

ASUW SENATE MEETING MINUTES

The September 21, 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, and Houghton were not present.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes from the September 14, 2021 senate meeting were approved without objection, as electronically circulated.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Senator Wilkins moved to add swearing in of new Senators and the ASTEC budget realignment under new business.

Senator Ebben seconded.

The motion passed without objection.

The agenda was approved without objection, as amended.

OPEN FORUM

First-Year Senate Advisor Denney introduced some of the new First-Year senators including the presiding officer Jessica Petri and Parliamentarian Kameron Murfitt.

Project Coordinator Crosby, the new project coordinator for ASUW, introduced herself and started that she is happy to serve and is excited to be in ASUW.

Courtney Thomson-Lichtey also introduced herself to the Senate and she will be assisting in the ASUW executive branch this year. She is open and available to provide any knowledge about ASUW.

SPECIAL EVENT

Mary Beth Bender from Student Health Services addressed the senate tonight to discuss about mental health resources available on campus and from student health services. Mary Beth Bender is a family nurse practitioner and is a director at UW student health services. Student Health Services is able to provide mental health services through prescription management, evaluation for a variety of mental health concerns, and they have a psychiatrist nurse practitioner on staff who is able to specialize in more specific mental health concerns. The practitioner on staff at Student Health Services are able to handle more common mental health needs such as anxiety,

depression, insomnia, and ADHD. While Student Health Services does not provide counseling, they do collaborate and coordinate with other mental health care services on campus such as the University counseling center. There is also the UW psychology center which is a low-cost option for students, they serve the general public and students at the University. There is no charge for student health services or for the University counseling center but they are only services for students. The Wellspring counseling center is another resource for students and the general public. Student Health services also coordinated with other resources off of campus such as Peak Wellness. Mary Beth Bender also sits on the UWYOcares team and informed the senate that she is bound by privacy and will not share any private information.

COMMUNICATIONS

Executive Reports

President Swilling first reported that James Wheeler resigned on Friday and ASUW does not have an advisor at the moment. He also welcomed Nina Crosby and Courtney Thomson-Lichtey who will be working with ASUW. He also noted that this week he attended the board of trustees meeting this week and will be reporting on that later in his report. He also stated that he gave a speech at the State of the University address where we noted past accomplishments of ASUW and issues that are facing students. The main things discussed at the board of the trustees were COVID, potential vaccine mandates for employees, early childhood education care center vaccine mandates or weekly COVID test, enrollment reports, 4% increase to tuition, tuition policy, University Regulation 2-13, restructuring, funding from American rescue plan, approved general contractor for parking garage on Iverson, reduction in sick leaves and benefits, and parking price increase. Some specifics are that the mask mandate will be extended until the board of trustees votes to end it and there have been notable changes to the proposed restructuring plan of the University. He also reported the science initiative building will be done in January and will be up and running for the Spring semester. He also stated that he has been serving on the working group for police and community and to work on how the relationship between the Laramie community and police can be increased. He is also serving on the search committee for the position of VP of research and economic development. Finally, he reported he had dinner with Provost Carman and students who had won a vaccine incentive program. Mask mandate was extended until trustees decide to specifically end the mandate.

Chief of Staff Homer-Wambeam said “The most notable thing I have been working on over the past week, was the Executive Green Dot training. Last Friday, ASUW hosted Michelle Depasquale (who was our special event a few weeks ago) for a one-hour Green Dot Bystander training catered to the Executive branch. On Friday, ASUW also hosted Libby Thorson, who trained the Executives on the Mandatory Reporter process, as all members of the Executive Branch are mandatory reporters. I would like to take this chance to remind and encourage you all to reach out to Green Dot if you are interested in taking either the one-hour or the three-hour Green Dot training. Please also feel free to reach out to me personally with that interest and I would be happy to connect you to a training. Tonight, I will also be giving a report on behalf of our Director of Governmental and Community Affairs, Allison Brown who is currently attending the weekly Laramie City Council meeting. During this past week, Director Brown’s main focus was the Student Issues Survey, which was emailed to all students by President Swilling

yesterday. She thanks all of the executives and senators involved in developing questions in the survey, and asks that senators promote the survey and its incentives to friends and constituents as well as take the survey themselves. Additionally, Director Brown has aided in the search and interview process for vacancy applicants, which will be further elaborated on by a senator during the election committee report.”

