Call to Order. The meeting was called to order at 3:04 p.m. by S. Ligon.

2. Approval of Consent Agenda including Senate Minutes of February 25, 2013. Hearing no objection the minutes of February 25, 2013 were approved.

3. Additions/Changes to Agenda. None.

4. Committee of the Whole. a. Legislative Liaison Report. P. Chantrill reported things are running slow in Olympia right now with bills passing between chambers. She stated there is one bill she was concerned with has to do with National Guard members who get pulled out of school for service and are gone less than 30 days. The bill would keep the student from being penalized. She stated the bill has been attempted two times before but it didn’t make it out of chamber. b. She will be going to Washington, D.C. with the Honor’s group for their annual tour but because of the sequester they will not be able to tour the White House.

c. Shared Governance. None.


5. Administrative Report. Provost. a. R. Fuller reported the Northwest accreditation report was sent in on March 1st. He stated this is now a virtual review and the reviewer out of Portland State will send any comments or suggestions. They will now proceed with the fifth year review. Vice President for Business and Finance. a. M. Voves reported they met with the campus master planners this morning to get an update on their progress and they set some planning perimeters. She stated they will continue to move forward and it should be done in the spring.

6. Associated Students Report. a. L. Reyes reported they are currently working on Finals Survival Kits that will be given out beginning tomorrow. b. They are researching the grade scale and online learning. c. They are gearing up for elections and they have had 10 students who have already come into the office to inquire about positions. d. The Student Tech Fee Committee & the Service and Activity Fee Committees have been working on getting through all the proposals they have received to allocate student dollars.

7. Chair’s Report. S. Ligon reported: a. FPAC is continuing their work on revising the Faculty Organization constitution. He stated they will be ready to bring the revisions to the 4/1/13 Rules meeting and then the 4/8/13 Senate meeting. b. The Student Success and Retention Committee has proposed two subcommittees that will be voted on in April. He stated the subcommittees are the First
Year Experience/Mentoring subcommittee and the Gen Ed Review subcommittee. They had hoped to have the First Year Experience/Mentoring program ready for fall 2013 however they were unable to make it work with advising so they have pushed the start date to fall 2014. c. They would like to begin the Gen Ed review next year and have drafted a timeline that isn’t approved yet. He stated they hope to have something in place by December but they will need to have heavy engagement with the faculty for it to work out. J. Durfee stated it seems like the Q2S issue will be a bottleneck. S. Ligon stated it seems like there is a time pressure with the Q2S but load would have to be bargained if they are to switch to semesters. L. Kissling stated that bargaining is underway and there a lot of that will be around workload but the subcommittee shouldn’t wait to begin their work because they can make a lot of progress. S. Ligon stated that moving from Q2S provides the opportunity to rethink what they are currently doing. d. The faculty evaluations of senior administrators is closing tomorrow at 5:00 p.m. and they would like to have as many responses as they can get for it to be effective.

8. UFE Report. a. E. Kissling reported the bargaining process has begun. b. The winter quarter general meeting for membership will be taking place on Monday, March 18th at 5:30 p.m. at the Post Street Ale House in Spokane at 1 N. Post Street.

Council Elections/Selections/Confirmations. None.

10. Information Items. a. Washington Voter’s Poll on Higher Education. P. Chantrill reported the Washington Voter’s Poll on Higher Education shows that Washington voters strongly approve that more funds should go towards higher education. The poll shows that more than seven in ten (72%) voters have either personally attended or have had someone in their family attend a Washington community college and 49% have a personal connection to one of Washington’s regional four-year universities. She stated that 61% agree that a college education is necessary for a person to be successful in today’s work world; voters overwhelmingly support two state programs targeted to making higher education more affordable: the College Bound Scholarship and the Guaranteed Education Tuition (GET) Program; voters generally recognize that Washington’s public colleges and universities have experienced budget cuts and that additional funding is needed; voters want funding for higher education to be increased; and voters indicated they would take a favorable view of a state legislator who advocated for increased funding for higher education. She stated in the Tacoma area the first cohort of College Bound Scholarship students graduated and 90% of them passed their high school courses.

11. Unfinished Business. a. AP 303-24 Grading, Grade Changes, and Grade Appeals. N. Birch of UAC and R. O’Quinn of GAC are here today to answer questions and concerns. W. Repovich stated under Chapter 1-Grading System: 1-1 Letter Grades it mentions an NR grade and she is unsure what that is. R. Fuller stated the NR grade or Not Recorded is for the Registrar only and can’t be used by faculty. N. Birch stated they took the feedback from Senate members and made changes to the titles of Sections 1-2, 1-3 and 1-4 to better clarify the sections; under Section 1-3 Department or Program Designated Undergraduate Pass/Fail Grade Option they moved the sentence, “except as approved by the Undergraduate Affairs Council” to be in the first paragraph so it would cover everything under that section; under Section 1-5 Incompletes (X) they added the words military deployment and cleaned up the wording to make it clearer that a thesis or research project is designed to extend for more than one quarter plus they changed the title of the document. L. Reeves stated
under section 1-5 Incompletes (X) Military Service mentions reservists but they are not the only military personnel who get deployed. L. Connelly stated there is language in a different policy that covers all military personnel but this policy specifically addresses a short term deployment and the student may be returning to the classroom. P. Chantrill stated that since 2004 there has been a law on the books that gives these students rights and the legislature right now is trying to close the gap for students who are deployed less than 30 days and will become part of the RCW. J. Durfee stated since there is already a policy that covers military service the Grading policy should just reference that policy. P. Chantrill stated that would be very helpful because most faculty are not aware of the change in laws. W. Repovich stated the policy mentions an incomplete form that doesn’t exist. N. Birch stated they are waiting until the policy is approved and then they will create the forms to fit the policy language. B. Zinke moved to approve AP 303-24 Grading, Grade Changes and Grade Appeals. W. Repovich seconded. S. Ligon stated he would like to see Military Service Policy referenced in the policy. B. Zinke agreed to friendly amendment. B. Zinke called for a vote. J. Durfee seconded. Motion carried with 1 abstention. B. Zinke moved to approve policy. J. Durfee seconded. Motion carried with 2 abstentions.

b. Salary Study. S. Ligon stated the discussion into faculty salaries began a year ago with the provost and although it isn’t meant to be a bargaining document it should be helpful information for that process. He stated the report shows the median faculty member at EWU is paid 10 - 20% below the average for their rank and discipline at similar schools. He stated pay is uneven ranging from 40% less than the average pay for rank and discipline to 25% above the average pay for rank and discipline. The Chronicle’s Almanac of Higher Education 2012 places salaries for full and associate professors at the 23rd and 21st percentile respectively for masters’ degree granting institutions and that lecturers are paid better than full professors. He stated our students have a better regard for EWU before they get here than when they leave and that is a huge problem. If we value ourselves at 20% below average we have a challenge at this institution. C. Ormsby stated they left the Library faculty off the original document because at other institutions Librarians are treated more like administration than faculty members. He stated they will rework the document to include Library faculty salaries and it will be sent out to all faculty members. J. Smith stated the issue with the Library faculty salaries is in many places there are only 1 person in a particular rank and they didn’t want anyone to be identified so they have to keep the information vague. The corrected report will be sent out as soon as that information is incorporated into the document.

12. New Business. a. 2013-14 Meeting Schedule. S. Ligon stated the 2013 – 14 meeting calendar will be voted on at the next meeting.

13. Good of the order. None.

14. The meeting adjourned at 4:27 p.m. The next meeting is scheduled on April 8, 2013.