The Senate was called to order at 3:30 p.m. Senator Gore was represented by Therese D. Balur, and Senator Keyes by Joyce Carlson-Leavitt. Senators Linda Brown, Larry Caillouet, Rita Hession, Norman Hunter, Kaveh Khatir, Gary McKercher, Norma Schira and Lou Turley were absent without substitutes.

The January minutes were accepted as submitted except for a correction of the date. Following this, Chair Arvin Vos presented Dr. Lou Marciani, Director of Athletics, to the Faculty Senate. Dr. Marciani's address to the senate touched upon a number of points including athletes' graduation rates, years to graduation, and the role of the athletic program at Western Kentucky University. Among other things Dr. Marciani asserted that fiscal integrity of the athletic program would be of the utmost importance. Three recommendations he offered were that the faculty accept intercollegiate athletics, that the faculty and Department of Athletics work together and that lines of communication be opened. In his concluding remarks Dr. Marciani stated that when budget cuts were made he would be a team player and expects his department to take a cut. Dr. Marciani's address ended at approximately 4:05.

By-Laws, amendments and elections report. Senator Kacer reported that senate elections were in progress and that Dr. Reza Ahsan has been selected to represent the Department of Geology and Geography during Senator Ken Keuhn's sabbatical.

Faculty status and welfare. Senator Kuhlenschmidt announced that two resolutions from the committee would be introduced later.

Fiscal affairs report. Senator Glaser reported on behalf of his committee that the percentage of the University budget devoted to instruction has declined, and that more instruction is being provided by part time faculty and less by full time faculty even as enrollment has increased.

Professional responsibilities and concerns. Senator James reported that the committee's study found that University sources funded only a portion of faculty travel expenses to professional meetings while a significant portion was paid for by faculty. Faculty are reimbursed for about thirty one percent of their expenses by the University.

Political action committee. Senator Bussey reported on the status of several bills including the regents selection bill, House Bill 16 (Open Meetings) and House Bill 106 (Open Records).

COSFL report. Senator Bussey reported that Senate Bill 109 in the Education Committee was being considered. Among other things it would call for annual evaluation of presidents but might duplicate the collection of much CHE data. Senator Bussey also noted that
Western's faculty seemed to have more input into the budget process than the faculty of sibling institutions. Chair Vos noted that one means of budget cutback being considered would be mandatory five day furloughs for faculty and staff.

Faculty Regent Report. Regent Evans began by stating that his report would not be lengthy. Reading from a germane article, the regent noted that auditors may be dependent to a large extent on information from managers who are being audited for their information. The floor was turned over to Senator Bob Hansen for an explanation of what an audit could and could not do. Annual audits may not detect fiscal irregularities. A special audit results in a report to management about any irregularities in accounting practices so that corrective action can be taken by management. A special audit is not designed to detect fraud per se.

Regent Evans then resumed speaking. The regent reported that his consultations with the Faculty Senate Executive and his own advisory committee resulted in strong endorsements of the audit; and the campus chapter of the AAUP had similarly endorsed the audit and the proposition that its results should be made public. Regent Evans also endorsed the hiring of Governor Nunn who was characterized as a neutral party willing to "let the chips fall where they may." The regent sought to allay any fears about a possible "hatchet job" citing the Governor's assurance that his approach would be unbiased and the regent's own allegiance to the idea of fundamental fairness. Regent Evans did not know what, if anything, had been found to date, and believed that the cost of the audit would not be anything like the projections. The rather lengthy discussion ended with the observation that many of the letters addressed to the Board of Regents appeared in the local newspaper before being received by board members.

New business. Senator Neal introduced two resolutions from the Faculty Status and Welfare Committee (no second required) as follows:

"I. Affirms the need for a strong sexual harassment policy to be implemented and enforced in all areas of campus operation.

Affirms the need of the Affirmative Action Officer to provide training on a University policy that rejects racism/sexism/discrimination in all forms. and

Affirms the need for all supervisory personnel at every level on campus to attend educational workshops on the prevention of sexism, racism, and discrimination in the workplace."

"II. Endorses the recommendation of the President's Child Care Committee."

The resolutions were accepted for first reading.

Senator Glaser introduced as resolution on the audit, seconded by Senator Bussey as follows:
"Be it resolved, that the Faculty Senate urges members of Western's Board of Regents to resolve their differences without unnecessary expenditures, conduct their selective audit as planned, make a full and prompt disclosure of the audit findings, and return to overseeing the university's operation in a responsible and professional manner."

Without objection the resolution was considered on the first reading. A Glaser/Bussey motion to change the word "selective" to "special" and delete "as planned" passed on voice vote.

A Dorman/Kuhlenschmidt motion was made to amend the motion to read "Be it resolved that the Faculty Senate urges members of Western's Board of Regents to resolve their differences without unnecessary expenditures, conduct their special audit and make full and prompt disclosure of the audit findings." After discussion the motion failed upon a division of the house.

A Buntzman/Klein motion to insert after "special audit" the phrase "conducted by an outside auditor, meaning one other than the one which has done the regular annual audit" failed after discussion, whereupon the resolution as previously amended passed on voice vote.

Senator Murphy provided a brief update on the University budget. The Budget Committee has incorporated 189 faculty/staff/administrator suggestions into its deliberations and is moving into high gear. Senator Murphy once again stated that there is a very strong commitment to protecting the instructional program.

Announcements. The next meeting of the Faculty Senate is scheduled for Thursday, March 12.

The Senate adjourned at approximately 5:15 p.m.