1. Professor Mike Lastinger, Faculty Senate Chair, called the meeting to order at 3:15 PM in Assembly Rooms A/B, NRCCE. He asked that a moment of silence be taken for WVU student Ryan Johnston.

Member Present:
Abbott, J.    Dillis, C.    Janson, D.    Napolitano, M.    Selin, S.
Atkins, C.    Douglas, W.    Kershner, R.    Nelson, C.    Stockdale, T.
Bergner, G.    Etzel, E.    Kite, S.    Nutter, R.    Stolzenberg, A.
Bilgesu, I.    Garbutt, K.    Kleist, V.    Olson, K.    Taeger, M.
Bowen, E.    Gerbo, R.    LaGodna, B.    Outterson, K.    Townsend, C.
Brooks, R.    Gladwin, M    Lastinger, M.    Panaccione, D.    Verlinden, S.
Brown, G.    Graeber, J.    Latimer, M.    Peace, G.    Walker, W.
Bryan, W.    Held, J.    Lively, M.    Perry, J.    Weihman, L.
Burton, J.    Hill, R.    Long, K.    Petronis, J.    Wilcox, G.
Campbell, L.    Hoey, J.    Mandich, M.    Richards, A.    Wilkinson, C.
Canfield, P.    Hornak, L.    McCutcheon, T.    Riemenschneider, S.    Woloshuk, J.
Clark, N.    Hornsby, G.    McNerney, K.    Royall, B.    Yeater, R.
Cohen, S.    Howard, S.    Miller, M.    Ruscello, D.    
Cumming, J.    Iskander, W.    Mutz, C.    Sand-Jecklin, K.    
Dedhia, H.    Jacknowitz, A.    Myers, T.    Sedgeman, J.    

Members Absent:
Almond, C.    D’Souza, G.    Mays, M.    Putman, H.    Rllrich, I.
Behling, R.    Elmore, S.    McDiarmid, M.    Rassek, C.    Valentine, S.
Branch, D.    Griffith, R.    Milhoan, P.    Riley, W.    Van Loo, I.
Brown, P.    Grose, K.    Morgan, D.    Robbins, J.    Voelker, J.
Bryner, R.    Harris, B.    Mulett, C.    Rosen, C.    Wilson, R.
Cook, L.    Hurst, M.    Nuss, M.    Sextone, A.    Wright, F.
Cottrell, L.    Jackson, K.    Ogershok, P.    Shambaugh, N.    
Culberson, J.    Kuhlman, J.    Price, S.    Temple, J.    

2. President Hardesty said it is a tragic time on campus when it loses a student. He said Ryan Johnston died last week, and the investigation is still underway. The President said Ryan was known as a great student with a wonderful smile that came from a wonderful family. He asked that faculty members and administrators learn from the situation and share what is learned.

The President said the Joint Governing Board members were on campus this weekend, as well as the Board of Governors, the Foundation Board members and members of the Alumni Association. WVU continues to be in a sound financial condition due to enrollment, research growth and the increasing entrepreneur mentality of faculty and staff. WVU successfully transitioned to a new governor who has shown a real interest in the University. He said there has been athletic success in several sports, and it has been a good fund-raising year. Buildings are on schedule, and procedures for the Board of Governors have changed. The
good year has also brought the impression of a successful school, and in some areas, hiring is being done in significant numbers.

WVU is the only Institution to go to the Elite 8 in basketball and BCS in football, which has given national promise. 17,000 people attended the Sugar Bowl. The Sugar Bowl game featured the Forensics program. He said CNN visited and did a 7-1/2 minute segment on the Forensics program, which ran twice on January 2, 2006. WVU is getting national exposure not only in this area, but the miner from the SAGO mine was nationally recognized as well. Larger crowds are being drawn to WVU; people know of the academic programs as well as the athletic programs.

The President said the latest development is the pending gift from Dow Chemical to create a Charleston area campus and research park. There is a lot of opportunity coming from the national exposure that WVU is receiving, but the President cautioned the board members to not take it for granted and to not become complacent because he said challenges will indeed come. State funding projections, while good this year, have their limits and it is anticipated that state expenditures will exceed state revenue collections in 2 or 3 years; thus, there will be higher tuition to replace the revenue, and scholarship money will have to be raised. The President said marketing efforts will have to be increased; the Institution will rely on other opportunities; for instance, more private giving and more student research. He said congress is cutting back to balance the budget; therefore, it will hurt higher education. There will be large numbers of retirements for faculty and staff in the next few years, and they will have to be replaced. Competition is real; flagship Universities now see WVU as a competitor. Human Resource systems will need to be brought into alignment with what will support our modern-day University. Regional campuses are not participating at the same extent as WVU; recent discussions have addressed enrollment issues for WVU-Tech. The President said challenges remain and individual and collective action will have to be taken to make sure WVU stays on top of the game.

