

ASUW SENATE MEETING MINUTES

The September 28, 2021, senate meeting was called to order by Vice President Anderson at 7:00 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, Dawson, Ebben, and Houghton were not present.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes from the September 21, 2021 senate meeting were approved without objection, as electronically circulated.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The agenda was approved without objection, as electronically circulated.

OPEN FORUM

There was no one in the gallery wishing to address the Senate.

SPECIAL EVENT

Vice President Anderson addressed the Senate tonight to discuss the First-Year Senate mentorship program. The First-Year Senate mentorship program is an opportunity for First-Year Senators to gain a mentor from a full Senator so that they have a better opportunity to learn about ASUW. All Senators are eligible to serve as mentors to First-year senators. Will participation is the program is optional, participation is required to receive the full Senatorial scholarship. However, if Senators do not choose to participate, they are still eligible to receive 60% of the senatorial scholarship. Details of what exactly the program will look like and what the requirements are is still pending approval from PID but as of right now it looks like there will be required bi-weekly meetings between the Senator and First-Year Senator, completion of one joint service hour, and a write up from the Senator, First-Year Senator, and both. Pairings will be created based off of a survey and shared interests. If there are more Senators than First-Year senators who are interested in participating in the program, groups of three is a possibility. If you are interested in participating in the mentorship program, fill out the Google form sent out by Vice President Anderson by Friday. Additionally, have the answers to, "What do you want to get out of the mentorship program and what would you like to provide to the program" by Tuesday.

COMMUNICATIONS

Executive Reports

President Swilling first sent around a sign-up sheet for University committees, if Senators do not sign up, there is the potential to be assigned to a committee if there are not enough Senators who sign up to be on them. He also reported he had his meeting with the registrar to discuss Unireg-100, some changes to the language were made. This unireg would change the requirement to a maximum of 4 hours of exams a day a student is allowed to take. He also reported there have been 2,200 responses on Student Issues Survey and the survey will close October 4th. He also reported that an email was sent out on the all-students list serve containing various resources. He also met to help discuss a position that would help resolve conflict between various groups on campus and would help bring them closer together. Him and Vice President Anderson met with President Sidel to discuss various topics. Among the topics discussed was the increased need for mental health services and the importance of student voices in decision making processes. Currently, President Swilling is working with Courtney Thomas-Lichtey to update the code of ethics. He is also working with the foundation to modernize endowments. He is also working on formalizing budget realignment process and the legislation should be presented soon. Finally, he reported he is meeting with Senator Talamantes to discuss strategic planning process.

Chief of Staff Homer-Wambeam said “As always, I have been meeting with each Executive Director to assist them with their projects and initiatives, and this past week I have also been helping integrate our wonderful new Pro-Staff into the Executive Office. On Thursday I co-hosted the ASUW Town Hall with Director of Marketing Clark which can be watched on both Facebook and YouTube. Recently, I have also been working on a personal project of mine to improve the religious exemption process on campus, I ask that you reach out to me privately if you would like more information on the subject. Please always feel free to contact me through my ASUW email or drop by during my office hours, this goes for any of the Executive Directors as well, our door is always open. Tonight, I will also be giving a report on behalf of our Director of Diversity and Inclusion, Ivan Sapien. In preparation for moving into the month of November, Director Sapien has been continuing to communicate with Identity based student organizations in the hopes to create a united table through set monthly meetings. He has also been working on the Giving Day Fundraiser and the You Fund page with the help of Director of Marketing Clark, President Swilling, and the financial chairs. Tonight, I will also be giving a report on behalf of our Director of Financial Planning and Analysis, Brittney Stadler. Last week Director Stadler helped the Director of Marketing with the filming of a special projects video, and she continues to help student organizations check out P-cards for funding approved by the Funding Board. Director Stadler and the Director of Finance and Student Organizations also began the planning for a Financial Wellness event in October. Also in partnership with the Director of Finance and Student Organizations, Director Stadler will be setting a date for the Financial Wellness Committee to meet this week. If any Senators are interested in joining the Financial Wellness Committee, please contact Director Stadler. Director Stadler will continue checking-in and checking-out p-cards to student organizations, proceed to work on the ASUW student fees document, and will attend the Athletics Planning Committee on Wednesday of this week. 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. This week Director Brown worked to assist in filling vacancies and conducting interviews for nominations for senate seats. More will be discussed during the Elections Committee report and confirmations. Director Brown asks senators to continue outreach for the Student Issues Survey and to take it themselves, by October 4 to be entered to win

