WIND Advisory Committee
November 30, 2017
WIND Advisory Committee Function

1. Connect WIND to key individuals in the university and in the state who can assist in carrying out WIND’s education, research and service missions;

2. Help WIND expand its resource base;

3. Increase WIND’s visibility within the university and within the state to assist WIND in becoming more integrated in both;

4. Advise WIND on overall annual program goals; and

5. Increase disability awareness on campus and throughout the state.
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Meeting Details

The WIND Consumer Advisory Council Meeting, WIND Advisory Board Meeting, and public talk by Andrew Imparato will be in-person on Thursday, November 30, 2017 in the Boyd Conference Room, UW Gateway Center at 22nd & Grand Avenue in Laramie. These events will also be available through Zoom videoconferencing.

**Distance Connection:** To set up a free Zoom account:

- Go to www.zoom.us and enter your email address in the center of the screen
- Click on “Sign Up Free”
- The application will send you an E-mail to confirm your account set up
- Enter the **Meeting ID** as listed below:

**To join the meetings via an existing Zoom account:**

**Topic: WIND Consumer Advisory Council Meeting**
**Time: Nov 30, 2017 10:30 AM Mountain Time (US and Canada)**
Join from PC, Mac, Linux, iOS or Android: [https://uwyo.zoom.us/j/512193784](https://uwyo.zoom.us/j/512193784)
Or iPhone one-tap:
US: +16465588656,,512193784# or +16699006833,,512193784#
Or Telephone:
Dial (for higher quality, dial a number based on your current location):
US: +1 646 558 8656 or +1 669 900 6833
**Meeting ID: 512 193 784**

**Topic: WIND Advisory Board Meeting**
**Time: Nov 30, 2017 1:00 PM Mountain Time (US and Canada)**
Join from PC, Mac, Linux, iOS or Android: [https://uwyo.zoom.us/j/160999930](https://uwyo.zoom.us/j/160999930)
Or iPhone one-tap:
US: +16465588656,,160999930# or +16699006833,,160999930#
Or Telephone:
Dial (for higher quality, dial a number based on your current location):
US: +1 646 558 8656 or +1 669 900 6833
**Meeting ID: 160 999 930**

**Topic: Andrew Imparato Public Talk**
**Time: Nov 30, 2017 3:00 PM Mountain Time (US and Canada)**
Join from PC, Mac, Linux, iOS or Android: [https://uwyo.zoom.us/j/516547553](https://uwyo.zoom.us/j/516547553)
or iPhone one-tap:
US: +16699006833,,516547553# or +16465588656,,516547553#
Or Telephone:
Dial (for higher quality, dial a number based on your current location):
US: +1 669 900 6833 or +1 646 558 8656
**Meeting ID: 516 547 553**
12:00 p.m.  David Jones, Interim Dean, College of Health Sciences  
Welcome, Introductions, Lunch  
• WIND Consumer Advisory Council  
• WIND Advisory Committee  
• Andy Imparato, Executive Director, Association on University Centers on Disability  
• Keith and Joyce Miller  

Sandy Root-Elledge, Executive Director  
• Presentation, 2017 Keith A. Miller Award  
• Virginia Hicks, Laramie High School  

1:00 p.m.  David Jones, Interim Dean, College of Health Sciences  
• Call to Order, WIND Advisory Committee Meeting  
• Approval of agenda  
• Approval of meeting notes, April 2017  

Sandy Root-Elledge  
• Updates, Meeting Booklet Orientation  

Canyon Hardesty, Corey Jenkins  
• Wyoming Telehealth Network Presentation  

Member Updates, Roundtable  

David Jones  
• College of Health Sciences, Updates  
• University of Wyoming, Updates  

Core Function Coordinator Updates:  
• Eric Moody, Research and Evaluation  
• Michelle Jarman, Preservice Interdisciplinary Education Disability Studies  
• Canyon Hardesty, Preservice Interdisciplinary Education Utah Regional Leadership Education in Neurodevelopmental Disabilities  
• Betsy Bress, Information Dissemination  

