ASUW SENATE MINUTES

The November 19th, 2019 meeting was called to order by Vice President Houghton at 7:00pm. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited, the mission statement was read, and roll was taken. Ex-Officios from Faculty Senate, International Students Association, Non-Traditional Student Council, and Staff Senate were absent. Senators Brooks, Hallsted, Jones, Lyle, McCoy, and Rubano were absent.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes from the November 12th, 2019 meeting were approved as electronically circulated.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The agenda was approved as electronically circulated.

OPEN FORUM

There was nobody in the gallery to address the Senate.

SPECIAL EVENT

Stephanie Freeman and Joe Horther, Wyoming Partnership Specialists from the US Census Bureau addressed the Senate and thanked them for having them to present. They mentioned that they also attended the meeting of the First-Year Senate right before this one. The census is decennial meaning that it happens every ten years, and the next one will be happening very soon, specifically 2020, which is next year. This is important because the numbers hold until the next census occurs and the information it gathers is important. Businesses are able to access the information and can enter into a town or state’s market because of growing populations and more consumers for their products. The jobs of Stephanie and Joe is to make people aware of the census and motivate them to take part in it. Joe works to get the Latinx community, which is one of the communities that is hard to count, to make sure that they are properly accounted for. Universities are also included in the list of tough to account for communities. The census is done because it is mandated by the Constitution and that is why it is important for the student leaders in the room to get accurate counts of everybody. It is also a good chance to build a community where you are at. Additionally, the numbers from the census are used at the federal level to apportion how many seats each state gets in the House of Representatives and how much funding certain communities receive from the federal government. These monies help to fund hospitals, schools, roads, and many other important community entities. One example at home is that the I-80 to I-25 interchange in Cheyenne is being widened and federal money would assist in making that a reality and increasing safety on the roads in Wyoming. April 1st is the official census day because December 31st is the hard deadline for when the redistricting numbers must be received. Group quarters on campus, like residence halls, apartments, and FSL housing is counted differently. They will count these communities by sending
enumerators to these places to support in the counting of these students. It is important to note that college students are counted in their college town and not in their hometown and household. The census is important for students to take now because even though they will be gone, there will be new batches of students always coming in. The numbers gathered from taking it are important for college towns because they assist in determining how much money is allocated for federal student aid, Pell grants, and research grants. The amount of ambulances and different emergency responses for cities and towns are also determined by the data gathered by the Census. The census has pages on all social media platforms so be sure to follow them and encourage others to do so as well to get out the word about this important event. They are also hiring enumerators that start at $14.50 an hour here in Albany County. The ASUW Cowboy Count Committee is a great thing that has been important in building a community for communication between many parties. It was noted that children under the age of five were severely undercounted in the 2010 census, but it is also important to remember that the census is not political and is intended to be accurate and build communities up across the country. Federal employees are the ones helping to administer the census, but they rely upon leaders in communities, like ASUW, to motivate people to complete it. This is because many people do not trust the government so if they hear about it from their peers on a more local level they will be more willing to do the work to fill out the form. This is one of the first times that municipalities are spending their own dollars to encourage members from their communities to take it. Students living on campus will have workers come to them and assist them in filling out the census forms, while students living away from campus will have it mailed to their houses and have to fill it out with their roommates. These need to be returned by the end of the spring semester and international students are counted in the census as well. The reason the census is decennial is due to the Constitution being that way, but the American Community survey happens on the in between years. It is more comprehensive on certain households, just not all of them.

**RSO FUNDING BOARD REQUESTS**

There were no new requests from the RSO Funding Board to be heard by the Senate.

