



Faculty Senate

Minutes

Monday, February 24, 2025

A regular meeting of the University of Wyoming Faculty Senate was called to order at 3:16pm on February 24th, 2025, in the Family Room of the University of Wyoming Union. Some Faculty Senate members and guests appeared via Zoom.

Secretary Treva Sprout Ahrenholtz 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.

No member of ASUW was present to provide a report.

Senator Joe Baker from Staff Senate addressed the Faculty Senate. Of major concern to Staff Senate are salary, staff retention, parking, and access to facilities for the staff.

Chairs Report

Reminders: Next Faculty Senate Meeting 3/10/25. Faculty Town Hall 2/26/25. Spring Faculty Senate Speaker 3/11/25 in the East Yellowstone Ballroom.

Staff Town Hall provided feedback to Ed Seidel concerning proposed reorganization. Staff noted that they were frustrated by a lack of raises and no plan to build in small scheduled raises. Discussion of small benefits such as discounted memberships to Half-Acre. Chair noted that would be unlikely to be sufficient and would like to see our chief executive office advocating for all employees.

Risk Assessment will not include survey questions that concern culture during the internal audit.

Access and Engagement has completed review on University of Wyoming assets and websites, with 75% of programs being complete as well.

Concerning the Staff Reorganization update, Phase II is being piloted in student affairs and Interim Provost will be asking for volunteers from deans of other colleges to test out the program.

Chair provided updates regarding 2-2 process, and the modification of the mending process. Chair indicated that Ed Seidel did not consider this was a priority.

Chair addressed NIH indirect reduction of costs and asked for further clarification regarding numbers and impact of the change.

Committee Reports

Tiger Robison, Member-at-Large, addressed the Faculty Senate, as a member of the Access and Engagement Committee, regarding DEI programs and to ensure that there are no violations of protected classes here on Campus. Tiger further discussed the potential impact of potential



legislation being considered by the Wyoming Legislature. Senator Linn questioned Tiger Robison about the effect of legislation and whether certain phrases, words, or mentions need to be removed from curriculum.

Other Business

General Announcements: Faculty Senate is still taking nominations for the faculty senate executive committee. A slate of representatives will be presented at the next session of the faculty senate. For interested parties, the VP of IT search is on-going, and candidates are being finalized. Meetings on campus will be 3/7, 3/14 for candidates.

Interim VP Jen Chavez then addressed the senate regarding phishing and cyberattacks. Discussion of the leverage of AI tools, and the attacks and coordination are growing more and more sophisticated, including the duplication of voices and number spoofing. Discussion of some of the tools and methods for penetrating security measures ensued. Further discussion of some of the techniques being used by phishing including false QR codes, and sim-swaps with personal cellphones. Discussion of safeguards already in place, and recommendation to ‘trust but verify’ via the HelpDesk. Several questions were posed by various senate members to Interim Jen Chavez, who responded.

Discussion and Vote on Resolution 481 – “A Resolution in Support of Allowable Expenses SAPP”. Secretary Sprout-Ahrenholtz proposed several amendments to the existing SAPP. Included were implicit and explicit changes. Amendment was seconded; proposed changes were approved by Faculty Senate. Discussion of the SAPP followed approval of the amendment. Several questions were raised, and Chair Fertig answered questions where possible. An amendment was proposed by Senator Case to include language for “ground transportation: rental cars, ride share, and associated fuel costs” to the SAPP. Motion to approve the amendment was made, seconded. Proposed changes were approved and the motion carried. A final motion was made to approve the altered Resolution, seconded; carried and passed.

Discussion and Vote on Resolution 482 – “A Resolution in Support of Hiring International Personnel.” Discussion of the bill was had between senators and Chair Fertig. No amendments were offered. Motion to accept and approve the bill was made, seconded and carried.

Motion to Adjourn was made at 4:25p, seconded; carried.