

Graduate Education



DR. JAMES AHERN
VICE PROVOST & DEAN OF
GRADUATE EDUCATION

UNIVERSITY OF WYOMING OFFICIAL COVID-19 COMMUNICATION WEBSITE

A Note to Students

Dr. James Ahern, Vice Provost and Dean of the School of Graduate Education

This semester has been a big one for UW graduate education. On September 1, UW's Office of Graduate Education transformed into the School of Graduate Education, thus re-establishing a graduate school at the university (see page 3). I am grateful to the entire UW community for their support in this step forward. Most crucially, President Seidel's and Provost Carman's vision and encouragement helped make this happen.

On a more somber note, my heart and thoughts go out to the people of Iran and Ukraine. In Iran, protests in favor of social reform and freedom have been met by a crackdown by the government. Hundreds, if not thousands, of youth have been incarcerated and many have been killed. The ongoing war in Ukraine continues to claim the lives of thousands.

As a young graduate student in the early 1990s, my eyes were opened to the horrors of what most people had hoped would be Europe's last major conflict, the wars in the former Yugoslavia. Fomented by those spouting hatred, the Yugoslav Wars killed more than 125,000 and displaced approximately four million people. On my first visit in 1992, I was rocked by what confronted me: bombed buildings, heavily armed soldiers and refugees everywhere, and the ominous threat of MIGs flying overhead. I'm struck by how the turmoil in Iran and Ukraine is needlessly destroying the lives of the young, and what is happening in those places reminds me of the lost youth I met in the Balkans in the 1990s and later.

There was the graduate student who, having already witnessed horrific atrocities, had been forced to rejoin the army by an officer who threatened to draft his younger brother. There was the young man, not much older than me, who sat in the same place every day, reaching out with one hand for change and with the other to peel back the bandages to show his amputated leg. There was the fellow archaeologist, who ten years out from spending weeks under artillery bombardment, would scream in his sleep. These memories and others make me grieve for the young people caught up in the conflicts in Iran and Ukraine and in all conflicts.

Continue on your paths, knowing that you can and will make the world a better place.







University Resources

Mental Health

University Counseling Center (UCC)

Located in Knight Hall, the UCC is open Monday-Friday from 8 am- 5 pm. They offer short-term, **free** support for full-time students. Telehealth and in-person services are available. Visit the UCC for more!

WellSpring

Available to most in the university and the broader community. Services are **free**, and a variety of times are offered during the week. Visit the <u>Wellspring</u> website for more.

Psychology Center

Offering affordable services to the university and surrounding areas. Services include psychotherapy, assessment, and diagnostic clarification. Review the Psychology Center's page for more information.

Wellness

Wellness Center

Found in Half Acre, The Wellness Center offers many opportunities to destress and feel better, including:

- Puppy or kitten play dates
- Wellness and stress management groups
- Massage chairs
- Personal training

Half Acre

Offering something for everyone, Half Acre promotes physical wellness. **Bonus: Even brief exercise can improve mood, concentration, and sleep!**

Student Health Center

The Student Health Center offers a variety of services including a full-service pharmacy, treatment and support for a variety of illnesses and injuries and preventative care. To review more information view <u>Student Health's website</u>.

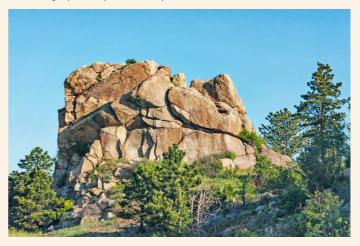


UW Food Share Pantry

The <u>UW Food Share</u> is open to anyone associated with the university. University of Wyoming, Knight Hall, Room 106.

Hours of Operation:

Monday and Thursday | 4:00 pm - 7:00 pm Saturday | 4:00 pm - 6:00 pm



Safe Project

SAFE Project offers free and confidential advocacy to students, staff, faculty, and the University of Wyoming survivors of domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking, and family violence. They can help with safety planning, campus and community referrals, academic support, support reporting to law enforcement and Title IX, protection orders, and more. The campus advocate, Dakota Metzger, can be found at Knight Hall 103 and can be reached either at campus@safeproject.org or 307-766-3434. Visit them on their webpage.

Student Ombudsperson

The Ombudsperson is a neutral, conflict resolution practitioner. The ombudsperson serves as a mediator between a student and faculty member and/or a department or administrator if the parties agree to mediation to resolve disputed facts and/or explore alternatives for resolution. Contact them at **stombuds@uwyo.edu** or visit the <u>Student</u> Ombudsperson website.

Social & Professional Development

Graduate Student Network (GSN)

This Registered Student Organization is focused on improving the professional and social aspects of being a graduate student. GSN activities include:

- Research-specific seminars and speakers
- Focus-group discussions
- Conference presentation feedback
- Social hours

For more information, visit their Facebook page.

Welcome to the School of Graduate Education

In May 2022, the Board of Trustees authorized the establishment of the School of Graduate Education. President Seidel, Provost Carman, Graduate Council, Academic Planning Committee, Faculty Senate, Deans' Council, ASUW, the Board of Trustees, and others have played an instrumental role in reestablishing a graduate school.

