

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

June 8, 2006

Capital Projects:

- **New Addition to Shepherd University's Web Site:** In response to the community's request for more access to information regarding our construction projects, we have developed a new addition to our web site. You can connect to this new site from the "Construction Updates" link on our home page (www.shepherd.edu), or you can access it directly at: <http://www.shepherd.edu/facilities/projects/>.
- **Center for Contemporary Arts:** We are in the bidding process for a general contractor; we anticipate making the award in June.
- **Infrastructure Work on East and West Campuses:** We are currently installing a sewer line that will run from the new apartments, across the east lawn of Popodicon, and will connect to existing lines in the vicinity of the East-West Campus crosswalk at Route 480.
- **McMurrin Hall:** Paint removal on the final portion (south side) of the building is in progress. October 1, 2006 is the current estimate for completion of this project.
- **Reynolds Hall:** Pending Board of Governors approval, the north wall of Reynolds will be replaced as a part of a foundation repair project along the north and east corner of the building where settlement has occurred over time. Unfortunately, the building will be out of use for approximately one year, and plans are being made to relocate the classes that generally meet in that facility. Other users are being notified of the temporary closure.
- **Nursing Building:** Palmer Construction Company has been awarded the contract for the nursing building. We anticipate construction to begin early this summer with classes being taught in the building in August, 2007. The transition color (red-yellow blend) for the brick used on Ram Stadium will be used for this building as well as for the new student center when it is built.
- **Residence Hall Apartments:** The project is on track, and virtually all of the apartments have been assigned to students for next fall.
- **Blasting Report:** It is my understanding that the town has consulted with a forensic geologist to investigate the impact of the blasting done on East Campus. While I have not personally seen the results of his study, it was reported to me that he gave a report at the Shepherdstown Water and Sewer Board meeting on Thursday, May 25, 2006. I have been provided with the following excerpts from his outline:

OBSERVATIONS AND ANALYSIS

Water flows were above the daily average June-September 2005 and February-March 2006; average for December 2005 and January 2006; and below average for the other months in the period.

Recorded seismic data show that blast energy was below the critical level which would cause significant damage to structures.

Observations of residential structures and discussion with Bavarian Inn Maintenance Manager revealed no significant damage that could be definitely directly attributed to blasting consistent with seismic data.

Water main break discovered six days after last reported blasting event.

CONCLUSIONS

It is difficult to determine from water flow data exactly when the break occurred in the water main.

Blasting was probably not the major cause of the water main break.

The cement asbestos water main pipe was most likely stressed and/or fractured during installation of the wet tap; blasting vibrations may have precipitated a failure that would probably have occurred anyway at a later date.

FY07 Budget Item

- **HEPC Resolution:** Last month I reported that at a special meeting of the HEPC on April 28, 2006 Shepherd's request for an in-state tuition and fee increase of 8.75% was not approved, resulting in an estimated reduction of about \$50,000 of anticipated revenue. Upon further consideration, that estimate has been revised to approximately \$113,000. We have discussed various ways that we can deal with this reduction, but we will not make final decisions until the fall when our actual revenue is known.

Community and Technical College

- **Name Change:** It is my understanding that effective July 1, 2006 the Community College in Martinsburg, formerly known as the CTC of Shepherd, will begin using its new name—Blue Ridge Community and Technical College.

Academic Affairs

- **Graduation:** Shepherd University conducted its Commencement ceremony on Saturday, May 20, 2006. Kay Goodwin, West Virginia Secretary of Education and the Arts, was the keynote speaker. A total of 542 degrees were awarded this year.