2:30 p.m.  Adjourn  
2:40 p.m.  Photos - Building Lobby  
3:00 p.m.  Andrew Imparato, Public Talk  
4:30 p.m.  WIND Poster Gallery and Reception  

The next meeting: Tuesday, April 10, 2018 at 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.
Andrew Imparato is a disability rights lawyer and policy professional in government and advocacy roles. Imparato has worked for over 20 years with bipartisan policy makers to advance disability policy at the national level.
Approval of Meeting Notes
April 25, 2017

Wyoming Institute for Disabilities

Wyoming Institute for Disabilities (WIND) Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes
April 25, 2017· Boyd Conference Room, Gateway Center

WIND Advisory Committee Members and Guests Present
Aleyta Zimmerman, Project Coordinator, Governor’s Council on Developmental Disabilities
Bill McDonald, Advocate
Calob Taylor, Regional Director, Bridges of Wyoming
Caroline Harkin, Advocate
Julie Andrew, Advocate
Lee Grossman, Administrator, Wyoming Department of Health
Lori Regnier, Senior Program Administrator, Protection and Advocacy
Dr. Martin Agran, Professor, College of Education
Melissa Regnell, Parent Advocate
Richard Leslie, Executive Director, Wyoming Epilepsy Association
Samantha Andrew, Self-Advocate
Shannon Buller, Executive Director, Governor’s Council on Developmental Disabilities
Stephanie Hines (via Zoom), Advocate
Tonja Woods, Associate Dean, Professor, School of Pharmacy

WIND Faculty and Staff Present
Betsy Bress, Coordinator, Information Dissemination
Canyon Hardesty, Coordinator, Community Education
Dr. Eric Moody, Coordinator, Research and Evaluation
Kara Enyeart, Business Manager
Kyle Barger, Telecommunications Operator, Senior
Dr. Michelle Jarman, Professor, Disability Studies
Sandy Root-Elledge, Executive Director
Meeting Notes

Tonja Woods called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. and asked everyone to introduce themselves and provide any updates about their organization.

Review and Approve the Agenda

Shannon Buller made the motion to approve the agenda, Lee Grossman seconded. The committee voted to approve, and the motion passed.

Review of Minutes from the December 1, 2016 Meeting

Dr. Agran asked for a correction to a small error in the December minutes. Originally, they had stated that he was affiliated with the Wyoming Department of Education in the body of the minutes, and he is not. Dr. Woods asked for a motion to approve the change to these minutes. Dr. Agran made the motion to approve, Calob Taylor seconded the motion. The committee voted and the motion passed.

Meeting Booklet Orientation

Sandy Root-Elledge went over the booklet given to committee members, drawing attention to page 11 which detailed updates on the Consumer Advisory Council. She thanked everyone who is part of that group for helping move WIND forward. On page 15, she pointed out the Organizational Capability Statement that was created as part of WIND’s 5 Year Plan. Group members were invited to use that page as a reference to see WIND’s current programs and partnerships, as well as where WIND is receiving funding and where funding is being provided by WIND. A featured program at WIND is the Wyoming Telehealth Network.

Canyon shared that the benefit of WYTN (Wyoming Telehealth Network) is that it brings additional collaborations between WIND and faculty within the College of Health Sciences, allowing WIND to expand and enhance that work. It also helps others to receive grants in collaboration with Medicaid. Telehealth gives opportunities to highlight areas of service gaps, specifically for individuals with healthcare needs and disabilities throughout the state.

There are several appendices, and Sandy Root-Elledge pointed out that, in the booklet, the winner of the 2016 Keith A. Miller award went to Beth Miller Schieck, an advocate for the disabilities community. WIND has been collecting nominations for this year’s Keith A. Miller Award and will be meeting with potential winners in upcoming weeks.

