

University of Wyoming at Laramie

FACULTY SENATE

MINUTES

April 8, 2024

A regular meeting of the University of Wyoming Faculty Senate (FS) was called to order by Chair Robert Sprague at 3:13 pm on April 8, 2024, in the Family Room, University of Wyoming Union. Additional Faculty Senate members and guests were able to join via Zoom.

The Secretary Treva Sprout-Ahrenholtz called the roll and a quorum was met.

The Chair called for a motion to approve the agenda; motion made and seconded. Member-at-Large Cawley moved to remove the discussion of options to report a concern about free expression from the agenda (Item VIII). Motion made, seconded, and carried.

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

The Chair called for a motion to approve the March 25, 2024, Senate minutes; motion made, seconded, and carried.

The Chair reported that he had distributed the call for Faculty Senate Speaker Series Nominees for the 2024-2025 Academic year and encouraged the Senate to seek out nominees. The Chair reported that the Spring Convocation would be on April 24, 2024, from 2:30-4:30 PM and reviewed the order of speakers for the Convocation before encouraging the Senate to attend.

The Chair called for reports from ASUW. No ASUW representative was present.

The Chair called for reports from Staff Senate. No Staff Senate representative was present.

The Chair called for Committee reports. The Chair reported that the Executive Committee had been provided a draft of the new 2-13 SAP and would be providing feedback to Vice Provost Steve Barrett. The Chair reported that Chief of Staff to the Provost Mandy Jane Gifford had provided a presentation on the Next Generation USP draft model to the Executive Committee and was seeking the Executive Committee's feedback before distributing the draft to University Constituent groups. The Senate discussed.

The Chair called for general announcements. Senator Shannon announced that University Libraries had successfully concluded its negotiations with [Elsevier](#) and thanked the Senate for its declaration of support. Senator Okpodu announced that the Data Science Fellows would be presenting the results of their fellowships on April 24, 2024, from 1:00-2:00 PM and that she had invited the Senate to the Climate Conversation on April 19, 2024, at 10:00 AM. Senator Okpodu encouraged the Senate to attend both events.

The Chair brought forward Resolution 459 in Support of the Proposed M.S. in Quantum Information Science & Engineering (QISE) for Discussion and Vote. The Chair called for a motion to approve the Resolution. Motion made, seconded, and carried.

The Chair brought forward Resolution 460 in Support of the Proposed M.S. in Artificial Intelligence for Discussion and Vote. The Chair called for a motion to approve the Resolution. Motion made, seconded, and carried.

The Chair brought forward Resolution 461 in Support of the Proposed B. A. in European Languages, Literature, and Film Studies for Discussion and Vote. The Chair called for a motion to approve the Resolution. Motion made and seconded. The Senate discussed. The motion was carried.

The Chair brought forward Resolution 462 in Support of the Proposed English Doctoral Degree in the Public Humanities for Introduction. The Chair yielded the floor to Associate Professor and department chair Kelly Ann Kinney. Professor Kinney provided the reasoning behind the establishment of the Public Humanities Doctoral program and listed the career fields in which the program would focus. The Senate discussed.

The Chair yielded the floor to Chair-Elect Fertig to provide an update on the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) working group. Chair-Elect Fertig reported that the working group had so far met three times and been focused on gathering data. Chair-Elect Fertig reported that administrators had been tasked with gathering data on DEI programs within their departments and that the working group at large had been tasked with reviewing where DEI-related phrases were present on the University Website and provided examples.

Chair-Elect Fertig reported that research and classes would not be affected or scrutinized by the working group. Chair-Elect Fertig reported that the working group had started considering how the data should be reported and that President Seidel had specifically requested that the working group not provide recommendations, but rather a slate of different options. Chair-Elect Fertig noted that the list of classes that had DEI content or were strongly DEI focused would not be included in the working group's report. Chair-Elect Fertig noted that the working group was dedicated to being transparent about the process across campus. The Senate discussed.

The Chair called for a motion to adjourn the meeting at 4:11 PM; made, seconded, and carried.