

Approved February 17, 2021

THE UNIVERSITY OF WYOMING
SUMMARY MINUTES OF THE TRUSTEES
PUBLIC SESSION
January 13-15, 2021

Final minutes can be found on the University of Wyoming Board of Trustees website at www.uwyo.edu/trustees

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.

**THE UNIVERSITY OF WYOMING
MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
January 13-15, 2021
Via Video Conference
Laramie, Wyoming**

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 Thursday, January 14, 2021, and Friday, January 15, 2021. Committees met on Wednesday, January 13, 2021. The Board's business meeting was held on Thursday, January 14, 2021.

**THE UNIVERSITY OF WYOMING
MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
January 13-15, 2021
Via Video Conference
Laramie, Wyoming**

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- December 9, 2020 UW Board of Trustees Conference Call Meeting
- December 16, 2020 UW Board of Trustees “Special Meeting”

Discussion: Appointment of new Trustees – Marsh

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Public Testimony [*Scheduled for Thursday, January 14, 11:00 – 11:30 a.m.*]

Committee of the Whole

Regular Business

Board Committee Reports [*Scheduled for Thursday, January 14 at 2:00 p.m.*]

Trustee Committees

[Note: Committees of the Board will provide reports during the regular work sessions and will not have a formal report to provide during the Business Meeting. Liaisons will provide a written report in advance of the regular Business Meeting.]

Liaison to Other Boards

- UW Alumni Association Board – Laura Schmid-Pizzato
- Foundation Board – Jeff Marsh & David Fall
- Haub School of Environment & Natural Resources – Michelle Sullivan
- Energy Resources Council – Dave True
- Cowboy Joe – John McKinley

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New Business

Date of Next Meeting: February 17, 2021 (conference call)

Adjourn Meeting

AGENDA ITEM TITLE: Introductions/Recognitions: John Kaszuba, John and Jane Wold Centennial Chair in Energy, Krutka/Alexander

MINUTES OF THE MEETING:

School of Energy Resources Executive Director Holly Krutka introduced Professor John Kaszuba as the recipient of the John and Jane Wold Centennial Chair in Energy. Krutka also thanked the selection committee members, President Ed Seidel, and Academic Affairs for their involvement. Kaszuba expressed his gratitude to the Wold Family and others for the opportunity, and expressed that he was looking forward to exploring transformational research opportunities that benefit Wyoming.

AGENDA ITEM TITLE: Faculty Athletics Representative Report, Hagy/Moore/Blattner/Reiser/Wille

MINUTES OF THE MEETING:

Faculty Athletic Representative Alyson Hagy presented an annual report to the Board to include information related to academic performance, student athletes, and student athlete well-being initiatives. Also presenting information was Assistant Athletics Director Albert Reiser, Director of Student Athlete Well Being Katie Wille; student athlete Jahmari Moore, and Katelyn Blattner provided testimony. In response to inquiry from Trustee David Fall, Jahmari Moore stated appreciation for the efforts of the university during the COVID-19 pandemic. Moore further stated the desire for broader communication from administration during the “Black Lives Matter” movement, and the ability for safe freedom of expression. Katelyn Blattner concurred, and expressed appreciation for the services available to student athletes. Reiser suggested an adjustment to policy to allow for pass/fail options. Trustee Laura Schmid-Pizzato spoke in favor of the athletes’ use of mental health services, and their participation toward a de-stigmatization of the available services . President Ed Seidel offered appreciation for the athletics program, its nimble response to COVID-19, and student athletes’ participation in advancing discussions with the UW police department.

AGENDA ITEM TITLE: Research and Economic Development Report, Synakowski

MINUTES OF THE MEETING:

Vice President for Research and Economic Development Ed Synakowski provided the Board an annual update and discussed highlights, challenges, and outlined planning activities. Synakowski stated his appreciation for the appointment of Dr. Gabrielle Allen as Special Assistant for Strategic Initiatives, and the appointment of Steve Farkas as Assistant Vice President for Strategic Partnerships. Synakowski described increasing expenditures in research and went on to summarize various impacts the pandemic has had on research, including travel restrictions and restrictions to the number of people allowed in a lab. Synakowski remarked that one lesson learned during the pandemic is that faculty researchers have found their home and work life intensely intertwined, and the result is that a given amount of research simply takes more time. Synakowski provided some insight on COVID-19’s impact on female researchers in particular, further stating the adoption of Zoom meetings provides for a more democratic experience. Synakowski summarized the genetics research and funding conducted by College of Agriculture and Natural Resources Professor David Fay. Synakowski went on to provide a summary of the Wyoming INBRE program funding, and the research infrastructure of the Wyoming community colleges. Synakowski discussed the activities of the School of Energy Resources, noting their research focus is on energy-driven economic development for Wyoming. He went on to discuss the research in computing, and gave details on the university’s discussions with National Science Foundation (NSF) and NCAR/UCAR. Synakowski highlighted that all business units are performing well, and noted that

Farkas was working to further develop the university's relationships with outside entities. Synakowski gave mention to Department of Chemistry Assistant Professors Michael Taylor and Caleb Hill for their research achievements. Synakowski closed his report by summarizing the uncharacteristically quick process that allowed for the research and development of the COVID-19 vaccine, and pondered whether similar streamlining could be applied to research at UW. President Ed Seidel discussed his commitment to enhancing the state's economy and growing workforce development in collaboration with the Wyoming Community Colleges.