Canyon added that the appendices of the booklet gives representation that WIND works in education, health, and in collaboration with other programs, such as the Wyoming Center on Aging. Also listed are collaborating partners. For example, Project ECHO provides infrastructure and fidelity to the model and helps support other entities in leveraging scarce resources and amplifying best practices. Canyon also talked about upcoming plans for future trainings as well as future ECHOs that WIND is currently facilitating in education and in health. ECHO in Assistive Technology is a collaboration with the Wyoming Department of Education and also relies on WIND staff.
Canyon also talked about WIND’s project, Mission: Redefined Wyoming, a marketing and outreach campaign that is a consortium for veterans’ activities. This program supports veterans with disabilities throughout the state. It started in Albany, Teton and Natrona counties to improve outcomes for veterans and veterans with disabilities throughout the state of Wyoming. WIND partners with local gyms and other entities to provide opportunities for participation in outdoor and recreation activities for veterans with the aim of improving inclusion opportunities. The program will hopefully be expanded further in the future to Laramie County and Sheridan County. WIND also works with a practicum student who will help WIND continue to work on this project and expand its reach.

Director’s Reports and Updates

Sandy Root-Elledge welcomed Lee Grossman and Melissa Regnell, who are joining as new Advisory Committee members. She thanked those leaving for their contributions and service: Dr. Joe Simpson, Dr. Sarah Axelson, Dr. William Gern, and Dr. Joseph Steiner, Dean of the College of Health Sciences and Committee Chair.

Sandy Root-Elledge congratulated Canyon Hardesty, who recently went through a promotion process. Her promotion has been approved at the college level, and she will be promoted to an Associate Lecturer. Sandy also congratulated Dr. Michelle Jarman on the recent publication of her book, Barriers and Belonging. This year was Dr. Jarman’s second year as Co-chair for the Shepard Symposium for Social Justice, which has become a nationally recognized event and organization for the good work it is doing. Sandy recognized Dr. Eric Moody, who served as the keynote speaker this year at the College of Health Sciences Grand Rounds Presentation.

Sandy Root-Elledge informed the group that she would attend a UCEDD Directors’ Retreat from April 19th through the 21st in Washington, D.C. This retreat will give information from a national perspective. Recently, there is a lot of talk about the unsure nature of funding, but Sandy said she has confidence that there is strong advocacy for people with disabilities and the funding for its programs. Issues in education are not yet being discussed in large part in the new administration, as it is focusing on other issues right now. Some topics expected to be addressed at the retreat include good discussions on top priorities, including potential cuts to Medicaid and how that could affect people with disabilities, home and community-based services quality, and education. Within education, the conversation should be focused specifically on education of individuals with developmental disabilities up to and including high school graduation, post-secondary education and employment. These collaborations are especially important right now; if going in with a narrow perspective, advocates are not likely to get far, so including the scope of developmental disabilities, aging, health and wellness is essential.

Going forward, Sandy would like to include this broader perspective within the WIND Advisory Committee while looking at partners who can be brought to the table as well as policy approaches. The focus of the group is on the state level, so a goal will be to communicate what the group is doing to legislators. State legislators need to be aware of what WIND is working on as advocates cultivate relationships to increase awareness about impacts on the population of people with developmental disabilities, who comprise one-sixth of the general population. Other goals include communicating evidence gleaned through research and case studies as opposed to being guided by passion only, and using technology for communication with staffers. The strengths of WIND being a University Center for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities (UCEDD) include the potential to be recognized as part of a powerful national network that serves as a bridge between universities and communities.
Upcoming health and human services priorities include looking at the following:

- Public health – particularly in respect to the Zika virus, childhood obesity, mental health, and substance abuse
- Emergency Preparedness
- Post-secondary education and employment
- Human Trafficking
- Education - particularly special education and early childhood education
- Office of the Inspector General – incident reporting related to home and community-based rules that are being set, how everything is being implemented
- Looking at funding and how changes impact lives

WIND 5-year Plan Review

Sandy Root-Elledge thanked everyone in the committee for their input for the 5-Year Plan and for the needs assessment, which was very comprehensive. This input helped WIND set priorities and provided goals on putting together both the plan and needs assessment.