UW last had a graduate school in 2009. Despite well-intentioned efforts to continue to support graduate education through other administrative structures, it quickly became apparent that UW needed a proper graduate school. In 2015, Graduate Council and Faculty Senate recommended reestablishing a graduate school. In response, Academic Affairs began rebuilding centralized administrative support for graduate education, and in 2018 the Office of Graduate Education was formed.

The school, which opened on Thursday, Sept. 1, 2022, will continue to elevate the visibility of the university's advanced degree education mission and support its broad offering of more than 100 graduate programs and certificates.



"UW's commitment to graduate education is firm and long-standing," UW President Ed Seidel says. "Many of our ambitions as Wyoming's land-grant and flagship university hinge on high-performing graduate programs, and the School of Graduate Education will raise the visibility and presence of graduate education here, around the state, and across the higher education landscape."

Previously, all graduate program administrative functions were carried out by UW's Office of Graduate Education. The same functions performed by the Office of Graduate Education will continue under the School of Graduate Education. Those functions include strategic leadership and oversight of all UW graduate programs; allocation of graduate teaching assistantship funding; implementation and enforcement of graduate education policies and procedures; graduate student marketing and recruitment; and advocacy and support for graduate students.

Vice Provost for Graduate Education James Ahern will lead the School of Graduate Education and serve as both vice provost and dean of the graduate school.



"Vibrant graduate programs are essential to fulfilling the mission of a research university, and establishing the School of Graduate Education is a major milestone toward that end," Provost and Executive Vice President Kevin Carman says. "Vice Provost Ahern has been a tireless advocate for establishing the School of Graduate Education, and UW is in his debt bringing us to this important day."

"I am privileged to serve in the new graduate school dean role and continue to lead UW's graduate education efforts. Creation of a UW graduate school is a positive step forward," Ahern says. "I joined Academic Affairs in 2017 inspired by the Graduate Council's 2015 report and a subsequent Faculty Senate resolution in favor of re-establishing a graduate school. The broad support for a graduate school from across campus and beyond reflects the important role that UW has in offering high-quality advanced degrees and scholarships."



UW's School of Graduate Education is located at 100 E University Ave., Knight Hall, Room 250, Laramie WY, 82071. The main office can be reached at (307)766-6478 or graded@uwyo.edu.

Graduate Student Network

Written by Sarah-Anne Leverette, President 2022-2023

The Graduate Student Network is a student organization dedicated to providing social events for UW's graduate students. We aim to advance the potential of UW's graduate school through our outreach. We want UW's graduate students to connect for the purpose of building an inclusive and supportive community. In the 2022-2023 school year, we plan to provide on and off-campus events that allow graduate students to convene together and promote graduate education at UW.

Fall 2022 past events include the September Jimmy John's Meet and Greet on Prexy's Pasture and the October collaboration with UWYO's Outdoor Program morning hike at Curt Gowdy State Park.





In November, two events took place. The first event was a luncheon for UW's undergraduates who wanted to learn about UWYO Graduate programs; this event was cohosted with the School of Graduate Education. The second event was a graduate student Writing Retreat. The retreat was a day-long occasion to write in community with other graduate students who were drafting and revising theses, dissertations, or other projects. We offered a catered breakfast and lunch for the Writing Retreat.

Spring 2023 will bring more opportunities for graduate students to fellowship and convene. We are open to suggestions about events, and we welcome questions and comments from the UW community that can improve the graduate student experience and advance the potential of the University of Wyoming's Graduate School.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT THEM ON <u>FACEBOOK</u> OR SEND AN EMAIL TO GSN@UWYO.EDU

Historic Knight Hall

Constructed in 1941, Knight Hall was used as student housing until being converted into office space during the 1970s. During construction, several unmarked graves were unearthed. Following this discovery, construction was halted. Construction was delayed as the unknown bodies were transported to a nearby cemetery. As recently as 2004, another grave site was uncovered while construction crews began updating. This site appeared to be from a similar period as the sites found during the original construction.

There have been reports of unusual encounters in Knight Hall since its construction. .These sightings or sensations have been reported throughout the building. However, little is known about the graveyard and its encounters. It is believed they are somehow connected.

Knight Hall continues to act as a space for student services, including the School of Graduate Education, the University Counseling Center, Advising services, the Registrar, and many more student resources.

The content of this article was summarized from the Branding Iron's 2019 article, **Knight Hall History**.



Crisis Support

University Counseling Center- 307-766-2187 AFTER-HOURS CRISIS, call 307-766-8989

Laramie Suicide Prevention Hotline

Call or Text: 307-977-7777

National Suicide Prevention Lifeline

Call: 1-800-273-TALK

Crisis Text Line

Free 24/7 line: Text HELLO to 741-741

Important Dates

December 9 - Last Day of Fall Semester

December 10 - Commencement

For other important dates and deadlines, please refer to the <u>Registrar's Office</u> calendar/deadlines.





