

## THE PARTNERSHIP

A NEWSLETTER OF THE WYOMING SCHOOL-UNIVERSITY PARTNERSHIP

MAY 2013

## UW Synergy program expands this fall



Synergy director, April Heaney, discusses the program with a student.

In the fall of 2013, students who enter the University of Wyoming with a GPA below 3.0, have an ACT score under 21, and have gaps in the Hathaway Success Curriculum will be required to participate in the Synergy program. UW's new enrollment policy is expected to significantly increase the amount of students in Synergy program by the fall of 2014.

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# Gillette and UW collaborate to better prepare students for statistics

One of the goals of the Lost in Transition initiative is to create and foster working relationships among secondary and postsecondary faculty across the state. A perfect example came out of this year's mathematics institute.

LeeAnn Cox, an outstanding Campbell County high school math instructor and instructional facilitator, was asked to lead a panel discussion on the Common Core State Standards (CCSS) and what Campbell County high school is doing to help students learn mathematics concepts

with more depth and breadth.

Tim Robinson, a statistics professor at the University of Wyoming, was impressed by what he heard. As a result, these two excellent teachers started a conversation about how to collaborate.

"Everyone involved benefits from the collaboration, most importantly the student," LeeAnn commented. "High school teachers need to understand the expectations of higher education, especially in regard to content, practice,

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# NNER 2013 annual conference Community Engagement to Enhance Student Learning Albuquerque, New Mexico

Proposals due Sunday, May 19 Deadline extended!

October 10-12

Submit a proposal at http://nnerconference.org



County high school, math instructor and instructional facilitator



Tim Robinson, University of Wyoming, Statistics professor



## Partnership supports four Wyoming participants at the 2013 NNER Summer Symposium

he Partnership is excited to announce its support of four Wyoming participants at this year's upcoming National Network for Educational Renewal (NNER) Summer Symposium, July 22-25 in Seattle.

Those who attend the NNER's annual summer symposium receive leadership training in understanding and promoting the Agenda for Education in a Democracy. The Wyoming School-University Partnership supports Wyoming participants by paying their registration fees.

To learn more, visit the NNER website, at http://www.nnerpartnerships.org/events/summer-symposia/



## Kevin **Derby**

vevin is a Lingle-Ft. Laramie high school social studies teacher and Eastern Wyoming College adjunct instructor.

#### Why he wants to attend:

hroughout the past year, I have had a variety of experiences that led me to examine who I am as a teacher and what makes great learning possible. I feel that this symposium would help me grow further as a teacher and a learner to continue my quest to be the best teacher for my students."



## Leslie Rush

eslie is an associate professor and secondary education department chair in the UW College of Education. This summer, she will become the Associate Dean of Teacher Education at the University of Wyoming.

#### Why she wants to attend:

"m looking toward partnering with colleagues from different perspectives, and joining them in bringing back to Wyoming the information and ideas that we garner at the conference.



#### **Kathy** Vetter

athy is the president of the Wyoming Education Association.

#### Why she wants to attend:

" **^** s I represent members from all levels of public education in Wyoming, I hope to develop a better understanding of the different educational levels and personally because and how to develop better transitions from one level to the next. I hope to gain an insight into where public education is headed I gain from the summer nationally to help guide my work."



#### **Aurora Chang**

urora is an assistant professor of Educational Studies in the UW College of Education.

#### Why she wants to attend:

ff think it is very important to leave one's institution and go to another setting to develop professionally it allows you to get out of your comfort zones. In turn, I will be able to take the knowledge that symposium and transfer it to my teaching, research, service and overall collegiality."



## Ask an expert: Rachael Dreyer



Rachael Dreyer, left, helps a patron with research in the Reading Room, located on the fourth floor of UW's American Heritage Center.

The Partnership would like you to meet Rachael Dreyer Assistant Archivist in the Reference Services Department at the University of Wyoming's American Heritage Center (AHC). Rachael will be participating in the Partnership's Social Sciences Lost in Transition Institute via Wyoming Equality Network video, Wednesday, May 15.

