



Faculty Senate - Executive Committee

Minutes

Monday, September 29, 2025

Attendance: Rob Godby (*Chair*), Ray Fertig (*Chair-Emeritus*), Vladimir Alvarado (*Secretary*), Gregg Cawley (*Member-at-Large*), Tiger Robison (*Member-at-Large*), Brad Rettler (*Member-at-Large*).

Members Absent: Ashley Carlisle-Hope (*Member-at-Large*)

Guests Present: David Bagley (*Vice Provost, Faculty Affairs*)

Meeting called to order at 12:31pm.

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

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

Chair's Report

Chair Godby provided an update from the Board of Trustees meeting, including UW's enrollment numbers. The overall enrollment is up, but only by six students, as is the rate of retention, but not by a significant margin or even in a substantially meaningful way. New faculty numbers were noted as well, including those joining this fall and those that came to Campus last spring. Chair Godby noted that the Shared Governance Working Group (ad-hoc committee) is proceeding with its meeting schedule and is hopeful to deliver a preliminary report to the Board of Trustees in November. Occupational Therapy Ph.D. program was approved by the Board of Trustees. The Board of Trustees has approved the hiring of an undisclosed candidate for an internal, likely administrative, position. It was further noted that overall, external grants for the University have improved by almost 50% when taken at face value, whether this is because of the "R1" status change for the University but this has not been determined as causality. Discussion of this part of the chair's report ensued among the committee, with various members asking questions and several comments being made about the shifting nature of the measurements, related to the idea of data interpretation/manipulation and comparisons. The Board of Trustees has announced the formulation of the Presidential Search Committee, comprising 17 individuals, including various members of the Board, the president of ASUW, and the Chair of Faculty Senate. While the details of the process are still unclear, applications will be accepted through the end of 2025, and with on-campus visits by potential candidates by March, a job offer by April, and presumptive start date on 7/1.

Chair noted that there is no Senate meeting on the 6th of October.

Chair has proposed that the "Great Colleges to Work For" survey be reinstated for University of Wyoming participants and further, that the "dearly departed" survey be reinstated to gauge why faculty are leaving the University.

Other Business

Chair-Emeritus Fertig brought up some concerns related to the financial concerns of the University and the functioning of 'subsidized' units, or units which are deemed essential to the function of the University. Different models and metrics by which funding decisions are made,



including the current model of incremental budgeting, were discussed by the committee. Further discussion over the budgetary and financial concerns proceeded, including several points by Chair-Emeritus Fertig regarding the current budgetary model. Chair Godby provided information on the budget models being considered by the administration of the University, including how it would work, both in the short-and long-term. Chair Godby further noted that the potential changes to the budget, and the budget model, are also highly controversial and divisive throughout the broader campus community.

Chair Godby brought up questions and concerns regarding the website, but there was very little feedback regarding the changes that were brought live by Beau Brown.

Conversation then turned to the matter of the various and sundry committees around campus, including some of the continuing difficulties in getting the committees staffed. Chair noted that various Deans have been contacted, and that several former chairs had stepped down and not selected their replacements. Chair Godby noted that “we” (executive committee), perhaps need to change the way the committees are monitored, and perhaps the committees need to be managed more closely. The work of the various committees and the potential of changing the by-laws and the committee membership was discussed, to not only streamline the functioning but also to help with staffing of the committees.

Chair Godby brought up the empty position of Chair-Elect position, with Evan Johnson resigning from Faculty Senate, and noted that the committee needs to decide how to proceed sooner rather than later. The committee discussed some of the responsibilities of the Chair and the Chair-Elect, and how many things go into the position, including the time commitment.

Discussion then turned to Resolution 496, which supports university regulation and SAP, several concerns were addressed in the revised version that was submitted to the Executive Committee. *Chair-Emeritus* requested clarification on some of the wording within the UniReg/SAP and further noted that there continues to be some difficulty with the idea of spontaneous demonstrations.

Motion to adjourn at 2:09pm; seconded, carried.