incentives. As always, Director Brown asks senators to reach out if they would like to collaborate on a project or have any questions about her work. “

Chief of Legislative Affairs Carrier said “This past week I finished interviewing applicants for the senate vacancies and help select those that are up for confirmation tonight. I also have been helping orientate some of the new senators. Last week I was also a special guest at the town hall, hosted by Chief of Staff Homer-Wambeam and Director of Marketing Clark. At this, I just talked a little bit about my position and first-year senate. So with first-year senate, a lot of time this past week and this upcoming week has been focused on getting first-year senate sorted out and orientating some of the first year senators. I will also be meeting with a first-year senator tomorrow to help them write some legislation so that’s exciting. Since I am on the tuition allocation and student fee review committee, I have been reading up on some of some specific fee units and student fees just to learn a little bit more about what those fees are for and are going towards. I have also been having quite a few discussions with Vice President Anderson and the Steering committee over some of the “gaps” in our working documents and giving a little more clarification to some pieces. So the main bulk of my time this following week will be finishing the white paper for the ad-hoc restructuring committee. Also coming up in the future is just scholarship stuff and pieces of legislation.”

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

Director of Finance and Student Organizations Reyes-Aguilar said “This week I met with Funding Board and approved a request for a student organization. I have also continued to work on the Simplified Finance Policy. I am hoping to have this document done soon. Director Stadler, Director Clark and I have continued to work on the Financial Wellness event. We are still waiting to hear back from the Reservations Office, so we still do not have a set date yet. In the next week, I am hoping to have the finalized details for our first Financial Wellness event so we can begin to market it. The re-registration deadline on UW Connect for Student Orgs is September 30, so after this date, I want to create a list of the active Student Orgs on campus”.

Director of Financial Planning and Analysis Stadler’s report was included with Chief of Staff Homer-Wambeam’s report.

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 “This past week I worked on the homecoming shirts and sent those designs to Pinebeach Inc. I also worked with SOP this past week for the Instagram trivia on our story. This all will be discussed more in committee reports. Lastly, the special projects marketing was finished being filmed and being edited now.”

Director of Partners, Programs, and Events Hacke reported that he has continued working with the Non-Traditional student council association and First-Year Senate.

Director of Wellness and Sustainability McLean reported that the ASUW demo Foodshare cabinet is now open and available. She also reported that she helped elections with filling vacancies. Currently she is still working on projects with various committees and will be meeting with Director of Marketing Clark and a representative from Green Dot in the coming weeks.

Vice President Anderson reported that he has been meeting with committee chairs to provide support as needed. He also discussed the volunteering opportunity at the Territorial Prison.

Interim ASUW Support Staff Thomson-Lichty reported she is excited to be here and reported she has had the opportunity to meet with all members of the executive staff. She also reported that she is a resource to all Senators and is happy to help in any way possible. Her outlook Calander is updated and she is happy to meet. Additionally, she reported that she will be dropping by various Committee meetings.

Ex- Officio Communications

College Panhellenic Council reported that they are starting greek groups on the 27th. Additionally, they will be playing the spoon game from October 11th-15th. Additionally, they reported that Kappa Kappa Gamma will be having a cookout on October 5th from 3-5pm, tickets are \$15 a person and food will be included with door prizes. They also reported that Basecamp will be held on September 30th and New Member Education will be October 13th and 14th. Finally, they reported that Alpha Phi will be having a blood drive October 5th from 10am-5pm in the Union Family room. Finally, Delta Delta Delta will be having their annual Pancake Breakfast.