Q: What is one researching skill you think students need to successfully transition from high school to higher education?

A: There a many important research skills which contribute to students' success at the postsecondary level. In particular, I believe that students need to be able to gauge the credibility and reliability of various information sources. This skill helps with primary source research as well—students who question the authenticity of historical sources generally incorporate key critical thinking skills in order to interact with a photograph or document.

Q: What kinds of services can the AHC staff offer to high school, community college, and university faculty who are interested in resources for teaching research?

A: The most common service that we offer to students of all levels is research orientation sessions. Typically

these sessions are about one hour in length and include a behind-the-scenes tour of our storage areas and an overview of the AHC's different functions. We'll also talk about how to use our collections and get into the specifics of how to search for materials on a particular topic. In addition, with enough advance notice, we can collaborate with instructors to design activities that incorporate our collections with instructors' curriculum topics. We also have a Teaching and Research Grant program that can help with the development of new courses that use the AHC's collections. You can find more information about this program at <a href="http://www.uwyo.edu/ahc/grants/teaching-grants.html#AHC Teaching and Research Grants">http://www.uwyo.edu/ahc/grants/teaching-grants.html#AHC Teaching and Research Grants.</a>

Q: What is one collection available at the AHC that you would highly recommend teachers and students look at?

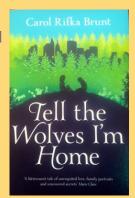
A: There are so many collections here that it really depends on a person's interests. I'm constantly amazed by what I find in different collections here. If you're interested in popular culture, two of our most popular collections are the Stan Lee papers—yes, Stan Lee of Spiderman fame!—and the William Dozier papers. Dozier was a producer of the original *Batman* television series and worked on other TV productions during the 1950s and 1960s.

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## Summer Reading Recommended by Rachael

*Tell the Wolves I'm Home* by Carol Rifka Brunt

Rachael says, "It's a coming of age novel about a girl growing up in the suburbs of New York City in the late 1980s. This book really encompasses the conflict



and angst of being a teenager. On top of the usual turbulence of these teenage years, June, the protagonist, must deal with the death of her favorite uncle from AIDS. Brunt has done a wonderful job of crafting such complex but beautiful relationships between characters; the family dynamics feel so real, the impact of grief is so authentic, and the friendships that form are so believable in their imperfections. Although Wolves is not exactly light beach reading, it is well worth it."





Pictured from left to right, Tim Robinson, Shannon Zavorka, John Spitler, Mike Bostick, and Sue Norris, and Michelle Bird in the foreground. The discussion centered around the common core state standards at this year's institute.

#### **Mathematics Lost in Transition marks its 7th year**

When planners develop Lost in Transition agendas for each of the five core Hathaway Success curriculum areas (English/language arts, mathematics, science, social studies, and world languages), they recognize that each discipline is different and that faculty in the discipline have been interacting over many years.

The challenge is to create a set of interactions that are meaningful for faculty across high school, community college, and university settings. Mathematics offers a distinctive model that has been working for the last seven years.

For over four decades, Wyoming's

community college and university mathematics faculty have been meeting to hone course articulation agreements and recharge their teaching and research energy. Each college and the university takes a turn hosting a two day event.

Seven years ago, the Partnership added a component to include high school mathematics faculty.

This year, the Partnership collaborated with the Northern Wyoming Community College District and the Campbell County School District in Gillette to host the Lost in Transition institute.

Mathematics faculty from community colleges, the university, and high schools had opportunities to discuss the Common Core State Standards and dual and concurrent enrollment classes. Faculty also had the opportunity to share student work and assignments.

As always, one of the main goals of the Lost in Transition initiative is to create and foster good relationships among secondary and postsecondary faculty. For a collaboration that came out of this year's mathematics institute, see the front page article, *Gillette and UW collaborate to better prepare students for statistics*.

