



Board of Trustees

Committee on Academic and Student Affairs

Wednesday, March 23, 2022

8:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.

Board of Trustees
Committee on Academic and Student Affairs
Wednesday, March 23, 2022
8:00 AM – 10:00 AM
Maran H. Rochelle Gateway Center, Salons A&B

AGENDA

1. Consideration and Action: Notice of Intent: MS in Nutrition and Dietetics (*Carman/Ahern*)
2. Information and Discussion: Review and Approval Process for Proposed Expansion of the MSW program to UWC (*Carman/Ahern*)
3. Information and Discussion: Recommendation of 4-year Academic Calendar (*Carman/Barrett*)
4. Information and Discussion: Next Gen USP update (*Carman/Barrett*)
5. Information and Discussion: Student Success Annual Metrics Review (*Chestnut/Carman/Courtney*)
6. Information and Discussion: ACT/SAT Test Optional for Admissions and Scholarships Discussion (*Carman/Moore*)

ACADEMIC AND STUDENT AFFAIRS

COMMITTEE MEETING MATERIALS

AGENDA ITEM TITLE: Notice of Intent, Nutrition & Dietetics Master's Degree, Ahern

- PUBLIC SESSION
- EXECUTIVE SESSION

PREVIOUSLY DISCUSSED BY COMMITTEE:

- Yes
- No

FOR FULL BOARD CONSIDERATION:

- Yes

[Note: If yes, materials will also be included in the full UW Board of Trustee report.]

- No

- Attachments/materials are provided in advance of the meeting.*

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

The College of Agriculture & Natural Resources is proposing a new Master of Science degree in Nutrition and Dietetics. This program will be delivered primarily on campus with a distance education component (online coursework) and clinical and community-based supervised experiential learning throughout the state of Wyoming. In the last two years of the program, students will enroll in a majority of online courses while completing their experiential learning requirements at sites such as hospitals, medical clinics, schools, University of Wyoming Extension offices, and public health agencies. There is high demand for Registered Dietitian Nutritionists (RDN) in Wyoming. Beginning in 2024, all RDNs must have a master's degree, thus the need for this proposed program. The recommendation of the Provost is that the Notice of Intent for a Master of Science in Nutrition and Dietetics be approved by the Board of Trustees.

WHY THIS ITEM IS BEFORE THE COMMITTEE:

A Notice of Intent to the Board will allow the program proposers to complete review internally with the shared-governance bodies (Faculty Senate, ASUW, and Staff Senate), and Academic Forum (Deans and Directors). Academic Affairs supports the degree proposal. The Request for Authorization will be submitted for the Board's consideration and approval later in the Fall of 2022.

ACTION REQUIRED AT THIS COMMITTEE MEETING:

Approval of the Notice of Intent for the Master of Science in Nutrition and Dietetics.

PROPOSED MOTION:

I move to approve the Notice of Intent for the Master of Science in Nutrition and Dietetics for full board consideration.

Notice of Intent

Name of the proposed Academic Program and the mode of delivery:

The Master of Science (MS) in Nutrition and Dietetics degree will be delivered primarily on campus with a distance education component (online coursework) and clinical and community-based supervised experiential learning throughout the state of Wyoming. In the last two years of the program, students will enroll in a majority of online courses while completing their experiential learning requirements at sites such as hospitals, medical clinics, schools, University of Wyoming Extension offices, and public health agencies.

Description of the new Academic Program including an outline of the anticipated curriculum and learning outcomes:

The proposed program will be a quick-start (4+1) program delivered by the Human Nutrition and Food (HNF) faculty in the Department of Family and Consumer Sciences (FCS), in collaboration with the College of Health Sciences. The program will prepare entry-level Registered Dietitian Nutritionists (RDNs) to practice in areas of clinical, community/public health, and foodservice nutrition.

