

*Approved August 14, 2024*

**THE UNIVERSITY OF WYOMING**  
**SUMMARY MEETING MINUTES**  
**OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES**  
**July 17-19, 2024**  
**PUBLIC SESSION**

# University of Wyoming

## Vision

Use our unique strengths to make Wyoming and the world a better place.

## Mission

As Wyoming's university, we unlock the extraordinary in every person through education, research, innovation, engagement, and service.

## Values

- Access to an affordable, high-quality education.
- Real-world education where students learn by doing.
- A welcoming and supportive learning community fostered by integrity, inclusivity, freedom of expression, and respect.
- The growth, health, and leadership capacity of all members of the university community.
- Wyoming's wild and working lands as an asset to be utilized, understood, stewarded, and treasured.
- Our partnership and engagement with Wyoming communities in the creation and exchange of knowledge and resources.
- Our role as a catalyst for innovation and economic vitality.

*(Accepted January 2023)*

**THE UNIVERSITY OF WYOMING  
SUMMARY MEETING MINUTES  
OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
July 17-19, 2024  
The Neltje Center for Excellence and  
Creativity in the Arts  
Banner, Wyoming**

As will be reflected in the public and executive session meeting minutes, the Board of Trustees of the University of Wyoming met in Banner, Wyoming, on Wednesday, July 17 2024, Thursday, July 18, 2024, and Friday, July 19, 2024. There were no Committee Meetings held during this meeting. The Board's business meeting was held on Friday, July 19, 2024.

**TRUSTEES OF THE UNIVERSITY OF WYOMING**  
**BOARD MEETING AGENDA**  
**July 17-19, 2024**  
**The Neltje Center for Excellence and**  
**Creativity in the Arts**  
**Banner, Wyoming**

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During its meeting, the UW Board of Trustees engaged in tours of the Neltje Center for Excellence and Creativity in the Arts conducted by Executive Director Beth Venn, and Neltje's former studio assistant Lucas Watkins, and of The Jentel Foundation conducted by Program Manager Lynn Reeves.

**Wednesday, July 17, 2024**

**Neltje Center for Excellence and Creativity in the Arts**

**AGENDA ITEM TITLE: Conversation between members of the Wyoming Legislature and**

The UW Board of Trustees met with the following members of the Wyoming Legislature at the Neltje Center for Excellence and Creativity in the Arts: Senator Dave Kinskey, Senator Charles Scott, Representative Barry Crago, Representative Bill Henderson, and Representative Cyrus Western. Board Chairman Kermit Brown opened the conversation acknowledging the meeting location which was donated to the university by renown artist and philanthropist Neltje. Trustee Brown stated the purpose of the gathering was to discuss with legislators various issues related to the University, its facilities, and other relevant topics. Trustee Brown emphasizes a desire for a candid conversation and mentioned a few key points for discussion:

1. **Transparency of the University's Budget:**
  - There is a perception that the university's budget lacks transparency.
  - The university believes the budget is transparent and available online but acknowledges potential difficulties in accessing or understanding it.
  - Feedback from legislators and the public is requested to improve transparency.
2. **Diversity and Inclusion:**
  - The university has taken seriously the footnote in the Appropriations Bill related to diversity, equity and inclusion.
  - The Office of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion no longer exists, but its essential functions for student success continue under different terminology.
  - The university asserts it has not used diversity initiatives for preference-based purposes.
3. **Public Concerns Highlighted by a Gallup Poll: *U.S. Confidence in Higher Education Now Closely Divided***
  - Affordability of education.
  - Relevance of education to job readiness and a productive life.
  - Political agendas on campus.
  - The university aims to provide education as nearly free as possible, as required by the state constitution.
  - The relevance of education to employment is addressed by the variety of majors offered, particularly in fields like engineering and accounting.
  - Political agendas are managed with an emphasis on freedom of expression, allowing all viewpoints to be expressed peacefully.

**4. Retention of Wyoming Graduates:**

- Many Wyoming graduates leave the state for opportunities elsewhere.
- The university aims to provide a world-class education that makes graduates competitive globally, even if they do not remain in Wyoming.
- The university is proud of its alumni who succeed worldwide.

**5. Positive Accomplishments of the University:**

- The university is involved in significant research and development, such as the School of Energy Resources and the Integrated Test Center in Gillette.
- These research efforts contribute to broader societal benefits and have the potential for substantial breakthroughs.

**6. Critical Thinking:**

- The university aims to develop critical thinking skills in its students, considering this the most crucial outcome of their education.

Trustee Brown emphasized the importance of legislative support, acknowledging the Wyoming Legislature as the university's most important donor.

Senator Charles Scott discussed the areas of study at the university that are important to the state: School of Energy Resources, High Bay Research Facility, and other science-focused endeavors. Scott stated there are members of the legislature with specific interests, such as those with connections to the agriculture sector. Scott stated the university does well in this basic mission. Scott expressed concern about the College of Education. Scott emphasized the role of higher education in developing critical thinking skills. He pointed to the Gallup Poll, stating the university is affordable, though the legislature is nervous about erosion to this affordability given the increases in tuition. Scott went on to discuss his concerns with social sciences and the political agendas of university faculty; the legislature does not want to see a monoculture. Scott also discussed equality.

UW President Ed Seidel stated that he felt the university's goals are aligned with the values important to the Wyoming Legislature. President Seidel discussed paid internships to help keep students in the state and *Freedom of Expression, Intellectual Freedom and Constructive Dialog* guiding principles, which helps cultivate all points of view. President Seidel addressed the university's response to the legislative footnote related to the Office of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (ODEI), stating he was responsible for hiring former Vice President for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Zebadiah Hall. President Seidel stated that the university has taken a deep dive into examining all efforts across campus to ensure no preferential treatment exists. Trustee Brown directly asked whether legislators were continuing to hear that students are being compelled to take certain courses. Senator Scott stated that he often hears students are forced into certain courses to suit schedule constraints. Trustee John McKinley discussed the review of such reported incidences he conducted with President Seidel and Vice President for Government Affairs Mike Smith. Trustee McKinley described the circumstances in which students choose classes and stated it is unfair for the legislature to use a broad brushstroke. Trustee McKinley stated he would encourage administration conduct a review of the presence of ideological slant in teaching certain classes. Trustee Brown stated the university will take note of the concerns and discussed the response the university has to federal laws.

Representative Barry Crago stated that his student daughter (double major in political science and agriculture) expressed that she did not feel she was being encouraged to separate from her conservative views. Crago complimented the university and its professors. Crago stated his daughter felt the legislature does not do enough to help keep college graduates in the state.

Representative Bill Henderson discussed the cost of tuition, available housing, and opportunities for work past graduation. Henderson stated there is more positive than negative to what the university does. Henderson discussed Wyoming's Tomorrow pipeline.