Quick Summary 7th Annual Mathematics Lost in Transition Institute April 4-5, 2013 Gillette College

Participants
Total = 35

K-12 faculty = 7
Community college faculty = 17
University faculty = 9
Education organization
representatives = 2



Discussing algebra at the 2013 mathematics institute, pictured left to right, Lloyd Meredith, Kira Heater, Amber Larsen, Bertine Bahige, and Lourdes Pajo, and Jon Prewett in the foreground.

Overall rating of Friday discussions\*

Mean = 8 Median = 9 Mode = 9

\*1-10, with 10 being the highest quality

## Evaluation suggestions for next vear

- Communication is KEY factor to ensure our success of students and faculty.
- Let's pick an area in which we are trying to improve and have a presentation on what happened – case study.



Quick Summary
6th Annual Teaching Writing
in Wyoming
Lost in Transition Colloquium
April 7-8, 2013
UW Outreach Building,
Casper

Participants
Total = 40

K-12 faculty = 22
Community college faculty = 5
University faculty = 11
Education organization
representatives = 2



Discussing college and career ready research. Pictured around the table, left to right, Sally Hoover, Susie Tilton-Chivaro, Pam Galbreath, Mindy Blahnik, Debb Proctor, and Michael Alexander.

#### **Overall Sunday evening rating\***

Mean = 8.7 Median = 9

Mode = 10

#### **Overall Monday rating\***

Mean = 8.5 Median = 8 Mode = 8

\*1-10, with 10 being the highest quality

#### **Key comments from evaluations**

- This was a good conference. I believe it would be useful for more of these conversations to be had involving more people to get this conversation going all over the state. We will need this information.
- I love the opportunity to have meaningful conversations with colleagues from different grade levels.

## **Teaching Writing in Wyoming maximizes relationship building**

Over the last few years, the Teaching Writing in Wyoming Lost in Transition (TWW) Colloquium has featured a Sunday-Monday approach. This approach maximizes relationship-building opportunities for secondary and postsecondary faculty from multiple disciplines interested in writing.

The two-day TWW colloquium starts with a Sunday evening dinner and featured speaker (plus a short reading assignment for

participants). This past April, UW's Michael Knievel spoke with the group about attention capital and the research process. Fellow UW faculty Bruce Richardson and Brent Pickett have been featured as well. The Sunday evening dinner and table conversations produce a satisfying synergy of low-key socializing and big ideas that carry over into Monday's small and large group work.

See above for quick facts about the 2013 TWW colloquium.

# Watch for news about a fall literature and humanities Lost in Transition colloquium!

Want to receive emails about this and other Partnership sponsored events?

Sign up by following the link below!

http://www.uwyo.edu/wsup/emailsignup/index.html#EnglishSignup

Lost in Transition was supported in part by grant funding from the Qwest Foundation. Visit their website http://www.centurylink.com/Pages/AboutUs/Community/

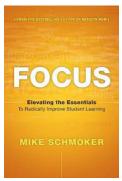


Pictured at front table, from left to right, Charlie Richardson, Rita Geary, Brianna Wright, and Chuck Denny look at interdisciplinary writing and research assignments at this year's Teaching Writing in Wyoming Lost in Transition Colloquium.



#### Enjoy your summer - READ!

#### SUMMER READING SUGGESTIONS FROM AROUND THE PARTNERSHIP



## Focus by Mike Schmoker

**Recommended by:** Dr. Stephen V. Newton, Principal, Central High School, Cheyenne

Partnership connection: Stephen recently presented at the Teaching Writing in Wyoming Colloquium on the topic of college and career readiness for high school students.

Why read it: "The book is perfect for educators who feel overwhelmed by all that is on our plate. It does a nice job of refocusing efforts on that which matters without oversimplifying complex issues."

## All We Know: Three Lives by Lisa Cohen

Recommended by: Leslie Waggener, Archivist, Simpson Institute, UW American Heritage Center

Partnership connection: Leslie is always willing to help teachers looking for ways to use AHC resources, both online and in person.

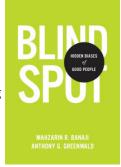


Why read it: "The book chronicles the lives of New York intellectual Esther Murphy, celebrity ephemera collector Mercedes de Acosta, and British Vogue editor Madge Garland, as well as their controversial lifestyles, influence on fashion, and celebrity friendships."

