1. Professor Nigel Clark, Faculty Senate Chair, called the meeting to order at 3:15 p.m. in Assembly Rooms A/B, NRCCE.

2. Chair Clark moved, and it was duly seconded to approve the minutes from the Monday, June 8, 2009 meeting. Motion carried.

3. President Clements thanked Professors Clark and Griffith for the work they do on the Board of Governors (BOG). He said last week they gave a presentation on behalf of the faculty at a retreat.

The President reported on the following issues:

- Kathy Martinez, Assistant Secretary for the Department of Labor, visited the Job Accommodations Network (JAN), which is a world-wide support system for employers and workers with disabilities. During her visit, she called the University a “gem” and she praised faculty and staff working in JAN and within the College of Human Resources and Education for their leadership.
• Last week, WVU was named a top “20” college town, which is a big deal, and Morgantown is a great place to live. WVU is doing a lot of great things, and its future looks very bright.
• The President’s transition has been smooth, and he talks with past interim president, C. Peter Magrath on a regular basis. They will write a paper together on “presidential transitions.”
• During the last few months, the President has made it a goal to “listen” and “learn,” and he has found out that people are dedicated and loyal to the University. He believes there is not a land-grant university within the country that means as much to its State as WVU. It is the big player within the state, and the economic engine that produces the brain power.
• The President said that we can make the University anything we want it to be, so he is open to suggestions. He said we should map out the next 10 years so when people think of WVU, what will they think, and what will they see.
• The new Chancellor for WVU-Health Sciences Center is Christopher Colenda. He is well liked and will fit well at the University.
• Eighty applications were received for the Provost position, and a search firm was not used. Three top-notch finalists were interviewed, and an announcement for the new Provost will be made this week.
• Interim Provost Jane Martin was thanked and applauded by the President and the faculty for doing a great job the past 18 months.
• A national search was held for the vice-president for legal affairs and general counsel, and 55 applications were received. The screening committee has narrowed the applicants down to 10 top-notch candidates. Interviews will be held within the next few weeks.
• The CIO for technology search was re-opened by the Provost Office and two candidates were brought back to the campus. The identified person will meet with the new provost in the near future.
• Registrar, Steve Robinson, was hired over the summer and began working June 30, 2009. He has been implementing new systems.
• Associate Provost for International Programs, Michael Lastinger, has been hired and feedback has been positive. He has worked at the University for 20 years in the Foreign Languages department.
• Enrollment has increased this year by approximately 5%; Morgantown -- 28,600 students; Potomac State -- approximately 1,800 undergraduates; and WV Institute of Technology -- approximately 1,200 undergraduate students; totaling approximately 32,000 students. It is important to note that our graduate student enrollment increased. We need a stronger graduate student population to be more in line with our peers.
• The President attended the opening for the “Honors Residence Hall,” which has approximately 350 students. The building is a 92,000 square foot facility and cost approximately $21 hundred million dollars. There are approximately 1,500 students in the honors college. Professor Keith Garbutt is a resident faculty leader in the facility.
• The White Hall renovations were passed by the BOG last week, which is a $30 million dollar project; renovations will give additional space to the physics department.
• The BOG approved renovations for the first 2 floors of the medical research building, which is a 114,000 square foot facility that will house research on neurodegenerative diseases. The top 2 floors house labs, specialized equipment and faculty spaces.
- The President visited the Blanchette Rockefeller Neurosciences Institute for the first time. Senator Rockefeller attended an event at the Institute for a media announcement.
- The BOG passed a project bill to support more labs and more research space. An announcement was made about outreach, education and a registry data-base that is the third of its kind in the country.
- A milestone achieved is Olgeby Hall, which was built in 1917 and recently became the first building to obtain leadership and energy and environmental design (LEED) certification from the US Green Building Council.
- The level of research needs to be increased, so it may mean hiring new faculty members and/or putting more support structures in place.
- Student success factors need to be improved, such as retention and graduation rates as well as increased diversity, multi-culturalism, and globalization.
- Engagement within the state and increased national and international visibility.
- In order to achieve the goals/themes, there are issues that need tackled, such as: faculty and staff retention, faculty and staff salaries, benefits and workload.
- Faculty and student ratio are approximately 23 to 1 and could be higher. This ratio constrains research as well as other things, so the ratio needs to be decreased.
- Resources in general are an issue, and administrative systems need improved.
- A new electronic tool will be developed that will help with the 2020 vision. A short web-based set of questions will be sent to everyone on campus as well as friends and alumni off the campus. The President encouraged faculty to participate and to get students and faculty to participate so the University’s future can be defined.
- He said he will keep bragging about the University because we have great people doing great things. He mentioned several faculty and students who received awards for great accomplishments.
- The budget is expected to get tight, so costs should be held steady.
- The H1N1 virus is being tracked by a team of people.
- The President is honored to be at WVU. He said it is a great University, a great State and a great community.
- The President discussed where WVU will go from here. He said the transition has been smooth, and he is thankful for the people who have reached out to help him and his family.

