ASUW SENATE MEETING MINUTES

The November 30th, 2021, senate meeting was called to order by Vice President Anderson at 7:00pm. The land acknowledgement statement and mission statement were read, and the Pledge of Allegiance was done at individual member’s discretion.

ROLL CALL

Senators Bogus, Bowers, Houghton, Hughes, Talamantes, and Wilkins were not present.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes from the November 16th, 2021, senate meeting were approved without objection, as electronically circulated.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Chief of Legislative Affairs Carrier moved to add selection of a student-at-large of the month and a Senator of the month to the last items under new business.
    Senator Smith seconded.  
    Motion passed unanimously.

The agenda was approved, without objection, as amended.

OPEN FORUM

There was no one in the gallery wishing to address the Senate.

SPECIAL EVENT

Vice President Anderson lead the Senate in a College team building activity. The Senators of each College worked as a team to build the tallest and strongest marshmallow tower they could in 20 minutes out of string, spaghetti, tape, and one marshmallow.

COMMUNICATIONS

Executive Reports

President Swilling first reported that he had attended the Board of Trustees (BOT) meeting last week and briefly went over various topics discussed at this meeting. First discussed was the budget cuts that the State and University are incurring. With the budget cuts, they got the basic outline of how they will be making these budget cuts which will look like no firing of current faculty, but they will be cutting any vacant positions that exist at the University. Additionally, no programs are being cut currently. Additionally, parking prices will be increasing to help with funds lost from budget cuts. Next, he reported that at the BOT, the University restructuring was
discussed where four major votes were made. First of all, the board approved a motion to change various Colleges but did not specify on how these Colleges should be changed. They also discussed to suspend some programs that have low enrollment and have also decided to not cut other programs that were previously being considered to be cut. They also decided to postpone the changes to the family and consumer sciences program until 2023. They finally discussed the college of counseling, leadership, advocacy, and design in the College of Education and how they should pursue potentially modifying that program. Next, he reported that the mask policy has been extended by a vote of 9-3. There is also discussion about phasing out the mask policy and that on December 15th they will be deciding on what the mask policy will look like for the Spring semester. Next at the BOT, they looked at the cost of UW and how it compares to schools in Colorado and other peer institutes. The board also approved the significant expansion in the Law School and approved an amendment to a change in the currently proposed residence halls.

There was also discussion about extending the bus routes and providing more money to the transportation services. They also got updates about the School of Computing and how the School is progressing. The board also approved a letter of intent for the creation of a new graduate school of education. Next, he reported the Biden vaccine mandate and that it is currently not in place. There were also some new changes on the Fee Book specifically with who can review it. They also decided on the final tuition for the College of Business MBA program and approved about two million dollars in new money for maintenance for the UW Apartments.

They also approved money for renovations in Knight Hall to house the new school of graduate education. They also had a presentation on equitable access and heard from the student success and graduation team. They are also in the search for three new deans, one Vice President and one associate Vice President. They also heard from the energy resource council and had a tour of the transportation infrastructure. They also had a presentation over nerve graft immunosuppression and heard about the trustees education initiative. Next, President Swilling went on to discuss topics and initiatives more internal to ASUW. First, he reported that ASUW has a new accountant, Shelly Shaef who was the previous ASUW accountant. There are also two candidate for the ASTEC co-coordinator positions. On December 8th, he is having Pizza with the Presidents where him and President Seidel will be handing out pizza in the Breezeway of the Union and talking with students. He is working on tackling two new initiatives with wasps and winter safety.

Chief of Staff Homer-Wambeam’s reported that herself and those not present have no report.

