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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