

Faculty Senate - Executive Committee

Minutes

Monday, September 21, 2026

Attendance: Rob Godby (*Chair*), Tiger Robison (*Member-at-Large*), Clifford Marks (*Secretary*), Jordan Hemmingway (*Member-at-Large*), Brandon McElroy (*Chair-Elect*), Jonathan Carrier (*Member-at-Large*)

Members Absent: Clifford Marks

Guests Present: Adrienne Freng (Vice-Provost – Academic Affairs)

The meeting was called to order at 12:32pm.

A motion was called to approve the agenda; seconded and carried.

A motion was called to approve the minutes of September 14th, 2026; seconded and carried.

Chair's Report

Chair Godby requested an update from Adrienne Freng about the Academic Freedom process, noting that there are not substantial changes at this point. Adrienne posed a question about a procedural element related to the process, which is deferred to Casey Frome, which moves through the FASRR committee. Adrienne noted that the student process is already extensive.

Related to this, the chair provided some commentary about Title IX violation reports and complaints process. Several questions were posed about the procedural elements of the Title IX process here at the University of Wyoming. Chair noted that various kinds of investigations can prove destructive to reputations. Chair expressed concerns about such investigations being used punitively throughout campus.

Chair noted that the Trustees are meeting this week and further noted that scheduling prohibits him from attending the Trustee meetings, and that he does try to watch the recordings, particularly the committee meeting. Chair noted that the President Reeves will be giving his first address to the trustees this week. Community college 4-year degrees are being considered this week. Chair reminded the executive committee about the lunch with the trustees. Chair noted that he has not heard from all the committee chairs, but a number have confirmed attendance.

Low-producing SAPP's is coming around again for consideration by Faculty Senate. Chair noted his desire to have an inclusive/comprehensive committee meant to advise on the formulation of initial language regarding the SAPP. Chair noted that Academic Affairs will be providing notice about low-producing programs soon. Adrienne Freng provided some additional information, noting that Michele Hilaire has been in contact with Jared Studyvin. There is some administrative confusion about who is supposed to introduce the SAPP, faculty senate or the administration.

Chair then discussed the roles of the committees. Chair noted that the Budget Planning Committee has been sunset. Faculty Recognition Committee needs a chair. Library Council has been sunset. Pete Moran is chair of the Graduate Council. Brenda Alexander is the chair of RTP.

Kenneth Sims is the chair of the Research Committee. Chair noted that the ASUW members of the various committees are essentially *ex officio* and cannot chair individual faculty senate committees. It was further noted that the big colleges of arts and sciences are mandatory members. Website to be updated with “*optional*” instead of “*open*” on the website. COB, CAS, CALSNR, CHS, COED are the big five requirements and everyone else is optional.

Chair noted that UW Libraries requested that there be a line of communication open between Libraries and the Faculty Senate, notably through a *la carte/ad hoc* communication options. The possibility of Library Senators provided updates from UW Libraries was entertained as a permanent liaison, to provide an update once a semester from UW Libraries.

Chair noted that the first experiment on circulating ‘unofficial notes’ to faculty senators has yielded some initial positive results. Chair noted that attendance issues for Senators need to be documented.

Chair noted that the last full Faculty Senate was a disaster courtesy of lack of Union Staff, so the Faculty Senate is moving to College of Business 123.

Chair requested an update about 2-6 process committees, and Adrienne Freng noted that there is a need for the committees for the 2-6 process to be ready to “go” at need and proposed potential changes to the reconciliation/dispute resolution panel. Currently, there are 4 open positions, and 4 positions which are expiring or have expired. FSC directed to email Adrienne Freng with a list of the people and colleges for openings and expired/expiring members.

Chair noted that feedback regarding the community colleges applying for the capacity to grant “applied” four-year degrees. Chair noted that generally the objections from the University of Wyoming consisted of “duplicative and lack of preparation.” Chair noted that in the case of a response, that it might be unnecessary for Faculty Senate to comment in a more expansive mode, or to comment over the affected departments.

Chair then noted that the work pending from the last year: Chair noted that the Sponsored Projects Receivables DAP, which was debated a couple of years ago, is being accepted unless it needs to be elevated to a SAP. Chair noted the biggest pieces from the missing work is the changes to the Faculty Senate Standing Committee Bylaws (Resolution 508), and the Faculty Senate.

Other Business

Chair noted that several things have been sent to the Academic Planning Committee, including the creation of a new policy related to Academic Notice which segues into Academic Probation. The first big change is the process, and the second change is a petition for GPA calculations to exclude one poor grade.

Chair noted that a proposal for changes in Photography has been distributed, which will include digital photography, and there is a process for changes that include monetization plans.

Chair noted that there are six weeks for faculty senate to consider SAPPs and proposed a new structure for how Faculty Senate considers SAPPs, noting that for the most part the Faculty

Senate should be focused on the areas where it has specific authority to decide/determine things. Sponsored projects SAP that was considered last year will likely be brought before only executive committee. Research misconduct will likely be returning for final consideration by the full Faculty Senate. Chair noted that Harassment/Discrimination SAP is likely coming before Faculty Senate. Security and International Collaboration is coming. Drone policy still needs to be determined. Chair noted that the Website Accommodation/Digital Access needs to be brought back before the executive committee.

Chair noted that there is a Shared Governance exercise he would like to work through with the Executive Committee over the coming weeks. Chair further requested of Adrienne Freng that the administration and faculty senate begin to have the conversation about what “good” shared governance looks like here at the University of Wyoming. The Executive Committee and Adrienne Freng discussed shared governance, including various models for shared governance and which and what and how should be deployed at the University. The Executive Committee discussed shared governance for a considerable amount of time.

Chair-Elect McElroy, posed a question about mechanisms for complaints to be received by Faculty Senate.

Chair noted that the College of Engineering and Physical Sciences might be undertaking a search for a new Dean.

Motion to adjourn at 2:21pm.