



Staff Newsletter

October 2019

A MESSAGE TO STAFF FROM ANNE ALEXANDER ON HLC ACCREDITATION:

Dear UW Staff,

As you probably know well by now, a team of 7 peer reviewers from the Higher Learning Commission (HLC) will visit UW November 18-19, 2019. They'll visit both our Laramie and Casper campuses, and will hold meetings with individuals and campus groups and may also talk with members of the campus community. The reviewers are people just like us from other institutions who are charged with learning about us. They'll learn about the things we want to improve, the things we're proud of, and our commitment to continuous improvement.

You can contribute to a positive accreditation outcome in several ways:

1. Review [UW's mission statement](#) and our current [strategic plan](#).
2. The UW Assurance Argument, which describes how UW is guided by its mission and meets the [HLC criteria](#) for accreditation, will be posted the week of Oct. 20 and we'll provide an executive summary so that you'll be able to familiarize yourself with our Argument.
3. Be available when the team is on campus. The formal schedule will be posted by early November.

Why this is important to UW – and to you? The HLC is only one of 7 regional accreditors in the US. As the U.S. Department of Education (USDE) developed financial aid

programs in the 20th century, it needed to ensure students were spending that aid at quality institutions rather than at diploma mills, so the USDE empowered 7 regional accreditors to make those assessments. So, while it's true that anyone can rent classroom space or put courses online and call it a college, only at regionally accredited institutions of higher education can students use federal financial aid resources. If a school loses its accreditation, it becomes ineligible to accept federal financial aid dollars and thus loses a primary source of revenue.

Besides federal financial aid, accreditation also makes it possible for UW to receive grants and scholarship funding from government agencies, foundations and other funders who typically only fund regionally accredited universities. Our students are also able to seek admission to graduate and professional programs that require applicants have a bachelor's degree from a regionally accredited college or university. In addition, a professional license in fields such as nursing or teaching usually requires a degree from a regionally accredited school.

Ultimately, regional accreditation provides public assurance about the quality of institutions, and it provides a mechanism for us to evaluate ourselves and to improve in areas where we need to.

- Anne Alexander

Associate Vice Provost for Undergraduate Education

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 UNIVERSITY
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DID YOU KNOW?

There are numerous discount opportunities available for UW Employees!

UW offers an Employee Discount Program to provide the opportunity for companies or service providers to offer discounts on their products or services to university employees. [Find more information here!](#)

LIAISON REPORTS

Athletics Planning Committee

- In the search process of hiring a mental health counselor.
- UW's drug-testing policy is very stringent and appreciated by most student-athletes.
- UW Athletics does not have a mandatory health insurance coverage policy as a lot of schools do, so treating non-sports injuries had put them over budget last year. In response, Sports Medicine's new policy will now only cover sports-related injuries.
- Athletics in final stages of a television legal rights contract which would expand exposure and drive revenue.
- SAAC (Student-Athlete Advisory Committee) is participating in Toys for Tots and will be collecting donations in late November/early December.
- E7220 will be collaborating with the "NO MORE" campaign during the Nevada game.

President's Engagement Council

- The Office of Engagement and Outreach is conducting a "road show" around the state. Full schedule: uwyo.edu/cowboys
- The Office of Engagement and Outreach will be taking point for women's suffrage celebrations.

Strategic Improvement Working Group

- Group working on getting onboarding and training of new employees consistent across campus and one tool would be utilizing the Employee Learn Center more effectively.

EMPLOYEE OF THE 3RD QUARTER



Lori Gonzales, Administrative Associate in the Global Engagement Office, has been selected as Employee of the Third Quarter. Lori worked in the legal field for 18 years before coming to UW in December of 2006 to work for the Outreach School. She held several positions in Outreach, lastly as Administrative Associate in the Dean's Office.

When the Outreach School closed in 2017, Lori was transferred to the new Global Engagement Office. "It was sad to see Outreach close, but I love my job in Global Engagement and I love coming to work every day. I work with amazing colleagues and working with the International students is very rewarding."



KNOW YOUR SENATOR

Christopher Stratton Custodial Services

A Laramie native born and raised, Christopher Stratton attended Laramie High School and graduated class of 1999. He attended the University of Wyoming and studied Theatre Arts. His first occupation at UW was with Information Technology fixing printers and networking in the server room at the old Ivinson building. He currently works in Custodial Services, approaching two years with his department. In his off time, he works for Landmark Event Staffing and loves working the games.



SAFE TREAT

The Center for Student Involvement and Leadership (CSIL) and Residence Life and Dining Services (RLDS) invite the community to join them for the annual Safe Treat at UW on Thursday, October 31 from 4-7pm. Children and their families can visit Washakie Dining Hall and walk around the Fraternity and Sorority community to collect candy, participate in fun and spooky activities, and grab a sweet snack and warm drink. Several parking locations are made available for this community event including at the Wyoming Union, Law School, and Corbett to name a few.



UPCOMING EVENTS

● Safe Treat

October 31st, 4 - 7PM
Washakie Dining Center & Fraternity and Sorority Row

● November Meeting

Wednesday, November 6th, 1:15PM
Senate Chambers in the Union

● Holiday Market

Friday, December 13th, 9AM - 4PM
Buchanan Center for the Performing Arts