Chief of Legislative Affairs Carrier said “This past week I have been working on getting documents together for our WyoCourses pages. I have also been reviewing with Vice President Anderson some of the senator and committee absences and have just been keeping track of that. Additionally, as chief of staff Homer-Wambeam mentioned, i attended the Green Dot and Mandatory reporter training and found both of those trainings extremely informative. A big bulk of my time has also been spent getting our First-Year senate set up and ready to go. I attended the orientation on Sunday and helped give them an overview of ASUW, Parliamentary Procedure, and legislation. I attended their meeting tonight and helped them complete a successful first First-Year senate meeting and I am very excited to work with them and see what they can accomplish this year. I am planning on attending their senate meetings on a weekly basis as well to help them gain an understanding of senate. This past week I have also been helping interview applicants to fill senate vacancies and with that, I am now serving on the elections committee. Also, I am not sure if I have mentioned this in any of my previous reports, so just in case I haven’t I will bring this up now, but the other committees I am on along with elections is the homecoming committee, tuition allocation and student fee review committee, and then of course the ad-hoc that I am chairing. Coming up in the future, I will be meeting with President Swilling to discuss scholarships this week, we were supposed to meet yesterday, but due to the lack of wifi yesterday, we had to reschedule that meeting for later this week. Additionally, I plan on holding a legislation workshop for CPH and for any of our other partners and programs who are interested in learning how to write legislation, more details on this will be coming later. I will also be tabling tomorrow as part of our partnership with CPH and IFC with anti-hazing week, so please encourage students to stop by and discuss our anti-hazing legislation and partnership with us this week. Also coming up, I am planning on writing a couple of pieces of legislation to help clarify the “rules” of sponsorships and to make a couple more things just a little bit more clear in our working documents.”

Director of Diversity and Inclusion Sapien reported that within the past week his efforts have been tied to meeting with student organizations on campus and making sure they understand how ASUW can help with their efforts and to help them grow. Those meetings included International Student Association, Wyoming African Student Association, MECHA, Keepers of the Fire, and Native Center, United Multicultural Council, all into the hopes of having a circle meeting. He reported that his ongoing projects is that he is working with the Director of Marketing and other executives and preparing for the Giving Day which will be October 20-21 as they prepare marketing material to gather donations. He will be meeting with a member to gather more information before the due date.

Director of Finance and Student Organizations Reyes-Aguilar said “This week I met with Funding Board which approved 2 requests this week. I am also working on a simplified version of the Finance Policy just to make it easier for Student Organizations to access information for funding requests. Director of Financial Planning and Analysis Stadler and I met to discuss more

about Financial Wellness events. We have decided to start a Special Committee, a Financial Wellness committee, and would like to ask some Senators, to sign-up for this committee to plan events. We need a lot of help to help organize these events. We will send around a sign-up sheet and we encourage Senators to sign up. A date and time is still to be determined and Director Stadler and I will send out a doodle-pool to figure out what date and time works best for everyone. We plan to have our first event the week of October 10 and want to do a Financial Aid Discussion with someone from the Financial Aid Office to talk about FASFA since it does open in October. This will be a one-hour event from 12-1 and lunch will be provided and we will be giving away some cool swag. We are hoping to send out more information about this event soon. This week, I will continue to work on Financial Wellness planning and events alongside Director Stadler. I will also continue to work on the simplified version of the Finance Policy and hopefully get that on the ASUW website soon.”

Director of Financial Planning and Analysis Stadler said “Last week I scheduled times for the Special Projects videos to feature the special projects we filmed in the past at ASUW. I continued to work on Student Fees document. Me and the Director of Finance and Student Organizations have been working on planning Financial Wellness events. I encourage all students to sign – up for our Financial Wellness committee to help us plan Financial Wellness events throughout the year. This week I will continue working on the Student Fees document and preparing for the first Financial Wellness event in October. I will be reaching out to student organizations to schedule times for them to pick up their p – cards.”

Director of Governmental and Community Affairs Brown’s report was included with Chief of Staff Homer-Wambeam’s report.

