



December 18, 2023

To: Scott Turpen, Dean, College of Arts & Sciences, Co-Chair
Nevin Aiken, Associate Professor, School of Politics, Public Affairs and International Studies, Co-Chair
Jean Garrison, Co-Director, Malcom Wallop Civic Engagement Program
Isa Helfgott, Vice Provost for Global Engagement
Dan McCoy, Interim Director, WORTH
Erin Olsen, Director, Community Engagement

From: Ed Seidel, President *Ed Seidel*

Re: UW-Heart Mountain Partnership Working Group

Civil discourse and experiential learning are activities important to any thriving university and to a society where inclusivity, respect for differences, and service are valued. As UW endeavors to elevate its national profile and differentiate itself in civil discourse and experiential learning, we must actively seek and create opportunities to expand our work in these areas, including collaborations with external partners. Heart Mountain, a Wyoming non-profit dedicated to preserving the remains of a World War II confinement site, shares similar goals and has expressed interest in partnering with UW. Together with Heart Mountain, I am charging this working group to:

- Strategize, plan, and execute ideas to enhance experiential learning and civil discourse for the benefit of the UW and Heart Mountain communities. Ideas include, but are not limited to:
 - Experiential learning opportunities for UW students
 - Collaborations with the Mineta-Simpson Institute
 - Enhancing UW/Wyoming-Japan relations
 - Leadership training for UW and Wyoming stakeholders
 - Tourism and fundraising opportunities

I want to empower this working group to make decisions that advance UW's work in experiential learning and civil discourse in collaboration with Heart Mountain. Therefore, you do not need my approval to make such decisions that do not require new funding. Requests for new funding may be brought to me at any time for review. Any formal agreements (e.g., MOUs) made with Heart Mountain should follow UW's established processes. I also ask that you consult with UW stakeholders, as appropriate. For example, any discussions regarding fundraising should involve the UW Foundation.

I have asked Dean Turpen and Dr. Aiken to co-chair this working group, and they will be in touch with additional information. I ask that this working group provide written, quarterly updates throughout 2024. The first update is due on March 31, 2024 and the last is due on December 15, 2024 at which time we will re-evaluate the responsibilities of the working group.

I appreciate in advance your assistance, collaboration, and input on this important topic.

cc: Kevin Carman, Provost & Executive Vice President
John Koprowski, Dean, Haub School for the Environment & Natural Resources
Mike Smith, Vice President for Governmental Affairs & Community Engagement