Chief of Legislative Affairs Carrier said “yesterday, along with Vice President Anderson, I attended the Advising Council where we discussed the new proposed advising fee distribution. At this meeting we kind of just got an update on the advising fee and how the process is going. Some specific points we touched on included fee revenues, UW regulation 2-13 and of course the advising fee proposal. If anyone would like more specifics or details on this meeting, feel free to come talk to either myself or vice president anderson. Tomorrow I am recording a new podcast episode with Director of Marketing Clark over ASUW restructuring. Moving on, as I am sure you all saw, there is a whole lot of legislation up tonight and I just ask that you are very attentive during readings and debate. These pieces of legislation are very important and will be causing some very substantial changes to ASUW so it is extremely important that you are engaged and aware of what is going on. If you have any concerns about any of the legislation, please do not hesitate to speak up. As always I am happy to assist with understanding or
answering questions about legislation. I also want to apologize again for the numerous emails I’ve sent, all of the documents are in one place in the sharepoint under tonight’s Senate meeting materials which is under the legislative branch folder, senate meeting materials. Finally, I am going to say this again but while I’m up here I just wanted to let everyone know that the Ad-Hoc will be meeting at 7:30am this Thursday instead of 7am if anyone was planning on attending then.”

Director of Diversity and Inclusion Sapien had no report.

Director of Finance and Student Organizations Reyes-Aguilar had no report.

Director of Financial Planning and Analysis Stadler had no report.

Director of Governmental and Community Affairs Brown had no report.

Director of Marketing Clark’s said “Last week, I began marketing the Marketing internship we are offering in the spring semester, prepping the podcast that will focus on the School of Computing with President Seidel, and social media of course. This week, I am continuing finalizing the podcast, wyocourses work, and social media work.”

Director of Partners, Programs, and Events Hacke reported “I along with other pro staff and executives are currently working to prepare our programs and partners for the upcoming budget and planning season. I have also begun to work on semesterly partnership evaluations that is required by our bylaws, it also requires for me to report to the senate on the progress and conclusion of these evaluations. I look forward to doing this in my next report.”

Director of Wellness and Sustainability McLean has no report.

The Judicial Council was not present.

Vice President Anderson reported that on Tuesday last week the University Central Fee committee had their first meeting. At this meeting they got through most of the recommendations and will begin the business enterprise section next week. The official recommendations on the fees will be voted on tonight and these will be taken to the committee next week. Next, he reported to please wrap up senatorial requirements as soon as possible and that if anything is not submitted by December 18th it will not count. He also reported that he is compiling a list of possible service hour opportunities if Senators are still in need. He also reported that he sent an email to First-Year Senate mentorships and to respond as soon as possible.

Project Coordinator Crosby had no report.

Interim ASUW Support Staff Thomson-Lichty was nor present.

Ex-Officio Communications
College Panhellenic Council reported they finished their elections last night around 11:30 and that it went well.

Faculty Senate was not present.

First-Year Senate reported they conducted business as usual where they voted on the legislation and decided to confirm a new Senator.

The Interfraternity Council reported they met with ASUW two weeks ago and that this meeting went well. They also reported they have been talking about supporting a good Samaritan policy and may support that in the future.

International Students Association was not present.

Non-Traditional Student Council reported that their recent movie night event was successful. They also reported on December 8th from 5-7pm they will be hosting an event with games and dinner and encourage all students, friends, and family to attend.

Residence Halls Association was not present.

The Sustainability Coalition reported their waste audit at Washaki was successful as they collected about 150 pounds of food waste. They also reported they have their partnership meeting, leadership meeting, and food security task force meeting on Wednesday.

Staff Senate was not present.

Student Athlete Advisory Committee reported they are currently working on an end of semester event for their student athletes.

United Multicultural Council was not present.

Wyoming Honors Organization had no report.

Committee Reports

Steering reported they steered all of the legislation up for first reading tonight and made a recommendation on Senate Bill #2760.

Advocacy, Diversity, and Policy reported that they met on Friday, November 19th at their usual time of 2:30pm. They made recommendation on the three pieces of legislation steered to them and also heard progress updates on medical amnesty legislation from Directors Brown and McLean.

Budget and Planning reported they met on the Friday before Thanksgiving break and took a look at the special projects legislation. They also reported that the special projects legislation is up for first reading tonight. They also reported that at this meeting, they discussed finding a new chair
and what the duties of the budget and planning chair entails. They reported that a new chair will be chosen at their next meeting. Finally, they reported they looked over a proposal to add a lounge area in the basement of the classroom building and decided that they would like more information on this proposal before making any other decisions.

