

Date Passed: 2/24/15
Vote Count: 24-0-0

SENATE BILL #2448



TITLE: Establishment of WyoVocal as an ASUW Program

DATE: February 11, 2015

AUTHORS: Senator Scherlin and Executive West

SPONSORS: Senators De Wett, Gualano, Long, Perez, Segrave, and Yang;

Students-at-Large Austin and Lewis

1. WHEREAS, it is the purpose of the Student Government of the Associated Students
2. of the University of Wyoming (ASUW) to effectively represent the University of
3. Wyoming (UW) student population; and,
4. WHEREAS, the current ASUW Executive Branch is seeking to further bridge the
5. gap between the ASUW Student Government and the UW student population in
6. order to effectively gauge students' opinions on campus issues; and,
7. WHEREAS, the current ASUW Executive Branch has implemented WyoVocal,
8. which allows students of UW to directly express their opinion on campus issues; and,
9. WHEREAS, WyoVocal is a benefit to the ASUW Student Government as a means to
10. effectively gauge students' opinions on campus issues; and,
11. WHEREAS, WyoVocal serves as a means to hold all ASUW Student Government
12. Officials more accountable to the UW student population; and,
13. WHEREAS, the ASUW Student Government will utilize WyoVocal as a means to
14. effectively gauge the opinion of the UW student population on campus issues for the
15. foreseeable future; and,
16. WHEREAS, there is an annual licensing fee associated with WyoVocal; and,
17. WHEREAS, holding programming events is a priority for the future growth,

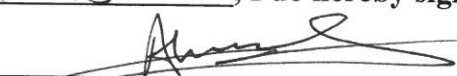
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18. development, and vitality of WyoVocal; and,
19. WHEREAS, the ASUW Reserve has a current expendable balance of \$128,554.10.
20. THEREFORE, be it enacted by the Student Senate of the Associated Students of the
21. University of Wyoming (ASUW) that WyoVocal be adopted as an ASUW program;
22. and,
23. THEREFORE, be it further enacted that the ASUW By-Laws, Article VIII, Section 1,
24. Subsection C be amended to reflect the changes contained in Addendum A; and,
25. THEREFORE, be it further enacted that \$2500.00 be allocated from the ASUW
26. Reserve to fund WyoVocal for Fiscal Year 2016 (FY'16) as outlined in Addendum B;
27. and,
28. THEREFORE, be it further enacted that during FY'16 the ASUW Student
29. Government will explore an alternative source of funding for WyoVocal other than
30. the ASUW Reserve for future fiscal years; and,
31. THEREFORE, be it further enacted that the Executive Branch of the ASUW Student
32. Government will have sole authority over the operation of WyoVocal as outlined in
33. Addendum C; and,
34. THEREFORE, be it further enacted that the operations as outlined in Addendum C
35. are subject to change at the discretion of the Executive Branch.

Referred to: Program and Institutional Development and Budget and Planning

Date of Passage: 03/02/2015 **Signed:** Richard Lind-Lozaly
(ASUW Chairperson)

“Being enacted on 03/04/2015, I do hereby sign my name hereto and
approve this Senate action.” 

ASUW President

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Addendum A

**THE BY-LAWS
ASSOCIATED STUDENTS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF WYOMING**

**ARTICLE VIII
Services and Programs**

Section 1.

C. Other Programs and Services

- i. The following groups operate either in an advisory capacity to ASUW, have little need for consistence in meeting times and locations, or have available meeting space which they ought to be encouraged to utilize. These include:
 - a. Associated Students Technical Services (ASTECH)
 - b. United Multicultural Council
 - c. A.L. Lupton Financial Literacy Program
 - d. Freshman Senate
 - e. Student Legal Services
 - f. Non-Traditional Student Council
 - g. Panhellenic Council
 - h. Interfraternity Council
 - i. Honorary Cowboy
 - j. WyoVocal

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Addendum B

WyoVocal Budget Fiscal Year 2016

| EXPENSES | BUDGET LINE | AMOUNT |
|---|--------------------|-------------------|
| Salary | | \$0.00 |
| Advertising | | \$0.00 |
| Awards | | \$0.00 |
| Bond Debt | | \$0.00 |
| Contingency Reserve | | \$0.00 |
| Copier/Printing | | \$0.00 |
| Courtesy | | \$0.00 |
| Dues/Membership | | \$0.00 |
| Equipment | | \$0.00 |
| Equipment Repairs, Supplies and Maintenance | | \$0.00 |
| Insurance | | \$0.00 |
| Miscellaneous | | \$0.00 |
| Postage | | \$0.00 |
| Prizes | | \$0.00 |
| Registration | | \$0.00 |
| Special Services Contracts | | \$2,500.00 |
| -WyoVocal Annual Licensing Fee | \$2,040.00 | |
| -WyoVocal Programming Events | \$460.00 | |
| Staff Development | | \$0.00 |
| Subscriptions | | \$0.00 |
| Supplies, Audio | | \$0.00 |
| Supplies, Office | | \$0.00 |
| Supplies, Vehicle | | \$0.00 |
| Telephone | | \$0.00 |
| Travel | | \$0.00 |
| TOTAL | | \$2,500.00 |

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Addendum C

WyoVocal Operating Procedures

General Responsibilities:

