



SENATE BILL #2745

TITLE: Reimplementation of an ASUW-First-Year Senate Mentorship Program

DATE INTRODUCED: April 20, 2021

AUTHOR: Senator Anderson

SPONSORS: The Advocacy, Diversity, and Policy Committee; Senators Brooks, Engelby, Houghton, Moncrief; First-Year Senate Steering; First-Year Senator Ebben

1. WHEREAS, the purpose of the Associated Students of the University of Wyoming (ASUW)
2. Student Government is to serve our fellow students in the best manner possible; and,
3. WHEREAS, the ASUW First-Year Senate is an integral program of ASUW that allows
4. First-Year students' voices to be heard by the ASUW Senate; and,
5. WHEREAS, First-Year Senators provide valuable input and insights to the ASUW Senate,
6. but often feel disconnected from their colleagues in ASUW; and,
7. WHEREAS, it is important that First-Year students' voices are accurately represented in
8. ASUW; and,
9. WHEREAS, many First-Year Senators are interested in participating in ASUW throughout
10. their education but do not feel as though they possess the knowledge or skills to do so
11. effectively; and,
12. WHEREAS, First-Year Senators are dedicated servants of the student body who would make
13. valuable additions to the ASUW Student Government; and,
14. WHEREAS, ASUW has struggled to retain senators in the past, and cultivating First-Year
15. senators to continue in ASUW would help with recruitment and retention issues; and,
16. WHEREAS, an effective mentorship program would allow First-Year Senators to feel more
17. connected to ASUW and gain the experience necessary to be effective members of ASUW;
18. and,
19. WHEREAS, a survey of current ASUW Senators and First-Year Senators has shown interest
20. in participating in a mentorship program as illustrated in Addendum B.

Passed 20-0-0

21. THEREFORE, be it enacted by the Associated Students of the University of Wyoming

22. (ASUW) Student Government that the ASUW By-Laws be amended to reflect the changes

23. outlined in Addendum A; and,


24. THEREFORE, be it further enacted that these amendments take effect at the beginning of the

25. 109th Administration of the ASUW Student Government.

Referred to: Advocacy, Diversity, and Policy; Program and Institutional Development;
Steering

Date of Passage: April 27, 2021 **Signed:** 

(ASUW Chairperson)

“Being enacted on May 3, 2021, I do hereby sign my name hereto and
approve this Senate action.” 

ASUW Preside

Addendum A

Article 2. Legislative Branch

Section 2.02 The ASUW Senate

1. Responsibilities and Authorities

A. The ASUW Senate shall directly represent the students by ensuring the efficient, responsible, and coordinated functioning of student life and ASUW activities at the University, through the enactment of legislation in the form of bills or resolutions.

B. It shall have the authority to assume whatever responsibilities it deems necessary to fulfill its obligations to the students.

C. It shall have the authority to recommend to the Trustees the needed amount of ASUW fees to be assessed of all fee paying students for financial support of ASUW sponsored programs and activities.

D. In accordance with applicable University regulations, the provisions of the Constitution, and the ASUW Finance Policy, the ASUW Senate shall have the authority to annually allocate all ASUW monies received through student registration fees.

E. It shall have the authority and responsibility to develop standards of good practice for sponsorship or financial support from ASUW.

F. The Senate shall have the responsibility to establish an enduring Finance Policy to include restrictions and procedures for utilization of ASUW monies in the best interest of the ASUW's purposes.

G. It shall have the authority to appoint and direct such special committees to study or investigate any issue of concern to the ASUW Senate in fulfilling its responsibilities for the University students; such committees shall serve only during the Senate term in which they are appointed.

H. It shall approve, or reject by a two-thirds (2/3) vote, any of the ASUW President's appointees or ASUW representatives to fill student held positions on University committees and boards.

I. It shall approve, or reject by a two-thirds (2/3) vote, any of the ASUW Vice President's appointees to ASUW standing and special committees.

J. The Senate shall have the power to move into Executive Session regarding matters concerning all paid employees of ASUW with the

exception of the ASUW President and Vice President; or concerning matters of legal affairs brought by or against ASUW. When moving into Executive session only voting members of the Senate, the ASUW Secretary, or the relevant position, and the ASUW Chairperson shall be allowed to stay; unless otherwise specifically stated in the motion. The Senate shall reconvene into open session to take any formal action on discussion from Executive Session.

K. The Senate shall undertake a mentorship program between Senators and First-Year Senators. This program shall be administered by the Program and Institutional Development Committee. Interested Senators and Executives are to be paired with interested First-Year Senators as their mentor. Program and Institutional Development may make adjustments to the program outside of this as they see fit. Participation in this program is to be optional.