Senator Dave Kinskey stated it is difficult to speak for the entire body. Kinskey spoke to the dedication of Trustee John McKinley and his liaison activities between the university and legislature and commended his advocacy. Kinskey also acknowledged Associate Vice President for Institutional Marketing Chad Baldwin's representation of the university in local media, and Vice President for Governmental Affairs Mike Smith's good work. Kinskey recommended the university continue to extend outreach across the state. Kinskey stated inviting legislators to the Board's meeting once a year is not an effective channel for information. Kinskey discussed what he felt is an existential problem for universities and community colleges and outlined the challenges of "brick and mortar" learning with the advent of alternative modalities. Kinskey discussed the affordability of a four-year versus a two-year degree, and a student's "surviving, not thriving" upon graduating. Kinskey discussed the relevance of a liberal arts education. Kinskey stated the university should focus on a short list of items at which to excel; lobbying should begin in April, not December; and the importance of outreach to each legislator individually. Kinskey discussed the value of Vice President for Campus Operations Bill Mai taking the time to provide detailed information related to the Campus Master Plan, and that the same detail should be shared with the legislative body. Kinskey discussed a member of the Joint Appropriations Committee (JAC) who received information regarding the Neltje Center which swayed the committee against its support. Kinskey discussed whether the university should be a land grant or R1, and further discussed requests to the legislature for tens of millions of dollars in support of research conducted by the Center of Innovation for Flow Through Porous Media (COIFPM). Kinskey addressed rumors that Professor Mohammad Piri profits from research conducted at the university. Kinskey discussed the presentation recently provided by university administration to the JAC to alleviate these fears. Kinskey expressed his displeasure that the university had a Vice President-level position for DEI; students coming from across the state to attend the University of Wyoming do not need a DEI office to learn how to succeed in Laramie.

Representative Cyrus Western commended President Seidel on establishing the *Freedom of Expression, Intellectual Freedom and Constructive Dialog* guiding principles. Western discussed DEI and the weight of the acronym, which means something different to everyone.

Trustee Brown asked whether the legislators present felt the university has not responded appropriately to the legislative footnote regarding DEI. Scott stated he is not aware of what the university has done. Kinskey stated the abolishment of the office should satisfy the intent of the legislative footnote, though he does not know whether it will satisfy everyone. Trustee David Fall discussed the hours-long public comment received by the Trustees from students and other members of the campus community, and the responsibility of the university to provide a welcoming community.



Scott further discussed the value of the university's striving to be world-class in a few research areas though the main mission will always be undergraduate education. Trustee Laura Schmid-Pizzato discussed the value of the legislature providing matching funds and asked for its continued support. Scott discussed a general pool of matching funds and encouraged the university to make these requests, particularly when there is a budget surplus. Trustee Brad Bonner thanked the legislators in attendance for taking the time. In response to a remark regarding undergraduate recruitment by Trustee Bonner, Scott provided anecdotal evidence of the "perfunctory" response to interested freshmen from the university. Trustee Michelle Sullivan further discussed the use of matching funds in helping make the university competitive through faculty excellence and student success. Trustee Sullivan discussed the success of the work at the Neltje Center so far and is most proud of the students who have engaged at the center who have had unique and powerful experiences. Trustee Sullivan described the individual support students receive at the university.

Trustee Brown opened the discussion about the appropriate size of the university and the legislature's appetite for growth. Scott stated it is purely economics and further stated there is unused capacity and the university can expand at a fixed cost. Scott discussed not losing a personal touch in the student experience. The university should be a magnet in terms of Wyoming being an attractive place to live. Scott further stated his desire to see the university and the Wyoming community colleges at peace with one another. Kinskey discussed the context of growth and the university as a research engine and reiterated the work necessary to communicate the university's story to individual legislators.

President Seidel discussed the hard work focused on enrollment and further discussed paid internships, the Office of Strategic and Corporate Partnerships, and an examination of opportunities for growing job markets in the state.

Trustee Sullivan introduced Neltje Center for Excellence in Creativity and the Arts Executive Director Beth Venn. Venn discussed the Wyoming Innovation Partnership (WIP) initiative Investing in Wyoming's Creative Economy. Venn discussed the \$1.8 million grant shared with the Neltje Center, Sheridan College, and Impact 307.

In response to an inquiry from Henderson, President Seidel discussed the use of the \$2.5 million match and the commitment to hiring new faculty related to Artificial Intelligence (AI) in applications related to energy, agriculture, and computer sciences which will be transformational for the state. President Seidel discussed the ongoing work at NCAR, and discussions with NVIDIA and other corporate partners. Scott cautioned that the legislature did not have a sophisticated understanding of AI and requested practical examples when communicating with legislators. President Seidel described AI as a critical tool, and in response to an inquiry from Scott, President Seidel discussed NCAR and the new Derecho supercomputer, the space at NCAR that can be used as a regional computing facility and the National Science Foundation (NSF) Grant submission in support of this use. President Seidel again described the potential for economic development.

Members of the legislature joined the Trustees in a tour of the Neltje Center for Excellence and Creativity in the Arts.

**Thursday, July 18, 2024**

**Neltje Center for Excellence and Creativity in the Arts**

**AGENDA ITEM TITLE: Vision and Future Priorities of the University of Wyoming – Seidel**

UW President Ed Seidel began stating July 2024 marks the beginning of his fifth year as university president. President Seidel stated that when he arrived at the university, not being familiar with Wyoming, his focus was broad and attentive to national trends. President Seidel stated in the coming years, the university will prioritize addressing critical challenges such as declining enrollment and enhancing the value proposition for students. To achieve this, several key strategies and actions have been outlined. President Seidel stated a comprehensive enrollment plan will be developed to increase student numbers. This plan will focus on incorporating in-state employment opportunities for graduates, ensuring a career-ready workforce, and fostering a culture of success within the university. Additionally, the university's business model will be redesigned to support growth and sustainability. Preparations for a comprehensive capital campaign will also be made to secure the necessary funding for future initiatives.

