**MEMORANDUM**

To: University of Wyoming Board of Trustees

From: University of Wyoming Foundation

Re: Liaison Report for July 2021 meeting

Date: June 25, 2021

Thank you for this opportunity to update you on the activities of the University of Wyoming Foundation through our liaison officers, Trustees Marsh and Fall. Please see below.

***YTD PHILANTHROPY***

As reflected in the monthly giving report through 5/31/21, year-to-date private support to UW is $45,662,169.

***FINANCIAL SERVICES***

The UW Foundation Financial Services Team is finalizing the internal foundation budget, completing 2x and 4x reinvestments, and preparing for transition to new software packages slated to begin in the new fiscal year. Additionally, the foundation staff are transitioning from a COVID remote-work environment to the office. The team is also closing out the fiscal year.

***INVESTMENT SERVICES***

Unaudited performance estimate through 5/31/2020 using available data (private manager data is one quarter lagged) produces an estimated endowment value of $776 million. May performance was just under 1%, and year-to-date performance estimate is 9.1%. Fiscal year-to-date performance through 3/31/2020 incorporating private manager data was 30.0%. The UW Foundation Investment Team has started implementing two new service providers. SS&C Inc. will provide fund accounting, performance measurement, and treasury services. Jackson Walker, LLP will provide investment-related legal services. Three summer interns have joined the investment team with individual emphasis on mineral assets, manager analysis, and digital assets.

***BOARD MEETINGS***

The summer UW Foundation Board Meetings were held June 10-11 in Laramie at the Marian H. Rochelle Gateway Center, the first in-person gathering of the UW Foundation Board of Directors since February 2020 when the board came together in Houston.

During the meeting, reports from financial services, investment, nominating, legal and governmental affairs, real estate, and development were received. The board also voted to approve a new Legacy Match program—inspired by the State of Wyoming matching program—that will provide unrestricted matching funds to any donor who wants to document a planned gift to UW. This will empower donors to have an immediate impact on UW while also leaving a legacy to the university.

Additionally, four new members were elected to the board: Lee Betsill, current chief risk officer with the CME Group Inc., who received his bachelor’s degree in finance from UW in 1984; Robin Bolz, current chief of strategy for commercial real estate with JP Morgan Chase who received his bachelor’s degree in accounting from UW in 1979; James Martin, former president and CEO of Kroenke Sports & Entertainment who received his bachelor’s degree in accounting from UW in 1977; and Martha Wyrsch, executive vice president and general counsel for Sempra Energy, who received her bachelor’s degree in English from UW in 1980.

The new members will join the Foundation Board in Laramie at the fall board meeting September 23-24.

***DIGITAL FIRST INITIATIVE***

The first steps of the UW Foundation’s Digital First Initiative—the new digital communications and fundraising strategy—is taking shape as a new software platform called EverTrue will be launched in July. This platform will allow for one-to-one engagement with donor prospects on a transformational scale, greatly improving the engagement with the university’s supporters, leading to increased philanthropic support for UW. Additionally, the UW Foundation signed on with new software systems for email engagement and for online giving. Both will be implemented in November 2021.

***GIVING DAY***

UW’s annual Giving Day will be held in conjunction with Homecoming this year. Giving Day is scheduled for the 24-hour period from noon to noon on October 20-21. Donor matches and challenges will once again be featured, and the UW Foundation Board will be matching gifts up to $100,000.

In 2020, Giving Day raised $843,305 in gifts and pledges from 2,357 donors, double the number of donors and double the number of dollars received during the previous year.