Ron Finkbine, President called the meeting to order. The roll was passed with instructions to sign for yourself and indicate if you were attending for someone else. A motion was made to approve the minutes. Motion was seconded. The minutes were approved as read.

President Finkbine called on VC Atnip, who filled in for the Chancellor. Chancellor Patterson-Randles was in South Bend for the Board of Trustees meeting.

1) Atnip reported on the legislative process regarding the budget. The House has passed its budget and sent it to the Senate. The House budget approves an increase in our State appropriations of about $290,000 for the next year. Atnip said given past history you can depend on the Senate version being different from the House version and therefore they will go into conference committee. He said that hopefully by May 1, we will know what our State appropriation is.

2) The Kentucky Council on Post Secondary Education approved the Indiana-Kentucky Reciprocity agreement and extends the current agreement for six years until 2013. This agreement will include Trimble County Kentucky at the request of Kentucky. The agreement is being circulated for the appropriate signatures. Atnip pointed out that Chancellor Patterson-Randles played a critical role in accomplishing the agreement.

3) Atnip provided handout information regarding student persistence and retention with help from the Institutional Research Office. He provided some interruption of the graphs and charts and encouraged the faculty to look at the data as well. He said they don’t yet have a definitive reason for the decline in students in ‘05/’06 but they will continue repeating this same kind of analysis on a more systematic basis every fall.

4) Atnip’s lastly presented a handout simply as an information item. At the meeting before last there was a discussion about IUS faculty salaries compared with other institutions so he provided a table of data for the Indiana institutions. He stated that if you want information about salaries from other institutions throughout the country the AAUP publishes that every year in their bulletin…that is the name of the publication… AAUP Bulletin and that is in the Library.

This concluded Atnip’s report. He asked for questions. A question was asked about the roof problems in Crestview Hall and if there was a plan to bring in an engineer to assess the problem. He assured that the administration was aware of the problem and is taking it very seriously but he did not specifically have information about an engineer.
French-UFC Report: 1) He attended the March 27th meeting of the UFC and one of the first issues was President Herbert’s recommendation to the Board of Trustees based on the core campus and system schools operations report. The core and regional campuses and systems schools such as SPEA, Nursing and Informatics were considered. This is an ongoing discussion but if developed written agreements need to be in place by June 2008.

The core campus schools were discussed those being essentially a combination of IUPUI and Bloomington. The UFC Agenda Committee is constructing a resolution to be voted on in the April 24th meeting relevant to the faculty at the core campuses not being consulted adequately about these recommendations.

2) He reported on a policy related to procedures on research misconduct. There was a first reading in the March meeting on a new policy of procedures on research misconduct. The NIH has recently made revisions to this policy and the UFC Research Affairs Committee has incorporated these changes and made other minor revisions to the policy and procedures on research misconduct. The committee views the changes as relatively minor but necessary to reflect the changes by the NIH.

3) He reported that there is a taskforce reviewing IU East. Charlie Nelms, chair gave a report to the UFC and said he would be giving a report to President Herbert from the taskforce by May 1st.

4) French’s last item was a report on SJR7, a proposed State Constitutional amendment that says, “Marriage in Indiana consists only of the union of one man and one woman. This Constitution or any other Indiana law may not be construed to require that marital status or the legal incidents of marriage be conferred upon unmarried couples or groups.” The State legislature was considering this in committee and President Finkbine spoke up and said the UFC passed an opposition to that statement and that it was sent to the State committee and the bill died in committee. So Finkbine said the issue at this point is dead.

This concluded French’s report. He mentioned that this would be his last report to this body since the UFC meets on April 24th and the next Senate meeting is April 19th.

President Finkbine moved on to Circular 07-7F, Corrections and Updates to the Faculty Senate By-Laws. The circular was put in motion and seconded. This was the second reading. There was no discussion. The vote was taken and the motion passed.

The next item, Circular 07-9G, Recommendation for Faculty Salary Transparency, Salary Minima Policy and Compression, was placed in motion by Susan Mann, chair of the Faculty Affairs Committee. The motion was seconded. Mann asked for a line item vote, which was granted. There were 5 separate topics, each given thorough explanation by Mann, along with lengthy discussion from the Senate. Each of the five recommendations was passed by the Senate.

Action items from APC were presented next. Circular 07-9A, Middle School License Option for B.S. in Secondary Education, was placed in motion and seconded. Walter Ryan was present to represent the School of Education. He explained that this was a movement that has been ongoing to give middle school teachers better preparation to teach their age level. There were no questions. The vote was taken and the motion passed.

Circular 07-9B, Proposed changes in the B.S. & A.S. in Computer Science, was placed in motion and seconded. This is to keep the curriculum in computer science in line with the ACM. There was no discussion. The vote was taken and the motion passed.

Circular 07-9C, Addition of Gender Studies option to B.A. in Sociology was moved and seconded. Eckerd, who is on the Women & Gender Studies Committee explained. The current women’s studies will soon fall into the sociology track and there will not be much left for this committee to do. The
interdisciplinary flavor will be preserved. The current Women’s Studies Committee recommended that a minor degree be pursued and there was not time for that to happen but it will be addressed next year. The vote was taken and the motion passed.

Circular 07-9D, Additional Economics course for B.A. degree, was placed in motion and seconded. Bingham explained. There was no discussion. The vote was taken and motion passed.

Circular 07-9E, Changes for B.A. in Economics, was an information item which Bingham explained. There were no questions.

Circular 07-9F, ESL/ENL Licensing, was an information item, which Magdalena Herdoiza-Estevez, School of Education explained the need for this licensing in our area. There were no questions.

President Finkbine called for new business. Michael Abernethy introduced a proposed amendment to make a change to By-Law 3.B. Method of Committee Membership Rotation. After presenting the proposal it was determined that since this is a by-law change it must be in writing and circulated prior to the meeting to be counted as a first reading. The Constitution was consulted and confirmed that this proposal could not be considered at this meeting.

Jeanette Nunnelley announced that everyone will be receiving an invitation to the first annual FACET faculty feast. It will be at the Holiday Inn, April 24, and will be honoring all the honorees for outstanding achievement in teaching for the last five years.

A motion was made to adjourn.