Trustee Brad Bonner reiterated the perspective on university growth and budget issues as stated Wednesday, July 17, 2024, by Senator Charles Scott, about which President Seidel concurred. Trustee Dave True stressed the importance of on-campus living and learning and encouraged the administration to market this “proposition” effectively. President Seidel discussed hiring more professional academic instructors to balance faculty workload and defended the online delivery of some courses to allow for more one-on-one engagement with students. He also addressed the growing segment of nontraditional students and the popularity of online courses. Trustee Kermit Brown emphasized the importance of in-person education over online learning and highlighted the value of professional instructors who are not burdened with research and tenure tracks. He also challenged the administration to communicate the value of in-person education to students effectively. Trustee Michelle Sullivan discussed enhancing collaboration with the City of Laramie to improve Laramie’s citizens’ quality of life and make the community more attractive. President Seidel mentioned his discussions with city leadership on addressing the housing crisis, including a student pitch for a boutique hotel in historic downtown. Trustee David Fall raised concerns about the lack of job opportunities for graduates, while Honors College Dean Peter Parolin discussed the importance of career advising focusing on life and economic satisfaction. Trustee John McKinley emphasized educating students about future earnings and the cost of their degree choices. Provost and Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs Kevin Carman noted that 56% of University of Wyoming graduates have no debt, with Trustee Brown aiming to increase this to 70%. Carman stated the necessity of some student debt, as it correlates with students focusing on studies instead of holding down numerous jobs. Wyoming Governor’s Deputy Policy Director Lachelle Brant discussed a dashboard called Business Occupational Outlook Tool Sets (BOOTS) which helps identify education and business opportunities in Wyoming using publicly available toolsets, part of Governor Mark Gordon’s initiative to assist business, educational institutions, and citizens address the challenges Wyoming faces related to education and workforce. Associate Vice President for Institutional Marketing Chad Baldwin described website modules that show salary expectations and employment outcomes for graduates. However, Trustee Sullivan stressed the importance of meaningful relationships with adults and mentors beyond just data on a webpage. Staff Senate President Adam Comeau discussed the importance of student employment

opportunities which provide experiential learning in terms of workforce readiness. Trustee Jim Mathis shared his views on teaching appropriate skills directly associated with individual program requirements and questioned the effectiveness of “freedom of expression” as a marketing tool. In response, President Seidel addressed the national sentiment that universities suppress conservative views and stated that the university’s *Freedom of Expression, Intellectual Freedom and Constructive Dialog* principles promote an inclusive environment that respects diverse viewpoints.

**AGENDA ITEM TITLE: University of Wyoming Fundraising Priorities for FY25**  
Seidel/John Stark

UW President Ed Seidel and Vice President for Institutional Advancement John Stark discussed the university’s fundraising priorities for FY25, highlighting the importance of gift officers, matching funds provided by the Wyoming legislature, and the university’s strong focus on student success. There was emphasis on the emerging culture surrounding named deanships and endowed chairs at the university. Stark remarked that the University of Wyoming (UW) Board of Trustees, and the University of Wyoming Foundation Board’s previous monetary contributions have significantly fueled donor momentum toward faculty and student success. President Seidel stated he will provide the Board further information regarding the launch of a capital campaign in September 2024. UW Foundation Board Chairman Doug Stark addressed the Trustees, providing an overview of the groundwork being laid for the campaign. In response to an inquiry from Trustee David Fall, Stark emphasized that the fundraising efforts are primarily focused on faculty and student success, rather than university facilities. Trustee Michelle Sullivan praised the collaborative efforts between the Wyoming Community Foundation and the UW Foundation.

Trustee John McKinley requested further detail on the allocation of the \$62 million in new funds, specifically how much was from a state match, how much went into endowments, and how much was expendable. John Stark clarified that state matching funds are not included in the fundraising totals; of the \$62 million, he estimated that 30-40% went into endowments, noting a current emphasis on endowment gifts, though the percentage can vary year to year. Trustee McKinley further discussed the benefits of state and private matching funds focused on endowments, particularly in terms of the success of a proposed capital campaign. Doug Stark concurred, and then addressed the upcoming ten-year anniversary of Giving Day, highlighting its significance and progress.

**AGENDA ITEM TITLE: Update on Spending of Funds Managed by the UW Foundation –**  
Seidel/Stark

Provost and Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs Kevin Carman, Vice President for Student Affairs Kim Chestnut, Vice President for Research and Economic Development Parag Chitnis, and Athletic Director Tom Burman stood for questions from the Board regarding the funds established or enhanced by the UW Board of Trustees in September 2022 and managed by the UW Foundation. These funds are the Research Excellence Reserve Account; Student Success Reserve Account; Recruitment and Retention Reserve Account; and the Student Athlete Achievement Scholarship Reserve Account. Vice President for Budget and Finance Alex Kean explained the priority spending of the \$2 million state appropriation as well as the contribution made by the Board into the student athlete expendable account structure. Administration expressed that university administration remains grateful to the Board for providing these funds and continues to steward them in a way that promotes student success, recruitment and retention efforts, and research excellence. UW President Ed Seidel discussed the President’s Distinguished Scholars

program which will enable all colleges to apply for \$100,000 to \$500,000 to recruit distinguished faculty that will advance UW priorities. President Seidel stated \$1 million has been earmarked for this purpose. Trustee John McKinley expressed concern that only 1/6 of the student success expendable funds are being directed to students, and the balance is going toward programs or individuals supporting student success. Trustee McKinley recommended administration focus as much of the annual income to student success and not toward administrator salaries which should be addressed through the block grant.

**AGENDA ITEM TITLE: Tuition, including preliminary administrative recommendations for FY26 (per UW Regulation 7-11) – Schmid-Pizzato/Kean**

Vice President for Budget and Finance Alex Kean presented the preliminary administration recommendation for FY26 tuition. Kean highlighted that tuition revenue constitutes 13% of the university's overall revenue and is essential to its mission. Kean noted that net tuition revenue has stalled, prompting the administration to recommend a 4% increase for both undergraduate and graduate in-state tuition, and a 1% increase for nonresident tuition. Additionally, Kean proposed a 4% increase for fully online and hybrid online tuition. These recommendations will be brought back before the Board for consideration and action during its September 2024 meeting (refer to the table on page 35 of the July 2024 Board Report). In response to an inquiry from Trustee Carol Linton, Kean explained the cost considerations that support the recommendation. However, Trustee John McKinley expressed his discomfort with the proposed 1% increase for nonresident tuition and suggested raising it to 2%. In response to inquiry from Trustee McKinley, Carman clarified the per credit hour cost of out of state graduate tuition. Trustee McKinley discussed the various stipends and other benefits provided to graduate students.

Wyoming Representative Bill Henderson joined the meeting.

Trustee Dave True discussed the political ramifications of the perceived imbalance between in-state and non-resident tuition increases. He strongly suggested that the Trustees Biennium Budget Committee consider a 2% increase for non-resident tuition. Trustee True also advocated for a policy ensuring that incoming students, particularly in-state freshmen, would not face a tuition increase for four years. He requested a cost analysis for this proposal and suggested that the legislature might consider backfilling the revenue shortfall. In response to an inquiry from Trustee Schmid-Pizzato, Kean addressed the recommendation of no tuition increase for the College of Law, and the price sensitivity analysis of peer institutions that will be provided to the Board in September 2024. Trustee Jim Mathis recommended keeping tuition increases equal to maintain a balanced perception across the state, suggesting a 3% increase for both non-resident and in-state students. Kean discussed the significant difference in revenue between the two populations due to the fee structure and described efforts to balance this in light of enrollment trends. Trustee Kermit Brown mentioned the Wyoming Constitution's mandate regarding the cost of education and requested an analysis from general counsel on the implications for non-resident and resident tuition. Trustee Laura Schmid-Pizzato stated the Biennium Budget Committee planned to meet via video conference prior to the September 2024 Board meeting.

