

Staff Senate Meeting Highlights

Date: August 6, 2025

Time: 3:15–4:00 PM

Location: Wyoming Union Chambers

Key Reports and Updates

Faculty Senate

- Chair Godby encouraged collaboration and welcomed concerns from Staff Senate about Faculty Senate.

President's Office

- UW is in a **presidential transition year**; Pres. Seidel remains committed through the end of the fiscal year.
- **State of the University Speech:** Sept. 16.
- Focus areas: student/faculty/staff success, campus culture, capital campaign, and legislative/community engagement.
- **Town halls** are being planned for campus constituents.
- No updates on vacant leadership positions but acknowledged as a priority.

General Counsel

- **Campus Priorities:** Enrollment growth, budget/resource shortfalls.
- **Policy work underway:**
 - Student Death
 - Protest Demonstration policy (in partnership with Free Speech Liaison)
 - Compliance with new state laws (e.g., Gun-Free Zones, “What is a Woman,” Compelled Speech)
 - Foreign Influence risk (FIRST committee)
 - Civil Rights cases: Kappa Kappa Gamma, The PhD Project
 - Updating nondiscrimination/harassment policies; case management system being developed.

- Upcoming policy updates to watch for:
 - Travel
 - Remote Work
 - Asbestos
 - Film
 - Direct Charges on Special Projects
- Question raised: Drone and tech compliance under Section 889—response pending.

Student Affairs

- Welcoming new Dean of Students **Tyler Crisman** to campus
- Preparing for **Saddle Up** (starting after Aug. 15 move-in).
- **Initial retention data** looks promising.
- Disability Support Services emphasized **staff referrals** and shared their **easy 3-step student registration process**. They also support **event accessibility (e.g., ASL interpreters)**.

Budget & Finance

- **Financial audit ongoing.**
- **Year-end reports due:** Aug. 19
- **Student Fee Book** updates expected mid-August.
- **9 budget exception requests** submitted—top priority: additional compensation.
- **Volunteers needed:** Move-in Day (Aug. 15)
 - [Business Enterprises: 2025 Move-In Volunteers](#)
- **Open House:** North Hall & Dining Hall, Aug. 8, 8:30–10:30 AM
- **Washakie Dining Hall:** No plans for space yet.

Human Resources

- I-9 form reminder: Ensure **Section 1 and 2 are complete**.
- Timely hiring and termination urged (esp. GA, temp lecturers, non-benefitted staff).

- **Laramie Rec Center discount:** Working to restore it.
- **New Employee Handbook:** Timeline TBD; staff input will be included.

Office of Community Engagement

- Gathering annual data on statewide outreach/service/teaching.
 - 20 faculty trained on integrating **community engagement into coursework**.
 - **Town-Gown Association** (UW, LCCC, City of Laramie, WyoTech) is addressing housing and other local issues.
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Senate Business

Resolution 252 (First Reading Passed)

- **Change to Staff Tuition Benefit:**
From “one class up to six credit hours” → to “up to six credit hours”
 - Would allow multiple smaller classes instead of being limited to a single class.

Senator Updates

- **Sen. Crayton:** Proposed survey on **impact of state grant defunding**. To be launched in Nov., results presented in March to Board of Trustees.
- **VP Marquez (via Proxy Sen. Castillo):** Planning to attend all ASUW/Faculty Senate meetings. If VP Marquez can’t attend, Sen. Castillo is willing to step in.. Materials Services **severely understaffed**.
- **Recognition Committee (Chair Conard):**
 - **Holiday Market:** Dec. 12
 - **Giving Day:** Oct. 23–24 (Theme: *Seize the Day, Light the Way!*)
 - Exploring **Homecoming Parade** participation.
- **Relations Committee (Chair Weber):**
 - Meetings: Last week of each month
 - Email staff relations concerns to: **cweber@uwyo.edu**
- **Safety Committee:**

- **Chemical hoarding** in labs identified (some from 1950s!)
 - Other safety areas well-covered
 - **Green Dot Committee:** Preparing for Saddle Up student orientations
 - **Shared Governance Committee:**
 - Committee winding down (final meeting Aug. 15)
 - Advocating continued education around the meaning and **value of shared governance**
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Public Comment

- **Sen. McCracken-Fletcher:** Promoted **Forge Laramie**—a community mapping activity for to pin areas of concern on a map of Laramie. [Laramie, WY: Forge Laramie](#)