**West Virginia State University Friday, March 1, 2013**

**Academic Affairs R. Charles Byers, Ph.D. Faculty Senate Report Provost & Vice President for Academic Affairs**

Academic Affairs continues to develop 2+2 articulation agreements with area community & technical colleges. The Deans traveled to **Southern WV CTC** on February 6 to meet with their faculty and administrators to continue discussions on prospective agreements. On February 13 administrators from Kanawha Valley Community & Technical College come to campus for a signing ceremony and reception for five new 2+2 agreements. This brings our agreements with KVCTC to ten and there are still additional ones in the works. Copies of the signed agreements have been distributed to Deans, Department Chairs, and Program Coordinators so you may contact them if you wish a copy. Ms. Hunter, Director of Registration and Records, also has a copy of each one.

Faculty from the College of Natural Sciences and Mathematics will continue our discussions with **West Virginia University’s College of Engineering** on developing 2+2 agreements in energy-related fields. A degree in Energy Management is already in the draft stage. In the WVU arrangement, we will provide the first two years of courses and students may transfer to WVU for their last two years of work.

Dr. T. Ramon Stuart from the Office of Academic Affairs is working with departmental webmasters to update their webpages and to make them somewhat consistent. The **College webpages** have been revised. Other information behind the Academics icon on the WVSU homepage continues to be addressed as changes are needed.

**DegreeWorks**, the on-line transcript evaluation program adopted by all public colleges and universities in West Virginia, should be implemented here at WVSU this Spring. Much work has gone into the programming in order to make it fit the curricula here. Training on its use will begin in Spring, continue through the summer, and be a part of the opening faculty meetings in August.

Dr. Barbara Ladner, our accreditation coordinator, has had an **accreditation assessment consultant** working with assessment coordinators from the various colleges to move along our student assessment program. As you are aware, assessment is a vital component of the elements on which we will be evaluated by the Higher Learning Commission when they examine WVSU for reaffirmation of our accreditation in 2014-2015.

The HEPC notified WVSU we have received an **$8,000 grant** to strengthen our enhanced English sections. The enhanced sections are those ENGL 101 sections in which students with an ACT English score of 14-18 may enroll and have additional assignments in the English Writing Center to assist them in their success in the course.

**Early Enrollment classes** are going very well. Dr. T. Ramon Stuart and Mr. Nathan Gainer are working with additional Kanawha County High Schools to establish our courses there for their students and are beginning to contact Putnam County Schools for possible offerings. The same two are also working in the Continuing Education program and offering non-credit courses for the general public. They plan to call on businesses to discuss assisting them in providing training for their workers.