Trustee Kermit Brown asked to see an inventory or catalog of administrative constraints that have been swept aside during the pandemic and that will be reinstated once the pandemic is over. Synakowski responded that his intention was not to imply that researchers are not doing things "by the book" but that nationally and for example during development of vaccines, researchers have learned to work in different ways to overcome the coordination challenges posed by COVID-19.

Trustee John McKinley requested further detail on the potential opportunities for using the supercomputer in the state, particularly in regard to UCAR. President Seidel stated that the university is in conversations with NCAR and Governor Mark Gordon to further develop this relationship and expand corporate partnerships. Trustee McKinley followed up by asking how UCAR and NCAR interrelate. Synakowski provided that UCAR is open and interested in this partnership, but these details would be guided by National Science Foundation (NSF) leadership.

State Superintendent for Public Instruction Jillian Balow expressed interest in the proposed software engineering program, and advocated that Wyoming students will require a solid K-12 foundation in order to take advantage of these programs at the college level.

AGENDA ITEM TITLE: Sabbatical and Professional Leave Report, Alexander/Benham-Deal

MINUTES OF THE MEETING:

Vice Provost Tami Benham-Deal provided the Board information related to faculty sabbatical and professional development leaves during Academic Year 2019-2020. Benham-Deal discussed ways in which workloads were adjusted and courses were covered during a faculty leave. Faculty member Dr. Mohamed Ahmed provided a presentation on the work for the Federal Highway Administration he conducted while on sabbatical. President Ed Seidel stated his appreciation for the presentation.

AGENDA ITEM TITLE: FY22 Fee Book, McKinley/Jewell/Chestnut

MINUTES OF THE MEETING:

Deputy Vice President for Finance David Jewell reported the Central Fee Book Committee convened on October 14, 2020, to consider campus feedback. Jewell reported the horse boarding facility fee was not included in the proposed fee book presented to the Board. Trustee John McKinley described the difference in amount proposed for the horse boarding facility for spring and academic year 2021-2022, and described the fiscal impact to students related to the latter. Trustee McKinley reported that the Budget Committee had requested it be provided more information and will submit a recommendation to the full Board at a future meeting.

Trustee Dave True discussed historically fees charged for horse stalls. Trustee Dick Scarlett stated an objection to fees charged to students for horse boarding, further stating that some students bring a number of horses based on their competitive event. Trustee Scarlett remarked that members of

the rodeo team are ambassadors for the University of Wyoming throughout the state. Trustee Kermit Brown concurred, and discussed the lack of NCAA scholarships available to rodeo athletes. Trustee McKinley described the NCAA distinction that the rodeo team is a club sport. Trustee Laura Schmid-Pizzato asked the Board consider treating club sports equitably.

Trustee McKinley withdrew a previous motion on the fee book that included horse boarding fees. Trustee Laura Schmid-Pizzato withdrew her second.

FY22 Fee Book

Approved 01-14-2021 @ 12:01 P.M.

Trustee John McKinley moved the Board approve the Fiscal Year 2022 Fee Book as presented to the Board. Trustee Laura Schmid-Pizzato seconded the motion. The motion passed with a unanimous decision.

Horse Boarding Facility Fees

Approved 01-14-2021 @ 12:11 P.M.

Trustee John McKinley moved the Board approve of a \$50.00 per stall, per month fee for Horse Boarding for the spring 2021 semester. This excludes any action on fees for AY 21-22—pending further information provided to the Biennium Budget Committee. Trustee Laura Schmid-Pizzato seconded the motion. Trustees Kermit Brown and Dick Scarlet voted No. The motion carried.

AGENDA ITEM TITLE: COVID-19 Update, Seidel

MINUTES OF THE MEETING:

President Ed Seidel provided a summary of the *2021 Spring Campus Plan* approved by the Board at its December 2020 meeting. President Seidel extended a thank you to Vice President and General Counsel Tara Evans, and Vice Provost Tami Benham-Deal for their hard work on the university's COVID-19 response over the last year. President Seidel reported Benham-Deal would be stepping back from the day-to-day COVID-19 planning, and that COVID-19 related decisions will be addressed by administrators at regular cabinet meetings. President Seidel acknowledged national research showing university communities have been significantly impacted by student in-person attendance, and went on to describe interventions built into the Spring Plan to mitigate the spread of the disease such as the limited contact period, and participation in testing. President Seidel described in-house testing with support of the UW Veterinary Laboratory, and pending Clinical Laboratory Improvement Amendments (CLIA) certification that would allow the university to run its own diagnostic testing. President Seidel discussed community engagement in support of public health, and stated the university planned to provide limited testing as a service to the public. President Seidel went on to describe the work of the COVID Hub and its reporting contributions to the public COVID-19 website. President Seidel provided information related to student and staff support, and the measures in place to provide a focus in this area. President Seidel discussed vaccine roll-out and the resources required to facilitate distribution of vaccines. President Seidel further stated Albany County has received 1,400 doses of the vaccine and reported a number of front line/high contact employees at the university have been vaccinated.. President Seidel reported it was being advocated to the Wyoming Department of Health that faculty be advanced in the line for vaccines, and went on to remark on the efficacy and safety of the vaccines. Trustee David Fall encouraged the university engage in education and communication regarding the benefits of vaccination.. Trustee Dave True inquired about the timeline for CLIA certification. In response, Director of the Wyoming State Veterinary Laboratory Will Laegreid reported the university has been CLIA registered, and explained the steps to certification to include a pending lab inspection by a CLIA surveyor.

