



**SENATE BILL #2689**

**TITLE:** Creation of Strategic Partnership with the Sustainability Coalition

**DATE INTRODUCED:** February 4, 2020

**AUTHOR:** President Wilkins

**SPONSORS:** Senators Baker, Mulhall, Rubano, Titus, and Vetter; Vice President Houghton; Chief of Legislative Affairs Hoversland; Director Savage; Sustainability Coalition

1. WHEREAS, the purpose of the Associated Students of the University of Wyoming
2. (ASUW) Student Government is to serve our fellow students in the best manner possible; and,
3. WHEREAS, University Regulation 11-5, *ASUW Student Government*, allows for the
4. ASUW Student Government to establish, “programs, services, and operations that benefit and
5. promote the general welfare of the students of the University”; and,
6. WHEREAS, Senate Bill #2522 created Strategic Partnerships within the ASUW Student
7. Government; and,
8. WHEREAS, the ASUW Strategic Plan, *Moving Forward: 2018-2022*, outlines the 2022
9. target of forming, “two (2) new programs, services, or strategic partners”; and,
10. WHEREAS, Addendum A provides the Sustainability Coalition’s goals for a partnership;
11. and,
12. WHEREAS, these goals align with work that the ASUW Student Government has either
13. already began working on, or has identified as important to the various platforms of the
14. 107<sup>th</sup> Administration; and,
15. WHEREAS, there has been constant interaction and collaboration between the ASUW
16. Student Government and the Sustainability Coalition for multiple years.
17. THEREFORE, be it enacted by the Associated Students of the University of
18. Wyoming (ASUW) Student Government that the ASUW Student Government approves

19. the creation of a Strategic Partnership with the Sustainability Coalition; and,
20. THEREFORE, be it further enacted that the ASUW By-Laws be amended to reflect the
21. addition of the Sustainability Coalition as strategic partners, as outlined in Addendum B; and,
22. THEREFORE, be it further enacted that these changes take effect at the beginning of Fiscal
23. Year 2021.

**Referred to:** \_\_\_\_\_ Program and Institutional Development; Steering \_\_\_\_\_

**Date of Passage:** \_\_\_\_\_ 02/11/2020 \_\_\_\_\_ **Signed:** \_\_\_\_\_  \_\_\_\_\_

“Being enacted on \_\_\_\_\_ 02/13/2020 \_\_\_\_\_, I do hereby sign my name hereto and

approve this Senate action.” \_\_\_\_\_  \_\_\_\_\_

**ASUW President**

## **Addendum A**

### Proposal for ASUW-Sustainability Coalition Strategic Partnership

The Sustainability Coalition is a collaboration of students, staff, and faculty committed to prioritizing sustainability in decision making at the University of Wyoming. We believe in promoting long-term social, economic, and ecological vitality through practice and culture. The current ASUW administration's dedication to sustainability and efforts regarding such (Moorman, 2019), the Sustainability Coalition would be an ideal candidate to become a Strategic Partner with the Associated Students of the University of Wyoming. As a Strategic Partner, we will strive to achieve our vision for sustainability at the University of Wyoming through a commitment to the three pillars of sustainability: environment, society, and economy through 1) implementing zero waste practices in the University of Wyoming's everyday operations, 2) addressing the University's 37% of food insecure students, 3) and creating the model the Sustainability Coalition was founded on.

The Sustainability Coalition aims to implement zero waste practices at the University of Wyoming's operations and events. In spring of 2019, the Coalition supported students through the Campus Sustainability course in pursuing zero waste practices in ASUW's in-office operations by budgeting for and purchasing zero waste supplies for all current and future ASUW members, creating a toolkit to guide ASUW in successfully practicing zero waste and providing a timeline to implement zero waste practices into all ASUW-funded events. Through a strategic partnership, the Coalition and ASUW would collaborate to create an internship position focusing on the pursuit of zero waste practices at a university-scale by implementing zero waste practices into UW Catering and Events and creating legislation surrounding zero waste for ASUW-funded events, further integrating a culture of sustainability into the campus community.

