A regular meeting of the University of Wyoming Faculty Senate was called to order by Chair Donal O’Toole at 3:10 p.m., on September 10, 2018, in Room 212, Wyoming Family Room, Wyoming Union.

Chair-elect Ken Chestek took the roll call, in the absence of Secretary Cliff Marks, with the following members recorded absent and not represented by an official department alternate or by proxy: Barker, Coupal, Marks, Urynnowicz.

Chair O’Toole called for a motion to approve the agenda; moved, seconded, approved.

Chair O’Toole called for a motion to approve the minutes of May 7, 2018; moved, seconded, approved.

Chair O’Toole reported on what he knew about the imminent closing of the Biodiversity Institute and advised there will be more information about it in future meetings. He spoke about the recent raises, and advised Associate VP for Human Resources will be at the next meeting for questions, and discussion on the topic. He informed senators that he would like to charge one or two standing committees to review conflict of interest policies on campus; and study what other universities have and acquire a Faculty Senate seat on the Board of Trustees. O’Toole asked senators to think very seriously about running for office when nominations come up.

ASUW President Seth Jones gave an overview of current and upcoming initiatives being undertaken by ASUW, i.e., improving communications and understanding in relationships with state and local governments, community colleges, and the student population. He advised the heads of Staff, Faculty and ASUW Senates plan to collaborate by meeting once a month.

Staff Senate Vice President David Keto spoke about the raise implantation and advised the salary task force is reconvening. He announced the “Adopt-a-Highway” cleanup project takes place September 21 at 2 p.m., and meeting at the water treatment center. He advised the heads of Staff, Faculty and ASUW Senates plan to meet once a month to discuss pertinent issues on campus.

Lena Newlin, Assistant Director of Campus Recreation, gave information about the services and activities offered for faculty and staff at the UW Wellness Center located in the Half Acre Gym, southwest corner. Programs and offerings are on their website.

Senator Christi Boggs announced the Campus Sustainability Committee is looking for a faculty senator to serve, and to let her know if you are interested. She also announced there will be a diversity award dinner on September 21.

Chair O’Toole announced it is the 20th anniversary of Matthew Shepherd’s murder, and there will be a documentary film screening of “Laramie Inside Out” on September 14 in commemoration of the anniversary.
Chair O’Toole called for a motion to ratify the standing committee member nominee presented by the Committee on Committees. It was moved and seconded to ratify. Ratification carried.

Associate Provost Anne Alexander spoke regarding the Higher Learning Commission reaccreditation that is due in October 2019. She explained the process of this reaccreditation, and advised that she will be asking for help in preparing for it. There was a question and answer period following her presentation.

Chair O’Toole asked for a motion to bring to the floor for introduction Senate Resolution 345, Resolution in Support of the Pilot Hill Project. It was moved and seconded. Kermit Brown, UW trustee and member of the steering committee for the project, along with Sarah Brown Mathews, steering committee member, spoke to the issue and answered questions from the Senate. Discussion and vote will be at the next Senate meeting.

Chair O’Toole brought to the floor for introduction Senate Resolution 346, Resolution in Favor of Faculty Senate Endorsement of Proposed Degree in Construction Management. Molly Marcusse, chair of the Academic Planning Committee, and Tony Denzer, head of the Department of Civil and Architectural Engineering, both spoke to the issue and answered questions from the Senate. Discussion and vote will be at the next Senate meeting.

It was moved and seconded to adjourn to Executive Session. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 4:40 p.m.

Donal O’Toole  
Chair of the Faculty Senate for  
Clifford Marks, Secretary of the Faculty Senate  
Dated: September 17, 2018
discussed, carried. Senator Bagley moved to add to line 80, page 3, UW Regulation 8-238: “A student may withdraw from the University within the last 15 calendar days of a regular semester only if the student has suffered a severe medical, emotional, or personal problem which directly impacts the student’s ability to fulfill course requirements and has obtained written approval from the Dean of Students or designee. The Dean of Students or designee may petition for a special University withdrawal on behalf of a student who has been incapacitated or where the Dean of Students or designee determines the withdrawal is appropriate to the overall academic retention of a student.” Motion seconded, discussed, carried.

Senator and Member-at-Large Freng moved to change lines 44-46, page 2, UW Regulation 238, to read “A student may drop classes through the end of business on the enrollment census date eighth day of scheduled University classes for the regular semester.” Motion seconded, discussed, carried. Senate Resolution 344, as amended, passed.

Chair Barker spoke about his term as chair and thanked the senate and individual senators for the support of him and the administration with the revising of University regulations. He thanked senators for the exemplary character they displayed this past year. Chair-Elect O’Toole spoke regarding Chair Barker’s remarkable effectiveness working with the administration and the trustees, and presented him with a plaque of appreciation from the Faculty Senate.

It was moved, seconded, and carried to adjourn the meeting at 4:25 p.m.

Donal O’Toole
Chair-Elect of the Faculty Senate for
Janet Dewey, Secretary of the Faculty Senate

Dated: August 30, 2018