Pre-Service, Interdisciplinary Education – URLEND

Canyon Hardesty talked about the URLEND (Utah Regional Leadership Education in Neurodevelopmental and Related Disabilities) program. Wyoming, Utah, North Dakota, Idaho and Montana all participate in this program on Friday afternoons via videoconferencing activities. As part of this program, long-term trainees participate in 300 hours of training, where they learn about a wide variety of topics, including policy, grant writing, genetics, public health and ethics. Participants are matched with a family with a child with a disability, and LEND works to ensure that these professionals have the knowledge and skills they need to provide services and have an increased understanding of that family perspective. Professionals join LEND, often through disability studies and studies in other areas (e.g. social work, healthcare and other disciplines). Some goals with respect to LEND within WIND’s 5-Year Plan are to diversify training, so they are looking at an option in the 50 to 299 hours of training range. This way, participants would be free to join in some discussions as well as practicums at various locations, allowing students and participants to see larger systems on a medium-term training basis. Trainees in this program are assigned based in part on a survey done at the beginning of the year, and projects are developed in response to the need.

Research and Evaluation

Dr. Eric Moody talked to the group about research and evaluation, including how areas of focus were chosen, what research goals entail, and goals in terms of publications and grants applied for. Eric said that these choices rely on evidence-based information. WIND is also looking at further developing faculty and has been working closely with the ECHO projects. WIND is a super-hub
for ECHO, one of the first four in the world. The ECHO model works nationally on implementing robust research and analysis work, developing infrastructure and funding to operate initiatives. He reminded the group that, as a member of a council, advocates for people with disabilities may have more access to providing input to stakeholders and state legislators, but that citizens of Wyoming all have the right to reach out to their legislators and representatives. Getting families of people with disabilities together regularly so that they are informed and better armed with information to have an intelligent conversation and be prepared to effectively bring up the issues that matter to them is an important part of the work.

Community Education, Training and Services

Canyon Hardesty spoke to the group about community training, including technical assistance. She explained the distinction between community training and community service, and asked for input and thoughts about employment and how agencies are working together to improve post-secondary outcomes. One attendee talked about individuals with disabilities having access to job coaches who can work with the skills of the individual, then act as a liaison between that individual and their employer. This way, the employer gets good feedback on how to work with the individual with disabilities to improve the relationship. There is often a deficit of services for young adults in K-12 education, particularly with health and wellness services. The group talked about how health and wellness issues look for individuals with disabilities and where different needs might be identified and met. Going forward, goals in this area include finding ways that faith groups and other pre-existing communities can act as natural supports to help fill some of the gaps in services that are often an issue. With respect to employment, the group discussed how the model of employing individuals with disabilities may be improved to be more inclusive, helping individuals with disabilities to be more a part of their larger communities. This is an ever-evolving area, and Canyon said she would encourage members of the group to continue to provide input and feedback so that goals can continue to evolve to respond to families’ needs and concerns.

Pre-Service, Interdisciplinary Education – Disability Studies

Dr. Michelle Jarman talked with the group about the pieces of WIND’s 5-Year Plan with which she is involved, specifically the development of a graduate Disability Studies minor. Dr. Martin Agran talked about the development of a Professional Studies program for undergraduates. He shared that there is strong support for such a major from UW’s central administration, and they hope to have this program implemented as soon as spring of 2018. Martin and Michelle both expressed the intention to collaborate between these two programs to encourage more students to participate.

