



Haub School of Environment and Natural Resources  
Report to the UW Board of Trustees  
September 7, 2021

The Haub School of Environment and Natural Resources has continued to foster sustainable landscapes and livelihoods by expanding efforts to engage and have impact on the state of Wyoming's needs in environmental and natural resource issues. Given the challenges of budgets and the pandemic, we have worked to focus on being entrepreneurial and collaborative and to increase opportunity and accessibility of the Haub School to students on and off campus.

#### Student Services

- Estimated new freshman and transfer students (includes majors and a couple of new minors): 49. Our undergraduate programs remain strong with another year of about 400 undergraduates in our majors and minors; our graduate programs have bounced back from a bit of a pandemic-induced decline over the last year with a >30% increase and 5 graduate students in our first cohort of the new MS in Environment, Natural Resources and Society degree that was only approved in May 2021, with extraordinary interest for Fall 2022 admission.
- Welcome hike in the Pilot Hill area on Saturday, August 21: 19 undergraduate students attended, with 6 faculty, staff, and/or graduate students facilitating
- Additional welcome events included College Welcome on Friday, August 19 and Second-Year/Sophomore Welcome Tuesday, August 24 that attracted more than 50 students to the Haub School's Bim Kendall House.
- We welcomed our new Carol and Ramón Tomé Scholars, our new scholarship that provides 4 Haub School of ENR undergraduates a 4-year, full cost of attendance award that includes a Haub signature research/experiential learning/international course opportunity each year.

#### Ruckelshaus Institute

- **Decision-Making Professional Workshop** – In August, as part of our Collaborative Solutions Program, the Ruckelshaus Institute offered a 2-day professional workshop on Structured Decision Making in Natural Resources Management, targeting natural resource managers, consultants, planners, project leaders, analysts, and facilitators. Professor Steve Smutko, of the Haub School, and senior scientist Jana Heisler-White, of the Batelle Memorial Institute, instructed the workshop. Material covered tools and techniques for addressing problems analytically in a values-oriented context, and helped advance our mission to support communities in making sound decisions for environment and natural resource challenges across the state and region.
- **Narrative Contest** – To explore how Wyoming communities can plan for a prosperous future, the Ruckelshaus Institute and partners are holding a contest for Wyoming youth to share their visions of the future. We've teamed up with the Wyoming Humanities Council, Wyoming 2030, the Wyoming Afterschool Alliance, and others. We received a handful of submissions over the summer and are promoting the contest during the new school year to solicit essays, audio recordings, short films, multimedia pieces, and other expressions from individuals under 20 across the state. The end products will include printed and digital anthologies for distribution to community leaders as well as a qualitative analysis to identify themes and further understanding about youth perspectives on the future in our state.

#### Wyoming Outdoor Recreation, Tourism, and Hospitality Initiative (WORTH)

- Planning for the Wyoming Outdoor Recreation, Tourism, and Hospitality Initiative is underway. Discussions with key stakeholders across campus and at partner community colleges are occurring. Consideration of draft job descriptions are also underway.
- Financial discussions are underway, funding requests are being formalized for submission, and timelines for hires and key milestones are drafted for WORTH pending approval.
- The College of Business submitted a Notice of Intent (NOI) for the hospitality major which will be tied into the WORTH initiative if approved.