

## **ASUW SENATE MEETING MINUTES**

The October 26th 2021, senate meeting was called to order by Vice President Anderson at 7:01 pm. The land acknowledgement statement and mission statement were read, and the Pledge of Allegiance was done at individual member's discretion.

### **ROLL CALL**

Senators Cooper, Hansen, Huges, Lobato, and Talamantes were not present.

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

The minutes from the October 19th, 2021, senate meeting was approved without objection, as electronically circulated.

### **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

The agenda was approved, without objection, as electronically circulated.

### **OPEN FORUM**

Donald O'Toole addressed the Senate to discuss the proposed School of Computing. Donald O'Toole shared that he has been involved with the University of Wyoming for 31 years and was a past chair of Faculty Senate. He stated that as students in ASUW, we have a unique opportunity to express our feelings about University happenings and specifically, the School of Computing. He then began to discuss Senate Resolution 2757 by offering his support of the resolution. He discussed reasons as to why a School of Computing does not necessarily make sense at this time. He stated that it did not make sense to upsize and downsize a University at the same time. He also raised the point that the relation between the School of Computing and Computer Science is still unclear and that the outcome of this School is also unclear. Finally, he raised question about why the administrator to faculty ratio is 1 to 4 and that this is the highest ratio on campus. He recommended that everyone vote in support of the resolution.

### **Executive, Judicial, and Business Office Communications**

President Swilling first reported that he attended the first meeting of the semester of the University Studies program committee. This committee will decide what classes are required to graduate from the University of Wyoming. There is the possibility of bringing back the Diversity credit and adding a computing class to all degree students but these still have to be decided. He also reported that he has been working hard on the ASUW restructuring and that he has been keeping stakeholders informed on the decisions. He also reported he has been working with Jeremy Davis to increase staff salaries in the ASUW office. He also attended Staff Senate where he heard from Provost Carman about the restructuring and that it is looking like the final proposal from Provost Carman will be what is submitted by President Seidel. The last day to submit any feedback on the plan will be Wednesday, October 27<sup>th</sup>. Next, he reported that faculty

Senate passed a resolution asking for 3 more months to review and discuss the proposed restructuring plan. Next, he discussed how him and Vice President Anderson met with President Seidel to discuss the School of Computing and the proposed restructuring. He also has a meeting with Director of Disability Support Services to discuss proposed changes to University regulation 2-100 to change the number of final exams taken per day to a limit on the number of hours of exams a day. He also has a meeting with Erik Kail to discuss a special project to install fireplaces outside of the Union. Finally, he reported he has a meeting with Brett Kahler to look at our endowments to potentially invest 5% of the endowments into the main corpus.

Chief of Staff Homer-Wambeam reported “Besides my usual duties, all last week I helped with numerous Homecoming events and programming for ASUW. On Saturday I organized the ASUW Homecoming parade effort with the help of Vice President Anderson, and I want to thank all those that walked with me in the parade. Tonight, I will also be giving a report on behalf of our Director of Diversity and Inclusion, Ivan Sapien. Director Sapien does not have much to report on as he spent the majority of last week working on Giving Day efforts. He wishes to thank all those who helped with Giving Day. Tonight, I will also be giving a report on behalf of our Director of Wellness and Sustainability, Rhiannon McClean. This week Director McLean continued her work on a UW Good Samaritan policy with Director Brown. She also met with Libby Thorson and Michelle DiPasquale from the Dean of Students office to discuss ADP’s special projects proposal and other sexual assault prevention efforts on campus. Tonight, I will also be giving a report on behalf of our Director of Finance and Student Organizations, Nicole Reyes-Aguilar. This week, Director Reyes-Aguilar has been working with multiple student organizations who have requested funding from Funding Board. She has also been meeting with the Financial Wellness committee, with Aaron Courtney from the Student Financial Services Office, with some Cowboy Coaches, and with some members from the UniWyo marketing team.”

