University of Wyoming Mission Statement (July 2017)

We honor our heritage as the state’s flagship and land-grant university by providing accessible and affordable higher education of the highest quality; rigorous scholarship; the communication and application of knowledge; economic and community development; and responsible stewardship of our cultural, historical and natural resources.

In the exercise of our primary mission to promote learning, we seek to provide academic and co-curricular opportunities that will:

- Graduate students who have experienced the frontiers of scholarship and creative activity and who are prepared for the complexities of an interdependent world;
- Cultivate a community of learning energized by collaborative work among students, faculty, staff and external partners.
- Nurture an environment that values and manifests diversity, internationalization, free expression, academic freedom, personal integrity and mutual respect; and
- Promote opportunities for personal health and growth, physical health, athletic competition and leadership development for all members of the university community.

As Wyoming’s only public university, we are committed to scholarship, outreach and service that extend our human talent and technological capacity to serve the people in our communities, our state, the nation and the world.
As will be reflected in the public and executive session meeting minutes, the Board of Trustees of the University of Wyoming met via video conference on Wednesday, July 15, 2020, and Thursday, July 16, 2020. Committees met on Wednesday, July 15, 2020. The Board’s business meeting was held on Thursday, July 16, 2020.
THE UNIVERSITY OF WYOMING
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MINUTES
July 15-16, 2020
Via Video Conference
Laramie, Wyoming

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**Trustee Committees and Board Liaisons**

*[Note: Committees of the Board will provide reports during the regular work sessions and do not have a formal report to provide during the Business Meeting. Liaisons will provide a written report prior to the regular July 16, 2020, Business Meeting.]*

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- Capital Construction Report – McKinley/Mai
- Foundation Monthly Giving Report – Blalock

New Business

Date of Next Meeting: August 12, 2020 (conference call meeting)

Adjourn Meeting
AGENDA ITEM TITLE: Next Cycle of Planning Initiatives, Seidel, Theobald

MINUTES OF THE MEETING:
Vice President for Finance and Administration Neil Theobald provided the Board a summary of 2019-2020 planning initiatives to include ensuring an excellent education; addressing Wyoming’s most pressing challenges through the university’s research efforts; affordability and the university’s student success initiative; accessibility and the university’s distance education and Wyoming’s community college partnerships.

University President Ed Seidel provided a summary of initial priorities that included immediate focus on critical short-term issues such as safety measures related to the campus community and COVID-19 and budget concerns driven by national and state economic conditions. Seidel discussed his plans toward getting to know the institution and the community as well as building a strong administrative team. Seidel restated his aims for the university in research and education to include computing and data, as well as interdisciplinary and transdisciplinary trends. Seidel remarked universities are looked upon as engines of innovation with the ability to power existing and new economies and described a longer term goal for the university to be a “best of breed” 21st century land grant institution true to its Wyoming roots by becoming more digital, entrepreneurial, interdisciplinary, and inclusive. Seidel stated these ideas dovetailed with UW Foundation initiatives and the goal to attract top candidates for leadership positions who can add to this vision.

AGENDA ITEM TITLE: COVID-19 Update, Benham-Deal, Alexander

MINUTES OF THE MEETING:
Vice Provost Tami Benham-Deal provided the Board an update on the “return to campus” plan and the university’s response capacity. Benham-Deal introduced the Project Management Office (PMO) Team, led by Benham-Deal, supplemented by Deloitte, and discussed the PMO organizational chart. Benham-Deal discussed the various campus COVID-19 working groups, their organizational structure and charge. Benham-Deal provided overview of a draft document outlining CDC guidance on assessing exposure types and recommended precautions for the public. Benham-Deal discussed work toward a university COVID-19 policy and CLIA Certification for the university veterinary lab.

Trustee Jeff Marsh stated the Board of Trustees, including ex-officio members, would be tested prior to the start of the fall semester. In response to inquiry from Trustee Dave True, Dr. Kenneth Abrams, Deloitte, discussed different methodological approaches to testing based on different types of collection. Abrams further stated each test has benefits and limitations with regard to reliable results.