Director of Marketing Clark-Mellott said “his past week I’ve worked on the social media as usual. With social media, I have been helping post the Student Outreach questions on the Instagram story to get more students engaged with ASUW. After the first day of it yesterday, we had 48 people qualify with the first sets of questions. Additionally, I began work with Director Stadler and Senator Talamantes on the special projects video campaign by recording former special projects. I also attended the executive offices green dot session last Friday. This week I am working on getting the third episode of the podcast recorded, edited, and hopefully posted. This episode is with Director McLean and focuses on mental health and resources available. Furthermore, I have continued work with the homecoming committee and I believe I have finalized the designs for the shirts. I am continuing work with special project and hoping to finish filming this week. On Thursday there will also be another edition of the town hall with President Swilling and Vice President Anderson hosted by Chief of Staff Homer-Wambeam and myself. I also plan to be assisting Non-Traditional Student Council with marketing their upcoming meeting in hopes of gaining more members to the program.”

Director of Partners, Programs, and Events Hacke thanked everyone for participating in anti-hazing week.

Director of Wellness and Sustainability McLean said “this past week I ordered more food for the ASUW demo food share cabinet in the ASUW office, so that should be restocked by the end of the week. Director of Marketing Clark brought me on to the Pokes Podcast to discuss mental

health, college stress, mental health resources available on campus, and COVID-19. I'm excited for everyone to hear it, and want to thank Director Clark for bringing me on. I also worked with Director of Government and Community Affairs Brown on the general issues survey that went out Monday morning. Myself and all of the other executives also did Green Dot and mandatory reporter training and to echo the sentiments of previous speakers, I recommend Green Dot training to anyone who wants it. I will continue working with the Advocacy, Diversity, and Policy and Safety and Wellness committees. Director Clark and I have a meeting with Michelle DiPasquale to discuss Green Dot and sexual education marketing next week."

Senator Ebben moved to suspend the Abernathy clause.

Senator Rhymes seconded.

The motion passed via a voice vote.

Vice President Anderson reported for committee chairs to respond to his email so that he can set up a one-on-one meeting with everyone. He also reported that if anyone has any ideas for our special events, let him or Chief of Legislative Affairs Carrier know. He also reported the food security task force will be meeting for the first time on Wednesday October 6th and if you are interested in participating let him know. Finally, he reported that committee assignments will be shifted around with the process of new senators coming in and filling vacancies.

Ex- Officio Communications

College Panhellenic Council reported that the donut haze week is happening from 11-1 in the Union this week. They also announced that Greek groups are starting. They also reported that there will be a spoon game in October and that, if interested, contact her for more details. She also reported that September 30 will be base camp and October 13th and 14th will be new member education. Finally, they reported they are trying to connect with mental health resources.

The Interfraternity Council reported that chapters have started philanthropy and community service events. They reported they will also be tabling this week and they will also be having new member education October 13th and 14th.

International Students Association reported that coffee hours have begun again and will be held in the Cheney International center.

The Non-Traditional Student Council reported they met with Director Hacke and will hopefully be having their first event soon and will find a secretary.

The Sustainability Coalition reported they have been working on planning some in person events. One of these events is solar fest which is a solar powered trailer to power an events with local bands. They reported they will have their first in person meeting on Wednesday September 22 at 6:15pm. They also have been working on food security projects such as the food share cabinets. They also reported they have started working on their climate action tasks.

The Student Athlete Advisory Committee reported they are currently trying to get speakers for upcoming meetings.

Wyoming Honors Organization had no report.

Committee Reports

Steering reported they met at 12-1pm on Friday in Business room 177 where they made a recommendation and amendments on the legislation. This week steering will be held in the ASUW conference room but after that it will be in Business room 177.

Advocacy, Diversity, and Policy reported they met last Friday at its usual time of 2:30pm in the ASUW conference room. They discussed and made recommendations on Senate Resolution 2754 and Senate Bill 2755. They also suggested questions to add to the ASUW all-issues survey published 9/20/21. As always, Senators are welcome to reach out with suggestions and ideas regarding initiative they can pursue.

Budget and Planning reported that they met last night and had several items on their agenda. They approved the ASTEC unspent salary budget realignment, discussed and made a recommendation on Senate Bill 2755, and discussed the proposal for a bill that would codify how budget realignments are asked for.

Elections reported they met last Wednesday and that their chair resigned, and they are currently in the search for a new one.

Homecoming reported they met last Wednesday from 4-5pm. They reported that senate applications have closed and they are working to interview those applicants. They also reported they have selected two new senators to fill seats in the College of Business and Health Sciences who will be up for confirmation tonight.

