



UW MBA Executive Leadership Speaker Series – Governor Matt Mead

A strong emphasis throughout the MBA program at the University of Wyoming is placed on providing students with real-world experience. Throughout the year, the program hosts a Friday Leadership Speaker Series comprised of experienced business professionals and executives.

Steve Farkas, Director of the MBA program commented, "I encourage our guest speakers to share as much real-world experience with our students as possible. Speakers will share a variety of topics with students from industry trends, strategic challenges, management styles, career management, and networking."

On September 27th the MBA students travelled to Cheyenne, Wyo and had the privilege to meet with the Governor of Wyoming, Matt Mead.

The MBA's time with Governor Mead was less of a presentation and more of a question/answer forum creating a valuable learning environment. Questions ranged from energy in which Governor Mead shared a copy of his energy plan with each student, to federal regulations and the continued growth of Wyoming's economy.

Of her time with Governor Mead, MBA/Energy candidate Laurel Winkenwerder shared, "I was very pleased with Governor Mead's balanced strategic approach regarding Wyoming's energy development and production. He and his team are looking ahead and asking the right questions - chiefly, how can we make a difference and set the foundation for responsible energy development today and in the long term?"

"I was also very pleased with the Governor's focus on growing Wyoming's technology sector. He noted that for a rural, distributed population like Wyoming's, there is a huge value proposition in building out fiber to enable fast and efficient telecommuting, web-based education, and e-commerce."

Future public and private-sector leaders in University of Wyoming's MBA program experienced first hand what they can learn from the Governor's example of leadership. Governor Mead recognized the need to set a strong strategic tone at the top, to be led by science and technology, and to work with stakeholders to ensure that Wyoming is economically competitive, while maintaining responsible stewardship of Wyoming's vast natural resources.

“Apart from policies, which will forever lie on a continuum of what's right and wrong for a people, Governor Mead seemed to have a humility that struck me. I'm not looking for a perfect leader who knows everything. They do not exist. I can respect one, however, who reaches out for the best parts of others to create a whole that is bigger than him or herself. After meeting with the Governor, I believe this to be his goal in striving for the best in Wyoming,” Anna M. Bayert, MBA/PharmD Candidate.

To continue the Executive Leadership Speaker Series, this Friday the class will hear from Rita C. Meyer, former Wyoming state auditor and Joe Drew, Owner/President of Drew Auto Center in La Mesa, California.