

SENATE BILL #2770

TITLE: Creation of the College Council
DATE INTRODUCED: November 30, 2021
AUTHOR: Chief of Legislative Affairs Carrier
SPONSORS: Senators Castronovo, Ewalt, and Rhymes; President Swilling; Vice President Anderson



1. WHEREAS, the purpose of the Associated Students of the University of Wyoming
2. (ASUW) is to serve our fellow students in the best manner possible; and,
3. WHEREAS, historically, ASUW has utilized a college-based representation model
4. meant to represent specific students and issues within colleges; and,
5. WHEREAS, the 109th Administration of the ASUW is seeking to restructure the ASUW
6. Senate so as to make it a more representative and productive body, as well
7. as act proactively with respect to the larger academic reorganization of the University of
8. Wyoming (UW); and,
9. WHEREAS, the 109th Administration of the ASUW has established the Ad-Hoc
10. Restructuring Committee to lead the restructuring of ASUW; and,
11. WHEREAS, the committee was tasked with evaluating the current college representation
12. model, and if necessary and possible, finding a more efficient and equitable
13. representative model; and,
14. WHEREAS, an at-large model of representation was the product of these extensive
15. discussions, with the stated intent of allowing Senators to focus on issues common to all
16. students, as well as greatly reduce difficulties we have filling Senate seats, as well as
17. eliminate inequitable distribution of representation, where, in the 109th Senate, the
18. Senator for the School of Energy Resources represents 32 students, while the Senators for

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19. the College of Engineering and Applied Science represent 460; and,
20. WHEREAS, while an at-large model is more representative and efficient, there will be a
21. lack of college issue-specific representation and focus on colleges in this model; and,
22. WHEREAS, the Ad-Hoc Restructuring Committee still deems it important to have
23. college-specific representation within ASUW; and,
24. WHEREAS, the creation of a College Council will allow for college-specific
25. representation to still be present in ASUW; and,
26. WHEREAS, members of the College Council are to focus solely on college-specific
27. topics; and,
28. WHEREAS, specific duties and responsibilities of the College Council and members of
29. the Council are outlined in Addendum A; and,
30. WHEREAS, it can be seen in Addendum A that the College Council will be solely
31. focusing on colleges and schools, and the students therein; and,
32. WHEREAS, this specific focus will allow for greater time, care, and energy to be put
33. into students' needs in regards to colleges allowing for better representation of students
34. at the college level.
35. THEREFORE, be it enacted by the Associated Students of the University of
36. Wyoming (ASUW) Student Government that a College Council shall be created prior to
37. the beginning of the fall semester of the
38. 110th Administration of the ASUW with intentions to specifically represent students in
39. their college or school with respect to issues specific to their college or school; and,
40. THEREFORE, be it further enacted that the ASUW By-Laws be amended to reflect the
41. changes outlined in Addendum A; and,

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42. THEREFORE, be it further enacted that the ASUW Budget and Planning Committee is

43. instructed to evaluate the feasibility of providing these students a small scholarship on a

44. semester basis as compensation for the time and service within the FY23 budget; and,

45. THEREFORE, be it further enacted that the Steering Committee of the 110th

46. administration of the ASUW and the College Council of the 110th administration of the

47. ASUW shall evaluate the efficacy of the structure of the College Council as outlined in

48. Addendum A, and make any changes to this language that both groups deem necessary;

49. and,

50. THEREFORE, be it further enacted that these changes take effect at the start of the 110th

51. Administration; and,


52. THEREFORE, be it further enacted that if the ballot initiative outlined in Addendum B of

53. Senate Bill #2769 does not pass, this legislation shall be rendered null and void in its

54. entirety.

Referred to: Ad-Hoc Restructuring; Ad-Hoc Strategic Planning; Advocacy, Diversity, and

Policy; Budget and Planning; Program and Institutional Development; Steering

Date of Passage: December 7th, 2021 **Signed:**  _____
(ASUW Chairperson)

“Being enacted on December 7th, 2021 **, I do hereby sign my name hereto**

and approve this Senate action.”  _____
ASUW President

Addendum A

Associated Students of the University of Wyoming By-Laws

Section 2.02 The ASUW Senate

15. ASUW College Council

a. Purpose

- i. Focus on issues specific to colleges or degree-granting schools. Represent student opinion on college specific issues the ASUW Senate.
- ii. Serve as a liaison between the students and administration of the colleges and degree-granting schools.