AGENDA ITEM TITLE: Tuition Recommendations and Timeline, Jewell

MINUTES OF THE MEETING:
Associate Vice President for Financial Affairs David Jewell discussed details to the university’s existing tuition policy and current enrollment challenges facing the university. Trustee John McKinley stated the Budget Committee would provide a tuition recommendation to the Board at its September 2020 meeting, with the anticipation the Board would take action at its November 2020 meeting. Trustee David Fall inquired about a flat-rate tuition stating support of its potential consideration.
AGENDA ITEM TITLE: **Update: Science Initiative Programs**, Lyford, Synakowski

MINUTES OF THE MEETING:

Faculty member Mark Lyford provided background and an update of the Science Initiative Programs. Lyford stated that given state budgetary considerations, development has focused on the Science Initiative programs that most directly affect student success. Lyford described the Learning Actively Mentoring Program (LAMP) led by Faculty member Rachel Watson, which trains STEM faculty to engage students through a variety of active learning strategies. Lyford further described the Wyoming Research Scholars Program (WRSP), which provides intensive faculty-mentored research opportunities to undergraduates. Lyford went on to discuss that the LAMP and WRSP activities have provided for K-12 outreach and inreach programming called SI Roadshow. University President Ed Seidel stated his strong support of the programs. Trustee Dave True remarked that Lyford was a great ambassador of the Science Initiative and the University of Wyoming.

AGENDA ITEM TITLE: **UW Foundation Fundraising Priorities**, Blalock

MINUTES OF THE MEETING:

Vice President for Institutional Advancement Ben Blalock provided an update on UW Foundation fundraising successes. Blalock elaborated on University of Wyoming President Ed Seidel’s proposition of a Presidential Excellence Initiative with key themes in entrepreneurship, interdisciplinary, digital, and inclusive aspects of the University of Wyoming. Trustee Jeff Marsh expressed his appreciation for the direction of the initiatives and further stated the understanding of the time it will take to initiate the goals.

AGENDA ITEM TITLE: **Wyoming Post-Secondary Educational Attainment Plan**, Caldwell, Hicswa

MINUTES OF THE MEETING:

Northwest Community College President Stephanie Hicswa reported the Educational Attainment Executive Council (EAEC) formally adopted the Wyoming Post-Secondary Educational Attainment 5-year and 10-year Strategic Plan at its May 2020 meeting. Hicswa explained the plan included areas of focus, with metrics and targets that are both aggressive and achievable. Hicswa stated the EAEC’s efforts will move toward raising awareness, completing an Economic Impact Study for Wyoming, implementing action steps, and monitoring progress. Wyoming Communication College Commission Executive Director Sandy Caldwell discussed the plan’s five overarching goals, providing an explanation of “where we are now and where we want to be.” Caldwell further stated that secondary education in the state of Wyoming currently has a rate of return of one dollar invested to every 4.5 dollars returned. Hicswa closed stating the EAEC was delighted to include University of Wyoming President Ed Seidel among its members.

AGENDA ITEM TITLE: **Presentation: Flipping the Classroom**, Watson, Boggs

MINUTES OF THE MEETING:

Faculty members Rachel Watson and Christi Boggs provided the Board an interactive presentation about emergency teaching through active, purposefully designed, learner-centered classes all made necessary in the quick transition by UW faculty to emergency remote teaching (ERT) at the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic. Watson described the Ellbogen Center for Teaching and Learning (ECTL) and the Learning Actively Mentoring Program (LAMP) support of these efforts. Watson discussed the survey created by
the COVID-19 Reflection, Assessment and Lessons Learned Subcommittee sent to UW faculty, by which educators were asked to compare student achievement in their ERT to that of prior semesters. The responses reflected the experience or lack thereof that educators have in developing and delivering courses that employ learner-centered strategies. Watson explained the idea that “flipping the classroom” is able to be asynchronous, hybrid, recorded content with face-to-face classroom activities. University of Wyoming President Ed Seidel inquired about the target and incentive for developing the program across campus. Boggs explained a weeklong intensive workshop was being offered all summer to assist faculty in transforming one of their classes. Boggs reported the program has already reached over 200 faculty and the courses are available for anyone who is interested.