- **Impacts of COVID-19 on Research**, Rasco

College of Agriculture and Natural Resources Dean Barbara Rasco provided an update on research during the COVID-19 Pandemic. Rasco thanked those involved with the Office of Research and Economic Development, and credited them with the college's ability to maintain research levels. Rasco gave detailed commentary about impacts on research in the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources, including lost productivity, added costs, and impacts on student success. Rasco stated that keeping individuals on the payroll while they cannot complete their full responsibilities due to the pandemic has been a major cost to the institution. Rasco emphasized that one major concern across colleges is obtaining sufficient funds to cover salary and costs of graduate or undergraduate students, post-doctoral associates and others who will need additional funding to complete their programs.

Trustee Brad LaCroix inquired about specific CARES Act relief available to make up for the shortfall in funding. In response, Rasco discussed data gathering methods in support of the presentation provided to the Board. President Ed Seidel commented that there are additional federal stimulus funds anticipated, and suggested the university work with the congressional delegation to advocate that scientific research funding be included in the next disbursement. Synakowski added the type of funding necessary for researchers was "out of bounds" in the current economic stimulus package. Interim Provost Anne Alexander suggested the university develop a funding extension process for graduate and doctorate students who have lost research time due to the pandemic, further stating the university should determine an exception process for time for graduation limits which are particularly impactful on the STEM disciplines.

AGENDA ITEM TITLE: Brand Reputation Management Through COVID-19, Baldwin/Petty

MINUTES OF THE MEETING:

Associate Vice President for Communications and Marketing Chad Baldwin introduced the Brand Reputation presentation narrated by Director of Enrollment Marketing Jenny Petty, summarizing Campus Sonar's comprehensive look at social media to provide analysis of the institution's brand reputation. The presentation indicated that the UW brand had not been significantly impacted by COVID-19, and went on to outline some vulnerabilities as well as opportunities. Petty described the benefits of "social listening" to provide real-time data and effective query building. Petty gave an overview of the social campaigns *Better Days Ahead*, *Cowboy Coffee*, *Cowboys Can*, *UW Answers*, and *Cowboy Coaches*. Petty presented data collected during COVID-19 "issue monitoring" to include conversation sources and sentiment. Petty discussed "tactical takeaways" as it relates to the UW brand, prospective students, parents and COVID-19, alumni and community. Petty closed the presentation describing enrollment marketing efforts, digital and content, advertising and retention marketing and communication, and thought leadership strategies.

AGENDA ITEM TITLE: Academic and Student Affairs Committee, Sullivan

MINUTES OF THE MEETING:

Trustee Michelle Sullivan provided information about the proposed change to the Visual and Literary Art – Art and Art History Program degree designations from BA in Art and BFA in Art to BA in Studio Art and BFA in Studio Art. Trustee Sullivan went on to explain the change in title would more accurately reflect the degree and instruction that students would receive. Trustee Sullivan stated the change will not affect credit hours, and these changes would take effect in fall

2021. Trustee Dick Scarlett inquired whether university administration had been made aware of the proposed changes. In response, Interim Provost Anne Alexander discussed the process approved by the Board at its May 2020 meeting that applied to the proposed changes. Trustee Jeff Marsh requested the process be shared with the Board for their information.

Change in Degree Title

Approved 01-14-2021 @ 1:59 P.M.

Trustee Michelle Sullivan moved the Board approve the proposed changes in degree titles from BA in Art to BA in Studio Art, and from BFA in Art to BFA in Studio Art, as presented to the Board. Trustee Macey Moore seconded the motion. The motion passed with a unanimous decision.