Chief of Legislative Affairs Carrier said “Last week was a pretty average week for me. I helped with many of the homecoming events and I just want to thank everyone else who participated and helped with those events as well. I am continuing on working on getting in contact with the College Panhellenic Council to write a resolution in support of their new Vice President of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion position. On Monday, I attended a meeting over updating and changing the university studies program requirements as mentioned by President Swilling earlier. At this meeting, we brainstormed some ideas and worked on figuring out what exactly our task is and how we will be accomplishing it, more on this to come in the future. Additionally, I have been working on finishing up the defining general elections bill which will be for sure hitting the floor next week. This bill will better help define what a general elections is and will help provide some leeway to be able to restructure ASUW, President Swilling and I will be meeting tomorrow to but the finishing touches on that bill. I also have a meeting tomorrow with Shelly Shaef, President Swilling, and Vice President Anderson to discuss potentially paying Senators in the coming years, more on this in the ad-hoc report. Furthermore, on Friday this week I will be sitting down with President Swilling, Director Hacke, and Project Coordinator Crosby to work on rewriting article 8 of the ASUW By-laws. For those of you who don’t know, Article 8 deals with our programs, services, and strategic partners and we just want to review this and make a few changes, I am sure Director Hacke will have more information on this later. As always I am working heavily with First-Year Senate to continue to smooth things out there. Also, if you know

any first-year students who may be interested in FYS, please send them my way, we really need to gain some more first-year senators. I am also planning on attending the Student Orgs Summit this Saturday hosted by the student orgs office and I hope I can learn some new leadership skills that can translate over to ASUW. I would also like to add that if you have any questions or concerns regarding SR 2757, feel free to ask either myself or President Swilling as we are the primary authors on this resolution. I would like to end with, you ever need any help, have any questions, comments, or concerns about anything, please do not hesitate to reach out to me, Vice President Anderson, President Swilling or anyone else in the executive office, I know I personally enjoy helping and chatting with y'all so please remember we are always here for whatever you may need."

Director of Diversity and Inclusion Sapien's report was included with Chief of Staff Homer-Wambeam's.

Director of Finance and Student Organizations Reyes- Aguilar's report was included with Chief of Staff Homer-Wambeam's.

Director of Financial Planning and Analysis Stadler reported that she has been working on Financial Wellness and met with Erin Courtney to discuss what past Financial Wellness Events have looked at. She also reported she did outreach for donors for Giving Day and is working on financial wellness month and events. Finally, she reported she is continuing to help with student organizations and events.

Director of Governmental and Community Affairs Brown reported she is interested in hearing President's Seidels presentation as she is sitting on the Ad-hoc restructuring committee. She has been continuing work with City Council and enjoyed participating in Homecoming events. Next week she will be meeting to discuss landlord tenant rights and will be working on medical amnesty and the good Samaritan policy. She is also working with Director Sapien on the American Indians Association to extend the land acknowledgement to other groups. She welcomes anyone to come by the office if you have any ideas, comments, or concerns for her.

Director of Marketing Clark reported "Last week, much of my week was consumed by homecoming and Giving Day. This week, I am finishing the Green Dot video that will be posted on Green Dot social media on Friday. Any other work I am doing has been mentioned already or will be soon."

Director of Partners, Programs, and Events Hacke reported he spent much time last week with the Homecoming efforts. He has also been meeting with the leadership of the ASUW partners and programs. Coming up in the future, he will be continuing to meet with leadership and is working on better outlining the roles and responsibilities of those in leadership positions. Legislation on this will be coming in the near future.

Director of Wellness and Sustainability McLean's report was included with Chief of Staff Homer Wambeam's.

Judicial Council presented their visions and goals statement for this academic year. They have been working remotely which is why they have not come in person yet to change some of their inner workings, this will happen in the Spring. This change is one of the main goals, is that while they intend to uphold their duties in the ASUW constitution and rules and procedures, they intended to update their own rules and procedures to better align with the Senate and change with the times. Diversity is one of their greatest assets this year and they are working on doing trainings to orientate new Justices. They are happy to hear any suggestions while they are updating their rules and procedures.

