



FIRST2 NETWORK



WVU Tech Institutional Team



The First2 Network is supported by the U.S. National Science Foundation under Award Number:
HRD-1834595, High Rocks Educational Corporation.

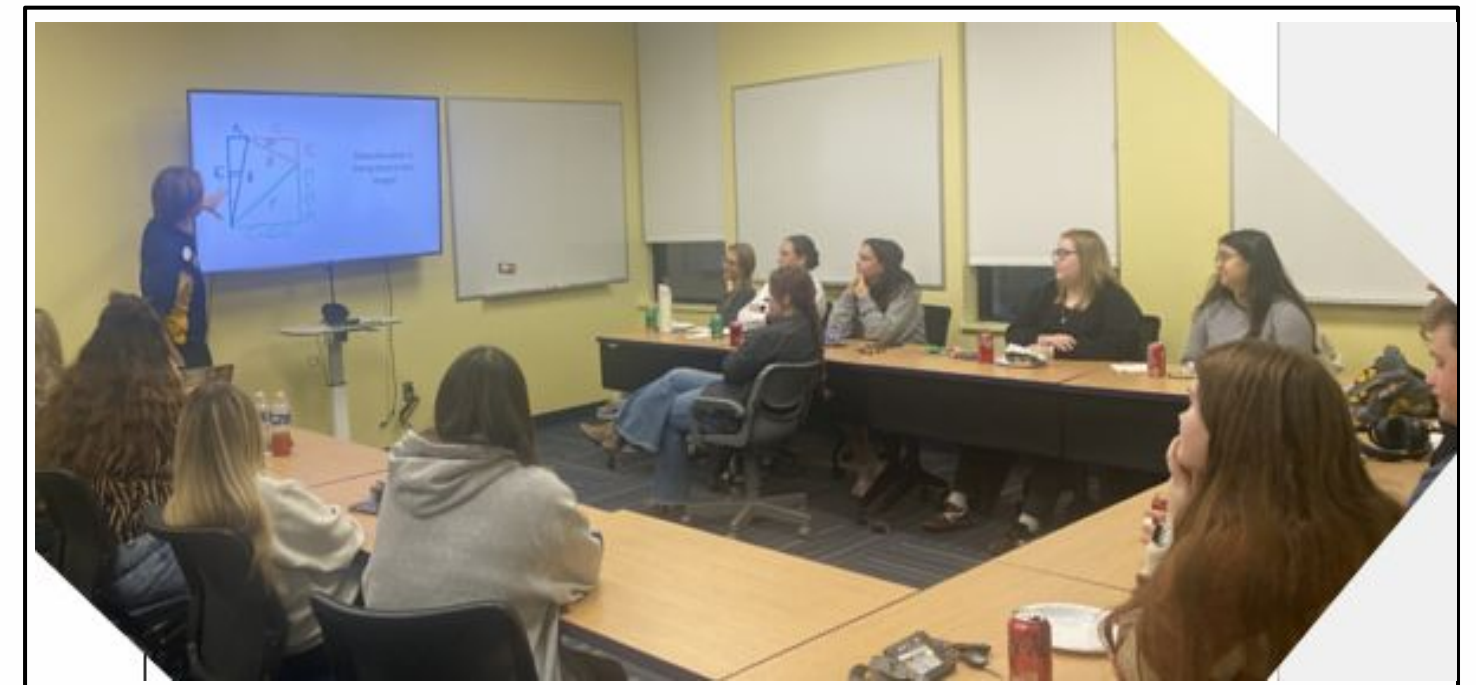


CHANGE IDEA # 1

Impromptu Lectures-renamed Improv Lectures

TRACKER STATUS: Planning/First coaching session completed

Student directors Veronica Brown and Logan Oliver and mentor Kate Horton met to plan the **Impromptu lecture** event and a workshop was held to celebrate First-Gen Week on campus. 27 students, faculty and staff attended and participant feedback was gathered to refine the evolving plan. PDSA coaching was also recently completed, providing direction for the next improvement cycle.





CHANGE IDEA #2

Student-Faculty Trivia and Forensics Escape room

TRACKER STATUS: Planning/Coaching session planned for Jan 2026

In the spring semester (Feb and March 2026), we will host two faculty student community-building events—a Trivia Night and an Escape Room experience in the Forensics House to help us assess and strengthen students' sense of belonging. Student directors Kaida Tanner and Ray Murdorf, along with mentor Aida Jimenez plan to have the first coaching session in Jan 2026.



CHANGE IDEA #3

Student led Q&A Panel on STEM Capstones

TRACKER STATUS: Planning stage, waiting on IRB approval

Inspired by an event last April at WVU, in April 2026 student director Naomi Zafar will host a student-led session where current STEM seniors answer questions and share practical advice about the Capstone experience. First-year students will learn what to expect, how to prepare early, and what skills matter most for success. Dr. Zahmeet Sakkaff is mentoring Naomi on this effort.



CHANGE IDEA #4

Campus Club

TRACKER STATUS: Planning/Coaching session planned for Jan 2026

First-generation students working as part of the First2 institutional team at WVU Tech will continue a student-run campus club focused on connecting first-generation college students in STEM majors to one another (as well as other students and faculty) to increase first-generation students' sense of belongingness in ways that ultimately support overall academic success. Student director and club president Ray Murdorf is leading the weekly meetings over the semester and working with mentor Aida Jimenez on this effort.



Our first-ever collaboration between TRIO and the First2 Network at WVU Tech was a tremendous success. This partnership created an engaging, supportive space for students and set a new standard for future campus collaborations.

2025 WVU Tech First-Generation Week Activities

| Date | Time | Location | Event |
|----------------------------|---------|-------------------------|--|
| Tuesday, November 4th | 1:00 PM | Learning Commons | 8th Annual First-Generation Celebration <i>Sponsored by the West Virginia Higher Policy Commission</i> |
| Wednesday, November 5th | 5:00 PM | Life Sciences 208 | Online Resources Presentation <i>Hosted by the First2 Network and TRIO SSS</i> Free Chick-fil-A |
| Thursday, November 6th | 5:00 PM | LRC 324 | “Impromptu Lectures” <i>Hosted by the First2 Network</i> |

All WVU Tech Students, Faculty, and Staff are encouraged to attend!



Contact Us!

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