AGENDA ITEM TITLE: Discussion: Shared Governance, Seidel, Alexander

MINUTES OF THE MEETING:

University of Wyoming President Ed Seidel opened the discussion by identifying the Board of Trustees, administration, and faculty as three stakeholder groups invested in shared governance at the university. Interim Provost Anne Alexander added the importance of administrative buy-in and of building trust and accountability. Vice Provost Tami Benham-Deal discussed her experiences and observations as a UW faculty member as well as part of the administration. Shared Governance Working Group Chair Carolyn McCracken-Flescher walked the Board through a presentation on shared governance outlining the working group’s formation and charge resulting from outcomes of the 2018 Great Colleges to Work For survey. McCracken-Flescher described the four concepts of Shared Governance as identified by the Association of Governing Boards. She went on to discuss the creation of a Pythian Paper on shared governance that would address the cornerstone principles, and provide recommendations for good practices. Trustee Macey Moore stated she felt shared governance was an important discussion noting there was agreement on many of the themes, and that she looked forward to seeing the process continue to evolve. Trustee David Fall stated he believed in the theory of shared governance. Trustee Michelle Sullivan stated shared governance is a cornerstone of higher education and thanked the working group for its work so far.

AGENDA ITEM TITLE: Facilities Contracting Committee, McKinley

MINUTES OF THE MEETING:

Trustee John McKinley reported the current construction projects and planning were all on track. McKinley discussed the improvement to the proposed exterior design of the parking structure and spoke to the additional analysis on the cost of work. In response to inquiry from Trustee Macey Moore regarding security, Trustee McKinley reminded the Board that UWPD would be located inside the main floor of the parking structure. In response to inquiry from Trustee David Fall, Trustee McKinley stated the parking structure as planned would accommodate 400 spaces. Trustee Kermit Brown added the design allowed for future consideration of an additional floor.

Ivinson Parking Garage Exterior Design Approval
Approved 07-16-2020 @ 2:12 p.m.

Trustee John McKinley moved the Board increase the construction budget for the Ivinson parking garage in the amount of $2.5 million for a total construction budget of ~$20 million. The current construction budget is $17,227,300.00 and the new construction budget would be $19,727,300.00. Trustee Brad LaCroix seconded the motion. The motion carried. Trustee Brad Bonner was not present for the vote.
Trustee McKinley stated that private funding has been secured by the College of Business and is in place.

**College of Business Student Success Center Construction Delivery Method**

Approved 07-16-2020 @ 2:21 p.m.

Trustee John McKinley moved the Board authorize administration to utilize Design-Bid-Build as the construction delivery method for the College of Business Student Success Center, and publicly advertise for construction bids for the College of Business Student Success Center project. Trustee Dave True seconded the motion. The motion carried. Trustee Brad Bonner was not present for the vote.

Trustee McKinley stated that private funding from the College of Law has been secured.

**College of Law Expansion and Renovation Project CMAR**

Approved 07-16-2020 @ 2:22 p.m.

Trustee John McKinley moved the Board authorize administration to utilize the CMAR delivery method, and authorize selection of the CMAR for the College of Law Expansion and Renovation project (for preconstruction only), subject to all of the initial costs for design and preconstruction activities being covered by private funding. Trustee Dick Scarlett seconded the motion. The motion carried. Trustee Brad Bonner was not present for the vote.

Trustee McKinley discussed legislative funding and the background and work of various committees on the issue. Trustee Jeff Marsh expressed concern about delay. McKinley stated the recommendation was not time sensitive.

**UW Housing and Dining**

Approved 07-16-2020 @ 2:29 p.m.

Trustee John McKinley moved the Facilities Contracting Committee convene a special meeting the first week of August, 2020 to be scheduled by Bill Mai, for the purpose of reconsidering the pros and cons of various possible locations for the proposed student housing and dining facilities as well as recommendations, including the proposed locations by the architects, and receipt of public input on that subject. In addition, the Facilities Contracting Committee is directed to make a final recommendation to the Board of Trustees at its August 2020 Meeting. Trustee Dave True seconded the motion. The motion carried. Trustee Brad Bonner was not present for the vote.

**AGENDA ITEM TITLE: Research and Economic Development Committee, Fall**

MINUTES OF THE MEETING:

Trustee David Fall reported committee discussion regarding the rebranding of the Wyoming Technical Business Center programs. Trustee Fall discussed the impact of COVID-19 on faculty research. Trustee Fall further reported on his virtual tour of the Science Initiative Building.