Vice President Anderson reported that work is getting done on the WyoCourses page and Senators should now be able to submit service hours. If anyone is having issues with this, contact him or Chief of Legislative Affairs Carrier. He also welcomed the newest members of Senate, Bradley Bowles and Aliah Bell. Finally, he reported that nametags and name plates have been ordered and that he is just now waiting for them to be delivered.

Project Coordinator Crosby reported she has been working closely with Director Hacke regarding ASUW restructuring. She also noted that the First-Year Senate mentorship program is up and running and that she is excited for that. Along those lines, she also reported that many of the ASUW partners and programs have a lot of upcoming events and she is excited for those. Finally, she reported that the student organization summit is this Saturday.

Interim ASUW Support Staff Thomson-Lichty reported there is a new job posting for students which is the ASUW office job.

Senator Smith moved to recess the Senate until 7:40pm.

Senator Nwokejioni seconded.

The motion passed via a voice vote.

The Senate reconvened at 7:40pm.

## **LEGISLATIVE BRANCH COMMUNICATIONS**

### **Ex- Officio Communications**

College Panhellenic Council reported they voted on their by-laws and that they all passed. They also reported their elections will be on November 29<sup>th</sup>.

Faculty Senate was not present.

First-Year Senate reported they voted on SR #2757, read SB #2758, voted on the Business office realignment, the funding board request, and a new Senator. They also reported to please inform any first-year students about First-Year Senate.

The Interfraternity Council reported they met with Director Hacke last Friday to talk about their goals and future programming. They also reported they have elections November 9<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> and

that base camp is coming up. Finally, they reported that their chapters had a great time during Homecoming.

International Students Association reported their funding board request will be up for Senate approval tonight.

Non-Traditional Student Council reported they have worked on their mission statement and schedule.

Residence Halls Association was not present.

The Sustainability Coalition reported the Coalition has continued planning Solar Fest. They had their bi-weekly club meeting where they heard from the Director of the Food Share Pantry.

Staff Senate was not present.

Student Athlete Advisory Committee was not present.

United Multicultural Council was not present.

Wyoming Honors Organization reported they met yesterday to discuss their contributions to safe ride. Many members signed up to participate in order to help individuals get home safely.

President Swilling moved for a 10-minute recess.

Senator Castronovo seconded.

The motion passed via a voice vote.

The Senate reconvened at 7:51pm.

## **SPECIAL EVENT**

President Ed Seidel addressed the Senate to discuss the proposed School of Computing and University restructuring. He first began by discussing how the world is constantly changing and the University needs to be able to adapt to these changes and prepare students. The university needs to be able to move quickly with the changes and be able to look at the job markets and understand how students can be best prepared for this workforce and job market. President Seidel stated that he has been working closely with consulting groups to help the University think through what Universities need to prepare for. With this, he reported that almost all job markets in Wyoming will be disrupted by computing and robotics and that by the year 2030, individuals will be four times as likely to be able to work in a job market of 2030 if you have a background in digital literacy. He stated that this is what he is considering when pushing for changing curriculums. He then went into discussion about how Universities can be bettering and providing for the State's economy. President Seidel has met with many Universities to figure out how they can collaborate to make better benefit each of their individual State's economies. Next, he talked about the three major challenges of the 21<sup>st</sup> century that Colleges face. The first one is that digital revolution is profound and that Universities need to respond to the digital increases.

