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

Members Present:
- Almond, C.
- Always, S.
- Ameri, S.
- Atkins, C.
- Badzek, L.
- Beichler, J.
- Bergner, G.
- Bilgesu, H.
- Blackwood, A.
- Brady, L.
- Branch, D.
- Brister, C.
- Brooks, R.
- Brown, James
- Brown, Jo
- Bryan, W.
- Buchanan, T.
- Badzek, L.
- Campbell, K.
- Beichler, J.
- Cercene, J.
- Collins, A.
- Culberson, J.
- Davis, L.
- Driver, R.
- Elmore, S.
- Famouri, P.
- Lastinger, M.
- Fones-Wolf, E.
- Garbutt, K.
- Hanson, R.
- Helmondollar, R.
- Hornak, L.
- Hornsby, G.
- Howell, R.
- Hurst, M.
- Iskander, W.
- Johnson, D.
- Jones, R.
- Kuhlman, J.
- Larrabee, J.
- Larrabee, J.
- Lastinger, M.
- Long, K.
- Loudin, B.
- Loyd, B.
- Mays, M.
- Milhoan, P.
- Mulkeen, P.
- Nelson, C.
- Pearson, T.
- Peri, J.
- Perry, J.
- Petronis, J.
- Pyle, E.
- Rafter, W.
- Rauch, H.
- Rosen, C.
- Rosen, K.
- Scecina, D.
- Sencindiver, J.
- Sumbor, M.
- Stolzenberg, A.

Members Absent:
- Bagby, M.
- Behling, R.
- Brown, G.
- Clark, K.
- Cooper, B.
- France, K.
- Freeman, B.
- Kolar, M.
- Kuhlen, J.
- Kenney, P.
- Gibson, L.
- Krainak, P.
- McNatt, S.
- Justice, A.
- Islam, M.
- Kolar, M.
- Krainak, P.
- McNatt, S.
- Justice, A.
- Islam, M.
- Kolar, M.
- Krainak, P.
- McNatt, S.
- Justice, A.
- Islam, M.
- Kolar, M.
- Krainak, P.
- McNatt, S.
- Justice, A.
- Islam, M.
- Kolar, M.
- Krainak, P.
- McNatt, S.
- Justice, A.
- Islam, M.
- Kolar, M.
- Krainak, P.
- McNatt, S.

2. Chair Cohen reported on the following issues:

- The Faculty Senate Office is in the process of conducting elections for new senators.
- A candidate for chair-elect will be nominated at the March, Senate Executive Committee meeting; the nominee will be presented before the Senate at the April 14th meeting.
- The election for the new Faculty Senate Executive Committee will be done by a paper ballot at the May 12th Faculty Senate meeting.
- Reports were presented from faculty, staff and students at the BOG meeting.
- A video presentation, “Building Greatness…In All Our Endeavors,” was presented by the Chair; it included various WVU faculty members who had recently won awards in teaching, research and service.

3. Provost Lang reported on the following issues from Senate House Bill 2224, which was passed on Saturday, March 8, 2003:

- Potomac State College will be changed from a regional campus to a fully-integrated division. The change will become effective July 1, 2005.
- Glenville State College will remain a 4-year institution, but its technical and community college will be split up between Fairmont and Bluefield State Colleges.
Language changes include looking at low enrollment for introductory classes and cost savings to remain at the institutions.

Governing Boards will continue to provide a salary increase of up to 10% for faculty promoted in rank.

The Senate Bill limits undergraduate, resident, tuition and fee increases to no more than 9.5% in any fiscal year, except for the community and technical colleges which are limited to an increase of no more than 4.75%. After the BOG approves, the HEPC will need to approve; increases are not automatic and will not be approved as across the board increases for all institutions.

The HEPC will look at efficiency measures and make sure increases are directed to high quality programs.

President Hardesty will chair a small committee to review how criteria will be outlined for the HEPC; institutions will report tuition and fee increases for upcoming years.

The Senate Bill is 87 pages and will take time to review. The budget is being discussed this week and indications of it will be available for review at the end of the extended session.

Provost Lang discussed the Institutions position on the severance plan:

The University is perceived as a “best buy” and University of choice by students within West Virginia and other states. As budget cuts and the deficit continue to be discussed, a consulting firm was hired to assist the University in deciding if a severance plan should be an option. Based on the data introduced, it has been decided to not offer a severance plan to faculty, non-classified staff and administrators. A severance plan for classified staff is still under consideration. The growing enrollment already has placed extreme demands on faculty, so it does not make sense to have an incentive for faculty to leave the University. WVU would not gain the resources it needs by offering a severance plan. The severance plan is not an early retirement plan, but it is based on years of service.

The current phased retirement program is being adjusted to make it available for those who have reached 60 years of age.

Marshall University has chosen to discuss its budget crisis by publicly presenting the option of a 5-day furlough, which would recoup approximately $1.3 million dollars. It would help off-set, but will not help the structural budget deficit. WVU is not discussing furloughs.

4. Professor Famouri 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, Modify the Requirements for the B.A. in Multidisciplinary Studies. Motion carried.
Annex IV, Revised BSPNGE Curriculum. Motion carried.
Annex V, The Alteration Report was presented for information.
5. Professor Lastinger moved for approval of the LSP report. Professor Kuhlman recommended that the wording be changed to “recommend approval by the Faculty Senate.” Motion carried.

6. Professor Howell presented the Student Evaluation of Instruction Interpretive Guide as an information item. Professor Bergner requested the guide have a link on the Faculty Senate web page. Chair Cohen said he will meet with the Provost about also linking the guide to his web page.

7. Professor Wilkinson reported on the General Education Review Ad Hoc Committee. He said the committee is moving toward a new conception of general education, and it is a work in progress. The committee is presently identifying 8 or more fundamental learning outcomes, which will come from the major or general education. Professor Wilkinson said models from other institutions have been reviewed. A draft may be ready for discussion this fall, so the implementation process may be ready by the end of the next academic year.

8. Chair Cohen said he has had discussions with the Tom Long, ACF Representative; next month a special meeting of faculty senate chairs and advisory council of faculty representatives will be held with Chancellor Mullen.

9. The meeting adjourned at 4:35 p.m. to reconvene Monday, April 14, 2003.

Mary Strife
Faculty Secretary