4. ASUW Senator Responsibilities

- A. Senators shall attend regularly scheduled meetings of the ASUW Senate, and any special meetings of the ASUW Senate as scheduled by the ASUW Vice President.
- B. Senators shall be allotted a set amount of unexcused absences, as determined by the ASUW Steering Committee.
- C. Senators shall serve on a minimum of two (2) ASUW Standing Committees, or one (1) ASUW Standing Committee and one (1) University Committee.
- D. ASUW Senators shall be required to attend a diversity workshop. This workshop should focus, but is not limited to, the diversity as it pertains to the University of Wyoming to increase awareness and decrease insensitivity towards underrepresented populations throughout campus. This diversity training will be developed by UMC in coordination with the ASUW Vice President. This training will count as one (1) service hours for the period in which it is held.
- E. ASUW Senators shall be required to attend a sexual misconduct prevention and awareness training. This training should focus on, but is not limited to, raising awareness of sexual assault at the University of Wyoming, how to prevent it, and how to support victims of sexual assault. This sexual assault prevention and awareness training will be developed by STOP Violence, or the equivalent program within Student Affairs in coordination with the ASUW Vice President. This training will count as one (1) service hour for the period in which it is held.
- F. Senators will be required to accumulate a total of two (2) service hours per service period.
- G. Service periods are defined in the following table:

Service Periods

August/September	January/February
October	March/April
November/December	

Service hours can be accumulated through the following means:

- a. Documented office hour in the ASUW office.
 - b. Documented participation in an ASUW student outreach event.
 - c. Documented attendance or participation in an ASUW funded event.
 - d. Documented volunteering with an ASUW program.
 - e. Documented community service hour as a member of ASUW.
 - f. Documented and consistent participation in the First-Year Senate Mentorship Program.
 - g. Documented outreach to RSOs that Senators are not already affiliated with by attending an RSO meeting and sharing the resources ASUW can provide to RSOs to encourage stronger ties between ASUW and RSOs.
 - h. Any other form of service hour, as pre-approved in writing by the ASUW Vice President, with the subsequent approval of the ASUW Steering Committee.
- H. Senators must maintain good academic status in the College or School to which they were elected to represent.
- I. Senators shall pay the ASUW Student fee.
- J. Senators must maintain student enrollment at the University of Wyoming for the duration of their service.
- K. Each Senator shall be required to spend two (2) service hours of their required hours as designated in the Senatorial Responsibilities in the ASUW By-Laws in the spring semester aiding the Elections Committee with outreach efforts that include, but are not limited to, speaking to classes about ASUW, speaking to RSOs about ASUW (preferably with focus in the Senator's college and/or that they are not already affiliated with), volunteering at different election outreach events, and/or formulating different elections materials.
- L. Senators who are filling a vacancy during a Service Period will only be required to accumulate one (1) service hour for that period. If a Senator fills a vacancy within the last five (5) business days of a Service Period, they will not be required to accumulate any service hours for that period. Senators filling a vacancy will be

required to fulfill requirements for all full service periods for the remainder of their term.

- a. Senators filling a vacancy will be required to fulfill requirements for all full service periods for the remainder of their term.

M. Appropriate documentation of service hours will be set and managed by the ASUW Vice President, with the subsequent approval of the Steering Committee.

- a. The decisions of the Vice President regarding exceptions to the listed service hours can be verbally appealed to the Steering Committee at the next regular Steering Committee Meeting.

5. ASUW Senatorial Scholarship

A. This scholarship shall be re-evaluated at least one time before the legislative budget submission deadline.

- a. The steering committee, in addition to two members from the Budget and Planning Committee, shall be responsible for the yearly evaluation. This group will henceforth be referred to as the Senatorial Scholarship Task Force.

B. The Budget and Planning Committee (or equivalent) shall be in charge of deciding upon an amount to be allocated toward the senatorial scholarship which will be included as a line item in the legislative budget. This is not to be construed to prevent the Budget and Planning Committee (or an equivalent committee) from changing the dollar amount allocated to each seat, but the committee may not allocate less than \$100 per Senate Seat, unless so decided by the Senatorial Scholarship Task Force. Each senate seat will have an allotted dollar amount available for the scholarship as previously decided by the Budget and Planning Committee