The next problem is that complex problems we are facing in the world are societal problems too. He then began to discuss that interdisciplinary work needs to be created so that students and companies can work together. He then began to pose questions that he has been considering throughout this process including; How do Universities become engines of innovation to drive the economy? How do you build a new University in a place of great economic revival? How do we get more innovation out of Universities to help revive the economy? He then began to discuss the University of Wyoming specifically. He stated that an issue the University is facing is that its funding is too focused on what the state of Wyoming budget can provide it. With this, he said that the University has to be more competitive for additional revenue streams. Other revenue streams could come from corporate companies. Not only would these corporate companies provide additional revenue, but they would also provide internships and courses for students. President Seidel then began to discuss how Inclusion and Diversity are a main focus of his and that he wants to ensure that students from all minority cultures feel welcome here. He noted this back into how this can further innovation at the University since everyone has different perspective and backgrounds and these in turn provide unique perspectives. He then began to discuss the reorganizations of colleges and how a lot of the reorganization has had the idea of academic efficiency behind it. He also went into some specifics about how the College of Arts, Humanities, and Social sciences will benefit the state's economy. Along with that, he noted how the reorganization will allow for a movement from Carnegie 2 level research to Carnegie 1 level research. With this, he shared a story about how he had the opportunity to visit the Carnegie Mellon University with a Wyoming Donor who has donated 20 million to the College of Arts and Humanities. He noted that he wants to ensure that the College of Arts, Humanities, and Social sciences will be as strong as possible. He then began to discuss how computing needs to be across the board because every student deserves the opportunity to learn how computing will impact their discipline. The computing classes will be integrated into the University and that all faculty will be coming from other departments and that this integration has to happen now so that the University does not fall behind. The proposed computing school will be a center for entrepreneurship and innovation. This center will allow all students to access this education and will help students start up their own companies if they are wishing to do so. Finally, he went to discuss how this school will be paid for which will be through various ways including reprogramming money, program partnerships, and Arp funding. He wrapped up with saying that community colleges will be included in this programs and that this provide more opportunities in the state so that people will stay.

Senator Rhymes moved for a 5-minute recess.

Senator Engle-Cartie seconded.

The motion passed unanimously via a voice vote.

## **Committee Reports**

Steering reported they met briefly to steer SB #2758.

Advocacy, Diversity, and Policy reported they met last week at their usual time. At this meeting, they discussed the legislation steered to them and made a recommendation.

Budget and Planning reported they met this past Friday where they reviewed the budget realignment and gave a recommendation.

Elections reported “Thank you Mr Chair. The elections committee met last week at our usual time. We are still working on filling the senate vacancy seats. Tonight, we have put forward an applicant from the college of Engineering for confirmation.”

Homecoming reported that homecoming went well last week and thanked everyone for helping out.

Program and Institutional Development reported they heard from ASTEC this past week and have one more partner to meet with this Semester. They also discussed some restructuring especially with the relationships of some of the ASUW partners and programs. They also discussed the legislation that was steered to them and made a recommendation.

The restructuring ad-hoc committee reported “the Ad-Hoc has been making some tangible decisions regarding the restructure of ASUW. On Thursday when we met, we make a decision regarding a potential problem a student at large model may cause regarding overrepresentation of certain student populations. We voted to turn our focus away from this problem and focus on other tasks at hand. Also on Thursday, we talked about decreasing the size of the senate, but this number has to still be decided. On Monday we also met and have now begun discussing how we want colleges to be represented in ASUW as we do thing college representation is still important even in a Student at Large model. After much discussion, we decided that colleges will have an ex-officio and being a college ex-officio will be of low time commitment. If you have any questions regarding this, feel free to talk to me after the meeting or attend one of the Ad-hoc meetings. Coming up, we will be discussing potentially paying senators and reviewing the responsibilities of senators. Finally, I am doing my best to put our agendas up on the SharePoint ahead of time with the specific questions we will be discussing that day so if there is any topic you are particularly passionate about, feel free to look at when we are discussing that and stop on in and share your thoughts or you can always email me.”

Safety and Wellness “This week Safety and Wellness is finishing work on our social media campaign for "getting the most out of your mask" and we will begin rolling out that information at the beginning of November with the help of Director of Marketing Clark-Mellot.”

