

# Staff Newsletter

August 2020

## TYLER KERR SELECTED AS EMPLOYEE OF THE SECOND QUARTER



Congratulations to Tyler Kerr, recipient of the Employee of the Second Quarter Award!

Kerr is the coordinator of the makerspace located in the new Engineering Education and Research Building (EERB). He came to UW in 2013 as a master's student in the Department of Geology and Geophysics. While pursuing his degree, he worked at the UW Geological Museum. After

graduating, he worked at the Coe Student Innovation Center before becoming the makerspace coordinator at the EERB.

In late March, Kerr spearheaded an effort to 3D print protective face masks and laser cut face shields for distribution to hospitals and physicians, as well as coordinating similar endeavors throughout Wyoming. He implemented specific policies and procedures in order to create a safe environment for a team of students who assisted with the fabrication of over 4,870 pieces of personal protective equipment (PPE) which were distributed to 43 medical centers and schools throughout the state. An EOQ nominator expressed their praise for Kerr's work ethic, "Tyler continually tweaks and improves the policy, procedures and safety standards for a diverse workshop-type of environment. Every time I have thought of some potential improvement, he is already on top of it." Another nominator shared that "he's made a huge contribution and positive impact, not just on the campus, but across the entire state. This needs to be recognized."

Reflecting on his team's efforts Kerr stated, "I think, more than anything, it has helped to highlight how resilient and unified the people of Wyoming truly are. I cannot imagine such a grassroots effort being as successful in any other state as it has been here." He also wanted to be sure to give his team of hard working student volunteers plenty of credit for their dedication and selflessness to the project.

A reception to honor Kerr's achievement will be held at a later date. [Read the full announcement here.](#) Tyler Kerr's efforts were also featured in a recent [Cowboy Coffee video.](#)

**Employee of the Third Quarter nominations are open. [Fill out the form to nominate someone today!](#) Nominations close Friday, September 11th.**

## STAFF SCHOLARSHIPS

Are you a classified staff member planning on taking a class at UW this semester? If so, Staff Senate is once again offering [scholarships](#) to a handful of staff to help cover costs. Submit an [application](#) (it's only three questions!) by August 17th.

## JOIN STAFF SENATE!

Are you interested in being more involved on campus? Advocating for UW Staff during times of important change? Participating in community service projects? Creating a stronger community and network? Then Staff Senate is for you! Contact Melanie Vigil at [mvigil8@uwyo.edu](mailto:mvigil8@uwyo.edu) or [staffsen@uwyo.edu](mailto:staffsen@uwyo.edu) for more information.

 [uwyo.edu/staffsenate](http://uwyo.edu/staffsenate)

 [staffsen@uwyo.edu](mailto:staffsen@uwyo.edu)

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



## HAVE YOU HEARD ABOUT GREEN DOT?



Over the course of the past year, the Dean of Students Office has been coordinating the implementation of a bystander intervention program called Green Dot. This nationally recognized program aims to give participants the tools and resources to measurably reduce rates of interpersonal violence on our campus. It's been found that most people will intervene or prevent an act of violence from occurring if they have the proper resources and skills to do so. This program uses the concept of Red Dots and Green Dots – Red Dots represent a moment when someone uses their words or actions to cause another person harm. Green Dots are when someone uses the “3 Ds” (direct, distract, and delegate) to make it less likely that a Red Dot occurs. This program aims to communicate that at the University of Wyoming:

1. Violence is not tolerated and,
2. Everyone is expected to do their part.

Faculty and staff all over campus play a critical role in this effort and are invited to attend a 60-75 minute overview training via Zoom. To date, over 300 staff, faculty, and administrators at UW have participated. Find a schedule of future trainings and reserve your spot at [uwyo.edu/greendot](http://uwyo.edu/greendot).

## ANONYMOUS FEEDBACK FORM

If you would like to share feedback about issues concerning UW's COVID-19 response, budget or policies, please use this [anonymous form](#) which serves as a way to voice your concerns to the Administration. If you have specific questions that need to be addressed directly, contact the relevant group or department. If you have questions about the COVID-19 policy or response contact the COVID Response Team at [covid19@uwyo.edu](mailto:covid19@uwyo.edu) or (307) 766-2683.

### GENERAL UPDATES

- [Transit and Parking](#) will resume full enforcement on August 24th, 2020.
- Announced in [this press release](#), the compressed academic schedule for the fall 2020 semester has necessitated that Labor Day, Sept. 7, be used as an instructional day – and not a paid holiday for employees.

### ● September Staff Senate Meeting

Wednesday, September 2nd at 1:15 PM  
Virtual meeting via Zoom

## KNOW YOUR SENATOR



### Debbie Allred

*Assistant Business Manager,  
UW Athletics Department*

Originally from Southern CA, Debbie moved to Las Vegas, NV in 1970 then to Laramie in 1982 with her husband. She and her husband have two sons (John and Ryan), born and raised in Laramie. She started her career at UW in 1996 working at Human Resources in class comp for 11 months before moving to the Athletics Business Office in 1997. She has worked in the Athletics department ever since. Hired as an Office Associate, she has worked her way up to Assistant Business Manager.

After previously serving two years on staff senate several years ago, Debbie joined staff senate again in July 2019. She joined staff senate to make connections in other departments and to have knowledge of the issues concerning staff. “I feel it's extremely important to know your counter parts in the other departments, to help each other and to know the issues that staff are facing. To make sure that all UW employees are aware of what is being discussed and what may be coming their way, good or bad.”

Debbie enjoys spending time with her family and close friends, camping, boating, and of course supporting all UW sporting events. “GO POKES!”



## COVID-19 RESPONSE RESOURCES

- Visit [UW's Official Page for COVID-19 Communication](#) for the most up to date information.
- [HR's COVID-19 Employee Resource Page](#)
  - [Employee COVID Concerning Behavior Reporting Form](#)
  - [Accommodations and Workplace Exceptions Information](#)
- Watch the recordings of the town hall events on August 3rd & 4th. [Town Hall for Students](#) | [Town Hall for Employees](#). For more details, the [slides for the Student Town Hall](#) are also available.
- [Request form for Expanded Family Medical Leave Act \(EFMLA\)](#)
- Complete your Return to Campus Employee Training by August 24th. The training can be found on the [Employee LearnCenter](#).