

Full Staff Senate Report

Sept. 3, 2025

ASUW President Paula Medina

- Shared Governance: ASUW will send a representative to all Staff Senate meetings.
 - Funding Board Expansion: Creating opportunities for students to request funding for Conference & Competition Travel (logistics in progress).
 - Campus Initiatives:
 - Advocate for graduate student stipend increases
 - Expand tobacco & alcohol cessation training
 - Increase DIA shuttle funding
 - Additional projects coming soon
 - Legislative Focus: Advocating for Hathaway Scholarship increases.
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Faculty Senate Chair Robert Godby

- Joint Faculty/Staff/Admin Meeting:
 - Oct. 7, 3:30–5:00 pm, Union
 - Informal, with refreshments
 - Purpose: Build engagement between Senates
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President's Office Kelsey Klein, Chief of Staff

- Enrollment: 2,800 new students (freshmen, transfer, graduate); total ~10,800 (flat from last year).
- State of the University: Sept. 16, 3:30–5:00 pm, Union Ballroom, followed by social at Pokes Pub.
- Engagement Opportunities:
 - Coffee with President Seidel: Oct. 8, Nov. 7, 10:30–12, Buckinghorse Bakery
 - Oct. 30: Staff Town Hall
 - Dec. 8 (tentative): Holiday Open House, Gateway Center
- President's Final Year Goals:
 1. Strengthen foundations (facilities, staffing)
 2. Build culture & relationships (internal and external)
 3. Fundraising campaign
 4. Service to the state
- Other Updates:
 - Vice Provost of Access & Engagement position concluded (1-year role). Duties now covered by Martha McCoughey's working group.
 - Shepard Symposium: Now focused on social justice research & inquiry (not advocacy). Staff volunteers encouraged. [Volunteer - Shepard Symposium on Social Justice](#)
 - Leadership team expanded beyond VPs to include deans; minutes are public online: [UWLT Meeting Materials](#)
 - Searches:
 - Provost: Not started (Interim Provost Anne Alexander in place)
 - Dean of Computing: To begin soon

- VP of Student Affairs: Feedback survey ongoing for Interim VP Nycole Courtney

Academic Affairs – Vice Provost Bagley

- Transition year with four new interim leaders:
 - Provost Alexander
 - Dean Pepper (Graduate Education)
 - VP Dodd (Enrollment Management)
 - Dean DeDiego (UW Casper)
- 100 new faculty members; 70 attended orientation.
- Academic Affairs will be represented at every Staff Senate meeting.

General Counsel – VP Tara Evans

Communication on [2025 Legislation](#)

- [Campus Carry](#)
- [Support for International campus members](#)
- [Comprehensive overview of 2025 laws](#)
- [HB 147 & Prohibition of Institutional Discrimination](#)

Transparency Initiative: Online public records request system in development for easier access to institutional information.

Research & Economic Development – VP Parag Chitnis & Shelly Schneider

- Goals: Improve staff morale, support economic prosperity, advance innovation, and adapt to federal compliance changes.
- Funding Impact: Federal indirect cost rate on grants will drop from 45% → 15%, reducing funds that support operations, HR, and office staff.
- Town Hall: Sept. 9, 12–1 pm, Classroom Bldg 222 or via Zoom.
- Innovation Week (Sept. 4): Featured events include career forums, ART Ambassador workshops, networking, and fall program kickoff.

Government Affairs – VP Mike Smith

- Regulatory Reminders:
 - UniReg 1-4: UW employees may not speak on behalf of the institution.
 - UniReg 6-4: Campaign activity guidelines (may campaign in public spaces, Union rooms, or student clubs by invitation).

Student Affairs – Assistant VP Kate Case

- Saddle Up: Success this year; included suicide prevention training for the first time.
- Wellness in the West: Search ongoing, updates to come.
- Outdoor Program: Exploring solutions to equipment checkout challenges caused by Half Acre construction.

Budget & Finance – VP Alex Kean

- [Dining](#) Hall: Open to all; \$13.75 all-you-care-to-eat (multi-meal purchase discounts available).
- Budget Outlook:
 - FY26 revenue looks solid
 - Enrollment remains flat
 - New budget model in development to account for public/private funding sources and online course resource demands.

Human Resources – VP Bob Link

- Reminders:
 - Complete I-9s on time
 - Ensure staff/students are properly removed from WyoCloud when leaving positions
- Upcoming Events:
 - Online EGI Benefit Fair: Oct. 6–10 (watch party planned)
 - Benefit Fair: Nov. 6

Office of the Ombuds – Don Appiarius

- Ombuds Office provides:
 - Guidance on unclear procedures
 - Strategy coaching (including role-playing)
 - Advocacy for fair outcomes
 - Neutral, multi-partial support
 - Workshops & presentations
- Location: Knight 241 | ombuds@uwyo.edu | (307) 766-3459

Staff Senate Business

- Giving Day: “Battle of the Senates” challenge.
- Governance Committee (Sen. Baker): Brainstorming tools (e.g., templates) for senators to connect with constituents.
- Recognition Committee (Sen. Conard): Holiday Market – Dec. 12, 10 am–7 pm, UW Conference Center (release time of 1.5 hrs granted).
- Staff Relations Committee (Sen. Weber):
 - Addressing HR & General Counsel communication
 - Input on Employee Handbook revisions
 - Parking issues (availability, cost, safety)
 - FLSA exempt/non-exempt guidelines
 - Tuition waiver: 6 credits, no course limit
 - Staff AI training initiative: Secretary McGinley connecting with Alex Muthig for staff training opportunities especially for staff that do not normally work on computers in primary role.