Strategic Planning reported the strategic planning committee has been created and the co-chairs, Senator Talamantes and President Swilling, have been decided. They also reported that those who have signed up for the committee have been asked to fill out a time to meet during the first week of November. At this meeting, a SWOT analysis will be created and that they are proceeding at pace with only needing to meet twice this Semester.

Student Organization and Funding Board reported “SOFB met yesterday at our normal time. We heard from the society of petroleum engineers about a conference they will be attending. We approved their request. We also heard from the Cowboy Country Swing Club about their fundraiser concert that will be Saturday November 13 at 8 pm at the Quadrangle. Their event was approved. Finally, SOFB heard from the International Students Association and the Queer Community Coalition about their etiquette dinner. Because their request is over the \$3,500

threshold, it will be brought to senate tonight. SOFB did recommend their request. If approved, their dinner will be This Saturday November 20 at 7pm. This is just a reminder that all events that are supported by ASUW are free to UW students, so please attend these events. I know in the past they have also counted as a service hours.”

Student Outreach and Programming reported they will be hosting an executive and student mingling events.

Tuition Allocation and Student Fee Review reported they are conducting hearings and creating recommendations and that the process is on track. They also reported that almost all fee units have scheduled hearings.

### **College Contact Reports**

The College of Agriculture and Natural Resources reported “I met with Dean Rasco today. We had a really good discussion about changes that are happening and how those will or won't affect students.”

The College of Arts and Sciences had no report.

The College of Business had no report.

The College of Education had no report.

The College of Engineering and Applied Sciences had no report.

The Haub School of Environment and Natural Resources had no report.

The College of Health Sciences had no report.

The College of Law had no report.

School of Energy Resources had no report.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

Senate Resolution #2757: ASUW’s Recommendation Regarding the Creation of a School of Computing

Advocacy, Diversity, and Policy gave a do-pass recommendation.

Programs and Institutional Development gave a do-pass recommendation.

Restructuring Ad-Hoc gave a do-pass with amendments recommendation.

Senator Wilkins moved to pass SR #2757.

Senator Rhymes seconded.

Senator Castronovo moved to amend the resolution to reflect the changes made by the Restructuring Ad-Hoc committee as electronically circulated.

Senator Wilkins seconded.



President Swilling moved for a friendly amendment to remove the abbreviation of SoC on lines 6 and 7.  
The amendment passed via a voice vote.

Debate continued on the original motion with the proposed amendment.  
The motion passed by a roll call vote of 24-0.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

Senate Bill #2758: Articles of Impeachment Against Senator Zayne Cooper  
The bill was read for the first time.  
The bill was steered to Steering.

Business Office Accountant Realignment  
Budget and Planning gave a do-pass recommendation.  
Senator Wilkins moved to approve the realignment request.  
Senator Smith seconded.  
The motion passed unanimously via a standing vote.

International Student's Association Etiquette Dinner Funding Board Request  
Senator Nwokejiobi moved to approve the student organization funding board request.  
Senator Rhymes seconded.  
The motion passed unanimously via standing vote.

Confirmation of a New Senator  
Senator Smith moved to approve nominee Aliah Bell for the College of Engineering seat.  
Senator Castronovo seconded.  
The motion passed unanimously via a standing vote.

Swearing in of a New Senator  
Aliah Bell was sworn into the Senate by Vice President Anderson.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Senator Dawson announced that Sigma Phi Epsilon is putting on a Philanthropy event on October 30<sup>th</sup> called Spooky Spaghetti. It will be 5\$ for all you can eat spaghetti from 5-10pm.

Vice President Anderson announced that Articles of Impeachment will be up for second reading next week. He wanted to inform everyone the procedure is outlined in the By-Laws and encourages everyone to familiarize themselves with the process.

After processing, the meeting adjourned at 10:24pm. The next regular meeting of the Senate will be on November 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2021 at 7:00pm in the Union Senate Chambers Room 221.

Kathryne Carrier

