UNIVERSITY of WYOMING

Faculty Senate
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Faculty Senate - Executive Committee
Minutes
Monday, October 6, 2025

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

Members Absent: Tiger Robison (*Member-at-Large*)

Guests Present: Mandy Gifford (*Chief of Staff),* Jonathan Carrier (*Co-Chair of the Committee on Committees*), Mia Williams (*Chair of the Student Interaction Committee*)

Meeting called to order at 12:30pm.
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 noted some of the finer details for the currently on-going Presidential Search, noting the times and dates of listening sessions, as well as the times and places for those sessions. He further noted that the executive recruitment agency (Parker), was called for a meeting of the Committee, including the mandatory NDA requirement, to likely disclose the details of the hiring timeline. Chair Godby further noted some of the concerns regarding the size of the committee, and that he will be working with the Chair of the Search Committee.

Chair Godby addressed the joint meeting between the Staff and Faculty Senates occurring tomorrow (10/7/25), and other upcoming events that are coming for this including the Presidential Town Hall on Wednesday. Chair Godby detailed some of the results of a survey that was released to the faculty preparatory to the coming Presidential Town Hall.

Chair Godby then spoke on the coming FIRST committee, noting the restrictions being imposed by the Federal Government, including benefits to illegal aliens or unlawful residents, set to begin on November 1, 2025. Chair Godby stressed the importance of being minimally compliant with federal guidelines to preserve federal funding.

Other Business

The committee then turned to discussion of the timeline for the Presidential Search Committee, as well as the timing of received inputs in considerations regarding that search. Several members of the committee offered suggestions and details regarding what might be needful for the campus community, and the university. Suggestions were made regarding the nature of a future president, including an existing connection to and knowledge of the state, a distinctive vision of higher education and the purpose of a higher education, high levels of integrity and transparency, a focus on community building and collaboration between faculty and administration, a commitment to shared governance, a vision for a mission of the University and its role in the state. Other considerations regarding a future president, such as the merits of requiring a terminal degree in a candidate, were discussed and weighed by the Executive Committee. Mandy Gifford addressed the

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Committee, clarifying some of the requirements for previous search committees. Chair Godby spoke as to the degree of formality necessary in conveying the suggestions made by the Executive Committee to the Search Committee.

Discussion then turned to the business of the Faculty Senate Committees. The chair provided some basic information about the staffing of the committees, membership in the committees represents approximately 25% of the serving faculty and combined with those that serve as representatives in Faculty Senate, the number rises to 35%. Jonathan Carrier provided an update on the work of the Committee on Committees about the staffing of the committees, indicating that there has been a response from the campus. Discussion of how to arrange the committee's, the make-up of the committees, and the role of emerging schools such as the School of Energy Resources and the School of Computing was discussed. Discussion of the term limits being applied to committee membership proceeded, including the flexibility inherent to the needs of the University. Mia Williams then addressed the executive committee, noting that during her tenure on the Student Interaction Committee, they have only really engaged on one thing, and that the committee has not met in a year or possibly longer. Jonathan Carrier noted that several of the committees are not functional, namely that they lack chairs or regular attendance, and clear directive and charges.

Discussion ensued on the role of the committees at the University, the lack of integration into broader university systems, and the overall role and purpose of the committees. The idea of having meetings with the committee chairs and the executive committee was broached, as was the idea of adjusting the charges and by-laws of the committees to adjust for changing circumstances. It was further noted that Committee on Committees should likely be tasked with revamping the committees and their charges.

Executive Committee then acknowledged that discussion of the Demonstrations SAPP is being postponed for further changes from General Counsel.

Observations were made regarding some of the changes being proposed for the Academic Plan Review. Chair Godby noted that this would've been perfect for the Academic Planning Committee. Several questions were posed about the nature of the plan, its interactions with extant regulations and procedures, and the on-going processes involved in the evaluation of programs on campus.

Chair Godby noted that the next several weeks meetings will involve the work of the committees, and adjusting their charges as necessary, and rewriting the by-laws that govern the committees.

Motion to adjourn at 2:15pm; seconded, carried.