



Staff Senate Monthly Report
Wednesday, August 5, 2026

PRESENTATIONS:

A. ASUW – President Kaiser & Vice President Elwood

- a. ASUW leadership introduced themselves and shared priorities for the year, including a paid internship model, Fraternity & Sorority Life, and the launch of the First-Year Senate.
- b. ASUW has hired an Internal Public Affairs representative who will attend Staff Senate meetings throughout the year to strengthen communication and collaboration between the two senates.
- c. Parking remains an area of interest, including accessible parking and opportunities for shared governance in parking-related decisions.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORTS:

A. Staff Senate President - Gwen Dailey

- a. President Dailey has accepted a position outside of the University of Wyoming. Staff Senate will hold an election for a new president in September.
- b. Interviews are underway for the Staff Senate Office Associate position.
- c. President Shane Reeves attended the Board of Trustees meeting and shared his vision for UW, with emphasis on student engagement, athletics, and university growth. The Board also approved the beginning of a capital campaign; additional information will be shared as available. Watch President Reeves presentation at the [University of Wyoming Board of Trustees July Regular Meeting on 7/14/26](#) (starting at 42:03)
- d. The [Footnote 9 Committee](#) continues to gather suggestions for areas where UW may identify efficiencies.
- e. The Staff Professional Development Grant is currently paused after FY26 funds were fully utilized. The opportunity is expected to reopen in the fall for the next fiscal year and is intended to help staff whose departments do not have professional development funds available.

B. Vice President – Jose Castillo

- a. No Report.

C. Treasurer – Beck Herman

- a. Working with the Member-at-Large to track senator committee assignments.

D. Secretary - Alicia Perez

- a. Updating attendance and committee assignments; senators should watch for additional information.

E. Member at Large – Tai Baker

- a. Senator Sciulli will no longer serve as Member at Large effective July 1st but will continue to be available during the onboarding process as needed.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

A. Governance Committee- Senator Kevin Chancellor

- a. Nominations for the upcoming Staff Senate presidential vacancy will open for two weeks. Senators may nominate themselves or another senator.
- b. Following nominations, nominees will be contacted to confirm interest. Candidates who accept will have an opportunity to speak to the Senate before a vote is held.
- c. The Senate is also considering temporary bylaw adjustments related to candidate eligibility and the length of the presidential term.

B. Staff Relations Committee - Senator Christopher Weber

- a. The committee identified several priorities for the year, including tuition waiver expansion, staff scholarships, transparency programming, Coffee & Conversations, artificial intelligence, parking, and review of the staff evaluation procedure.
- b. The committee plans to meet later this month to assign and advance these priority areas.

C. Staff Recognition Committee - Senator Jane Crayton

- a. The committee is seeking additional members to help with Staff Recognition activities.
- b. The Holiday Market is scheduled for November 16, 2026. Note the schedule change; this date is about 1 month earlier than previous years.
- c. Frankie Vogt is being celebrated as Employee of the Second Quarter. A recognition event is scheduled for Monday, August 31, from 10:00–11:30 a.m. in the Peabody Collaboration Room at the Energy Innovation Center.
CONGRATS FRANKIE!

LIAISON & CAMPUS UPDATES:

A. Parking Committee:

- a. Staff Senate is working to ensure active senator representation on the Parking Committee. Senators Dawn Tinney and Nickolas Beumer volunteered to support this work.

B. Public Art Committee:

- a. Three projects are currently underway: two at the Aquatic Center and one at the Buchanan Center. An additional proposal is expected to be presented to the Board of Trustees in September. Check out the [weekly construction report for August 14-20, 2026](#).

ADMINISTRATION REPORTS:

A. The Office of The President – Executive Vice President Sheetz

- a. EVP Sheetz introduced himself to Staff Senate and shared that his first months will focus on deliberately listening and learning about the campus community's goals, challenges, and opportunities, with a focus on excellence.
- b. When asked how Staff Senate can support him, he encouraged open and honest conversations and asked senators to help him learn about the University and staff experience.
- c. Staff Senate raised the possibility of a staff-focused town hall; EVP Sheetz indicated the idea could be well received.

B. Research and Economic Development Division (REDD)

- a. The [AI & HPC Summit](#) is scheduled for August 31–September 2, a three-day technology conference. This summit brings together faculty, researchers, students, AI developers, and technology leaders from across the Mountain West

to advance collaboration and innovation in Artificial Intelligence (AI) and High-Performance Computing (HPC).

C. Division of Budget and Finance

- a. The division is completing the year-end close and working with external auditors, a process that requires support and partnership across campus.
- b. The Board of Trustees Budget Committee was scheduled to review several funding items on August 6, including a \$18.6 million Block Grant Cost Adjustment, \$4 million in tuition and fee support for undergraduate students who are enrolled members of the Eastern Shoshone or Northern Arapaho Tribes, \$20 million in matching funds, and a capital construction request for the High Bay Research Facility.
- c. In collaboration with the Office of the President, a tuition survey will be distributed to current students, staff, faculty, and other campus stakeholders.

EVENTS & OPPORTUNITIES:

A. UW Move-In Volunteers Needed

- a. Move-in will take place Friday, August 21 and Saturday, August 22. Volunteers are needed to welcome students and families, assist with traffic flow, and support unloading areas.
- b. All volunteers must register individually because required training is part of the process. Departments, organizations, and other groups are welcome to volunteer together. Register and sign up here: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0E49A4AC2CA1FCC07-64638674-2026#/>

B. Tuition Waiver

- a. The University of Wyoming encourages benefited employees to make use of the opportunity to enroll in academic courses. Tuition and mandatory fees for one course up to 6 credit hours will be waived each semester. Fall 2026 semester begins August 31, 2026. Learn more about the tuition waiver here: <https://www.uwyo.edu/hr/employee-benefits/tuition-waiver.html>

C. Join Staff Senate

- a. Staff Senate plays an important role in ensuring that staff voices are *heard, included, and represented* in conversations that impact our campus community—from policies and workplace experience to communication and shared governance. We need more representation!!
- b. The following districts are currently *vacant*: District 2, 4, 6, 7, 9, 12, 13, 14, 18, 19, 21, 34, 37, and 38.
- c. See the attached ‘districts’ document to indicate which district you are affiliated with. Email Kevin Chancellor, Chair of the Governance Committee to learn more: kchancel@uwyo.edu

Respectfully submitted by Tai Baker, Interim Member-at-Large