**AGENDA ITEM TITLE: Financial Aid and Scholarship Structure FY27 (AY26/27) – Seidel/Carman/Kean**

Vice President for Budget and Finance Alex Kean stated the discussion is preliminary and related to FY27 (AY26/27) and the item will be before the Board for its consideration and action in January 2025. Kean stated 83% of university students receive some form of institutional aid, and the four-year commitment structure is based on academic rating. Kean stated that currently Administration is not recommending any changes, however, potential modifications may include, but are not limited to, the following:

1. A two-year commitment structure would front-load awards in the first two years and allow students to apply and seek scholarship opportunities through the WyoScholarship system in years three and beyond.
  - a. Benefits students to help pay for 1<sup>st</sup> year housing and dining (Recruitment)
  - b. Allows for students to seek additional funding for years three and beyond (Retention)
2. Modifying the four-year commitment structure to provide all students with a \$2,000/year commitment and allow for the opportunity to stack additional institutional scholarship dollars through the WyoScholarship system.
  - a. Allows students to have at least a base award for four years (Recruitment)
  - b. Provides students with an incentive to do well at UW (Retention)
3. Through modifications to the commitment structure, increase the annual amount of the Cowboy Need Grant. Place a maximum amount a student could receive from this grant, similar to the Hathaway Need calculation.
  - a. Provides students with financial need an opportunity to lower the costs of an education (Recruitment and Retention)

Provost and Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs Kevin Carman argued for adjusting the generous Trustee Scholarship benefit to redirect resources to other needs on campus and directed Board's attention to the following three considerations as provided on page 11 of the July 2024 Board Report, starting with the 2025-26 awardees.

1. Retain the current scholarship criteria and structure for all new and continuing Trustee Scholars.
2. Provide continuing students the option of living on-campus and paying an award equal to the standard double occupancy housing rate, a 7-meal plan, and a food allowance. Or, for students wishing to live off-campus, provide a living expense stipend covering 75% of standard on-campus housing and food allowance.
3. Award a \$12,500/year Trustee Scholarship that will be in addition to the student's Cowboy Commitment, Hathaway award, and other external scholarships.

Kean explained that historically 60-70 students accept the scholarship each year and outlined the costs and projected trends, noting that the program is becoming increasingly expensive and impacting the overall university budget. Trustee Carol Linton pointed out that the figures provided to the Board beginning on page 48 of the July 2024 Board Report were based on a 100% acceptance rate, which is not accurate. Trustee Linton expressed her strong support for the current Trustee Scholarship structure. In response to Trustee Dave True's inquiry, Kean clarified that the data provided were based on a 70% acceptance rate. Kean further mentioned that the Hathaway

Scholarship's value has decreased over time and hasn't been adjusted for inflation. Trustee Kermit Brown agreed the Hathaway Scholarship is not inflation-proof and noted that the state provides the analysis of the Hathaway Scholarship. In response to comment from Trustee Macey Moore regarding a last-dollar-in model, Kean referred to other concepts provided to the Board in its materials. Trustee Laura Schmid-Pizzato discussed flaws in the delivery system, noting that students can stack scholarships. Kean acknowledged that while the Trustee Scholarship is the institution's premier scholarship, offering it to 100 out of 800-900 incoming students might not be the best use of resources. He discussed the varied utilization of funds, which are primarily directed towards housing and dining. Trustee Brown questioned whether changes would be a disincentive. Vice Provost for Enrollment Management Kyle Moore emphasized that the scholarship's significant financial investment makes it attractive to students and urged careful consideration of what a Trustee Scholarship recipient represents and contributes to the university.

Trustee Michelle Sullivan asked the Board to consider the scholarship's goals and suggested engaging recipients to understand what attracts them beyond the monetary benefit. Trustee Sullivan discussed the scholarship's role in keeping Wyoming students in Wyoming and mentioned other prestigious scholarships in the "ecosystem." Trustee Brad Bonner provided anecdotal evidence that the Trustee Scholarship attracts "the best and the brightest." President Seidel mentioned the potential application of savings found by modification of the Trustee Scholarship awards toward addressing retention issues. Trustee Linton questioned why administration propose modifying the Trustee Scholarship annually and whether there has been engagement with deans regarding the recipients' benefits. Carman argued that surplus funds in students' pockets indicate the scholarship funds are not being used appropriately and stated that it was at his request the Board Chairman include the discussion in the meeting agenda. Honors College Dean Peter Parolin supported revising the scholarship program and suggested incorporating a cohort experience. Faculty Senate Chairman Ray Fertig shared his perspective as a former Trustee Scholarship recipient. Trustee Sullivan inquired about the number of Trustee Scholars lost due to the grade-point requirement, and Deputy Vice President for Budget and Finance Aaron Courtney provided information and discussed the various factors involved (see Appendix A). In response to Trustee Jim Mathis, Courtney discussed the number of PELL-eligible students. President Seidel concluded that the administration would return to the Board with a more concrete recommendation.

**AGENDA ITEM TITLE: Strategic Enrollment Planning – Seidel/Carman/various**

UW President Ed Seidel, along with other key university administrators, presented a comprehensive overview of the institution's strategic direction and challenges, particularly focusing on enrollment and enhancing the educational value. President Seidel began by addressing the concerning trends in higher education, noting a decline in both the perceived value of higher education and in student enrollment numbers. President Seidel emphasized the need to offer every student paid internship opportunity, underlining their importance for real-world experience and employability. Additionally, President Seidel stressed the significance of digital literacy and integrating computing skills across the curriculum to prepare students for an Artificial Intelligence (AI) driven job market.

Vice Provost for Enrollment Management Kyle Moore then provided a detailed summary of the university's Strategic Enrollment Planning (SEP). Moore, alongside Associate Vice President and Dean of Student Success and Graduation Nycole Courtney, identified critical areas needing

attention, such as career development, financial literacy, support for underrepresented populations, and the expansion of certificate programs, which are currently the only growing segment in higher education. President Seidel charged a Strategic Enrollment Management working group and appointed Moore and Courtney co-chairmen.

Moore also highlighted the engagement of additional recruiters and the unique challenges faced in the current recruitment climate, emphasizing the importance of coordinated efforts across various colleges. Addressing the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, Moore noted the increasing popularity of online programs and the necessity to support students at risk of stopping out.

