

NEWS RELEASE

American Public University System Marks Commitment to Sustainability, Serving Military and Public Service Professionals, with Grand Opening of Energy-Efficient Finance Center

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U.S. Senator Joe Manchin III (D-W.Va.) and Local Officials Praise Environmentally-Friendly Practices and Community Support

CHARLES TOWN, W.Va.--(BUSINESS WIRE)--Sep. 18, 2012-- [American Public University System](#) (APUS) today celebrated the opening of its new, energy-efficient Finance Center located in the Charles Town-Ranson Corridor of West Virginia. Since relocating its headquarters to Charles Town 10 years ago, APUS has invested more than \$47 million in local construction and building renovation projects, including the state's largest solar array opened in Spring 2012 and Academic Center opened in late 2010.

Left to Right: Dale Manuel, Jefferson County Commissioner; David Hamill, Mayor of Ranson; Honorable U.S. Senator Joe Manchin III (D-W.Va.); Herb Snyder, West Virginia State Senator; Dr. Wallace E. Boston, President and CEO of American Public University System; Peggy Smith, Mayor of Charles Town; Tiffany Lawrence, West Virginia State Delegate; Harry Wilkins, CFO of American Public University System. (Photo by Tom Kochel)

The 105,000 square foot, environmentally-friendly facility features:

- supporting more than 100,000 online students worldwide.
- Construction targeted for LEED certification at the Gold Level or higher, per standards set by the US Green Building Council
- Solar panels providing covered parking while producing power for the building.
- Office and meeting space for more than 400 finance and administrative staff

"This beautiful facility in our beautiful state is a major investment in the Eastern Panhandle as a whole and downtown Charles Town in particular," noted The Honorable U.S. Senator Joe Manchin III (D-W.Va.). "More importantly, it underscores two important things about APUS – its success in providing educational opportunities to students all over the country and the world, and its commitment to a

future of energy efficiency.”

“Few things are as important to America’s economic future as education and energy,” Senator Manchin added. “Nations that best educate their students will be the best equipped to thrive in the 21st Century. And nations that are energy independent will have control over their futures.”

Charles Town Mayor Peggy Smith marked the University’s decade as a member of the community by presenting a ceremonial key to the city to Dr. Wallace E. Boston, APUS president and CEO, who was also congratulated by Ranson Mayor Dave Hamill. In 2002, APUS relocated its headquarters from Manassas, Va., with 11 employees working from a single building. Today, it employs over 500 local employees working in 17 facilities located in the heart of Charles Town, along with nearly 1900 faculty worldwide.

“Our core mission is to expand access to quality, affordable education while addressing the environmental interests of our local and global communities,” said Dr. Boston. “The new Finance Center will help us continue to serve our growing student body even more effectively as we work toward further reducing our already low carbon footprint in the years to come.”

About American Public University System

American Public University System, winner of the Sloan Consortium’s 2009 Ralph E. Gomory Award for Quality Online Education and a recipient of Sloan’s Effective Practice Award in 2009 and 2010, offers 87 online degree programs through its American Public University and American Military University institutions. APUS’s relevant curriculum, affordability and flexibility help more than 100,000 working adults worldwide pursue degrees in subjects ranging from homeland security to management and liberal arts. For more information, visit www.apus.edu.

Photos/Multimedia Gallery Available: <http://www.businesswire.com/cgi-bin/mmg.cgi?eid=50411261&lang=en>

Source: American Public University System (APUS)

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