SENATE BILL #2301

TITLE: Student Representation Reform Act of 2010

DATE: November 12, 2010

AUTHORS: Senator Hurley

SPONSORS: Senators Dugas, Mullen and West

1. WHEREAS, the Student Government of the Associated Students of the University of
2. Wyoming (ASUW) has been created upon, and tasked to uphold, the principle of
3. democratic representation of the students of the University of Wyoming, and;
4. WHEREAS, the current positions of Senators-at-Large are not elected by any plurality of
5. students at the University of Wyoming, and;
6. WHEREAS, qualified members of ASUW are already allowed to run concurrently in both
7. the annual Presidential and Senatorial elections, as acknowledged by Article IV, Section 6,
8. Sub-Section C of the ASUW By-Laws.
9. THEREFORE, be it enacted by the Student Senate of the Associated Students of the
10. University of Wyoming (ASUW), pending approval by a majority of the students voting in
11. the next ASUW General Election, that Article VI, Section 1 of the Constitution of the
12. ASUW be modified to reflect the language in Addendum A.
13. THEREFORE, be it further enacted that Article II, Section 6 of the ASUW By-Laws be
14. changed to reflect the relevant language in Addendum B.
15. THEREFORE, be it further enacted that Article IV, Section 2, Sub-Section E of the ASUW
16. By-Laws be changed to reflect the relevant language in Addendum C.
17. THEREFORE, be it further enacted that Article IV, Section 10 of the ASUW By-Laws be
18. changed to reflect the relevant language in Addendum D.
Referrd to: Constitution Committee and Elections Committee

Date of Passage: 11/30/10  Signed: 

(ASUW Chairperson)

"Being enacted on 11/30/10, I do hereby sign my name here to and approve this Senate action." 

ASUW President
Addendum A

ARTICLE VI

ASUW Legislative Branch

Section 1. The ASUW Student Senate shall include thirty (30) elected Senators. The defeated presidential and vice-presidential candidates in the preceding ASUW General Election shall have the opportunity to hold Senator at Large positions. This body shall be constituted in accordance with the following provisions:
Addendum B

ARTICLE II

Legislative Branch

Section 6. Membership in the ASUW Senate shall consist of:

A. Thirty (30) elected Senators apportioned using Hamilton’s method as outlined below, and in accordance with Article 6, Section 1 of the ASUW Constitution.
   i. Each of the University’s seven (7) colleges is allocated one (1) student senator.
   ii. The remaining twenty-three (23) senators shall be allocated to those colleges with more than one-thirtieth (1/30) of the total fee paying University students using Hamilton’s method as follows.
      a. Compute the natural quota for each college with more than one-thirtieth (1/30) of the total fee paying University students using the formula: \( NQ = \frac{(23)E}{T} \) where
         \( NQ \) = a college’s natural quota
         \( E \) = the number of fee paying students enrolled in that college
         \( T \) = the total number of fee paying students enrolled in those colleges with more than one-thirtieth (1/30) of the total fee paying University students.
      b. Allocate to each college with more than one-thirtieth (1/30) of the total fee paying University students a number of student senators equal to the whole number portion of their natural quotas.
      c. If all twenty-three (23) student senators are not allocated in the previous step the remaining student senators are allocated one by one in order to the colleges with the largest fractional portions in their natural quotas.
   iii. The total allocation for each college is the sum of the student senators allocated in steps 1. and 2.

B. The presidential and vice presidential candidates that receive the second highest number of approval votes as prescribed by Section 10 of the Article in the preceding ASUW General Election shall have the opportunity to hold Senator-at-Large positions.