First-Year Senate reported they had heard from Vice President Anderson as their special event. They also confirmed a new first-year senator, voted on the ASTEC budget realignment, and voted on the confirmation of new senators. They also reported that they have their committee assignments and will be joining those committees this week.

The Interfraternity Council first thanked everyone who participated in the tabling event for anti-hazing week and that they look forward to working with ASUW in the future. They also reported they have new member education approaching.

International Students Association had no report.

The Non-Traditional Student Council reported they met today to establish an agenda for their first meeting which will be on Friday October 1st from 2pm-3pm. They are also working on getting their P-card.

The Sustainability Coalition reported they are continuing to work on planning the first meeting of the Laramie joint climate action task force. They also reported that the food share pantry in the Haub school is up and running. Additionally, they updated the Senate on their progress with the annual solar fest which will be held in October. With this, they have met with the conservation for recycling materials. Finally, they reported they are working on getting resources for club members so that they can be implemented into various student organizations.

Wyoming Honors Organization reported that they have begun discussing homecoming plans.

Committee Reports

Steering reported that they updated the floor policy on lateness and associated repercussions with being consistently late to Senate. The new policy is that lateness can be excused with a notice ahead of time that you will be late to either Vice President Anderson or Chief of Legislative Affairs Carrier. For every unexcused absence, it will count towards half of an absence that counts into the overall three unexcused absences Senators are allowed each semester. If three absences are achieved, Senators will have to come to Steering for remedial actions. Furthermore, they reported that the deadline for submitting legislation has changed. The new legislation deadline is 12pm on Thursday. Following the deadline, Chief of Legislative Affairs Carrier will send confirmation emails to sponsors to ensure they are aware and comfortable with sponsoring the legislation. If you receive this email, please respond back to Chief of Legislative Affairs Carrier by 12pm on Friday. If you do not respond back, it will be assumed that you are comfortable with sponsoring the Legislation. Finally, they announced that Steering will once again be meeting in Business room 177.

Advocacy, Diversity, and Policy reported “ADP did meet at our normal time of 2:30p last Friday. We had no steered legislation, but used our meeting time to discuss research related to our special projects funding application. We look forward to firming up details and drafting our proposal in the coming weeks. We also look forward to welcoming first-year senators to our committee. In case any senators planned on visiting us in the near future, please be advised that we have changed location. Instead of the ASUW conference room, we will begin meeting in Big Horn Room 203 starting this Friday”.

Budget and Planning reported that they did not meet last week and have nothing to report.

Elections reported they met last week and have decided their new meeting time will be on Thursday's from 4:30pm-5:30pm in the ASUW conference room. They also reported they selected the applicants to fill the Senate vacancies and these applicants are up for confirmation tonight. Finally, they reported that they have vacancies in Engineering, Energy resources, and academic affairs and that these applications will be open on a rolling basis until filled.

Homecoming reported they met and finalized their homecoming t-shirt designs. They also reported they brainstormed potential hiding spots for the horseshoe hunt and will finalize the locations next week. They also reported they are continuing discussion on homecoming float ideas and themes.

Programming and Institutional Development reported “Last week, PID met with the IFC president Michael Vierra. He came and talked to us about IFC, our collaborations in the past through the strategic partnership, and the different events they host. We also spent some time discussing previous IFC collaborations so we could brainstorm what we want to do this academic year. Tomorrow PID will meet with VP Anderson to talk about the First Year Senate Mentorship Program”.

The restructuring ad-hoc committee reported “the committee met last Thursday at 7am to discuss and solidify the main points we wanted to address and focus on in the white paper. We also met today at 7:30am to review and discuss the rough draft of the white paper that was drafted over the weekend. We also went through specific feedback from the student issues survey and looked for anything else we wanted to add to the white paper. I will be working this week to put the finishing touches and extra data into the paper. We will be meeting again this week on Thursday at 7am to put the finishing touches on the white paper which will be submitted at the latest by Friday at 5pm. Some of topics we are focusing on and recommending changes to are in this white paper are the discontinuation of the international and political science masters, the discontinuation of the bachelors in Secondary education, the school of counseling leadership advocacy and design, and the school of computing. We are also focusing on the lack of transparency, student input, and explanation that has occurred throughout the restructuring process”.