Anticipated Curriculum: Students will gain the knowledge and skills required of RDNs through a strong foundation of clinical nutrition, community nutrition, and foodservice management. Anticipated curriculum will require:

- Completion of general university studies
- Nutrition and dietetics curriculum courses
- Integration of didactic coursework with supervised learning experiences (SLEs)
- SLEs in clinical nutrition, community nutrition, and foodservice management
- Critical thinking and scientific skills needed for clinical practice, management, and leadership

Student Learning Outcomes: Learning outcomes are based on the Accreditation Council for Education in Nutrition and Dietetics (ACEND) set forth by the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics (AND) professional standards and competencies for RDNs, which are knowledge of:

1. Environmental, molecular factors, and food in the development and management of disease
2. Anatomy, physiology, biochemistry, microbiology, and food safety
3. Chemistry and food science as it pertains to food and nutrition product development and when making modifications to food
4. Pathophysiology and nutritional biochemistry to physiology, health, and disease
5. Social, psychological, and environmental aspects of eating and food

Information about content and how the Academic Program may relate to other offerings:

The proposed program is being developed jointly by experts in nutrition and dietetics. This program is a replacement of the existing BS dietetics program concentration, currently offered through FCS. This existing BS degree prepares students for entry into an accredited dietetic internship program necessary prior to becoming an RDN. Beginning on January 1, 2024, the Commission on Dietetic Registration requirements to take the RDN registration exam will change from a bachelor's to a master's degree, and this proposed program will offer a career specific MS in order to accommodate the changes of the dietetics profession. Thus, the proposed degree would encase a BS, MS, and internship in order to fulfill the requirements for students to become RDNs in an efficient time period.

A plan for obtaining a market analysis of anticipated student demand and enrollment, and a plan for evaluation and analysis of post-graduation employment market demand:

According to Gray Associates' data, Human Nutrition and Food has an overall score in the 98th percentile with moderate student demand, while Dietetics has an overall score in the 70th percentile with low to moderate demand. Although Dietetics has a low to moderate student demand, the employment outlook for RDNs is expected to increase much faster than average according to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics. In addition to the Gray Associates data, a focus group with nearly 20 Wyoming RDNs at the 2019 Wyoming Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics conference found that many hospitals, organizations, and agencies in Wyoming that employ RDNs find it challenging to hire and retain qualified nutrition professionals. The consensus of this focus group was that a program dedicated to training RDNs in Wyoming is welcomed and needed.

Preliminary budget, including potential funding sources, projected expenses and revenues, and potential faculty, academic professionals, lecturers, professors of practice, and staff:

- *Total projected additional expenses = \$153,824*
 - 1 faculty/lecturer position in Human Nutrition and Food/Dietetics Unit (\$64,000 + fringe = \$89,024)
 - 3 adjunct clinical coordinator positions – on-site hospital/clinical dietitians to coordinate clinical placements located throughout state (\$6,000 x 3 coordinators in fall semester = \$18,000; \$6,000 x 3 coordinators in spring semester = \$18,000)
 - 1 administrative staff member dedicated to program onboarding, assessment, and external site contracts (e.g., hospitals) (\$45,000 + fringe = \$63,000)
- *Total projected additional revenues due to added course requirements for the MS = \$217,430*
 - Increased tuition generation per year:
 - Per resident student in program = \$11,528
 - \$377/graduate credit X 28 credits = \$10,556
 - \$162 additional per dual course credit X 6 credits = \$972
 - Per non-resident students in program = \$31,958
 - \$1067/graduate credit X 28 credits = \$29,876
 - \$347 additional per dual course credit X 6 credits = \$2,082
 - Estimate: 5 resident students and 5 non-resident each year = \$217,430 additional tuition
 - Foundation dollars will also be used to provide partial scholarships for students during their 5th year and can help fund the clinical coordinator positions

Proposed timeline for staged implementation over five years, including campus and Board review:

- February 2022 – Proposal/Notice of Intent submitted for review to the Provost’s office
- March 23-25, 2022 – Proposal presented at Board of Trustees meeting
- August 2022 – Feasibility study and pro forma budget submitted to Academic Affairs
- September 2022 – Present feasibility study for campus review
- December 2022 – Materials for the Request for Authorization and Letter of Commitment submitted for review to the Provost’s Office
- Spring 2023 – Administrative staff position search initiated and complete
- March 2023 – Request for Authorization and Letter of Commitment submitted for review to the Board of Trustees
- Feb & September 2023 – CARFs submitted
- Fall 2023 - Human Nutrition and Food Unit faculty/lecturer position posted, Office of Registrar notified to add program to Master List of Degrees, Admissions notified to add program to “Pick List”
- Fall 2023/Spring 2024 – ACEND site visit, granted candidacy accreditation
- Spring 2024 – Hiring of new faculty/lecturer position
- Fall 2024 – First year delivery of Nutrition and Dietetics master’s degree
- Fall 2025 – Second year delivery of Nutrition and Dietetics master’s degree
- Spring/Fall 2026 – ACEND site visit, granted full accreditation

Information on other required approvals, such as accreditation bodies and the Higher Learning Commission:

We are constructing this program based on standards and expectations put forth by the Accreditation Council for Education in Nutrition and Dietetics (ACEND). It is our intention to apply for accreditation candidacy prior to commencement of the first year of the degree (Fall 2024). In addition, we intend to apply for full accreditation through ACEND within the first two years of program implementation.

