 20-22. The program, sponsored by the WV Higher Education Policy Commission, brought more than 70 student leaders from 15 institutions across the state together to learn from outstanding presenters, exchange ideas, and lay the groundwork for the 2026-27 academic year. Shepherd’s student delegates were Tyler Furbee (SGA President), Kierra Westfall (SGA Vice-President), Kaylee Arbogast (Communications Director), Nicholas Jose Carpenter (Treasurer), and Noora Mounib (Campus Relations Officer). Rachael Meads (Director of Student Activities and Leadership) and Jack Shaw (Assistant Vice President for Auxiliary Services) served on the conference planning team and handled conference logistics. In addition, Meads acted as a conference facilitator and led a best practices workshop for all conference participants. Jackson Heath presented an inspiring conference keynote focused on meaningful service in leadership, and adjunct professor Adam Booth presented an entertaining evening of traditional Appalachian storytelling. Since its inception 20 years ago, Shepherd has played a leading partnership role with the HEPC in both planning and financial management for the event. Students left inspired and ready to focus on new engagement, collaboration, and service initiatives.

Student Success Center:

- Shepherd Success Academy (SSA): The Shepherd Success Academy is comprised of 43 first-year students who make up the 2025-2026 academic year cohort. SSA students receive early access to Fall 2026 course registration contingent upon good academic standing. SSA students have worked with their assigned Success Coaches on topics such as time management, organization, navigating Brightspace and My Shepherd, communicating with faculty, and effective study habits. As of finals for Spring 2026, our 43 SSA Students have an average GPA of 2.78 compared to Sample B’s average GPA of 2.43. The 2025 SSA cohort has a fall 2026 registration rate of approximately 86% while Sample B has a fall 2026 registration rate of approximately 60%. (Sample B is students who were eligible for and invited to the SSA program but declined).
- Walk-In Hours: Walk-in hours were held weekly during the spring semester at the Student Success Center. Walk-in hours do not require an appointment, and all Shepherd students can visit the Student Success Center for short-term success coaching. During the Spring 2026 semester, 38 students requested a meeting during walk-in hours or attended without an appointment.
- Social Media and Digital Engagement: The Student Success Center continued utilizing digital communication platforms such as Instagram to support student engagement,

orientation preparation and campus outreach efforts. The office is coordinating new posts to highlight different aspects of Orientation and spotlight A-Team Orientation Leaders. This is a mix of main feed photos, Instagram Reels, and story reposts.

- **Early Alerts:** The Student Success Center saw limited activity during the reporting period, with only a small number of student referrals submitted. Although utilization was low, the process remained active and available for faculty and staff to identify and address student concerns as needed. The Early Alert system is a means of supplementing all the other efforts made to identify and address students in distress. Each case received individualized follow-up and connection to relevant support resources as appropriate.
- **Student Engagement:** The Student Success Center focused on end-of-semester student support efforts, orientation planning and preparation for fall engagement initiatives through the Student Affairs Programmers group. Staff advanced planning efforts for A-Team Orientation Leaders including updating and restructuring training materials. Orientation training officially began on June 1.

The office additionally continued the development of the Peer Success Leaders Fellowship framework, emphasizing collaborative planning, student-centered support strategies and long-term engagement opportunities intended to enhance student success and retention outcomes.

- **Veterans and International Students Support:** Efforts are underway to strengthen support and engagement initiatives for student veterans and international students alike. The Student Success Center is working collaboratively to establish improved outreach and communication processes, including development of a monthly support and resource reminder email intended to increase awareness of available campus services and opportunities. Planning has additionally begun for a Veterans Day engagement and recognition event aimed at fostering connection, visibility and support for the university's veteran student population.
- **Rising Leaders Program:** The Rising Leaders Program funded by the Claude Worthington Benedum Foundation is actively recruiting rising high school seniors from across West Virginia to participate in the leadership development and civic engagement-based program July 26-August 1 at Shepherd University. The program will be led by Shepherd University staff including Danielle Stephenson, Program Coordinator and Success Coach, Julia Franks, Director of the Student Success Center and Chief of Staff for the Division of Student Affairs, and Jackson Heath. Five Peer Mentors will guide students throughout the program. The program is collaborating with campus departments including the Bonnie and Bill Stubblefield Institute for Civil Political Communications and Career Services. The application deadline was on June 1st, and program staff anticipate welcoming 20 rising high school seniors to campus in July.

- Orientation: The on campus day is broken into a morning and afternoon session and includes students receiving their Fall 2026 schedule, meeting faculty, staff, and on-campus support, and participating in the “Zone Fair”, an opportunity for offices on campus to get direct contact with each of the incoming students through an activity they create. The Zone Fair will be broken into four different Zones; the Advising Zone, the Connect Zone, the Strategy Zone, and the Wellbeing Zone. Students have a dedicated 30-minute block within the day for each of the 4 Zones to connect with different offices, complete activities, and make connections with the staff within the Zones.

ATHLETICS DIVISION UPDATE

Ms. Carrie Bodkins, Director of Athletics, will review with the Committee the Athletics Annual Report.

The Division of Athletics had another very successful year.

Athletics is currently nearing the midpoint of its NCAA probationary period related to the previous infractions case. Throughout the 2025–26 academic year, Athletics has proactively implemented a series of enhancements and areas of emphasis designed to further strengthen the department’s compliance program and ensure sustained institutional control.

Key initiatives completed or advanced during the year include:

- Appointment of a new Faculty Athletics Representative (FAR) for the 2025–26 academic year.
- Significant improvements to the academic certification process.
- Engagement of Financial Aid Services, a consulting group, to conduct an audit of financial aid policies and procedures.
- Completion of an external compliance review conducted by the Pennsylvania State Athletic Conference (PSAC).
- Implementation of recommendations resulting from internal and external reviews, including designation of a certifying officer; continued collaboration among the FAR, Director of Athletics, and Registrar on eligibility review; and enhanced processes for transfer eligibility and progress-toward-degree calculations.
- Ongoing enhancement of compliance education for coaches, student-athletes, and campus partners.
- Continued review and refinement of compliance workflows within Teamworks Compliance + Recruiting to ensure alignment with NCAA bylaws and updated education standards.

The Department has completed all penalties associated with the infractions case, including:

- Payment of fine (completed 6/18/25).
- Posting of the infractions case on the Athletics website.
- Required notification of the infractions case to prospective student-athletes prior to official visits.
- Required notification to prospective student-athletes prior to signing financial aid agreements.
- Vacation of wins and retraction of statistics.

The first annual probation report was submitted to the NCAA Committee on Infractions at the end of February. The Department remains committed to meeting all ongoing reporting requirements throughout the remainder of the two-year probationary period while continuing to strengthen compliance practices, reinforce best practices, and ensure sustained institutional accountability.

During the 2025–26 academic year, Athletics experienced several administrative staffing transitions. In early September, our External Relations position became vacant and remained unfilled for much of the academic year. We are pleased that this position has now been filled. In April, our Assistant Athletic Director for Internal Operations & Compliance departed, and that position will be filled effective June 15. Additionally, a Coordinator of Facilities and Athletic Events will join the department on June 29.

With these key positions now filled, Athletics is excited to enter the 2026–27 academic year with a fully staffed administrative team. This enhanced capacity will strengthen our ability to support student-athletes, coaches, and departmental operations while continuing to advance the strategic goals of Shepherd Athletics, as well as deepen engagement with donors, alumni, and friends of Shepherd Athletics and further enhance the overall game day experience and environment.

During the 2025–26 academic year, the Department of Athletics continued to focus on several key strategic priorities:

- Advancing equity initiatives and demonstrating continued progress on the Gender Equity Action Plan.
- Developing pro formas to evaluate the feasibility of adding additional women's sports.
- Conducting the annual student sport interest survey.
- Assessing and enhancing the student-athlete experience through annual evaluations.
- Increasing and improving fundraising efforts.
- Securing continued financial support for facility improvements, upgrades, and scholarships.
- Expanding alumni engagement through increased sport-specific alumni events

The Department made significant progress toward the goals outlined in the Gender Equity Action Plan. One of the most notable achievements was the inaugural Inspiring Excellence Dinner, which successfully raised scholarship funds for women's athletics while also increasing awareness of the need for enhanced financial support for our women's programs. As a result of the event's success, Athletics will provide seven \$1,000 scholarships to female student-athletes during the 2026–27 academic year.

Additionally, the University's Gender Equity Fee will increase for the first time since 2019. This increase will generate approximately \$50,000 in additional annual funding beginning in 2026–27, providing critical resources to support women's athletic programs and address identified needs.

Finally, three women's programs that have historically been supported by graduate assistant coaching positions will transition to full-time assistant coach positions. This investment

represents a significant commitment by the University to strengthen support for women's athletics and further advance the goals of the Gender Equity Action Plan.

Collectively, these initiatives demonstrate meaningful progress toward providing equitable opportunities and resources for our student-athletes while positioning Shepherd Athletics for continued success.

As part of the Department's ongoing commitment to the Gender Equity Action Plan, pro formas have been developed to evaluate the potential addition of new women's sports. Sports currently under consideration include flag football, women's wrestling, women's swimming, and women's track and field.

The evaluation process has focused not only on advancing gender equity objectives but also on supporting institutional enrollment goals. New women's sports have the potential to attract additional students, particularly out-of-state student-athletes, while helping maximize occupancy in University residence halls.

Flag football and women's wrestling present particularly promising opportunities. Flag football was added to the NCAA Emerging Sports for Women program in 2025 and is currently one of the fastest-growing women's sports in the country. Additionally, two institutions within the PSAC have already launched flag football programs, signaling potential future conference growth.

Women's wrestling is currently the fastest-growing sport in the NCAA and continues to experience rapid national expansion. The PSAC will sponsor its first Women's Wrestling Championship during the upcoming academic year, creating a competitive conference structure and further enhancing the viability of the sport.

Women's swimming and women's track and field are also attractive options, as both sports are already sponsored within the PSAC, providing established conference competition opportunities and reducing barriers to implementation.

The Department will continue to evaluate these opportunities carefully as part of its long-term strategic planning efforts, with a focus on advancing gender equity, enhancing enrollment, and supporting the overall growth of Shepherd Athletics.

The Athletic Department recently distributed its annual Student-Athlete Experience Survey to gather valuable feedback from student-athletes regarding their experiences within Shepherd Athletics. The survey is designed to identify areas of strength, assess opportunities for improvement, and help guide departmental decision-making to enhance the overall student-athlete experience.

The survey remains open to ensure all student-athletes have adequate time to participate and provide meaningful feedback. Upon completion of the survey period, results will be analyzed and reviewed by the Athletics administration team. Key findings will be used to inform future

strategic planning initiatives, resource allocation decisions, and program enhancements aimed at supporting student-athlete success both academically and athletically.

The Department of Athletics continued to expand its fundraising efforts during the 2025–26 academic year through initiatives such as the Gridiron Club and the Shepherd University Athletic Club (SUAC). Membership in SUAC increased throughout the year, and continued growth and engagement of this important support group remains a priority moving forward.

Athletics also hosted the 8th Annual Ram Fest, which proved to be the most successful event in the history of the fundraiser. The event generated tremendous community support and received overwhelmingly positive feedback from attendees, sponsors, and alumni. Ticket sales nearly doubled compared to previous years, while sponsorship revenue increased by approximately three times over last year's totals.

While final revenue figures are still being compiled, Ram Fest is expected to generate the highest level of fundraising revenue in the event's history. The success of this year's event demonstrates the growing enthusiasm and support for Shepherd Athletics and provides a strong foundation for future fundraising initiatives.

The Department remains committed to enhancing Ram Fest and other athletic fundraising events as part of a broader strategy to increase philanthropic support for student-athletes, athletic programs, scholarships, and facility improvements.

Continued support from the Shepherd University Athletic Club (SUAC), the Gridiron Club, and Athletics fundraising efforts has allowed the Department to make several strategic investments that directly enhance the student-athlete experience and improve operational efficiency.

During the 2025–26 academic year, donor funding supported a variety of projects and purchases, including:

- Installation of a new sound system in Butcher Center and at the softball field.
- Purchase of cheerleading mats to support student-athlete safety and training.
- Updates to the baseball scoreboard with the Shepherd Athletics logo.
- Acquisition of two golf carts to assist with facility operations and event management.
- Purchase of a new ice machine to support sports medicine and student-athlete recovery needs.
- Implementation of coach-to-player communication headsets for the football program.
- Additional scholarship support for student-athletes.

These investments demonstrate the significant impact of donor generosity and external support on the continued growth and success of Shepherd Athletics. As fundraising efforts continue to expand, the Department remains committed to utilizing donor contributions to enhance facilities, improve resources for student-athletes, support competitive excellence, and strengthen the overall athletics experience.

In partnership with the Alumni Office, the Department of Athletics began to expand alumni engagement opportunities during the 2025–26 academic year.

A Men's and Women's Basketball Alumni Event was held to celebrate the 50th Anniversary of the Men's Basketball team. The event brought together approximately 80 former student-athletes, supporters, and fans for an evening of fellowship, recognition, and reconnecting with Shepherd Basketball. The strong attendance and positive feedback reinforced the value of creating meaningful opportunities for alumni to remain connected to the University and its athletic programs.

The Department also hosted a Baseball Alumni Event in conjunction with a game at the Hagerstown Flying Boxcars. More than 100 baseball alumni, supporters, and guests attended the event. As this was the inaugural gathering, no admission fee was charged; however, the overwhelming response and participation demonstrated significant interest in future events. Based on the success of this year's event, Athletics plans to incorporate a fundraising component in future years while continuing to strengthen alumni connections and program support. The next Baseball Alumni Event has already been tentatively scheduled for April 14, 2027.

These events represent important steps in Athletics' ongoing efforts to enhance alumni engagement, strengthen relationships with former student-athletes, and build long-term support for Shepherd Athletics.

Shepherd Athletics enjoyed another outstanding year of competitive success while competing in one of the strongest NCAA Division II conferences in the nation.

