



Staff Newsletter

April 2020

PHOTO CREDIT: STAFF SENATOR CATHY MOEN

COVID-19 RESOURCES

The University of Wyoming has set up an [email address](#) and a [website](#) that employees may use to find more information and updates on COVID-19, or to ask questions or voice concerns. Please do not hesitate to send an email to covid19@uwyo.edu if you think you are in a compromising or unhealthy situation and/or not getting support from your supervisor. Stay safe, practice social distancing, and be healthy!

[Visit UW’s official page for COVID-19 Communication](#)

FOOD INSECURITY TASK FORCE

Staff Senate was given a presentation during the March meeting by members of the Food Insecurity Task Force — Anna Savage, ASUW Director of Student Wellness and Sustainability, Associate Professor Christine Porter, and Staff Senate representative Susan Schulz. The task force is currently working on solutions for ending student food insecurity at the University of Wyoming as well as helping faculty and staff experiencing the same issue. Research found that 37% of individuals at UW experience food insecurity and Albany County has the highest rate of food insecurity in the state, partly due to the student population. Food shortages can impact academic performance and students are more likely to suffer from depression, anxiety, and poor physical health, which typically results in higher drop-out rates.

The presenters handed out a report on possible solutions that UW is considering, which include swipe-sharing options,

catering alerts, campus farmers’ markets, growing food on campus, and campus co-ops. ASUW has created [Resolution 2670](#) to address the issue and food cabinets are already beginning to appear on campus for food-insecure students or UW employees. Before the impact of COVID-19, food pantries were established in Corbett, Guthrie Honors House, Global Engagement, Haub School, Psychology Department, and Visual Arts Building. A [Food Share Cabinet Toolkit](#) was also shared for those who are interested in creating their own once operations return to normal.

The previous locations have been consolidated and there is now a food pantry available 24/7 in the east vestibule entrance of the Wyoming Union. [Learn more about utilizing or contributing to the current on-campus food pantry here.](#)

DID YOU KNOW?

Your benefits include an [Employee Assistance Program \(EAP\)](#), administered by [MINES and Associates?](#) This free service includes assistance in several areas including counseling, financial, and legal. There is also an extensive Personal Advantage toolkit featuring assessments, courses, calculators, and much more for a variety of areas – legal forms, auto loans, health conditions, and recipes, just to name a few. Any participation in this program and its services is confidential.

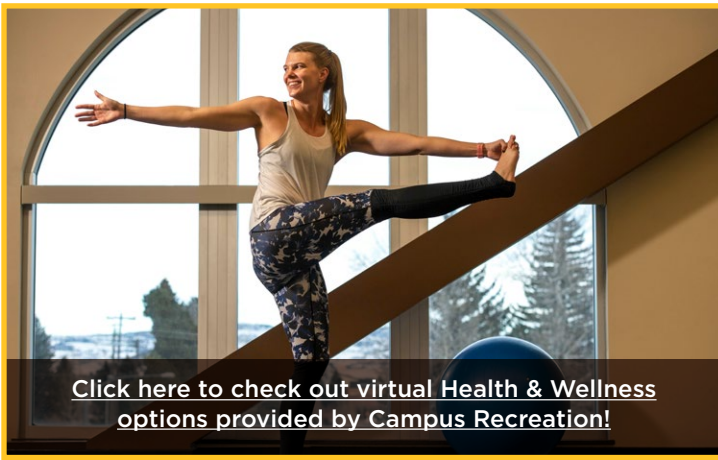
Check out the offerings or find more information on the [EAP website](#) or by calling 1-800-873-7138.

 uwyo.edu/staffsenate

 staffsen@uwyo.edu

 [@UWStaffSenate](https://www.facebook.com/UWStaffSenate)





EMPLOYEE OF THE QUARTER

Employee of the Second Quarter nominations are now open. [Fill out the form to nominate someone today!](#) Nominations are open until Friday, June 12th.

PERFORMANCE EVALUATIONS ARE DUE APRIL 30TH

Due to COVID-19 and with administration approval, Human Resources has extended the deadline for 2019 performance evaluations to April 30, 2020. It is encouraged that supervisors and employees still access and continue to complete evaluation tasks during this extended period of time.

For questions concerning the 2019 Performance Evaluation process please contact Human Resources at 766-5484 or email [Jesse Begin](#).

LIAISON REPORT

(Due to COVID-19 and a two-week spring break, most liaison committees didn't meet, met virtually, or simply shared documents with Staff Senate.)

Athletics Planning Committee

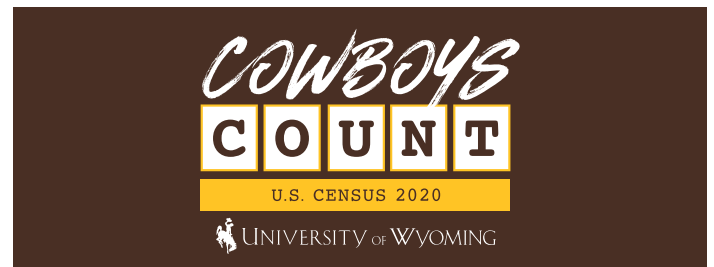
- UW student-athlete GSR (Graduation Success Rate) scores were high at 92% average.
- 22 fall student-athlete graduates (9 football players.)
- Ineligible and suspended students-athlete numbers were relatively low.
- Budget Report for FY 2019-2020 was presented. Athletics is over budget for several reasons, including men's basketball coaching changes, incentive pay to Coach Bohl for beating Power 5 team, and bowl game costs. The new television contract will pay out \$3.3 million vs. \$1.1 million last year, which will help cover deficits.
- Student-athlete ethnic minority numbers are difficult to confirm since many students do not answer the optional question about their ethnicity. APC will work with OTR on solutions.
- Katie Wille has been selected as the new Director of Student-Athlete Well-Being. Acting as a sexual assault advocate will be an important part of her job.

President's Engagement Council

- Discussion on creating a "Thriving Communities Initiative." Discussion is in the early stages and focused on what resources might be used and how to select a community.

Student Media Board

- [The Branding Iron](#) has continued to put out content and is working to enhance their web and social media presence.
- Created an [interactive map](#) to display reported cases of COVID-19 across the state of Wyoming.



HAVE YOU SUBMITTED YOUR RESPONSE TO THE 2020 CENSUS?

What might take you five minutes could significantly impact our community for the next decade. The Census is used to determine how federal funds and grants are distributed annually to public services. The Census can be completed online, visit 2020census.gov to get started!

Learn how the 2020 Census affects the UW community at uwyo.edu/cowboyscount.

UPCOMING EVENTS

● May Staff Senate Meeting

Wednesday, May 6th at 1:15 PM
Virtual meeting via Zoom