MINUTES
THE WEST VIRGINIA UNIVERSITY FACULTY SENATE
SEPTEMBER 9, 2002

1. Following President Hardesty’s “State of the University” address, Professor Stan Cohen, Faculty Senate Chair, called the meeting to order at 4:15 PM in Assembly Rooms A/B, NRCCE.

Members Present:
Almond, C. Buchan, T. Iskander, W. Nath, C. Stack, S.
Ameri, S. Cercone, J. Johnson, D. Nelson, C. Stamatakis, M.
Behling, R. Culberson, J. Larrabee, J. Perry, J. Townsend, C.
Bilgesu, H. Davis, L. Lastinger, M. Petronis, J. Urbanski, J.
Blackwood, A. Elmore, S. Loudin, B. Pyle, E. Valentine, S.
Brady, L. Famouri, P. Loyd, B. Rafter, W. VanCamp, R.
Branch, D. Fones-Wolf, E. Mays, M. Raynes, R. Ward, H.
Brister, C. France, K. McGrath, J. Riley, W. Wenger, S.
Brooks, R. Garbutt, K. McNatt, S. Rosen, K. Wilcox, G.
Brown, G. Hanson, R. Meith, S. Ruscello, D. Williams, Jennifer
Brown, James Hornak, L. Millhoan, P. Selin, S. Woloshuk, J.
Brown, Jo Howell, R. Mulkeen, P. Sencindiver, J. Yancey, M.
Bryan, W. Hurst, M. Napolitano, M. Sherwood, L. Yeater, R.

Members Absent:
Badzek, L. Driver, R. Hummel, M. McFadden, D. Palmer, J.
Beichler, J. Freeman, B. Juckett, G. McGinley, P. Scea, P.
Bergner, G. Gibson, L. Kolar, M. Miles, T. Simmonds, M.
Campbell, K. Graber, G. Kainak, P. Morgan, D. G.Stanton, B.
Clark, K. Helmondollar, R. Kuhlman, J. Morris, T. Williams, Janet
Cooper, B. Hornsby, G. McDiarmid, M. Muchant, D. Wright, F.

Professor Roy S. Nutter, Jr., oversaw questions concerning the revised Constitution, and he provided a brief background of the changes. Professor Nutter said a group of faculty originally started working on a revised constitution in 1997. An updated version that includes all changes will be placed on the Faculty Senate home page for the faculty assembly to review. Ballots will be mailed from the Faculty Senate Office on Tuesday, September 10, 2002 to the faculty assembly to vote on the passing of the Constitution.

2. Chair Cohen said because there was not a quorum at the May and June Faculty Senate meetings, actions of those meetings need approval. It was moved and duly seconded to approve all actions. Motion carried.

3. It was moved and duly seconded to approve the minutes for the June 10, 2002 meeting. Motion carried.

4. Chair Cohen reported on the following issues:
   • “Welcome” to all senators and visitors.
   • Recognition of regional campuses; they should be an inspiration to campus senators.
   • Board of Governor’s meeting – Friday, September 6, 2002. Items of discussion were: “Freedom of Expression policy” and the “delay of voting of the policy.” Any comments can be sent to the WVU Attorney General’s office.
Lawsuit filed by Rutherford Institute was not a factor in delaying the vote; it was decided to table the vote because the Board of Governors was concerned if issues addressed by the Freedom of Expression Policy were covered under the University’s civil laws. An executive discussion was held to discuss legal issues.

Plus/Minus grading was discussed at the August 26th Senate Executive Committee meeting. The present policy cannot be changed by the Institution because it is overseen by the Higher Education Policy Commission. Chair Cohen and Tom Long, Advisory Council of Faculty representative, will prepare a report concerning plus/minus grading. They will contact Institutional Analysis and the WVU registrar’s office to gather grading information, and submit a report to the Senate Executive Committee in October and to the Faculty Senate in November.

A matrix of members absent/present will now be sent with election ballots.

Chair Cohen, Chris Wilkinson and Roy Nutter regularly meet with the Provost to ask “tough” questions. If senators have questions they need answers to, e-mail Stanley.Cohen@mail.wvu.edu.

Chancellor Mullen will attend the October 14th Faculty Senate meeting.

5. President Hardesty clarified that in the event of reductions, 10-percent of the appropriations would be reduced, not the budget. The budget will be reduced by 3-percent.


7. The following two senators were appointed as liaisons: Roy S. Nutter, Jr. -- Graduate Council and Robin Jones -- Social Justice Council.

8. New Business

Professor Dallas Branch asked about 9-month faculty missing summer Faculty Senate meetings. Chair Cohen said that June is now the only summer meeting; because there has been a lack of summer quorums, it was decided to cancel the July meeting.

9. The meeting adjourned at 5:10 p.m. It will reconvene October 14, 2002.

Mary Strife
Faculty Secretary