AGENDA ITEM TITLE: Biennium Budget Committee, McKinley

MINUTES OF THE MEETING:

Trustee John McKinley updated the board on oil and gas royalties received from EOG Resources, and discussed the benefits of establishing an endowment, and reported the committee requested a recommendation from President Ed Seidel on the matter be provided at an upcoming meeting of the Board. Trustee McKinley explained the request to move funds from the Special Projects Reserve Account to the Trustee Education Initiative (TEI) to remedy shortfall as a result of the state budget reductions. Trustee McKinley described TEI Chairman and former Trustee Dave Bostrom testimony to the committee about the value of TEI's ongoing mission. Trustee Dave True asked for clarification as to whether this was a one-time request for funds stating it was suggested in discussion the need would be ongoing. Trustee McKinley stated the request is for fiscal year 2022. Trustee McKinley discussed the request to transfer funds from the Special Projects Reserve Account to the John P. Ellbogen College of Education Dean's Endowment Expendable Fund, and provided background on the request. Trustee McKinley provided a summary of the impacts to the university as a result of the first round of reductions to the block grant. Trustee McKinley discussed the handling and maintenance of the university's matching funds which he stated, are critical to fundraising, special endowments, and other programs; Trustee McKinley stressed the importance of managing these funds in accordance with legislative directives. Trustee McKinley provided information about the revenue source of scholarships provided to international students. In response to inquiry from Trustee David Fall, Interim Provost Anne Alexander provided data related to the recipients of these awards. Trustee McKinley reiterated the committee requested further information on the proposed fee book prior to the Board's March 2021 meeting. Trustee McKinley summarized further discussions of the committee related to WAMMI and WYDENT, tuition, and other spring semester budget items.

Special Projects Reserve Request: Trustee Education Initiative.

Approved 01-14-2021 @ 2:26 P.M.

Trustee John McKinley moved the Board approve a transfer in FY22 of \$434,165.76 from the Special Projects Reserve account net of any carryover from the previous year Special Project Reserve transfer to the Trustee Education Initiative for FY20 and FY21. Trustee Dick Scarlett seconded the motion. The motion passed with a unanimous decision.

Special Projects Reserve Request: John P. Ellbogen College of Education Dean's Endowment Expendable Fund.

Approved 01-14-2021 @ 2:31 p.m.

Trustee John McKinley moved the Board approve a transfer of \$100,000 from the Special Projects Reserve account to the John P. “Jack” Ellbogen College of Education Deans Endowment Expendable Account. Trustee David Fall seconded the motion. The motion passed with a unanimous decision.

Special Projects Reserve Request: Gift/Endowment Matching Funds.

Approved 01-14-2021 @ 2:37 P.M.

Trustee John McKinley moved the Board approve that the University satisfy its obligation to provide the matching funds for those programs qualifying for matching funds in the amount of \$526,758.14 for the programs shown on pages 20 and 21 in the Biennium Budget Committee materials. Trustee Dick Scarlet seconded the motion. The motion passed with a unanimous decision.

International Students and Scholars, Global Engagement Office Sponsored Students Tuition/Financial Aid Proposal.

Approved 01-14-2021 @ 2:38 p.m.

Trustee John McKinley moved the Board approve an additional 10 slots for scholarships for international students and scholars at 150% of resident in state tuition with a maximum of 60 allocated for this academic year Trustee Laura Schmid-Pizzato seconded the motion. The motion passed with a unanimous decision

AGENDA ITEM TITLE: Facilities Contracting Committee, McKinley

MINUTES OF THE MEETING:

Trustee John McKinley provided an update on the Lewis Street Corridor budget, and directed the Board to the Facilities Contracting Committee materials as presented. Trustee McKinley stated due to funding limitations the project will be conducted in phases. Trustee McKinley went on to discuss the progress of identifying appropriate sources for exterior stone for university construction projects, and the committee’s request for additional information on the Ivinson parking garage which administration will provide updates to the Board at its March 2021 meeting.

Science Initiative Audio Visual Contract Change Order

Approved 01-14-2021 @ 2:48 P.M.

Trustee John McKinley moved the Board authorize administration to execute the CMAR contract change order with GE Johnson Construction Company of Wyoming in the amount of \$2,278,032.00 for the Science Initiative AV/IT project. Trustee Dick Scarlet seconded the motion. The motion passed with a unanimous decision.

Bus Maintenance Facility Initial Guaranteed Maximum Price.

Approved 01-14-2021 @ 2:50 P.M.

Trustee John McKinley moved the Board authorize administration to execute a contract amendment establishing an initial limited scope Guaranteed Maximum Price (GMP) with GH Phipps Wyoming, Inc. in the amount of \$1,322,997.00 for the pre-engineered metal building and canopy structures scope of work. Trustee Dick Scarlet seconded the motion. The motion passed with a unanimous decision.

College of Law, Interior design package.

Approved 01-14-2021 @ 2:51 p.m.

Trustee John McKinley moved the Board approve the interior design drawings for the College of Law addition, and proceed with construction documents continuing to use private funds as the funding source for the endeavor. Trustee Dick Scarlet seconded the motion. The motion passed with a unanimous decision.

Ivinson Parking Garage, Interior design package.

Approved 01-14-2021 @ 2:52 p.m.

Trustee John McKinley moved the Board approve the Ivinson Parking Garage interior design documents, and to proceed with the construction documents as submitted. Trustee Dick Scarlett seconded the motion. The motion passed with a unanimous decision.

AGENDA ITEM TITLE: Fiscal and Legal Affairs Committee, Moore

MINUTES OF THE MEETING:

Trustee Macey Moore provided updates on annual audits including NCAA, a limited examination of the Wyoming 4-H Foundation, cashiers office, UW Art Museum, and limited assessment of CARES Act expenditures. Trustee Moore reported that FLAC will meet again on February 3, 2021.