Several Shepherd programs achieved significant success during the year:

- Women's Soccer captured back-to-back PSAC Championships and Atlantic Region Championships. Shepherd also had the honor of hosting both championship events.
- Volleyball advanced to both the PSAC Tournament and the NCAA Atlantic Regional Tournament.
- Football overcame a challenging front-loaded schedule and finished the season with a 7-0 record down the stretch, creating strong momentum heading into next season.
- Men's Soccer earned its first-ever PSAC East Athlete of the Year honor.
- Men's Basketball and Women's Basketball both advanced to the PSAC Tournament, while each program's head coach earned Coach of the Year recognition.
- Softball and Baseball qualified for the PSAC Tournament, with Baseball earning its first PSAC Tournament victory since joining the conference.
- Two members of the Men's Golf team qualified for the NCAA Atlantic/East Regional Tournament, placing among the top 32 golfers in the region.

Shepherd student-athletes and coaches earned numerous conference, regional, and national honors throughout the year, including:

- 1 PSAC Tournament Medalist (second consecutive year)
- 1 PSAC East Athlete of the Year

- 1 PSAC Pitcher of the Year
- 3 National Pitcher of the Week selections
- 33 All-Conference selections
- 18 All-Region selections
- 5 All-Americans
- 2 Conference Coach of the Year honors

These accomplishments reflect the continued commitment of our student-athletes and coaches to excellence both in competition and in the classroom.

As part of the PSAC's 75th Anniversary celebration, several members of the Shepherd Athletics family received prestigious conference-wide recognition.

Former football standout Tyson Bagent and former softball standout Nicole Purell were recognized among the PSAC's Greatest Male and Female Athletes.

In addition, three distinguished Shepherd representatives were named among the PSAC's 75 Distinguished Keystones, recognizing individuals who have made significant contributions to the history and success of the conference:

- Ernie McCook
- Chip Ransom
- Sam Odell

These recognitions further highlight Shepherd University's long-standing impact and tradition of excellence within the PSAC.

While Shepherd Athletics continues to excel in competition, our student-athletes remain equally committed to success in the classroom and service to the community.

During the 2025–26 academic year, Shepherd student-athletes earned 31 Academic All-District selections, demonstrating excellence both academically and athletically.

Beyond their academic accomplishments, Shepherd student-athletes remained actively engaged in serving the community. Collectively, our teams completed nearly 1,000 community service hours during the academic year, falling just short of the department's annual goal. Through volunteer efforts, youth engagement activities, charitable initiatives, and community partnerships, our student-athletes continued to positively represent Shepherd University while making meaningful contributions throughout the region.

These achievements highlight the department's commitment to developing well-rounded student-athletes who excel academically, compete at a high level, and embrace the responsibility of serving others. Academic achievement and community engagement remain central to the mission and values of Shepherd Athletics.

We are proud of our student-athletes, coaches, and staff for what they have accomplished this year both on and off the field. The commitment, resilience, and work ethic demonstrated across our department continue to elevate Shepherd Athletics in meaningful ways. The dedication of staff to achieving excellence in the department, and to each other and to our institution, is the foundation of our continued success.

DEVELOPMENT, FUNDRAISING, AND ANNUAL GIVING ANNUAL REPORT FISCAL YEAR 2025–2026

Dr. Kelly Hart, Vice President for Development and Annual Giving, will review with the Committee the Development, Fundraising, and Annual Giving Annual Report.

During Fiscal Year 2025–2026, the Division of Development collaborated with many partners to implement a comprehensive Development, Fundraising, and Annual Giving Plan designed to strengthen philanthropic engagement and advance the strategic priorities of Shepherd University. With guidance by President Hendrix, this included the Shepherd University Foundation, the Shepherd University campus community, Board of Governors members, the Shepherd University Alumni Association Board, the Shepherd University Athletic Club, and the Gridiron Club. This collective effort reflects the power of partnership in philanthropy, demonstrating that meaningful fundraising success is achieved when university leadership, volunteers, alumni, donors, and campus stakeholders work together toward a shared vision for Shepherd University's future.

The plan focused on expanding annual giving, strengthening donor stewardship, increasing leadership and major gift engagement, enhancing corporate sponsorships, and fostering greater campus collaboration to build a sustainable culture of philanthropy.

Throughout the fiscal year, the Development team advanced these priorities through annual giving initiatives, donor cultivation, alumni engagement, enhanced stewardship, and strategic fundraising communications. Key efforts included unrestricted support for the Shepherd Fund, leadership giving through the President's Club, participation-driven campaigns such as Giving Tuesday and the Day of Giving, and signature fundraising events, including the Musical Showcase and Inspiring Excellence Dinner, benefiting music students and women's athletics. Through these coordinated efforts, the University experienced a year of notable fundraising success, strengthened donor relationships, and growing campus-wide philanthropic engagement.

Annual Giving and Campaign Success

Annual fundraising efforts were guided by a segmented, multi-channel strategy that included direct mail, email marketing, social media outreach, stewardship communications, and peer-to-peer engagement opportunities. Appeals targeted alumni, parents, faculty, staff, students, and friends of the university.

- The annual **Giving Tuesday** campaign successfully increased awareness of unrestricted support and donor participation through coordinated digital outreach and storytelling

efforts, with the **Shepherd Fund** serving as the primary focus. This year's campaign raised **nearly \$22K**, reflecting an increase of **more than 15%** over 2025, **while donor participation grew by nearly 39%**.

- The **“ONE SHEPHERD” Day of Giving** campaign further strengthened campus-wide engagement by highlighting student impact, scholarships, and the collective power of philanthropy. Alumni volunteers, campus ambassadors, faculty, staff, and students played a significant role in increasing participation and expanding the campaign's visibility.

Key areas of focus included the **Shepherd Fund, Scholarships, the Last Dollar Fund, and Athletics**. The **Shepherd Fund** emerged as the most active fund during the 2026 campaign, surpassing the **Last Dollar Fund**, while the Shepherd University Athletic Club (SUAC) once again ranked as the second most active fund.

A primary goal of this year's campaign was to increase support for the Shepherd Fund. As of year-end, the amount raised for the Shepherd Fund is **\$68,407**, representing a **13.8% increase** over the **\$60,111** raised during the same period last year.

The Day of Giving campaign raised more than **\$201K** this year. While last year's total of **\$315K** represented the highest **Day of Giving** total in Shepherd history, that figure was significantly influenced by a one-time **\$150K** gift. Excluding that extraordinary contribution, this year's campaign demonstrated continued strong philanthropic engagement. A total of **286 gifts** were received, compared to **348 gifts** last year, while the average gift size increased significantly from **\$486** in 2025 to **\$658** in 2026.

- **Leadership giving through the President's Club** remained a priority during the fiscal year. The President's Club provides philanthropic support for strategic University initiatives that enhance the student experience, strengthen academic and campus programs, and address emerging institutional needs. Through leadership-level giving, President's Club members help fund projects and opportunities that may not otherwise be possible through traditional operating budgets.

During FY 2025–2026, President's Club support focused on **several key initiatives**, including funding for the **Common Reading Program; a Scarborough Library Study Pod; a new computer for the Aquatic Scoreboard in the Wellness Center Pool; the Inspiring Excellence Scholarship Fundraiser; hosting the WV Intermediate Court of Appeals on campus; East Campus building enhancements; a Fall 2025 Education magazine advertisement; the Caperton Piano Restoration Initiative; and washer/dryer installation at Popodicon.**

Strategic cultivation efforts, including personalized outreach and donor engagement opportunities, have strengthened relationships with current members while helping to identify and cultivate new leadership-level donors. Membership has been **42** this year and last year. Renewal letters will be mailed shortly to members whose memberships

have expired. Following the arrival of incoming President Wesson, work will continue to develop a strategy for increasing leadership-level giving and expanding the President's Club membership.

In addition, Athletics fundraising, departmental support initiatives, and alumni outreach provided meaningful opportunities for donors to invest in programs aligned with their passions and interests, strengthened through ongoing collaboration between Development, Athletics, academic departments, and Alumni Affairs.

- The **Shepherd University Inspiring Excellence Fundraiser Dinner** was a highly successful inaugural event that significantly advanced support for women's athletics. The evening brought together alumni, donors, campus leaders, and friends of the University in celebration of student-athletes and the transformative impact of athletic scholarships.

Senator Shelley Moore Capito served as the keynote speaker, and the inaugural Mary J.C. Hendrix Legacy of Excellence Award—sponsored by SUAC—was presented to its first recipient, President Mary J.C. Hendrix, in a fitting recognition of her leadership and lasting impact on the University.

The program also featured meaningful storytelling from student-athletes, who shared how scholarship support contributes to their academic success, athletic development, and overall collegiate experience. Leadership remarks and donor engagement further underscored the importance of investing in women's athletics as part of Shepherd's broader commitment to student success and competitive excellence.

To date, the **Inspiring Excellence Scholarship** fundraising has reached nearly **\$45K** for women's athletic scholarships, establishing a strong foundation for what is expected to become a signature annual initiative. The success of the inaugural dinner reflects both strong philanthropic interest and growing momentum in support of Shepherd's female student-athletes.

The Inspiring Excellence committee members (Kelly Hart, Sherri Janelle, Carrie Bodkins, and Kelly Colbert) will meet shortly to plan next year's fundraiser event.

- **The Development Office and the Music Department** raised **\$43K**, exceeding the **\$40K** goal for student scholarships at the annual **Musical Showcase** event in March. This total reflects a **10% increase from last year's event**. The evening kicked off with a donor appreciation segment, then our guests enjoyed a wonderful program by Shepherd alumni, and a post-reception for participants and guests to attend. Mr. Alan Gibson (co-founder) emceed the event, and Dr. Marcia Brand and Ms. Susan Mills (co-chairs) spoke at the program as well. Dr. Mary Hendrix was acknowledged, as this was her final Showcase as

Shepherd's president. Members of the committee also included: Dr. Kelly Hart, Dr. Kurtis Adams, Dr. Scott Hippensteel, Mr. Anthony Stoika, and Ms. Anousheh Riley.

Major Gifts, Donor Development, and State Funding

A central component of the 2025–2026 plan involved annual giving, strengthening the university's major gift pipeline, and advancing transformational philanthropy. Development staff worked collaboratively with members of the Shepherd community to identify and prioritize high-capacity prospects, develop individualized cultivation strategies, and align donor interests with institutional needs.

Efforts focused on securing support for a student affairs initiative, scholarships, academic excellence, athletics, and strategic university priorities. Increased collaboration with university leadership enhanced opportunities for donor engagement and strengthened relationships with key constituents.

- Shepherd University launched the **Tyson Bagent Stadium** project, which has raised more than **\$52K**, and the University is grateful for the leading support of the **Manne Foundation** and **Jefferson Security Bank**. Most recently, a prospective donor has expressed interest in the project, and a meeting has been scheduled to discuss potential engagement with this initiative. In addition, plans are underway to collaborate with the Bagent family on a fall 2026 fundraiser in support of this initiative.
- To date, the **Caperton Piano Restoration Initiative** has generated more than **\$37K** in philanthropic support, and fundraising efforts remain ongoing. The historic Steinway piano is currently undergoing restoration and will be displayed, recognizing **Ella Dee Caperton, former First Lady of West Virginia**, along with historical information about this treasured instrument, in Popodicon.

Corporate and Foundation Relations

The fiscal year also included renewed efforts to strengthen corporate and foundation partnerships. Development staff collaborated with faculty and university departments to identify funding opportunities that aligned with academic programming, student success initiatives, and institutional priorities. Over 30 prospective **corporate sponsors** were contacted by Development and invited to partner with Shepherd for various initiatives.

- **Inspiring Excellence, Day of Giving, and the 2026 Common Read**
 - Follett continues their “round up” campaign at the bookstore register. Proceeds will be donated to women's athletics.
 - For the Day of Giving, Follett donated items to use as give-a-ways to our students.
 - Follett has offered a 30% discount for the 2026 Common Reading.
- **Alternative Spring Break 2026**

Before Spring Break, **Clorox** donated cleaning supplies to Student Affairs for Alternative Spring Break.

- **Indoor and Outdoor Racquet Sports Courts**
 - Discussions with Selkirk continue with Shepherd. The goal is for **Selkirk** to partner with Shepherd and be the official retailer of Shepherd racquetball equipment and products.

- A revenue-sharing, promotional agreement between Devil’s Due Distillery and Shepherd University is substantially complete. Through this partnership, Shepherd will have a branded line of bourbons created and marketed locally in its honor. The inaugural release of **Shepherd Select Bourbon** is anticipated in **summer/early fall 2026**, followed by **Ram Reserve**, a product designed to especially appeal to Shepherd’s athletic supporters and alumni. Under the agreement, the University will receive a percentage of sales revenue, with initial proceeds designated to support Ram Stadium upkeep and maintenance.

Additional efforts will continue to strengthen the corporate prospect pipeline and identify opportunities for future naming rights and sponsorship initiatives aligned with strategic campus priorities.

Alumni and Community Engagement

Alumni engagement remained a foundational component of the division’s fundraising strategy. Donor stories, alumni achievements, and class milestones were featured through digital communications and outreach efforts.

Homecoming activities, alumni gatherings, and alumni-driven fundraising efforts created opportunities for meaningful engagement and strengthened connections between alumni and the University. Alumni Association Board volunteers continued to play an important role in outreach during annual campaigns.

- One of the **Alumni Association Board’s strategic goals** was to strengthen alumni connections to the university and its students by enhancing engagement through campus programming and stewarding relationships that encourage continued involvement and increased philanthropic support.

Alumni engagement efforts were advanced through more refined and targeted communication strategies promoting campus news and activities. Outreach included mailed event invitations and membership postcards, as well as digital engagement through social media, the Ram Review e-newsletter, and targeted communications for specific affinity groups, supported by increased collaboration with University Communications. Email campaigns continue to demonstrate strong performance, with average open rates of approximately 25% and click-through rates ranging from 1% to 5%, depending on content. Social media engagement remains highest for event-related content and human-interest stories, with Alumni Highlights and Rams First Business Features consistently performing as top-performing content.

