

# Faculty Senate of the University of Wyoming

## Meeting Minutes

**Date:** November 3, 2025

**Time:** 3:15–5:15 p.m.

**Location:** Wyoming Union Senate Chambers and via Zoom

**Zoom Link:** <https://uwyo.zoom.us/j/98709249401>

**To:** Members of the Faculty Senate

**From:** Ashley Hope Carlisle, MAL/Senator, Faculty Senate

**Absent members:** Hazim Abass, Vladimir Alvarado, Nathan Clements, Tony Denzer, Shawn Griffiths, Renee Laegrid, Lydia Nganga, Fabian Nippgen, Crystal Sieger, William Todd, Jason Toohey

**Guests Present:** Jenna Martin (General counsel Office), Dave Bagley (Academic Affairs), Kami Danaei (SER), Minou Rabiei (Petroleum Engineering)

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## I. Call to Order

- Roll call conducted.
  - **Approval of Agenda:**  
Motion to suspend the rules (to consider an item not introduced a week in advance) was **moved by Senator Barks and seconded by Senator Roberts.**
    - Motion approved with no opposition.
    - Agenda amended to include **Item 8** (new program introduction from SER/CEPS).
    - Vote to approve amended agenda: **Passed unanimously.**
  - **Approval of Minutes (October 20, 2025):**  
Motion to approve by **Senator Cawley**, seconded by **Senator Jarmen.**
    - Discussion: Senator Martin (re: Human Trafficking SAP) clarified that *Good Samaritan* language will be removed and addressed separately.
    - Minutes approved as corrected.
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## II. Reports

### Chair's Report – Rob Godby

- **Presidential Search:**
  - Officially announced today via press release.

- **Timeline:**
  - December: Committee meets for status update.
  - January: Review of applications.
  - February: Two meetings for initial cuts and first-round virtual interviews.
  - March: On-campus finalist visits;
  - Trustees conduct interviews late March–early April.
- Trustees will make the final selection. President Seidel steps down June 30, 2026.
- Members encouraged to forward qualified candidates to **Parker Executive Search** or the **UW Presidential Search webpage**.
- **Shared Governance Committee:**
  - Draft report nearing completion; to be presented to Trustees **Nov. 19–21** before Thanksgiving.
  - Faculty Senate will receive the draft **at the Nov. 17 meeting**.
  - The report identifies next steps to realign governance processes rather than prescriptive actions.
- **Academic Integrity, AI, and Student Probation Discussion:**
  - Meeting held with **Michelle Hillaire** regarding AI-related academic dishonesty and probation processes.
  - Discussion centered on creating campus-wide faculty resources addressing AI in pedagogy and assessment.
  - Key comments:
    - *Sen. Anderson*: AI is inaccurate in fields like medieval history.
    - *Chair Godby*: Faculty must engage in ongoing discussion; adaptation will vary by discipline.
    - *Provost Turpen*: A committee is addressing faculty use of AI.
    - *Sen. McCoy*: Concerned about pace of technological change and reliance on volunteer committees.
    - *Sen. Bialostok*: Parallels drawn to calculator introduction; AI may prompt reassessment of assignments.
    - Consensus: AI literacy and ethical use must become part of UW's educational goals.
- **Retiree Microsoft Access:**
  - Some retirees lost access to Microsoft tools. The administration and **Amy McLaughlin** (VPIT) are aware and working toward resolution. Senate encouraged to share affected names.
- **ASUW Report – ASUW Senator Dillon:**
  - ASUW passed SER accreditation certificate.
  - DIA shuttle service launch pending.
  - Hathaway Scholarship expansion resolution enters first reading this week.
- **Staff Senate:**
  - No representative present.
- **General Announcements:**
  - **Faculty Conciliator and Dispute Resolution Panel** nominations open per [University Regulation 2-2](#).
  - Three conciliators are needed; position pays **\$3,000 per semester**. Currently one nominee.

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### III. Discussion: Joint Faculty/Staff Senate Themes and Next Steps

#### Four themes identified:

1. **Community and Belonging** – fostering engagement and inclusion.
2. **Work Environment and Well-being** – morale, job satisfaction, mental health.
3. **Institutional Impact** – improving student outcomes, process efficiency, website usability, parking, etc.
4. **Communication and Collaboration** – improving transparency, combating misperceptions, and aligning shared mission.

**Additional proposed theme:** Institutional transparency and shared governance.

Concerns were raised about Title IX processes, retaliation, uneven enforcement, and a perception that UW adheres to the *letter* rather than the *spirit* of the law.

#### Next Steps:

- Shared Governance Committee to present report to Faculty Senate, Staff Senate, and Cabinet this week.
- Campus-wide survey for input forthcoming.
- Emphasis placed on **inclusivity over speed** in implementation.

#### Senate Discussion Highlights:

- *Sen. Tabler*: Multiple committees addressing similar issues—need consolidation to reduce fatigue.
- *Sen. Perkins*: Committees should analyze data to streamline communication and engagement.
- *Sen. Okopodu*: Suggests using “Poll Everywhere” for brief anonymous surveys.
- *Sen. McElroy*: Urged faculty to remain focused on the University’s mission and shared purpose.
- *Chair Godby*: Mission statement has shifted over time; Senate should reexamine its evolution and implications.

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### IV. Resolution 496: UW Regulation 6-4 – Demonstrations on University Grounds

- Postponed pending clarification from the **Office of General Counsel (OGC)**.

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## V. Resolution 497: Anti-Human Trafficking and Forced Labor SAP (Updated)

- Presented by **Council Member Martin**.
- Revision incorporates federal compliance requirements and removes *Good Samaritan* language (will appear in a separate SAP).
- **Motion:** Senator Fertig moved to delete last sentence of Section E (Part 3), seconded by Senator Robison.
- Motion **passed**.
- Resolution **passed as amended (1 opposed)** and will include clarifying language regarding transportation obligations before transmittal.

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## VI. Resolution 498: Student Death Notification Protocol

- Clarifies notification procedures to the campus community.
- Amendment: Section 3 (bottom of page 1) revised to specify “**generally within 48 hours.**”
- Motion to amend by **Sen. Cawley**, seconded by **Sen. Fertig**.
- Amendment and final resolution **passed unanimously**.

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## VII. Resolution 499: Unmanned Aerial Systems (Drone) Policy

- Postponed pending clarification from OGC.

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## VIII. Resolution 500: SER/CEPS Subsurface Energy Certificate Program Proposal

- Introduction only; full consideration at next meeting.
  - Short introduction of purpose and need by Kami Danaei (SER) and Minou Rabiei (PETE)
  - Designed for non-engineering majors (Energy Resources and SER collaboration).
  - Addresses workforce needs despite national enrollment decline in energy programs.
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## **IX. New Business / Other Items**

- **StartRight Textbook Program:**
    - Concerns raised regarding lack of transparency and student opt-out difficulties.
    - Faculty reported confusion over eBook licenses (180-day limits) and late notifications.
    - Bookstore Director Misty will be invited to address the Senate.
  - **Staff Representation on Presidential Search Committee:**
    - Senators expressed disappointment that staff are not included as voting members.
    - Chair Godby noted that the Board of Trustees determines membership; Faculty and Staff Senates are consulted but not guaranteed representation.
    - Senators emphasized the need for inclusive participation in future searches.
  - **Drone Policy:**
    - College of Agriculture submitted a formal response. Members should send additional feedback to Chair Godby and OGC.
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## **X. Adjournment**

Motion to adjourn approved.

## **XI. Executive Session (Closed)**