I. Welcome and Introduction of Visitors

II. New Business

1. Resolution on the Appalachian State University Budget Reduction Plan, 2011 - 2012

Appalachian State University Faculty Senate

RESOLUTION ON THE APPALACHIAN STATE UNIVERSITY BUDGET REDUCTION PLAN, 2011-2012

August 15, 2011

Whereas, The primary mission of Appalachian State University is the academic mission, and

Whereas, The academic mission consists of the quality teaching of students, creating new knowledges through the conduct of research, and providing educational outreach services to the community at large, and

Whereas, The academic core of the university is that part of the university which directly carries out the academic mission, and

Whereas, The academic core consists of those university units that house the faculty (the degree-granting academic departments/programs that produce student credit hours (SCH) within each college), plus the library, and

Whereas, All other university units, missions and enterprises, despite their great value, are ancillary and/or secondary to the academic core and its academic mission, and

Whereas, The state budget cuts for the 2011-2012 year have resulted in an unprecedented 16% reduction of state allocated funds to the university, and

Whereas, The state budget cuts are projected, at Appalachian, to result in a catastrophic reduction of 35-40% for operating budgets in the academic core, severely and harmfully curtailing resources that are absolutely necessary to support faculty teaching, research and outreach services, and
Whereas, State-allocated funds are the primary, and in many cases, the sole source of revenue for units in the academic core, and

Whereas, Non-SCH-generating units of the university, which may or may not be supported by state funds (such as Athletics, Bookstore, Food Services, Student Affairs, etc.), all have additional sources of revenue that are not affected by state budget cuts (such as student fees, sales, contracts, trust funds and/or gifts, etc.), and

Whereas, In times of great financial need, such as the present, non-SCH-generating units can and should use some of their additional income streams to lessen the blow of state cuts upon units in the academic core and thereby support the academic mission of the university, and

Whereas, Many of our sister UNC institutions already have a useful model of a 2-4% administrative fee by which non-academic units lessen the financial burden upon units in the academic core, and

Whereas, This model would support faculty and protect the university’s academic mission while incurring no extra costs to the students; therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Chancellor ensures that Appalachian’s 2011-2012 budget reduction plan will include a stipulation that each fee-generating, non-SCH-generating unit of the university shall immediately be charged a minimum of 2-4% administrative fee on its total revenue; therefore, be it

Further Resolved, That at least 50% of the collected administrative fee shall go directly and immediately to replenish the operating budgets in the academic core (via the colleges and the library); therefore, be it

Further Resolved, That the portion of collected administrative fee not diverted to the academic core shall be diverted to other academic support units; therefore, be it

Further Resolved, That the Chancellor will see that a permanent plan for a similar administrative fee be developed during the 2011-2012 academic year, to be put in place for subsequent years, beginning 2012-2013, with provisions for rate and use adjustments as appropriate in relation to fluctuations in state funding for the academic core.