

FACULTY SENATE
UNIVERSITY OF WYOMING
Laramie, Wyoming

Minutes of the Meeting
of
February 25, 2013

A regular meeting of the University of Wyoming Faculty Senate was called to order by Chair Michael Barker at 3:10 p.m., on February 25, 2013, in the Family Room of the Wyoming Union.

The roll call was taken by Secretary Tucker Readdy, with the following members recorded as absent or not represented by a unit alternate or proxy: Anderson, D., Ferre-Pikal, Geerts, Groose, Lamartine, Landreville, McGee, Towler, Wille.

The agenda was approved as distributed.

The minutes of January 28, 2013, were approved as distributed.

For his report, Chair Barker explained the agenda items of the day, including that he would relinquish the position of Chair to Chair-Elect Keeney during the discussion of Senate Resolution 319. He also updated the Senate on the Presidential Search, including that he felt faculty sentiments were well represented during the first two phases of the process (which were closed). He also requested to trustees on the second screening committee that there be an “open forum” with the four finalists where faculty and the rest of the university community could meet the four finalists.

Joel Defebaugh, president of ASUW, reported on activities that body is undertaking and deliberating, i.e. recent activities (“Debt Week,” “Elect Her,” UW game show “Volta”) and upcoming activities (elections, homecoming planning, budget planning, and a book requisition video for faculty).

Ben Marks, president of Staff Senate, reported on activities of various committees, including the Finance Committee (ongoing documentation of sources of revenue to plan for a stagnant or decreased budget), the Communications Committee (unveiling of new appearance of the staff website to better align with the university page), Recognitions Committee (planning for Staff Recognition Day on April 25th). Staff Senate also forwarded their recommendations on the new Employee Handbook and noted the start of the STEP program.

Tim Collier, chair of the Faculty Academic Standards, Rights & Responsibilities Committee, reported on the ongoing actions of that group, including revision of the “for cause” termination language in University Regulation 5-1 and the new charge related to academic freedom at the University of Wyoming.

Provost Myron Allen provided a general update, including: the three new voting Board of Trustee members will start in March, the governor signed a budget bill including a 6% reduction in university funding, and the four Presidential Search finalists recently did “airport” interviews in Denver. There was a question and answer session following his report.

Richard DelaCastro, Eric Goldenstein, Mary Petroski, and Nancy Olsen provided the Senate with a brief overview of proposed changes to the UW Employee Handbook. Questions were asked and answered during the report. Feedback should be sent to any members of the group as soon as possible.

Nancy Fox, Director of UW Environmental Health and Safety, provided a presentation of the proposed UW Environmental Health and Safety Policy. Feedback should be sent to Nancy by March 11th.

Mariah Ehmke, Member of the Academic Calendar Committee, gave a report on the process that has led to the three potential academic calendars being considered for AY 2014-2020. Questions were asked and answered throughout the update.

Chair Barker then proceeded with the election of Faculty Senate officers for the upcoming year. The rules calling for a pencil-and-paper ballot were suspended in favor of a voice vote, as there was only one candidate for each office. There was unanimous approval for the slate of candidates, including Edward Janak (Chair-Elect), Jennifer Petrie (Secretary), Tucker Readdy (Member-at-Large), and Teresa Stephenson (Member-at-Large).

Chair Barker relinquished his position as Chair to Chair-Elect Keeney, and Faculty Senate Resolution 319, “Resolution Against State of Wyoming House Bill 105 *Citizens’ and Students’ Self-Defense Act* and House Bill 103 *Regulation of Firearms-State Preemption*” was introduced by the Faculty Senate Executive Committee. Chair Barker explained the rationale for the Resolution, with discussion following. Senator Chestek called for the question, which passed with a two-thirds majority. SR 319 passed. Chair Barker then reclaimed his position as Chair.

The Faculty Senate went into Executive Session, and the meeting was adjourned at 5:10pm.

/s/

Tucker Readdy

Secretary of the Faculty Senate