In addition, **alumni engagement** was strengthened through collaboration with campus partners on a range of targeted programming, including Athletic Alumni Days, Professional Connections Day, and Regional Alumni Mixers, alongside traditional signature events such as Homecoming, the Hall of Fame, the Alumni Emeritus Breakfast, and the SUAA Legacy Gala for Scholarships.

As reported previously, the **Alumni Association Board's 4th Annual Legacy Gala** was held in March to benefit the **Alumni Association Board's Annual Scholarship**. This year's **Legacy Gala** net profit cleared just over **\$1500**. The **SUAA Legacy investment account contributes an additional \$2k-3k** per year for a **total of \$3k-4k per year toward the scholarship**. This year, the **final amount being contributed to the scholarship endowment will be \$4,200 (that is \$1,500 from Gala + \$2,700 investment dividends)**.

- The popular **Homecoming Golf Tournament** was once again a success this year. While the primary focus is on “friend raising” rather than fundraising, the event reached full registration capacity and generated **\$4,000** in net proceeds.
- To better capture and report alumni engagement, a centralized tracking tool was developed to document alumni participation across academic and administrative units, including alumni involvement in campus events, classroom speaking engagements, and other university activities.
- The **\$50 for 50 Years of Shepherd Nursing Campaign and Nursing Alumni Homecoming Reception** provided a successful model for future alumni engagement and fundraising initiatives within academic departments. As part of the Homecoming celebration, Nursing alumni and their children participated in the parade and then attended a special reception where they reconnected with fellow graduates, celebrated the program’s 50th anniversary, and toured Erma Ora Byrd Hall and the state-of-the-art simulation laboratories. The event fostered meaningful alumni connections while increasing awareness of the department’s current programs, priorities, and future needs.

Campus philanthropy efforts will continue to include a focus on increasing faculty, staff, and student participation through awareness initiatives, engagement activities, and collaborative outreach. These efforts will help reinforce a broader culture of giving across the university community.

Stewardship and Donor Relations

A major emphasis throughout FY 2025–2026 was on strengthening stewardship practices and enhancing donor recognition. Personalized thank-you letters, donor acknowledgments, and impact-centered communications remained central to stewardship efforts. In addition:

- The Development Office partnered with the Music Department and Downtown Piano Works, of Frederick, last fall. Downtown Piano hosted a donor appreciation event with a reception and concert, including renowned pianist Alon Goldstein and clarinetist Alexander Fiterstein. It was truly a magical evening for everyone.

- The President’s Club engagement opportunities provided additional avenues for donor recognition and relationship-building.
 - The fall President’s Club event was hosted in November before the Shepherd football game vs. Seton Hill, with complementary tickets to the game provided.
 - The spring President’s Club reception was also successful, honoring not only the President’s Club accomplishments under the leadership of President Hendrix but also honoring the 2026 President’s Award Honorees, Austin Slater, Jr. ’76, and Arthur “Jim” Auxer ’69.

These stewardship efforts reinforced donor appreciation, strengthened relationships with key constituencies, and helped cultivate a culture of philanthropy across the University community.

Communications and Marketing

With the support of University Communications, the Shepherd University Foundation, Alumni Affairs, and the campus community, fundraising and alumni engagement communications continued to evolve through an integrated strategy utilizing email, direct mail, social media, video storytelling, and web content.

Communications highlighted donor impact, student success, campaign milestones, and university priorities, helping to strengthen engagement, increase visibility of fundraising initiatives, and reinforce the importance of philanthropy to Shepherd’s mission.

Alumni engagement efforts were enhanced through targeted mailings, email campaigns, social media, and the *Ram Review* newsletter, and as noted earlier analysis of the performance data continues for these outreach efforts. Alumni stories and business features generated the highest levels of social media engagement. Participation was further strengthened through campus and regional events, including Homecoming, the Legacy Gala, athletic and professional networking events, and alumni mixers. A new tracking system was also implemented to better measure alumni engagement in campus events and activities.

University Communications played a key role in redesigning and strengthening the GiveCampus platform and branding for the 2026 Day of Giving campaign. Promotional efforts included Save the Date postcards, targeted email communications, and coordinated social media outreach. On March 4, Day of Giving, Shepherd’s radio station, along with students, faculty, and staff, served as campaign ambassadors, helping to amplify participation and engagement.

As Shepherd looks to the future, these initiatives provide a strong foundation for expanding engagement, strengthening philanthropic support, and advancing the University’s mission and strategic goals.

Facility Naming

Last summer, the Vice President assumed the role of leading the Facility Naming Committee. The Committee significantly expanded the University Facility Naming Policy along with accompanying procedures for naming facilities and campus spaces. This will become an important framework for ongoing fundraising initiatives.

President's Retirement

- The final—and perhaps one of the most significant—events planned and hosted by the Division, the Shepherd University Foundation, and members of the campus community was the **Farewell Celebration for President Mary J.C. Hendrix, Ph.D.**, held on **May 5, 2026**.
- Guest speakers included Senator Shelley Moore Capito, Richard Dennis (representing Governor Patrick), Dr. Marcia Brand (former Board of Governors member and Chair), Mr. Austin Slater (Shepherd University Foundation Chair, Board of Governors member and Vice Chair), Mr. Eric Lewis (former Board of Governors member and Chair), Admiral Dr. William Stubblefield, and Ms. Beth K. Batdorf. Edwina Benites, County Administrator for the Jefferson County Commission, presented President Hendrix with a proclamation honoring her and designating May 5, 2026, as Dr. Mary Hendrix Day. The afternoon served as a meaningful celebration of President Hendrix and her legacy.
- Nearly 200 guests attended the event. In alignment with President Hendrix's longstanding commitment to student success, attendees were invited to support either the Captain Charles Hendrix Scholarship or the Jessie and Mary Hendrix Scholarship through a QR code included in the program.

Evaluation and Strategic Assessment

Throughout the fiscal year, fundraising performance and engagement metrics were reviewed regularly to assess progress toward established goals and identify opportunities for improvement. Key areas of focus included donor participation, alumni attendance, average gift size, leadership giving growth, and campaign engagement.

Conclusion

Fiscal Year 2025–2026 represented a year of meaningful progress in advancing philanthropic engagement at Shepherd University. Through strategic fundraising initiatives, strengthened donor relationships, expanded engagement efforts, and collaborative campus partnerships, the Division of Development continued to build momentum toward a stronger culture of philanthropy at Shepherd.

This year's accomplishments reflect the generosity and commitment of alumni, donors, faculty, staff, students, parents, and friends who continue to invest in the University's future. This summer, the Division will evaluate this year's efforts and plan for the 2026-27 academic year. Thanks to everyone who contributed to our success!

Office support will be enhanced with the part-time assistant becoming a full-time assistant, and the addition of the Director of Development Operations position this summer.

Moving forward, the Development Office remains committed to advancing Shepherd University's mission through innovative fundraising strategies, transformational philanthropy, and meaningful donor engagement that supports student success and institutional excellence.

SHEPHERD UNIVERSITY FOUNDATION ANNUAL REPORT

Ms. Sherri Janelle, Executive Vice President for the Shepherd University Foundation, will review with the Committee the Shepherd University Foundation Annual Report.

The Foundation continues to grow and is well-positioned for continued success. Our team includes Sherri Janelle, Executive Vice President, BreAnne Rugh, Comptroller; Meg Patterson, Director of Donor Engagement and Strategic Initiatives; Kristi Veach-Ross, Executive Assistant and Foundation Relations Manager; and Jonathan Quigley, Accounting and Project Specialist.

We welcomed Austin Slater as Foundation President in September 2024. Throughout the last year, we continued to work closely with Austin, the Executive Committee, and the Investment Committee to advance the Foundation's mission and strengthen its operations. This year marked the Foundation's first-ever Board and Staff Retreat, where we established several ambitious goals that we are proud to say have already been accomplished. Many of these achievements are highlighted throughout this report.

As of the May 7, 2026 SUF Spring Board Meeting, the Foundation welcomed Dr. Ben Deuell as the new Foundation President. We look forward to continuing our work to achieve new goals and pursue new initiatives under his leadership. Austin will continue to serve as Foundation Vice President.

Key accomplishments this year include the completion of an updated Memorandum of Understanding with the University, the hiring of a new investment management team, an increase in the endowed distribution rate, efforts to maximize interest earnings on custodial accounts held by the Foundation, and the creation of the Marketing and Donor Engagement Committee.

In June 2025, the University named Dr. Kelly Hart as Vice President of Development and Annual Giving. The Foundation team works closely with the Development Office and collaborates on many important initiatives. This transition has also allowed the Foundation to refocus attention on targeted fundraising, donor stewardship, endowment growth, and strategic initiatives that will strengthen both the Foundation and the University.

As always, we remain committed to working closely with alumni, friends, and corporate partners to advance the mission of the Foundation and the University. The staff's professionalism and dedication are evident in every meeting, correspondence, and event, and their commitment continues to move the Foundation forward in meaningful ways.

FY2026 Data and Year-Over-Year Notes

The comprehensive fundraising report provides cumulative data for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026. The data includes external fundraising programs and donors managed through the Shepherd University Foundation and Shepherd Athletics. Please note, these numbers are through April 30, 2026.

SHEPHERD UNIVERSITY COMPREHENSIVE FUNDRAISING SUMMARY

Gift Category	FY2026		FY2025		FY2024	
Annual Giving	\$1,134,092		\$1,344,415		\$1,447,085	
Endowments	\$1,885,161		\$912,800		\$1,183,239	
Capital	\$87,795		\$125,320		\$25,825	
Total:	\$3,107,048		\$2,382,535		\$2,656,149	
Donor Category	# Donors FY2026	\$ Donated FY2026	# Donors FY2025	\$ Donated FY2025	# Donors FY2024	\$ Donated FY2024
Alumni	771	\$554,014	898	\$547,301	1,100	\$649,244
Friends	1,038	\$635,708	963	\$784,896	1,213	\$675,810
Corporations/Foundation	115	\$295,616	124	\$439,505	153	\$385,725
Others/Estates	89	\$1,621,710	150	\$610,833	123	\$945,370
Total:	2,013	\$3,107,048	2,135	\$2,382,535	2,589	\$2,656,149

- Total gifts and pledges for fiscal year 2026 yielded \$3,107,048. This is a 30.41% over fiscal year 2025.
- Total donors for fiscal year 2026 yielded 2013. This is a 5.71% decrease over fiscal year 2025.

According to the Association of Fundraising Professionals (AFP) 2025 Q4 FEP report, there was estimated 5.0% ($\pm 0.5\%$) increase in dollars raised in Q4 2025 compared to 2024. Donor counts declined an estimated 3.6% ($\pm 0.5\%$) from the previous year. This increase and decrease is reflected in Shepherd University Foundation's data, shown above.

Wilmington Trust Overview

The Shepherd University Foundation engaged Wilmington Trust to provide a comprehensive approach to investment management and portfolio oversight. Wilmington Trust is a long-established provider of investment, fiduciary, and advisory services, with a history dating back to 1903, and is part of M&T Bank Corporation. The firm works with foundations, endowments, and other institutional clients, alongside families and individuals, to help manage and prudently grow assets over the long term.

Through a competitive RFP process, Wilmington Trust was selected as Investment Advisor for the Foundation in early fall 2025, succeeding Wealthspire. Assets were transferred in November 2025. Throughout the remainder of 2025, Wilmington Trust met regularly with Foundation leadership, including the Executive Staff, Investment Committee, and Board, to review the portfolio and collaborate on updates to the Investment Policy Statement (IPS). Key enhancements to the IPS included a refined strategic asset allocation framework and the establishment of appropriate performance benchmarks.

An additional priority has been the ongoing refinement of the portfolio's underlying investment structure, with a focus on incorporating a blend of passive and high-conviction active strategies, as well as implementing tactical positioning based on market conditions and economic outlook.

As of April 30, 2026, portfolio values and allocations were as follows:

Total SUF Portfolio (including Legacy Alternatives)

- \$50,211,429
- 69% Equity | 2% Real Assets | 7% Hedge Funds | 20% Fixed Income | 2% Cash

Nora Roberts Fund

- \$6,282,948
- 60% Equity | 2% Real Assets | 5% Hedge Funds | 30% Fixed Income | 3% Cash

Mike Smith Fund

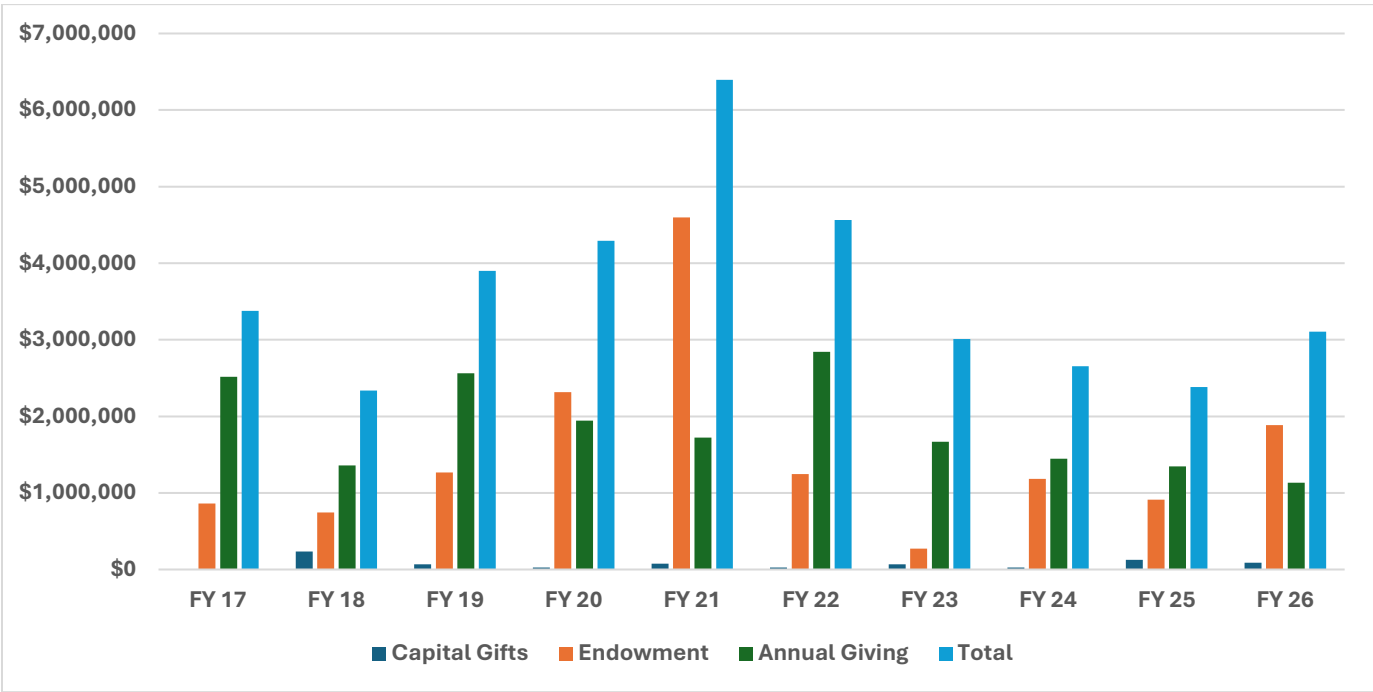
- \$1,268,430
- 73% Equity | 3% Real Assets | 3% Hedge Funds | 19% Fixed Income | 1% Cash

Ten-Year Giving Summary FY2017-2026

The graph below illustrates long-term giving trends (purple) in terms of total amounts secured as new gifts and pledges. Over the past ten years, total fundraising results have averaged \$3.6 million. This reflects FY26 numbers through April 30, 2026.

