

**FACULTY SENATE  
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE  
MINUTES**

September 23, 2024

**IN ATTENDANCE:**

**OFFICERS:** Ray Stuart Fertig III, *Chair*; Treva Sprout Ahrenholtz, *Secretary*; Rob Godby, *Chair-elect*; Vladimir Alvarado, Tiger Robison, Ashley Hope Carlisle and Gregg Cawley, *Members-at-Large*.

**Guests:** Jim Ahern, *Vice Provost and Dean of the School of Graduate Education*; Alex Kean, *Vice President for Budget and Financial Affairs*.

Chair Ray Fertig called the meeting of the Faculty Senate Executive Committee (FSE) to order at 12:04 pm.

The Chair called for a motion to approve the agenda for September 23; made seconded and carried. The Chair called for a motion to approve the minutes of September 16; made seconded and carried.

The Chair reported that the Board of Trustees would be holding a lunch from 12-1 on Thursday with the Faculty Executive Committee, as well as holding their regular meeting as scheduled from Wednesday until Friday. The Chair noted that he planned on attending.

The Chair reported that the President would be holding his town hall on October 10<sup>th</sup> from 2-3 PM rather than October 1<sup>st</sup>.

The Chair noted that Matt Griswold would be attending the next meeting of the Executive Committee to discuss Online enrollment programs.

The Chair noted that he had scheduled both Provost Carmen and Vice President for Governmental Affairs and Community Engagement Mike Smith to meet with the Senate in the coming weeks. The Chair asked for other suggestions for relevant parties to meet with the Committee and/or the Senate. The Committee discussed.

The Chair reported that the President would be attending that day's meeting of the Faculty Senate and encouraged the Committee to ask questions. The Chair noted that he personally wanted to ask for clarification regarding the President's desire to provide paid internships to students.

The Chair reported that the Board of Trustees would be discussing phased retirements plans for Faculty members and asked Vice President Kean for clarification. Vice President Kean explained that the Board of Trustees would be reviewing plans that had been used by peer institutions and

determining the viability of applying one such plan at the University of Wyoming. The Committee discussed.

The Chair asked if the Committee had concerns regarding the proposed SAP's that would be reviewed. The Committee discussed.

The Chair yielded the floor to Vice President Kean. Vice President Kean reported that the University had \$251,107,344 in the General University Operations that funded most of the University. Vice President Kean then explained that this was mostly provided by State distribution of funds. Vice President Kean then explained that the second largest source of funds was from Tuition and Fees, then elaborated that the majority of the second categories funds came from non-resident students by a 2-1 ratio.

Vice President Kean reported that the University had been able to increase the amount of investment income funding the University thanks to an increase in interest rates but noted that the increase was expected to be temporary.

Vice President Kean then explained the State budget model before explaining that the Governor had requested that the University decrease its requests for funding going forward. Vice President Kean then explained the State Government was frequently reevaluating its biennial budget due to changes in the prices of commodities, often leading to budget cuts. Vice President Kean then explained that the University is expected to compensate for budget shortfalls, and that this caused difficulty when trying to create a cohesive and centralized response to these budgets' cuts.

Vice President Kean reported that while he was not entirely convinced that a change to an RCM (Responsibility Center Management) system, which would distribute revenue based on a weighted formula for each recipient, would not necessarily solve this problem, he was convinced that such a change would be a positive step forward. The Committee discussed.

The Chair called for a motion to adjourn the Committee at 1:49 PM. Made, seconded, and carried.