Evidence of how the new Academic Program aligns with the University’s mission, strategic plan, and existing academic degree program array:

Alignment with UW’s mission: The proposed MS in Nutrition and Dietetics aligns with UW’s mission by preparing individuals to serve communities throughout Wyoming, other states within the US, and the globe. This education will not only promote an environment that values and provides diversity, internationalization, free expression, academic

freedom, personal integrity, and mutual respect, but will foster student opportunities for personal health, growth, and leadership development.

Alignment with UW's strategic plan: We believe this program aligns with all 5 of the University of Wyoming's goals in the Five-Year Strategic Plan (Breaking Through) and with the current strategic goals of: institutional excellence, student success, and service to the community. Here, we will highlight the goals that most closely align to our proposed program. Goal 1 emphasizes the promotion of "academic programs that address workforce needs of the state and region." As indicated by the Gray Associate's data and feedback from Wyoming Academy of Nutrition and Dietetic members, there is a high need for RDNs in Wyoming and nationally. Goal 2 addresses the need to "engage and graduate well-rounded and creative thinkers, capable of meeting unpredictable and complex challenges". The nature of this program will produce students who understand nutrition, equipping students to understand and support children, families, and those in need in a holistic way. The MS in Nutrition and Dietetics will also provide opportunities for students to engage in internships throughout the program. Goal 3 encourages programs to "build a statewide community of learners by collaborating with schools, community colleges and tribal nations to connect students and citizens". The proposed MS program supports these efforts through student placement in student learning experiences across the state. We hope to partner with these communities in an effort to better prepare our students to provide instruction to diverse populations. Goal 4 focuses on the University as a whole through maintaining and strengthening its "marketing effectiveness, financial resources, and human capital." This program will supplement these efforts by offering a competitive and novel educational experience.

A rationale that clearly defines the need for the new Academic Program. The rationale should include evidence that the Academic Program will not produce unnecessary duplication of existing programs:

The proposed MS in Nutrition and Dietetics would allow students to develop skills necessary for careers as RDNs. It will prepare students adequately for the Commission in Dietetics Registration (CDR) national registration examination. In addition, the interdisciplinary nature of the degree will provide students with the background necessary to be high-quality dietitians (as identified by research and accrediting bodies) and serve the needs of children and families across the state and beyond. This program moves UW towards the forefront of nutrition and dietetics education standards and ensures our students will be highly sought after.

Evidence the Academic Program will not produce unnecessary duplication of existing programs:

In many senses, this is not a new Academic Program but instead a transition of an undergraduate level program to a graduate level program to meet the changing education requirements for RDNs at the national level. Currently, only one program exists in the area of dietetics education on campus that serves the needs of students, and it is located in FCS. The current nutrition and dietetics program offerings are:

- B.S. in Human Nutrition and Food
 - Provides students a foundation for a Master's, pre-med, pre-physical therapy or prepares them for a career in food product development and management, Cooperative Extension Service, consumer education, sales and marketing, and public relations.
- Minor in Human Nutrition
- Dietetics Program Concentration
 - Prepares students for entrance into an accredited dietetics internship.

Currently, students from our BS dietetics program are leaving the state of Wyoming to obtain graduate degrees and internships; thus, taking tuition dollars and highly needed entry-level health professionals out of the state. The program would combine the current BS dietetics program concentration with an MS coupled with the dietetic internship. The proposed program would enable students to fulfill the education requirements to become RDNs all within the state of Wyoming and within an efficient timeframe. The freestanding BS dietetics program concentration will be phased out and its curriculum will be adjusted and moved into the proposed master's level program. Without implementing this new master's level program at UW in response to the shifting national educational requirements in dietetics education, the current BS dietetics program would be in jeopardy of decreased student enrollment and could become an irrelevant program for students.

ACADEMIC AND STUDENT AFFAIRS

COMMITTEE MEETING MATERIALS

AGENDA ITEM TITLE: MSW Expansion to UW-C Approval Process Update, Ahern

- PUBLIC SESSION
- EXECUTIVE SESSION

PREVIOUSLY DISCUSSED BY COMMITTEE:

- Yes
- No

FOR FULL BOARD CONSIDERATION:

- Yes

[Note: If yes, materials will also be included in the full UW Board of Trustee report.]

