

UNIVERSITY OF WYOMING

COLLEGE OF EDUCATION

Wyoming School-University Partnership

ACADEMIC PLAN III

2009-2014

AP III Department Level Planning

Wyoming School-University Partnership

Mission and Aspirations

The mission of the Wyoming School-University Partnership is to implement the collaborative efforts of the University of Wyoming, member school districts, the state department of education, and the community colleges in carrying out simultaneously the improvement of teacher education and the renewal of public schools.

The activities of the partnership are driven by its values. These basic values are fundamental:

1. We value children, and we want each child to reach his/her full learning potential.
2. We value teachers and administrators and desire to enable each to be capable of delivering to our children the quality of education that will permit each to reach their full learning potential
3. We value collaboration - working together to solve problems in order that quality education can be raised to the highest possible level.

Previous Planning Accomplishments

The director of the Wyoming School-University Partnership was responsible for and guided the completion of three action items in the College of Education's AP II.

1. Integrate National Network for Educational Renewal principles in the conceptual framework, curriculum and delivery of College of Education programs.
2. Provide college and departmental support for active participation in the Wyoming School-University Partnership and the National Network for Educational Renewal.
3. Form a College of Education study group to foster an understanding of the agenda for education in a democracy and the College of Education relationship with the Wyoming School-University Partnership and the National Network for Educational Renewal.

Relevant Institutional Issues

Promoting access to higher education, page 6, *Creation of the Future 3*, student success: "... P-16 Council, to promote information sharing and cooperation among various sectors of Wyoming's education system. This council is a vehicle for more vigorous articulation among UW, the community colleges, and K-12 and preschool teachers and for smoothing the students' transitions—efforts already seeded through the work of individual UW departments and faculty members, the Wyoming School-University Partnership, and initiatives funded by the School of Energy Resources."

Inclusiveness, page 8, “... Through planning, coordination, outreach, and grants, UW can continue to increase the percentage of Wyoming high school graduates who pursue post-secondary education. Collaboration with K-12 schools and Wyoming community colleges to help students understand the opportunities for higher education is essential in expanding the proportion of Wyoming students who earn baccalaureate degrees.”

Action Items

1. Collaborate with the UW Assessment Coordinators, the Ellbogen Center for Teaching and Learning, and the Learning Resources Network around a “best practices symposium for the assessment of student learning,” (APIII, page 6). The collaboration will build on the Partnership’s extant high school to higher education initiative and the co-sponsored 2007 and 2008 Fall Forum on Learning and Assessment meetings to a) promote curricular and institutional articulation that spans high school, community college, and university and b) increase the number of faculty participating, across secondary and postsecondary levels. Hathaway Success Curriculum content areas, language arts, mathematics, science, social studies, and foreign language, provide the prime disciplinary foci.
2. Co-sponsor and expand the “science summit” model that brings together faculty from secondary and postsecondary Wyoming settings in Hathaway Success Curriculum content areas.
3. Continue to co-sponsor the statewide Writing in Wyoming Colloquium, launched in 2008.
4. Participate in a sub-committee of the P-16 Council to plan annual P-16 education summits that would include policy makers and all levels of classroom faculty.

Relevant College of Education Issues

Action Item 3: “With leadership from the Wyoming School-University Partnership, advance and infuse the fundamental concepts of the Agenda for Education in a Democracy and the central role of schooling within a democratic society across internal and external constituents.”

Action Items

5. Work with the UW Director of Teacher Education to create professional development opportunities around the Agenda for Education in a Democracy in partner districts; extend these opportunities to Partnership members.
6. Promote the League of Democratic Schools initiative to increase members and support Wyoming members by sharing the \$500, yearly membership cost.
7. Follow up the October 19, 2008 Jonathan Kozol visit to UW with small discussion groups around his book, *Letters to a Young Teacher*, and the topic of induction into the profession. Expand this series of 2-5 events to a yearly, Partnership-wide book discussion initiative that also includes community members.
8. Promote the participation of Partnership members at the 10th anniversary of the *In Praise of Education: The New Three Rs* Conference, October 15-17, 2009, Bellevue, Washington.
9. Promote the Partnership and its collaborative work at local, statewide, and national meetings, such as the Wyoming School Improvement Conference, the Wyoming School Boards Association, Wyoming P-16 Education summits, and the National Network for Educational Renewal.

Implementation

Action Item 1	yearly
Action Item 2	yearly
Action Item 3	2009
Action Item 4	2009
Action Item 5	yearly
Action Item 6	2009, 2010
Action Item 7	2009, 2010
Action Item 8	2009
Action Item 9	yearly