# Blind Spot: Hidden Biases of Good People by Mahzarin Banaji and Anthony Greenwald

**Recommended by:** B. Oliver Walter, Dean, College of Arts & Sciences, University of Wyoming

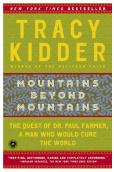
Partnership connection: Dean Walter has been a staunch supporter of Partnership work throughout his tenure as A&S dean.



Why read it: "I found the discussion of racism in the University very informative."

Turn to page 10 of the newsletter for more about Dean Walter's work and retirement.

Thank you, Dean Walter, for all you've done for the Partnership!



## Mountains Beyond Mountains by Tracy Kidder

Recommended by: Justi Crofutt, High School Biology/Chemistry/Anatomy Teacher, Big Piney High School, Sublette County School District #9

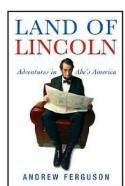
Partnership connection: Justi attended this year's life sciences summit.

Why read it: "This is a biography of Dr. Paul Farmer, a doctor who campaigns against tuberculosis in third world countries like Haiti, delivering medications to remote villages and ensuring his patients keep up with their meds to cure/treat their TB. This is a great book that ties medicine in with a great deal of humanitarianism."



**Recommended by:** Mark A. Greene, Director, American Heritage Center, University of Wyoming

**Partnership connection:** For anyone interested in AHC resources, Mark is a helpful contact.

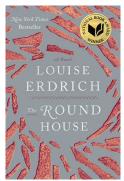


Why read it: "From exploring the continuing hatred of Lincoln even in the heart of the "New South" to meeting some of the thousands of Lincoln impersonators, this serious but quirky volume gives an interesting look at the modern US through the lens of its most famous, most loved, most hated President."



#### Enjoy your summer - READ!

#### SUMMER READING SUGGESTIONS FROM AROUND THE PARTNERSHIP



The Round House by Louise Erdrich

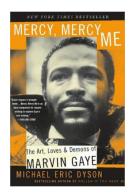
**Recommended by:** Dee Ludwig, PhD, Vice President for Learning, Eastern Wyoming College

Partnership connection: Dee is the community college voting representative on the Partnership's governing board.

Why read it: "This story is told from the perspective of a teenage Native-American boy who is growing up on the Ojibwe reservation in North Dakota. A terrible crime is committed that impacts his family and him forever."

Mercy, Mercy Me: the Art, Loves, and Demons of Marvin Gaye by Michael Eric Dyson

Recommended by: Jacqueline Leonard, Director, Science Math Teaching Center (SMTC), University of Wyoming



Partnership connection: The

SMTC regularly cosponsors and participates in the Partnership's Lost in Transition initiative.

Why read it: "I really enjoyed reading this book. It chronicles Gaye's life and musical genius."

## Wonder by R. J. Palacio

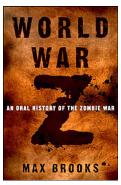
**Recommended by:** Jim Rose, Interim Director, Wyoming Department of Education, and Executive Director, Wyoming Community College Commission

**Partnership connection:** Jim attended and participated in the Partnership's April governing board meeting.



Why read it: (From the inside flap)

"August Pulman was born with a facial deformity that prevented him from going to school--until now. He's about to enter fifth grade at Beecher Prep, and if you've ever been the new kid, then you know how hard that can be. The thing is, Auggie's just an ordinary kid, with an extraordinary face. But can he convince his new classmates that he's just like them, despite appearances?" Jim adds that the author's use of varied voices makes this a moving story.



World War Z:
An Oral History
of the Zombie War
by Max Brooks

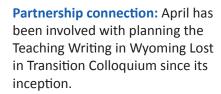
Recommended by: Anna Burr,
President, College of Education
Ambassadors and elementary
education major at the University of
Wyoming

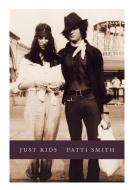
**Partnership connection:** Anna was the Partnership's outstanding work study student this year.

