

**Senate Resolution #2061**

**Title:**           **Moving Forward III and Inclusive College Academic Plans**

**Date:**           **November 3, 2003**

**Authors:**       **Academics and Technology Committee and Director of Legislative Affairs Sporkin-Morrison**

**Sponsors:**     **Senators Chandler, Heth, Kelly, Williams, Executives Castillon and Sporkin-Morrison**

1.     WHEREAS, Moving Forward III affects the Associated Students of the
2.     University of Wyoming (ASUW) and all the students therein included; and
3.     WHEREAS, this document affects the academic career of every member of
4.     ASUW; and
5.     WHEREAS, ASUW feels that our voice must be part of the planning process;
6.     and
7.     WHEREAS, the focus of the College Academic Plans is a major concern to
8.     ASUW.
9.     THEREFORE, be it resolved by the Student Senate of the Associated Students
10.    of the University of Wyoming that the recommendations for the colleges of
11.    Agriculture, Arts and Sciences, Business, Education, Engineering, Health
12.    Sciences, and Law be supported as discussed in Addendums A-G
13.    respectively; and
14.    THEREFORE, be it further resolved that these items be taken into
15.    consideration by the Administration before Moving Forward III and the
16.    College Academic Plans are finalized and implemented.

**Referred to:** Student Issues Committee

Date of Passage: November 18, 2003 Signed: Sabrina Tabassum Boug  
(ASUW Chairperson)

“Being enacted on 11-20-03, I do hereby sign my name hereto

and approve this senate action.” [Signature]  
ASUW President

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Addendum A: College of Agriculture

We feel that the College of Agriculture is an important base for the University of Wyoming and the State at large. It is one of the few colleges that historically strive to not only meet, but promote each area of distinction that has been brought to attention in Moving Forward III.

We believe no action should be taken by the Division of Academic Affairs to eliminate any programs within the College of Agriculture.

We are very supportive of the Agroecology program and feel that all possible measures should be taken to strengthen it. The importance of the Agroecology program correlates the foundations of Agriculture with technology, which will successfully help Agriculture to become a sustainable entity, and provide tools for the future of all agricultural endeavors.

Furthermore, departments and majors within the College of Agriculture should not be decreased, and departments within the college should not be placed within other colleges. Instead, in order to better serve the people of the State of Wyoming, the School of Environment and Natural Resources should be moved to the College of Agriculture. It is the feeling of the ASUW that both would be greatly benefited if a pairing were made.

Furthermore, the AMK Ranch located near Jackson should be allotted to the College of Agriculture for an experimental research station.

The College and its administrators and faculty should be allowed to freely seek both private and public funding for its various programs and endeavors. Not only would such funding enrich the College of Agriculture, but it would in turn enrich the State in the most direct way possible through the College's land grant mission and its cooperation with county governments.

Finally, we would like the administration to review the affects of central position management used in relation with the College of Agriculture.

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Addendum B: College of Arts & Sciences

We encourage the College of Arts and Sciences to work with the Colleges of Agriculture and Health Sciences to revamp the general biology curriculum and to spread the responsibility among all three colleges.

We also support the College's steps to provide sufficient courses to make it possible for students to earn their baccalaureate degrees within four years. However, we do have some concerns about the number of credits the Music Department requires for a degree. Moreover, it would be beneficial to students if that department revised its programs to allow for students to take more university requirements in their first two years without being overburdened with too many credits. This would make it easier for students to switch in or out of the program and still graduate in a reasonable period of time. In conjunction with this, we support the goal of making sure that there are enough open spaces in any given class to allow for all students who want to take that class to become enrolled.

We applaud the College's goal, as laid out in Action Item 2, of high quality teaching and the quality of teaching as a paramount consideration in the hiring, promotion and tenure, and merit salary decisions for all academic personnel.

We promote the college's goal to have each department and program post on their web sites a list of courses to be offered two years in advance, in so far as it does not limit the ability for faculty to develop new courses when they deem necessary. Furthermore, we believe that eliminating courses from the University Bulletin that have not been offered in a three-year period is a good idea.

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Addendum C: College of Business

We find the waning faculty size alarming and feel it will adversely affect all students, especially those who are not in a College of Business program, and therefore have difficulties getting into business classes. We feel that due to the growing importance of sound business practices, understanding all students, regardless of major, should have the opportunity to take courses from the College of Business.

