**West Virginia State University Friday, May 3, 2013 Academic Affairs R. Charles Byers, PhD. Faculty Senate Report Provost & Vice President for Academic Affairs**

It has been a pleasure working with the Faculty Senate this year. Our wish is that you have a restful summer and we will look forward to the 2014 Academic Year.

New personnel searches included tenure-track faculty positions in Computer Science, Criminal Justice, Political Science, and Psychology. Selections of faculty have been made for the Criminal Justice and Political Science positions. Searches that include administrative responsibilities are Chair of the Department of Business Administration, Chair of the Department of Mathematics and Computer Science, and Dean of the College of Business & Social Sciences

The interview processes are underway for two positions in Academic Affairs: Associate Provost and Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs; and Assistant Provost and Assistant Vice President for Academic Affairs. Special thanks, to those of you who rendered service on review panels and assisted in the evaluation of the candidates. There will be a need for additional review panels for the Director of the Library.

Decisions regarding retention, promotion, and tenure are nearing finalization. Individuals who will not be retained were notified by the March 1 deadline.

Long-serving faculty and staff colleagues announced their retirement as of the close of this academic year: Dr. Gerald Beller, Professor of Political Science; Dr. James Spencer, Professor of Psychology; and Ms. Brenda Camp, Administrative Secretary Senior for Military Science. They have dedicated themselves to this institution, to their departments, and to their students. Each has distinguished themselves in the community with their service and expertise. We wish them well in retirement. Additionally, Assistant Professor of Music, Dr. Anne Waltner has announced plans to pursue new endeavors for next year. Her service has been deeply appreciated.

On Saturday, May 11, for the first time in a long time we may have Commencement outside on the lawn south of Ferrell Hall. In the case of inclement weather, it will be held in Ferrell Hall Auditorium. The speaker will be Kanawha County Delegate Douglas Skaff. The ceremonies for graduates of the College of Professional Studies will be at 10:00 a.m. and for the College of Arts & Humanities, College of Business & Social Sciences, and College of Natural Sciences & Mathematics will be at 2:00 p.m. Please consult your respective Dean on required attendance.

Gore and Prillerman Halls are scheduled to be demolished in August for the construction of a proposed 291-bed apartment style residence hall planned to be completed by August 2014.

The Department of Psychology will move to Hill Hall prior to the start of the fall semester. Offices on the third floor of Hill Hall will move to the first floor. Current tenants renting space on the first floor of Gore Hall will move into the vacated offices on the third floor of Hill Hall.

A very successful forum for faculty and Academic Affairs staff was held in Hamblin Hall Auditorium on Tuesday, April 23. Thank you to all who participated.