The insurance coverage that we receive at Western is a very important fringe benefit which has, or is likely to have, an impact on nearly everyone on the faculty or staff. Last spring our insuror, Blue Cross-Blue Shield, indicated its intention to raise its rates. In an effort to minimize this increase the University Insurance Committee made some significant changes in coverage relating to protection for pre-existing conditions, an increase in the size of the deductible and the like. While these may have been the best possible decisions under the circumstances, a number of faculty members have expressed concern that these decisions were apparently made without any consultation with faculty and staff. Since these decisions do have a direct effect on everyone employed at Western, the Faculty Status and Welfare Committee offers the following motion:

The Faculty Senate requests that when changes in rates and coverage are being considered that the University Insurance Committee notify the faculty and staff of this fact through "This Week at WKU" and arrange to hold one or more open hearings to give interested persons opportunities to comment and make suggestions before final decisions are made.