Faculty Senate
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Faculty Senate - Executive Committee
Minutes
Monday, October 19, 2026

Attendance: Rob Godby (*Chair)*, Tiger Robison (*Member-at-Large),* Clifford Marks (*Secretary)*, Brandon McElroy (*Chair-Elect),* Rudi Michalak (*Member-at-Large),* Jordan Hemingway (*Member-at-Large)*

Members Absent: Jonathan Carrier (*Member-at-Large)*, Barbara Hickman (*Member-at-Large)*, Jake Hawes (*Member-at-Large)*

Guests Present: Adrienne Freng (*Vice-Provost – Academic Affairs*), Mandy Gifford (*Chief of Staff to the Provost*)

The meeting was called to order at 12:30pm.
A motion was called to approve the agenda; seconded and approved.
A motion was called to approve the minutes of October 5th, 2026; seconded and approved.

Chair's Report

Chair requested an update from Adrienne Freng regarding the Academic Freedom Complaint process. Adrienne provided an update noting that the process is beginning to integrate the feedback of committees, and she anticipates working with Casey Frome regarding specific process requirements; a goal of presenting the process to the Faculty Senate during the Spring has been soft-locked.

Godby noted that the conversations around Low Producing Programs (LPP), and the work of the Academic Planning Committee (APC), have begun to face some challenges in formalizing the committee for LPP SAP review. Chair Godby noted that he is working with Jared Studyvin regarding membership of that Low Producing Programs Committee for the SAP review. Godby discussed that some confusion exists, as intention was to have an inclusive LPP, including deans and other appropriate administrators. Chair-Elect McElroy noted that Michelle Hillaire represented the administration at the first meeting and noted that Jared Studyvin was tasked with chairing the LPP SAP Review. Studyvin has requested a formal charge from the Faculty Senate.

The Chair requested and received updates on committees from various members of the executive committee, and the coordinator.

Godby made a note to make a request to the broader Faculty Senate for faculty willing to stand for the Faculty Dispute Resolution Panel.

He then stated that there is a need for 3 members for the honorary degree committee, which is usually handled by the Faculty Recognition Committee. Mandy Gifford added that the time commitments for the Honorary Degree Committee will include a meeting in November, and approximately 3 hours between November and January. Chair-elect McElroy volunteered to fill a spot.

It was then discussed that the search for a new Provost was recently announced; Chair-elect McElroy agreed to represent the faculty on the search committee, as he would be one working with the new Provost when s/he begins their term next academic year.

The Chair announced a "meet the candidate" event, from 5pm – 8pm, on October 28th, being sponsored by Staff Senate and the ASUW. Brandon McElroy agreed to serve as the Faculty Senate representative.

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The Chair noted that there are three nominations for the Faculty Senate speaker series, and that the work on those presentations is proceeding.

Chair Godby noted that the "Footnote 9" working group has been meeting since the summer began; the committee is charged with identifying additional savings in UW's budget. Godby emphatically stated that the current list includes things like low-producing programs, but that the list only included suggestions and not actual plans to eliminate programs or areas. They have delivered the list to the Trustees, who will hold an open session to discuss it. The footnote requires that the Trustees report back to the legislature. Godby reiterated that the list is not a finalized "cut list", and that these programs and areas are not "slated for execution."

The Chair provided an update on Boodle Box, and the Executive Committee discussed the recent presentation by the Boodle Box CEO.

The Chair discussed the failure over the weekend of the link to WyoCourses. He noted that had the problem been an actual cyber-incident, it might be worth having a discussion regarding a new policy that encourages some thought and consideration in the event of such failures.

Other Business

Godby stated that there are only 3 more meetings for Faculty Senate for the remainder of the Fall Semester.

The Executive Committee formally adopted the agenda for the Faculty Senate meeting later this afternoon.

The Executive Committee then turned to a discussion regarding University Regulation 2-109. Godby discussed that there will be a resolution introduced this evening to the Faculty Senate, requesting feedback regarding the resolution. The executive committee discussed some of that feedback. Included in the discussion was a concern regarding the proposed Academic Amnesty, but Godby pointed out that Academic Amnesty had been removed from 2-109, as it did not involve students academic progress. He then advised that the current proposal grants an extra semester for the Academic Notice considerations, thus providing students with a longer runway before being placed on academic probation; this allows more interventions to help students raise their GPA to assist them in pulling themselves above a 2.00 GPA. The Office of Student Life has informed FS that if a student gets placed in Probation after their first semester, that too often leads them to leave UW.

The Executive Committee then discussed the Space Allocation Resolution. Godby noted that there was some feedback regarding the proposed resolution, including several suggestions that requested stronger language, aimed at explicitly addressing stakeholder inclusivity and shared governance issues.

The Executive Committee then discussed the lingering Photography SAP, with the chair providing a synopsis of what previous discussions had included (specifically income potential, influencer-related or social media related issues). Godby reported that there was limited feedback. Because this is an operational SAP, the SAP will not be brought to the full faculty senate. No concerns were noted regarding the SAP as proposed, although it was noted from previous conversations we had a question regarding how social media photography could/would be included in the SAP. Godby noted we would pass on the comment and approval routing to General Counsel consistent with SAP and Regulation procedures put in place in summer 2026.

UNIVERSITY OF WYOMING

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The Executive Committee then turned to discussion of outstanding SAP's: the Sponsored Programs (Receivables/Write-Offs) SAP, Aeriel Drones SAP, Regulation 6-4, use of university grounds and equipment SAP. ASUW has had several plebiscites to get "tasers" removed from the prohibited weapons on campus. The logic is that since people can carry guns on campus, there is a self-defense argument for people carrying tasers. Chair Godby asked if the executive committee had any commentary or issues that needed to be raised with the proposal. A motion was made that the Faculty Senate has no further comments on 6-4 and the proposed SAP. The Motion was seconded and approved. Godby noted he would also forward this to General Counsel.

The Executive Committee then turned to consideration of "Responding to Allegations of Research Misconduct". Godby noted that the proposed SAP has been discussed and approved by the Research Committee. He then noted that the SAP could be brought before the full Senate. MAL Rudi Michalak agreed to serve as the executive committee's liaison to investigate the proposed policy language. Godby then provided an update on the international collaboration procedures, changes which have been approved by the respective committees.

The Executive Committee then turned to consideration of the Website Accessibility Policy, which has been reviewed by the Student Interaction Committee; this to how UW will implement this policy, as the federal requirements become operational in April 2027. The Provost's office promptly needs this SAP.

The revisions to Title IX policy are also under review. The FASRRC committee is reviewing several policies; a report from FASRRC Chair Casey Frome will soon follow.

Chair Godby revisited last year's missing legislation, lost by former Secretary Alvarado, continues to progress in reconstitution, but that specific issues remain related to Graduate Committee.

A motion to adjourn was made at 2:30pm; it was seconded and approved.

The Executive Committee then went into executive session.