



Staff Senate Monthly Report

Wednesday, September 11, 2024

UPCOMING EVENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

ADMINISTRATION REPORTS

President's Office – Chief of Staff Kelsey Kyne

- A. Pres Seidel will be hosting multiple events this fall for Staff:
 - a. State of the University Address
 - i. September 17th from 3:30-5:00 PM in the Union Ball Room
 - b. Coffee and conversation meeting and Town Hall
 - i. Coffee and Conversation – October 4th from 10:30-12:00 at Rendezvous Cafe
 - ii. Town Hall – October 22nd from 1:00-2:00 PM in the Union Family Room

Ombudsperson –

- A. Final candidate interviews will be held on October 1st - Sessions will be open to all campus

Academic Affairs –Chief of Staff Mandy Gifford

- A. VP search is ongoing.
- B. Model for the Next Generation University Study program will be rolling out.
 - a. Implementation timeline is Fall 2026.
 - b. Feedback will be collected this fall.
 - c. Faculty development and the approval process will be worked through all of next year.
- C. Provost Carmen would like help in identifying opportunities to make UW a safer place as he is the co-chair on the Campus Safety working group.
 - a. Not just physical hazards, but occupational safety, mental health safety and everything.
 - b. Email with any safety concern.

General Counsel

No representative

Office of Research & Economic Development - Deputy Vice President for Research Arundee Pradhan

- A. In active searches for licensing managers, and two pre-award specialists.
- B. New Research Development Office headed by Shauna McBride.
 - a. Assist faculty identify and apply for research grants.

Division of Operations – VP William Mai

- A. Projects are continuing to progress.
 - Law school is complete.
 - Roundabout at 15th and Willett is delayed and is expected to be open to traffic at the end of October.
 - The new dorms and the Union parking lot are anticipated to be open the end of August 2025.

Division of Budget and Finance

No representative

Human Resources – Ann Lyda

- A. New Director Samantha Wilson.
- B. Fair Labor Standards Act
 - a. Department of Labor has changed the salary threshold guidelines to the Fair Labor Standards Act which will impact several positions on campus.
 - b. There is a website to address many of the frequently asked questions:
<https://www.uwyo.edu/hr/classification-compensation/fair-labor-standards-act/index.html>
 - c. HR will be holding information sessions in the next couple of months for employees.

Government Affairs

No representative

Student Affairs – AVP Nicole Courtney

- A. State appropriation funds for mental health and wellness for students will also be used for staff and faculty.
 - a. Any employed who is in the EGI program, which is Cigna, will be qualified to apply for a health premium credit that will be used towards Half Acre gym membership if they take their Mental Health First Aid Training.
 - b. Those who took the Mental Health First Aid training previously will also qualify.
 - c. Up to 400 people will qualify this year and the discount will be \$20 off per month.
 - d. This is still a work in progress and Student Affairs and Campus Rec will inform everyone once the program is ready.

Staff Senate Resolution #249

- A. Senators discussed Staff Senate Resolution # 249 (Resolution) bringing up constituents concerns both for and against the resolution including safety, carriers, written permissions, other universities concealed weapon regulations, etc.
 - a. An amendment to strike certain paragraphs of the Resolution was discussed as well as adopting additional verbiage.
 - i. Revised Resolution may use verbiage such as to allow concealed carry-on campus only with a permit, except in sensitive areas. To obtain a concealed carry permit in Wyoming an individual must apply and satisfy requirements of Wyoming Statue 6-8-104 B,C, G. Sensitive areas to include, but not limited to athletic events not related to firearms, early childhood education centers, events or locations that serve alcohol, school zones, residential halls and campus housing, patient care facilities, including student health or mental health offices, laboratories, or locations with hazardous materials, board meetings, campus police department, private offices, or other locations not open.
 - b. A motion was made to table the vote of the proposed amendment so senators could reach out to their constituents.
 - i. Motion was seconded and passed.
 - ii. Senators voted on the first reading of Resolution #249 which was then read by Senator Jesse Grossinger, the author of the resolution.
 - iii. Second reading will be done during the October 2, 2024, meeting.