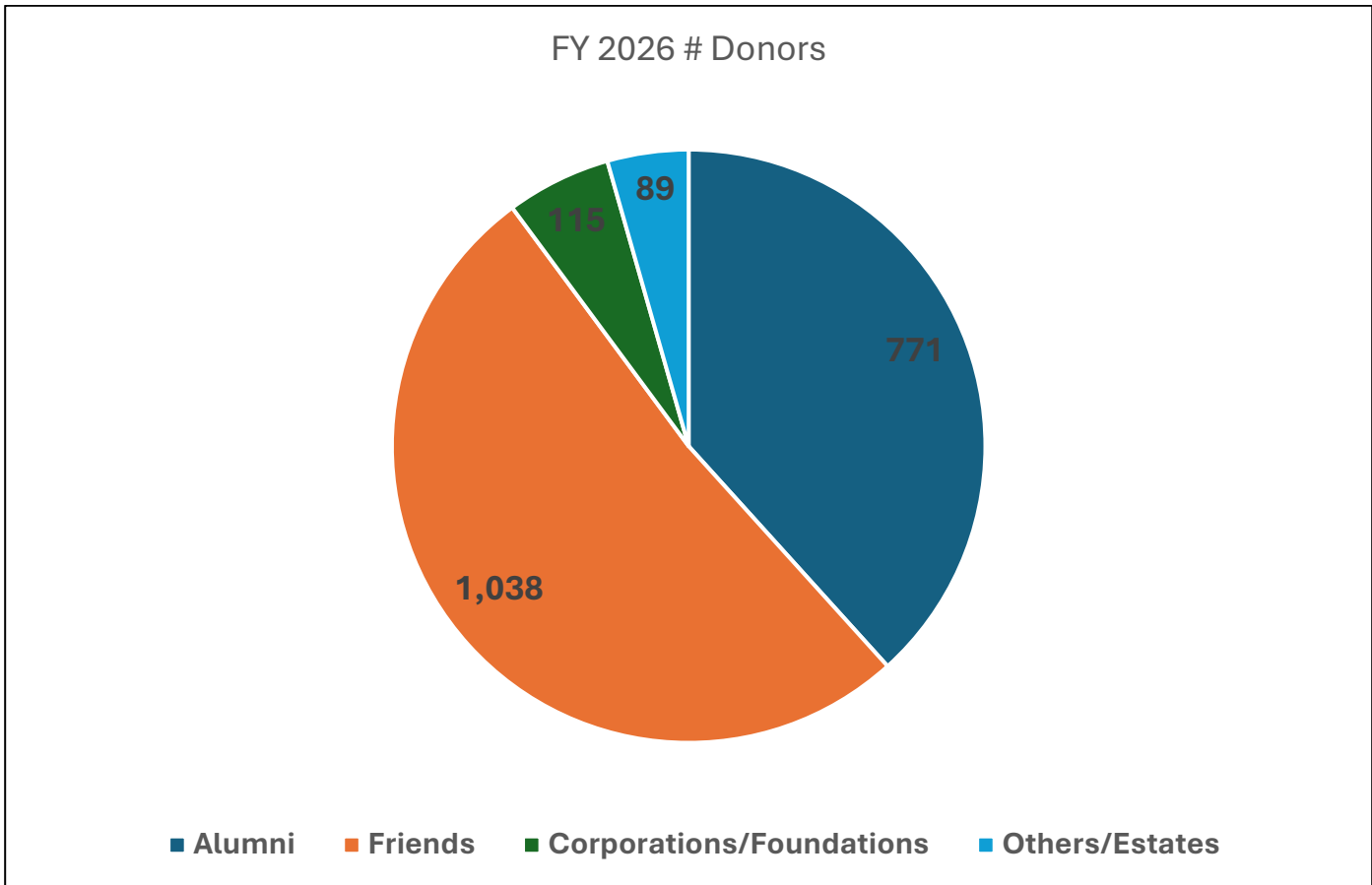
Nationally, higher education philanthropy has continued to play an increasingly important role in supporting universities as institutions navigate changing enrollment patterns, state funding pressures, and economic uncertainty. Over the past decade, universities across the country have experienced growth in charitable giving, particularly in scholarship support, endowment growth, and targeted capital initiatives. Donors increasingly seek to invest in student success, access and affordability, academic excellence, and transformative campus projects—trends reflected in Shepherd University’s own fundraising history and philanthropic priorities.

Trends are tracking for FY26 to exceed FY25 total fundraising results, subject to market conditions. Despite economic fluctuations, philanthropic support has remained strong, demonstrating continued donor confidence in Shepherd University and its mission.



Giving by Constituency

The chart below illustrates total gifts received from each of Shepherd’s primary constituency groups, including pledges and deferred gifts. The private gifts are utilized for student success initiatives and scholarships, faculty research and development, academic equipment and other core needs of the University.



Friends of the University make up 51.6% of giving in FY 2026. Corporations and Foundations make up a much smaller proportion of donors. Corporate foundations increasingly manage giving through grant applications which provide less flexibility to charitable organizations. Estate gifts require the longest lead time and they reflect work done years, if not decades, in the past.

Alumni Giving Trends

Shepherd’s alumni giving rate for FY2026 was 3.3%, calculated by using the total number of alumni and total number of individual alumni who made gifts during the 2025-2026 year. The following table is presented for Shepherd’s rate of alumni giving for the past six years using the calculation described below.

<u>Year</u>	<u># Alumni Donors</u>	<u># Alumni</u>	<u>Alumni Giving %</u>	<u>Total Gift \$</u>	<u>Average Alumni Gift \$</u>
FY2026*	771	23,355	3.3%	\$554,014	\$718.57
FY2025	898	23,048	3.90%	\$547,301	\$609.47
FY2024	1,100	22,764	4.83%	\$649,244	\$590.22
FY2023	1,353	22,809	5.93%	\$661,632	\$489.01

*FY2026 as of April 30, 2026

Development and Award Funding Provided by University Foundation 2025-2026

Fundraising efforts and fiduciary management by the Shepherd University Foundation lead to annual support of the university. Private gifts recruited from and designated by donors fund the annual awards distributed in the form of student scholarships and paid internships, faculty excellence awards, and academic program support.

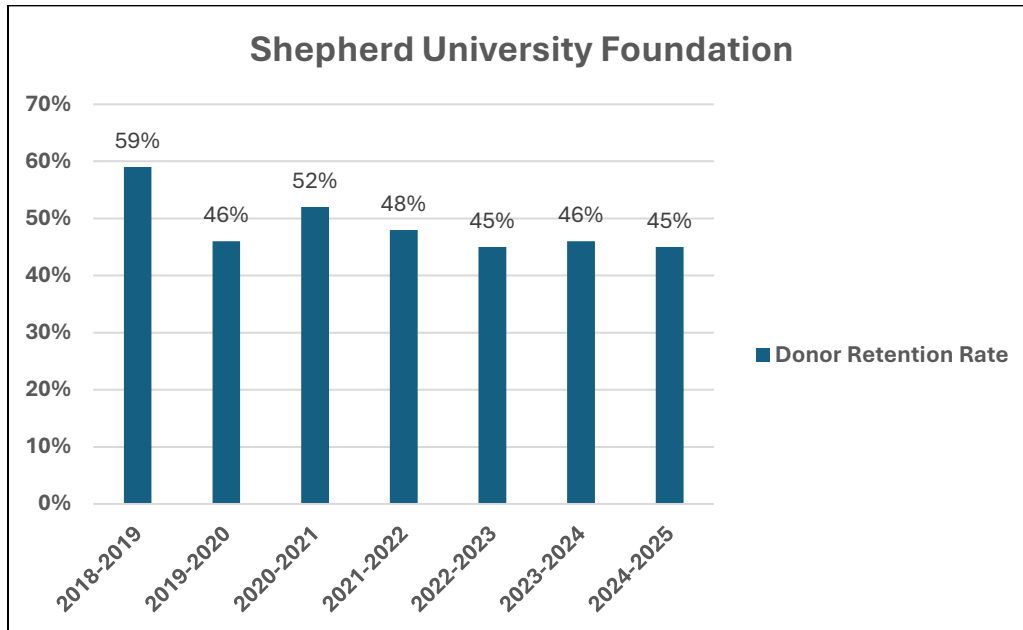
During the 2025-2026 year, the Foundation provided a total direct impact of \$2.8M to the University as reflected in the figures below. The 2025-2026 award budget totaled \$2.16M in endowed and annual awards and University support. Endowed funds comprised 351 award on the budget, and annual funds comprised 68. Additionally, the operating budget for the Foundation represents \$659,000 of expenses that would be carried by the University if the Foundation were not an independent self-funded organization, providing the revenue to pay for personnel, technology, cultivation, stewardship, fiduciary management, fundraising and other operating costs for the benefit of the University.

<p>Shepherd University Foundation (SUF) Total Support Provided to Shepherd University</p> <p>2025-2026 \$2.8M</p> <p>Awards and University Support: \$2.16M SUF Operating: \$659k</p>
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Donor Retention

Donor retention fell slightly lower than the prior year. Retention data over time tracks with trends from the AFP Fundraising Effectiveness Project Report showing declines. Donor retention data for 2025-2026 cannot be updated until July 1, 2026. The Foundation continues to prioritize donor stewardship with an eye to retention while also working to develop relationships with new donors. This focus has required us to streamline current and new event-based fundraising projects.

Donor Retention Rates



Donor Stewardship

The Foundation staff and Alumni staff continue to steward donors while Foundation staff also provide donor recognition, fund reporting and specialized communications designed to build relationships across the entire development enterprise. Leveraging new leadership will continue to be an opportunity to steward donors and learn about their priorities as well as opportunities to improve. While broad-based approaches to fundraising are critical to recruiting new donors, identifying donors with the potential and interest in supporting Shepherd at a deeper level is one of the most important development activities for the Foundation.

The Foundation currently has in place the following donor stewardship practices: strong, timely acknowledgements and clear recognition standards; stewardship that fits different giving types (scholarships, athletics, capital, etc.); and personal outreach and signature events for key supporters.

The annual touchpoint calendar consists of (but is not limited to) the following: gift acknowledgements, Thank a Donor Day, named fund reports, faculty excellence impact reports, President's Club impact reports, SUF Holiday card, Congratulations to Graduates, event invitations, Day of Giving/Giving Tuesday outreach, first gift email or notecard, and planned giving messaging.

Along with the above, the Foundation held its first Donor Scholar Reception since 2019. This reception was held on Sunday, March 29 and celebrated both the outstanding scholarship recipients and donors who had created named funds at the Foundation. Over 275 students, faculty/staff, donors, and guests were in attendance.

During the 2025-26 academic year, the Foundation board established a Marketing and Donor Engagement Committee. The committee has been working to review current Foundation marketing and stewardship practices and has established a plan for 2027-2029 areas for innovation and growth.

Named Fund Reports and Named Fund Donor Survey Results

Fund contact letters were mailed to more than 300 donors in mid-November. These named fund reports contain both financial information for the fund (fiscal year ending June 30, 2025), as well as personalized scholarship recipient profiles. As an effort to strengthen the Foundation's stewardship outreach, a survey was included. To date, the Foundation has received back responses from 10% of donors. The Foundation included a donor stewardship survey with this fall's named fund reports. Survey results were overwhelmingly positive, with 91% of respondents expressing satisfaction with how their fund is being utilized at Shepherd University and 88% indicating satisfaction with the Foundation's stewardship efforts. Further analysis and follow-up action items will be reviewed by the Foundation's newly established Marketing and Donor Relations Committee in the coming months.

Targeted Fundraising

Women Investing in Shepherd (WISH)

WISH is a women's giving circle created and sponsored by the Shepherd University Foundation that inspires, educates, and develops the amazing potential of women's philanthropy. High-impact grants to Shepherd University and the community provide resources that support Shepherd students on campus and in the communities from which they hail. Since 2015, WISH has awarded nearly \$1.5 million in grant funding.