C. All University organizations seeking an ex-officio position on the ASUW Student Senate must have that position approved by the Constitution Committee and further approved by the ASUW Student Senate by a two-thirds (2/3) majority.
   i. Organizations seeking an ex-officio position must exhibit all of the following qualifications:
      a. The organization must provide a diverse array of co-curricular activities including cultural, international, athletic, and/or student life programs.
b. The organization must utilize educational opportunities, which promote growth and involvement enriching daily life.

c. The organization must be a University Recognized Student Organization, but special exemptions may be granted for the representative bodies of University faculty and staff.

d. The organization must demonstrate inadequate representation by the existing ex-officio's.

e. Any organization that has lost its ex-officio position on the student senate will enter a period of probation and may not reapply for said position until a period of one semester has passed. Upon reapplication, the organization must provide a detailed account of activities conducted during this period of probation.

ii. The ex-officio position cannot be represented by current senators, executives or other ex-officio representatives.

iii. If an ex-officio position representing a student organization goes un-represented for 4 consecutive senate meetings they will be notified of their absences and potential consequences by the ASUW Vice President in writing; if the organization is absent for another 4 consecutive senate meetings they will lose their ex-officio position. After the loss of an ex-officio position the organization may petition to gain representation by following ASUW By-Laws Article II, Section 6, Paragraph C-1, a-d.

D-C. Ex-officio members who shall enjoy all rights of Senate membership, except the right to vote include:

i. President of ASUW
ii. ASUW Executive Assistants
iii. Representatives from organizations approved by the ASUW Senate.
Addendum C

ARTICLE IV

Elections

Section 2. Voting

A. Voting shall be conducted using an approval method as proscribed in Section 10 of this Article.

B. Any ASUW fee paying student will be permitted to vote at the polling places or by voting online. The vote of the students will determine the winners of the election.

C. Students will only be allowed to vote for candidates in their college, excluding presidential and vice-presidential candidates. Undeclared students will vote for candidates in the College of Arts & Sciences.

D. Each student will be permitted a number of votes equal to the number of senators being elected from his/her college. Write-in votes will be permitted.

E. Thirty total senators will be elected (excluding at-large senators). These seats will be divided among the seven colleges as stipulated by the ASUW Constitution.

F. Polling places will be considered as any university-operated computer lab and any computer station set up by the ASUW Elections Committee for the purpose of voting.

G. Such stations will be clearly identified. Students will be able to cast votes from any computer connected to the Internet with access to the University of Wyoming website.

H. All voting will be conducted with electronic online ballots unless technical difficulties make an online election impossible. Students with disabilities will be afforded the opportunity to use paper ballots. These ballots will be available on the Wednesday of the primary election (if needed) and/or general election in the Union from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Addendum D

ARTICLE IV

Elections

Section 10. Results

A. Results shall be tabulated using the approval method that will allow voters to vote for as many candidates as they approve of winning any particular office.
   i. Voters shall be allowed, in any election they are allowed to vote in and for any office, to cast a vote for as many candidates on the ballot regardless of the number of seats available, up to the number of candidates on that ballot.
   ii. The candidate(s) that receive the highest number of approval votes shall be declared the winner(s) of that election, allowed to advance into the General Election in the case of a Primary vote or win the contested office.
B. No information shall be available until the Elections Committee has finished tabulating all ballots.
C. The results of voting in each election shall be announced outside the Senate Office and posted in the ASUW Office and the Campus Activities Office windows as soon as they are available.
   At-large seats on the Senate will also be given to the Presidential and Vice-Presidential ticket that receives the second highest number of approval votes in the General Election.
D. If any person is elected to more than one position in the election, that person must resign from all but one position.
E. In the case of a tie in the General election for Presidential ticket or last elected Senate seat, a run-off election shall be called to resolve the tie and determine the winner.
F. The run-off election shall occur no later than five school days following the general election. The candidate who holds a plurality of votes for any one position in the run-off election shall be declared the winner of that position. An additional itemized cost statement must be submitted to the ASUW Office no later than 4:00 p.m. on the day following the run-off election.
G. In the case of a tie for those candidates not receiving a senate seat, the order of replacement seats in the case of a resignation in the Senate shall be determined by lottery with all parties present. The procedure for the lottery shall be determined by the Election Committee.