Staff Senate Committee Reports

A. President Comeau's Report:

- a. Will discuss staffs concerns to FLSA changes in Cabinet next week
- b. Staff Senate Office Associate Senior Job Posting closes September 16th
 - i. 8 applicants so far!
- c. Ombuds search is progressing with final candidates being interviewed in early October.
- d. Board of Trustees meeting is 9/25/2024 - 9/27/2024
- e. I was recently added to the UW Records and Historic Data working group
 - i. Group 1: Create an annual retention procedure for paper records and virtual paper equivalent records (e.g., Microsoft Word, Excel, PowerPoint, etc).

B. Green Dot Committee:

- a. After the successful sessions held at Saddle Up, the first full training of students will be September 14th 1:00-4:00 pm. No current faculty/staff trainings are planned.

C. Governance Committee:

- a. Governance Committee is working on completely revamping the Rules and Procedures to better serve Staff Senate. Senators are reminded to check the spreadsheet monthly to ensure all constituents are reached.

D. Recognition Committee

a. Recognition Committee

- i. Employee of the 2nd Quarter selected. The employee of the second quarter has been selected. Tom Musselman, an Office Associate in the School of Computing, is the awardee. We will be having a reception in October for Tom to recognize his achievement, please keep an eye out for an invitation to join us and congratulate Tom!
- ii. Employee of the 3rd Quarter nominations open NOW – Please watch the list serve, review the staff senate report, or go to the Staff Senate website for the link to nominate. With Employee of the 2nd quarter wrapping up, we are now launching Employee of the 3rd Quarter, it is active NOW. The link to nominate a staff member will go out in the Full Senate Report, sent on the list serve, and can also be found on Staff Senate's website. Nominations will close September 30th, 2024 at 5:00 pm.. Link for third quarter nominations can be found here: https://uwyo.sjc1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_0cak49UmxhDNT6e
- iii. Staff Recognition Day Update – We are still trying to hammer out a finalized ate, but our committee has selected the Arena Auditorium again for Staff Recognition Day 2025. Our committee has created a feedback survey that we would encourage all to complete so that we can hear what you have liked, disliked, and general comments about Staff Recognition Day. Please get those comments in by September 20th before 12:00pm. Link to Staff Recognition Day can be found here: https://uwyo.sjc1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_6hR5sCQsdDHEsFU
- iv. Tip of the Hat – A big thank you to Michala Drum for taking the lead on the tip of the hat initiative and getting this back up and running. Please go to Staff Senate's website and submit a "Tip of the Hat" for someone who has made your day better. They will be entered into a bi-weekly drawing for some fun prizes. Link for Tip of the hat nomination can be found here: <https://www.uwyo.edu/staffsenate/awards.html>

E. Holiday Market Committee

- a. The Holiday Market will take place on Friday, December 13th, 2024 - 9:00 AM – 5:00 PM at the UW Conference Center attached to the Hilton Garden Inn.

- i. Due to high demand of this event, The Holiday Market committee has created an application process for vendors to apply through Qualtrics. The link to apply to the holiday market will be included in the Staff Senate monthly report and does close September 20th @ 12:00 pm
- ii. Link to the holiday market application can be found here:
https://uwyo.sjc1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_5oiZZRnVvBoGD42

F. Campus Safety Committee

- a. First meeting for the Campus Safety Committee
- b. Meeting was to define what the goals of the committee are
- c. Three goals include, 1) Enhanced Coordination / Collaboration 2) Mitigation Strategies within Operations 3) Make UW safer for all stakeholders
- d. Committee wants to be proactive but for the time being will be reactive; need constituents to bring forth concerns for committee to discuss
- e. Most urgent concern
 - i. Students working in lab spaces are not wearing proper PPE Equipment
 - ii. Some workers in science lab spaces have been seen wearing sandals and shorts
 - iii. This has been corrected, students were reprimanded, but it's important for all staff senators to make constituents aware staff and students need to be wearing protective clothing in lab spaces
 - iv. Lab safety is a priority of President Seidel
- f. Secondary concern
 - i. Overall mental wellbeing of students
 - ii. Seeing the most medicated student body (raises concerns for wellbeing)
 - iii. Overall mental wellbeing of staff
 - iv. Concerns of burnout and fatigue