- No

- Attachments/materials are provided in advance of the meeting.*

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

In the September 2021 meeting, the Board approved a Notice of Intent for an expansion of the Master of Social Work program to UW-Casper. As a major curricular change and not a new degree program, the proposed program must undergo internal (campus) review but does not necessitate approval of the Board. Therefore, the proposal for the expansion of the MSW to UW-Casper will undergo review by Academic Affairs, Faculty Senate, ASUW, Staff Senate, and the Provost and will not be referred to the Trustees for approval. If the startup request will require Trustees' reserves funding, that request will be taken to the Board.

WHY THIS ITEM IS BEFORE THE COMMITTEE:

Informational.

ACTION REQUIRED AT THIS COMMITTEE MEETING:

None

PROPOSED MOTION:

Not applicable.

ACADEMIC AND STUDENT AFFAIRS

COMMITTEE MEETING MATERIALS

AGENDA ITEM TITLE: AY 23/24 to AY26/27 Calendars, Barrett

- PUBLIC SESSION
- EXECUTIVE SESSION

PREVIOUSLY DISCUSSED BY COMMITTEE:

- Yes
- No

FOR FULL BOARD CONSIDERATION:

- Yes

[Note: If yes, materials will also be included in the full UW Board of Trustee report.]

- No

Attachments/materials are provided in advance of the meeting.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

Academic Affairs is providing final draft academic calendars for AY 23/24 to AY26/27 for review by the AA/SA subcommittee. Final academic calendars will be provided to the Trustees at their May 2022 meeting for approval.

The academic calendar committee has wide representation from across UW and other related agencies including: ASUW, Staff Senate, Faculty Senate, OTR, Athletics, ACSD #1, Financial Services, Scholarships and Financial Aid, RLDS and Union, Alumni Association, LCCC, Graduate Education, UW at Casper, Admissions, Student Affairs, Distance Education, and Academic Affairs.

The committee has gathered feedback from constituents on calendar principles. Based on their feedback, the final draft calendars were assembled and reviewed for AY 23/24 to AY26/27.

All four academic year calendars have been posted for comment on the AA website to solicit feedback.

WHY THIS ITEM IS BEFORE THE COMMITTEE:

On a recurring basis the Board of Trustees review and approve a three to four year increment of academic calendars.

ACTION REQUIRED AT THIS COMMITTEE MEETING:

None. Academic Affairs is providing final draft academic calendars for AY 23/24 to AY26/27 for review by the AA/SA subcommittee. Final academic calendars will be provided to the Trustees at their May 2022 meeting for approval.

PROPOSED MOTION:

NA

ACADEMIC AND STUDENT AFFAIRS

COMMITTEE MEETING MATERIALS

AGENDA ITEM TITLE: USP Next Generation, Bridgeman, Aronstein, Fisher

- PUBLIC SESSION
- EXECUTIVE SESSION

PREVIOUSLY DISCUSSED BY COMMITTEE:

- Yes
- No

FOR FULL BOARD CONSIDERATION:

- Yes

[Note: If yes, materials will also be included in the full UW Board of Trustee report.]

- No

Attachments/materials are provided in advance of the meeting.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

Co-chairs Professors Bridgeman, Aronstein, and Fisher will provide an update on University Studies Program Next Generation efforts. Interim Provost Anne Alexander charged the USP committee in October 2020 to develop the Next Generation University Studies Program (NGGE23). As noted by Professor Alexander: “Our current University Studies Program (USP) 2015 general education program had its beginnings in a similar exercise that began over a decade ago. Given accelerating disruption in workplaces and society, it is time to think again about the way we prepare all UW students for full participation as citizens in an increasingly complex world.” Following COVID-19 related disruptions, the committee has reviewed the literature on this topic, reviewed efforts at other universities, and completed a committee planning retreat in late January 2022. The co-chairs will provide an update on ongoing activities.

WHY THIS ITEM IS BEFORE THE COMMITTEE:

The Board of Trustees have been involved in prior reviews and updates the USP general education portion of the curriculum.

ACTION REQUIRED AT THIS COMMITTEE MEETING:

NA

PROPOSED MOTION:

NA

ACADEMIC AND STUDENT AFFAIRS

COMMITTEE MEETING MATERIALS

AGENDA ITEM TITLE: Student Success Annual Metrics Review, Chestnut/Carman/Courtney

- PUBLIC SESSION
- EXECUTIVE SESSION

PREVIOUSLY DISCUSSED BY COMMITTEE:

- Yes
- No

FOR FULL BOARD CONSIDERATION:

- Yes

[Note: If yes, materials will also be included in the full UW Board of Trustee report.]

