Chair Tucker Readdy welcomed senators, President McGinity, administration and the college deans, and asked each in attendance to give a brief talk on current undertakings within the University and their colleges.

President McGinity spoke about what is included in the UW budget request; the upcoming development of a new financial recording system for UW; the implementation of the revised University Studies program; and the presidential search.

College of Health Sciences Dean Joseph Steiner spoke about a proposed geriatric program grant; interprofessional curriculums and the WWAMI medical program.

College of Agriculture and Natural Resources Dean Frank Galey reported that statewide extension centers are rebuilding and announced three new department chairs in the college.

College of Engineering and Applied Science Dean Michael Pishko expressed his pleasure in being a newly-appointed dean at UW, and spoke about this being a time of reinvestment in engineering.

College of Arts and Sciences Dean Paul Lutz spoke about the University Studies program implementation, and that the Creative Writing program has become separate from the Department of English.

College of Education Dean Ray Reutzel stated it was wonderful to return to UW in his newly-appointed capacity as dean, and spoke about the Education Initiative.

After a brief break for refreshments, a regular meeting of the University of Wyoming Faculty Senate was called to order by Chair Tucker Readdy at 3:57 p.m., on August 31, 2015, in Room 212, Wyoming Family Room, Wyoming Union.

The roll call was taken by Secretary Donal O’Toole, with the following members recorded absent or not represented by an official department alternate or by proxy: Chestek, Gardzelewski, Hartman, Reiser, Shepherd, Smith, Weber.

It was moved and seconded to approve the agenda. Motion carried.

It was moved and seconded to approve the minutes. Motion carried.

Chair Readdy welcomed and asked new senators to stand up, and announced that Global and Area Studies and African American and Diaspora Studies petitioned for representation on the Faculty Senate and were approved by the Executive Committee. He asked for comments regarding the new seating arrangement. Readdy gave an overview presentation of the University regulations governing the Faculty Senate and went over the committee structure and senator responsibilities. He reported on the presidential search and thanked the four faculty members on the two search committees: Jacquelyn Bridgeman, Deborah McGriff, Cynthia Weinig, and Jason Shogren. He also reported the Graduate Council has been charged, at the request of Academic Affairs, with looking at the formation and composition of graduate student committees. He conveyed his priorities this coming year to be continued engagement with the presidential search; taking measurable steps to establish a Graduate School; initiating a study of faculty salary compression; and revising UW Regulation 6-700, “Faculty Bylaws.”
ASUW President Bryan Schuler handed out the booklet “Summer Report 2015: Going Forward” published by ASUW, and spoke about that group’s priorities and projects for the coming year, which include completion of the Student Memorial Plaza; involvement in the presidential search; student email privacy; and review of the plus-minus grading system. Schuler expressed their commitment to work together with faculty, staff, and administration.

Staff Senate President Arron Sullivent spoke about that group’s projects for the coming year, which includes involvement in the presidential search; outreach efforts throughout the state; reversing the negative perception of UW; management/supervisor training regarding state/federal regulations.

Vice President for Academic Affairs David Jones thanked the senators for their service in shared governance. He reported the University Libraries’ dean search will begin soon; and, as a consequence of increased enrollment, spoke about the need for identifying mechanisms to implement the management of graduate education and graduate student committees. He noted that the VPAA search timing will coincide with the hiring of the new president. There was a question and answer period following his report.

Greg Brown, Professor and Associate Dean of Arts and Sciences, and head of the Campus Leadership Team for the UW Science Initiative; and Cynthia Weinig, Professor of Botany and member of the Campus Leadership Team, updated the senate on what’s been happening with the initiative, and spoke about the process of selecting architectural teams, adding that Level 1 planning kicked off in July. He discussed the Learning Actively Mentoring Program (LAMP) which will train faculty how to use the large active classrooms that will be a result of the initiative. He added that questions should go to the Leadership Team by contacting him at gkbrown@uwyo.edu. There was a question and answer period following their report.

Ray Reutzel, College of Education dean, and member of the interim planning board for the UW Education Initiative, presented the Trustees’ resolution on the Education Initiative and spoke about the funding of the initiative over the next five years. He advised that the interim planning board is made up of five subcommittees that are to prepare and submit to the Trustees a two-year strategic planning cycle and a three-year implementation cycle. There was a question and answer period following his report.

Associate Vice President Anne Alexander announced there will be an informal coffee confab Friday, September 4, at 11 a.m., at the Rendezvous Café.

Meeting adjourned at 5:19 p.m.

/s/
Donal O’Toole
Secretary of the Faculty Senate