Dr. Suzanne Shipley  
Biography  

Dr. Suzanne Shipley is president of Shepherd University. She assumed office in June 2007. Growing up in the Texas panhandle, Dr. Shipley early learned the powerful impact that universities have on a rural community. She participated in campus performances, athletic events, and summer programs for children at nearby Texas Tech University, from which she would later gain a Bachelors and a Master's degree. That closeness to her alma mater turned into a lifelong affiliation with universities, with an academic career beginning at the University of Cincinnati in Ohio. Dr. Shipley worked at universities in Arizona and Maryland before moving to West Virginia.

Under her leadership, the implementation of the *Crossroads Strategic Plan for Shepherd University* led to Shepherd’s acceptance into COPLAC, the prestigious 26-member Council of Public Liberal Arts Colleges. Dr. Shipley oversaw the completion of Shepherd’s first comprehensive campaign, raising over $25 million in foundation and donor funding. Shepherd is currently focused upon preparing students to make an imprint on the world through liberal arts concepts, hands-on experience, and mastery of critical skills.

Dr. Shipley is an American Council on Education Fellow with degrees in German from Texas Tech and the University of Texas. Her research into the lives of German-Jewish women emigrants, funded by a postdoctoral fellowship at Hebrew Union College, resulted in translations of several previously unpublished diaries from the Holocaust.

Dr. Shipley chaired the West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission’s Council of Presidents and led a statewide initiative in adult learning. She is president of COPLAC, vice chair of the West Virginia University Hospital-East Board of Directors and serves on the BB&T Regional Advisory Board.