

University of Wyoming at Laramie

FACULTY SENATE

MINUTES

April 24, 2023

A regular meeting of the University of Wyoming Faculty Senate (FS) was called to order by Chair Renee Laegreid at 3:15 pm on April 24th, 2023, in the Senate Chambers, University of Wyoming Union. Additional FS members and guests were able to join via Zoom.

The Secretary Treva Sprout Ahrenholtz called the role and the following Senators were not in attendance or represented by a proxy: Borowczak, Cain, Caulton, Coupal, Harris, Hoberg, Humphrey, Lake, McCoy, Miller, Rettler, Ricupero, and Todd.

The chair called for a motion to approve the April 24 agenda made, seconded, and carried.

The Chair called for a motion to approve the minutes of April 10, made, seconded, and carried.

The Chair reported on the appreciation made to faculty senate in the Big picture email and that the Provost performance evaluation is almost prepared, with a projected launch May 1 and close date of May 12th on the proposed questionnaire. This survey is to be sent to stakeholders in the University, except students, and to outside stakeholders as well. The Chair encouraged the Senate to get their constituents to fill out the survey. The Chair mentioned Faculty Exec had a meeting with Matt Griswold about changes to the Tuition and Fee structure, and more information would be made available by VP Griswold this coming Fall. The Chair opened the floor for questions.

Sen. Clements of the HLC Committee had a meeting in preparation for the report to be concluded next year.

Sen. Bialostok reported that the parking Committee had confirmed that the parking garage would be operational earlier than expected, except for the elevator which would not be installed inside until July, that the Union parking lot was to be closed permanently on May 26th, and that there would be free electric vehicle charging stations installed onto one of the new parking lots on campus over the summer. Concerns were raised over the use of license plate monitoring systems and whether campus stakeholders had been involved in the decision to use this system. Discussion followed.

Sen Alvarado reported that the Carnegie Task Force submitted its report, and noted results on the report would not be available until the fall, when the Carnegie Task Force would conclude its findings.

Past-Chair. Freng reported that the Senate at large would discuss the Salary Compensation Committees work during the next Senate meeting as legislation came to the floor.

Sen. Sprout-Ahrenholtz reported that there were no new additions to University SAPP 2-13.

Sen. Alvarado reported that the Freedom of Expression Committee held discussions on changing the culture of the University around freedom of expression to improve the current University environment. Discussion followed.

Sen. Carlisle reported that the Statewide Engagement Committee had no report.

Sen. Fisher reported that on April 5th the subcommittee chairs meet and that they would be producing reports for the Provost for work sessions that would take place the week after finals week with the aim to produce a starting point for campus-wide discussion.

Chair-Elect Sprague called for nominations to the Executive Committee for a one-year term starting in academic year 2023/2024. The Chair-elect introduced the commitment requirements of the Committee and asked that any requests to serve on the Committee or requests to nominate an eligible nominee to his email account.

The Chair introduced Resolution 437 Resolution in Support of Academic Affairs changes to Regulation 2-5; Assessing Effective Teaching to the floor for discussion and vote. A motion to approve the Resolution was made, seconded, and carried.

The Chair introduced Resolution 438; Resolution Regarding the Quick Start (4+1) BS/MS in Nutrition and Dietetics for discussion and vote. A motion to approve the Resolution was made, seconded, and carried.

The Chair introduced Resolution 439; Resolution in Support of Academic Affairs' Proposed Changes to Regulation 2-7; Procedures for Reappointment, Tenure, Promotion and Fixed-Term and corresponding SAPPs 2-7.1 and 2-7.2.

Chair-elect Sprague moved to amend the Resolution to review and vote on 2-7 SAPP individually, which was made, seconded, and carried. Senior Vice Provost Benham-Deal introduced the changes made to SAPP 2-7.

Chair-elect Sprague moved to amend the Resolution to review and vote on 2-7.1 SAPP individually, which was made, seconded, and carried. Senior Vice Provost Benham-Deal introduced the changes made to SAPP 2-7.1.

Chair-elect Sprague moved to amend the Resolution to review and vote on 2-7.2 SAPP individually, which was made, seconded, and carried. Senior Vice Provost Benham-Deal introduced the changes made to SAPP 2-7.2.

Chair-elect Sprague moved to amend the SAPP to eliminate the phrase in section IX.d. “An individual may initiate candidacy for early tenure and/or promotion with the written concurrence of the majority of peer group selected to evaluate this request” and to remove the phrase from section IX.E “That request can proceed only with the written concurrence of the majority of the peer group selected to evaluate this request.” Discussion and debate followed.

Past-Chair Freng moved to amend Section VIII to read “Candidates for full Professor may withdraw their application at any time and may be considered for that promotion at a later date.” The motion was made, seconded, and carried.

Past-Chair Freng moved to amend Section V.d to remove “the composition of the peer group include faculty in the unit who currently hold the same or higher rank for which the candidate is being considered” and “the college or unit dean or director may direct a department or academic unit to include appropriately qualified members of other departments or units in the voting protocol if circumstances, such as department size, warrant such inclusion” and to replace it with “Each department or academic unit shall determine the general composition of who may be in the peer group by department vote. The peer group must at least include faculty at rank or higher, but may include department or unit tenure track faculty at a lower rank, non-tenure track faculty, or other appropriately qualified members of other departments or units, who will be determined by the college or unit dean or director. The departmental policy must apply consistently across candidates, and individuals may not choose different peer group compositions, aside from augmented peer group members appointed by the college or unit dean or director. Each department or academic unit will reconsider and vote upon the peer group policy at least every three years.” and Section V.e to read “policy as determined by departmental vote,” rather than “customs and wishes of the faculty.” The motion was made, seconded, and carried.

Secretary Sprout-Ahrenholtz moved to amend Section II to remove the phrase “the composition of the peer group includes faculty in the unit who currently hold the same or higher rank for which the candidate is being considered” from the peer group section and. Discussion and debate followed. The motion was made, seconded, and carried.

Sen. Cawley moved to amend Section B to read “the Committee will extend an initiation to candidates to present written and/or oral statements.” The motion was made, seconded, and carried.

The Chair Introduced Resolution 440; Creation of a Masters of Engineering program in Petroleum and Energy studies. Chair of the Energy and Petroleum department Vamegh Rasouli advocated for the program and offered that the program was meant to support the need to increase the number of petroleum engineers in the workforce and to centralize multiple programs into one inter-disciplinary program.

The Chair Introduced Resolution 441; Resolution in support of changes to University Regulation 2-100.

The Chair Introduced Resolution 442 Resolution in support of changes to University SAPP 4-3-23 Standard Administrative Policy (SAP) Review - Salary Distribution Policy

The Chair moved to adjourn the Senate and move into Executive Session at 5:35 PM.