



University of Wyoming Alumni Association  
January 14, 2022, Trustees Report

Status of New Executive Director Search

The search process concluded with an offer being made to Jack Tennant to become the University of Wyoming Alumni Association Executive Director and UW Alumni Director effective February 1, 2022. Jack is currently the Director of Annual Giving at the University of Wyoming Foundation (2018-present). Prior to his current role he held positions as a Development Director in the Cowboy Joe Club (2011 –2013) and as a Major Gift Officer and Development Director (2013-18) for the UW College of Business. He graduated from the University of Wyoming in 2010 with a B.A. in Communication. He also played football and wrestled for UW.

Alumni Networking and Collaboration with UW Partners Builds Community

The Alumni Association facilitates connections among graduates and members of the Cowboy and Cowgirl communities through our alumni networks led by passionate local area volunteers and in conjunction with UW partners. Since November 2021, we have held successful and well attended activities in Phoenix (Boise State football watch party), Tucson (pre-game reception prior to the Cowboys MBB vs. Arizona game, and in Boise prior to the Famous Idaho Potato Bowl game. One of the keys to the success of these events is the leadership from our alumni volunteers. In addition, we connected by Zoom with our Norway Alumni Network at their 38<sup>th</sup> Reunion of the Buckhorn on December 18.

December 2021 New Graduate Recognition

On December 11, the UWAA welcomed over 800 UW graduates to the UW alumni family. At the ceremony, Sarah Chapman (B.S. 2019 and MBA 2019), Director of Philanthropy for the Wyoming Community Foundation, presented the alumni address to convey our mission and encourage them to remain connected to the university. The UWAA continued the tradition, which began in 2013, of presenting each UW graduate with a Steamboat lapel pin. We believe joining in the commencement activities and becoming a part of the presentation sets the tone to build a thriving relationship with UW. These new graduates join over 137,000 alumni as our newest alumni. As students, they have received a top-notch education and we look forward to seeing the impact these new graduates will have through their careers and in their communities.

WCCWA and or Cowboy 2 Cowboy Informational Interview Program  
“UW alumni sharing career advice with new graduates”

UWAA continues to make meaningful connections between alumni and students via informational interviews. We have coordinated 57 interviews over the past year. Recently, our Engagement Coordinator expanded the program by hosting UW’s first ever Cowboy2Cowboy: In the Classroom event featuring UW alumna and CEO of Avanti Financial Group, Caitlyn Long. Caitlyn engaged with three different classrooms of university students and their faculty members to discuss her academic and career experiences as well as the future of finance in Wyoming.

## Other Career Support Initiatives

### *Live Local, Work Local – Cheyenne*

Led 7 business students and 9 engineering students through Cheyenne's community and businesses to learn about living and working in Wyoming. The businesses were Paramount Café, Cheyenne LEADS, West Edge Collective, Rocky Mountain International, Terracon, Sampson Construction, and Dyno Nobel.

### *Etiquette Dinner*

76 students attended UW's Fall 2021 Etiquette Dinner in which a speaker presented culturally diverse methods of eating with employers. For the first time ever, 5 employers were in attendance to network with students and to engage with the speaker.

## Prospective Student Recruitment Admissions Support

We will continue our alumni support for prospective student enrollment whereby alumni volunteers connect with admitted students for the fall 2022 semester to encourage them to attend UW. This will be the sixth year of this program. We will launch our 2022 efforts in January to reach nearly 6,000 admitted students this spring. In the sixth year of this program, we will reach entering first-year students from all 50 states, Wyoming Community College transfer students and many international students as well. We continue to work closely with our Office of Admissions to identify other projects in which we can marshal our alumni base to support UW's efforts to encourage more high school seniors and transfer students to attend UW.

## Participation and Sponsorship in the CSIL Student Leadership Conference

Members of the Wyo-Gold Student Association began a project in 2021 of recording alumni stories through a podcast project called Cowboy's Corner. Students, in collaboration with UWAA staff, will host a session during the CSIL Student Leadership Conference to provide a preview of their premier episode and highlight how they created, managed, and produced the project. Students interested in learning about how to access resources on campus for creative projects will enjoy this session as well as those who may not have tapped into the resources of alumni and faculty experience. This project strives to share unique perspectives of diverse alumni and faculty at the university and promote programs and opportunities at the UWAA. The UWAA is also a sponsor of the conference.

## Notable Upcoming Alumni Events to Connect with Alumni and Friends

Personal interaction with alumni at notable events leads to new business relationships, career networking and collaboration, and more alums agreeing to join our team of alumni advocates to support student recruitment. As a result, we will work closely with the new Executive Director to develop a complete series of events for the spring 2022. Currently, we are doing the following notable events with our UW partners and through our alumni networks are scheduled between January – May 2022.

February 5: Student Leadership Conference- *Cowboy's Corner: Telling Alumni Stories Through Multimedia*

February 10: UWAA support for UWF alumni reception featuring President Seidel - Scottsdale, AZ

February: Potential UW Day at the Rockies with College of Business – Pending status MLB lockout

February 22:

February TBD: Poke's Powder Day – Alumni Ski Day at Snowy Range Ski Mountain

March 6-12: MWC Basketball Tournament Pregame Hospitalities with CJC, Las Vegas

April 21-23: UW Alumni Association Spring Board of Directors Meeting, Laramie

April 22: UW Alumni Association Brown and Gold Scholarship Dinner, Laramie

May 6: Fifth Annual Houston Alumni Network Golf Tournament - Houston, TX

May 12: May Graduate Senior Send-off

May 14: Commencement