I. **Announcements**

A. Welcome and Introduction of Faculty Senators and Visitors.

B. Results of Constitutional Vote held on Friday, April 17, 2009. Motion failed to receive 2/3 majority of votes cast.

C. Gift Policy Task Force’s Recommendation submitted to Provost Aeschleman, dated April 7, 2009. (Appendix A). Task Force members: Dr. Martha McCaughey, Dr. Jeff Butts, Dr. Randy Edwards, Dr. Paul Gaskill, Dr. Ray Miller, Dr. Adam Newmark, and Ms. Susan Pettyjohn.

D. Chancellor Advisory Committee meeting scheduled for Monday, May 4, 2009, 3:00 pm, B.B. Dougherty, Chancellor’s Board Room. Request for volunteers to attend. Please submit questions to Chair Ramey.

E. Request for volunteer to serve on the Web Advisory Council.

F. Appreciation of Service and Farewell Wishes to Senators Beth Davison, Craig Fischer, Claire Mamola, Jammie Price, Wayne Van Devender, Doug Waring, and Betsy Williams.

G. Chancellor Peacock’s Address to the Faculty Senate.

II. **Visitors Reports and Requests**

III. **Provost’s Report**

IV. **Committee Reports**

A. Academic Policies (REESMAN, Marland, Miller, Stallworth, Waring)

   No Report.

B. Agenda Committee (RAMEY, Carpenter, Price, W. Williams)

   No Report.
C. Budget Committee (Geary, Newmark, Roggenkamp, Van Devender, WERTS)
   No Report.

D. Campus Planning Committee (Aycock, Brown, Mitchem, RARDIN, Scharer)
   No Report.

E. Committee on Committees (PRICE, Duryea, Sherman, Stoddard, B. Williams)
   1. Results of University-Wide and College/School/Library Specific Elections.
   2. Recommendations for General Education Faculty Coordinating Committees.
   3. Nominations for three elected positions on the Faculty Senate Executive Board: Chair, Vice Chair, and Secretary.

F. Faculty Handbook Committee (RAMEY, W. Williams, Fischer, Gates, Marking, Carey)
   No Report.

G. Faculty Welfare and Morale Committee (DAVISON, Carpenter, Horst, Wangler)
   No Report.

H. Welfare of Students Committee (Mamola, Sanders, Short, Ulmer, M. Williams, WINN)
   1. Report on Religious Absence Policy:

   **MOTION:** After analysis of the current *Faculty Handbook* language, the Welfare of Students Committee finds that the *Handbook* does not properly address a policy in regards to either faculty or student absences as a result of religious observances. Due to the likely wide scope and legal ramifications of a religious absence policy based on email conversations with Mr. David Larry, Dr. Tony Carey, Ms. Linda Foulsham, and Dr. Michael Ramey, the Welfare of Students Committee MOVES that the University's administration, in conjunction with the attorney's office, equity office, and representatives from the faculty, staff, and students construct a comprehensive religious absence policy for Appalachian. The Welfare of Students Committee recommends the following questions be taken into consideration when crafting the new policy:
   1. What would be the procedure for students to notify faculty?
2. What would be the validation process to "document" the absence? For example, is it appropriate to ask for a bulletin from a worship service when a student may choose to observe the holiday with quiet meditation?

3. Would a list of the recognized religious holidays be posted on the University calendar (and perhaps a weblink) in addition to the Faculty Handbook?

4. What (if any) policy information would be required to appear in faculty syllabi? For example, if faculty already allot two absences per semester and students do not have to declare what they are for, would this policy suffice for providing students time to observe any spiritual occasion they wish?

Once the policy is drafted, it will be presented to the various governance bodies on campus prior to final approval.

V. Unfinished Business

1. Consideration of a proposal for instituting a snow schedule (Senator Horst). There has been campus concern raised that 8:00 am – 10:00 am classes may be overly burdened by lost class time under the current class postponement system. (Appendix B).

VI. New Business

1. Ad Hoc Committee Report on Criminal Background Checks (Senators B. Williams, Marland, Newmark. Roggenkamp, and Wangler).