- The WISH Grant Award Ceremony was held on September 21, 2025, with more than 100 attendees celebrating another impactful year of giving. WISH awarded a total of \$145,000 to two Shepherd University learning projects and two community nonprofit organizations.
- WISH concluded 2025 with 293 memberships, marking the second highest membership total in the program's 12-year history. The 2026 grant pool will total \$146,500, supporting two Shepherd University grants and two nonprofit grants in the amount of \$36,625 each.
- The 2026 WISH Grant Committee held its first full committee meeting on April 6. The committee narrowed down 36 letters of inquiry to 14 nonprofit and 6 Shepherd projects invited to submit full proposals. The committee will narrow the field down further to 10 nonprofit and 5 Shepherd projects on June 2.
- WISH held its annual membership reception at Erma Ora Byrd Hall on Wednesday, April 29. This program featured the 2025 WISH Grant recipient outcome presentations and a "State of the Organization" message from advisory member Peachy Staley. Dr. Mary J.C. Hendrix presented the 2026 "Courage to Inspire, Strength to Empower" award to Chloe Westfall. This award is given to the Shepherd student who best exemplifies WISH's philanthropic spirit. Dr. Hendrix was also recognized for her support and leadership of WISH during her ten-year tenure as Shepherd's president.

Scholar Photo Day

October 1, 2025 – Students who receive a Foundation scholarship for academic year 2025-2026 were invited to join photographer Sam Levitan at McMurrin Hall for a professional photo and a chance to thank the donors who made the scholarships possible. Twenty students attended this year's event. Their photos and comments are featured on Foundation social media accounts throughout the year, in the Shepherd University Magazine, and in various email outreach.

Additionally, these scholars are invited to discuss their scholarship experience at various events. This year, scholars spoke on how generous donor support impacted their academic journey at the Inspiring Excellence Dinner and the Scholar Donor Reception. Their testimonies were powerful reflections on the power of our scholarships and the lasting impact of the generosity of our donors and Shepherd community.

Farm to Table Dinner and Last Dollar Fund

October 3, 2025 – The 2025 Farm to Table dinner was held once again at McMurrin Farm. The annual event supports the Last Dollar Fund, a fund that assists Shepherd students in good academic standing with tuition-related expenses. Since its inception in 2017, the Last Dollar Fund has raised over \$500,000. It has helped clear the financial challenges for 272 students, and students were awarded an average of \$1,553. The 2026 Farm to Table dinner will be held on Friday, September 11th.

Thank a Donor Campaign: October 21, 2025 - The Shepherd University Foundation held two Thank a Donor days to coincide with Homecoming Festivities on Tuesday, October 21 and Wednesday, October 22. Students, faculty, and staff are encouraged to participate in the following:

- Writing thank you postcards to our top donors
- Posing with “Thank a Donor” signage for photography and videography to be used in a video for distribution later in the fall
- Share stories and testimonials on how you have been positively impacted by donor support

Scarborough Society

The Scarborough Society is the Friends of the Library organization created in 2001 to endow and strengthen the Shepherd University library system. Annual membership dues and Gala proceeds provide the funds to support and enhance the library's collections and technological services. Since its inception, the Scarborough Society has raised over \$1.3 million in funding, including two long-term endowments.

- The annual Scarborough Society Gala was held on August 8, 2025 at the Bavarian Inn, Resort, and Brewing Company in Shepherdstown. Over 150 invited guests attended the black-tie event, themed after the classic French novel Phantom of the Opera. The event raised more than \$36,000 for the library, one of the highest totals ever for the event.
- The Scarborough Society Annual Meeting was held on August 21, 2025 in the Reading Room of the Scarborough Library. Two new board directors were elected: Sara Maene and Lucia Valentine.

- The Scarborough Society fall Art and Lecture Series event held on October 14, 2025 featured author John Gilstrap, who led a discussion about the peaks and valleys (and peaks again) of his own career and encouraged those who dream about finding success in the arts. The event was free and open to the public.
- The Scarborough Society sponsored the 2025 Keynote Speaker reception for the Appalachian Heritage Writer in Residence.
- The Scarborough Society held its fall board meeting on November 20. At this meeting, the board voted to award \$34,962.93 in grant funding to the library for current initiatives and needs.
- The Scarborough Gala Committee voted on “The Garden of Time” as its 2026 gala theme. Save the Dates were mailed in February 2026. The Gala will be held on Friday, August 14 at the Bavarian Inn.
- The Scarborough Society held its spring 2026 board meeting on March 26. At this meeting, the board approved two membership updates: increasing sustaining membership dues from \$125-\$150 and limiting Wall of Honor recognition in the Library to Sustaining-level members and above.
- A membership recruitment think tank will be held at the home of Elise Baach on Thursday, May 28.

Shepherd University Foundation Annual Meeting

September 17, 2026 - The Shepherd University Foundation 2026 annual meeting will be held in the Storer Ballroom, Student Center. The meeting is open for SUF board members and donors. In 2025, a new electronic process was implemented to streamline proxy voting for donors and to maximize staff time while cutting administrative costs.

Foundation Scholarship Reception – March 29, 2026

The Shepherd University Foundation hosted its biennial Scholarship Reception on Sunday, March 29 in the Storer Ballroom. The event was a great success, bringing together 175 guests, including student scholarship and faculty excellence award recipients, their families and friends, prominent faculty and staff, members of university leadership boards, and alumni and friends who have established awards. This meaningful stewardship event celebrated the impact of donor generosity and student achievement.

**As of 7/1/2025, the below initiatives are led by University Development and supported by SUF:*

***Shepherd University Day of Giving**

Shepherd University’s Seventh annual Day of Giving was held March 4, 2026. The Foundation supported University Development and University Communications throughout this incredible initiative. Whether it was a gift to a favorite academic department, student organization, athletics, or campus initiative, this day helped to ensure that our students have the resources they need to succeed.

***The President's Club**

The President's Club was created to help ensure the future of Shepherd University through annual unrestricted gifts of \$1,000 or more. This extraordinary commitment shown by alumni, friends, faculty, staff, executive leadership, and board members demonstrates the true passion and pride that so many feel for Shepherd. Members of the President's Club have been instrumental in providing the resources necessary to advance Shepherd's strategic priorities and help raise the University's profile through **outstanding programs and academics**.

***Giving Tuesday – December 2, 2025**

The Foundation is supporting the Development Office with donor outreach and gift processing for Giving Tuesday. This annual giving day once again focuses on raising funds for the Shepherd Fund.

In Kind Gift Acknowledgements

In Kind Gifts Received from 7/1/2025 through 6/30/2026 (as of 2/5/2026)

- June 2025: The George Tyler Moore Center received seven portraits and one copper kettle from Mary Tyler Moore's estate. The gift was acknowledged at \$48,000.
- April 2026: The Office of the President received one wood top table with wrought iron legs. Popodicon received one blue Sheraton style mahogany sofa, Robert Offord's "New City Rising," and one framed copy of "Lavender Horizon Detail." These gifts were acknowledged at \$2,735.
- May 2026: The Robert C. Byrd Center for Congressional History and Education received 31 books. The books were acknowledged at \$689.
- Scarborough Library In Kind Gifts: 67 books acknowledged at \$854; 9 DVDs acknowledged at \$50.

Financial Updates:

Investment Management Services: The Shepherd University Foundation welcomed Wilmington Trust as our Investment Management Services Team in September 2025. We are thrilled to have their experience and expertise join the Foundation team.

Spending Policy and Distribution Rates: At the May 7, 2026 SUF Spring Board Meeting, the Foundation adopted an updated spending policy with a range of 2% to 4%. This policy will influence the Investment Policy Statement established with Wilmington Trust.

Custodial Accounts: The Foundation is working to improve the experience and investment of custodial account holders. Approved at the SUF Spring Board Meeting on 5/7/2026, custodial accounts with \$10,000 or more will keep accrued interest while paying a management fee of ½ of 1%. SUF will work with SEK to implement this change and notify fund holders. Anticipated rollout for this update is July 1, 2026.

Credit Card Fee – Beginning January 1, 2026

Beginning in early January, donors were given the option to cover the processing fees associated with their online gifts, allowing 100% of their intended gift to directly support Shepherd's mission. Since implementation, the Foundation has received \$1,641.87 in donor-covered fees, which is 28% of total fees incurred.

Shepherd University Foundation and Shepherd University Memorandum of Understanding

Foundation and University representatives worked closely to update the existing Memorandum of Understanding in order to establish a stronger working relationship and collaboration in support of our University. At the Foundation's Spring Meeting held on May 15, 2025, the Foundation Board adopted the updated MOU. View the updated MOU at <https://shepherduniversityfoundation.org/app/uploads/2026/05/SUF-and-SU-MOU-2025.pdf>

Planned Giving

Joseph P. McMurrin Society and President's Award Dinner: April 26, 2025 - The Shepherd University Foundation was thrilled to welcome six new Joseph P. McMurrin Society members at the 2025 dinner reception. New Society members included Rebecca '78 and Burt Lidgerding, James Barry Hall '57, Alfred L. Young, Jr. '89, and William '85 and Rebecca Fritts.

National Estate Planning Awareness Week: October 20–26, 2025 - To mark National Estate Planning Awareness Week (NEPAW), the Foundation partnered with FreeWill, a secure online tool that helps individuals create or update their wills while considering legacy gifts to Shepherd. Donors who include Shepherd in their estate plans are welcomed into the Joseph P. McMurrin Society, which honors visionary supporters shaping the University's future.

Winter FreeWill Outreach: On Monday, January 19th, the Foundation highlighted one of our incredible Scholar Spotlights in our winter FreeWill email outreach. A follow up featuring another remarkable scholar went out in late February. The Foundation's partnership with FreeWill continues to drive meaningful donor engagement. As a result of the winter email outreach campaign, the Foundation secured two planned giving commitments with an estimated total value of \$30,500.

Annual Events Planned and Hosted by the Foundation

- WISH Membership Receptions - *spring*
- Scarborough Society Membership Receptions - *spring*
- McMurrin Society and President's Award Dinner – *spring, biennially*
- Donor Scholar Reception – *spring, biennially*
- President's Club Impact Report - *spring*
- Emeritus Club Luncheon - *spring*
- Scarborough Society Gala - *summer*
- Scarborough Society Annual Meeting - *summer*
- Farm to Table/Last Dollar Fund - *fall*

- WISH Grant Award Reception - *fall*
- Scholar Photo Day - *fall*
- Scarborough Art & Lecture Series Event - *fall*
- SU Foundation Spring Board Meeting, Fall Board & Annual Meeting, and Winter Board Meeting/SUFSSO Annual Meeting (*2026 Meeting Dates: May 7, 2026; September 17, 2026; December 3, 2026*)
- President’s Recognition of Donors and Scholars – *Media Distribution*

New Funds Established

During the 2025-2026 academic year, the Foundation was pleased to announce seven new named funds, one bequest fulfillment, and the establishment of one endowed chair.

Named funds:

- **CohnReznick Accounting Faculty Excellence Award**
 - Established by CohnReznick LLP, the fund will support the University’s accounting program.
- **Barry “Huntz” Hall Football Annual Scholarship**
 - Established by James Barry “Huntz” Hall ’57, this award will support Virginia residents who play the position of running back or defensive back on the Shepherd University Football team.
- **Art Education Endowed Scholarship**
 - Established by Thomas W. Miller, this award will support junior and senior students studying Art Education.
- **AI Collaboratory Fund**
 - Thanks to a generous initial donation of seed money from Andrew ‘95 and Eileen Patterson, Shepherd University’s College of Business announces the creation of a new AI Collaboratory. This initiative will focus on providing students a shared space for learning, experimenting with, and applying AI.
- **Inspiring Excellence Athletic Scholarship**
 - This annual award is dedicated to supporting and empowering women’s sports student-athletes to excel in competition, in the classroom, and as leaders on campus and beyond.
- **Education Scholarship in Memory of Professor Hazel Hendricks & Education Scholarship in Memory of G. Wayne Arnold**
 - Two new annually funded awards have been established by Howard Boggs: the Education Scholarship in Memory of Professor Hazel Hendricks and the Education Scholarship in Memory of G. Wayne Arnold. These scholarships will support Shepherd students pursuing studies in the field of education.

- **Rachel Campbell Norfolk Memorial Scholarship**
 - Established in memory of Rachel Nicole Campbell, the Rachel Campbell Norfolk Memorial Scholarship will support students pursuing a degree in early childhood education with an interest in special education.

Bequest:

- **W. Glenn and Margaret R. Welsh Scholarship**
 - Thanks to a generous bequest from W. Glenn '52 and Margaret '61 Ramey Welsh, the Shepherd University Foundation is happy to announce the W. Glenn and Margaret R. Welsh Scholarship. A lifelong educator, Peggy was a teacher, social worker, and realtor. She cared for her community, working with Meals on Wheels and many other nonprofit organizations. Glenn was a farmer and real estate developer, serving on various boards throughout his community. Both Shepherd graduates, Glenn and Peggy never missed an opportunity to attend a Shepherd game. Now, through this scholarship, they have ensured that their legacy will continue on to support future generations of Rams.

Endowed Chair:

- **Dennis E. Frye Endowed Chair in Civil War Studies and Director of the Civil War Center**
 - This endowed fund was established by historian Dennis Frye, a member of Shepherd's Class of 1979. Dr. Jennifer M. Murray, Director of the Civil War Center and Assistant Professor of History, has been named the first Dennis E. Frye Endowed Chair in Civil War Studies. The agreement was executed on April 17, 2026. This endowed chair is one of only a handful in the country in Civil War History. Learn more about this incredible opportunity at <https://shepherduniversityfoundation.org/dr-jennifer-m-murray-appointed-dennis-e-frye-endowed-chair-in-civil-war-studies/>.

