



Faculty Senate
Minutes
Monday, April 21, 2025

A regular meeting of the University of Wyoming Faculty Senate was called to order at 3:14pm on Monday April 21, 2025, in the Family Room of the University of Wyoming Union. Some Faculty Senate members and guests appeared via Zoom.

Secretary Treva Sprout Ahrenholtz called the roll and a quorum was present.

Members Absent: Gabriel Barrile, Roger Coupal, Hugo De Costa Santos, Dana Dittoe, Becky Linn, Subhashis Mallick, George Mocsary, Adam Myers, Lydia Nganga, Stefan Rahimi, Crystal Sieger, Nikolas Sweet, and Aaron Wood.

A motion was called to approve the agenda; seconded, carried.

A motion was called to approve the minutes of the last session; seconded, carried.

No representative from Staff Senate was present to make a report.

No representative from ASUW was present to make a report.

Chair asked for a motion to amend the agenda to move item 4 to space 3, and adding resolution 493 to space number 9; chair called for a vote, and the motion passed.

Chairs Report

Chair met with the research advisory committee about a fine or fee for late proposal submissions, while looking for a way to improve compliance with timely submissions. The fee/fine, viewed to punitively, has been tabled for the time being while alternative methods for raising compliance is being investigated.

Chair-Elect Godby then addressed the Senate about shared governance with the President's cabinet. Chair-Elect expressed his optimism that the upper levels of administration has expressed an interest in working with the Faculty Senate, and generally across campus. The recently appointed Committee for Shared Governance represents one of those methods to improve shared governance. The committee will first meet on 5/14 for a session that is several hours long. The committee has been charged to submit an initial report after their first meeting. The Chair-Elect indicated that any questions from Senators or Faculty should be directed to Brad Rettler, to better represent the faculty at this committee's meetings. The President of the University has recommended expanding his cabinet to include one of the deans, pending volunteers. Chair-Elect discussed the necessity of addressing federal changes, including the possibility of creating a 30-day paid administrative leave to keep good people from losing their job in the wake of potential loss of federal funding.

Other Business

Parag Chitniss, VP of Research and Economic Development, and Farrell Rapp (Director, Research Services), then addressed the senate regarding some of the issues related to Grant submission and how to improve results. He spoke about the necessary changes he is trying to effect to drive better



compliance, and how they plan on addressing the timeliness of submissions in their communications. Currently, approximately 50% of campus submits proposals in a timely fashion, the goal is to drive compliance to 85%.

Reasons for low compliance numbers were discussed, and VP Chitniss and Farrell Rapp took several questions from the body of the Senate.

Introduction of Resolution 489, Conveying a Suggested Path Forward to Shared Governance at UW, by the Executive Committee was brought before the Senate. It will be voted on at the next session.

Introduction of the Resolution 490, In Support of Extending Test Optional Admissions for Three Years, was brought before the Senate. It will be voted on at the next session. Discussion over this resolution was considerable and will be further considered at the next session.

Introduction of Resolution 491 in Support of the Equal Opportunity and Prohibited Efforts SAPP, to be voted on at the next session. Feedback has been considerable on this resolution, but there is a possibility that the SAPP is being reworked by Administrators/General Counsel, and a new version may be forthcoming.

Introduction of Resolution 492 in Support of 2-13 Process for Low Producing Programs, a new report, including feedback from the Deans of the respective colleges, has been taken into consideration and further update. The Resolution will be voted on at the next session.

By a voice vote to suspend rules, Resolution 493, for an Applied Computing Degree, was introduced to the Senate, to be voted on at the next session.

Discussion and Vote on Resolution 485 in Support of Proposed Wyoming Union Policies and Procedures SAP. By voice vote, Resolution 485, was brought to the floor for discussion and vote. A voice vote passed the resolution without dissent.

Discussion and Vote on Resolution 486 in Support of a Graduate Certificate in Environment and Natural Resources Law and Policy. By voice vote, Resolution 486, was brought to the floor for discussion and vote. A voice vote passed the resolution without dissent.

Discussion and Vote on Resolution 487 in Support of a Graduate Certificate in Collaborative Practice. By voice vote, Resolution 487, was brought to the floor for discussion and vote. There was no discussion. A voice vote passed the resolution without dissent.

A motion to adjourn was made at 4:11pm seconded, carried.