

University of Wyoming at Laramie

FACULTY SENATE

MINUTES

April 10, 2023

A regular meeting of the University of Wyoming Faculty Senate (FS) was called to order by Chair Renee Laegreid at 3:12 pm on April 10th 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: Sens. Borowczak, Hoberg, Humphrey, Lake, Mccoy, Merkle, Miller, and Paige.

The chair called for a motion to approve the April 10 agenda made, seconded, and carried.

The Chair called for a motion to approve the minutes of March 27, made, seconded, and carried.

The Chair reported on the initial CPM Committee with their recommendations expected to the Provost in May, and his decisions finalized In July. Final employment numbers have not arrived yet, but they are expected within the next week. Academic Affairs sent out surveys for Dean of A&S and the Dean of the Honors College to gauge faculty thoughts if a nationwide search should be held for these positions, or if the current Deans should be reappointed; the Chair encouraged senators and their constituents to complete these surveys. The Chair reported that Jim Ahern, Vice Provost for Graduate Studies, noted a 30% uptick in concerns from graduate students with their advisors, but noted that overall GA and Advisor relations are good. The Chair concluded by reporting on her meeting regarding disability access on campus, and that many buildings listed on the UW website, while ADA Compliant, are not in actuality accessible.

The Chair called for reports.

Staff Senate President Tim Nichols reported on the activities of Staff Senate, including the climate assessment survey to reflect on staff moral. Staff Senate Chair President Nichols also reported on the new Staff appreciation day and activities coming up.

Senator Nathen Clements reported the HLC has not met since his last report, but they will meet soon.

Senator Steve Bialostok reported that the Parking Committee did not meet but discussed an article that appeared in the Branding Iron and the response to student concerns over parking. He noted Board member Kermit Brown and Bill Mai presented on the parking concerns at the March Board of Trustee meeting.

Senator Vladimir Alvarado reported that the Carnegie Task Force is planning their last meeting, that they are finishing their report for the Board of Trustees, and they will share their report with President Seidel and Provost Carmen.

Senator Roger Coupal reported on the Science Initiative Executive, saying they had finished their draft to the Vice President of Research but, because of communication lapse, was not sure whether they had completed their final draft of the Science Initiative Structure. He presented what he believed was the current draft to the Faculty Senate.

Past-Chair Adrienne Freng reported on the Salary and Compensation committee, saying they were discussing the creation of a SAPP to change the current SAPP regarding the creation of a process to deal with salary and compensation. Legislation would be forthcoming soon for the review of Faculty Senate.

Secretary Treva Sprout-Ahrenholtz reported that the 2-13 SAPP Committee was waiting for a response from academic affairs regarding the current 2-13 SAPP and suggested that they create a separate SAPP.

Senator Vladimir Alvarado reported that the Freedom of Expression working group had constructive discussions with external stakeholders but he was not at liberty to elaborate on those conversations.

Senator Vladimir Alvarado reported the Statewide Engagement Committee was working towards enhancing collaboration among current stakeholders and were working towards gathering the data from a previous Community engagement survey.

Senator Rick Fisher reported that the Gen-ed revision Committee deferred their report until the next meeting.

The Chair called for general announcements; no general announcements were made.

Past-Chair Freng gave background on the Strategic alignment between upper administration and faculty, along with working with other University stakeholders, before giving the floor to President Seidel and Provost Carmen for presentation and discussion on the Senate floor.

President Seidel discussed the strategic plan and the similar goals shared by Faculty Senate, such as increasing resources with retention and recruitment despite current constraints. Provost Carmen noted the decrease in enrollment and the need for diversification of revenue streams via the Shore light initiative, working to grow enrollment, along with attempting to work with the legislature to create a permanent stream of fund to increase salaries on campus. Provost Carmen further discussed a desire to create a more effective spousal program for spouses that want to work at the University. The Provost and President responded to questions regarding to how much GA's should be paid, how to permanently shore up university wages in the face of inflation and outside economic challenges, how the newest round of salary raises allocated by the legislature would be distributed.

The Chair called Senior Vice Provost Benham-Deal to speak on the changes being made to sunseting UW regulation 2-5. Vice Provost Benham-Deal provided background on the changes that had been made to the regulation and prior miscommunication on the uses of that regulation that need to be amended, amending the regulation to ensure that the regulation will not sunset in the future.

Dr. Jill Keith from the Department of Family and Consumer Science introduced Resolution 438 in support of the Quick Start Nutrition and Dietetics program and explained the need for a new Master's program in dietetics, providing background on the changes in industry expectations that made the program a necessity.

Chair Laegreid Introduced Resolution 439 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 and explained the changes that would be made to University of Wyoming Regulation 2-7.1 and 2-7.2

Chair Laegreid provided background for Resolution 436 in support of Academic Affairs proposed changes to University Regulation 2-114; Student Academic Dishonesty and called for a motion on the floor. A motion to approve the Resolution was made and seconded. Chair-elect Sprague moved to amend the legislation to state that the use of A.I was prohibited unless specified by the instructor rather than stating that use of A.I was allowed unless specified by the instructor. The motion was made, seconded, and carried. A motion was made and seconded to approve the Resolution, which passed unanimously.

The Chair moved to adjourn the meeting and move into Executive Session at 5:16 PM