

Ray Stuart Fertig III

From: Faculty Senate
Sent: Friday, April 4, 2025 4:17 PM
Cc: Beau Marshall Brown
Subject: Faculty Senate: Materials for April 7 Meeting
Attachments: Senate Resolution 488 Conveying a Vote of No Confidence in President Seidel (draft).docx; UWYO_Academic_Deans_April_4_2025.pdf; Seidel Faculty Senate Letter 2025.04.03.pdf

Senators and Alternates,

As the Executive Committee of the Faculty Senate, we are sharing with you Resolution 488 Conveying a Vote of No Confidence in the Leadership of President Seidel. While this is the third time during the President's tenure at UW that such a vote has been contemplated by the Faculty Senate, this is the first time it is being brought to the full Faculty Senate for discussion.

We stress that while the recent issues surrounding the firing of Dean Wright have certainly acted as a catalyst, the focus of our resolution is much broader and reflects on the impacts that leadership decisions over the past several years have had on the University, in terms of its culture, its morale, and its ability to carry out its mission. We will not, in our meeting, attempt to relitigate past wrongs – our discussion will turn on the culture that leadership has engendered. Thus, you will see in the proposed resolution, more expansive statements focused on the University-wide issues rather than specific colleges and individuals.

We cannot go back in time, but we can represent our faculty (and many staff who feel they cannot speak) moving forward to say that the manner in which decisions have been made and communicated by leadership, the fallout from those decisions, and the long-term impacts of those decisions on morale have been destructive to the University. We can say that the *modus operandi* for how leadership has conducted itself over the past several years is unacceptable. Our hope is that this will ultimately result in real Shared Governance, not a token appointment to this or that committee, not an offer for a chat over coffee to check the box on engagement, but true engagement that sees faculty actively participating in shaping the vision of the University.

As this represents a highly unusual situation and because an agenda was not available this Monday, our meeting on Monday, April 7 will be considered an emergency meeting. After taking roll call and approving the agenda, we will move immediately into an executive session where ONLY senators or their designated alternates are allowed, in order to protect senators who may fear retaliation. We will discuss what, if any, action we would like to take on the Resolution. If we agree to take action, we will move back into public session to conduct business, bring the resolution to the floor, and vote. Any vote that may take place will be conducted via secret ballot.

We hope to see all of you in person on Monday.

Note: Some senators noted that many are not on the faculty listserv and, thus, have not seen the public communication that has come through there, some of which highlight the broader impacts of recent events. As such, we have included as an attachment some of that content here.

Faculty Senate Executive Committee:
Ray Fertig – Chair
Rob Godby – Chair-elect
Treva Sprout-Ahrenholtz – Secretary
Vladimir Alvarado – Member-At-Large
Gregg Cawley – Member-At-Large
Ashley Hope Carlisle – Member-At-Large
Tiger Robison – Member-At-Large