Thank You

Thank you to the Foundation team for their dedication to our University, students, and community. Special thanks to the Foundation Board, which consists of 24 board members and 9 directors emeriti, including faculty, staff, alumni, donors, community leaders, and supporters. Foundation officers and advisors as of May 7, 2026 are listed below:

President:	D. Benjamin (Ben) Deuell, DO '08
Vice President:	Austin J. Slater, Jr. '76
Secretary:	Robert Jensenius '72
Treasurer:	Jason Best, PhD

Executive Vice President:	Sherri Janelle
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Legal Counsel:	David DeJarnett, Bowles Rice LLP
Auditor & Accounting Firm:	William F. Fritts '85, Smith Elliott Kearns & CO
Investments:	Wilmington Trust

Additionally, members of the Executive Committee, Investment Committee, and Audit Committee meet regularly to provide support and ensure the continued success of the Foundation.



In Conclusion

Major gift fundraising success depends on the development of trusting relationships and the inspiration of donors who want to make an impact. Our governing and leadership boards, development team, faculty, staff and alumni all have vital roles in promoting Shepherd University. Sincere thanks are offered to all those who have worked beside us to accomplish our philanthropic mission.

SHEPHERD UNIVERSITY FOUNDATION AT A GLANCE

OVERVIEW OF SHEPHERD UNIVERSITY FOUNDATION FINANCIALS AND UNIVERSITY SUPPORT

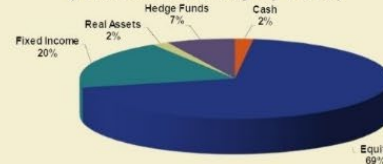
The Shepherd University Foundation helps alumni and friends stay connected, get involved, and give back to strengthen our remarkable University for generations to come. During the 2025-26 fiscal year to date, more than 2,000 alumni and friends have come together to commit more than \$3.1 million in donations, directing their gifts to areas of the University they care about most.

Shepherd University Foundation Investment Breakdown

As of April 30, the Foundation endowment portfolio was valued at \$50,211,429 (up 9.5% from 2025). This portfolio is comprised of named endowments, the Nora Roberts Foundation campaign gift, and the Michael Smith gift for the College of Business.

The Foundation currently has Shepherd University Foundation has 390+ named endowed funds.

Asset Allocation
Shepherd University Foundation - Aggregate
(All Accounts w/Legacy ALTS)



Scholarship Recipients and Awards



Scholarship and Programming Support By Dollars (in millions)



Foundation-led Affinity Groups and Initiatives



Scarborough Society



Women Investing in Shepherd



McMurrin Society



Donor and Scholar Reception



Farm to Table/Last Dollar Fund



Women for Shepherd

CAPITAL PROJECTS ANNUAL REPORT (FY26)

Mr. Collin Alexander, Interim Vice President for Finance and Administration/CFO, will provide the Committee with the Capital Projects Annual Report.

During FY2026, Shepherd University completed more than \$9 million in campus infrastructure, technology, and facility improvement projects through a combination of state, federal, grant, and institutional funding sources.

Major projects included significant HVAC and mechanical upgrades in Byrd Science Center, the Student Center, White Hall, the Wellness Center, and Dining Hall facilities, as well as campus-wide monitoring and security enhancements. Additional investments were made in academic classroom technology, auditorium improvements, campus infrastructure, and student housing upgrades. Several roof projects are initiated in spring 2026 and will be completed during the summer.

These projects reflect the University’s continued commitment to addressing deferred maintenance, improving campus safety and operational reliability, enhancing the student experience, and leveraging external funding opportunities whenever possible. The administration will continue prioritizing strategic capital investments that support the long-term sustainability of the institution.

Projects Completed in FY 2026		
Description of Project	Project Amount	Source of Funding
Boone Field House Water Heaters	\$10,790.00	Governor's Office Grant
Dining Hall Boiler Replacement	\$29,880.00	Governor's Office Grant
Byrd Science HVAC Upgrades	\$4,630,588.00	Governor's Office Grant
Campus-wide Monitoring & Security Project	\$3,204,766.00	CDS (Federal Grant)
Wellness Center Pool Pac Units	\$108,229.00	Governor's Office Grant
Student Center HVAC Upgrades	\$411,293.00	Governor's Office Grant
BAS Control Upgrades	\$70,971.00	Governor's Office Grant
White Hall Chiller and Pump Upgrades	\$12,594.00	Governor's Office Grant
Academic Classrooms	\$139,202.41	USDA Grant (DLT 1 & DLT II)
Academic Classrooms/Auditorium Improvements	\$361,756.01	USDE Grant
I2 Campus Infrastructure	\$58,697.43	NSF Grant
Westwoods Flooring	\$83,312.00	Governor's Office Grant
Total	\$9,122,078.85	

QUARTERLY FINANCIAL REPORT: 3rd Quarter FY2026

Mr. Alexander will provide the Committee with Quarterly Financial Report: 3rd Quarter FY2026.

The 3rd Quarter FY2026 financials are presented in a format that emphasizes the overall results of the fiscal year-to-date. These schedules exclude the results from the Shepherd Entrepreneurial and Research Corporation (SERC).

CASH:

\$42.99M – decreased by \$3.67M

The decrease is mainly due to the spending of the special funding given to Shepherd by the State (\$30M). Unrestricted cash is only up slightly from Q3 2025 to Q3 2026. Days of Cash on hand is up 2 days from last year at this time.

Unrestricted Days Cash on Hand = 79

Projected (UR) Days of Cash 6/30/2026 = 41 days

Approved Budget UR Days of Cash = 38 Days

TOTAL ASSETS:

\$167.92M – Increased by \$2.23M

Capital assets has also increased by \$8.95M with Leased Assets falling by \$590K and Non-Current Subscriptions increasing \$1.56M. This large increase is due to a couple of long term investments: the website, Campus 3D imaging and CollegeNet (event management software). These along with the decrease of restricted cash composes the increase to Total Assets. The new construction and the deferred maintenance grants have also helped Shepherd to invest in much needed infrastructure projects.

TOTAL LIABILITIES:

\$41.47M – Decreased by \$2.95M

This is mostly due to a decrease in non-current payables. As with Total Assets the SBITA line in non-current liabilities has increased \$884K.

TOTAL OPERATING REVENUES:

\$39.12M – Decreased by \$6.79M

Comparing year over year the entire decrease is attributed to two lines; Grants and Other Revenues. Grant funding is a product of timing and specific grant awards. The roofing projects over the summer account for some of the variance. Other revenue is related to the sale of the HR building that was accrued in FY25. Overall, there are minimal increases in tuition and fees

and auxiliary services at this time last year. PELL has been moved to Operating to comply with GASB 103 in FY2026.

TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES:

\$42.52 – Increased by \$1.60M

Compared to FY2025, Personnel is up \$515K from Q3 2026. Most of the difference is accounted for in the overall reinvestment into employees that began at the beginning of the calendar year and a couple of vacant positions being filled along with a few annual leave payouts from separations between Jan and March (127K). It is important to note, Shepherd is still projected to be under budget for FY2026 in Personnel. Depreciation is up from the large amount of capital improvements and supplies rise with usage and cost increases. With the academic year winding down, some of operating costs will start to be reduced.

NONOPERATING REVENUES AND EXPENSES: \$11.30M – Increased by \$58K (adjusted)

The adjustment is backing out the one-time \$30M special appropriation in FY25. Contributing to this adjusted variance is small decreases in appropriations, gifts and a larger increase in investment income related to the high cash balances.

INCREASE (DECREASE) IN NET POSITION:

\$3.13M – Decreased by \$2.39M

The vast majority of this can be attributed to grant activity, increasing student revenue and decreased operating expenses. The E&G change in net assets is at \$5.29M

SUMMARY:

The University has made significant progress on strategically investing in key components including subscriptions, personnel and infrastructure in an effort to continue to strive to be a premier public university and academic hub for the region.

Statement of Net Position

Shepherd University

Q3 - March 2026

	FY2024 EndingBal	FY2025 EndingBal	YoY Change	FY2026 EndingBal	YoY Change
Current Assets					
[+] Cash and Cash Equivalents	19,521,333	47,510,948	143.38%	41,572,346	-12.50%
[+] Accounts Receivable Net	2,860,813	6,349,018	121.93%	4,144,879	-34.72%
[+] Due from Commission	-	-	0.00%	-	0.00%
[+] Prepays	352,244	330,273	-6.24%	352,037	6.59%
[+] Loans to Student - Current Portion	35,100	35,100	0.00%	35,100	0.00%
[+] Inventories	397	999	151.87%	655	-34.43%
Total Current Assets	22,769,887	54,226,338	138.15%	46,105,017	-14.98%
Noncurrent Assets					
[+] Other Receivables NCA	94,150	68,102	-27.67%	47,446	-30.33%
[+] Loans to Students, Net	42,112	26,983	-35.92%	14,306	-46.98%
[+] Capital Assets Net	101,313,165	108,416,820	7.01%	117,364,012	8.25%
[+] Right to Use Leased Assets	2,291,421	1,404,059	-38.73%	813,630	-42.05%
[+] Subscription based information tech.	934,109	1,351,450	44.68%	2,908,710	115.23%
[+] Deferred Outflows of Resources Gasb 68	580,282	186,870	-67.80%	662,136	254.33%
Total Noncurrent Assets	105,255,238	111,454,284	5.89%	121,810,240	9.29%
Current Liabilities					
[+] Accounts Payable	300,968	1,333,083	342.93%	251,125	-81.16%
[+] Accrued Liabilities	2,171,341	2,285,213	5.24%	3,315,385	45.08%
[+] Due to Other State Agencies	-	2,304	0.00%	2,304	0.00%
[+] Compensated Absences - Current Portion	747,024	660,405	-11.60%	905,102	37.05%
[+] Deferred Revenue	6,158,718	3,916,532	-36.41%	2,466,051	-37.03%
[+] Deposits held in custody for others	203,776	199,116	-2.29%	183,934	-7.62%
[+] Payables - Current Portion	3,828,545	3,360,685	-12.22%	3,884,854	15.60%
Total Current Liabilities	13,410,371	11,757,338	-12.33%	11,008,757	-6.37%
Noncurrent Liabilities					
[+] Advances from Federal Sponsors	103,588	93,132	-10.09%	64,490	-30.75%
[+] Compensated Absences	579,762	485,590	-16.24%	482,601	-0.62%
[+] OPEB	353,099	(446,801)	-226.54%	(60,732)	-86.41%
[+] Net Pension Liability	52,959	8,104	-84.70%	-	-100.00%
[+] Bonds Payable net of Current Portion	26,214,009	24,462,914	-6.68%	22,534,644	-7.88%
[+] Notes Payable, net of Current Portion	896,000	578,000	-35.49%	260,000	-55.02%
[+] Leases Payable, net of Current Portion	6,148,579	6,065,711	-1.35%	5,430,540	-10.47%
[+] SBITA - net of Current Portion	375,191	469,033	25.01%	1,353,443	188.56%
[+] Deferred Inflows of Resources Gasb 68	1,911,150	949,466	-50.32%	401,151	-57.75%
Total Noncurrent Liabilities	36,634,336	32,665,150	-10.83%	30,466,138	-6.73%
Net Assets					
Total Net Assets	77,980,418	121,258,134	55.50%	126,440,363	4.27%

KPIs

Days Cash on Hand (Total)	151	364	213	296	↓ (68)
Days Cash on Hand (Unrestricted)	67	77	10	79	↑ 2

Statements of Revenue, Expenses and Changes in Net Position

Shepherd University

Q3 - March 2026

	Q3 2024 Total to Date	Q3 2025 Total to Date	YoY Change	Q3 2026 Total to Date	YoY Change
Operating Revenues					
[+] Tuition and Fees	25,359,233	25,607,657	0.98%	25,751,129	0.56%
[+] Contracts and Grants	7,098,877	16,757,066	136.05%	8,530,086	-49.10%
[+] Interest on Student Loan Receivable	1,853	1,970	6.32%	1,652	-16.13%
[+] Sales and Services of Educational Departments	17,191	29,370	70.84%	22,375	-23.82%
[+] Auxiliary Enterprise Revenue	12,440,098	12,371,432	-0.55%	12,888,835	4.18%
[+] Scholarship Allowances	(12,627,890)	(15,025,950)	18.99%	(13,644,970)	-9.19%
[+] Federal Operating Revenues	4,498,793	5,254,537	16.80%	5,273,039	0.35%
[+] Other Operating Revenues	346,887	915,917	164.04%	293,449	-67.96%
Total Operating Revenues	37,135,042	45,911,999	23.64%	39,115,595	-14.80%
Operating Expenses					
[+] Salaries and Wages	18,517,703	17,950,410	-3.06%	18,465,797	2.87%
[+] Benefits	4,262,849	4,104,220	-3.72%	4,621,687	12.61%
[+] Supplies and Other Services	8,380,765	8,917,629	6.41%	9,682,805	8.58%
[+] Utilities	1,803,555	2,020,778	12.04%	2,069,324	2.40%
[+] Scholarships and Fellowships	2,334,870	2,702,133	15.73%	2,167,874	-19.77%
[+] Depreciation	4,893,315	5,229,877	6.88%	5,512,876	5.41%
Total Operating Expenses	40,193,057	40,925,046	1.82%	42,520,363	3.90%
Total Operating Income (Loss)	(3,058,015)	4,986,953	-263.08%	(3,404,768)	-168.27%
Nonoperating Revenues (Expenses)					
[+] State Appropriations	10,118,121	10,705,382	5.80%	10,278,253	-3.99%
[+] Special Funding (Special Funding)	-	30,000,000	0.00%	-	-100.00%
[+] Investment Income	313,040	410,033	30.98%	806,912	96.79%
[+] Interest On Capital Asset Related Debt	(981,607)	(970,562)	-1.13%	(931,685)	-4.01%
[+] Fees Assessed by the Commission For Debt Service	(16,621)	(15,929)	-4.16%	(15,940)	0.07%
[+] Gifts	1,251,336	1,248,313	-0.24%	1,184,900	-5.08%
[+] Other Nonoperating Revenues	(649,341)	(137,342)	-78.85%	(24,917)	-81.86%
Total Nonoperating Revenues (Expenses)	10,034,928	41,239,896	310.96%	11,297,523	-72.61%
Total Change in Net Assets (Loss)	6,976,913	46,226,848		7,892,755	