Why read it: "This is a great book if you enjoy the zombie craze. Plus, the movie is coming out this summer, so read the book first!"

#### Just Kids by Patti Smith

**Recommended by:** April Heaney, Director, LeaRN and Synergy program, University of Wyoming





Why read it: "A book you might be embarrassed to openly show at the dentist's office, but you will be (almost) physically incapable of closing once you begin!"



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#### Statistics collaboration will benefit students

and rigor. Without this knowledge, we are not teaching with the end in mind. Our job is to prepare students for college. Higher education also needs to know what prerequisite knowledge and skills students possess when they enter college. Vertical conversations and alignment, at any level, only reinforce and strengthen the education process."

Tim echoed LeeAnn's sentiments, asserting that the science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) disciplines play a large role in University Plan 4 – the document that sets the University of Wyoming's strategic planning goals for 2014-2020. Tim noted, "We'd like the transition from K-12 to UW in the STEM disciplines to be as seamless as possible. Collaboration is the only way to facilitate this."

"It is a win-win-win scenario. The secondary teacher wins, the college professors wins, and, most important, the student wins."

All Lost in Transition events were cosponsored with grant money from the Qwest Foundation. To learn more, visit their website

LeeAnn agreed, affirming, "It is a win-win-win scenario. The secondary teacher wins, the college professors wins, and, most important, the student wins."

Since the CCSS have an entire strand dedicated to statistics, Tim and LeeAnn both have the goal of finding professional staff development opportunities for secondary faculty to become more comfortable with the statistics content.

"Specifically, many of these new standards incorporate high levels of data analytics," Tim explained, "Most K-12 teachers were trained under a traditional system but the new standards require skills in modern approaches. As a result, many teachers are scrambling to equip themselves with the modern methods and applications. LeeAnn and I hope to develop effective training modules for getting K-12 teachers up to speed on these modern approaches and the reallife modern applications of these tools "

In the interest of furthering this goal, Tim invited LeeAnn to bring a group of Campbell County statistics faculty to a summer workshop titled "Data Analytics

If you want to learn more about the UW/NCAR workshop in Boulder, visit http://www.uwyo.edu/uw/news/2013/04/uw,-ncar-plan-conference-aimed-at-making-statistics-courses-more-relevant.html

for the Geosciences Using R."
The workshop is co-hosted by
UW and the National Center for
Atmospheric Research (NCAR)
and will be held in Boulder,
Colorado, June 16-19.

This workshop would be the first step in a much longer and deeper collaboration. Tim and LeeAnn are planning to apply for grant funding to continue staff development in Campbell County, with the hope of expanding into other Wyoming school districts.

Both Tim and LeeAnn appreciated the opportunity the Lost in Transition institute gave them to meet each other. According to LeeAnn, "It's fun to meet new people, learn what they are doing, and ultimately share great ideas that make us all better instructors."



Secondary and postsecondary faculty discuss calculus at this year's Mathematics Lost in Transition Institute. Pictured left to right, Jeff Seldon, LeeAnn Cox, J. Araas, Andy Richert, and Farhad Jafari.



#### U.S. News names excelling WY high schools

A ccording to an associated press release, two Wyoming high schools were included in a U.S. News and World Report list of the nation's best public high schools for academics.

Jackson Hole High School was ranked first. Sheridan High School was ranked second. Jackson Hole received a silver medal for their ranking. Both schools are in Partnership member school districts.

Rankings were based on students enrolled and passing advanced placement courses, as well as testing scores in mathematics and reading.

For the full press release, visit http://trib.com/news/local/education/jackson-sheridan-high-schools-make-rankings/article\_da885b8d-158a-5a26-bc23-e56ef1f12d8e.html

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## **UW Synergy program expands**

The Synergy program is designed to help firstvear students transition successfully into all aspects of university life. According to the synergy website, students in the program are given "increased opportunities for optional study groups, more one-on-one time with instructors, and smaller class sizes." Synergy also provides students with academic advising, help finding campus resources for financial aid, and answering just about any other questions students have.

