



## **MEMORANDUM**

To: University of Wyoming Board of Trustees

From: University of Wyoming Foundation

Re: Liaison Report for September 2023 meeting

Date: August 29, 2023

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

### ***YTD PHILANTHROPY***

As reflected in the monthly giving report through 7/31/23, year-to-date private support to UW is \$3,946,579.

### ***ADVANCEMENT SERVICES***

The UW Foundation Advancement Services team is continuing work on the cybersecurity audit for the foundation. They are meeting with the firm, Plante Moran, in the next few weeks about a comprehensive risk management plan.

Additionally, 22,000 scholarship recipient records were recently loaded into the database—Ellucian CRM Advance. This is important because future appeals for student success and scholarship support will be able to be sent to alumni who had previously received scholarships during their time at UW.

The weekly giving report for development staff was converted to a more accessible format, so the information is easier to compile and review. In addition, 1,500 student scholarship letters were sent to donors and the team is gathering impact statements for the annual endowment report, which will come out later this year.

### ***FINANCIAL SERVICES***

The UW Foundation Financial Services team is working with external auditors on the full-scope audit. Additionally, the team is working with UW to coordinate and reconcile year-end numbers for the audits and financial statements. The team is also implementing the new Foundation Account Balance (FAB) reports with campus, finalizing the August 2X/4X report/reinvestments, and reporting Marian H. Rochelle Gateway reserves activity and balance. They are also finalizing foundation reorganization processes with UW HR as well as onboarding several new employees.



### **INVESTMENT SERVICES**

The estimated endowment pool year-to-date and fiscal year-to-date lagged performance through June 30 is 5.0%, and 4.0% respectively, while the endowment pool value as of June 30, 2023, is estimated to be \$789.5 million.

During the June investment committee meeting, the committee approved

- A new investment in an opportunistic credit fund,
- A new investment in a private debt dislocation fund,
- Reinvestment of 2X/4X funds,
- Staff to invest cash and cash equivalents in the pool in a similar manner to the short-term fund, and
- An updated asset allocation policy, which removed the allocation to SPACS and reallocated among private debt, opportunistic credit, investment grade bonds, and cash.

### **GIVING DAY**

University of Wyoming Giving Day is set for noon to noon, October 25-26, 2023. Last year, Giving Day raised more than \$4.1 million from 6,296 total donors. Over the years, Giving Day has transformed into a campus-wide initiative, and further promotes a culture of philanthropy at UW.

The Foundation Board voted this year to support Giving Day with \$250,000 in reserve funds and \$250,000 in personal gifts from the board. The funds will be used to create matching and challenge funds to encourage donor support on Giving Day for colleges, units, and programs across campus. Additional matching and challenge dollars will be secured leading up to Giving Day.

### **UW FOUNDATION BOARD MEETINGS AND ENDOWED FACULTY EVENT**

The fall UW Foundation Board meetings will be held on September 28-29 in Laramie at the Marian H. Rochelle Gateway Center.

This year, during the Thursday night event, UW's named professors, chairs, and deans will be featured during an event themed, "Endowing Excellence: Recognizing the Transformative Impact of UW's Named Faculty".

Recruiting, retaining, and recognizing exceptional faculty is an institutional and a fundraising priority. Endowed faculty positions are essential in this process. Endowed positions and faculty excellence funds signal UW's commitment to an academic discipline at the highest level. They allow UW to attract and retain leading scholars who, in turn, attract top faculty and students. For faculty, endowed positions affirm the value placed on the excellence of one's work and demonstrate to other faculty that extraordinary work is rewarded by the UW community.

Featured speakers will include the president, provost, and Mary Ellbogen Garland, president and chair of the John P. Ellbogen Foundation. The John P. Ellbogen Foundation made history through



the establishment of the university's first endowed deanship, the John P. "Jack" Ellbogen Deanship for the College of Education.

Additional speakers will be UW faculty members Shane Epping (Bobby Model Photojournalism Professor) and Tara Righetti (Occidental Chair of Energy and Environmental Policy).

***MARKETING AND COMMUNICATION***

The UW Foundation Annual Giving and Marketing teams received a "Best in Annual Giving Award" this year from the Annual Giving Network. Other winners this year included Drake University, Ohio Wesleyan University, University of Virginia, Campbell University, Stockton University, LSU Foundation, Kettering University, and Yale.

Every year, the Annual Giving Network selects winners from hundreds of universities and schools across the nation.