Elections reported “the elections committee met on November 18th ago at our usual time. We conducted interviews for vacant senate seats and have put forward one applicant for confirmation tonight. We have also been discussing outreach ideas for the spring elections and the future election events.”

Programs and Institutional Development reported they had met briefly and discussed legislation steered to them.

Safety and Wellness reported they met on Monday at 3:15 and are currently working on improving winter safety. They reported they have been in contact with UW operations and are looking into how they can help assist UW operation in the future. Finally, they reported they are making plans to inform students on how they can drive safely in the winter.

Strategic Planning reported they met a couple of weeks ago and discussed topics for their next strategic planning session. They also reported they set a time for their next meeting which will be on December 6th.

Student Organization and Funding Board reported “SOFB met at our normal time yesterday where we heard a conference request from Society of Physics Students. Their request was approved.”

Student Outreach and Programming reported “SOP will be tabling the first few days of finals in the library like we did for midterms to hand out snacks to students to keep up morale. If you need last minute service hours we would love help with this tabling. I will send out a sign up for this. SOP also will be having an ugly sweater contest on Instagram next week.”

Tuition Allocation and Student Fee Review reported that the committees job is done for the semester unless something new comes up. They reported they plan on not meeting again this semester.

The restructuring Ad-Hoc reported “when the committee met on the Thursday before break, we got an update on how things are going with the School of Computing and the resolution for that is up for first reading tonight. We then finished up our discussion about reviewing Senator’s duties and responsibilities, I plan on summing this up in the coming weeks and legislation on this will be coming next semester. On Monday, we determined which new voting method we want to use in elections. We voted and decided that instant run-off voting will continued to be used for The pres/vp tickets but an approval rating will be used for the Senate elections and those candidates who get the highest approval ratings will be elected into the Senate. Finally, we started discussion on modifying the First-Year Senate to make it more engaging and impactful. On Thursday when we meet at 7:30am, we will be reviewing legislation and continuing our discussion.”
College Contact Reports

The College of Agriculture and Natural Resources had no report.

The College of Arts and Sciences had no report.

The College of Business had no report.

The College of Education had no report.

The College of Engineering and Applied Sciences reported they are meeting with their dean this Thursday.

The Haub School of Environment and Natural Resources had no report.

The College of Health Sciences had no report.

The College of Law had no report.

School of Energy Resources had no report.

OLD BUSINESS

Senator Smith moved to suspend the Abernathy clause.
   Senator Rhymes seconded.
   The motion passed unanimously via a roll call vote.

Senate Bill #2760: Program Revisions to Section 8 of the ASUW By-Laws
   Advocacy, Diversity, and Policy gave a do-pass recommendation.
   Program and Institutional Development gave a do-pass recommendation.
   Steering gave a do-pass with amendments recommendation.
   Senator Laverell moved to pass SB #2760.
   Senator Smith seconded.
   President Swilling moved to adopt the amendments made by the Steering committee as electronically sent out prior to the meeting.
   Senator Rhymes seconded.
   The motion passed unanimously via a voice vote.
   Director of Partners, Programs, and Events Hacke moved to adopt the amendments he proposed as electronically circulated prior to the meeting.
   First-Year Senator Murfitt seconded.
   The motion passed unanimously via a voice vote.
   Debate continued on the original motion as amended, the motion passed unanimously 23-0 via a roll call vote.

Senate Resolution #2761: ASUW Recommendation on Proposed Mandatory Fees for FY23
   Advocacy, Diversity, and Policy gave a do-pass with amendments recommendation.
Tuition, Allocation, and Student Fee Review Committee gave a do-pass recommendation. Senator Rhymes moved to pass SR #2761. First-Year Senator Murfitt seconded. Senator Rhymes moved to adopt the amendments as proposed by the Advocacy, Diversity, and Policy Committee as electronically circulated prior to the meeting. Senator Engel-Cartie seconded. The vote was called for by a voice vote. Senator Titus called division. Motion passed by a roll call vote of 18-5. Debate continued on the original motion, as amended. The motion passed 22-1.


