

Faculty Senate 323 Merica Hall Dept. 3961 1000 E. University Avenue Laramie, WY 82071 (307) 766-5438 | fax (307) 766-5347

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## **Faculty Senate**

Minutes Monday, November 17, 2025

A regular meeting of the University of Wyoming Faculty Senate was called to order at 3:15pm on Monday November 17<sup>th</sup>, 2025, in the Senate Chambers of the Wyoming Union. Some Faculty Senate members and guests appeared via Zoom.

**Members Absent:** Joe Biasi, Mary Beth Brown, Hugo Da Costa Santos, Shawn Griffiths, Jordan Hemmingway, Renee Laegreid, Becky Linn, Brandon McElroy, Elizabeth Minton, George Mocsary, Lydia Nganga, Fabian Nippgen, Camelia Okpodu, Stefan Rahimi, Crystal Sieger, William Todd, Jason Toohey, Samantha Vandermeade.

**Guests Present:** David Bagley (*Vice Provost – Academic Affairs*)

Secretary Alvardo called the roll, and a quorum was present.

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

## **Chair's Report**

Shared Governance Working Group will be presenting their final report to the Trustee's on this coming Friday in open session, and the initial report has been presented to both the President of the University and The Trustee's. Chair noted that it was not an essentially long report, but rather focused on higher-level discussion of the principles of shared governance and where failures have occurred at the University.

Chair Godby discussed the *Pumpkin Incident*, noting that the President of the University was not aware of the incident until Tuesday mid-afternoon because his staff did not inform him. It was further noted that this incident had not been the first instance of antisemitic commentary on campus, and other such incidents are under police investigation. Chair reported trying to bring several issues to the Presidents attention to stand-up for the broader campus community. The President has requested to address the Faculty Senate, and the particulars are being considered. Chair Godby reported that the President may be unaware about the depth of the concerns currently afflicting faculty. Senator Bialostok indicated that he has reported this incident to the Anti-Defamation League and been in communication since.

Chair Godby reported that the university lacks an Ombudsman since the last one resigned as of a few weeks ago.

Chair Godby announced the Faculty Senate Speaker Series Awardee's for the fall and winter semesters. He further noted that the initial difficulties seem to have been resolved in some of the committee.



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Chair Godby noted that the last meeting for the semester is on December 1<sup>st</sup>, and that the intention is to bring before the Senate members proposed changes to the Bylaws and the committee structures to promote efficiencies and streamline the work of the committees and make them more effective. Chair further noted that Senator Jennifer Tabler has resigned from the President's Access and Engagement Committee, and the chair called for interested parties to contact him.

Chair Godby called for further nominees for the Faculty Conciliator and the Faculty Dispute Resolution Panel.

## **Other Reports**

Gwen, Chief of Staff for ASUW, provided a report about the work of the Associated Students of the University of Wyoming working on draft legislation that the State Legislature may consider. Furthermore, ASUW is considering a resolution to support an increase to Graduate Assistant stipends. ASUW Chief of Staff took several questions from Faculty Senate.

No one from staff Senate was available to provide a report.

No one from the standing committee's was available to provide a report.

## **Other Business**

Resolution 499 and Resolution 496 are still being postponed pending further language clarifications.

It was announced, to general dismay, that General Counsel will not be providing any further SAPs for Faculty Senate's consideration for the rest of the year. Faculty Senate may continue to entertain matters it chooses too, but there will not be any provided for consideration from General Counsel.

Resolution 500, The Certificate for the Subsurface Energy, was brought to the floor for discussion. Resolution 500 was brought for a voice vote. The resolution was passed by a unanimous voice vote.

After taking a question, the *Prohibited Activities SAP* was brought up, which has to do with what kinds of funds can be used for what kind of activities, based on both Federal Executive Orders, and policy from those Orders. Faculty Senate discussed some of the actions being undertaken, including conferences affected by federal directives, funding restrictions on supporting certain organizations, and travel restrictions to conferences. Some of the guidelines around the restrictions were discussed. David Bagley provided some clarification and additional information regarding the *Prohibited Activities*.

Motion to adjourn at 4:05pm; seconded, carried.