**COMMUNICATIONS**

**Executive Reports**

President Wilkins reported back on the happenings of the Board of Trustees meeting for the month. There, Director of Student Wellness and Sustainability Savage gave her report on food insecurity on campus to one of their committees and they are asking her to report back for more information on the task force in January. The Board approved the budget of $386,916 for the Presidential search. They also approved notices of intent for Bachelors’ in Early Childhood and Neuroscience. Approved also was the computer science education undergraduate certificate. President Theobald gave a small update on the housing and campus master plan, but more is expected to come from the housing task force meeting later in the week. The vote on the GIST proposal will come in January and finally the Board made small housekeeping edits to the University regulation dealing with the ASUW Student Government. Tomorrow he and Vice President Houghton will be meeting with Interim Vice President Chestnut on Wednesday along with attending Budget and Planning to
propose the realignment for the UMC co-chairs. He has been talking with Senator Conard about keeping the reserves from hitting the legislated ceiling of $300,000 and the possibility of an ASUW trip to Washington D.C. to visit our representatives over spring break. There is a lunch with Dean of Libraries Gaetz on Friday at 12:00pm in Coe Room 504 where lunch will be served. Members of the Executive Branch met with the HLC on-site peer reviewers yesterday to talk about aspects of student government, what we do, and our effectiveness. The housing architects will be on campus on the 21st of this month in the basement of Washakie from 5:00pm to 5:30pm to talk to students who have lived in the residence halls about what improvements could be made to them in the future. Transgender Day of Remembrance is taking place on the 20th at 6:30pm at the church on the corner of Grand Avenue and 11th Street. Finally, an update on the Facilities Endowment is that there is no plans on where the funds will go yet, but there are some options being explored. This will be legislated if it was spent because only ASUW can determine how these funds will be used.

Chief of Staff Talamantes reported that the RSO food drive is happening next week and some RSOs may need assistance in tabling for that. The first meeting of the food insecurity taskforce will be happening on Thursday where they will discuss some goals and plans for the future of the entity. Some members of the Executive branch sat down with a UMC co-chair because the Multicultural Affairs advisors were all busy. There, feedback was received on the elections outreach bill written by the Chief of Staff, along with a brainstorming session of how ASUW can reach out to RSOs to explain to them our purpose and how to affect ASUW and the campus as a whole. Many members also sat down with Senator Titus to begin the creation of marketing materials for underrepresented groups on campus and let them know what ASUW does and what it means to be a Senator. Director of Marketing de Vault-Garvey will be talking to the Student Outreach and Programming Committee about a student outreach week and will also be hiring a marketing intern in the near future. Finally, Director of Governmental and Community Affairs Campbell will be sitting down with ASUW members and Council people from the City of Laramie to discuss landlord-tenant ideas once again.

Chief of Legislative Affairs Hoversland said that the away meeting for this semester will be the next meeting which is on December 3rd because of the Thanksgiving holiday next week. This will occur in the College of Law, Room 178. He also let Senators know that he will be accepting legislation to go to Steering up until December 1st or 2nd because Steering will not be meeting this Friday. Also noted was the fact that there are only two weeks of meetings left in the semester, so legislation needs to be submitted by the date mentioned above to have it potentially passed by the end of the semester.

Vice President Houghton reported that the Elections Committee met and will be giving a report later in the meeting. He also asked for people to push out the sustainability survey as it has a low response rate and ends soon. His fee committee wrapped up hearings this week and will be proposing a resolution for first reading tonight to take to the Central Fee Committee which is meeting in the near future. He added that he attended a committee meeting of the Board of Trustees where parking and housing was discussed and apologized for missing the Friendsgiving, but noted he locked his backpack in Hoyt Hall and waited for 45 minutes for somebody from the UW Police Department to open the building and let him retrieve it. Finally, he let the Senate know he would
be gone to the state of California the following week for Thanksgiving Break, so he would be cancelling his office hours for that whole time.

**Ex Officio Communications**

College Panhellenic Council reported that they held elections last night and now have a new executive team.

First-Year Senate reported that they had four pieces of legislation up for first reading earlier in the night. Three of those are up in this body and one is unique to First-Year Senate and would change how they determine their quorum numbers. They had four vacancies on their body with four applications to fill those and interviews will be conducted in the coming weeks to have them appointed by the end of the semester. Finally, some of their members are working with Director Savage to make residence halls more sustainable and eco-friendly.

Interfraternity Council reported that they held elections yesterday and were working on their transition documents for their incoming officers.

Residence Halls had no report.

Sustainability Coalition reported that they are engaging on things with the food security task force and submitted a special project that has final approval from this body next meeting.

