



Staff Newsletter

September 2020

BUDGET REDUCTION WORKING GROUP

During a recent Board of Trustees meeting the Board approved the creation of a budget reduction plan within 45 days. The Budget Reduction Working Group (BRWG) that President Seidel charged earlier this summer will work during that time to develop a plan to reduce our budget by \$42.3 million dollars for the biennium (\$21 million+ per year). The BRWG includes multiple subcommittees and members from a variety of groups and divisions across campus. The group will be hosting a series of listening sessions in the coming weeks which will be announced soon via Institutional Communications. Be on the lookout for your chance to provide input on this important process. The committee will then provide a preliminary report to President Seidel by mid-October, which will be further refined and presented to the BOT at their November 11-13 meeting.

President Seidel outlined his priorities to help guide the work of the BRWG. These priorities include being more:

- Digital – more open and accessible to rural students including a focus on community college collaboration; investments in computing, big data, and artificial intelligence
- Entrepreneurial – more ways to produce revenue, philanthropy, grant getting; training and encouraging spinoffs; community college collaboration
- Interdisciplinary – more integrated expertise, including student learning, addressing Wyoming problems (grand challenges effort), and international collaboration
- Inclusive – students, faculty and staff are well supported and welcomed, which leads to economic revival

At this point there are a wide range of ideas on the table for reducing the budget, but strategic approaches to cutting the budget will likely be prioritized.

In addition to the upcoming listening sessions, the BRWG is happy to accept [anonymous feedback](#). More information about this [working group and a list of BRWG members can be found online](#).



EMPLOYEE OF THE QUARTER NOMINATIONS

[Employee of the 4th Quarter Nominations](#) are now open! Fill out a [nomination form](#) today for your favorite staff member. Remember, each nominee needs **three separate nominations** to qualify. Nominations close December 4th.

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 or staffsen@uwyo.edu for more information.

 uwyo.edu/staffsenate

 staffsen@uwyo.edu

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



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MENTAL HEALTH & WELLNESS

Focusing on your mental health and wellness has never been more important. Please take note that there are many resources available through UW that may prove useful as we navigate these uncharted waters.

- UW offers an [Employee Assistance Program \(EAP\)](#) which provides benefited employees and their household with professional counseling. To access this resource, visit the [MINES and Associates website](#) or call 1-800-873-7138.
- [Cigna](#) has a selection of supplemental resources for emotional and physical health. [On the Cigna website](#), you will find curated articles on wellness topics such as stress management, healthy coping skills, and overcoming wellness obstacles.
- The [Wyoming on Wellness website](#), which is part of Cigna, has a variety of behavioral and physical wellness resources and incentives you can utilize.
- [Wyoming Health Fairs](#) has a variety of services such as Health Coaching, Wellness Challenges, Biometric Screenings, and low cost screenings. Some of their services are free and others might have a fee.
- [LinkedIn Learning](#) has specific trainings that can help managers with a wide variety of supervisory techniques in order to better assist their employees.

Learn about these options and more on [HR's COVID-19 Employee Resources website](#).

If you are in crisis and would like to talk, there is always someone waiting to listen:

- Laramie Suicide Prevention Hotline:
(307) 977-7777
- University After Hours Crisis Line:
(307) 766-8989
- National Suicide Prevention Lifeline:
1-800-273-8255



COVID-19 RESPONSE RESOURCES

- [UW's Official Page for COVID-19 Communication](#)
- [Employee Concerning Behavior Reporting Form](#)
- [Accommodations and Workplace Exceptions](#)
- [Request form for Expanded Family Medical Leave Act \(EFMLA\)](#)

● October Staff Senate Meeting

Wednesday, October 7th at 1:15 PM
Virtual meeting via Zoom
Meeting ID: 912 2618 1315

KNOW YOUR SENATOR



Katie Buell
*Assistant Director of
Community Development
(RLDS)*

Katie Buell grew up outside of Sheridan, WY and began her undergraduate education at the University of Wyoming in 2007. After graduating with two Bachelor's degrees, she attended graduate school at Michigan

State University, where she attained a Master's degree in Student Affairs Administration. After living and working in Nebraska and Washington state, Katie returned home to Wyoming in the summer of 2019 to begin her position as the Assistant Director of Community Development for Residence Life & Dining Services (RLDS).

Katie was confirmed to Staff Senate in September 2020. She was excited to get involved in Senate to represent RLDS and in order to be a stronger voice for staff at UW. She looks forward to helping represent staff as campus faces an unprecedented time. In her spare time, Katie enjoys going to the movies, reading, doing puzzles, and walking her French bulldog Polly.



UW FOOD SHARE PANTRY

The Dean of Students Office has partnered up with Laramie Interfaith, ASUW, the UW Food Security Task Force and UW Sustainability

Coalition to establish the [UW Food Share Pantry](#). This resource is open to all University of Wyoming students and employees. It is located in Knight Hall room 106, however it is currently operating as a curbside pick up service. Individuals who would like to access this resource may [fill out a request form](#) to select the type of items they need and to arrange for a pick up time. Instructions for ordering and pick up are provided on the form.

If you are interested in contributing items to the UW Food Share Pantry, a drop box for non-perishable items has been placed outside of the Dean of Students Office (room 128) in Knight Hall. Perishable, refrigerated or frozen foods are also accepted and may be dropped off during their hours of operation. Information on what items are needed most and other ways to help with this community effort can be found on the [UW Food Share Pantry website](#).

Current hours of operation and further details are listed on the website as well. You can stay up to date and learn more about a variety of Dean of Students Office initiatives by [following them on Instagram](#). Any questions about the UW Food Share Pantry may be directed to the Dean of Students Office at (307) 766-3296 or dos@uwyo.edu.