Provost and Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs Kevin Carman discussed the effective use of resources, revealing that of the 3,100 classes taught at the university, only 800 met the minimum enrollment requirements. Carman stated he is working closely with deans to address challenges and reviewing programs with low completion rates, with a report expected at the start of the Fall 2024 semester. Courtney provided an overview of student support services, including state-funded mental health initiatives. Vice President for Research and Economic Development Parag Chitnis highlighted efforts in entrepreneurship and experiential learning, mentioning the Center for Corporate and Strategic Partnerships. Associate Professor for Politics, Public Affairs and International Studies Nevin Aiken in his role as special assistant to the president for experiential learning, described President Seidel's charge to identify existing experiential learning opportunities, promote additional curricular and extra-curricular opportunity at the university and develop a centralized and accessible repository. Aiken further described his being asked to develop standards for fulfilling the proposed USP requirement for experiential learning.

President Seidel and various deans discussed the need to enhance the university's value proposition both for students and the state. College of Business Dean Scott Beaulier noted growth in graduate enrollment and the importance of AI in resume screening; Honors College Dean Peter Parolin emphasized interdisciplinary education and personalized student experiences; College of Arts and Sciences Dean Scott Turpen focused on the importance of enrollment for the college's future; and College of Education Dean Jenna Shim highlighted consistent enrollment and high retention rates, along with initiatives supporting Career and Technical Education (CTE) and workforce needs. Carman praised the deans for their remarkable contributions and collaboration. Staff Senate President Adam Comeau underscored the critical role of staff in the university's success and advocated for investments in staff well-being.

Moore described an ambitious enrollment target of 12,000 full-time students by 2029, despite a projected 7% market decline. Moore stressed the need to expand market share and enhance online offerings to attract a wider audience. Moore stressed that aligning marketing efforts and creating a cohesive university brand were essential. Based on administration response to inquiry from Trustee John McKinley regarding the breakdown of administration's 2029 enrollment target Board feedback was provided that a preference for enrollment targets be expressed in the form of a % (further broken down into % growth by category i.e., Laramie campus, online, and by academic college) rather than a single total enrollment value. There was a recommendation that administration be careful to not overextend its growth aspiration given the changing demographics and should be careful about how the resident/non-resident student population is discussed due to the decreasing demographic realities of Wyoming and the surrounding region.

Carman discussed efforts to build strong relationships with Wyoming Community Colleges, facilitating smooth transfer pipelines, and highlighted the current *University and Laramie County Community College Transfer Collaborative*. President Seidel mentioned ongoing collaborations with the Colorado community college system, emphasizing regional articulation opportunities and economic ties related to quantum computing. Vice President for Budget and Finance Alex Kean discussed necessary adjustments to the existing budget model, advocating for a dynamic approach to reallocate funds effectively. Kean acknowledged the complexity of the task due to reliance on state appropriations and expressed his readiness to tackle the challenge.

Marketing was recognized as a crucial component in addressing declining enrollment. Associate Vice President for Institutional Marketing Chad Baldwin detailed the positive impacts of the Board's investments in marketing, highlighting the university's strengths such as small class sizes, research opportunities, study abroad programs, and the Rocky Mountain West lifestyle. New campus housing would also be featured in future marketing efforts.

Trustee Dave True commended the SEP and emphasized the importance of highlighting what makes the University of Wyoming unique. He stressed the value of "The World Needs More Cowboys" branding and the state's adoption of the "Code of the West," advocating for leveraging the university's distinct heritage and values in recruitment efforts. State Superintendent for Public Instruction Megan Degenfelder echoed these sentiments, reflecting on the alignment of recruitment strategies with the needs of the university and the state.

**AGENDA ITEM TITLE: Mountain West Commissioner Gloria Nevarez: the State of Intercollegiate Athletics**

Mountain West Commissioner Gloria Nevarez addressed the current state and challenges of college athletics, focusing on the Mountain West Conference. Nevarez highlighted the significant role college athletics play in higher education, emphasizing the substantial impact despite its seemingly minor presence within the broader educational landscape. Nevarez stated the Mountain West Conference (MWC) prides itself on educating young people through sports, emphasizing both the intrinsic value and financial aspects, alongside escalating costs.

Nevarez underscored the tangible benefits of athletic success, such as increased enrollment, enhanced brand elevation, national exposure, and boosted donations. Nevarez stated the landscape of college athletics has shifted significantly, with Division One now comprising 31 conferences after the dissolution of the Pac-12. The "Power 4" conferences dominate due to substantial financial resources, while the MWC, part of the "Group of 5," strives to remain competitive. Nevarez stated the MWC is known for developing talent, including first-time presidents, athletic directors, and head coaches, who often get recruited by other leagues.

Nevarez went on to discuss the regulatory and structural changes that have significantly impacted the NCAA and its member institutions. Legal challenges and legislative actions have forced the NCAA to adapt, allowing student-athlete transfers and introducing Name, Image, and Likeness (NIL) payments. Nevarez stated recent legal settlements, such as the Alston case, have further altered the traditional structure of college athletics.



Nevarez discussed the College Football Playoff (CFP) and recent negotiations that resulted in a 10-year contract stating the agreement provides some stability for participating conferences, including the MWC. Nevarez stated the MWC has weathered conference realignment, maintaining stability through these agreements. Nevarez expressed optimism about the conference's future, with presidents and athletic directors aligned in their commitment to maintain competitiveness. Nevarez emphasized that the conference values student-athletes' classroom accomplishments. The Mountain West ranks well academically among FBS conferences and remains committed to graduating student-athletes at high rates. Nevarez acknowledged the increasing costs associated with the sport. Nevarez went on to state the House settlement, will allow payments to be spread over ten years and encompasses multiple lawsuits, with an embargo on new cases related to pay for revenue sharing and roster limitations for the next decade. The issue of student-athletes as employees remains unresolved and could be addressed politically.

Nevarez provided a high-level overview of the financial context and challenges faced by MWC schools and noted one significant change in the settlement is revenue sharing through direct payments to student-athletes, distinct from revenue distribution to schools. There is a cap of around \$22 million, which is 20% of the average revenue of Power 5 schools. This limit will apply to all Division I schools. Nevarez stated in the case of MWC schools, participating in this pool might require sourcing funds from institutional budgets or student fees, raising many questions to be addressed over the next 6 to 12 months. Nevarez stated that institutions will have discretion on how to distribute these funds and label disbursements, considering them as additional "Alston" benefits or NIL payments. Title IX compliance is an open question with differing interpretations from NCAA President Charlie Baker and the Office for Civil Rights.