2. Faculty Senate Committee Annual Reports due by Friday, May 15, 2009. Please submit to facsen@appstate.edu.

VII. Adjournment
The Gift Policy Task Force, the formation of which was recommended by Appalachian State University Faculty Senate for the purpose of addressing possible gaps in policies and/or procedures so that gifts to the university, for which we have deep appreciation, do not compromise the principles of academic freedom or faculty governance of the curriculum. Provost Aeschleman appointed the following people to the Task Force: Martha McCaughey, Professor of Sociology/Dir., Women’s Studies (Chair); Jeff Butts, Professor of Biology; Randy Edwards, Dean, College of Business; Paul Gaskill, Professor and Chair, Health, Leisure, & Exercise Science; Ray Miller, Professor, Theatre & Dance; Adam Newmark, Assistant Professor of Government and Justice Studies; and Susan Pettyjohn, Vice Chancellor for University Advancement. The Task Force has reviewed the existing ASU Foundation, Inc. Policy and Procedures Manual for Charitable Giving and other related materials across the UNC system. Because faculty members have primary responsibility for establishing and implementing the curriculum, faculty members have an essential role in determining whether proposed conditional gifts affecting the curriculum meet the needs of specific academic units and the University.

We therefore recommend the following five specific ways to address gaps in current policies and/or procedures:

(1) **The Faculty Senate establish a Gifts Acceptance Committee.** The Gifts Acceptance Committee (hereafter GAC) would conduct timely reviews of conditional gifts, where conditional gift is defined as a private contribution that because of a qualifier, restriction, or goal is considered non-routine and therefore might affect academic program planning, majors, programs, institutes, centers, course offerings, course content, specific course requirements, faculty appointments, learning resources, or other material aspects of the curriculum.

**Make up of this committee.** The committee would be made up of the Provost, the Vice Chancellor for University Advancement, and at least one tenured professor from each College who are elected by the faculty annually. Elected members would serve 3-year terms that are staggered. The Committee would elect its own chair. This Committee could and should consult with additional faculty or administrators, at the earliest possible stage, as necessary depending on the specific possible affects of the gifts.

The GAC and the names of its members should be posted as a link from the Faculty Senate website, along with other elected faculty committees.

This committee would make a timely recommendation about the acceptance, rejection, or redirection of the final form of conditional gifts to the Chancellor, basing its assessment of a conditional gift’s acceptability on the following principles and guidelines:
Principles and Guidelines for the Gifts Acceptance Committee:

• Affected faculty and academic units should be involved in the process of designing and designating a conditional gift as early as possible. ASU faculty should help determine the design, content, and staffing of whatever position or program is being funded;

• While money from gifts may be tied to course development as long as affected faculty are consulted and agree to it, money should not be tied to course content;

• Any curricular changes or effects of those changes brought about by the proposed donation must be consistent with the goals, mission, values, and overall curricular plan of the University and the affected units;

• Any proposed donation should not limit academic freedom in a faculty member’s teaching or research; and

• The University’s acceptance of a proposed donation should not reflect poorly on the University’s or affected units’ reputation and should not conflict with their mission or values.

(2) The addition of a statement about conditional gifts and the GAC to the ASU Foundation, Inc Policy and Procedures Manual for Charitable Giving, under the category entitled “14. Can an endowment be designated for a specific purpose?” on pages 32-33. Specifically, the addition would read: Potential gifts that are or may be conditional—where the condition is defined as gifts that because of a qualifier, restriction, or goal are considered non-routine and might affect academic program planning, majors, programs, institutes, centers, course offerings, course content, specific course requirements, faculty appointments, learning resources, or other material aspects of the curriculum—must be referred to the Gifts Acceptance Committee.

(3) The requirement that faculty members in an affected unit (e.g., department, program, center, or institute) are notified by their department chair, Dean, or a Foundation officer, of any new proposed gifts to faculty member(s) or a department of a department especially if conditional, including having co-curricular implications (such as money provided for a speaker or film series in or through the academic department). If a faculty member sees the gift as conditional with the potential to affect the curriculum, then that faculty member should address the matter according to the Principles and Guidelines of the Gifts Acceptance Committee and may—with a majority vote of the faculty in that academic unit—submit to the Chair of the Gifts Acceptance Committee a request for a review.
(4) The requirement that the Foundation publish in its annual report all new major gifts (i.e., $25,000 or more) accepted.