Following the release of a report in 2017 showing that nearly 37% of UW students experience food insecurity and do not know where their next meal is going to come from, the Coalition adopted strategies to help combat this issue. Alanna Elder, a former Sustainability Coalition leader, brought light to this issue and formulated the concept of a food-sharing cabinet for students experiencing food insecurity. From this effort, the first food sharing cabinet on campus was started in the Bim Kendall House. Building off the great work of others, the Sustainability Coalition is currently working to build support behind this issue and increase the amount of food sharing cabinets on campus. Most recently, the Coalition applied for a special projects proposal, allowing us to bring ten more cabinets to campus, as well as the initial stocking funds to support the effort through this academic year. A strategic partnership would create more institutional momentum in establishing food security efforts across campus, initiating an institutional emergency fund and providing resources to further research surrounding food insecurity at the University. This will allow ASUW to become more invested in student wellness and success, bringing prosperity not only to UW but ASUW as well.

The Sustainability Coalition was founded on a model to organize the leaders of the University focusing on sustainability. Currently, the Coalition consists of the Sustainability Club, ENR Club, and ACRES. With ASUW's support through a strategic partnership, the Sustainability Coalition's original model could successfully be implemented at the University by creating a multi-leadership decision-making structure surrounding sustainability, and therefore, successfully create a sustainable culture embodied by students at the University in current practices. The Sustainability Club would remain as an RSO at the University, while some of the leadership along with this true coalition leadership model would provide the partnership itself.

In these efforts, we have identified the need for an intern to fully support the implementation of zero waste and food security at the University beyond what our leaders can do. In addition, we are committed to pursuing the goals promised by the current administration, ran by Wilkins and Houghton. The Coalition would be an ideal partner in completing promises set by the current administration. We would be able to maintain the implementation for zero waste, address food security, and fully embrace the Coalition model. In these three ways, the Sustainability Coalition-ASUW strategic partnership will help leverage existing leadership efforts and achieve those goals together.

## Addendum B

### Strategic Partnerships

#### 1. Strategic Partners

A. These strategic partners must have direct oversight through a Dean of Students Office staff member or be advised by a faculty or staff member who must have regularly scheduled meetings with the ASUW Advisor. The organization must be student-run, and there must be a direct advantage to both ASUW and the organization throughout the partnership. Strategic Partnerships are not ASUW Programs, and as such they shall not experience oversight by the ASUW Executive Branch, or by the ASUW Programs and Institutional Development Committee. However, there shall be an expectation of collaboration with the ASUW Executive Branch and relevant ASUW standing Committees in order to maximize the potential of the partnership and uphold the expectations of Strategic Partners. These include:

- a. Interfraternity Council
- b. College Panhellenic Council
- b.c. Sustainability Coalition

#### 2. Creation of Partnerships

A. A Strategic Partnership may be created by the ASUW Student Government and a Strategic Partner, through a letter requesting the creation of a Strategic Partnership. The letter must be submitted to the ASUW President by the President or Student Leader of the organization. A meeting between the ASUW President, and relevant ASUW Executives, and the ASUW Advisor and the Strategic Partner's President or Student Leader and advisor must be scheduled within 15 business days. The organization must have evidence of how the Strategic Partnership aligns with the goals of the ASUW Student Government and how the partnership would benefit both the ASUW Student Government and the Strategic Partner. Potential Strategic Partners should outline a new program ASUW Student Government and their organization can build together to benefit the whole of campus. If at the end of the meeting about the creation of the partnership both parties are in agreement that the partnership is beneficial to both the ASUW Student Government and the organization, legislation should be drafted to amend the list of Strategic Partners within these By-Laws. The letter requesting the creation of the Strategic Partnership and any other relevant documents submitted to the ASUW President should be included in the legislation as addendum.