**Message from the Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs**

December 7, 2012

**To the Faculty and Academic Support Staff**

Congratulations to each of you for successfully ending the 2012 Fall Semester. I appreciate and continue to be proud of your desire to make life better for the students who have elected to attend West Virginia State University. The graduation and return of students proves the commitment of our faculty and staff to promoting a positive learning environment. On behalf of our students, I extend thanks to each of you.

**December Mid-Year Commencement**

This semester, there will be two graduations held in the P. Ahmed Williams Auditorium in Ferrell Hall. The College of Professional Studies exercise will be at 10:00 a.m. and the Colleges of Arts and Humanities, Business and Social Sciences, and Natural Sciences and Mathematics will start at 2:00 p.m. Due to limited seating for faculty, please notify your College Dean of your desire to participate or your desire to be excused from attending.

All participating faculty must assemble in Room 208 Ferrell Hall one hour prior to the start of the exercise. The faculty will march first in the Processional and be seated on the stage. Candidates for graduation are limited to seven (7) tickets for the auditorium. The overflow in the James C. Wilson University Union meeting area to view the exercise is being planned.

Academic Affairs assisted each College in hosting their Graduate Reception for family and guests. Contact the College Office for times and locations.

**Vision 2020**

Our University is fortunate to have Dr. Brian O. Hemphill as president. He is a man of great vision and possesses leadership skills to guide West Virginia State University to a successful future. Recently, more than 30 students, faculty, staff, administrators, and alumni accepted his charge to assist in developing a strategic plan for our future. Please support Vision 2020 when called to render service.

**Workforce Conference**

On Friday, November 16, 2012, the National Science Foundation Planning Grant hosted a highly successful conference focusing on West Virginia’s workforce. The conference fulfilled the final grant requirement. Noted government and business dignitaries, educators, and campus personnel engaged in meaningful dialogue. Congratulations to the planning committee members – Dr. Michael Fultz, Mr. Gary Adams, Dr. Daton Dean, Mrs. Kim Cobb, and Dr. Alan Tilquist.

**CTC Academic Liaison Committees**

The four WVSU Liaison Team members have reciprocated visits to Bridgemont CTC in Montgomery, Southern CTC in Logan, and Mountwest CTC in Huntington; Kanawha Valley CTC came to us in August. President Hemphill drives and closely monitors efforts to increase 2+2s, MOUs, and more transparency among schools.

**Spring 2013 Opening Faculty and Academic Staff Meetings**

Friday, January 4 Academic Support Staff 2:00 p.m. 122 Wallace Hall

Monday, January 7 Small Group Invitation Meetings TBA TBA

Tuesday, January 8 Special Meetings (by membership) TBA TBA

Wednesday, January 9 Faculty Meeting 9:00 a.m. 122 Wallace Hall

Special Meetings include Self-Study Steering Committee, Academic CTC Liaison Committee, National Center for Human Relations and Faculty Senate

As Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs, I want to thank the faculty, academic support staff, Faculty Senate, councils, committees, and the Academic Affairs office staff for the accomplishments of Fall Semester 2012**.**

***Please enjoy the Holidays ahead!***