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

MINUTES OF THE MEETING:

Trustee David Fall reported on the work being conducted by the Center of Innovation for Flow through Porous Media directed by Mohammad Piri, and its continued research successes. Trustee Fall reported on the committee's discussion of Regulation 9-2 (Indirect Cost Recovery). Trustee Fall discussed updates provided to the committee by Assistant Vice President of Strategic Partnerships Steve Farkas on an artificial intelligence grant application, and the work toward university collaboration with Wyoming Community Colleges and the Wyoming Business Council. Trustee Fall stated the committee received an update from Associate Vice President for Research Diana Hulme on eRA (electronic research administration).

AGENDA ITEM TITLE: Vice President and Dean Search Committee, Schmid-Pizzato

MINUTES OF THE MEETING:

Trustee Laura Schmid-Pizzato provided an update on the Provost search stating President Ed Seidel was provided information on 13 potential candidates. Trustee Schmid-Pizzato projected selections would be made by the end of February. Trustee Schmid-Pizzato reported the search for the College of Engineering Dean had produced 44 applicants and the search committee projected selection by the end of March 2021. Trustee Schmid-Pizzato stated both these searches were being conducted with the assistance of Parker Executive Search. Trustee Schmid-Pizzato provided an update on the College of Education Dean search which is being conducted by Greenwood Search Firm. Trustee Schmid-Pizzato reported that this search has been delayed until the John P. "Jack" Ellbogen Deanship is in place. Trustee Schmid-Pizzato discussed the upcoming search for the College of Business Dean and that Interim Provost Anne Alexander will identify an interim candidate. In response to inquiry from Trustee David Fall, Alexander reported outgoing College of Business Dean David Sprott had indicated he could delay his departure until July if necessary.

AGENDA ITEM TITLE: Legislative Relations Committee, Brown

MINUTES OF THE MEETING:

Trustee Kermit Brown welcomed Bill Mai as Acting Vice President of Governmental Affairs. Trustee Brown discussed the university's lobbying team to include Mai, Deputy Vice President

for Finance David Jewell, Assistant Vice President for Budget and Institutional Planning Alex Kean, Senior Vice President for Finance and Administration Neil Theobald, and President Ed Seidel. Trustee Brown described the 2021 General Session of the State of Wyoming's 66th Legislature schedule in response to COVID-19 pandemic. Trustee Brown recommended a delegation from the university visit the legislature when they convene in person, and the consideration of a "Trustees day at the legislature". Trustee Brown stated the potential need to hold a Legislative Relations Committee meeting at the end of February 2021.

AGENDA ITEM TITLE: Honorary Degrees Committee, Sullivan

MINUTES OF THE MEETING:

Trustee Michelle Sullivan described the continuing membership of the Honorary Degrees and Awards Committee. Trustee Sullivan explained the delay in awards and the call for honorary degrees due to the university's attention to COVID-19. Trustee Sullivan stated due consideration is being given to the best way to honor the prior year's recipients. Trustee Sullivan reported that the committee will bring new nominations forward to the Board for consideration at its May 2021 meeting.

AGENDA ITEM TITLE: UW Regulation Review Committee, Brown

MINUTES OF THE MEETING:

Trustee Kermit Brown reported the goal to complete the on-going regulation review by the end of the year. There were no regulation modifications to review.

Thursday, January 14, 2021

Business Meeting

Via Video Conference

Roll Call

The business meeting was called to order at 3:24 p.m. Deputy Secretary, UW Board of Trustees RoseMarie London took roll.

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

Appointment of Trustees/Board Officer Nomination Committee

Trustee Jeff Marsh reported the discussion related to appointment of Trustees is postponed until the February 17, 2021, meeting. Trustee Jeff Marsh went on to report Trustee Brad Bonner, Trustee Brad LaCroix, and Trustee Macey Moore (chairman) had agreed to serve on the Board Officer Nomination Committee.

Reports

ASUW Report, Talamantes

ASUW President Riley Talamantes discussed the approval of special projects funded through the ASUW endowment. Talamantes stated projects included funds for disability support services and

meal swipe sharing program at Washakie Dining Center to aid students experiencing food insecurity. Talamantes stated that ASUW has reviewed and approved the proposed fee book for the upcoming academic year. Talamantes discussed new ASUW hires, and the upcoming budget review process. In response to inquiry from Trustee Michelle Sullivan, Talamantes stated ASUW was satisfied overall with the fee book discussions and how they were conducted. In response to inquiry from Trustee David Fall, Talamantes reported an increase in use of the food pantry.

Staff Senate Report, Stratton

Staff Senate President Christopher Stratton discussed ongoing work with the Food Insecurity Task Force.

Faculty Senate Report, Michalak

Faculty Senate Chairman Michalak described the significant work necessary to respond to UW Regulation 2-13 (Academic Program Reorganization, Consolidation, Reduction and Discontinuance)

Public Testimony [*Scheduled for Thursday, January 14, 2021 at 11:15 a.m.*]

Trustee Jeff Marsh read public testimony received electronically from student and community member Karen Mruk regarding the impact of the university's schedule in response to COVID-19 on research. Trustee Marsh requested Deputy Secretary RoseMarie London forward Mruk's communication to the Board of Trustees, President Ed Seidel, and Vice President for Research and Economic Development Ed Synakowski. Trustee Marsh requested Synakowski follow up.