4. Interim Provost Martin said it has been a good year and much has been handled and settled, and the University is wonderfully poised for the future. The leadership that we have and those that are coming is exciting, and she said it has been a wonderful experience for her.

Steve Robinson, the new Registrar, has started work. Late October is the projected date for the new CIO to start work. The candidate will meet with the new provost.

Three very fine applicants were interviewed for the new Associate Provost for International Programs. It was an internal search, and Michael Lastinger was selected; the two applicants that were not hired have volunteered to help in any way they can, so with everyone’s help this initiative can move forward.
The Osher Life Long Learning Institute (OLLLI) will reach its 500 membership mark, so it can continue to receive its annual grant. President Clements brought experience with an Osher foundation from Maryland. He pledged his support, and encouraged others to as well.

Interim Provost Martin encouraged faculty, students and staff to stay home if they are sick because the best way to control the swine flu is isolation. She encouraged faculty not to penalize students if they miss class because of sickness, and to be as understanding as possible.

5. Dr. Jan Palmer, Director of Medical Health Services, HSC, discussed the H1N1 flu (swine flu). He asked faculty to encourage their students to not go to class if they are ill, and to not penalize them for doing so. He suggested ways to avoid getting the flu and described flu symptoms. A web site has been developed for flu information, and it can be found at www.well.wvu.edu. Information and posters are being distributed throughout the campuses encouraging precautions to be taken. Dr. Palmer said 30,000 people die every year from influenza. He recommended information about the flu be sent to parents as well.

6. Chair Clark thanked Dr. Palmer, and those in student health and administration for the efforts they have put forth in getting information out about the H1N1 virus. He said faculty should not request a medical excuse for H1N1 from students because in the past the medical excuse business was out of control and abused by students because they would show up at the HSC to receive a “yellow form” to take to faculty, and it did not verify any illness. He encouraged faculty to accommodate students who claim they have the H1N1 virus.

The Chair asked faculty to thank the following members for their time in serving on the provost search committee: Alan Ducatman, Donald Hall, Bojan Cukic, Leslie Tower, and Kyle Hartman; chaired by Rudolph Almasy and staffed by Jessika Thomas, Special Assistant to the Provost.

Jo Marrow, Staff Council Representative, was present. Chair Clark said since the staff is not engaged in the curricular and academic side, he encouraged the Faculty Welfare Committee, Chaired by Amy Hessl, to work with Jo Marrow on future staff issues.

Steve Kite is working on revising the constitution, and the Senate Executive Committee discussed it at its August 24th meeting. The Chair said the Executive Committee took a great deal of time discussing how it will deal with the two representatives on the BOG. Professor Kite will keep the Committee posted on recommendations about quorums and faculty assembly.

Presentations about University finances will continue this semester as well as a presentation from the new Chancellor of HSC, Chris Colenda. When the new provost is announced, he/she will visit the Faculty Senate as well.

Courses need to be closed out that have not been taught for a long time, so language has been prepared for this issue. The Chair said a period of time will be allotted so faculty can inform their deans if certain courses need to be maintained and delete the remaining ones. The Chair thanked the Senate Curriculum Committee for its help in this issue. He gave an overview of issues presented to the BOG and thanked Professors Kite, Kleist and Stolzenberg for their insights.
7. Ilkin Bilgesu, Chair, Curriculum Committee, moved for approval of Annex I, New Courses and Course Changes. Motion carried. Annex II, Alteration Report was presented for information.

8. Beverly Kirby, Chair, General Education Curriculum Oversight Committee, moved for approval of Annex III, GEC Actions. Motion carried.

9. Steve Kite, Chair, Ad hoc Senate Committee on Curriculum Committee’s Procedures, (CCCP), moved to accept Annex IV, 2008-2009 Committee Report and 2009-2010 Committee Goals. Motion carried.

Professor Kite said the Committee was put in place to oversee implementation of an on-line submission process. He said the Committee would like to continue overseeing the process, and hopefully, by October 1st the Senate Curriculum Committee submissions will go live and by the end of the year, the General Education Oversight Committee’s submissions will go live. It was moved and duly seconded to extend the life of the CCCP so it can conclude its duties. Motion carried.

10. Chair Clark said Annex V, 2009-2010 Faculty Senate Committees is listed for information, and it shows the Senate Committees that are presently active.

11. Bruce Sparks, Director, Technology Transfer Office, gave a power point presentation concerning “Intellectual Property and Technology Transfer Activities at West Virginia University.” The presentation can be viewed at: www.facultysenate.wvu.edu/09Files/TechnologyTransferAtWVU9-09.ppt

12. The meeting adjourned at 4:45 p.m. to reconvene on Monday, October 12, 2009.

Mary Strife
Faculty Secretary