(5) That the Office of Research and Sponsored Programs have policies, procedures, guidelines, and principles similar to those in this document in cases where grants and contracts may affect course creation, course content, or the dissemination of research.
Appendix B  PROPOSAL FOR INSTITUTING A SNOW SCHEDULE AT ASU

RATIONALE:
1. A snow schedule would replace the current policy of canceling the first or first two classes of the day, thus assuring that the first two classes of the day do not continually miss out on instruction time.

2. Having a responsible schedule that allows for all classes to meet would make the decision to alter the university’s schedule easier to make.

3. The university could possibly coordinate with AppalCart relative to their decision to postpone putting their buses on the roads, thus assuring that students would not be expected to get to class at times when no transportation is available.

4. As a courtesy, the snow schedule would allow time for faculty, staff, and students who have children to put alternative child care into place when public schools close or are on an alternate schedule.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>M-W-F Classes</th>
<th>Snow Schedule (40 minute classes)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8:00 - 8:50 am</td>
<td>9:30 - 10:10 am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:00 - 9:50</td>
<td>10:20 - 11:00</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:00 - 10:50</td>
<td>11:10 - 11:50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:00 - 11:50</td>
<td>12:00 - 12:40 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:00 - 12:50 pm</td>
<td>12:50 - 1:30</td>
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<tr>
<td>1:00 - 1:50</td>
<td>1:40 - 2:20</td>
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<tr>
<td>2:00 - 2:50</td>
<td>2:30 - 3:10</td>
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<td>3:00 - 3:50</td>
<td>3:20 - 4:00</td>
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<tr>
<td>4:00 - 4:50</td>
<td>4:10 - 4:50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5:00 - 5:50</td>
<td>5:00 - 5:50</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Night classes as scheduled, weather permitting. Monday/Wednesday classes that run for 75 minutes would need to reduce to 60 minutes as on the Tuesday/Thursday schedule below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>T-TH Classes</th>
<th>Snow Schedule (60 minute classes)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8:00 - 9:15 am</td>
<td>9:30 - 10:30 am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:30 - 10:45</td>
<td>10:45 - 11:45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:00 - 12:15 pm</td>
<td>12:00 - 1:00 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:30 - 1:45</td>
<td>1:15 - 2:15</td>
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<tr>
<td>2:00 - 3:15</td>
<td>2:30 - 3:30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3:30 - 4:45</td>
<td>3:45 - 4:45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5:00 - 6:15</td>
<td>5:00 - 6:00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Night classes as scheduled, weather permitting.

This schedule is not meant to replace the current weather policy of students, faculty, and staff using their own best judgment for staying safe in inclement weather. In addition, faculty should be encouraged to put the snow schedule times for their classes on syllabi along with the regular times, thus reducing confusion for individual classes.
Weather Cancelations-Historic Record (may not be all inclusive)

1943
February 20, 1943

1974
December 3, 1974
December 5, 1974 (18-inch snow)

1985
January 21, 1985
February 13, 1985

1987
April 6, 1987

1993
March 15-19, 1993 (the blizzard)

1998
January 28, 1998 (18-inch snow)

2003
January 23, 2003, AppalCart (6-8 inch snow)
January 24, 2003, AppalCart on delay, 8 and 9 a.m. classes canceled
February 17, 2003, classes canceled (snow and ice)

2004
February 3, 2004, classes before 10 a.m. canceled
February 6, 2004, classes before 10 a.m. canceled
February 26, 2004, classes before 10 a.m. canceled
September 17, 2004, classes canceled (Hurricane Ivan)

2005
February 28, 2005, all classes canceled
March 2, 2005, 8 a.m. classes canceled

2006??

2007
January 29, 2007, 8 a.m. and 9 a.m. classes canceled
March 17, 2005, 8 a.m. classes canceled
January 3 or 4, 2007, 8 a.m. and 9 a.m. canceled (black ice-AppalCart stopped running)
2008
February 1, 2008, classes canceled (ice storm)
February 27, 2008, 8 and 9 a.m. classes canceled
February 28, 2008, 8 and 9 a.m. classes canceled

2009
January 21, 2009, 8 a.m. classes canceled (snow)
February 4, 2009, classes before 10 a.m. were canceled (snow/AppalCart)
February 5, 2009, classes that met before 11 a.m. were canceled
March 2, 2009, all classes were canceled (8-12 inch snow)
March 3, 2009, classes that occurred before 9:30 a.m. were canceled (time allowed for Physical Plant to clear lots and at least one path to each campus building)