Senator Smith moved for a 5-minute recess and for the Senate to reconvene at 9:20pm. Senator Castronovo seconded. The motion passed unanimously via a voice vote.

The Senate reconvened at 9:20pm.

NEW BUSINESS

Senate Bill #2763- Special Project Allocations for Fiscal Year 2022
The bill was read for the first time. The bill was steered to Advocacy, Diversity, and Policy; Budget and Planning.

Senate Bill #2764- Authorizing Expenditures from the ASUW Student Services Endowment
The bill was read for the first time. The bill was steered to Advocacy, Diversity, and Policy; Budget and Planning.

Senate Resolution #2765- ASUW’s Updated Recommendation Regarding the Creation of a School of Computing
The resolution was read for the first time. The resolution was steered to Ad- Hoc Restructuring; Advocacy, Diversity, and Policy; Program and Institutional Development.

Senate Resolution #2766- ASUW Support for the Creation of a School of Graduate Education at the University of Wyoming
The resolution was read for the first time.
The resolution was steered to Advocacy, Diversity, and Policy.

Senate Resolution #2767- ASUW Support for the Implementation of a Bachelor of Arts and Undergraduate Minor in Social Justice
   The resolution was read for the first time.
   The resolution was steered to Advocacy, Diversity, and Policy.

Senate Bill #2768- Changes to the ASUW Finance Policy for Strategic Partners
   The bill was read for the first time.
   The bill was steered to Budget and Planning; Program and Institutional Development; Student Organization Funding Board.

Senate Bill #2769- Restructuring the ASUW Senate to an At-Large model and Reducing the Number of Senators
   The bill was read for the first time.
   The bill was steered to Ad-Hoc Restructuring; Ad-Hoc Strategic Planning; Advocacy, Diversity, and Policy; Elections; Program and Institutional Development; Steering.

Senate Bill #2770- Creation of the College Council
   The bill was read for the first time.
   The bill was steered to Ad-Hoc Restructuring; Ad-Hoc Strategic Planning; Advocacy, Diversity, and Policy; Budget and Planning; Program and Institutional Development; Steering.

Senate Resolution #2771- ASUW Support for Including Paid Hourly Senatorial Positions in the FY23 Budget
   The resolution was read for the first time.
   The resolution was steered to Ad-Hoc Restructuring; Ad-Hoc Strategic Planning; Advocacy, Diversity, and Policy; Budget and Planning; Program and Institutional Development.

Senate Resolution #2772: ASUW Support for Increasing the Salaries of our Pro-Staff Positions
   The resolution was read for the first time.
   The resolution was steered to Ad-Hoc Restructuring; Ad-Hoc Strategic Planning; Budget and Planning; Program and Institutional Development.

Confirmation of a new Senator
   Senator Rhymes moved to confirm Teagan Thompson as a Senator for the College of Agriculture.
      Senator Engel-Cartie seconded.
      Motion passed unanimously via a standing vote.

Swearing in of a new Senator
Teagan Thompson was sworn in by Vice President Anderson.

Selection of a Student-at-Large of the month
President Swilling nominated Riley Skorcz.
Senator True nominated Megan True.
   Riley Skorcz was selected as the Student-at-Large for the month of November.

Selection of a Senator of the Month
Chief of Staff Homer-Wambeam nominated Senator Nwokejiobi.
Chief of Legislative Affairs Carrier nominated Senator Castronovo.
Senator Bowles nominated Senator McGee.
   Senator Castronovo was selected at the Senator of the Month for November.

After processing, the meeting adjourned at 10:12pm. The next regular meeting of the Senate will be on December 7th, 2021, at 7:00pm in the Union Senate Chambers Room 221.

Kathryne Carrier
Chief of Legislative Affairs-109th Administration