Safety and Wellness committee reported that they met at their normal meeting time. At this meeting, they continued discussion on how to promote reusable mask use on campus and the best marketing tactics. All members of the committee have taken on different action items to research in regards to this project.

Student Organization and Funding Board reported they met at their normal time and approved a conference funding request for the Women in Engineering Student organization.

Student Outreach and Programming reported they did not meet last week but did finish their Instagram trivia and have selected 3 winners.

Tuition Allocation and Student Fee Review reported that fee units have now begun scheduling hearings.

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 that the College of Business recently hosted a career fair.

The College of Education had no report.

The College of Engineering and Applied Sciences reported the engineering and applies science job fair was held today.

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

The College of Health Sciences had no report.

The College of Law reported they held a court competition which the winners will be competing in New York City in November. They will also be hosting a speaker.

OLD BUSINESS

ASTECC Budget Realignment

Senator Rhymes moved to approve the motion to approve the ASTEC realignment from the table for discussion and a vote.

Senator Smith seconded.

The motion was approved unanimously via a standing vote.

Senator Rhymes moved to suspend the Abernathy Clause.

Senator Talamantes seconded.

The motion passed via a voice vote.

NEW BUSINESS

Confirmation of New Senators

Senator Castronovo moved to approve the confirmation of Cord Anderson.

Senator Pradhanang seconded.

The motion was approved via a standing vote 25-0.

Senator Talamantes moved to approve the confirmation of Tanner Ewalt.

Senator Pradhanang seconded.

The motion was approved via a standing vote of 25-0.

Senator Nwokejiobi moved to approve the confirmation of Michelle Craig.

Senator Smith seconded.

The motion was approved via a standing vote of 25-0.

Swearing in of New Senators.

Recently confirmed Senators were sworn in by Vice President Anderson.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Senator Talamantes announced “A new group from the Wyoming Institute of Humanities, the Democracy Lab, is hosting a launch event that is a talk with author and researcher Danielle Allen. We will be asking her questions about her book *Our Declaration: A Reading of the Declaration of Independence in Defense of Equality* and the state of democracy in our country. A little bit about Dr. Allen; She is a political theorist who has written broadly about democratic theory, and the history of political thought. Dr. Allen is also the principal investigator for the Democratic Knowledge Project, a distributed research and action lab at Harvard University, which seeks to identify, strengthen, and disseminate the bodies of knowledge, skills, and

capacities that democratic citizens need in order to succeed at operating their democracy. The talk is next Tuesday from 5:30-6:30pm. Great talk to listen to while you make dinner and get ready for senate. You do have to register to get the zoom webinar link so I will email that to VP Anderson so he can send that out in his post-Senate email. When you do register, you do get a free copy of her book.”

Chief of Staff Homer-Wambeam announced that the ASUW office is in the basement of the Union in room 20.

Senator Titus announced that giving day is next week. Food Security efforts will be what is fundraised for this week. Senator Titus urged Senators that are apart of other student organizations to advertise this week so that we can get the most support possible.

Senator Rhymes announced that the big event is coming up and there is still time left to sign up and join a site.

Senator Pradhanang wanted to urge everyone to advertise the current Senate vacancies.

President Swilling announced that two events are happening on Wednesday, Hamd Khan will be speaking tomorrow at the College of Agriculture auditorium. Additionally, there is a big job fair happening in the Union on Wednesday.

After processing, the meeting adjourned at 8:11pm. The next regular meeting of the Senate will be on October 5th, 2021 at 7:00pm in the Union Senate Chambers Room 221.

Kathryne Carrier
Chief of Legislative Affairs-109th Administration

