

1:45 p.m. — WVSOM and the Greenbrier Valley Hub:
Why bio should consider the Greenbrier Valley

Kristie Bridges, Ph.D.
WVSOM Associate Dean for Preclinical Education

Misty Hill
Lewisburg City Manager

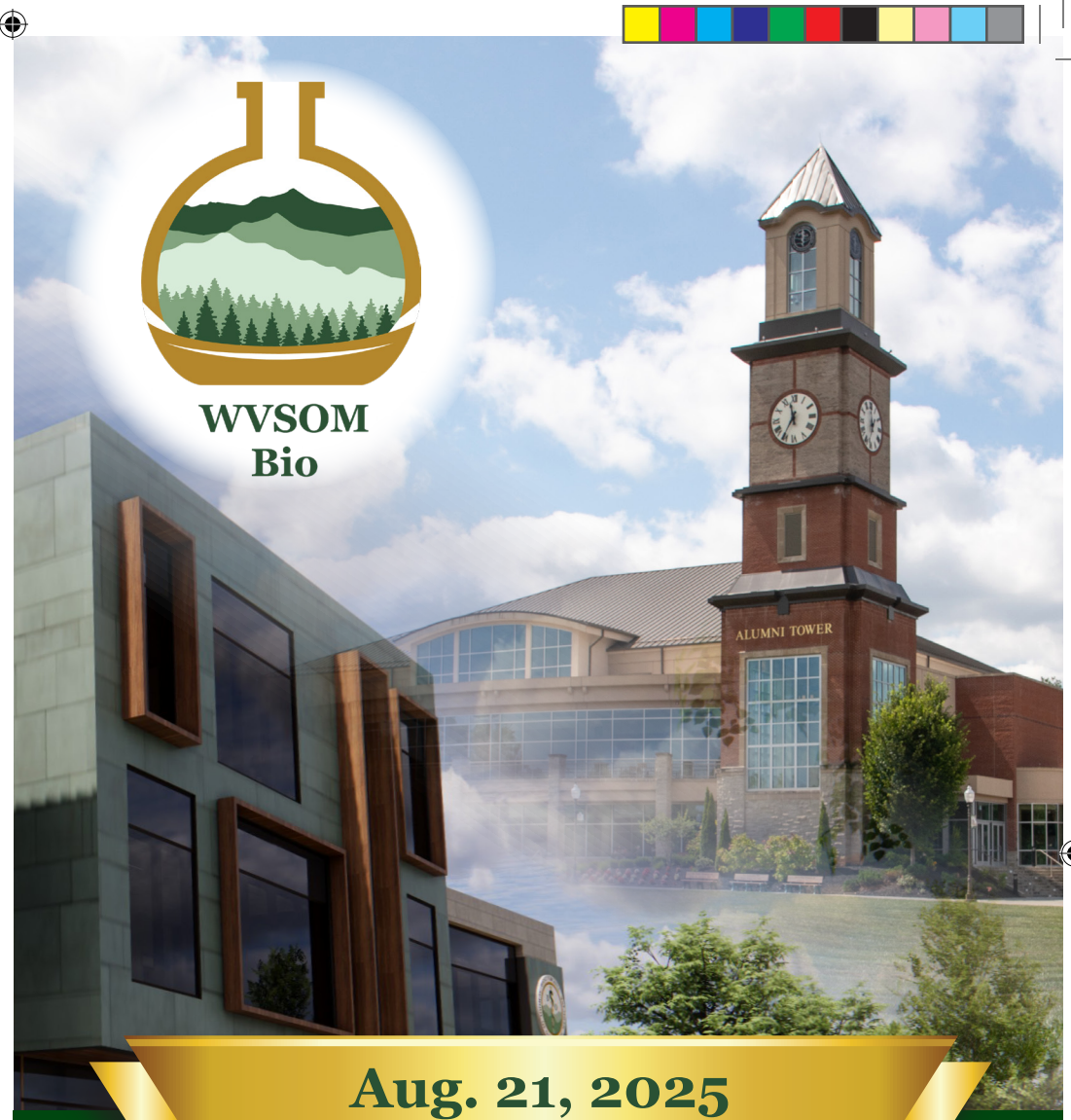
Tammy Tincher
Greenbrier County Commissioner

2:45 p.m. — Conclusion



WEST VIRGINIA SCHOOL OF
OSTEOPATHIC MEDICINE

400 Lee Street North
Lewisburg, WV 24901



Aug. 21, 2025
Economic Development Forum

Today's forum features discussions about the opportunities and challenges of growing the bioscience presence at WVSOM, in the Greenbrier Valley and in West Virginia.



Forum agenda

Shelden Mullens, WWSOM Foundation Development Officer, is today's announcer.

8 a.m. — Breakfast

8:45 a.m. — Welcome to the WWSOM Bio

James W. Nemitz, Ph.D.
Why WWSOM is hosting a bioscience economic development event

Shelley Moore Capito, U.S. Senator
Video

Dovenia Ponoath, Ph.D.
An opportunity exists: research video

Greenbrier Valley Bio Hub panels

9:30 a.m. — Will the biosciences and pharma industry consider West Virginia? Association and industry representatives offer insight

Patrick Plues
*Senior Vice President,
State Government Affairs and Affiliate Relations,
Bio International*

Mark C. Bates, M.D.
*CAMC Cardiologist and Nationally Recognized Clinician,
Innovator and Entrepreneur*

Bryan Brown
*Executive Director,
Bioscience Association of West Virginia*

10:30 a.m. — West Virginia opportunity: Federal and state agencies and organizations explain available programs and support

Stephanie Fertig
Director, National Institutes of Health Small Business Program

Kelsey Staggers
Business Development Manager, West Virginia Division of Economic Development

Ruthana Beezley
Executive Director, Greenbrier Valley Economic Development Corporation

11:30 a.m. — West Virginia leadership: Government officials talk about efforts to attract industry

Matt Herridge
West Virginia Secretary of Commerce

Tom Takubo, D.O.
West Virginia Senator

Vernon Criss
West Virginia Delegate

12:30 p.m. — Lunch, presentations and networking

James W. Nemitz, Ph.D.
will recognize special guests.

Phoebe Patton Randolph
*President, Edward Tucker Architects,
will discuss the design and benefits of the expansion and present a fly-through video.*

Jim Kaufman
*Executive Director, West Virginia Hospital Association,
will provide an update.*