b. Composition

- i. Each of the University's colleges and sole degree-granting programs shall have one (1) college representative to sit on the College Council.
- ii. College representatives will be selected through the process outlined below in Article 2, section 2.02, subsection 15 of the ASUW By-Laws.
- iii. College representatives may not be a current ASUW Senator, executive, or ex-officio member.
- iv. The College Council will be chaired by an ASUW executive as determined by the ASUW Vice President and President at the beginning of each administration. This chair shall be a neutral actor and shall not favor any specific position on any topic up for discussion.

c. Membership Selection

- i. All dates regarding applications to join the College Council will be determined by the chair of the Intercession Oversight Committee, or, in such cases when a vacancy is being filled, by the ASUW executive who chairs the committee.
- ii. Those applying to join the College Council must include the following in their application materials;
 1. Cover Letter with prompt to be decided by the selection committee.
 2. Resume
 3. Letter of recommendation from the dean, director, or a faculty member of their relevant college or degree-granting school highlighting their involvement and care for their specific college.
- iii. The selection committee will comprise of the members of the ASUW Intercession Oversight Committee, except in such cases when a vacancy is being filled, in which case the remaining members of the College Council shall act as the selection committee.
- iv. Application materials shall be submitted to the relevant ASUW Executive, and distributed to the members of the selection committee for their consideration. The selection committee shall conduct interviews with candidates deemed to be qualified and select a final candidate from the pool of interviewees.

d. Responsibilities

- i. Make recommendations on legislation steered to them by the ASUW Steering Committee, using the process outlined in Article 2 Section 2.02, Subsection 15 of the ASUW By-Laws
- ii. Members of the Council must meet with the dean or director of their college/school at least once per month to voice any student concerns and discuss any happenings within the college or school.
- iii. Members of the Council must hold at least one (1) office hour per month to provide their constituents an opportunity to discuss anything relevant to their college or school.
- iv. The entire Council will convene at a minimum once per month, and at this meeting each representative from a college or school who is present shall give a brief verbal report on the status of their college or school, as well as significant events impacting them. The verbal reports and following discussion delivered by representatives will be compiled by the chair of the Council into a written report, who shall deliver it to the chair of the ASUW Senate for prompt disbursement to the wider body.
- v. The Council will convene whenever steered legislation in order to discuss and make a recommendation on the legislation at hand. In such cases where multiple colleges or school are impacted, and opinions on the legislation differ, those representatives who represent the colleges or schools being impacted shall each give separate opinions and analyses of the legislation, which shall be compiled by the chair of the Council. In such cases where it is not immediately clear, the chair of the Council, in consultation with the full membership, shall determine which colleges are being impacted.
- vi. Members must attend at least one (1) ASUW Senate meeting per month.
- vii. Write legislation when they deem it relevant and necessary to address issues or events in their college or school.
- viii. Failure of an individual to fulfill their duties as a college representative will result in termination of their position. Such termination shall be at the sole discretion of the chair of the Council, in consultation with the remaining members.

e. Process for Recommendations

- i. The chairperson (or designee) of the Council will be responsible for reporting the recommendations of the Council.
- ii. The Council shall be able to give a do-pass, do-pass with amendments, and a do-not pass recommendation but each recommendation must include which colleges are in support, which are not in support, and which have no opinion on the matter. If possible, such recommendations shall also include brief documentation on why those representatives are in-favor or not in-favor of the report.
 1. For example, “The College Council recommends a do-pass. Those in favor of the legislation are the Colleges of.... Those not in favor... those that did not participate in the decision because their college or school are not impacted are...”

f. Powers

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- i. Members of the College Council shall possess all speaking and parliamentary rights afforded to ASUW Senators, except for the right to vote.
- ii. They may ask of the broader membership ASUW for any document or information that any member has access to that is specific and pertinent to the college or school that they represent, except for such documents which are deemed confidential by the Judicial Council, wider UW administration, UW policy, or ASUW pro-staff.
- iii. They shall annually be given a budget within the broader ASUW Budget, from which they shall have the ability to expend funds for the purposes of outreach, information gathering, and any other such activity they find advances their purpose.
- iv. They shall be empowered to require of the ASUW executive branch their help and support in writing legislation pertinent to an issue that impacts their college or school.