



Date: March 26, 2026

To: Anne Alexander, Interim Provost
Scott Beaulier, Dean, College of Business
Sam Brodie, Associate Athletic Director, Budget and Finance
Parag Chitnis, Vice President for Research and Economic Development
Tara Evans, Vice President and General Counsel
Matt Griswold, Vice Provost for Online and Continuing Education
Alex Kean, Vice President for Budget and Finance
John Koprowski, Dean, Haub School of Environment and Natural Resources
Bill Mai, Vice President for Campus Operations
RoseMarie London, Executive Director and Deputy Secretary, Board of Trustees
Carolyn Pepper, Vice Provost for Graduate Education
Mike Smith, Vice President for Governmental Affairs and Community Engagement
Scott Turpen, Dean, College of Arts and Sciences
ASUW President
Faculty Senate Chairman
Staff Senate President

From: Kermit Brown, Chairman, Board of Trustees

Re: 2026 Budget Footnote Working Group

Following approval of the 2026 Wyoming Session Laws, Ch. 44 General Government Appropriations, §067 Footnote 9, I am convening this working group to conduct a comprehensive review of the University of Wyoming's organizational structure and staffing patterns across all divisions, colleges, administrative units, auxiliaries, and support functions. The working group shall consist of those individuals listed as addressees in this charge letter and the two trustees identified as co-chairmen. While Governor Gordon vetoed the portion of the footnote requiring the University to identify "at least five million dollars (\$5,000,000) in cost savings," we received a clear message from the Legislature and the Governor's veto message – UW needs to make changes.

Per the budget footnote, I am forming this working group to:

1. Identify any positions or organizational units that are duplicative, overlapping or functionally redundant;
2. Assess opportunities to consolidate, streamline or otherwise restructure administrative and academic operations in order to improve efficiency;
3. Evaluate staffing levels relative to similarly situated postsecondary institutions and industry standards;

4. Develop recommendations to reduce the overall number of positions while simultaneously considering the operational needs, service levels and institutional priorities of the University of Wyoming;
5. Identify any potential cost savings and reinvestment opportunities that result from any recommended staffing or structural changes;
6. Compile an inventory and recommend opportunities to eliminate degree programs with consideration of course participation and the number of recent graduates; and
7. Compile an inventory and recommend opportunities to further restrict any diversity, equity and inclusion program, activity or function.

I will co-chair this working group, along with Trustee John Mckinley, and we will present the working group's data gathering and initial findings and recommendations on the above seven items from the budget footnote and suggestions for additional budget reductions at the July 2026 Board of Trustees meeting. This will ensure there is adequate time to present a draft operational plan at the September 2026 Board of Trustees meeting and a final operational plan at the November 2026 meeting, prior to submitting it to the governor and the joint appropriations committee not later than December 1, 2026.

I appreciate in advance your assistance, collaboration, and input on this important topic.

Sincerely,



Kermit Brown, Chairman, Board of Trustees