Information Dissemination

Betsy Bress talked about the Information Dissemination component of the UCEDD, which involves translating to the state information coming in from other UCEDDs as well as information about what WIND as a UCEDD is doing so that the work gets noticed. For the 5-Year Plan, a lot of the goals around information dissemination are project specific. Goals going forward are to continue becoming a resource on campus and statewide, and encouraging partnerships with other agencies to strengthen the work with a key focus on health and wellness.

The meeting adjourned at 2:50 p.m.
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Background

The Wyoming Institute for Disabilities is a University Center for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities and an academic unit in the College of Health Sciences, University of Wyoming.

Established in 1994, the Wyoming Institute for Disabilities demonstrates excellence in providing interdisciplinary, pre-service education, continuing education, community training, technical assistance and services as they related to individuals with developmental and other disabilities.

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Publications, Peer Reviewed


Publications, Non-Peer Reviewed


Publications, In Press


Publications, In Review

Presentations, Refereed International and National

Arce, F. (2017, January). Assistive Technology Industry Association (ATIA), #accessiblematerials #apps #reading #startedmyhwonsunday #textunrecognizable, Co-Presenter, Orlando, FL.


Arce, F., Berry, K., Rausch, R., & Locke, B. (2016, October). National and State AT Resources. Project ECHO, Co-presenter Laramie, WY.


**Presentations, State**


Arce, F. (2017, April). **Accessible Educational Materials Regional Training.** Presenter, Guernsey, WY.

Arce, F. (2017, April). **Accessible Educational Materials Regional Training.** Presenter, Upton, WY.


Arce, F. & Locke, B. (2016, October). Northern Rockies Association for Education and Rehabilitation of the Blind and Visually Impaired, **Hands on Apps, Co- presenter, Jackson, WY.**
Arce, F. & Locke, B. (2016, October). Northern Rockies Association for Education and Rehabilitation of the Blind and Visually Impaired, Assistive Technology to Support Early Literacy, Co-presenter, Jackson, WY.

Arce, F. & Locke, B. (2016, October). Northern Rockies Association for Education and Rehabilitation of the Blind and Visually Impaired, Apps to Support Transition to College, Co-presenter, Jackson, WY.


Rausch, R. Assistive Technology for Supporting People with Mental Health Conditions. Presented to Casper College Occupational Therapy Assistant program students. Casper, WY, October, 2017

Rausch, R., & Arce, F. Wyoming State Assistive Technology Resources. Presented to Project ECHO community members. Laramie, WY, September, 2017

Rausch, R. Assistive Technology for Pediatric Occupations. Presented to Casper College Occupational Therapy Assistant program students. Casper, WY, September, 2017


Warren, W., Jenkins, C., (2017, August) Mountain Pacific Quality Health Board Meeting. Casper, WY

Warren, W., Hardesty, C., Jenkins, C. (2016, August) UW ECHO in Education Networks. Week of Academic Vision and Excellence (WAVE) Cheyenne, WY


Presentations, University


Arce, F. (2016, October). University of Wyoming. TRiO Tutor services: Creating an inclusive environment for students with disabilities, Presenter, Laramie, WY.


**WIND Grant and Contract Funding, FY 2016, 2017**

*Act Early Ambassador.* Canyon Hardesty (PI). Grant from Association of University Centers on Disability to help parents, health care professionals, and child care providers learn about developmental milestones and their role in the early identification of autism spectrum disorders and other developmental disabilities, 2014-2018. $8,000.

*Friendships and Dating; Sexual and Reproductive Health Training for Individuals with Developmental Disabilities.* Canyon Hardesty (PI). Contract from Wyoming Department of Health, Maternal and Family Health, a preventative program that teaches individuals with intellectual and related developmental disabilities how to develop and maintain healthy relationships, 2016-2017. $300,546

*iCan Connect, Wyoming Deaf-Blind Equipment Distribution Program.* Sandra Root-Elledge (PI). Grant (6th year) from Federal Communications Commission to provide communication devices to individuals who are deaf-blind, 2016-2018. $134,000.