**AGENDA ITEM TITLE: Biennium Budget Committee, McKinley**

MINUTES OF THE MEETING:

Trustee John McKinley provided a brief summary of the budget committee meeting. He reported the need for the Associate Vice President for Financial Affairs office to provide the Board with a general timeframe
for bond issuance for the student housing project. Trustee McKinley explained the process for administration to submit a supplemental budget request to Governor Mark Gordon for any emergency supplemental budget items for the next fiscal year, and reported the board can anticipate hearing back from the administration at the August 2020 board meeting on this topic.

Trustee McKinley also discussed the University had received and complied with Governor Gordon’s request of the University to submit a proposal of how the University would implement a ten percent budget reduction of the state general fund appropriation for the FY2021-2022 biennium. Trustee McKinley recommended the Board refer to the materials provided by the budget committee to see the specific reductions that were proposed to the Governor, and clarified that major maintenance funding provided by the state had been removed from the reduction amount. Trustee McKinley further informed the board that as of this meeting date the executive branch had not informed university administration of the specific budget cut that will be made to the university’s general fund appropriation for the FY2021-2022 biennium.

AGENDA ITEM TITLE: **Academic and Student Affairs Committee, Sullivan**

MINUTES OF THE MEETING:
Trustee Michelle Sullivan reported that the committee had a dynamic discussion around a presentation on educational attainment and the combined efforts across student and academic affairs. Sullivan acknowledged great innovation by faculty. Trustee Sullivan further stated the committee was discovering ways to serve UW students and deliver an education that will serve everyone well beyond the pandemic.

**College of Business Online Graduate Certificate in Energy Business**
*Approved 07-16-2020 @ 2:50 p.m.*
Trustee Michelle Sullivan moved the Board approve the request for authorization for the new Graduate Certificate in Energy Business. Trustee Laura Schmid-Pizzato seconded the motion. The motion carried. Trustee Brad Bonner was not present for the vote.

**College of Business Online Graduate Certificate in Financial Planning**
*Approved 07-16-2020 @ 2:50 p.m.*
Trustee Michelle Sullivan moved the Board approve the request for authorization for the new Graduate Certificate in Financial Planning. Trustee Macey Moore seconded the motion. The motion carried. Trustee Brad Bonner was not present for the vote.

AGENDA ITEM TITLE: **Fiscal and Legal Affairs Committee, Moore**

MINUTES OF THE MEETING:
Trustee Macey Moore provided an update from the Fiscal and Legal Affairs Committee. Trustee Moore stated the High Bay Facility audit was slightly behind schedule but should be available at the August 2020 Board meeting. Trustee Moore stated the committee is looking at a slight change of scope in the upcoming audit of procurement cards. She also reported the committee spent time discussing internal audit team structure. Trustee Moore explained the desire to create a job family for internal audit allowing for areas of growth and promotion.
AGENDA ITEM TITLE: Vice President and Dean Search Committee, Schmid-Pizzato

MINUTES OF THE MEETING:

Trustee Laura Schmid-Pizzato provided an update to the Board on the finalist for the Haub School Dean and reported there were three finalists for the Dean of the College of Arts and Science visiting campus at the end of July. Trustee Schmid-Pizzato stated that Parker Executive Search had been retained to conduct a search for a Provost as well as the College of Education and the College of Engineering dean searches.

AGENDA ITEM TITLE: Trustees Meeting Schedule for 2023-2024, Marsh

MINUTES OF THE MEETING:

Trustee Jeff Marsh reported the Board approved meeting schedules through 2022 at its July 2019 meeting and stated it would consider 2023-2024 at the July 2021 meeting.

AGENDA ITEM TITLE: Trustees Annual Schedule of Items to Approve, Discuss, or Report, Marsh

MINUTES OF THE MEETING:

Approval of Trustees Annual Schedule of Items to Approve, Discuss or Report
Approved 07-16-2020 @ 3:34 p.m.

Trustee David Fall moved the Board table the consideration and approval of the Trustees Annual Schedule of Items to Approve, Discuss or Report until the September 2020 Board of Trustees Meeting. Trustee Macey Moore seconded the motion. The motion carried. Trustee Brad Bonner was not present for the vote.

Thursday, July 16, 2020
Business meeting
Via Video Conference

Roll Call

The business meeting was called to order at 9:15 a.m. Deputy Secretary, UW Board of Trustees RoseMarie London took roll.