1. Perform minimal research in order to determine if a submitted issue is a feasible and/or appropriate task in which the ASUW Student Government can make a positive change within.
 - a. If a submitted issue is deemed to be an unfeasible and/or inappropriate task in which the ASUW Student Government cannot make a positive change within:
 - i. Update the status of the issue as closed with an explanation of why or how the issue is not within the limits of the ASUW Student Government, as well as an invitation for students to contact the ASUW Student Government directly with any questions or concerns students might have.
 1. Students who submitted the issue, as well as those who voted on the issue will be automatically emailed the issue's status update.
 - ii. Monitor comments within the closed issue in order to:
 1. Update the status of the issue to answer any pertinent questions raised by students so they are continually educated on the reasoning behind the decision to decline the issue.
 - a. If answers cannot be easily explained, or confusion ensues from previous status updates, invite students to a one-on-one meeting in order to properly articulate and explain such answers.
 - b. If a submitted issue is deemed to be a feasible and/or appropriate task in which the ASUW Student Government can make a positive change within:
 - i. Merge any issue which relates to another issue and update the status of the merged issues with an explanation of why the issues were merged, as well as an invitation for students to contact the ASUW Student Government directly with any questions or concerns they may have.
 1. Students who submitted the issues, as well as those who voted on the issues will be automatically emailed the merged issue's status update.
 - ii. Monitor comments within the issue in order to:
 1. Update the status of the issue to answer any pertinent questions raised by students.
 - a. If answers cannot be easily explained, or confusion ensues from previous status updates, invite students to a one-on-one meeting in order to properly articulate and explain such answers.
2. Monitor the language used within a submitted issue and comments within an

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- issue's thread for hateful and/or harmful speech.
- a. Though WyoVocal has a natural profanity filter which automatically deletes any issue submitted or comment within an issue's thread containing inappropriate language, hateful and/or harmful speak will also not be allowed.
 - i. Any language used within a submitted issue or comment within an issue's thread attacking or marginalizing an individual's personal identity or experience and/or a group identity or experience, subsequently creating an unsafe environment for all individuals using the WyoVocal platform, will be deemed as hateful and/or harmful speech.
 - b. Any language within a submitted issue or comment within issue's thread containing hateful and/or harmful speech will be immediately deleted.
 - i. Students whose submitted issue or comment within an issue's thread have been deleted will be sent an email detailing the specific submitted issue or comments within an issue's thread which have been deleted, an explanation of why such action was taken, and a warning of potential sanctions for continual infractions of hateful and/or harmful speech.
 1. The ASUW President, ASUW Vice President, and Assistant Dean of Students for Leadership Development should be included on any such email.
 2. If a particular student has continual infractions of hateful and/or harmful speech, sanctions can be placed upon said student at the discretion of the ASUW Executive Branch.
 3. Possible sanctions against students who have continual infractions of hateful and/or harmful speech could be, but are not limited to:
 - a. Suspension from the WyoVocal platform for a time period deemed appropriate;
 - b. Complete ban from current and future use of the WyoVocal platform; and/or
 - c. Information brought to the University of Wyoming's Dean of Student's Office for potential Student Code of Conduct violations.
 - ii. Language within a submitted issue or comment within an issue's thread used to criticize the ASUW Student Government will not be deleted, unless it attacks or marginalizes an individual's personal identity or experience and/or a group identity or experience.
 3. Once the vote threshold minimum (400 votes) has been reached for any submitted issue:
 - a. Perform basic research on the issue to determine a recommendation for which ASUW Legislative Committee or Executive Branch designee should be tasked with further research and development on the issue.
 - b. Meet with the ASUW President and ASUW Vice President to finalize which ASUW Legislative Committee or Executive Branch designee

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- should be tasked with further research and development on the issue.
- c. Update the status of the issue with contact information for which ASUW Legislative Committee or Executive Branch designee has been tasked with further research and development on the issue.
 - i. Students who submitted the issue, as well as those who voted on the issue, will be automatically emailed the issue's status update.
 - d. Continue to update the status of the issue periodically with the progress the assigned ASUW Committee or Executive Branch designee has made on the issue.
4. If the vote threshold minimum (400 votes) is not reached for any submitted issue within a 100 day time period of the original date the issue was submitted:
- i. Update the status of the issue as closed with an explanation of why the issue is being closed.
 1. Students who submitted the issue, as well as those who voted on the issue will be automatically emailed the issue's status update.
 - ii. Monitor comments within the closed issue in order to:
 1. Update the status of the issue to answer any pertinent questions raised by students so they are continually educated on the reasoning behind the decision to decline the issue.
 - a. If answers cannot be easily explained, or confusion ensues from previous status updates, invite students to a one-on-one meeting in order to properly articulate and explain such answers.

Special Responsibilities:

1. Keep an electronic record of all submitted issues that are either deleted, closed, or merged, as well as comments within an issue's thread that are deleted with a short explanation of why such action was taken.
5. Keep an electronic record of all submitted issues which an ASUW Legislative Committee or Executive Branch designee has been tasked with further research and development on.
2. Work with ASUW Legislative Committees and/or Executives to determine any issue they would like to be submitted to WyoVocal in order to gauge basic student opinion.
 - a. Determine if the issue is a feasible and/or appropriate task in which the ASUW Student Government can make a positive change within.
3. Communicate with ASUW President, ASUW Vice President, and other Executives on any potential areas of concern for a unified and cohesive ASUW Student Government response and/or action.
4. When any part of this operations document is changed, inform the ASUW Student Senate at the earliest convenience of any and all changes made.