*Leadership in Neurodevelopmental Disabilities.* Canyon Hardesty (PI and Faculty Coordinator). Contract (14th year) from the University of Utah that provides leadership and skill building opportunities for Wyoming graduate-level pre-professionals and professionals from a variety of health related disciplines to increase their knowledge and skills in providing services and supports to children with neurodevelopmental disabilities and their families. AY 2016, 2017 $11,000.


*University Center for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities.* Sandra Root-Elledge (PI). Grant (22nd year) from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services for the Wyoming Institute for Disabilities infrastructure to deliver pre-professional and continuing education, community training and services, to conduct research and evaluation, and to disseminate information, FY 2017, 2018. $1,094,000


**UW ECHO for Waiver Services.** Canyon Hardesty and Sandra Root-Elledge (Co-PIs).

**Long Term Care and Children’s Mental Health Services.** Contract from the Wyoming Department of Health, Healthcare Financing – Wyoming Medicaid to build capacity for case managers and service providers, 2016-2018. $243,791

**Wyoming Assistive Technology Resources.** Sandra Root-Elledge (PI). Grant (12th year) from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration on Community Living to operate State Assistive Technology Act Program that provides assistive technology information, access and services to individuals with disabilities. 2015-2018. $714,000.

**Wyoming Clearinghouse for Accessible Educational Materials.** Canyon Hardesty (PI). Annual (11th year) contract from the Wyoming Department of Education to provide Wyoming students who have vision and print disabilities with access to accessible educational materials, 2016, 2017. $199,530.

**Wyoming Consortium for Veterans Activities.** Canyon Hardesty (PI). Grant from Veterans Services Administration to provide recreational and competitive sports opportunities for veterans and members of the U.S. military, 2016-2017. $198,735.

**Wyoming Family to Family Health Information Center.** Sandra Root-Elledge and Eric Moody (co-PIs). Grant (7th year) to provide information, training and support for families that have a child with a special health care need, 2016-2018. $185,100


**Wyoming Vision Collaborative.** Canyon Hardesty (PI). Contract from the Wyoming Department of Health with funding to unite key stakeholders and professionals in an ongoing process to establish a coordinated system of education, training, referral, and family support around childhood vision health, 2015-2017. $160,000.
Wyoming Institute for Disabilities  
Five Year, 2017-2022 Plan

Abstract

The Wyoming Institute for Disabilities and key stakeholders will implement a five year (2017-2022) plan to support full community inclusion, community membership, independence, productivity and social participation for individuals with developmental disabilities. Developed with the Consumer Advisory Council, our plan is based upon findings from a comprehensive needs assessment and guided by the values of accessibility, inclusivity, diversity, cultural competency, choice and self-determination. We will conduct activities to improve individuals’ opportunities for health and wellness, education, early intervention, employment and assistive technology.

Our objectives include: 1) educating graduate students and practicing professionals to serve and support families of children with special health care needs through the Utah Regional Leadership Education in Neurodevelopmental Disabilities program; 2) providing interdisciplinary pre-service preparation in disability, diversity, and inclusive practice through our Disability Studies program; 3) conducting basic and applied research, evaluation and public policy analysis in areas that affect or could affect individuals with developmental disabilities and their families; 4) increasing the capacity of professionals to implement best practices in their fields; 5) providing services that demonstrate evidence-based and best practices; and 6) disseminating findings and information to individuals, families and professionals throughout Wyoming. Our anticipated outcomes include increases in: 1, 2 & 4) trainees’ knowledge, attitude and skills related to developmental disabilities; 3) evidence to inform policies and practices; 5) capacity for professionals to use evidence-based practices; and 6) resources, especially related to health and wellness. Our products will consist of scholarly publications, annual reports, a website, newsletters, social media, and other materials produced using positive approaches, universal design and accessibility principles.