Trustees participating: Mel Baldwin, Kermit Brown, David Fall, Brad LaCroix, Jeff Marsh, John McKinley, Macey Moore, Laura Schmid-Pizzato, Michelle Sullivan, and Dave True. Trustees Brad Bonner and Dick Scarlett were not in attendance. Ex-officio Trustees participating: Governor Mark Gordon, University of Wyoming President Ed Seidel, ASUW President Riley Talamantes, Executive Director for Wyoming Community College Commission Sandy Caldwell, and State Superintendent of Public Instruction Jillian Balow.

Reports

ASUW Report, Talamantes

MINUTES OF THE MEETING:

ASUW President Riley Talamantes provided the Board an update on the first few months of her administration which has included a focus on better collaboration. Talamantes stated attention has been given to addressing student concerns regarding reopening campus further stating ASUW will be providing opportunities for student feedback frequently throughout the fall 2020 semester. Talamantes discussed
the purchase of mobile hotspots for students in Albany County to utilize, and discussed the importance of clarity regarding student fees. In response to inquiry from Trustee Jeff Marsh, Talamantes discussed the results of a student survey regarding mask requirements on campus.

**Staff Senate Report, Wheeler**

MINUTES OF THE MEETING:
Staff Senate President James Wheeler expressed his appreciation for those in administration that have attended the Staff Senate meetings further stating the staff senate activities are historically slow during the summer months.

**Faculty Senate Report, Michalak**

MINUTES OF THE MEETING:
Faculty Senate Chairman Rudi Michalak discussed the lessons learned during the transition to online course delivery during the pandemic giving specific attention to technology necessary to remote teaching.

**Public Testimony** [Scheduled for Thursday, July 16, 2020, at 11:00 a.m.]
Sam Neumann, student and employee at the University of Wyoming, discussed the lack of accessibility to attend the Board of Trustees meeting, and concerns regarding the effect of COVID-19 on the university and its budgets.
Timberly Vogel, recent University of Wyoming graduate, urged the Board to consider the importance and effectiveness of the UW Police Department and stated that a possible alternative for COVID-19 funds could come from this department.
Tyler Klatt, senior at the University of Wyoming, stated support of disbanding the UW Police Department and discussed concerns returning to campus for the Fall 2020 semester.
Sam Miller, Laramie resident and previous University of Wyoming student, stated support of disbanding the UW Police Department or reducing its funding.
Amanda Still, University of Wyoming alumna, stated support of the dissolution of the UW Police Department.
Trustee Jeff Marsh read comments from individuals unable to attend, but who provided remark through the Trustees public comment web form.

**Committee of the Whole**

**Board Committee Reports** [Scheduled for Thursday, July 16, 2020, at 1:45 p.m.]

**Liaisons to Other Boards**
- **UW Alumni Association Board** – Laura Schmid-Pizzato
- **Foundation Board** – Jeff Marsh and David Fall
- **Haub School of Environment & Natural Resources** – Michelle Sullivan
- **Energy Resources Council** – Dave True
- **Cowboy Joe** – John McKinley
Written reports were provided to the Board in advance of the meeting and can be found on the University of Wyoming Board of Trustees website.
OTHER ACTIONS TAKEN DURING MEETING

Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes (Public Session & Executive Session)
Approved 07-16-20 @ 3:37 p.m.
Trustee Mel Baldwin moved approval of the University of Wyoming Board of Trustees’ meeting minutes both public and executive sessions for June 10, 2020, Board of Trustees Conference Call meeting and June 23, 2020, Board of Trustees Special Meeting. Trustee David Fall seconded the motion. The motion carried. Trustees Brad Bonner and Dick Scarlett were not present for the vote.

Aircraft Purchase Agreement and Avcon Industries, Inc.
Approved 07-16-2020 @ 3:55 p.m.
Trustee Kermit Brown moved the Board authorize administration to sign the Aircraft Purchase Agreement and the Avcon Industries, Inc. Avionics Upgrade for FL-862 Quote. Trustee Mel Baldwin seconded the motion. The motion carried. Trustees Brad Bonner and Dick Scarlett were not present for the vote.

