Minutes
Faculty Senate Executive Committee
November 27, 2006

1. Chair Famouri called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m. in the President’s Conference Room, Stewart Hall.

   **Members present:**
   Bergner, G.   Famouri, P.   Kite, S.   Nutter, R.
   Branch, D.   Hardesty, D.   Kleist, V.   Robbins, J.
   Clark, N.   Jacknowitz, A.   Lastinger, M.   Torsney, C.
   Dean, R.   Kershner, R.   McDiarmid, M.

   **Members absent:**
   Butcher, F.   Lang, G.   Strife, M.   Wilson, C.

   **Guests:**
   Fisher, J.   Gregory, K. (DA)   Moyer, R.

2. President Hardesty commented on the “access debate” that is going on in Washington, and across the country. He reported that there is much concern about access to college for minorities and people of modest economic circumstances. The President said he believes there are interesting sociological issues, not on the access side, but how this problem developed. He said that about 10 to 15 years ago tuition was cheap, public institutions were heavily subsidized, and the whole idea was to get more scientists, engineers, doctors, lawyers, etc., so it was felt that it was worth it to society so colleges were heavily subsidized. College was thought of what was called a “public good”. Now, there has been a shift in both legislators and congress; colleges are a private good, that you should pay for your own college. As a result, private and public subsidy have come out of the state budgets. WVU’s drop in the past five years has been about 25 million dollars. He said there’s clammer in Charleston and Washington for more needs-based assistance. He feels that the policies that created the problem of higher tuition are now being looked at as part of the college’s problems and that tuition may have to be limited to keep access open, when tuition is going up because of the withdrawal of the subsidy from the state universities. This year, tuition income is more than the state subsidy by three percent at WVU. The President hopes that the state will support budgets across the board and give a cost of living, or better, increase to universities. He suggested everyone watch for this issue; he said sometimes it’s called “access is the issue”, “public versus private goods”, “merit-based versus needs-based aid”, but it’s all the same issue – how to pay for the cost of a college education.

3. It was moved and duly seconded to approve the October 23, 2006 minutes with the following corrections: item 6, Professor Outterson has taken a position at Boston University, not College, and he will be taking a leave of absence from WVU; item 10, paragraph two, line five, “… and to look favorably to arts and humanities, and social-science areas because these are areas that it is difficult to receive funding.”, not “… and to look at stem areas, art and
humanities, and socio-science areas because these are difficult-to-receive-funding areas. Motion carried.

4. Chair Famouri reported that the WVU presidential search is in progress and that ads are appearing in newspapers.

Chair Famouri said that he received an e-mail from Professor Douglas, WVU Parkersburg, regarding integrating regional campuses curriculum with WVU’s. He said this will be further discussed with the Curriculum Committee’s report.

Chair Famouri said that at the BOG’s meeting he discussed with the benefits person from HSC the fact that faculty at HSC paid PEIA premiums based on their paycheck from the State, not their total income; HSC employees receive two checks, one from the State and one from the HSC. Associate Provost Dean said that this is regulated by PEIA, not state government.

He reminded the committee that after the December 11th Faculty Senate meeting President and Mrs. Hardesty will be hosting a holiday reception, beginning at 5:00 p.m.

Chair Famouri said that HEPC Chancellor Noland will be at WVU on December 11 for the Faculty Senate meeting. Chair Famouri will contact the members about possibly having lunch with the Chancellor.

Chair Famouri said that Professor Douglas, WVU Parkersburg, has agreed to serve on the Promotion and Tenure Panel.

5. The November 13, 2006 Faculty Senate minutes were reviewed. The following corrections were made: item 4, bullet 4, line 2 should read...Institution lies with faculty,”, not “Institution lies on faculty”; and item 7, line 4 should be “LOCEA”, not “LACEA”.

6. Gwen Bergner, Chair, Senate Curriculum Committee, moved for approval of Annex I, New Courses and Course Changes. Motion carried. Annex II, Alteration Report, was submitted for information.

Chair Famouri said that the curriculum process is different for the regional campuses; that courses go from the curriculum committee to the dean for implementation, faculty have no input. Associate Provosts Dean and Torsney will meet with Provost Lang to discuss this issue and will report back to the Executive Committee at the December 18th meeting.

7. Professor Kite, Chair, General Education Committee, moved for approval of the GEC-LSP Course Actions listed in Annex III. Motion carried.

Professor Kite made a request for dedicated support staff for the GEC meetings. An ad-hoc committee was formed to look into streamlining the process of the Curriculum Committee and the GEC. Members on the ad-hoc committee are: Gwen Bergner, Nigel Clark, Keith Garbutt, Steve Kite, Mary Strife, and Cheryl Torsney. Professor Clark will arrange a meeting time with the committee members. Chair Famouri will write a committee charge. The committee will report back to the Executive Committee at its March 2007 meeting.

8. Joe Fisher, Associate Vice President of Facilities and Services reported on the WVU Ten-Year Master Plan. Mr. Fisher said that the five year master plan directly supports the 2010 strategic plan, which was their guiding document. He said that WVU is required by the state law to have a master plan every ten years; the last plan was done in 1996. He discussed the
purpose of the plan, guiding principles, planning process, funding, and projects that will be developed over the next five years. The Plan can be viewed at http://www.wvu.edu/~Efacserv/WVU%20Master%20Plan%202006.pdf. A 30-day comment period ends December 31.

9. Chair Famouri said that he was going to interview some players regarding the Coalition of Intercollegiate Athletics (COIA), but he didn’t anticipate any new findings because the same players are the ones who were interviewed three years ago. He said that he e-mailed the Coalition saying that the Executive Committee was studying the issue and they would be back in touch with them. Chair Famouri will keep the committee updated on this issue.

10. The meeting adjourned at 5:18 p.m. to reconvene on December 18, 2006.

Linda Cunningham
Committee Secretary