

**Faculty Senate  
University of Wyoming**

Laramie, Wyoming

Minutes of the Meeting of  
4 November, 2024

A regular meeting of the University of Wyoming Faculty Senate (FS) was called to order by Chair Ray Fertig at 3:12 p.m., on November 4, 2024, in the Family Room, University of Wyoming Union. Additional FS members and guests were able to join via Zoom.

The roll was called by Secretary Treva Sprout Ahrenholtz, with the following senators not in attendance and not represented by official alternate or by proxy; Bialostok, Dillon, Di Russo Case, Grant, Griffiths, Jarman, Marks, Mocsary, Myers, Nedjadmayeri, Nganga, Rettler, Sieger, Stanesco, Sweet, and Todd.

Chair Fertig called for a motion to approve the agenda for November 4, 2024; motion made, seconded, and carried. Chair Fertig called for a motion to approve the minutes of October 21, 2024; motion made, seconded, and carried.

Chair Fertig started his chair's report with an announcement of the Faculty Senate Speaker Series. This fall, Bryan Shuman from Geology and Geophysics will deliver the presentation, "Wildfire and Snow: Their Interconnected Past and Future in Wyoming's Rocky Mountains". In Spring of 2025, Jennifer Stephens from the School of Nursing will bring to campus, "The Amazing and Colorful History of Nursing in Wyoming."

He continued with a reminder that the Next Gen USP working group will join the Faculty Senate Executive Committee on November 18 and the full Senate on December 2<sup>nd</sup> for further feedback on the Next Gen USP proposal.

Next, Chair Fertig announced that Brandon McElroy, VP of Access and Engagement, has formed a working group to conduct program and website reviews. FS Member at Large Tiger Robison is serving as the Faculty Senate representative.

Finally, the Faculty Rights and Responsibilities committee will be tasked with developing procedures for reviewing and handling complaints about academic freedom in accordance with University Regulation 2-15.

Discussion of chairs report followed.

There were no ASUW or Staff Senate Reports, nor were there any committee reports.

Chair Fertig called for general announcements, and Senator Denis Shannon remarked that UW Libraries will be changing the way that off campus users, including students and faculty, access the UW Libraries website and its databases. More information will be forthcoming to campus soon via email.

Chair Fertig brought to the floor Resolution 473: Resolution in Support of the Undergraduate Nuclear Energy Science Certificate. Motion made and seconded, no discussion. Chair Fertig called for a vote on the resolution, and it passed unanimously.

Next, Chair Fertig brought to the floor Resolution 474: Resolution in Support of the Graduate Nuclear Energy Science Certificate. Motion made and seconded, no discussion. Chair Fertig called for a vote on the resolution, and it passed unanimously.

Chair Fertig introduced Resolution 475: Resolution in Support of Changes to University Regulation 4-2 Discrimination and Harassment. Motion made and seconded, no discussion. Chair Fertig called for a vote on the resolution, and it passed unanimously.

The last resolution brought to the floor was Resolution 476: Resolution in Support of Changes to University Regulations 1-1, Organization of the University, and 6-9, Project Development Policy and Procedure for UW Capital Construction Projects. Motion made and seconded, no discussion. Chair Fertig called for a vote on the resolution, and it passed unanimously.

Next, Resolution 477: Resolution in Support of Changes to University Regulation 11-8 Incoming Student Live-In Requirement was introduced by Chair Fertig. A short discussion came from Fertig, explaining that the Regulation would be modified primarily to account for online students.

The final Resolution, 478: Resolution in Support of Changes to the Honorary Degrees Nomination, Review, and Award Process SAPP was introduced by Chair Fertig. A short discussion followed.

After resolutions were voted on or introduced, Mandy Gifford, Chief of Staff to the Provost and Chair of the Next Generation USP Committee, along with the USP Fellows/subcommittee chairs presented the full draft version of the Next Generation USP to the Faculty Senate. She began with a brief timeline of the work towards a new University Studies Program, which began in 2020 under Interim Provost Alexander. Phase One, from 2020-22 consisted of Next Gen Committee members conducting research, going to conferences, and surveying faculty and campus stakeholders to develop the backbone of the Next Gen USP. In 2023—24, Next Gen USP subcommittees were formed, based on the recommendations of the previous committee, and developed initial recommended learning outcomes and policies for each of the USP areas. In the spring of 2024, an Executive Committee was formed with a group of faculty members and administrators, along with the chairs of those subcommittees (the Next Gen USP Fellows), who were by now in the second round of subcommittee work and recommendations. The Executive Group developed a full draft model of the Next Gen USP and presented it to then Provost and Executive Vice President Carman for review. Carman reviewed the proposal over the summer and then presented the final Provost draft, which is now open for campus and Community College review. The final version of the Next Gen USP will be presented to campus in Spring of 2025 and voted upon by the Faculty Senate. The proposed launch is Fall of 2026.

In addition to Gifford, USP Fellows were on hand to answer questions, concerns, and clarifications about individual components of the Next Gen USP. A lengthy discussion followed.

Following the discussion, Chair Fertig called for a motion to adjourn. Motion made, seconded and carried. The meeting adjourned at 5:10 pm and went into Executive Session.