Pro Forma, Statement of Activities

Shepherd University
Q3 - March 2026

	Actual March 2026	Forecast June 2026	Total Budget 2026	Projected Variance
Operating Revenues				
[+] Tuition and Fees	25,751,129	27,213,480	27,552,336	(338,856)
[+] Contracts and Grants	8,530,086	14,000,000	14,000,000	-
[+] Interest on Student Loan Receivable	1,652	5,100	5,100	-
[+] Sales and Services of Educational Departments	22,375	35,100	35,100	-
[+] Auxiliary Enterprise Revenue	12,888,835	13,732,918	13,992,150	(259,232)
[+] Scholarship Allowances	(13,644,970)	(13,000,000)	(13,000,000)	-
[+] Federal Operating Revenues	5,273,039	5,273,039	4,600,000	673,039
[+] Other Operating Revenues	293,449	455,605	455,605	-
Total Operating Revenues	39,115,595	47,715,242	47,640,291	74,951
Operating Expenses				
[+] Salaries and Wages	18,465,797	24,121,063	24,825,538	(704,475)
[+] Benefits	4,621,687	6,162,249	6,585,712	(423,463)
[+] Supplies and Other Services	9,682,805	13,110,407	13,380,460	(270,053)
[+] Utilities	2,069,324	3,127,522	3,252,511	(124,989)
[+] Scholarships and Fellowships	2,167,874	2,890,499	3,429,825	(539,326)
[+] Depreciation	5,512,876	7,929,120	7,844,815	84,305
Total Operating Expenses	42,520,363	57,340,860	59,318,861	(1,978,001)
Total Operating Income (Loss)	(3,404,768)	(9,625,618)	(11,678,570)	2,052,952
Nonoperating Revenues (Expenses)				
[+] State Appropriations	10,278,253	13,704,338	13,704,338	-
[+] Investment Income	806,912	1,075,883	792,190	283,693
[+] Interest On Capital Asset Related Debt	(931,685)	(1,304,510)	(1,304,510)	-
[+] Fees Assessed by the Commission For Debt Service	(15,940)	(16,500)	(16,500)	-
[+] Gifts	1,184,900	1,579,867	1,710,870	(131,003)
[+] Other Nonoperating Revenues	(24,917)	145,000	145,000	-
Total Nonoperating Revenues (Expenses)	11,297,523	15,184,078	15,031,388	152,690
Total Change in Net Assets (Loss)	7,892,755	5,558,460	3,352,818	2,205,642

Grant Funded to Net Grants Comparison

Shepherd University
Q3 - March 2026

	March 2026			March 2025			YoY Variance
	Income Statement	Grant Funded	Unrestricted	Income Statement	Grant Funded	Unrestricted	
Operating Revenues							
[+] Tuition and Fees	25,751,129	-	25,751,129	25,607,657	-	25,607,657	143,471
[+] Contracts and Grants	8,530,086	4,525,961	4,004,125	16,757,066	10,758,116	5,998,950	(1,994,825)
[+] Interest on Student Loan Receivable	1,652	-	1,652	1,970	-	1,970	(318)
[+] Sales and Services of Educational Departments	22,375	-	22,375	29,370	-	29,370	(6,995)
[+] Auxiliary Enterprise Revenue	12,888,835	-	12,888,835	12,371,432	-	12,371,432	517,403
[+] Scholarship Allowances	(13,644,970)	-	(13,644,970)	(15,025,950)	-	(15,025,950)	1,380,980
[+] Federal Operating Revenues	5,273,039	-	5,273,039	5,254,537	-	5,254,537	18,502
[+] Other Operating Revenues	293,449	56,315	237,134	915,917	59,199	856,719	(619,585)
Total Operating Revenues	39,115,595	4,582,277	34,533,319	45,911,999	10,817,315	35,094,684	(561,366)
Operating Expenses							
[+] Salaries and Wages	18,465,797	841,725	17,624,072	17,950,410	923,662	17,026,748	597,324
[+] Benefits	4,621,687	144,404	4,477,283	4,104,220	179,525	3,924,695	552,587
[+] Supplies and Other Services	9,682,805	731,465	8,951,340	8,917,629	711,533	8,206,095	745,245
[+] Utilities	2,069,324	-	2,069,324	2,020,778	13,120	2,007,658	61,666
[+] Scholarships and Fellowships	2,167,874	435,044	1,732,830	2,702,133	475,011	2,227,122	(494,292)
[+] Depreciation	5,512,876	-	5,512,876	5,229,877	-	5,229,877	282,999
Total Operating Expenses	42,520,363	2,152,639	40,367,725	40,925,046	2,302,851	38,622,195	1,745,529
Total Operating Income (Loss)	(3,404,768)	2,429,638	(5,834,406)	4,986,953	8,514,464	(3,527,511)	(2,306,895)
Nonoperating Revenues (Expenses)							
[+] State Appropriations	10,278,253	-	10,278,253	10,705,382	-	10,705,382	(427,129)
[+] Special Funding (Special Funding)	-	-	-	30,000,000	-	30,000,000	
[+] Investment Income	806,912	33,526	773,387	410,033	60,946	349,088	424,299
[+] Interest On Capital Asset Related Debt	(931,685)	-	(931,685)	(970,562)	-	(970,562)	38,876
[+] Fees Assessed by the Commission For Debt Service	(15,940)	-	(15,940)	(15,929)	-	(15,929)	(11)
[+] Gifts	1,184,900	141,692	1,043,208	1,248,313	115,723	1,132,590	(89,382)
[+] Other Nonoperating Revenues	(24,917)	-	(24,917)	(137,342)	-	(137,342)	112,425
Total Nonoperating Revenues (Expenses)	11,297,523	175,218	11,122,305	41,239,896	176,669	41,063,227	59,079
Total Change in Net Assets (Loss)	7,892,755	2,604,856	5,287,899	46,226,848	8,691,133	37,535,716	(2,247,816)

Natural Classification

Shepherd University
Q3 - March 2026

	Salaries and Wages	Benefits	Supplies and Other Services	Utilities	Scholarships and Fellowships	Depreciation	Total	% of University	% of University w/o Depreciation
Programs									
Instruction	9,405,630	2,131,024	963,516	5,389	435,044	-	12,940,603	30.4%	35.0%
Research	142,167	23,093	19,349	-	-	-	184,609	0.4%	0.5%
Public Service	30,906	3,999	9,667	-	-	-	44,573	0.1%	0.1%
Academic Support	1,179,591	238,949	820,075	643	4,500	-	2,243,758	5.3%	6.1%
Student services	1,780,915	505,028	936,922	-	21,420	-	3,244,286	7.6%	8.8%
Institutional support	2,245,773	750,482	1,018,064	-	-	-	4,014,319	9.4%	10.8%
Operations and maintenance	985,927	275,900	843,134	1,005,198	-	-	3,110,159	7.3%	8.4%
Scholarships and Fellowships	-	-	-	-	1,523,588	-	1,523,588	3.6%	4.1%
Auxiliary Enterprises	2,694,887	693,212	5,072,078	1,058,095	183,322	-	9,701,594	22.8%	26.2%
Depreciation	-	-	-	-	-	5,512,876	5,512,876	13.0%	
Total	18,465,797	4,621,687	9,682,805	2,069,324	2,167,874	5,512,876	42,520,363		
						<i>w/o Depreciation</i>	37,007,488		

PROPOSED FY2027 BUDGET

Mr. Alexander will review the Proposed FY2027 Budget with the Committee and at the Board meeting.

The following resolution is recommended for adoption by the Board:

RESOLVED, That the Shepherd University Board of Governors approves the FY2027 Annual Budget model structured to a potential fall 2026 enrollment decrease of 40 students from the prior year, and directs staff to proceed with institutional budgeting on that basis. The Board will revisit the Budget authorization in fall 2026.

FY27 Proposed Budget Assumptions and Financial Overview

The FY27 Proposed Budget has been developed using a conservative and strategic financial planning approach designed to preserve institutional stability while continuing targeted investment in the University's people, infrastructure, and student experience. The budget incorporates multiple enrollment scenarios and reflects prudent assumptions regarding revenues, expenditures, and operating cash flow.

The proposed budget prioritizes maintaining financial flexibility, strengthening long-term sustainability metrics, and preserving adequate unrestricted cash reserves while supporting key institutional priorities. Management has intentionally utilized conservative enrollment and revenue assumptions to mitigate financial risk and position the University to respond effectively to changing market conditions.

Assumptions - Operating Revenues

Tuition and Fees

- Graduate enrollment is projected to remain flat, reflecting current enrollment trends and the comparatively limited impact of graduate tuition within the overall fee structure. (new initiatives in graduate education would be projected for greater impact in FY28)
- The scenarios with decreased enrollment apply the reduction of students to full-time student revenue calculations as a conservative budgeting measure.
- The budget assumes a student mix of 75% in-state and 25% out-of-state enrollment. This assumption is intentionally conservative compared to the current approximate split of 67% in-state and 33% out-of-state students, which has declined from approximately 39% out-of-state in the prior year.

- Other student fee revenue is projected to decline by approximately 1.8% for every 40-student reduction in enrollment.
- Undergraduate tuition increases are incorporated in accordance with Board-approved rates.

Contracts and Grants

- Any decreased enrollment will result in reduced revenues from Promise Scholarship and West Virginia Grant at a rate of approximately \$1,841 per decrease in headcount.
- Federal and state grant revenue estimates are based on projections provided by the Office of Sponsored Programs.

Interest on Student Loans Receivable

- Revenue projections are based on historical activity in this account.

Sales and Services of Educational Departments

- Revenue estimates are based on historical performance to determine projected ticket sales activity.

Auxiliary Enterprise Revenue

- Room and board revenues are projected using a 76% residence hall occupancy assumption.
- All incoming residence hall freshmen are assumed to participate in the Gold meal plan, per the approval of fees in April.
- Board-approved increases to housing and dining rates are reflected in the budget.

Scholarship Allowances

- Scholarship allowance expense is projected to decrease by approximately 1% for every 40-student reduction in enrollment.

Federal Nonoperating Revenues

- PELL grant revenue is projected to decrease by approximately 1% for every 40-student reduction in enrollment.

Other Operating Revenues

- Other operating revenue projections, including fines and miscellaneous fees, are based on historical trends.

Assumptions - Operating Expenses

Salaries and Wages

- Shepherd is projecting significant savings in FY26 compared to the original budget. These projected savings provide support for the institution's continued investment in employee compensation and staffing stabilization entering FY27. The salary and wage budget includes the cost of the employee reinvestment initiatives from FY26 and funding for currently filled vacancies across campus.
- The Strategic Reinvestment Committee will review institutional financial performance throughout September to develop recommendations for whether additional salary adjustments are financially sustainable.
- Any proposed compensation adjustments and corresponding budget impacts will be presented to the Board following first-quarter financial review.
- Except for a limited number of part-time positions, staffing levels are not expected to be materially impacted under enrollment scenarios 40 or 80 students below flat enrollment assumptions. Any required budgetary savings under those scenarios are expected to be achieved through non-personnel reductions.

Benefits

- The budget includes projected increases of 3% for both PEIA and BRIM-related benefit costs.

Supplies and Other Services

- Supply and service expenditures will be decreased by approximately 3% for every 40-student decline in enrollment.

Capital Investment (Capitalized and Depreciated; impacts operating cash)

- Operational capital expenditures funded through cash reserves are reduced by approximately 8.5% under the 40-student-down scenario.
- Operational capital expenditures are reduced by approximately 14% under the 80-student-down scenario.

Utilities

- Utility costs are projected to increase by approximately 2%.

Scholarships and Fellowships

- Scholarship and fellowship expenditures are projected to decrease by approximately 0.5% for every 40-student reduction in enrollment.

Depreciation

- Depreciation expense is projected to increase due to significant recent investments in campus infrastructure, including the dining hall and athletic facility projects.
- Depreciation is a non-cash expense reflected within the Statement of Activities.

Assumptions - Nonoperating Revenues and Expenses

State Appropriations

- State appropriations are based on allocations established by the State of West Virginia.

Interest on Capital Asset-Related Debt

- Debt service reflects scheduled bond payments amortized over the life of the related obligations.

Investment Income

- Investment income is projected to increase due to higher cash balances, primarily associated with special funding allocations totaling approximately \$30 million.

Fees Assessed by the Higher Education Policy Commission (HEPC)

- Expenses reflect required HEPC debt service assessments.

Gifts

- Gift revenue projections are based on historical trends.

Other Nonoperating Revenues

- Other nonoperating revenues primarily relate to asset disposals and are projected using historical activity.

Change in Net Assets and Cash Position

The total proposed FY27 budget, inclusive of grants, reflects a positive change in net assets, which is expected to favorably impact the University's Composite Financial Index (CFI) and other key financial metrics evaluated through the annual audited financial statements.

The "Net Grants" presentation reflects a decrease in net assets; however, this variance is primarily attributable to non-cash accounting activity, most notably depreciation expense.

Accordingly, management believes the more meaningful measure of operational performance is the net impact of depreciation, operating results, and capital reinvestment on operating cash flow.

The FY26 Budget targeted a closing cash position of 38 days of unrestricted cash. We now project to close the year at 41 days. Under the FY27 proposed budget, the University is targeting a further increase of unrestricted cash reserves while maintaining continued reinvestment in institutional infrastructure and operations. The proposed budget is structured to conclude FY27 with approximately 42 days cash on hand across all modeled enrollment scenarios, thereby preserving financial stability while supporting strategic institutional priorities.