- No

Attachments/materials are provided in advance of the meeting.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

As UW further enhances student success efforts across campus, it is important to review associated impacts and outcomes. The AA/SA committee requested an annual review of relevant metrics that provide information across time regarding the University's impact on engaging, retaining, and graduating students. March 2022 will be the first year of this annual review process and will provide an overview of student retention, graduation rates, and academic probation percentages. Further years will include new categories as additional data become available.

WHY THIS ITEM IS BEFORE THE COMMITTEE:

Student success efforts are an ongoing agenda item for the AA/SA committee. The committee board members requested an annual review of the current metrics captured at UW regarding student retention, engagement, and success.

ACTION REQUIRED AT THIS COMMITTEE MEETING:

NA

PROPOSED MOTION:

NA

The University of Wyoming Metrics for Student Success

We will highlight a comprehensive review of student success metrics.

- **Student Retention and Progression**
 - Undergraduate students - First-time, full-time retention:
 - 1st-2nd year retention
 - 2nd-3rd year retention
 - 3rd-4th year retention
 - Segmented data available for First-generation, gender, residency, ethnicity/race, age,
 - Groups for further consideration:
 - Pell-eligible
 - Transfer student retention rates

- **Graduation Rates**
 - First-time, full-time
 - 4-yr
 - 5-yr
 - 6-yr
 - 1st-gen, Pell, ethnic minorities
 - Transfer students
 - 2-yr
 - 3-yr
 - 4-yr
 - 1st-gen, Pell, ethnic minorities, male/female

- **Academic probation**
 - Percentage of first-year students after 1st semester
 - Percentage of first-year students after 1st year

ACADEMIC AND STUDENT AFFAIRS

COMMITTEE MEETING MATERIALS

AGENDA ITEM TITLE: ACT/SAT Test Optional for Admissions, Moore

PUBLIC SESSION

EXECUTIVE SESSION

PREVIOUSLY DISCUSSED BY COMMITTEE:

Yes

No

FOR FULL BOARD CONSIDERATION:

Yes

[Note: If yes, materials will also be included in the full UW Board of Trustee report.]

No

Attachments/materials are provided in advance of the meeting.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

Administration would like support from the AA/SA committee to engage campus in a discussion around adopting a permanent test optional admissions policy to begin for students entering Spring 2023.

Predicting student success using standardized tests has proven to be less than reliable over the course of several decades. The use of standardized testing does however indicate the likelihood a student had access to quality educational resources and test prep opportunities prior to completing an examination. This has illustrated a likely gap and disparate evaluation metric for predicting potential for success when used as a metric for university admission purposes.

Universities are increasingly interested in the academic potential and capacity a student can achieve while at the institution, more so than what they have achieved based on their previous access to quality educational resources and test prep materials. As such, many universities, systems and state Boards of Education have adopted permanent test optional admissions policies.

This imbalance in the evaluation method is most obvious in low economic and rural student populations. The University of Wyoming welcomes a significant population of students with limited financial capacity and more than 75% of its students come from rural backgrounds. This suggests the University may be inadvertently screening out students with the academic capacity and ability before given the opportunity to display their potential.

The COVID pandemic accelerated this national trend of test optional policy adoption. During the 2020/2021 academic terms, the CollegeBoard reported an all-time low of 43% test completion, a drop from 73-77% completion rates ahead of the pandemic. Many students were simply unable to sit for an examination due to the cancellation of test sites as a result of the requirements for in person activities. This created the opportunity for many institutions to pilot test optional admission policies and evaluate the success of students who entered without test scores, alongside students

who were able to secure a test creating an ideal case study and control for evaluating effectiveness of predicting student success.

WHY THIS ITEM IS BEFORE THE COMMITTEE:

In late spring of 2020 and 2021 the UW Board of Trustees amended regulation 2-201 to allow for test optional admissions. In 2021 it was discussed that insufficient data existed to suggest a permanent change to the regulation and the topic would be revisited by administration and return to the Board in 2022 with recommendations for considering adoption of a test optional admissions policy.

ACTION REQUIRED AT THIS COMMITTEE MEETING:

Discussion Item only

PROPOSED MOTION:

N/A