

ACF Report to the Senate  
September 2021  
Submitted by Barbara Ladner

This year, the ACF has identified tentative “priorities,” but we would like *your input*, in case there are any issues we have overlooked. The “possible talking points” are indicated NOT to limit each priority, but to give you an idea about what might be included under that priority. We try to state priorities so that they emphasize the good of the State and/or students, rather than as specifically faculty interests that might seem self-serving. Please send me your input at [ladnerbe@wvstateu.edu](mailto:ladnerbe@wvstateu.edu) at your earliest convenience. We will be finalizing them at our September ACF meeting and then bringing them back to the Senate to request endorsement.

PLEASE send me any ideas you have for additional ‘talking points’ (since these help us adapt the priorities to legislation that is actually proposed) or, if you feel there are issues which need to be addressed that are not captured in these priorities, please send suggestions about those.

**1. Ensure that higher education is funded to develop the educated workforce needed to grow the state economy.** Possible ‘talking points’:

- a) Retirement concerns
- b) pay raises
- c) standardized formulas for institutional support
- d) ...

**2. Support an initiative to recruit and retain global talent in West Virginia.** Possible ‘talking points’:

- a) Bill like Ohio’s
- b) tuition
- c) visas
- d) ...

**3. Ensure that the changing employee healthcare needs are effectively and continually met.** Possible ‘talking points’:

- a) fully fund PEIA
- b) family and medical leave coverage
- c) continued COVID support
- d) ...

**4. Ensure transparent and fair employment practices by strengthening due process protections, enhancing shared governance, and preserving tenure and academic freedom.** Possible ‘talking points’:

- a) Institutional health
- b) Academic freedom
- c) include faculty representation in policy and decision making
- d) ...

**5. Support the improvement of the state's broadband coverage.** Possible ‘talking points’:

- a) expand broadband coverage
- b) institutional training for tech and IT
- c) increased state funding to meet ever changing tech needs in education
- d) ...

**6. Ensure institutions of higher education are able to regulate the safety and security of their campuses.**

Possible ‘talking points’:

- a) campus carry
- b) COVID guidelines
- c) Title IX
- d) ...