Committee of the Whole

Board Committee Reports [*Scheduled for Thursday, January 14, 2021 at 2:00 p.m.*]

Liaisons to Other Boards

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 ACTION TAKEN DURING MEETING:

Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes (Public Session & Executive Session)

Approved 01-14-2021 @ 3:24 P.M.

Trustee Mel Baldwin moved the Board approve the public and executive session meeting minutes from the December 9, 2020, UW Board of Trustees meeting, and December 16, 2020, UW Board of Trustees "Special Meeting". Trustee David Fall seconded the motion. The motion passed with a unanimous decision.

Wyoming Business Council Agreement

Approved 01-14-2021 @ 3:36 P.M.

Trustee Macey Moore moved the Board to authorize administration to sign the modified agreement between Wyoming Business Council and the University of Wyoming. Trustee David Fall seconded the motion. The motion passed with a unanimous decision

Cummins Inc. Service Agreement

Approved 01-14-2021 @ 3:37 P.M.

Trustee Macey Moore moved the Board to authorize administration to sign the agreement for services between the University of Wyoming and Cummins Inc. Trustee David Fall seconded the

motion. The motion passed with a unanimous decision

Applied Data Systems Service Agreement

Approved 01-14-2021 @ 3:38 P.M.

Trustee Macey Moore moved the Board to authorize administration to sign the Agreement for Services between the University of Wyoming and Applied Data Systems (ADS). Trustee Michelle Sullivan seconded the motion. The motion passed with a unanimous decision

Personnel Report

Approved 01-14-2021 @ 3:39 P.M.

Trustee Macey Moore moved the Board to approve the Personnel Report as provided to the Board. Trustee David Fall seconded the motion. The motion passed with a unanimous decision

Litigation

Approved 01-14-2021 @ 3:40 P.M.

Trustee Macey Moore moved the Board to authorize general counsel to take appropriate measures related to a settlement as discussed by the Board during executive session. Trustees David Fall seconded the motion. The motion passed with a unanimous decision.

Approval of the Contract and Grants Report

Approved 01-14-2021 @ 3:41 P.M.

Trustee David Fall moved the Board approve the Contract and Grants Report as presented to the Board. Trustee Brad Bonner seconded the motion. The motion passed with a unanimous decision.

Litigation II

Approved 01-14-2021 @ 3:41 P.M.

Trustee Brad Bonner moved the Board authorize general counsel to take appropriate measures related to potential litigation as discussed by the Board during executive session. Trustee Michelle Sullivan seconded the motion. The motion passed with a unanimous decision.

New Business

The UW Board of Trustees recessed until 8:00 a.m., Friday, January 15, 2021.

Friday, January 15, 2021

Work Session

Via Video Conference

Trustee Jeff Marsh called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m.

AGENDA ITEM TITLE: UW Campus Housing, McKinley

MINUTES OF THE MEETING:

Trustee John McKinley provided background information on the funding and status of UW Campus Housing. Trustee McKinley requested the Board refer to materials provided and provide input. Trustee McKinley made note the plans as presented did not in all cases represent recommendations of the legislative Task Force on UW Housing. Trustee Brad LaCroix encouraged everyone to review the proposed room configuration diagrams. Interim Vice President

for Governmental Affairs Bill Mai discussed the status of Wyoming Hall demolition and the work with the City of Laramie on street modification in support of the Ivinson parking garage.

Trustee McKinley discussed the project costs based on revenue the university identified for housing projects as of March 2019; \$225M: \$25M for parking, \$30M for dining; \$15M for utility relocation; and \$5M for demolition, with a balance of \$150M for the construction of dorm buildings. Trustee McKinley stated the funding previously identified for the housing project has been eliminated through the governor's budget reductions, and that the university cannot service this debt unless additional cash flow is identified. Trustee McKinley remarked that it would be prudent to identify streams of revenue to service the bond issuance noting that bond rates may start to go up in the next three to six months. Trustee Kermit Brown stated the university has more bonding capacity than it has ability to service debt.

Director of Planning and Design Matt Newman provided an overview of the site plan and its logistics. Newman discussed the proposed number of beds in both the north and south halls. Newman walked the Board through the building services plans to prevent congestion on Lewis Street and described the layout of the north hall's ground level to include the dining facility as outlined in the presentation provided to the Board. In response to inquiry from Trustee David Fall, Newman confirmed there was no access to the dorm level from the cafeteria. Newman went on to describe the proposed living pods, restroom to student ratio, and common spaces stating the north hall and south hall design is consistent with each other. In response to inquiry from Trustee Macey Moore, Newman provided further detail about the plumbing fixture ratio describing a concept for public sinks though the locations are not yet determined, further stating there had been discussion about inclusion of kitchenette sinks in each pod. Newman described the common features of standard double and single rooms noting rooms will be equipped with individual temperature controls, and provided fixture ratios in the semi-suite and a super-suite.