United Multicultural Council reported that they hired an intern this week and will be filling a vacancy on their executive team soon. Finally, they noted they attended a meeting about the Director of Diversity position since it was not confirmed by this body.

Student Athlete Advisory Committee reported that they are doing a Toys for Tots fundraiser at the gates at the Border War game on Friday.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Steering reported that they met to look over the three pieces of legislation that will be up for first reading later in the meeting.

Advocacy, Diversity, and Policy had no report.

Budget and Planning reported that they met for three hours to review special projects applications and came up with the funding as shown in Senate Bill #2682. They are also exploring funding for other options that they were not able to approve due to budgeting, not the ideas.

Program and Institutional Development had no report.
RSO Funding Board reported that they allocated $680.00 to both Wyoming Student Society of Health Systems Pharmacy and the School of Pharmacy President’s Council to attend the same conference. They also allocated $1,199.00 to Alpha Kappa Psi for a competition, the first funding for a competition so that is exciting for all of those people who made this a possibility. $735.65 was allocated to Phi Alpha for an end of the year party event and finally $3499.99 to the International Students Association for their etiquette dinner. This allocation was made by waiving the five week deadline and will be put towards catering and finally with the stipulation that a probation hearing be held in December.

Student Outreach and Programming reported that they held a brainstorming workshop to go over their direction for the rest of the semester and discussed finals outreach that will be happening at the end of the semester.

Cowboy Count Committee reported that had a good meeting and talked about the census while also discussing possible logos for the event. These will be put on shirts and signs and will not hold their next meeting until after Winter break.

Mandatory Student Fee and Tuition Allocation Review Committee reported that they had now heard from all eight fee units and the only increase came from the Consolidated Student Services. This was an increase of $20.95 per student, but it is already the largest fee. The money generated from that will be used for new positions in Disability Support Services and conduct and allowing the student minimum wage on campus to be increased to $8.00 an hour. This presentation was done by Interim Vice President Chestnut and the committee recommended to approve it.

Rave Guardian ad-Hoc Committee reported that they will be meeting once before the end of the semester and are excited to have a marketing intern to create a video for the app.

Student Wellness Advisory Board reported that they met with Amanda from LifeSavers coalition and will be meeting on December 4th to discuss suicide prevention.

**COLLEGE CONTACT REPORTS**

Agriculture and Natural Resources had no report.

Arts and Sciences reported on many more performances happening throughout the coming week.

Business reported that the inaugural Women in Business event will be held on Friday the 22nd until 4:00pm in the College of Business Auditorium.

Education reported that Senator Brown’s office hours will be on Fridays from 10:00am to 11:00am, Senator Titus’ from 11:00am to 1:00pm on Thursdays, and Senator Bennett’s on Wednesdays at 10:00am.

Engineering and Applied Sciences had no report.
Haub School had no report.

Health Sciences reported that there would be an exercise event happening on December 1st in the fieldhouse.

Law had no report.

School of Energy Resource reported that there would be a speaker from the school presenting next week in the Berry Center from 4:10pm until 6:10pm.

OLD BUSINESS

There was no new business to hear or consider this week.

NEW BUSINESS

Senator St. Marie moved to cancel the December 17th, 2019 Regular Meeting of the ASUW Senate. Senator Anselmi-Stith seconded. Motion passed by a voice vote.

Senate Resolution #2680: ASUW Recommendation on Proposed Programmatic Fee Increases for FY21
   The resolution was read for the first time.
   The resolution was steered to Program and Institutional Development.

Senate Resolution #2681: ASUW Recommendation on Proposed Mandatory Student Fee Increase for FY21
   The resolution was read for the first time.
   The resolution was steered to Program and Institutional Development.

Senate Bill #2682: Special Projects Allocations for Fiscal Year 2020
   The bill was read for the first time.
   The bill was steered to Budget and Planning.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no announcements made.

After processing, the meeting adjourned at 7:56pm. The next regular meeting will be December 3rd, 2019 at 7:00pm in the College of Law, Room 178.

Hank Hoversland
Chief of Legislative Affairs