Faculty Senate Executive Committee

RESOLUTION REGARDING TRANSPARENCY ABOUT NON-RENEWAL OF A CONTRACT FOR PRESIDENT LAURIE NICHOLS

WHEREAS, in March 2019 no renewal of Dr. Laurie Nichols' contract to serve as president of the University of Wyoming was offered by the Board of Trustees (the Board); and

WHEREAS, the Board declined to explain its decision to the Wyoming public or President Nichols; and

WHEREAS, for the last three years President Nichols successfully navigated deep cuts in the University's budget, developed a five-year strategic plan, and exhibited many personal strengths such as deep commitment to the institution, transparency, approachability, and forthrightness; and

WHEREAS, it is inappropriate to withhold from any employee, including a university president, the reason(s) for not renewing her or his contract; and

WHEREAS, the ability of UW to hire top-tier administrators will be harmed by releasing its University president with no explanation, adding to the public impression that the Board is secretive and arbitrary; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED that Faculty Senate requests the Board explain to President Nichols in confidence the basis for its decision about her contract renewal, as well as provide a general explanation to the public, including employees of this University;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the search for a permanent replacement for the president be open, transparent, and inclusive.

AUTHENTICATION: The foregoing Faculty Senate Resolution 364, duly adopted by the Faculty Senate of the University of Wyoming under date of May 6, 2019, is hereby transmitted to the President of the University of Wyoming for review in accordance with UW Regulations.

Clifford J. Marks

Secretary of the Faculty Senate