



Office of Diversity,
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Dear Campus Community,

In the midst drying leaves on trees and flowers, fires, and smoke, reaching Phase 3 at the University of Wyoming feels like a breath of fresh air on a beautiful summer day to me. We now have the opportunity for eight weeks of face-to-face instruction and meetings. The University of Wyoming has reached a milestone this week during the pandemic. As we continue to maintain safety protocols, let us continue to remember those who are ill or recovering from COVID-19 and hold them in our hearts and minds.

There may be many other things in our hearts and minds during these unprecedented times, including all populations who have been disproportionately impacted by COVID-19 such as Black, Indigenous, Latinx, people of color, individuals with disabilities, older adults, and individuals experiencing food and housing insecurity. Asian and Asian American communities are also still experiencing racial harassment and discrimination because of how COVID-19 has been framed.

Also in our hearts and minds may be the fact that, in Laramie, Black Lives Matter protesters lined the streets for weeks, calling for an end to the type of policing in society that has a disparate impact on the lives of Black, Indigenous, Latinx, and people who may be experiencing mental health crises. Some of you may have participated in the protests here or in your hometowns. The protests are ongoing. These demonstrations stand as evidence that what happens in the nation and world affects us here in our campus community.

In the face of these unprecedented times, the University of Wyoming denounces racism, violence, sexual violence, antisemitism, homophobia, transphobia, sexism, ableism, nationality discrimination, religious discrimination, and other forms of disparate treatment, injustices, and inequities.

To support these values are classes, committees, conferences, councils, films, offices, performances, programs, speakers, symposiums, task forces, units, workshops, etc. that engage, educate, inspire, motivate to action, and provide professional development on topics of diversity, equity, inclusion, and social justice. They are available to the campus community regularly and often free of any cost. Excellent faculty, staff, and students across campus work together to make these events happen successfully. These opportunities expand our worldviews and provide us with the tools and confidence to interrupt, stop, and eliminate inequities, injustices, and violence from our communities and society regardless of our social identities or beliefs. Visit www.uwyo.edu/diversity, www.uwyo.edu/sjrc, and the websites of UW colleges, departments, and schools for information on opportunities available to you.

Education is what gives us hope and the ability to change the world where everyone can experience the physical and psychological safety that we need for social justice and to thrive as a united community and nation. Let us commit to emerging from these challenging times in solidarity, stronger, and better than ever before.

Sincerely,

Emily Monago
Chief Diversity Office
Office of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion