**West Virginia State University Friday, April 2, 2008**

**Academic Affairs R. Charles Byers, Ph.D.**

**Faculty Senate Report** **Vice President**

Congratulations to each of the newly elected senators and department chairpersons. I feel that Academic Affairs will make positive gains in the upcoming year. The West Virginia State University leadership team of new and continuing senators, department chairpersons, deans, and academic support personnel must work together. Shared governance is very important to the success of the academic enterprise. Frequent communication, genuine cooperation, and respectful relationships will be key to the success for an academic environment in which our students can learn and for the dedicated faculty and staff to work.

I accepted the position of vice president for academic affairs on Wednesday, April 16, 2008 and it was officially announced on April 24th at the Board of Governors meeting.

I have enjoyed working with the faculty and support personnel in Academic Affairs over the past 21months. I trust that together we have made a difference and have moved in a positive direction. Please know that I cannot administer as an island nor in a vacuum. I will need the advice and help of all who desire to improve our University. However, I realize that “to whom much is given, much is expected.”

I have been in attendance this week at the White House Initiatives Technical Assistance Conference and will be leaving shortly for the National Alumni Association meeting. I regret being absent from the Faculty Senate Meeting on Friday.

The **Academic Affairs Council** met on April 22, 2008, in regular session. Progress reports were given from each academic area.

The **Academic Leaders** met on April 11, 2008. Closing of the academic year topics were discussed with Academic Department Chairpersons.

The **Deans Council** metweekly on Tuesdays at 1:30 P.M. Department issues related to closing the academic year, secretary and clerical support, academic advertising, publications, and the textbook proposal.

The **Academic Administrative Support Task Group** has held three meetings to discuss concerns about the changing role of secretaries, PIQs, and changes in the academic organization (Colleges). Members of this task group presented a report on their office duties. These duties are being evaluated at the present time.

The issue of the change in procedure for **Purchasing Cards** usage will be addressed in a message to the faculty and support personnel on Monday. I ask that you please cooperate and follow the new procedures.