When students begin the Synergy program this fall, they will choose one of two different options. The Synergy Core option requires two courses in the fall and one course in the spring. Students who choose the core take classes that highlight critical reading and writing. They are also given increased opportunities to network with faculty and other Synergy students who choose this option.

The Synergy Seminar option will require students to enroll in one fall course designed to teach students the skills necessary to adapt to college life. Students will learn standard college research and critical thinking and reading skills, along with the other demands of college life, such as time and course management skills.

To learn more about the Synergy program, visit <a href="http://www.uwyo.edu/synergy/">http://www.uwyo.edu/synergy/</a>



Synergy students - stock photo from Synergy website.

Questions about the program?
Contact Synergy program director, April Heaney,
synergy@uwyo.edu or 307-766-4322

## NNER announces new host site and co-directors

On March 7, Deb Shanley, (Brooklyn College, City University of New York) chair of the NNER Governing Council, announced that Wright State University Network for Educational Renewal would be the new NNER host site. Wright State is located in Dayton, Ohio.

The Governing Council also approved Ann Foster and Greg Bernhardt to continue as co-directors of the NNER.



## UW's Oliver Walter wraps up a distinguished career

Afounding member of the Partnership's governing board, Dean B. Oliver Walter has been an exceptional friend to the College of Education and the Wyoming School-University Partnership.

He has been vocal and persuasive that arts and sciences faculty play central roles in providing general education courses crucial to the grounding of elementary and secondary teachers. At the secondary education level, arts and sciences faculty deliver disciplinary content for students who graduate with concurrent majors in a content field and in education. His support of the



Oliver Walter, the UW College of Arts & Sciences Dean, helps award t-shirts to those participating in their sixth life science summit.

Partnership has been unwavering for more than three decades.

What distinguishes the academic career of Dean Walter, UW's longest serving dean? Dean Walter is legendary for visiting the classroom of every second year faculty member, including those teaching at the UW/Casper College Center.

A Washington native, with a Ph.D. in political science from the University of Illinois, Dean Walter



Dean B. Oliver Walter, pictured above, second from the right, listening intently during the first World Languages Lost in Transition Colloquium.

loves sports and rarely misses a UW home game for football or basketball. He holds season tickets for the symphony, drama and dance performances, and virtually all other fine arts events. If a College of Arts & Sciences faculty member (or another visiting scholar) is reading from a newly published book, Dean Walter is likely in the audience.

Over the course of many years, Dean Walter taught courses in political theory at Shanghai University and a UW political science course for international students. The university's growing internationalization and globalization efforts are in debt to

Dean Walter. In fact, there are several international study and travel scholarships in his name.

UW students have had no stronger champion than Dean Walter. He regularly meets with a council of undergraduate students to take the pulse of their academic experiences in the college and wider university. Each spring, he conducts exit interviews with the 20 graduating seniors acknowledged by their teachers as the most outstanding in the college. Though faculty might sometimes object, Dean Walter holds firm about the importance of teaching evaluations completed by students. He reads every evaluation and takes faculty to task when an evaluation reveals troubling trends.

We wish Dean Walter a joyful retirement, and tell him once again that his distinctive mark has helped the Partnership thrive.



Pictured second from the left above, Dean B. Oliver Walter participated in the 2010 Mathematics Lost in Transition Institute.



#### Governing board to convene July 10 in Casper

The next regular meeting of the Partnership governing board is Wednesday, July 10, 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. in Casper at the UW Outreach Building.

To RSVP, board members should contact Beth Wiley at 307-766-3274 or ewiley2@uwyo.edu

#### The Partnership also welcomes:

Robert Sternberg, University of Wyoming President

Paula Lutz, University of Wyoming,

College of Arts & Sciences Dean

Leslie Rush, University of Wyoming, College of Education, Associate Dean of Teacher Education

COLLEGE ADMISSIONS

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## **Quick Summer Reading Pick**

College Admissions for the 21st Century by Robert Sternberg



explores the question of what college admissions officers should look for beyond test scores. Sternberg argues that college students also need creativity, practicality, and wisdom to become future leaders and contributing citizens.

