A regular meeting of the University of Wyoming Faculty Senate was called to order by Chair Michael Barker at 3:10 p.m., on April 29, 2013, in the Family Room of the Wyoming Union.

The roll call was taken by Secretary Tucker Readdy, with the following members recorded absent or not represented by a unit alternate or by proxy: Andersen, M., Forrester, Garnich, Gigley, Harkin, Hartman, Hunt, Hvidston, Johnson, L., Lamartine, McGee, Painter, Wille.

The agenda was approved as distributed.

The minutes of the meeting of March 25, 2013, were approved as distributed.

For his report, Chair Barker reviewed legislation that was acted on by the Faculty Senate during the 2012-13 academic year. Items he noted were that the senate: passed a resolution regarding surviving spouse benefits, passed a resolution for the proposed general education program, passed a resolution for protection of academic freedom, passed a resolution on the selling of the Y-Cross Ranch, opposed a resolution asking for transparency in the selection of a new UW president, and passed a resolution against allowing guns on campus. He also noted that the Board of Trustees approved the Faculty Senate recommendation for a plus-minus grading system, and that both Trustee President Bostrom and incoming UW President Sternberg visited the senate. He expressed his gratitude for the opportunity to chair the senate and thanked the Executive Committee and Amy Kopp for their help and support.

Chair Barker introduced new ASUW President Brett Kahler, who reported on activities ASUW is undertaking before the end of the semester and what they will be doing over the summer with respect to ASUW responsibilities. He advised they will be involved with the start of the Half Acre renovations and will be overseeing a student memorial to be placed on campus in memoriam of students who have passed away while students on campus.

Ben Marks, president of Staff Senate, reported on activities they have been undertaking, some of which he noted were Staff Recognition Day and putting together a planning document for upcoming staff issues. He advised that Amy Appelhans from Information Technology will be interim president of Staff Senate until July 1, as he is leaving UW in two weeks. Jim Logue will take office as president on July 1, 2013.

Faculty Senate standing committee chairs, who hadn’t reported directly to the senate during the year, gave brief annual reports. They were: Christi Boggs, Academic Information Technology Committee; Teresa Ukrainetz, Committee on Committees; Jennifer Petrie, Faculty Development Committee; Eric Sandeen, Graduate Council; Ed Janak, Library Council; Jane Warren, Research Advisory Committee; Steve Barrett, University Course Review Committee; Brant Schumaker, University Studies Committee; and Linda Kidwell, University Reappointment, Tenure and Promotion Committee. Jennifer Petrie also advised that her committee has been working on recommendations for a 20 percent salary increase for promotion to full professor and academic professional senior status, and a resolution will be forthcoming in the fall.

Provost Myron Allen reported that the second position paper for University Plan 4 has been completed and hard copies will be distributed University-wide. The paper also can be found on the Academic Affairs website. He welcomed comments to the paper.
UW President Tom Buchanan reported on the general state of affairs of the budget and UW finances; reviewed facilities construction; spoke about the retirements or resignations of several administrative positions; and briefed the senate on activities and meetings with incoming President Sternberg. Chair Barker presented President Buchanan with a gift of appreciation from the Faculty Senate for his service to the University of Wyoming.

Chair Barker explained the “planned amendments” to Senate Bill 324, as amended, “A Bill to Revise UW Regulations 5-1 ‘Academic Personnel,’ 5-808 ‘Post-Tenure Review Policy,’ 1-44 ‘Violence in the Workplace,’ 5-35 ‘Faculty Dispute Resolution,’ 5-35 ‘Appendix A,’ 5-408 ‘Guidelines for Establishing Academic Professionals’ and 7-570 ‘Regulations of the College of Law.’” These proposed amendments were largely identical to the amendments passed previously in March under “Section E. Dismissal of Faculty” and were to be duplicated in “Section 5. Dismissal of Academic Professionals” by inserting “physical or mental incapacity (as delimited by federal and state disability law) and” after the word “include” on line 24, page 10; deleting “physical or mental incapacity (as delimited by federal and state disability law), chronic” beginning on line 26, page 10; inserting “behavior that leads to a” before the word “conviction” on line 27, page 10. It was moved and seconded to approve the amendments. Motion carried. It was moved and seconded to amend “Section 2c. Leaves of Absence, Faculty Sabbatical Leave” replacing the entire paragraph beginning with the words “A faculty member” on line 5, page 14 with “A faculty member who fails to return to the University for at least one academic year immediately following his or her sabbatical leave shall owe to the University an amount equal to their net salary applicable to the term of the sabbatical leave. For this purpose, net salary is defined as gross salary minus tax withholdings and pre-tax deductions for UW’s basic health, life, and retirement benefits.” Discussion. Motion carried. It was moved to delete from the title of the bill “7-570 ‘Regulations of the College of Law’” and delete Addendum F from the bill. Motion seconded and carried. Senate Bill 324, as amended, passed unanimously.

It was moved and seconded to ratify the nominees for the Faculty Senate standing committee chairs. Ratification carried.

It was moved and seconded to ratify the nominees for the Faculty Senate standing committee members as nominated by the Committee on Committees. Ratification carried.

Teresa Ukrainetz, chair of the Committee on Committees, introduced Senate Bill 325, “A Bill to Revise UW Regulation 702 ‘Establishment of Faculty Senate Committees,’ by Adding the Dean of the Outreach School as an Ex Officio Member of the University Course Review Committee.” Senate Bill 325 passed unanimously.

Chair Barker turned the gavel over to Chair-elect Colin Keeney and Keeney presented him with a plaque of appreciation from the Faculty Senate for his service as chair.

Meeting adjourned at 4:35 p.m.

/s/
Tucker Readdy
Secretary of the Faculty Senate