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

Members Present:
Bergner, G. Edwards, A. Iskander, W. Nath, C. Strife, M.
Bowen, E. Famouri, P. Jones, R. Nutter, R. Urbanski, J.
Brown, J. Gibson, L. Killefer, J. Orndorff, J. Ward, B.
Bruner, L. Hanson, R. Lastinger, M. Perry, J. Ward, H.
Bull, L Helmondollar, R. Loudin, B. Ruscellos, D. Wenger, S.
Cercone, J. Hill, R. Malanga, C. Sencindiver, J. Wilcox, D.
Collins, A. Hornak, L. McCormick, R. Simmons, G. Wilkinson, C.
Davis, L. Howell, R. McDiarmid, M. Smith, L. Woloshuk, J.
Dixon, S. Hummel, M. McGrath, J. Stack, S. Yelton, D.

Members Absent:
Badzek, L. Gebremedhin, T. Kuhlman, J. Palmer, J. Trajkovski, G.
Baylis, C. Graber, G. Larrabee, J. Pearson, T. Turton, R.
Bonanno, S. Graeber, J. Lewis, R. Petronis, J. VanCamp, R.
Brady, L. Hissom, J. McFadden, D. Raynes, R. Wasson, N.
Branch, D. Hogan, T. McGinley, P. Riley, W. Williams, J.
Clark, K. Juckett, G. Meding, T. Scea, P. Woodrum, D.
Cooper, B. Karther, A. Miles, T. Stamatakis, M. Wright, F.
Davis, T. Keyes, G. Morgan, D. Stanley, C. Yasek, V.
Dedhia, H. Kolar, M. Muchant, D. Stanton, B.
Elfenbein, A. Krainak, P. Nadler, S. Stark, L.

2. It was moved and duly seconded to approve the minutes for the February 11, 2002, meeting. Motion carried.

3. Provost Lang said the Legislature is in the final week of deliberating the budget. He reported on the following 5 initiatives that will affect WVU this upcoming year:

- Capital debt financing
- Identification of peers and peers of other Institutions
- Tuition/fee increase
- Research and economic development
- Total budget

The Provost said these issues affect WVU and the Health Sciences Center, and he encouraged the regional campuses to talk with their regional campus presidents. He said all the campuses will have similar issues like mandated increases in BRIM, mandated salary increases, mandated PEIA increases, and possible fee/tuition increases. The Provost said if the regional campuses have questions, they should be submitted to the chair, and he will send them to the Provost.
Professor John McGrath, Physical Education, asked the Provost "If the reversion of the Governor goes through and there is no money for merit or raises will the administration adhere to the same?"

Provost Lang replied: "Sure. I don't expect to get a pay raise if in fact there is no pay raise money."

4. The chair said the Board of Governors discussed the Legislature agenda via conference call on Friday, March 1, 2002. He said Potomac State was granted permission to include Social Studies and English as part of the Baccalaureate degree in Education. The chair said the next Board of Governor’s meeting will be April 12, 2002.

The chair said candidates are being considered for Faculty Senate chair-elect. Interested senators should speak with the chair or chair-elect, Stan Cohen.

5. It was moved and duly seconded to re-appoint Mary Strife as Faculty Secretary. Motion carried.

6. Professor Jones moved approval of the following Curriculum Committee Reports:
   - Annex I, New Courses and Course Changes. Motion carried.
   - Annex II, Capstone Report. Motion carried.
   - Annex III, MDS Capstone. Motion carried.
   - Annex IV, LA&S Program Change. Motion carried.

7. Professor Hornak moved approval of the following Liberal Studies Report:
   - LSP Committee Course Recommendations. Motion carried.
   - Courses removed from LSP list was presented for information.

8. There was no report from the Advisory Council of Faculty representative.

9. The chair said an ad hoc committee has been appointed by the Senate Executive Committee to select volunteers from the three campuses to serve on the parking committee. The chair said if other senators would like to volunteer, they should contact Professor Wilkinson. The ad hoc committee will report to the Executive Committee at its next meeting. The parking committee will include 6 faculty, 6 staff and 2 students. They will have 5 meetings and will bring a report to the May Faculty Senate meeting.

10. Professor Bilgesu said the Student Instruction Committee recommends that plus/minus grading be eliminated from the present grading system. He said the committee will present a report at a later date.

11. The chair said a request has been received from West Virginia Institute of Technology to continue selecting its own senators to serve on the Faculty Senate and not participate in the annual senate election. The chair granted the request.
12. The chair will put an announcement in Mountaineer E-News that the draft constitution is ready for review.

13. Dr. D’Alessandri discussed the “Facilities Master Plan” for the Health Sciences Center, and a map of the plan was distributed. He said the plan is to reflect the state of West Virginia and maintain a “heart” where people can come together.

14. New Business:

Provost Lang discussed the “Family Friendly Practices for Faculty Members” document that was distributed. He said it will be posted on the Provost’s web page for a 30 day comment period, and he will put an announcement on Mountaineer E-News. The Provost said faculty needs such as family and/or personal illnesses, elderly care, child birth, and other such circumstances have been recognized; therefore, a compilation has been pulled together to help faculty understand the provisions available to them. The Provost said a list of such circumstances is mentioned on the first page of the document. On the second page, it says a tenure faculty member could reduce their status to something less than 1-FTE if they have to deal with family related issues. If faculty were above .53 in their assignment, they could remain benefits eligible; thus, the interpretation of tenure track faculty is important. He said the policies were permitted because of word changes that were put into Policy 2 and Series 9. The Provost said the change permits the slowing of the tenure clock so additional time could be spent on family responsibilities.

Associate Provost C.B. Wilson said health related requests will be validated by the office of medical management and will be confidential. He said the decision-making process will be validated by allowing the person to extend years or drop below full-time. The Provost said the recommendation has been endorsed by senior management and deans.

The chair asked the Faculty Welfare Committee to review the proposal and bring its recommendation to the April 8th Faculty Senate meeting.

Professor Gwen Bergner proposed a change in the process of approving recipients of honorary degrees. She said the present process seems rushed, and she would like to see the following suggestions put in place: nominations be distributed to the senators one week before voting; discussion time; and a confidential written ballot be distributed.

The chair asked Professor Bergner to attend the Senate Executive Committee so the recommendations can be discussed and voted on. It was moved and duly seconded that the proposal be moved to committee. Motion carried.

15. The meeting adjourned at 4:45 p.m. to reconvene on April 8, 2002.

Mary Strife
Faculty Secretary