We feel that the College of Business has strong goals and the focus on technology and entrepreneurship will be beneficial for students and the state of Wyoming. Technology is increasingly important in the business world, and incorporating it into all majors will allow University of Wyoming students to remain competitive. Furthermore, both technology and entrepreneurship are critical to the progress and diversity of Wyoming's economy, and will allow graduates of the College of Business to be driving forces in Wyoming's economy.

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### Addendum D: College of Education

The College of Education has several items which are leading the college in the right direction. We support the fact that the college is looking at its undergraduate requirements for majors and trimming them down to fit within the 128 credit hour suggestion from the administration.

Other action items also align with goals that we feel will better the college, such as accreditation status.

Items that need to be addressed are as follows:

We feel that students that are in their phase III section of schooling are in a problematic situation because of income issues. They are held accountable to pay for living accommodations in a city generally not of their choosing, while still paying for tuition fees, and sometimes for other lodging in Laramie. They are not able to have a job during this time, so loans and scholarships are frequently relied on. We feel it is imperative that the College address this issue. If this model is to be used, then students are going to need additional financial help from the University and the College of Education, possibly from an increase in scholarships or by waiving some student fees when phase III students are required to be out of Laramie.

Finally, Moving Forward III suggests that colleges put a bit more focus on their undergraduate programs. After reviewing this document, we feel that the college does not meet that request, and should go beyond simply streamlining the requirements for credit hours to address other issues pertaining to undergraduates.

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Addendum E: College of Engineering

We feel the strategic plan for the College of Engineering is too broad in its stated action items to allow for appropriate measurement of their goals. There are some good tools in place to assess development, but their usefulness is decreased when the goals are not well articulated. This is especially important because some of the action items from the 1999 plan were never fully realized. We feel the goals themselves are commendable, but specificity in the action items and a specific plan as to how the stated goals will be accomplished is needed.

We would like to express specific support for the following action items, which seem to be moving in a very positive direction for all engineering students: Computer Accrediting Commission visit, reassessing teaching evaluations and the way they are used, creative strategies for recruitment and retention including better utilization of options in bioengineering in Chemical, Electrical, and Computer Engineering, increase the participation of undergraduate students in research, internship and international experiences, Earth Systems Sciences program, and finally, rewarding faculty for involving undergraduates in research.

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Addendum F: College of Health Sciences

We feel that this academic plan of the College of Health Sciences does well in contributing to two of the areas of distinction as identified in Moving Forward III: Life Science and Professions and Issues Critical to the Region. The prior is addressed through clinical facilities for advanced research, and the former by the building of the new Health Sciences Center with an integrated Clinical Skills Learning Center.

We also support the addition of many interdisciplinary doctoral programs to sustain the biomedical research enterprise in the college and the university. In adding these programs students will be able to continue to meet the accreditation requirements.

We also feel that the new funding models for the UW Family Practice Residency Program should be explored to increase the benefits of this program for students and the community. New funding models must also be looked at for the School of Pharmacy and the School of Nursing at both the undergraduate and graduate levels. These new models will enhance the level and quality of education provided.

We believe that data analysis should be compiled to determine the need of a Master of Public Health degree program. Based on the data a program should be developed if, and only if, there is a need on the State and regional level.

We support the joining of the B.S. degree in Health Sciences and the Master program in Business Administration to allow students to receive an MBA with emphasis on health systems administration. This will provide students in the College of Health Sciences with an opportunity to expand their knowledge and provide greater career options.

We recommend that the Dean of the College of Health Sciences, the Dean of the Outreach School, and the Faculty of the Division of Social Work should develop a solution to the new mandatory Casper commuting problem facing those striving for a BA in Social Work.



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Addendum G: College of Law

We feel that the action item regarding an increase in revenues is indeed needed to fund an increase of teaching faculty. This leads to smaller classes and a more personal approach to courses. This increase in revenue will also lead to more available scholarships. We also recommend that the application fee change from the current \$35 fee to \$50 in order to help with the need for the increase in revenue.

We agree with a majority of the points brought forward and the action items in the College of Law's proposal. We do feel however, that the following issues should also be considered:

It is important that the College of Law has a focus on the bar exam passage rate.

Finally, there needs to be an enhanced focus on career service and placement.