Harrison called the meeting to order.

COMMENTS FROM GUESTS:
A. VPAA Middleton
   1. Strategic Plan - There will be a meeting with the students on April 7, 2004 to get their input on the Strategic Plan. The Board of Trustees will act on the Strategic Plan at their April 23, 2004 meeting. They have requested the Senate's input.
   2. 120-credit hour requirement - CCHE recommends that CSM reduce by six hours the number of credit hours needed for a BS degree. By voting on this issue, CCHE usurps the control of CSM Board of Trustees (BOT). The BOT voted unanimously to maintain the credit hours as they are. The CSM administration will work with CCHE Director, Rick O'Donnell, to resolve these issues. CCHE is hoping that by reducing the number of credit hours required for a BS degree, the graduation rate will increase. Currently, graduation rates are 38% in four years and 61% in five years. The State Attorney General agrees that the CSM Performance Agreement excludes CCHE control over CSM. CSM has until December 2004, to inform CCHE of their decision.
   3. The Joint Budget Committee's Long Bill has higher education funded at same level as last year. Tuition increases are limited to 1.1% or about $300,000 due to the CPI. An additional $3M is needed for salary compensation adjustments of 4%, the payment of increased risk management premiums and $900,000 investments. To fund these items would require an 8% tuition increase. There is discussion to remove the library from the general fund and fund it by fees.
   4. College opportunity fund bill (vouchers) would move higher education away from TABOR.
   5. Phil Romig, Jr., Dean of Graduate Studies and Associated Vice President for Research, will retire June 30, 2004. He will be on a transitional appointment.
   6. A proposal from the registrar to stop mailing grades and use the CSM web site to post grades is strongly supported by the department heads/division directors. Middleton will meet with the students to get their input on this issue.
   7. An economic hardship grant program has been established to help graduate students pay their income tax. The tax attorney is clarifying if tuition is set up as an irrevocable grant and the fair market value of their stipend.
   8. DeAnn Craig has been appointed to the CSM BOT. A motion was made by Voorhees, seconded by Eberhart and passed with one abstention to write a letter to DeAnn regarding the potential conflict of interest with an active student voting on the BOT.
APPROVAL OF MINUTES: The minutes of the March 2, 2004 Faculty Senate meeting were approved.

REPORTS:
A. Handbook - Ross asked the Senators to encourage the faculty in their respective departments/divisions to respond to the proposed changes to the Faculty Handbook.
B. Colorado Faculty Collaboration - Eberhart stated that activity for the Colorado faculty Collaboration has dwindled.
C. Committee on Committees (Thiry)
   1. Candidate for Senate President is Sam Romberger from Geology.
   2. Readmission Committee needs a replacement for T. Ruskell. This was tabled until the next Senate meeting.
   3. The Senate accepted the following recommendations from the Committee on Committees to the Senate Committees for 2004:

   FACULTY COMMITTEE ON SPORTS AND ATHLETICS (3 years) - 2007
   Alexandra M. Newman (EB)
   Phil Ross (ES)

   FACULTY AFFAIRS COMMITTEE (3 years) - 2007
   Jean-Pierre Delplanque (EG)
   D.S. Kieffer (MNGN)
   Brajendra Mishra (MT)
   Anthony Dean (CE)

   READMISSIONS COMMITTEE (4 years) - 2008
   Samuel B. Romberger (GE)

   STUDENT SCHOLASTIC AWARDS COMMITTEE (4 years) - 2008
   Stephen Liu (MT)

   COMMITTEE ON EVALUATION (3 years) - 2007
   Todd Ruskell (PH)

   COLORADO FACULTY ADVISORY COUNCIL (CFAC)
   E. Craig Simmons (CH)

   4. A motion was made by Eberhart and seconded by Santi to forward to the CSM President the following nominations to the University Committees as presented by the Committee on Committees:

University Committees for 2004-05: recommended by Senate, appointed by President.

   BOARD OF STUDENT PUBLICATIONS 2 years) - 2006
   E. Craig Simmons (CH)
   1 more

   BUDGET COMMITTEE (3 years) - 2007
   Vaughan Griffiths (EG)

   FACULTY HANDBOOK COMMITTEE (3 years) - 2007
The motion passed.
5. Voorhees announced that the Biosafety Committee has met informally. Those attending were Havelich, Mandernack, Seger, Marr, and Voorhees.

**NEW BUSINESS**

A. Senate Distinguished Lecturer for 2004 - A motion was made by Voorhees and seconded by Eberhart to the Faculty Senate Distinguished Lecturer Committee's nomination of Marv Kay to be the Senate Distinguished Lecturer for 2004. The motion was passed unanimously.
B. May 2004 Commencement - Honeyman will carry the Mace and Wendy will carry the Book.

The meeting adjourned at 3:50.