

**FACULTY SENATE
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

MINUTES
October 23, 2023

IN ATTENDANCE:

OFFICERS: Robert Sprague, *Chair*; Ray Fertig, *Chair-elect*, Renee Laegreid, *Past Chair*, Treva Sprout-Ahrenholtz, *Secretary*, Vladimir Alvarado, *Gregg Cawley, Rob Godby and Tiger Robison, *Members-at-Large*.*

Guests: Mandy Jane Gifford, *Chief of Staff to the Provost*.

Chair Robert Sprague called the Faculty Senate Executive Committee (FSE) meeting to order at 12:03 pm.

The Chair called for a motion to approve the agenda; motion made, seconded, and carried.

The Chair called for a motion to approve the minutes, motion made, seconded, and carried.

The Chair reported that Academic Affairs had recently introduced a new SAPP on Honorariums, noting that he had not read the SAPP but that during Cabinet discussions Vice President Kean believed that Honorariums were being utilized where stipends would be more appropriate, and that the University would need to move away from this. The Chair said that he believed he needed to introduce the SAPP to the full Senate but the earliest date that the Senate could vote on the SAPP would be November 27, after the Thanksgiving break.

The Chair reported that he and Chair-elect Fertig had held a productive conversation with Provost Carman the previous week but that he had no report on the meeting for the Committee.

The Chair opened the floor to Chief of Staff Gifford, who informed the Committee that Academic Affairs had been working on the 2-13 SAPP and would soon be sending a completed SAPP to the Senate, and that Provost Carman would soon be sending an updated SAPP regarding revisions to the program review process so that programs that had been reviewed the previous year would not need to be reviewed again. The Committee discussed.

Chief of Staff Gifford informed the Committee that there would likely be 8 new degree Notices of Intent at the next meeting of the Board of Trustees in November, meaning there will probably be 8 new degree proposals to review in the Spring. Chief of Staff Gifford also informed the Committee that the Division of Research and Economic Development, the Haub School, and the Biodiversity Institute are proposing to move the Biodiversity Institute back into the Haub School; since this would constitute a reorganization of the Haub School, it will require the 2-13 process. The Committee discussed.

The Chair introduced a new Resolution 447 in Support of University Libraries Licensing Priorities, noting that the University Library had joined the Colorado Library Alliance to help in negotiations with scholarly publishers, and that the CU Boulder Faculty Assembly had passed a resolution similar to the one he was presenting in support of the work of the alliance, but that some portions of their legislation was not relevant to the University of Wyoming and had been removed. The Chair expressed that he was hopeful that the Resolution could be introduced at the November 6 meeting of Faculty Senate for a vote on November 27.

The Chair reported that he had held a meeting with President Seidel, Provost Carman, Associate Vice President for Communications and Marketing Baldwin, General Counsel Evans, Martha McCaughey, and Chief of Staff Kyne to discuss the Freedom of Expression report, noting that President Seidel believed that the University should adopt the report. The Chair reported that discussion was based around how the report would be implemented around campus and that General Counsel Evans intended to send a call to Staff Senate, Faculty Senate, and ASUW to adopt the report. The Chair expressed concern with aspects of the report in comparison with University Regulation 2-15, and Academic Affairs' statement on Freedom of Expression.

The Chair suggested that the Senate draft a resolution wherein they would not adopt the full report as is but adopt certain portions of the report. The Chair advocated that they should eliminate some aspects of the report that were more controversial, and that the Committee should note half a dozen things that could be relevant strictly to academic freedom and the purview of Faculty Senate. The Committee discussed and decided against the idea. The Committee decided in favor of sending a resolution endorsing the principles rather than adopting them to the Senate on the understanding that they would serve as a living document, subject to continuous review and amendment in conjunction with current policy around freedom of expression and that there would be a university committee in place to create an open process regarding Freedom of Expression.

The Chair asked the Committee if the issue of freedom of expression should be raised at the next Senate meeting before the Resolution had been introduced. The Committee discussed and did not reach a conclusion.

The Chair opened the floor to general announcements. Member-at-large Robison reported that Chair McGee of the Student Interaction Committee had reported to him that the majority of students were in favor of the Acadeum program and that some members of the Faculty were in favor as well. M-A-L Robison noted that there was concern of whether students taking our courses through Acadeum would have access to library materials, how faculty would be notified if a student dropped a course, what would happen if a student registered late, and if individual instructors could decide what courses were offered on Acadeum. M-A-L Robison noted that Chair McGee had asked what the next steps forwards should be. The Committee discussed.

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting, seconded, and carried. The meeting adjourned at 1:15 pm.