Programming and Institutional Development met on Wednesday. Their special guest was UMC and they came to talk to PID about their new co-chair, the events they hope to host this year (including a cultural celebration in honor of one of the history months and an educational event), their funding model, and using some of their funds to hire an outreach coordinator to assist with outreach efforts to student organizations, departments, and offices on campus. They also discussed coming to the First-Year senate orientation and talking about ASUW committees. They also made a recommendation on Senate Bill 2755.

The restructuring ad-hoc committee reported “We were unfortunately unable to meet yesterday due to some scheduling conflicts so we will instead be meeting this Thursday at 7am in the ASUW conference room. At this meeting, we will be discussing the recent updates to the proposed restructuring plan and will be also discussing some of the feedback we have gotten thus far on the student issues survey in regards to the restructuring plan. I am also planning on creating a quick infographic over the restructuring and will be posting that on social media so that students can be more informed about the plan. I also hope to start drafting our recommendation and thoughts at that meeting as well.”

Safety and Wellness committee reported that they met at their usual meeting time from 3-4 on Monday to discuss the plans to promote the use of reusable masks. They have also decided to go forward with a social media campaign. They also discussed and made a recommendation on Senate Bill 2754.

Student Organization and Funding Board reported they met yesterday and heard a request for a cultural event and heard a request for conference funding.

Student Outreach and Programming reported they met at their usual time. They also tabled to promote the student issues survey and their social media outreach.

Tuition Allocation and Student Fee Review reported that in their meeting they looked at example financial statements so that they will be ready to review other statements. They also reported they will be solidifying a link for fee units to schedule a hearing.

College Contact Reports

The College of Agriculture and Natural Resources had no report.

The College of Arts and Sciences had no report.

The College of Business reported the business College will be holding a virtual job fair on Wednesday. On Friday September 24th they will be having an in person management and marketing fair in the student success center.

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 reported they met with their dean to discuss what he was looking for in ASUW and what to advocate for.

The College of Health Sciences had no report.

The College of Law had no report.

OLD BUSINESS

Senate Resolution #2754: Anti-Hazing Education Act of 2021

The bill was read for a second time.

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

Programming and Institutional Development gave a do-pass recommendation.

Safety and Wellness gave a do-pass recommendation.

Steering gave a do-pass as amended recommendation.

Senator Wilkins moved to pass SB #2754.

Senator Ebben seconded.

Senator Wilkins moved to amended SB #2754 to reflect the changes electronically distributed prior to the meeting.

Senator Ebben seconded.

The motion passed via a voice vote.

Debate continued with the proposed amendment.

The motion passed by roll call vote of 19-1

Senate Bill #2755: Allocations and Funding for the Career Fostership Act

The bill was read for a second time.

Budget and Planning gave a do not pass recommendation.

Advocacy, Diversity, and Policy gave a do not pass recommendation.

Programming and Institutional Development gave a do not pass recommendation.

Bill failed to be brought to the floor for debate and is considered failed.

NEW BUSINESS

Confirmation of New Senators

Senator Ebben moved to approve the confirmation of Sabrina Considine.

Senator True seconded.

The motion was approved via a standing vote 20-0.

Senator Catronovo moved to approve the confirmation of Ashley Snyder.

Senator True seconded.

The motion was approved via a standing vote of 20-0.

ASTEC Budget Realignment

Budget and Planning gave a do-pass recommendation.

Senator Talamantes moved to approve the ASTEC budget realignment request.

Senator Ebben seconded.

Senator Talamantes moved to amend the motion to table the realignment request until the next Senate meeting on September 28th.

Senator Smith seconded.

The motion passed via a voice vote.

Discussion continued with the proposed amendment.

The motion passed via a standing vote of 22-0.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Director Hacke announced First-Year senators will be joining committees and asks for everyone to create a welcoming environment.

Chief of Legislative Affairs Carrier reminded all people giving a report to email her the report before or after the meeting.

Senator Rhymes announced that tonight is the deadline to sign up to be a site lead for the big event. There will be an hour training session the night before the big event if you are a site lead.

Vice President Anderson announced that he will be sending an email out about the First-Year Senate mentorship program later this week.

After processing, the meeting adjourned at 8:56pm. The next regular meeting of the Senate will be on September 28, 2021, at 7:00pm in the Union Senate Chambers Room 221.

Kathryne Carrier
Chief of Legislative Affairs-109th Administration