Proposed FY27 Annual Budget

Proposed FY27 Annual Budget					
Row Labels	FY 26 Budget	FY 27 Proposed Budget	FY27 Unrestricted Funds (UR)	FY27 UR - Down 40 students	FY27 UR - Down 80 students
Tuition and Fees	27,552,336	27,575,199	27,575,199	27,160,146	26,745,696
Contracts and Grants	14,000,000	14,435,634	4,050,000	3,976,364	3,902,727
Interest on Student Loans Rec.	5,100	2,394	2,394	2,394	2,394
Sales and Services of Educational Departments	35,100	35,100	35,100	35,100	35,100
Auxiliary enterprise revenue	13,992,150	13,750,445	13,750,445	13,506,587	13,266,625
Scholarship Allowances	(13,000,000)	(13,000,000)	(13,000,000)	(12,870,000)	(12,741,300)
Federal Nonoperating revenues	4,600,000	5,000,000	5,000,000	4,950,000	4,900,500
Other Operating Revenues	455,605	318,467	318,467	312,734	307,105
Total Operating revenues	47,640,291	48,117,239	37,731,605	37,073,326	36,418,848
Salaries and Wages	24,825,538	25,864,879	24,021,648	23,997,648	23,973,648
Benefits	6,585,712	6,272,488	6,084,314	6,084,314	6,084,314
Supplies and Other Services	13,380,460	13,418,849	12,345,341	11,974,981	11,604,621
Utilities	3,252,511	2,965,472	2,965,472	2,950,645	2,935,817
Scholarships and Fellowships	3,429,825	3,187,229	3,187,229	3,171,293	3,155,437
Depreciation	7,844,815	8,550,000	8,550,000	8,550,000	8,550,000
Total Operating expenses	59,318,861	60,258,918	57,154,004	56,728,880	56,303,836
State appropriations	13,704,338	14,126,797	14,126,797	14,126,797	14,126,797
Interest on capital asset related debt	(1,304,510)	(1,196,412)	(1,196,412)	(1,196,412)	(1,196,412)
Investment Income	792,190	808,034	808,034	804,073	800,112
Fees assessed by the HEPC for debt service	(16,500)	(16,000)	(16,000)	(16,000)	(16,000)
Gifts	1,710,870	1,510,000	1,510,000	1,510,000	1,510,000
Other Nonoperating Revenues	145,000	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000
Total Nonoperating revenues (expenses)	15,031,388	15,282,418	15,282,418	15,278,457	15,274,496
Change in Net Assets	3,352,818	3,140,739	(4,139,981)	(4,377,097)	(4,610,492)
Days of Cash					
			510,019	580,903	578,508
			135,011	133,830	132,650
			42	42	42

PLANNED FY2027 CAPITAL INITIATIVES

Mr. Alexander will review the Planned FY2027 Capital Initiatives with the Committee and Board.

The FY2027 Capital Initiatives plan represents more than \$39 million in strategic investments that directly advance the five pillars of Shepherd University's Strategic Plan through improvements to campus infrastructure, academic facilities, technology, and student-centered spaces.

These initiatives support Shepherd's vision of becoming a *Premier Public University* by investing in transformational projects that modernize the campus and strengthen long-term institutional sustainability. Major investments include the \$24.4 million new Dining Hall / Athletic Facility, \$4.8 million in Frank Center improvements, and nearly \$2.3 million in roof replacement projects across McMurrin Hall, Byrd Science Center, White Hall, and Popodicon Hall. Together, these projects address critical deferred maintenance while enhancing the overall campus environment.

The FY2027 plan also reinforces Shepherd's role as an *Academic, Cultural, and Economic Hub* for the region. Projects such as the \$3 million East Loop and Gateway Entrance initiative and the Frank Center improvements enhance campus accessibility, community engagement, and cultural programming opportunities while contributing to regional economic development.

As Shepherd continues positioning itself as the *First Choice Academic Home*, the University is investing directly in the student experience and academic environment. Planned projects include \$720,000 in IT and classroom audiovisual improvements, \$353,000 in chemistry laboratory and classroom upgrades, and improvements to student-centered facilities and campus infrastructure designed to support recruitment, retention, and student success.

The capital plan also demonstrates Shepherd's commitment to *Serving a Wide Range of Needs* through projects that improve operational reliability, safety, accessibility, and service delivery across campus. Investments in HVAC systems, flooring replacements, archival preservation, and facility modernization ensure the University can continue effectively serving students, employees, and the broader community.

Finally, these investments remain firmly *Grounded in the Liberal Arts and Sciences* by strengthening the academic and cultural spaces that define Shepherd's mission. Improvements to instructional facilities, performance and cultural venues, laboratories, and archives support interdisciplinary learning, creativity, research, and engagement across the campus community.

Importantly, the majority of these initiatives are supported through external funding sources, including federal grants, governor’s office appropriations, USDA funding, HUD grants, SBA grants, and other state-supported investments. This approach allows the University to advance significant strategic priorities while responsibly stewarding institutional operating resources.

Projects in FY 2027			
Description of Project	Project Amount	Source of Funding	Notes
Agribiz Building Project	\$1,422,200	SBA Grant	Completing interior finishing
McMurrin Hall Roof Replacement	\$533,752	Governor's Office Grant	
Byrd Science Roof Replacement	\$1,099,557	Governor's Office Grant	
Dining Hall/ Athletic Facility	\$24,405,585	Governor's Office Grant	
new Morton Building	\$1,200,000	Governor's Office Grant	Completing perimeter work
East Loop/Gateway Entrance	\$3,000,000	HUD Grant	corrective work pending
Chemistry Department Labs and Classrooms	\$353,066	HRSA Grant	
White Hall Roof Replacement	\$458,574	Governor's Office Grant	
Byrd Science Flooring Replacement	\$32,964	Institutional Capital Funds	
Library Façade Repairs	\$8,213	Institutional Capital Funds	
Popodicon Roof Replacement	\$196,998	Governor's Office Grant	
Westwoods Flooring	\$78,842	Governor's Office Grant	
Potomac Place 3rd Floor HVAC Coils	\$100,000	Reserve and Auxiliaries Funds	
IT and Audio Visual Classroom Improvements	\$720,660	USDE Grant	
Frank Center Improvements	\$4,820,000	Governor's Office Grant	
Byrd CHE HVAC improvements	\$100,000	Institutional Capital Funds	
Cuckler Building Emptying and Renovation	\$250,000	Governor's Office Grant	
Reynolds Hall Stage Repair	\$100,000	Institutional Capital Funds	
Westwoods Flooring	\$78,842	Governor's Office Grant	
Boone Field House Switch Gear	\$100,000	Institutional Capital Funds	
Total	\$39,059,253		

APPROVAL OF THE FY2028 CAPITAL FUNDING PRIORITIES

Mr. Alexander will review the Proposed FY2028 Capital Funding Priorities with the Committee and Board.

The following resolution is recommended for adoption by the Board:

RESOLVED, That the Shepherd University Board of Governors approves the FY2028 Capital Funding Priorities as described in the agenda book of June 11, 2026.

West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission (HEPC) Series 12 requires each higher education institution to file its capital funding priorities with the Commission each year.

The purpose of the annual capital projects list is to identify to the Commission the capital projects that the University would wish to pursue during the next two years if funding were available. The Commission may receive direct appropriations from the Legislature to fund capital priorities, or the Commission may receive authorization to issue additional capital bonds for the benefit of state-wide institutions. In either event, the University's list will be integrated by the Commission with lists from all other institutions, and the Commission will establish its statewide priorities for funding projects.

The list of capital priorities on the following page reflects the projects, which would allow the University to begin to implement the objectives of the Facilities Master Plan and the University's strategic objectives.

FY2028 Capital Project Priorities

Description of Project	Projected Amount	Source of Funding
Modernize/Replace Fire Alarm Panels Campus Wide	\$14,000,000	To be determined
Elevator replacement and overhaul, 13 locations	\$3,500,000	To be determined
Dining Hall (East loop) Renovation and Repurpose	\$2,500,000	To be determined
Building Automation Controls Upgrades Campus Wide	\$5,000,000	To be determined
Shaw/Thatcher Halls Renovation	\$12,000,000	To be determined
Gardiner Hall Renovation-Conversion to Faculty Office Bldg	\$6,000,000	To be determined
Sidewalk, street, parking lot and stormwater repairs	\$5,500,000	To be determined
Emergency Backup Equipment (backup power for EGRESS)	\$1,500,000	To be determined
New Operations Bldg (Facilities, Police, Mail)	\$14,000,000	To be determined
Parking Garage	\$14,000,000	To be determined
Building Masonry/Foundation Repairs	\$1,250,000	To be determined
Westwoods Overhaul	\$8,000,000	To be determined
Interior Renovations - White, Stutzman-Slonaker	\$3,000,000	To be determined
Frank Center Renovation- HVAC, Roof, Rigging, Interior Refresh	\$10,000,000	To be determined
Student Center Masonry	\$750,000	To be determined
Tabler Farm Driveway	\$100,000	To be determined
Miller Hall Exterior Masonry	\$1,300,000	To be determined
Miller Hall Roof	\$450,000	To be determined
Miller Hall Interior Renovations/HVAC	\$3,500,000	To be determined
Butcher Center Roof	\$2,500,000	To be determined
Stutzman-Slonaker Roof	\$500,000	To be determined
Snyder Roof	\$600,000	To be determined
Knutti Roof	\$500,000	To be determined
Knutti Interior Renovations	\$3,000,000	To be determined
Scarboro Library HVAC	\$2,500,000	To be determined
Flooring Campus Wide Annual Replacement	\$250,000	To be determined
Potomac HVAC replacement	\$4,000,000	To be determined
Printz-Dunlop hvac piping, data room hvac	\$200,000	To be determined
Interior Access controls 2500 doors x \$800	\$2,000,000	To be determined
Totals	\$122,400,000	

PROPOSED 2026-2027 CHANGES IN APPLICATION AND TRANSCRIPT FEES

Mr. Alexander will present to the Board the proposed changes in 2026-2027 Application and Transcript fees.

The following resolution is recommended for adoption by the Board:

RESOLVED, That the Shepherd University Board of Governors approves the changes in FY2026-2027 Application and Transcript Fees as described in the agenda book of June 11, 2026.

Application Fee Proposal

The University proposes moving to a standardized application fee of \$50 for all student types, including undergraduate and graduate applicants.

Currently, application fees vary across programs:

- Undergraduate application fee: \$45
- MAT application fee: \$60
- Other graduate program application fees: \$40

This variation creates unnecessary complexity and confusion for prospective students and administrative staff. Establishing a single application fee will simplify communications, improve transparency, and create consistency across all admissions processes. Moreover, this will generate approximately \$10,000 in additional revenue.

Transcript Fee Proposal

The University also proposes increasing the official transcript fee from \$5 to \$15 and applying the fee to all transcript requests, including the first request. This is estimated to generate approximately \$31,000 in additional revenue for Shepherd.

Currently, Shepherd charges \$5 for official transcripts sent to employers, institutions, and other external recipients. However, the University is entering into a new agreement with Parchment,

Shepherd's transcript service provider, under which the institutional cost will increase to \$6.27 per transcript.

Under the current fee structure, the University would incur a loss on every transcript processed. The proposed adjustment ensures that transcript services remain financially sustainable while continuing to provide timely and secure delivery for students and alumni.

Additionally, the proposed \$15 fee remains competitive and below or in line with peer institutions:

- Blue Ridge Community and Technical College charges \$10
- West Virginia University charges \$15

These proposed adjustments are intended to improve operational consistency, maintain fiscal responsibility, and support the continued delivery of essential student services.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS FOR 2026-2027

As provided by the state law and Board of Governors' Bylaws, elections are to be held each June for the positions of Chairperson, Vice Chairperson, and Secretary of the Board.

Chairperson

In June of each year, the members shall elect a Chair from among the nine lay members. In the event of a vacancy in the office of chairperson, the vice chairperson shall succeed to the office of chairperson for the rest of that fiscal year and shall remain eligible to serve as chairperson in the following four fiscal years. The chairperson shall perform such duties as may be prescribed by law or by the regulations and policies of the Board. No member may serve as chair for more than four consecutive years.

Vice Chairperson

In June of each year, the members shall elect a Vice Chair from among the nine lay members immediately following election of a Chair. In the event of a vacancy in the office of Vice Chairperson, the members shall elect a Vice Chair at the next meeting following the occurrence of the vacancy. No limitation shall apply as to the consecutive years of service as Vice Chair. The Vice Chair shall perform such duties as may be prescribed by the Board and shall assume the duties of the chairperson during the latter's absence.

Secretary of the Board

In June of each year, the members shall elect a Secretary from among the nine lay members immediately following election of a Chair and Vice Chair. In the event of a vacancy in the office of Secretary, the members shall elect a Secretary at the next meeting following the occurrence of the vacancy. No limitation shall apply as to the consecutive years of service as Secretary. The Secretary shall perform such duties as may be prescribed by the Board and shall preside at meetings in the absence of the Chair and the Vice Chair.

The Nominating Committee, consisting of Henry Kayes, Mina Moore, and Susan Mentzer-Blair met on in April initially and completed its duties mid-May.

At the Board Meeting, the Nominating Committee will recommend a slate of Austin Slater to be Chair, Susan Mentzer-Blair to be Vice Chair, and Lara Omms-Botteicher to be Secretary.

ELECTION OF AUDIT AND NOMINATING COMMITTEES

As provided by the Board of Governors' Bylaws, elections are to be held each June for membership of the Audit Committee, upon a nomination by the newly elected Chair.

The Audit and Finance Committee shall consist of three members, all of whom shall have some experience in matters of finance and/or accounting, and shall include at least one member who possesses accounting or financial management expertise; provided, however, that no Board Member may serve on this Committee at any time that said Member is receiving any compensation, directly or indirectly, for consulting or any service provided to the University. The members of the Committee, and its Chair, shall be elected annually by the Board at the Annual Meeting, following an initial nomination by the newly elected Chair.

ELECTION OF NOMINATING COMMITTEE

As provided in the Bylaws, the Nominating Committee also establishes a slate of nominees for election to the Nominating Committee for the following year. Mr. Kayes is completing his second term on the Board. The Nominating Committee will nominate Mina Moore, Lee Snyder, and Susan Mentzer-Blair to be the 2026-27 Nominating Committee.