Points to Ponder

In our regular Points to Ponder news feature, we bring you administrative updates that were shared with us during our monthly Staff Senate meeting.

Parking and Transportation Study
A preliminary report on the Parking and Transportation study was presented to numerous campus constituent groups during the week of February 11-15. Members of the campus community who missed the presentations can view the interim report by clicking here. Feedback and questions concerning the report can be sent to the campus Parking and Transportation Study Task Force via email to paul.kunkel@uwyo.edu.

Human Capital Management System
As you may know, the HCM module of WyoCloud went live on January 22nd. However, payroll and related information will be housed in HRMS until mid-April. For help on where to find information in the two systems, please check out this If/Then Document provided by the WyoCloud team.

Bachelor of General Studies
The University of Wyoming is considering adding a Bachelor of General Studies (BGS) degree to its offerings. This multidisciplinary program is what's known as a completion degree and will replace current distributed majors if approved.

A BGS program will include two focuses of study, chosen from departments across campus. These areas will include on campus and distance learning options, as available. Approximately 80,000 adults in Wyoming have some college but did not finish their degree for a myriad of reasons. This program will help non-traditional students, those returning to campus after interruptions to their studies, those with significant college credits, or those with interests not met by current degree programs finish those degrees.

For more information, please see the feasibility study that was recently presented to the Board of Trustees.
Ask A Question: Staff Survey

Staff Senate invites you to ask any question about the University of Wyoming or your employment here. We will do our best to discover the answers from the experts on campus and publish them (anonymously) in the staff newsletter. You can send questions to us at staffsen@uwyo.edu or use our survey form by clicking here.

Is Staff Senate going to release the results of the recent public and charitable assistance staff survey?

Staff Senate conducted a survey of all full-time staff employees in January 2019. In this survey we asked whether employees worked additional jobs and whether they utilize or have utilized public and charitable assistance while employed full time at UW. The results of this survey are now available and can be viewed in full by clicking here.

One outcome of the survey is that almost half (46%) of respondents report holding at least one job in addition to their full time employment at UW. Given the fact that staff salaries have failed to keep pace with the cost of living, this is not surprising. However, we feel that this should be of primary concern to UW administration.

The growing necessity for full-time UW staff to seek additional employment is an issue for morale, productivity, and work life balance, and it stands in direct conflict with the stated strategic goal of preserving, caring for, and developing the University’s human capital. Staff Senate will continue to address these issues with the administration, and will use these survey results to inform the conversation.

Scholarship Report

The UW Staff Scholarship was established by Staff Senate in 2017, and the first scholarships were awarded for the fall 2018 semester. During that semester we awarded five scholarships to eligible staff members. To read more about the fall 2018 recipients, click here.

The Senate determined that we had sufficient revenue from our endowment account to award eight scholarships for spring 2019. Once the eligibility of all applicants was confirmed, recipients were selected using a lottery process. The scholarship recipients for spring 2019 are Elizabeth Butkus, Alison Grendahl, Jennifer Heupel, John Holladay, Natellie Jenkins, Abbie Patik, Brandy Ralph, and Susan Schulz.

Congratulations to all our scholarship recipients!

Know Your Senator: James Wheeler

James Wheeler is currently Project Coordinator for ASUW. He has previously worked as an Admissions Representative at UW, and while he was a student he worked in the Meat Lab. While not at work, James enjoys hiking and traveling with his wife. He also enjoys woodworking and fly fishing.

In January 2019, James was elected to be Staff Senate president for 2019-2020. His term will begin July 1st.

Did You Know

Wyoming Conservation Corps has scheduled a number of dates for glass recycling in Laramie through the months of March and April. Check out the schedule below for more information.

- February 9th & 10th
  - Walmart parking lot
- March 2nd & 3rd
  - Walmart parking lot
- March 30th & 31st
  - Walmart parking lot
- April 20th
  - Walmart parking lot
  - From 10-2pm
- April 19th
  - Earth Day on Campus
  - At Simpsons Plaza
  - From 11-1pm