

University of Wyoming at Laramie

FACULTY SENATE

MINUTES

September 25, 2023

A regular meeting of the University of Wyoming Faculty Senate (FS) was called to order by Chair Robert Sprague at 3:12 pm on September 25, 2023, in the Family Room, University of Wyoming Union. Additional Faculty Senate members and guests were able to join via Zoom.

Secretary Treva Sprout Ahrenholtz called the roll, and the following Senators were not in attendance or represented by a proxy; Senators Anderson, Cain, Coupal, Dillon, Fertig, Harris, Hoberg, Lake, McCoy, Mocsary, Sims, Tabler, and Urynowicz.

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

Sec. Sprout-Ahrenholtz moved to amend the agenda to move the Chair's report above general announcements. Seconded and carried.

The Chair called for a motion to approve the amended agenda. Made seconded and carried.

The Chair called for a motion to approve the minutes of the meeting of September 11, 2013. Made, seconded, and carried.

The Chair called for the ASUW report. ASUW Director of Student Organizations and Outreach Laura Murphy reported that her position entailed supporting students financially and outreaching on behalf of ASUW, including some of the activities included in homecoming. Director Murphy highlighted that ASUW would be starting its Tuition and Fee review process and that Special Projects applications would begin shortly. The Chair opened the floor for questions. The Senate discussed.

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

The Chair called for Office of the President reports. The President's Chief of Staff Kelsey Kyne was not present. The Chair noted that she may be present for the next meeting of the Senate and that she would be providing a recurring report from the President's office.

The Chair called for Committee reports.

The Chair called for Secretary Sprout-Ahrenholtz to provide a report from the 2-13 SAPP Committee. Secretary Sprout-Ahrenholtz had no report.

The Chair called for Senator Fisher to provide a report from the GenEd Committee. Senator Fisher reported that the draft model of their report had gone forward to the Board of Trustees and

that members of the Committee would be meeting to discuss some form of replacement for the First Year Seminar. The Chair opened the floor for questions.

The Chair called for reports from the Future of Marketing at UW Committee. The Chair noted that Member-at-Large Godby was not present due to a conflicting meeting.

The Chair reported that the faculty forum to be held by the president would go forward and that it would be at Coe Library 506 on October 10 at noon. The Chair emphasized it was an excellent opportunity for faculty to express their concerns directly to the President and that the President's initial comments would be brief.

The Chair reported that the total student headcount was down 1.7% from last year, with a 14.4% drop in out-of-state freshmen at the University. The Chair noted that the provost had reported that the freshman retention rate for the year was 77% compared to 75.4% of the previous year to the Board of Trustees.

The Chair then reported that the Board of Trustees had viewed the proposed degree eliminations proposed by Provost Carman. The Chair emphasized that the Board had not taken any action on degree elimination, but that individual Colleges, Departments, and Programs would be putting together reports on the proposed degree eliminations, and would likely submit their reports sometime in November, and would be subject to the standard 2-13 process and that the Faculty Senate would probably begin receiving 2-13 requests starting in either December or January. The Senate discussed.

The Chair then reported that the Board of Trustees had approved a 4% tuition increase and raised online resident tuition from \$166 an hour to \$199 an hour and fees from \$14 an hour to \$44 an hour which would apply to online-only and hybrid-online undergraduate program seekers beginning FY 2025. The Chair noted that the fee changes would apply for hybrid programs as well. The Chair noted that Vice Provost for Online and Continuing Education Matt Griswold would be making determinations on what constituted a hybrid program, and that discussion was ongoing.

The Chair then noted that the Board of Trustees had approved ability for UW to charge other institutions different market-based rates for their students to take UW courses via the Acadeum platform. The Chair explained that the University could either be a "Home" or a "Teaching" institution and that as a teaching institution the University would essentially be selling seats in UW courses to other institutions, emphasizing that this would allow UW to charge higher prices than average to other institutions while the students taking the courses would not. The Chair explained that the Board had approved, in theory, charging for these courses at a market rate rather than a rate set by Acadeum. The Chair explained that UW could also be considered a home institution, which would mean that UW students could take courses from other institutions while still registered at UW and paying the standard UW tuition and fees. The Chair expressed that he had a myriad of concerns with the proposal, including but not limited to monitoring the quality of these classes from other institutions, and that he would be assigning this as an action item for the Student Interaction Committee and that they would be including ASUW, Staff

Senate, and Steve Barrett from Academic Affairs on these discussions, as well as Matt Griswold. The Chair opened the floor for questions. The Senate discussed.

The Chair introduced Resolution 444: Changes to Naming Opportunities and Suggested Minimum Funding Requirements SAPP. The Chair noted that normally SAPP's would normally be scrutinized by the Executive Committee to determine if they had a clear effect on academics and that while this SAPP did not, the Chair hoped that the Senate would distribute this legislation to their constituents so that they were aware of the changes. The Chair advised the Senate that there would likely be some important legislation coming to the Senate going forward. The Chair opened the floor for questions. The Senate discussed.

The Chair called for a motion to adjourn the meeting at 4:04, made, seconded, and carried.