Nevarez clarified that the settlement aims to address NIL by allowing schools to provide NIL deals directly, moving away from third-party collectives. There will be market parameters for these deals, requiring a valid business purpose and comparable compensation to non-athletes. A new entity, possibly managed by the NCAA, will oversee these deals to ensure transparency, with student-athletes required to report NIL earnings over a certain amount.

Nevarez stated the league aims to remain competitive and stay in fifth place in terms of average revenue per public institution and reported the primary sources of MWC revenue include television contracts, the college football playoffs, and championships. Currently, 90% of the distributable revenue, about \$69 million, is allocated equally among members, with 10% based on performance. Nevarez stated that discussions are ongoing about potentially increasing the performance-based component to ensure financial sustainability and competitiveness within the evolving landscape of college athletics.

**AGENDA ITEM TITLE: Neltje Center for Excellence in Creativity and the Arts – Venn/Turpen**

Neltje Center for Excellence and Creativity in the Arts Executive Director Beth Venn began by describing the Neltje Center's unique contributions to the university and the state. Venn went on to describe Neltje, detailing her roles as a painter, philanthropist, entrepreneur, collector, and educator, and Neltje's deep dedication to Wyoming and the university. Venn quoted former UW Art Museum Director Susan Moldenhauer and former University of Wyoming President Tom Buchanan praise for Neltje's significant yet often unrecognized contributions to Wyoming's

cultural and educational landscape. Venn went on to state a core initiative of the center is experiential learning through the faculty-student program allowing university faculty to bring small groups of students to the center, which provides a hands-on learning experience distinct from traditional classroom settings. Venn went on to describe the Mini Residency program as an integral part of the center's offerings stating this program was initially focused on visual arts and creative writing and has expanded to include other interdisciplinary collaborations. Venn discussed other activities at the Neltje Center to include collaboration with the University Art Museum to pilot a professional development program for art teachers in Johnson, Sheridan, and Campbell counties, consisting of week-long workshops providing teachers the opportunity to learn new techniques and collaborate with peers. Venn stated that additionally, the Neltje Center launched a new interdisciplinary grant proposal workshop, developed by English Professor Alison Hagy and Zoology and Physiology Assistant Professor of Practice Bethann Merkle, which brought together 10-12 UW faculty and staff from various disciplines to improve their grant writing skills. This initiative is expected to enhance the quality of grant proposals and increase success rates, ultimately benefiting the university. The program has been well-received and will be held twice a year moving forward. Venn reported the Neltje Center also serves as a venue for faculty and staff retreats; and the center has hosted retreats for the Brinton Museum staff as well as for the Wyoming Arts Council. These retreats provide valuable opportunities for different university and local groups to collaborate and build stronger community ties. Venn described the Neltje Center's commitment to community engagement through its partnerships with local organizations and stated the center has worked closely with Sheridan College on a grant project and facilitated collaborations between University of Wyoming students and Sheridan College students in various disciplines. For example, the David Dorfman Dance Company conducted a residency that included workshops with both UW and Sheridan College students, demonstrating the center's role in fostering creative and educational exchanges. Venn described future projects to include workshops led by poet and writer Gretchen Henderson and a residency by Dance Wyoming, showcasing the center's commitment to interdisciplinary and cultural activities.

University of Wyoming alumna Katie Hines, BFA '24, and university graduate student in American Studies Gerald Lovato provided the Board testimony about the impact of their experiences at the Neltje Center's Mini Residency Programs, and three-time Jentel Foundation artist resident Robin Starbuck discussed her time at the Jentel Foundation and described artist residencies as research centers for artists.

In closing Venn stated the Neltje Center has established itself as a vital cultural center and an important satellite location for UW in northern Wyoming. Its diverse programs and initiatives highlight its role in promoting experiential learning, community engagement, and interdisciplinary collaboration, making it a cornerstone of cultural and educational development in the region.

**Friday, July 19, 2024**

**Neltje Center for Excellence and Creativity in the Arts**

**Roll Call**

Executive Director and Deputy Secretary RoseMarie London took roll at 10:41 a.m. on Friday, July 19, 2024.

Trustees participating: Kermit Brown (Chairman); Michelle Sullivan (Vice Chairman); Laura Schmid-Pizzato (Treasurer); Brad Bonner (Secretary); David Fall; Elizabeth Greenwood (via video conference); Brad LaCroix; Carol Linton; Jim Mathis; John McKinley; Macey Moore; and Dave True.

Ex-officio Trustees participating: UW President Ed Seidel; State Superintendent for Public Instruction Megan Degenfelder; and ASUW President Kameron Murfitt. Wyoming Community College Commission Executive Director Ben Moritz was absent. Wyoming Governor Mark Gordon was absent; Deputy Policy Advisor Lachelle Brant attended on his behalf.

**AGENDA ITEM TITLE: Update UW Staff Organizational Structure -- Seidel**

UW President Ed Seidel provided the Board an update on the UW Staff Reorganization stating that as part of the current plan, Associate Vice President for Human Resources Bob Link has met with over 180 employees to understand their roles and concerns regarding the reorganization. President Seidel stated the feedback received from these sessions has revealed deeper foundational issues than originally anticipated, further stating many employees are either unaware of or do not understand their job descriptions. Additionally, there is inconsistency in the volume of work across similar roles, and job titles are not uniformly applied. For instance, two individuals hold the title "office associate," but one functions as an accountant while the other performs traditional office associate duties such as scheduling and organization. President Seidel stated that given these insights, administration need to step back and address these foundational issues. President Seidel stated the next step will be to provide greater consistency to job duties and titles and enhance training throughout the campus to ensure greater accuracy and consistency in business processes. President Seidel assured there will be no changes to reporting lines at this stage, and concluded that once these foundational issues are resolved, we will be in a better position to undertake a true reorganization. In response to inquiry from the Board, President Seidel stated that a communication to campus will be distributed in the coming weeks.

**AGENDA ITEM TITLE: Biennium Supplemental Budget – Schmid-Pizzato/Seidel/Kean**

Trustee Laura Schmid-Pizzato reminded the Board the university's supplemental budget request focuses on the second year, FY 2026, of the current biennium, and directed the Board to page 119 in the July 2024 Board report for administration's proposed requests. Trustee Schmid-Pizzato stated the Biennium Budget Committee will meet in early August to discuss appropriate modifications to the list and its priority order in advance of Board consideration and action during its August 14, 2024, meeting.

**AGENDA ITEM TITLE: Biennium Budget Committee – Laura Schmid-Pizzato (Chair)**

Trustee Laura Schmid-Pizzato moved the following recommended action:

***UW Fundraising Priorities for FY25***

**07-19-2024 @ 10:45 a.m.**

Trustee Laura Schmid-Pizzato moved the Board approve the Fiscal Year 2025 UW Fundraising Priorities. Trustee Macey Moore seconded the motion. The motion carried with unanimous decision.