Contracts and Grants Report
Approved 07-16-2020 @ 3:57 p.m.
Trustee David Fall moved the Board approve the Contract and Grants Report as presented to the Board. Trustee Mel Baldwin seconded the motion. The motion carried. Trustees Brad Bonner and Dick Scarlett were not present for the vote.

Academic and Non Academic Personnel Report
Approved 07-16-2020 @ 3:57 p.m.
Trustee Macey Moore moved the Board approve the personnel report as presented and to approve the change in the following University Officer titles: Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs, and Senior Vice President for Finance and Administration. Trustee Brad LaCroix seconded the motion. The motion carried. Trustees Brad Bonner and Dick Scarlett were not present for the vote.

Plan to Restart Campus and Restore Normal Operations
Approved 07-16-2020 @ 3:59 p.m.
Trustee Macey Moore moved the Board authorize modification to the University’s Plan to Restart Campus and Restore Normal Operations to require visitors to campus to wear face coverings and to allow administration the flexibility to make further modifications to the Plan without Board approval as the COVID-19 situation changes and evolves. Administration will provide a weekly update to the Board notifying the Board of any changes to the Plan. Trustee Laura Schmid-Pizzato seconded the motion. The motion carried. Trustees Brad Bonner and Dick Scarlett were not present for the vote.

City of Laramie: Proposed Ordinance
Approved 07-16-2020 @ 4:00 p.m.
Trustee John McKinley moved to direct the Office of General Counsel and Outside Counsel to respond to the City of Laramie’s proposed ordinance: 13.04.360 – Nonmunicipal Water – Franchise or permit required as discussed in executive session. Trustee Dave True seconded the motion. The motion carried. Trustees Brad Bonner and Dick Scarlett were not present for the vote.
New Business

Date of Next Meeting
August 12, 2020 (conference call)

Adjournment
The meet adjourned at 4:03 p.m.

Executive Session Information
[The UW Board of Trustees met in Executive Session on Thursday, July 16, 2020, via video conference.]

Executive Session
Thursday, July 16, 2020
7:00-9:15 a.m.
Via Video Conference
The University of Wyoming Board of Trustees called the meeting to order at 7:00 a.m. Trustee Michelle Sullivan moved the Board enter into Executive Session for the purpose of:

1) Matters concerning litigation to which the governing body is a party or proposed litigation to which the governing body may be a party under Wyoming Statute 16-4-405(a)(iii);
2) Receiving information classified as confidential by law under Wyoming Statute 16-4-405(a)(ix);
3) Consideration of the acceptance of gifts, donations and bequests which the donor has requested in writing to be kept confidential under Wyoming Statute 16-4-405(a)(viii); and
4) Consideration of the appointment, employment, right to practice or dismissal of a public employee under Wyoming Statute 16-4-405(a)(ii).

The Executive Session was attended by the 12 voting members of the Trustees, ex-officio trustees, and UW administrators and staff as appropriate. Trustee Mel Baldwin seconded the motion, which passed unanimously. The Board entered Executive Session at 7:05 a.m.

Trustees participating: Mel Baldwin, Brad Bonner, Kermit Brown, David Fall, Brad LaCroix, Jeff Marsh, John McKinley, Macey Moore, Laura Schmid-Pizzato, Dick Scarlett, Michelle Sullivan, and Dave True. Ex-officio Trustees participating: Governor Mark Gordon, University of Wyoming President Ed Seidel, ASUW President Riley Talamantes, Executive Director for Wyoming Community College Commission Sandy Caldwell, and State Superintendent of Public Instruction Jillian Balow.

Vice President and General Counsel Tara Evans, UW Board of Trustees Deputy Secretary RoseMarie London, and IT Specialist Lisa Stafford attended the entirety of the meeting. The following administrators attended during their respective topics: Vice President for Research and Economic Development Ed Synakowski; Associate Vice President for Financial Affairs David Jewell; Interim Vice President for Administration Bill Mai; Director of Budget and Planning Alex Kean; Vice Provost Tami Benham-Deal; Assistant Professor of Atmospheric Sciences Jeff French; CEO and President of the UW Foundation Ben Blalock; Interim Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs Anne Alexander and; Associate Vice President of Human Resources Tom Koczara.
Respectfully submitted,

RoseMarie London
Deputy Secretary, UW Board of Trustees