Newman described design and occupancy strategy to encourage upper classmen dorm residency, in support of peer engagement encouraging student success and student retention. Vice President for Student Affairs Kim Chestnut discussed the value of the inclusion of various communal spaces. Chestnut discussed the proposed configurations supported response to COVID-19 as well as intentionally creating a variety of accessibility opportunities in that students particularly freshmen, are connected and engaged. In response to inquiry from Trustee Dick Scarlett, Chestnut discussed student feedback collected through various surveys, and explained the strategies used to identify student success that do not always align with student preference. President Ed Seidel provided his thoughts on living/learning space, and how they might align with and promote the university's strategic initiatives.

In response to inquiry from Trustee Laura Schmid-Pizzato, Newman stated the new dorm rooms were of similar size to those in the existing dorms and directed the Board to the unit costs for each room type as presented. Newman discussed the various accounting of costs unique to housing and described the formula used to determine a per bed cost. McKinley reiterated the university's current inability to reach original ~930 bed configuration. In response to inquiry from Trustee Scarlett, Newman reported there had been site visits to new student housing at other institutions, and provided examples of design and layout. Trustee McKinley discouraged comparisons to other institutions' as the University of Wyoming's considerations are informed by the guiding principles and recommendations of the legislative Task Force on UW Housing. Interim Vice President for Governmental Affairs Bill Mai, provided insight related to the task force's guiding principles, and

relayed former Speaker of the House, and task force chairman Steve Harshman's statement that the university has one opportunity to succeed in this project.

Trustee Schmid-Pizzato stated her opinion that the sleeping room configurations presented are worse than those in the existing dorms; she further stated sinks and private baths are essential. Trustee Schmid-Pizzato stated she has received input from students that they would rather attend LCCC because of the quality of its dorms. Trustee Moore concurred, and expressed it was important to consider the ways students prefer to live in this era and in the future. Trustee Michelle Sullivan discussed the male and female student perspective on amenities. In response, Trustee Jeff Marsh discussed the debt service between the designs. Trustee Fall expressed some combination of room style would be appropriate. In response to invitation from Trustee McKinley, Chestnut discussed the issues surrounding providing multiple price points and room layouts, the decision making around the proposed design, and the budgetary constraints. Chestnut further discussed the existing housing market unique to Laramie, and the variety of off campus options available to students. Chestnut reported having received commentary that the university has not invested in students' first year experience over all, further stating the current design contextually answered the need of providing affordable housing, and a robust shared experience, emphasizing that a priority of this project is to provide first year students housing that is affordable for the vast majority. In response to inquiry from Trustee Dave True related to information about current room rates and the anticipated rates used to calculate the expense for new dorms, Trustee McKinley discussed the current residence life and dining revenue stream, and the amount necessary to service the debt.

In response to inquiry from Trustee Sullivan regarding a request for action from the Board, Trustee McKinley explained the presentation was being provided to the Board to allow members to provide direction and decisions on next steps and whether what is most important to individual Trustees has been included in the plan. Trustee McKinley discussed the Board decision timeline as it relates to the bond issuance, the related construction timeframe, and the timing of approvals from the City of Laramie necessary to move the project forward. Trustee McKinley stated the construction department required Board recommendation before it proceeds to the design documents. President Ed Seidel requested discussion with student affairs and academic affairs to dovetail decisions with strategic planning and report outcomes to the Facilities Contracting Committee at a February 2021 meeting. Trustee Kermit Brown again expressed the importance of identifying the revenue stream for this project and the proposed room rates. Trustee Marsh closed the discussion stating the need for a continued work session on this topic.

AGENDA ITEM TITLE: Wyoming Community College Collaboration, Seidel

MINUTES OF THE MEETING:

President Ed Seidel provided an update on the work toward an alliance with the Wyoming Community Colleges. President Seidel discussed the progress made on the State Longitudinal Educational Data Service (SLEDS) agreement. President Seidel further discussed the creation of educational pipelines in support of existing and future state economic markets, further reporting on conversations with Sheridan College about cultivating creative arts activities in the area. President Seidel reported Governor Mark Gordon discussed his request for a commission between the Wyoming Community Colleges and the university during his message to the Wyoming State Legislature on Tuesday, January 12, 2021. President Seidel reported the Wyoming Community College presidents have adopted the university's four pillars (more digital, more entrepreneurial, more interdisciplinary, and more inclusive), and as a consortium of higher

education, all have agreed to become more targeted and strategic to these ends. President Seidel emphasized that this consortium has the potential to have an historic impact on the state and in response to Governor Gordon's request, UW has created a presidential steering group. The group is working towards creating a Wyoming Innovation Network (WIN) comprised of a statewide corporate partners. President Seidel described his plans through WIN and the Business Research Network (BRN) Hubs of Innovation for a state wide expansion of incubators to build a deeper collaboration with existing businesses. President Seidel gave additional detail on partnership with Cardiff University around a software engineering program that will increase the flow of talent from higher education to industry. President Seidel reported a press conference with Governor Gordon is being planned.

