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

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

The University has launched a **new website**. While some of the layout is the same as the old site, there are new photos and features. However, you may have had difficulty finding items you formerly were able to locate immediately. In Academic Affairs we are working to find all instances where items on the old site didn’t “migrate” to the new one and make corrections. Dr. T. Ramon Stuart is serving as the Academic Affairs webmaster and is working to make our links live, etc. Where you notice problems with finding information, please notify your Dean – we are working to make corrections across the Academic site, the college pages, and the department pages. This will be a process on which we will work during the month of February with the goal of having our Academics portion of the website the way we believe it will be the most user-friendly by the end of the month.

We are proceeding with development of **2+2 articulation agreements** with area Community & Technical Colleges to provide students holding an associate degree a seamless transition to a WVSU baccalaureate degree. We have received four signed agreements from the Kanawha Valley CTC and will have a “signing ceremony” of them on our campus next week. *Deans will travel to Southern CTC on February 6 to continue working on additional agreements. Once* these latest KVCTC agreements are signed, that will bring to 9 signed agreements with KVCTC and 4 with Southern.

**Advertisements** for the Associate Provost and Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs and for the Assistant Provost and Assistant Vice President for Academic Affairs are in progress. Deans have been asked to recommend two faculty members from their college – one for each review committee. The Faculty Senate Chair has also been asked to recommend a member for each Committee.

Dr. Lois Lucas, professor of History, has been appointed **interim dean for the College of Business & Social Sciences**. Former Dean Dr. Abainesh Mitiku has returned to her tenured faculty position teaching in the Department of Business Administration. A search for a permanent dean will begin very soon.

The Provost will be out of the office on vacation from February 5-14.

**SPECIAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS AND UPCOMING EVENTS**

On April 27 the Math Department will host the **39th Annual Math Field Day** for students from all 55 West Virginia counties in grades 4-12. We expect 400 students will participate with several hundred guests accompanying them.

During Spring Break, Dr. Robin Broughton, Dr. Tee Ford-Ahmed, and Professor Amy Trent will lead a group of **graduate students to Bangladesh and to the United Arab Emirates** as part of the “From Dhaka to Dubai” film project. While there WVSU Media Studies graduate students will work with students from the University of Dhaka to produce two short films and to participate in media workshops.

Former Professor of Military Science, **LTC Timothy Phillips** is being promoted to Colonel in the United States Army.

**Oree Banks**, associate professor of Health and Human Performance was inducted into the Athletic Hall of Fame of Coahoma Community College in Clarksdale, Mississippi
where he served as an instructor, head football coach and athletic director from 1960 through 1963.

The **American Electric Power Foundation awarded WVSU $300,000** for science education and outreach. This was in response to a proposal authored by Drs. Orlando McMeans, Robert Barney, Katherine Harper, Ami Smith, and Mr. Bill Woodrum. The presentation was announced at the January 24, 2013 Board of Governors meeting.

Several faculty in the College of Natural Sciences & Mathematics have received US Department of Agriculture **capacity building grants totaling $1,581,411** as follows:

 Dr. Gerald Hankins – an Hibiscus 2 subaward - $50,000

Dr. Robert Harris – for teaching Biotechnology - $149,583

 Dr. David Huber – for mine sites - $242,954

 Dr. Barbara Liedl – for tomatoes - $299,734

Dr. Padma Nimmakayala - for pumpkins - $299,832

 Dr. Padma Nimmakayala – an Alcorn State subaward - $239,497

 Dr. Umesh Reddy – for CGAR - $299,811

The University received approval from the Higher Learning Commission to offer the **Master of Education in Multicultural Instructional Leadership**. The first students will enroll in the program for Fall, 2013. Congratulations to Dr. Sandra Orr and Dean Harrison.

Dr. Jenelle Robinson in the Department of Health, Human Performance, and Leisure Studies was instrumental in developing a **2+2 articulation agreement** with the Kanawha Valley Community & Technical College for their students possessing an associate degree in Allied Health fields to transfer to the WVSU **Bachelor of Science in Health Science with an emphasis in Leadership in Allied Health and Rehabilitation**. This articulation agreement will be signed very soon.

The **Social Work Students Organization** together with their Advisor, Dr. Raphael Mutepa, made a **$100 contribution to the Faculty Restricted Scholarship Fund**.

***Special Thanks for the listed accomplishments***