Robert Sternberg, is the incoming University of Wyoming president.

# Recognizing people important to Partnership work

The initiatives and goals of the Partnership would never be realized without the support of leaders in Wyoming. The Partnership thanks those who will be retiring this year and welcomes some new faces.

Editor's note: New appointments as of May 13, 2013. Our apologies if we've missed anyone.

## Retiring school district superintendents and Partnership governing board members

Joel Dvorak, superintendent, Natrona 1

Paul Grube, superintendent, Sweetwater 1

Kathy Hitt, member of executive committee, Fremont 1

Michelle Hoffman, superintendent, Fremont 14

Rick Luchsinger, superintendent, Niobrara 1

Bryan Monteith, superintendent, Park 6

#### Welcome to new WY district superintendents

Jonathan Braack, superintendent, Niobrara 1

Chantell Denson, superintendent, Fremont 38

Steve Hopkins, superintendent, Natrona 1

Mathew Neal, superintendent, Sweetwater 1

Ray Schulte, superintendent, Park 6

Byron Stutzman, superintendent, Crook 1

Fletcher Turcato, superintendent, Carbon 1

## Partnership member dues packets will be arriving in early June!

Partnership initiatives are made possible through annual membership dues.

Dues will be collected this year by July 31.

We appreciate your continued support!

If your school district would like to join, please contact Audrey Kleinsasser, dakota@uwyo.edu or 307-766-6358



#### Calendar of upcoming events

Date	Event	Location
May 15	Social Sciences Lost in Transition Institute	WEN video conference meeting
May 20	World Languages Lost in Transition Colloquium	UW Outreach Building, Casper, WY
	National League of Democratic Schools	
May 31-June 1	Annual Meeting	Seattle, WA
July 10	Partnership Governing Board Meeting	UW Outreach Building, Casper, WY
July 22-25	NNER Summer Symposium	Silver Cloud Inn, Lake Union, Seattle, WA
October 2-4	UW College of Education, Ellbogen Symposium	University of Wyoming, Laramie, WY
	UW College of Education, Annual Literacy Education	
October 4-5	Conference	University of Wyoming, Laramie, WY
October 10-12	NNER Annual Conference	Albuquerque, New Mexico

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#### **Ask an expert: Rachael Dreyer**

If your interests swing more toward Wyoming and Western history, we have wonderfully rich collection material about the construction of the Union Pacific railroad (John Stephen and Frances Jennings Casement papers), Wyoming ranch life (Charles J. Belden photograph collection), and Wyoming politics (the Milward L. Simpson papers, the Gale McGee papers, the Francis E. Warren papers). The list goes on and I could talk about our collections all day! If you or your students have an idea for a research topic, we invite you to contact an archivist at ahc@uwyo.edu to learn more about collections in that subject area.

Q: What is one common question you receive about research? And how do you answer that question?

A: Research with primary sources can be extremely rewarding,

but it comes with a few unique frustrations. Since many researchers are new to the primary source research process, one of the most common questions that we receive is, "How do I find information about my topic?" We work with researchers to develop search strategies and discuss where in a collection would be the most likely place to find certain types of information. Each collection is different, so there's really no set answer; instead, we'll work with patrons to find the best solution for their research topic. Interacting with researchers to develop research strategies is really one of the most enjoyable aspects of reference work because I have the opportunity to learn about new subjects and discover new things in our collections!

More questions? Reach Rachael, at rdreyer@uwyo.edu

Paige Fenton Hughes to finish tenure as Partnership governing board chair

Fenton Hughes has been the chair of the Partnership governing board, along with her other duties as a Wyoming State Board of Education Coordinator.

Paige will lead her final
Partnership board meeting and
then continue as a member of the
Partnership governing board's
executive committee as past
chair.

The Partnership thanks and appreciates Paige for her hard work and support as chair!



Wyoming School-University Partnership www.uwyo.edu/wsup

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