A regular meeting of the University of Wyoming Faculty Senate (FS) was called to order by Chair Freng at 3:33 p.m., on December 13, 2021, in the Family Room, University of Wyoming Union. Additional Faculty Senate members and guests were able to join via Zoom.

The roll was called by Secretary Treva Sprout Ahrenholtz, with the following senators not in attendance and not represented by official alternate or by proxy: David Bodily, William Cain, Nathan Clements, James Creel, Jeff Edwards, Kit Freedman, Anne Guzzo, John Hewlett, David Kruger, Scott Lake, Rochelle McCoy, Jerod Merkle, Steven Miller, Shane Murphy, Ali Nejadmalayeri, Lydiah Nganga, Tiger Robison, Sasha Skiba, William Todd, and Mike Urynowicz

Chair Freng called for a motion to approve the agenda; motion made, seconded, and carried. Freng called for a motion to approve the minutes of November 29, 2021; motion made, seconded, and carried.

Chair Freng welcomed the in-house Senators with a cookie and thanked all the faculty for their hard work this semester.

The Chair’s report started with a reminder that if you want to participate in Strategic Planning you have until Wednesday to put your nomination in. ASUW has been very busy with program fees and restricting senate seats. The Staff flexible work schedule is coming to end. The Staff Senate Holiday Market was successful last Friday. A reminder that performance evaluations are coming up. The budget request went to governor and legislators. The Deans and Directors are moving forward on dean selections.

Chair Freng had a meeting with the President, and they discussed warp and wip initiatives, strategic planning, enrollment, and evaluating positions. The Trustees will be meeting soon to revisit the plan for Covid-19.

The chair also reported that Grad Council gave a presentation on the revised version to ASUW. Also, they were given the revised proposal for the School of Computing. Landscaping Committee are still trying to deal with two big concerns parking and safety. Union parking lot will close after the Ivinson parking garage is complete.

Chair Freng also reminded everyone that in 2022 Faculty Senate meetings will be held at the normal time of 3:10 starting at the January 24th meeting. She also reminded everyone that you could still put your nominations in for the executive committee.

Time was given to ask VP and General Counsel Tara Evans general questions about the change in regulations before Chair Freng opened the floor for individual resolutions to be voted on.
Initial motions: Agenda MTA Cawley, 2nd Fertig; Minutes—MTA Cawley, 2 Jeff Means (alternate in History filling in for Renee)
Chair Freng brought to the floor for discussion Faculty Senate Resolution 399, “Resolution in Support of Proposed UW Regulation 2-3, Compensation for Academic Personnel”. Freng introduced a number of aggregate amendments to UW Regulation 2-3, which included the following in Section III-A: strike the verbiage, “performed during the academic year” and replace with “assigned as part of the standard workload”; insert the word “when” between “but” and “the” in the first sentence; remove the sentence “The academic year is defined as the period beginning with the faculty reporting day of the Fall semester and ending when Spring semester grades are due”. Amendments for Section III-B, first sentence included: insert “additional” between the words “for” and “duties”; remove the phrase “carried out during the winter term (J term) or the period from Spring commencement to Fall semester reporting date”, strike phrase “academic year” between “standard” and “workload”. Section III-V, paragraph two, sentence two amendments included: add phrase “Dean or Director of the School or College in consultation with the” between the words “the” and “Provost”; remove the phrase “in consultation with the President”; insert the sentence, “A change in salary due to a retention offer would be at the discretion of the Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs if greater than a five percent increase” after sentence two. Freng furthermore proposed to remove entirely section VII of UW Regulation 2-3, Summer Session and Winter Session (J Term). Amendments for section VIII, sentence one included: replace the phrase “entitled to” with “guaranteed”; add the phrase, “excepting for those rehired based on a 2-13 reorganization” at the end of that same sentence after the word “regulation”. Finally, Chair Freng also strongly advocated for a clearer definition of “break in service” in current UW regulations (2-1), although no specific language could be provided as part of this regulation. Member at Large Barker moved to accept the amendments, with concurrent renumbering of the resolution. Senator Cawley seconded. Motion on the amendments passed unanimously. Resolution with regulation as amended passed unanimously.

Freng brought to the floor for discussion Faculty Senate Resolution 400, “Resolution in Support to Sunset Regulation 5-1, Staff of the University”. Member at Large Jeff Miller moved to approve the resolution, Senator Cawley seconded. Motion passed with one abstention.

Freng then brought to the floor for discussion Faculty Senate Resolution 401, “Resolution in Support of Proposed UW Regulation 5-2, Retirement Provisions”. Chair Freng introduced two similar amendments to Regulation 5-2 from a faculty senator as follows: add the phrase “to the extent allowed by license agreements” after the word “personnel” in section II-C-1-f and the same in section II-C-2-f. Member at Large Barker moved to approve the amendments, with a second from Member at Large Jeff Miller. Motion passes unanimously. Resolution with regulation as amended passed unanimously.

Chair Freng brought to the floor for discussion Faculty Senate Resolution 402, “Resolution in Support of Proposed UW Regulation 5-3, Employee Handbook”. Again, Chair Freng introduced amendments which included: add the phrase “in accordance with UW Regulation 1-101 and any other applicable procedures and policies” following the word “University” in section III; strike the current sentences of Section IV and replace with the sentences, “The Employee Handbook is a Standard Administrative Policy and Procedure and may be revised without notice or with notice pursuant to UW Regulation 1-101. Any revisions to the Employee Handbook shall become effective from the date of their approval by the President or designee.” Senator Cawley moved to approve the amendments, with a second from Secretary Sprout Ahrenholtz. Motion to amend passed unanimously. Resolution passed unanimously.

Finally, Chair Freng brought to the floor for discussion Faculty Senate Resolution 403, “Resolution in Support of Proposed Changes to Employee Handbook”. She suggested amendments for page two of the Employee Handbook, which included: insert the phrase “considered a standard administrative policy and procedure and is” between the words “is” and “not”, and add the sentence, “See UW Regulation 1-101" after the word
“contract” in the sentence following the heading “disclaimer”. Additionally, in sentence two under the heading “Reservation of Rights”, Freng recommended inserting the following: the phrase “as per UW Regulation 1-101” immediately following the word “Wyoming” in sentence one; the word “without” before the word “consideration” and the phrase “as per UW Regulation 1-101” following “consideration” in sentence two. Member at Larger Barker moved to approve amendments, with a second by Member at Large Bartsch Estes. The motion on amendments passed unanimously. Resolution passed unanimously.

It was moved and seconded to adjourn to Executive Session. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 4:54 p.m.

Treva Sprout Ahrenholtz, Secretary of the Faculty Senate
Dated: January 11, 2022