1. Professor Mike Lastinger, Faculty Senate Chair, called the meeting to order at 3:15 PM in Assembly Rooms A/B, NRCCE.

Member Present:
Ameri, S.  Cohen, S.  Hornsby, G.  Miller, M.  Riemenschneider, S.
Atkins, C.  Culberson, J.  Howard, S.  Mullett, C.  Riley, W.
Behling, R.  d'Souza, G.  Iskander, W.  Mutz, C.  Royall, B.
Bergner, G.  Eztel, E.  Jacknowitz, A.  Nath, C.  Ruscello, D.
Bilgesu, I.  Dillis, C.  Johnson, D.  Nelson, C.  Selin, S.
Bowen, E.  Dixon, S.  Kershner, R.  Nutter, R.  Steranka, P.
Branch, D.  Douglas, W.  Kleist, V.  Olson, K.  Stolzenberg, A.
Brooks, R.  Gerbo, R.  Kuhlman, J.  Outterson, K.  Tauger, M.
Brown, G.  Gladwin, M.  LaGodna, B.  Panaccione, D.  Temple, J.
Brown, P.  Griffith, R.  Lastinger, M.  Peace, G.  Verlinden, S.
Bryan, W.  Held, J.  Long, K.  Perry, J.  Weihman, L.
Bryner, R.  Hill, R.  Mays, M.  Petronis, J.  Wilcox, G.
Burton, J.  Hoey, J.  McDiarmid, M.  Putman, H.  Wilkinson, C.
Campbell, L.  Hornak, L.  McNerney, K.  Richards, A.  Woloshuk, J.

Members Absent:
Abbott, J.  Grose, K.  Mandich, M.  Rezaei, A.  Valentine, S.
Almond, C.  Harris, B.  McCutcheon, T.  Robbins, J.  Van Loo, I.
Clark, N.  Howell, R.  Milhoan, P.  Rosen, C.  Voelker, J.
Cook, L.  Hurst, M.  Morgan, D.  Sand-Jecklin, K.  Walker, E.
Cottrell, L.  Islam, S.  Myers, T.  Sedgeman, J.  Wilson, R.
Cumming, J.  Jackson, K.  Napolitano, M.  Sexton, A.  Wright, F.
Dedhia, H.  Janson, D.  Nuss, M.  Shambaugh, N.  Yeater, R.
Elmore, S.  Kite, S.  Ogershok, P.  Stockdale, T.  
Garbutt, K.  Latimer, M.  Price, S.  Townsend, C.  
Graeber, J.  Lively, M.  Rassekh, C.  Ullrich, I.  

2. It was moved and duly seconded to approve the minutes from the October 10, 2005 meeting. Motion carried.

3. Chair Lastinger reported that Joe Fisher, Assistant Vice-President for Facilities, will attend the December 12th meeting to discuss, “sustainable practices,” which stemmed from a motion made by Paul Brown in the spring concerning “a green campus.”

The Chair said Narvel Weese, Assistant VP Planning, will give a financial report at the December 12th meeting. Senators will be invited to the Blaney House for a reception given by the President and Susan Hardesty after the meeting.

4. The Chair asked for the endorsement of the “Advisory Council of Faculty Legislative Agenda” that was posted to the Faculty Senate webpage. It was moved and duly seconded. Motion carried. Professor Bryan suggested that the items listed in the agenda, in addition to salary and benefit items, be discussed before the state legislature.
5. Professor Mays moved for approval of the following Curriculum Committee reports:
   Annex I. New Courses and Course Changes. Motion carried.
   Annex II. Minor in Leadership Studies. A hand count was taken -- 32 in favor/23 opposed/4 abstentions. Motion carried.
   Annex III. Minor in Rural Community Development. Motion carried.
   Annex IV. Minor in Family and Consumer Sciences. Motion carried.
   Annex V. Minor in Religious Studies. Motion carried.
   Annex VI. Curriculum Revisions for Recreation, Parks and Tourism Resources. Motion carried.
   Annex VII. The Alteration Report was submitted for information.

6. Professor Held moved for approval of the General Education Committee report listed in Annex VIII. Motion carried.

7. Professor Hornak said the Strategic Planning and Assessment Implementation Committee has been meeting weekly, and it has started reviewing individual goals of the document that was approved in June. He said information will be gathered from the colleges and specific units, and the deans will be given an initial assessment to determine where they stand regarding their own activities and planning. He said over the coming months, the committee will look at various opportunities for alignment with the University’s strategic plan. The first response from the deans will be to look at a snapshot of what is currently out there and where people are going in terms of their own planning and assessment processes. Professor Hornak said there will be a second phase in the spring, so by then the deans should be in contact with departments. He asked senators to listen for feedback from the deans or other department levels to see how their units will connect and contribute to the strategic planning. Professor Hornak said the strategic planning document was approved in September, 2005, by the Board of Governors, and it is posted to the Provost’s webpage.

8. Professor Hornak reported on the Ad hoc Committee on Senate Organization and Research on Graduate Education Engagement. He said the first phase report included the activity of reforming the research grants committee plus having discussion for research and scholarship and how to enhance the environment for it on campus. The second phase of activity involves looking at the structures and processes within the Faculty Senate and the University at large for the Graduate Council and extending to the Research Office. He said the Ad hoc committee includes Robert Stitzel, Director, Graduate Council, and Andrew Hawkins, Graduate Council Chair. The focus of the group will be to look at ways to streamline and enhance the current processes within the Faculty Senate. Professor Hornak said changes may include having cross representation by having the Curriculum Committee look at graduate courses and have a graduate council representative sit on the Faculty Senate Executive Committee. Process changes are more intricate and deal with both graduate courses and graduate programs, and communication plays a vital part by making sure everyone is clear on what is going on and what is moving through. A recommendation from the Ad hoc committee will be forthcoming to the Faculty Senate in either December or January, and if everything goes well, the Ad hoc committee will be dissolved either this month or in December.
9. Kevin Outterson, faculty senator, and representative for the state to the pharmaceutical cost management council as a PEIA beneficiary, reported on a meeting held recently concerning the PEIA board report on premium increases. He said the premiums for employed PEIA beneficiaries will go up over the next 12 months (7% in the first step, effective January 1, 2006 and 22% in the second step, effective July 1, 2006). He said he looked at projections between now and 2010, and premiums for retirees will increase 128% and premiums for employees will increase 89%. He said the two cost drivers accounting for 95% of PEIA costs are hospital/medical expenditures and pharmaceutical expenditures. Drug costs are increasing twice as fast as physician/hospital costs. He asked the Senate's assistance in addressing this problem before we face increases of this magnitude next year. Copies of the PowerPoint presentation were made available to senators.

Chair Lastinger said this item is on the table for ACF discussion.

10. Professor Bryan asked the Faculty Senate to oppose the mid-week football games because the games are increasing the party image for WVU and overlaps too much with academics. Another concern he had was that the WVU Office of Social Justice be held accountable for its actions.

11. Professor Wilkinson gave a brief history of why some of the WVU football games are held in the evenings. He addressed Professor Bryan’s concern about the actions taken by the Office of Social Justice by saying that there are enormous constraints imposed by federal law on details of various cases, but he felt it would be helpful to have a “frank exchange of views” with representation from the Office of Social Justice on how they conduct their business.

12. The meeting adjourned at 4:25 p.m. to reconvene on Monday, December 12, 2005.

Mary Strife
Faculty Secretary