The President stood for questions.

3. Chair Lastinger said the Higher Education Policy Commission (HEPC) met on Friday, February 3, 2006, and the Advisory Council of Faculty (ACF) met in the afternoon. The following activities and initiatives were discussed at those meetings:

- The Search Committee is narrowing down the list of candidates for a new chancellor.
- Clark Egnor, from the International Programs at Marshall, gave a presentation concerning, “internationalizing the curriculum in higher education”.
- A conference will be held in Charleston on February 24-25th (more information concerning the conference will be forthcoming).
- House Bill 4049 involves funding for the Promise Scholarship, which is engaged with the reorganization of the HEPC.
- The reorganization would include representatives from the ACF, the ACCE (advisory council of classified employees), the head of EPSCOR (competitive research initiative), and representatives from higher education at large.
• Redefinitions of the salary and job descriptions for the chancellor and vice-chancellor of Health Sciences.
• Charles Bayless, President of WVU-Tech, gave a detailed report concerning Dow Chemical, WVU-Tech, WVU, and Marshall University working together toward a new engineering program in Charleston.
• The ACF received a report from Mark Stotler, from the HEPC Office, noting that in Series 23 – 2008 admission requirements will pose challenges for students meeting math and science requirements.
• The ACF is discussing the annual experience increment (AEI). Two questions involved state funding and the definition of full-time faculty. The ACF takes the position that the AEI should be state funded and that the standard definition of full-time faculty should be used in determining eligibility.
• The BOG met last Friday. A new “Honor’s College” has been recognized.
• February 24th will be “Faculty Day at the Capitol” in Charleston; flyers were available concerning this event.

4. Ed Pastilong, Director, Internal Administrative Affairs, reported on athletics. He said it was a good time to speak about athletics because of the “winning streak” that has taken place in both basketball and football this year, but he said the competition is great, so it may come to an end soon. Mr. Pastilong said he was proud of the athletic department, but most importantly, that they play by the rules. He said he wants to make sure that the University is proud of the department’s accomplishments and that the pride is not tarnished by any errors that may be made in regards to NCAA rules. He said in the last 15 years, the athletic department has been certified twice by the NCAA, and there is an oversight committee in place that works with Brad Cox which meets monthly with the chair of the athletic council, the chief of staff, the University auditor, and the NCAA representative.

5. It was moved and duly seconded to approve the minutes from the January 9, 2006 meeting. Motion carried.

6. Professor Gwen Bergner, Chair-elect, Senate Curriculum Committee, moved for approval of the following reports:

   Annex I, New Courses and Course Changes. She said HIST 115 should be HIST 124. Motion carried.
   Annex II, BSMine Curriculum Revisions. Motion carried.
   Annex III, The Alteration Report was submitted for information.

7. Professor Jim Held, Chair, GEC Committee, moved for approval of the GEC report listed in Annex IV. He said HIST 115 should be HIST 124. Motion carried.

8. New Business

Chair Lastinger said Senate Bill 549 was introduced as a new Bill on February 10, 2006. He said the Bill will redefine the role of the Faculty Senate and its relationship with the HEPC; it
can be found at the WV Legislative site. The Chair said the Senate Executive Committee and the Joint Rules Committee will review and discuss the new Senate Bill.

Provost Lang said it has been 4 months since the BOG approved the University’s Strategic Plan, and the implementation team has been working diligently on it. The Provost gave an overview concerning, “WVU’s 2010 Strategic Plan.”

Chair Lastinger read the following article that he had written down several months ago:

"Higher education is increasingly seen as an individual privilege rather than a public good. This is reversal in a trend toward greater access that began nearly a millennium ago with the founding of the first great 'state universities' of the West, at Oxford and at the Sorbonne. The danger today, when private advantage takes priority over the general good is that privilege triumphs over justice and the quest for truth itself is imperiled. The consequent threat to knowledge is moral, intellectual, and economic."

The Chair said Mr. Dan Boroff, Morgantown’s City Manager, will speak to the Faculty Senate next month, March 13th. Professor Cohen asked if senators would be available next month since the Faculty Senate meeting falls on spring break. Chair Lastinger said the Executive Committee would review the possibility of changing the meeting date; although, it may be too late to change the date for next month, the Chair said in the future, when the calendar is being set, the Faculty Senate meeting will be taken into consideration.

Professor Clark said in approximately one month, a vote would be taken concerning the TIAA-CREF state teacher’s retirement plan. He said the vote may oblige others to move back to the original state teacher’s retirement system who are now in the defined contribution plan. He said he would talk with other senators who are interested in this issue.

9. The meeting adjourned at 4:40 p.m. to reconvene on Monday, March 13, 2006.

Barbara Dunn
Committee Secretary