A regular meeting of the University of Wyoming Faculty Senate was called to order by Chair Rudi Michalak at 3:30 p.m., on February 22, 2021, via Zoom due to social distancing in place because of the COVID-19 pandemic.

The roll was called by Secretary Treva Sprout Ahrenholtz, with the following senators not in attendance and not represented by an official alternate or by a proxy: Guzzo, Lake, Miller, S., Moran, Nganga, Todd, Urynowicz.

Chair Michalak called for a motion to approve the agenda; motion made and seconded. Senator Cliff Marks moved to amend by adding as an agenda item, “President Seidel Report” after “Chair’s Report.” Motion to amend seconded and carried. The agenda, as amended, was approved.

Chair Michalak called for a motion to approve the minutes of February 8, 2021; motion made, seconded, and carried.

Chair Michalak gave an update on COVID-19 vaccinations. He also reported on new program proposals and the provost’s search.

President Ed Seidel reported on UW’s COVID-19 response; 2-13 program reviews; student suicide; recent racist “Zoom-bombing” attack; Strategic Planning, Four Pillars, Blue Sky Group. For new program proposals, he advised to “continue to do your work”; and Interim Provost Anne Alexander added not to “hold up colleagues who have spent a lot of time putting these proposals together.” There was a question, answer, and discussion period following President Seidel’s report.

General Counsel Tara Evans, along with members of the Indirect Cost Return Working Group, reviewed their final report to the president. She noted this report is currently with the president, and it will then go the Board of Trustees Regulation Review Committee, whereby their proposed revisions to UW Regulation 9-2, Indirect Cost Policy, will come back to campus, and the Faculty Senate, for review. Diana Hulme, Associate Vice President for Research, spoke about the report and, along with the Working Group members, answered questions.

There were no representatives from Staff Senate available to report.

ASUW President Riley Talamantes was in attendance but had to leave before her report, so she posted an update that advised that they are voting and debating on legislation in regards to ASUW support of program changes in the College of Health Sciences and in the Art and Art History Department.

Senator Gregg Cawley announced there are over 500,000 COVID-19 deaths in the U.S., which is 85 percent of the population of Wyoming.
Chair-Elect Adrienne Freng spoke on Senate Resolution 381, “Resolution in Support of General Counsel Proposed UW Regulation 2-10, Post-Tenure Review.” Discussion. Senator Roger Coupal moved to amend lines 57-58 by adding, “A consensus of the faculty of the A-academic units . . .; motion to amend seconded and carried. Senate Resolution 281, as amended, passed.

Member-at-Large and Senator Renee Laegreid moved to amend and spoke on amendments from the Executive Committee to Senate Resolution 382, “Resolution in Support of General Counsel Proposed UW Regulation 6-10, University of Wyoming Public Art.” Motion to amend was seconded. Discussion. Senator Katie Christensen offered a friendly amendment to replace “Director” with “representative” in lines 37-38. Friendly amendment was accepted by Senator Laegreid and the seconder. Senate Resolution 382, as amended, was approved. The amendments proposed by Senator Laegreid for the Executive Committee are on file with the Faculty Senate and can be seen at http://www.uwyo.edu/facultysenate/legislation/.

It was moved, seconded, and carried to adjourn to Executive Session at 5:39 p.m.

Treva Sprout Ahrenholtz, Secretary
Dated: March 1, 2021