C. The tiered system for the Senatorial Scholarship shall be as follows:

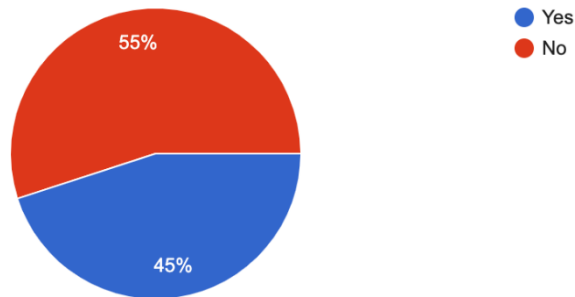
- a. Senators will receive 60% of the total amount allocated toward their seat upon completion of the basic senator responsibilities as outlined in section 2.0, subsection 4 of the ASUW By-Laws.
- b. Senators will receive the remaining 40% of the amount allocated to their seat upon completion of the requirements outlined in section 2.02, subsection 4 including participation in the First-Year Senate Mentorship Program.
- c. Senators who are elected during the year due to vacancies will only be eligible for 60% of the scholarship during their first semester in office. This will be earned upon completion of the Senator Requirements as outlined in the ASUW By-Laws. However, during consecutive terms they are eligible for the entirety of the scholarship.

- d. Senators who begin their term in the second service period of the semester will only be eligible for 40% of the total scholarship allocation for their seat upon completion of the basic senator requirements.
- e. Senators who begin their term in the third service period of the semester will only be eligible for 20% of the total scholarship allocation for their seat upon completion of the basic senator requirements.
- D. Senators will be required to accumulate an additional service hour per service period as outline in Section 2.02, subsection 4, clause G of the ASUW By-Laws.
- E. If a Senator fills a vacancy within the last five (5) business days of a Service Period, they will not be required to accumulate any service hours for that period.
- F. Senators filling a vacancy will be required to fulfill all scholarship requirements for all full service periods for the remainder of their term order to be eligible for the Senatorial Scholarship.
- G. Appropriate documentation of service hours will be set and managed by the ASUW Vice President, with the subsequent approval of the Steering Committee. The decisions of the Vice President regarding exceptions to the listed service hours can be verbally appealed to the Steering Committee at the next regular Steering Committee meeting.
- H. Senators shall attend a minimum of one (1) RSO events funded by ASUW per semester and complete a review to be submitted to the ASUW RSO Funding Board for each event.
- I. Senators shall attend one (1) public meeting of any ASUW Program, Service, or Strategic Partner per semester.

Addendum B

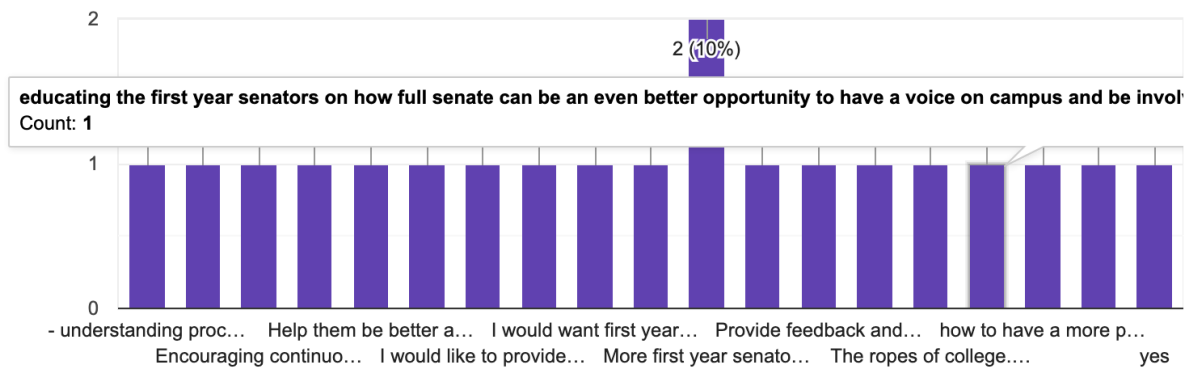
Do you think a mentorship program with First Year Senate should be required of full senators?

20 responses



What would you like to get out of a mentorship program with first year senate?

20 responses



Yes. More FYS transitioning to Full senate

2 responses

Yes, I think both parties would benefit from a weekly chat and it does not need to be a big time commitment.

1 response

Yes, especially at the beginning of the year, it would have been much easier to learn from an ASUW mentor.

1 response

I would! As a previous first year senator, I exited ASUW because I initially didn't see the value in it. I didn't quite understand why we passed resolutions, met in committees, etc. I would like to mentor a FYS to show them that ASUW is what you make of it and that there are some real opportunities to make tangible change on campus.

1 response

I would, because I think it can help with retaining strong senators and execs, while also giving people foundational support in the student government. FSL does a good job of creating a familial environment and I think that same relationship could exist in ASUW. I also think it helps senators feel like they can be guides and leaders for the newer members, giving us all a better purpose than just being in committees and senate. ASUW is a place to meet lifelong friends and people who have similar goals in life as you, and we should embrace that if at all possible. I've also seen mentor programs fail, and hope that my class of senators can help start something sustainable.

1 response

Passed 20-0-0

What style of mentorship program would you be most interested in participating in?

20 responses

