

University of Wyoming
President's Cabinet Meeting

June 19, 2025

8:30-10:30 a.m. · Old Main Boardroom and via Zoom

Attendees: Chad Baldwin, Tom Burman, Jennifer Chavez, Parag Chitnis, Nycole Courtney, Tara Evans, Rob Godby, Kelsey Kyne, Bob Link, RoseMarie London, Kyle Moore, Ed Seidel, John Stark, Scott Turpen (Dave Bagley)

Opening Remarks

- Anne Alexander will be the Interim Provost
- Foundation Board Meeting
 - The UWF Board supports the direction of the long-term campaign but emphasized the need for further development work and clearer articulation of the University's ambitions, particularly in enhancing student experience, hands-on learning, and digital skills for the 21st century.
 - There's a recognized need for deeper engagement with deans and athletics to align priorities and demonstrate how private support can drive them.
 - President Seidel wants Deans to be more aspirational in their fundraising goals.
 - Vice President John Stark communicated that it is essential to start this work with Deans now
 - The board will approve fundraising priorities in July, and there will be a campaign update at that time.
- Haub School Meeting on Critical Minerals at Ucross:
 - President Seidel emphasized that UW should be more actively engaged in critical minerals research and workforce development, leading to a potential budget request to the Legislature.
 - Vice President Parag Chitnis noted that multiple colleges were involved (COB, Haub, CEPS, SER) and stressed the importance of each unit identifying its specific needs. He highlighted the need for appropriate facilities and stronger partnerships with industry, especially mining companies in the state.
 - VP Chitnis will give an update on this topic to the Board at the July meeting.

- NYT Interview
 - President Seidel gave an interview on educational attainment goals to the New York Times. The President and CoS Kelsey Kyne felt it was a good interview. The final article should be published in the coming weeks.
- President Seidel will be leaving for China tomorrow. He will return on June 28th.

Website Design Migration

- Associate Vice President Chad Baldwin and Associate Director Mindy Peep provided background information on the website design migration project. The site has already been migrated to a sandbox environment, and the go-live date is July 28.
- The re-design and migration efforts have greatly reduced redundant or extraneous pages
- The new design prioritizes student recruitment and emphasizes SEO optimization and mobile-first design. It will include new features for cost of attendance and finding programs along with many others.
 - President Seidel and VP Chitnis noted that grad students and faculty will need access to more sophisticated or research-focused content; templates have been developed that can accommodate this.
- Title II
 - Faculty content outside the official CMS must still comply with accessibility regulations. There are hundreds of such linked pages that may need review.
- **Action:** AVP Baldwin and AD Peep to provide talking points on the web design migration project status that Cabinet can share with Deans and units.

Freedom of Expression

- Special Assistant to the President Martha McCaughey provided an update to Cabinet on the Freedom of Expression, Intellectual Freedom, and Constructive Dialogue initiative.
 - Three notable speakers were hosted this spring: Nadine Strossen, Martin Carcasson, and Paul Steinhardt.
 - An advisory board has been formed.
 - Work is underway to improve policies and develop trainings and events for the 2025–26 academic year.
- President Seidel emphasized the importance of this work as a distinguishing feature for UW. Vice president Tara Evans noted that consistent messaging to faculty and staff is needed on this topic, so there can be understanding university wide.

- Special Assistant McCaughey will be making updates to the Freedom of Expression website to centralize training materials and FAQs. These updates will be complete by August.
- **Action:** Special Assistant McCaughey to draft talking points for Cabinet to share with units.

Pause in Gender and Race Based Organizations

- Vice President Tara Evans raised concerns about rescinding the pause on gender and race-based organizations at this time due to reputational and strategic risks exacerbated by recent investigations. She asked for Cabinet's input and they agreed with her assessment. VP Evans also communicated the need for Dean's feedback on this topic.