

**UW Alumni Association
Report to the Trustees
November 16, 2016**

Admissions Support Prospective Student Enrollment

Dr. Nichols has stressed that she wants the Association to prioritize prospective student advocacy and leverage this work through our board and alumni. Over the past few weeks, our directors on the UWAA board have made personal connections with the top 400 fall 2017 prospects, with over 250 of them applying to UW so far. We are excited about the results to date. Our board members have welcomed the opportunity to support this recruitment effort and have found the exercise to be a meaningful way to give back to the university. We will continue to work closely with our Office of Admissions to identify other projects in which we can marshal our alumni base to support UW's efforts to encourage more high school seniors and transfer students to attend UW.

Strategic Planning

Our leadership has been an integral part of an active fall on the UW campus playing a role in charting the future for the University. Tim Wilson, UWAA President-elect and I (ex-officio), were appointed to provide a voice for our alumni. We have attended multiple college, department/unit and topical listening sessions in preparation for the Strategic Planning Leadership Council meetings scheduled to begin soon. In addition, we are promoting the upcoming state-wide community discussions scheduled to begin on November 30th. We are appreciative of this opportunity to be active participants in this process.

The Alumni Association has begun the process of updating our strategic plan adopted in 2015 to ensure the priorities of the university are reflected within our plans and that our plans are closely linked with the university-wide effort to imagine the future for UW. The land grant mission of the University of Wyoming will be foundational as the strategic planning process moves forward. We will closely review our operating and funding structures and planned engagement activities to align the elements of our work more closely with the university's in order to generate expanded awareness of, engagement with and support for the university. Our board plans to solicit input from our alumni and members in early spring and finalize the plan at our April 2017 meeting. We expect broad participation from our alumni as we proceed toward implementation of the UWAA Strategic Plan by September 2017.

Fall Alumni Engagement and Network Activities

We worked hard to make this past fall one of the best times for alumni to reconnect and engage with the university. Our successful football season has opened several opportunities to meet and say hello to alumni throughout the country. Combining these events, Homecoming and other alumni activities, the Alumni Association has either hosted or collaborated with our UW partners to hold about 90 events and gatherings. We are extremely grateful to several of our alumni networks and volunteers who made this engagement possible. In particular, the following networks have been especially active this fall: Albany County, Salt Lake City, Seattle, New York City, Houston, Denver, Denver Law, Nursing Billings, Scottsbluff, and Fort Collins. Through activities such as watch parties for sports events, wine tastings, new graduate engagement programs, freshman welcome picnics, career networking and professional development gatherings and activities to support scholarships, our alumni networks have reinvigorated the passion for the university in these areas.

In addition to these activities, we supported five Wyoming Community gatherings for President Nichols, two corporate events with a major gift officer at Boeing in Seattle and Union Pacific in Omaha, the fall career fairs, the Family Weekend Pre-game lunch and President's Brunch and twelve Wyo-Gold student alumni association events.