

University of Wyoming
President's Cabinet Meeting

May 29, 2025

9:15 – 10:15 a.m. · Coe 506 and via Zoom

Attendees: Chad Baldwin, Tom Burman, Jennifer Chavez, Parag Chitnis, Adam Comeau, Nycole Courtney, Tara Evans, Rob Godby, Alex Kean, Kelsey Kyne, Bob Link, Bill Mai, Ed Seidel, Mike Smith, John Stark, Scott Turpen

Opening Remarks

- Next week President Seidel will be out of the country visiting the Cardiff University Vice Chancellor and the Albert Einstein Institute.

Feedback on Interim Provost Candidates

- President Seidel discussed his expectations for the role.
- The applications for Interim Provost were discussed by cabinet.

July Board Meeting Agenda

- Chief of Staff Kelsey Kyne reviewed the draft July Board of Trustees agenda.
 - Supplemental Budget
 - Vice President Tara Evans discussed the importance of bringing the internal budget priorities to the Trustees for discussion prior to discussing the formal supplemental budget.
 - President Seidel noted that the AI Initiative was missing from the list, Seidel noted that AI is one of the areas of research the federal government may consider funding.
 - Vice President Parag Chitnis suggested that some of these needs can be included under critical minerals research and quantum, UW has a history of getting grants in these areas.
 - Vice President Evans noted that UW also needs to consider a compensation plan. Cabinet discussed how it can take a couple of years to do this well, but that UW needs to get started.
 - Comprehensive Campaign

- Vice President John Stark emphasized the need for careful consideration in launching a comprehensive campaign. Crucially, discussions must occur with the UW Foundation Board and leadership before seeking formal approval. A key concern is timing, specifically when the campaign will start and how to communicate it to the Governor and the state without surprising them. Messaging to the state is a significant factor.
 - **Action:** Organize a dinner with Foundation Board members and Trustees, ideally after the UWF Board meeting and before the July Board of Trustees meeting.
- President Seidel shared that the current fundraising target may not be ambitious enough. Vice President Stark noted that while the goal needs to be ambitious it also needs to be achievable, especially if there are no matching funds available.
- Associate Vice President Chad Baldwin and Vice President Stark discussed the public nature of the BWF report.
- Transfer Student Success
 - Interim Provost Scott Turpen shared that through discussions with Trustees it appears they are expecting an in-depth discussion on this topic at the July meeting. Vice President Evans shared that the Trustees have been waiting on this conversation since 2019. President Seidel discussed all the progress that has been made since 2019 and encouraged Turpen to share that with the Trustees in July and suggest a more in-depth discussion in November.
- Budget Allocation Model
 - Vice President Alex Kean discussed the work of the Budget Allocation Model Working Group and the sensitivities around how this first iteration of the new budget model will be discussed at the July meeting.
- Critical Minerals
 - Vice President Chitnis shared that the discussion with Trustees would focus on people needs, facility needs, program needs to encourage development in state, and partnerships needed with industry and national labs. Chitnis noted that critical minerals are a major focus of the federal government and are essential for U.S. self-sufficiency.

Topics for Cabinet and Deans Retreat

- President Seidel discussed how this retreat will focus on discussing university wide priorities and will be facilitated by Steve Smutko. Chief of Staff Kyne is working on the agenda and will solicit feedback from cabinet and deans. President Seidel's

expectation is to develop concrete action items to take to the Board of Trustees. Faculty Senate Chair Rob Godby noted that the agenda needs to include a frank discussion about shared governance.