***First Supplemental Tax Compliance Certificate***

**07-19-2024 @ 10:46 a.m.**

Trustee Laura Schmid-Pizzato moved the Board approve the First Supplemental Tax Compliance Certificate. Trustee David Fall seconded the motion. The motion carried with unanimous decision.

***Financial Assurances for CarbonSAFE Project***

**07-19-2024 @ 10:46 a.m.**

Trustee Laura Schmid-Pizzato moved the Board authorize administration increase the amount of the letters of credit and sign any necessary documents to provide the required financial assurances to the Wyoming DEQ in relation to the two Class 1 drilling permits. Trustee Dave True seconded the motion. The motion carried with unanimous decision.

***UW Foundation New Gift Opportunities***

**07-19-2024 @ 10:47 a.m.**

Trustee Laura Schmid-Pizzato moved the Board authorize the addition of the thirteen priorities to the May 9, 2024, approved list as amended on June 12, 2024. Trustee Carol Linton seconded the motion. The motion carried with unanimous decision.

***Giving Day Match***

**07-19-2024 @ 10:48 a.m.**

Trustee Brad Bonner moved the Board direct two hundred and fifty thousand dollars (\$250,000) from the Trustees Special Projects Reserve Account to establish a 2024 Giving Day match pool conditioned upon a dollar-for-dollar match and allowed under UW Regulation and policy. Trustee David Fall seconded the motion. The motion carried with unanimous decision.

**AGENDA ITEM TITLE: Facilities Contracting Committee – Carol Linton (Chairman)**

Trustee Carol Linton moved the following recommended action:

***Sigma Phi Epsilon House***

**07-19-2024 @ 10:51 a.m.**

Trustee Carol Linton moved the Board authorize administration to proceed with discussions with Sigma Phi Epsilon regarding its ability to secure financing and to secure an agreement with the University of Wyoming on or before April 1, 2025. The University will then consider an agreement in lieu of demolition of the property. Trustee Jim Mathis seconded the motion. The motion carried with unanimous decision.

**Wyoming Community College Commission's Bachelor of Applied Science Exploratory Committee -- McKinley**

Trustee John McKinley began with follow up to discussion on Thursday, July 18, 2024, of administration's 2029 enrollment targets. Trustee McKinley clarified the figures offered by the administration included students who are not full-time. Trustee McKinley suggested administration be precise in the enrollment and recruitment statistics it reports, and recommends administration provide the Board goals by category during the Board's September 2024 meeting.

Trustee McKinley went on to describe the work of the Wyoming Community College Commission's Bachelor of Applied Science (BAS) Exploratory Committee. Trustee McKinley stated the legislature allowed Wyoming community colleges (WCC) to provide BAS degrees without cap; the Wyoming Community College Commission (WCCC) created a rule allowing for no more than two BAS degrees at any one WCC. Trustee McKinley reported that due to the success of BAS at certain WCCs there was a desire to increase the number of BAS degrees. Trustee McKinley stated the charge to the exploratory committee was to examine the right mix and number of BAS course offerings beneficial to the state and be fiscally responsible while continuing to provide appropriate education to site bound students. Trustee McKinley offered that the state cannot afford to fund nine institutions providing duplication in course offerings. Trustee McKinley reported the WCC representatives stated the BAS limit was not at issue, but with input from the University of Wyoming, the WCCC would be the body to assure there was no course duplication. Trustee McKinley stated a recommendation for a rules change will be brought to the WCCC for approval, further stating that the Board consider taking action on receipt of notification of the rule change. Trustee McKinley strongly encouraged administration to engage actively on the WCCs' BAS decision making. Trustee McKinley discussed the transfer complications related to classes counting toward a BAS at WCCs, and do not count toward a Bachelor of Arts (BA) at the university, as the miscommunication results in reputational harm to the university.

Governor Gordon's Deputy Policy Director Lachelle Brant expressed her gratitude to Trustee McKinley on his engagement on the issue. Brant stated the legislation's intent was to provide educational opportunity to site bound students in support of workforce development. Brant acknowledged the focus has shifted, and as a result there is duplication in course offerings. Brant stated the governor's attention to effective use of state resources, and a desire to create alignment and coordination as it relates to opportunities and gaps in curriculum and support to local industry. Brant referred to the Wyoming Innovation Partnership (WIP).

Trustee David Fall recommended expansion of the agreement the university has entered with the Laramie County Community College related to joint advising. In response to inquiry from Trustee Fall, Brant stated that the WCCs do not receive additional funding for increased BAS degrees, but once the programs are added they are included in the funding formula. Brant stated that UW President Seidel has done a good job building relationships with the WCCs but advocated for putting a strong process in place for future beneficiaries. Trustee Dave True recommended the convening of a centralized and unbiased body made up of equal membership for WCCC and the University of Wyoming to examine and respond to needs that best serve the state. Trustee Kermit Brown provided legislative perspective on the complexity of the issue.

## **Business Meeting**

### ***Approval of Meeting Minutes***

***07-19-2024 @***

Trustee Brad Bonner moved the Board approve the public and executive session minutes of the June 12, 2024, UW Board of Trustees Meetings. Trustee David Fall seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

## **Reports**

### **ASUW – President Kameron Murfitt**

ASUW President Kameron Murfitt provided the Board a brief report to include the offering of DIA shuttle service for students between campus and Denver during peak commutation periods. Murfitt discussed ASUW Summer Project Initiative similar to student government's special project funding; \$140,000 was allocated to 33 projects. Murfitt stated interviews ongoing to fill vacant executive branch positions.

### **Staff Senate – President Adam Comeau**

Staff Senate President Adam Comeau discussed Staff Senate Resolution 248 requesting delay to the staff reorganization and encouraged administration to consider feedback. As part of the Board's discussion of enrollment and recruitment on Thursday, July 18, 2024, Comeau discussed the roll staff play in the success of the institution, and advocated for resources toward staff pay, educational opportunities, and professional development for staff.

### **Faculty Senate – Ray Fertig**

Faculty Senate Chairman Ray Fertig stated that during the May 2024 Board meeting he reported on Senate Resolution 464, which called for a pause in the staff reorganization. The administration had decided that any reorganization would be phased in, with the first phase focusing on standardizing job descriptions without changing reporting lines. This decision met the request, but it has not yet been communicated to staff and Fertig encouraged administration to send a timely communication.

