A regular meeting of the University of Wyoming Faculty Senate (FS) was called to order by Chair Adrienne Freng at 3:30 p.m., on September 13, 2021, in the Family Room, University of Wyoming Union. Additional FS members and guests were able to join via Zoom.

The roll was called by Senator and Secretary Treva Sprout Ahrenholtz, with the following senators not in attendance and not represented by official alternate or by proxy: Barker, Borowczak, Bush, Cornish, Coupal, Freedman, Guzzo, Lake, McCoy, Novak, Todd, and Urynowicz.

Chair Freng called for a motion to approve the agenda; motion made, seconded, and carried.

Chair Freng called for a motion to approve the minutes of May 10, 2021; motion made, seconded, and carried.

Dr. Kevin Carman, Provost and Executive Vice President, provided the Provost’s report. He relayed information about working with the Wyoming Legislature and Governor’s Office to secure federal economic development funds. Regarding student success initiatives, a more centralized academic advising model, Navigate, will be used as a strategy to improve advising in light of students changing majors often. Provost Carman reported on Saddle Up, the academic boot camp that aims to make incoming students more successful by better communication and preparation. The university strategic plan will temporarily pause until after the 2-13 process determines university structures. Finally, Provost Carman stated that due to interim reports from 2-13 committees, there would be changes shared publicly at the Board of Trustees meeting on Thursday, September 16th. A question and answer period followed the report.

Chair Freng delivered the chairs report next. She relayed information concerning COVID and that we were seeing a rise in cases, both on campus and in Albany County. The Board of Trustees will look at the mask policy this week. A status report on 2-13 and the continued need for effective shared governance followed. Finally, Chair Freng reported that the Honors College was granted a position on the Faculty Senate, as affirmed by Faculty Senate Exec in a previous FS Exec meeting.

Associate Vice President Diana Hulme gave a report from the Research Office. Topics included the search for a new Vice President of Research and Economic Development, new strategic initiatives, an interim director of WYSAC, and a shifting of duties in the research office.

Chair Freng introduced Faculty Senate Resolution 395, “Resolution in Support of Proposed SAPP Accompanying UW Regulation 2-5, Procedures for Assessing Effective Teaching”.

Chair Freng delivered a presentation on the role of faculty senators, including duties and how resolutions are created, brought to the floor, and voted on.
Last, Chair Freng called for a discussion about Faculty Senate priorities for the upcoming year. Common themes from the floor included thinking more proactively about priorities, diversifying our image, and reinforcing effective shared governance.

It was moved, seconded, and carried to adjourn to Executive Session at 5:01 pm.

Treva Sprout Ahrenholtz, Secretary
Dated: September 20, 2021