Executive Director of Wyoming Community Colleges Sandy Caldwell stated support further reporting on the launch of the Wyo Transfer and Transfer Portal. Caldwell credited President Seidel for his strong leadership and advancing the Wyoming Community Colleges partnership with UW.

AGENDA ITEM TITLE: UW Regulation 2-13 (Academic Program Reorganization, Consolidation, Reduction and Discontinuance), Seidel/Alexander

MINUTES OF THE MEETING:

President Ed Seidel discussed the university's strategic planning and budget reductions and stated the examinations provide an opportunity to review and evaluate university programs with the goal toward becoming a "best in class, 21st century land grant university that is true to Wyoming roots". President Seidel recognized that there are traditions and economies in the state that are important to preserve and enhance, but would like to work toward growing new economic opportunities over time. President Seidel stated that while the university is the foundation for these new programs it is also responsible for refining programs in order to bring as much value to Wyoming as possible. President Seidel referred to building the university around the four pillars (stated below) as necessary means to enhance the student experience and in support of the state. President Seidel closed by giving a summary of the early stages of the strategic plan.

- More digital: computation science, artificial intelligence, become more online, economical, and efficient. Would like to build a school of computing at the university in the future, this would touch every unit in the university.
- More entrepreneurial: As university in pursuing sources of revenue and thinking about how university instills entrepreneurial spirit in students
- More interdisciplinary: Bringing university, WCCC, and outside expertise to bear on problems that Wyoming has.
- More inclusive: Incorporating people from all walks of life to participate in this rethinking of the university and new economy that will be developed over time.

Interim Provost Anne Alexander discussed the roadmap for strategic planning and academic portfolio review thus far. Alexander described the stages of the review: Phase one is the program review, Phase 2 is the strategic scenario planning and academic portfolio review, and phase 3 is the UW Regulation 2-13 review. Alexander reported the university has a core team making recommendations for reorganization to the president and provost and in progress reviews will be

completed in February 2021. Alexander reported the strategic scenario plan is slated to be submitted to the full Board at its May 2021 meeting.

In response to inquiry from Trustee John McKinley, Alexander discussed the conversations with college deans regarding prioritization and timeline of backfill position requests. Alexander discussed financial affairs reporting on average faculty turn-over rates. Alexander noted that backfill will take time and the university will have to be realistic with the legislature about this.

Trustee Jeff Marsh inquired whether adjunct hires were a viable option. In response, Alexander explained funding and short term solutions, and discussed investigation of other funding sources to include reserves and distance programs. Alexander stated that the university will not be able to offer as many courses or sections of courses, and that course sizes will be higher in the coming year. In response to inquiry from Trustee Dave True, Alexander stated she did not have a precise number of programs to be recommended for reorganization but the university needs to identify~\$15M in enhanced revenues or cost savings.

Trustee McKinley noted that the university is substantially down in tuition revenue in fall and spring and asked how this will be addressed on the program and academic side. Alexander acknowledged this contraction primarily due to COVID-19, stating enrollment is projected to rebound. Alexander inquired whether the Board had direction with regard to a target on enhanced revenue or cost savings. Trustee McKinley stated he did not have a desire to change targets, and clarified he wanted a better understanding of how the issues were interrelated.

Date of Next Meeting

February 17, 2021 (conference call)

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 11:35 a.m.

Executive Session Information

[The UW Board of Trustees met in Executive Session on Thursday, January 14, 2021, via video conference; there was no physical location due to COVID-19.]

Executive Session

Thursday, January 14, 2021

7:30 a.m.

Via Video Conference

The University of Wyoming Board of Trustees called the meeting to order at 7:30 a.m. Trustee Michelle Sullivan moved the Board enter into Executive Session for the purpose of:

- 1) Receiving information classified as confidential by law under Wyoming Statute 16-4-405(a)(ix);
- 2) To consider the appointment, employment, right to practice or dismissal of a public employee and to consider accepting or tendering offers concerning wages, salaries, benefits and terms of employment during all negotiations (16-4-405(a)(ii) and 16-4-405(a)(x)); and
- 3) 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).

The Executive Session was attended by the 12 voting members of the UW Board of Trustees, Ex-officio members, and UW administrators and staff as appropriate. Trustee Kermit Brown seconded the motion. The motion passed with a unanimous decision. The Board entered into Executive Session at 7:32 a.m.

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

Vice President and General Counsel Tara Evans, Deputy General Counsel Paula Whaley, UW Board of Trustees Deputy Secretary RoseMarie London, and IT Specialist Lisa Stafford attended the entirety of the meeting. The following administrators and external individuals attended during their respective agenda items: Senior Vice President Neil Theobald, Interim Vice President for Governmental and Community Affairs Bill Mai, Vice President for Research and Economic Development Ed Synakowski, Advanced Research Computing Center Interim Director Michael Killean, Interim Provost Anne Alexander, Vice Provost Tami Benham-Deal, and Outside Counsel Rob Jarosh.

Respectfully submitted,



RoseMarie London
Deputy Secretary,
UW Board of Trustees