

June 14, 2012

West Virginia State University constituents:

Board of Governors, President Hazo W. Carter, Jr., Faculty, Staff, and Students

To all of the constituents of West Virginia State University I express my deep appreciation for the opportunity to implement the wishes of this Board of Governors over this past year. In coordinating the activities of the administrative staff we have worked to further the mission of this University to provide students the opportunity to experience the power of education to realize their aspirations and to meet higher education and economic development needs of the state and region through innovative teaching and applied research. It has been a privilege to work with the staff and faculty and to feel the commitment they have to this University, to our students, and to the enhancement of our presence in our geographic region through our extension services.

In all cases, I have proceeded in consultation with President Hazo W. Carter, Jr., and I am deeply appreciative of the confidence he has placed in me to steer this University in response to the wishes of the Board of Governors. I appreciate the cooperative and strong support of each of the vice presidents as we accomplished several benchmarks this past year, such as

- Improvement of our retention and graduation rates

- Implementation of a campus-wide assessment program

- Constraint in our fiscal operations

- Creation of an Admissions Committee to assist in admission of conditional students

- Development of new academic programs at both the baccalaureate and the graduate levels

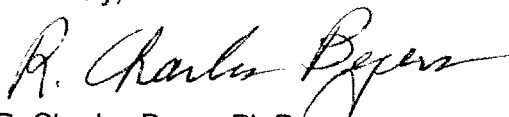
- Growth in our research and extension activities through the Gus R. Douglass Institute

These have been combined efforts supported by all those associated with this Institute campus.

The University's accomplishments under the twenty-five year presidency of Dr. Carter have been widely documented and acclaimed: graduate programs, university status, regaining our Land-Grant status, to name just a few. He has set the standard for continued achievement for all of us. As we embark on the next chapter of the University under incoming Presidency of Dr. Brian Hemphill, we anticipate new vistas for activities as well as continuation of the work in which we are currently involved.

I pledge continued cooperation with the Board of Governors and all our constituents to make West Virginia State University the best it can be for all those whom we serve.

Sincerely,



R. Charles Byers, Ph.D.

Provost & Vice President for Academic Affairs