Fertig went on to provide faculty perspective on university enrollment and growth, driven by recruitment and retention using his department, Mechanical Engineering, as an example, as he couldn't speak for every department. Fertig made the following points:

1. Faculty members met with many prospective students and their parents each semester. Chairman Fertig had personally met with hundreds. Several faculty members voluntarily participated, and their undergraduate and graduate coordinators assisted as part of their roles.
2. They solicited student input regarding elective courses, although they couldn't accommodate all requests due to limited faculty resources and minimum course numbers. Contrary to some beliefs, they did not offer courses solely because a faculty member liked them; student demand and need were always the primary considerations. They also aimed to offer required courses in both semesters to help students graduate on time. However,

previous budget cuts and faculty reductions had forced them to reduce the frequency of some course offerings.

3. They were implementing new mentorship programs to connect students with recent graduates in the industry and faculty one-on-one, which they had lost with the professional advising model. They believed this would improve student retention and lead to positive outcomes such as job placements and internships.
4. They regularly provided undergraduate research opportunities within their department.
5. Faculty were the primary recruiters for graduate students, which was challenging in a competitive market. They hoped the recent increase in stipends would aid their efforts.

Fertig stated that faculty efforts in recruitment and mentoring are unrecognized in terms of tenure or promotion, and yet faculty are passionate about their students' success and strive to provide the best education possible. Fertig stated that various factors, such as tuition policies, scholarship restrictions, or athletic successes, impacted enrollment growth more than faculty efforts.

Fertig stated faculty responsibility is to ensure the programs strive for excellence and relevance, attracting students, not merely increasing enrollment for tuition revenue. Fertig stated that student success might mean different paths for different students, including trade schools or community colleges and encouraged administration to avoid presenting enrollment growth in a way that devalued other career paths, as this could appear elitist and be off-putting.

UW President Ed Seidel made a point to state his appreciation for Fertig's perception.

### **Wyoming Community College Commission – Executive Director Ben Moritz**

Executive Director Ben Moritz was absent from the meeting and did not provide a report.

### ***Public Comment [Scheduled for Friday, July 19, 2024]***

Lab School Teacher Meredith McLaughlin provided the Board in-person public comment regarding the history and value of the Lab School to the community.

## **Committee of the Whole**

### **Board Committee Reports**

**Trustee Committees** *[Committees of the Board did not meet during the July 2024 meeting. The Biennium Budget Committee recommended action to the full Board; and the Facilities Contracting Committee met via video conference on July 15, 2024, and recommended action to the full Board.]*

**Liaisons to Other Boards** *[Written Liaisons to other Boards Reports were provided in advance.]*

- UW Alumni Association Board – Laura Schmid-Pizzato & Jack Tennant
- UW Foundation Board – Brad Bonner & David Fall
- Haub School of Environment & Natural Resources – Michelle Sullivan
- Energy Resource Council – Dave True
- Cowboy Joe Club – John McKinley

## **OTHER ACTION TAKEN AT MEETING**

### ***Cooperative Agreement between the Trustees of the University of Wyoming and Albany School District No. 1 Addendum #3***

***07-19-2024 @ 10:51 a.m.***

Trustee Carol Linton moved the Board approve administration execute Addendum #3 to the Cooperative Agreement between the Trustees of the University of Wyoming and Albany School District No. 1 as presented on page 24 of the July 2024 Board materials. Trustee Jim Mathis seconded the motion. The motion carried with unanimous decision.

### ***2027-2028 UW Board of Trustees Meeting Schedules***

***07-19-2024 @ 10:56 a.m.***

Trustee Brad Bonner moved the Board approve the 2027 and 2028 UW Board of Trustees meeting schedules as presented. Trustee Dave True seconded the motion. The motion carried with unanimous decision.

### **New Business**

Trustee Kermit Brown announced the July 2025 UW Board of Trustees out-of-town meeting will be held at Ranch A near Hulett, Wyoming.

### **Date of Next Meeting**

August 14, 2024 (conference call)

### **Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 11:53 a.m.

### **Executive Session Information**

*[The UW Board of Trustees met in Executive Session on Friday, July 19, 202, in person and via video conference.]*

The UW Board of Trustees meeting was called to order at 8:05 a.m. Trustee Brad Bonner moved the Board enter Executive Session

1. 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));
2. To consider or receive any information classified as confidential by law (16-4-405(a)(ix));
3. To consider the selection of a site or the purchase of real estate (16-4-405(a)(vii)); and
4. To consider matters concerning litigation to which the governing body is a party or proposed litigation to which the governing body may be a party (16-4-405(a)(iii))

Trustee Michelle Sullivan seconded the motion. The motion carried. The Board entered executive session at 8:06 a.m.



Trustees participating: Kermit Brown (Chairman); Michelle Sullivan (Vice Chairman); Laura Schmid-Pizzato (Treasurer); Brad Bonner (Secretary); David Fall; Elizabeth Greenwood (via video conference); Brad LaCroix (via video conference); Carol Linton; Jim Mathis; John McKinley; Macey Moore; and Dave True.

Ex-officio Trustees participating: UW President Ed Seidel; State Superintendent for Public Instruction Megan Degenfelder; and ASUW President Kameron Murfitt. Wyoming Community College Commission Executive Director Ben Moritz was absent. Wyoming Governor Mark Gordon was absent; Deputy Policy Advisor Lachelle Brant attended on his behalf.

The executive session was attended by the following:

- Provost and Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs Kevin Carman
- Vice President and General Counsel Tara Evans
- Deputy General Counsel Paula Whaley
- Vice President for Government Affairs and Community Engagement Mike Smith
- Vice President for Budget and Finance Alex Kean
- Executive Director and Deputy Secretary RoseMarie London
- IT Specialist Margarita Rovani

The following administrators attended during their respective topics:

- Vice President for Campus Operations Bill Mai
- Associate Vice President for Institutional Marketing Chad Baldwin
- Athletic Director Tom Burman
- Vice President for Research and Economic Development Parag Chitnis
- Energy and Petroleum Engineering Professor Mohammad Piri

Respectfully submitted,



RoseMarie London  
Executive Director and Deputy Secretary, UW Board of Trustees

## Appendix A

### Trustees Scholarships Cancelled Academic Years 2019-20 through AY 2023-24

Table 1 - Enrollment Status	Student Counts
Stopped enrollment at UW after losing award	13
Continued enrollment at UW after losing award *	29
Grand Total	42

Table 2 - Reason for Losing Award	Student Counts
Not Enough Earned Hours	4
Not Enough Earned Hours and GPA	14
GPA	14
Deferring **	1
Exception Granted GPA *	6
Exception Granted Earned Hours *	2
Exception Granted Earned Hours and GPA *	1
Grand Total	42

\* Of the 29 continuing students, nine students successfully appealed and were granted an exception to have their Trustees award reinstated. The initial reasons for losing the awards are listed in Table 2.

\*\* Student's award was cancelled based on deferring enrollment. This particular student is serving a religious mission and the award will be reinstated if student enrolls at UW upon return of mission.