

The Provost and Academic Affairs office are currently engaged in a number of university-wide initiatives this semester. We are working diligently to continue to enhance the academic programs at the university and to support faculty who serve an important role in not only providing stellar instruction, but are also integral to the retention, progression and graduation of our students. The Provost continues to meet with the Faculty Senate Chairperson to discuss and strategize on key university issues.

The following are updates and announcements that respond to the administrative goals outlined for this academic year.

#### **Budget Summit**

President Hemphill hosted a budget summit on campus today. The summit is an opportunity for various administrative units to come together to address the university's budget for future fiscal years so that we can plan accordingly for budgetary matters.

#### **Reaffirmation of Accreditation**

The reaffirmation of accreditation process is progressing. On Oct. 18, 2013, the self-study co-chairs and project management team met with the core component chairpersons to discuss the self-study reports and to introduce a revised reaffirmation timeline. The timeline outlines all primary events and actions needed to guide WVSU through a successful reaffirmation visit which is scheduled for April 13-15, 2015. Future activities associated with the reaffirmation include a retreat planned for Dec. 16-17, 2013 and a mock site visit planned for July of 2014.

#### **Library Director Appointed**

Dr. Willette Stinson is the new Director for the Drain-Jordan Library. Dr. Stinson earned an MLS in Library Science from the University of Pittsburgh and a PhD in Library and Information Studies from Florida State University. She is extremely knowledgeable about academic libraries and library operations, as she served in various capacities in public and university libraries throughout her career. She will begin her tenure at West Virginia State on November 11, 2013.

#### **RBA Director Appointed**

Ms. Sherri Shafer is appointed as the new Regents Bachelor of Arts degree Program Director.

**Dean of Professional Studies search**

The search process for the Dean of Professional Studies has started. We have 27 applicants from a wide variety of backgrounds. Application packet screening is underway and we plan to have candidates on campus the first week of December for face-to-face interviews with faculty, staff, and students.

**Director of the Center for Online Learning search**

The search process for the Director of the Center for Online Learning has started. We have 16 applicants for the position and the screening of applications will begin on Monday, November 4, 2013. We plan to have candidates for this position on campus the first week of December for face-to-face interviews with faculty, staff, and students.