



SENATE RESOLUTION #2798

TITLE: Strategic Considerations for the Renaming of the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources

DATE INTRODUCED: April 5, 2022

AUTHOR: Senator Laverell

SPONSORS: Senators Craig and Thompson; President Swilling, Chief of Legislative Affairs Carrier; Students-at-Large Newman, Smylie, and Wadsworth

1. WHEREAS, the purpose of the Associated Students of the University of Wyoming (ASUW)
2. Student Government is to serve our fellow students in the best manner possible; and,
3. WHEREAS, in the 2021 academic restructuring plan, it was proposed to change the name of
4. the “College of Agriculture and Natural Resources” (CANR) to the “College of
5. Agriculture and Life Sciences” (CALS) as seen in Addendum A, in order to further align to
6. our peer institutions; and,
7. WHEREAS, the only institution, when evaluating eight (8) peer institutions, that mentions
8. “Life Sciences” is the University of Idaho College of Agriculture and Life Sciences seen in
9. Addendum B; and,
10. WHEREAS, the other seven (7) land grant institutions, Colorado State University, Kansas
11. State University, Montana State University, North Dakota State University, South Dakota
12. State University, University of Nebraska Lincoln, and Utah State University, do not have
13. “Life Sciences” in their name; and,
14. WHEREAS, these seven (7) institutions possess a strong production agriculture focus as
15. seen when evaluating their websites shown in Addendum B, which is a vital part of choosing
16. an institution to study agriculture for current and future students as agriculture students want
17. to study and learn from an institution that puts an emphasis on production agriculture and
18. applied research; and,

19. WHEREAS, the ASUW did conduct a Student All Issues Survey in the fall of 2021 where
20. over 2,000 students, 162 students from the CANR, were asked if they approved the name
21. change from CANR to CALS, 69.14% students approved that change as shown in Addendum
22. E; and,
23. WHEREAS, students' perspectives may have changed since the fall of 2021 given that they
24. have had more time to really think about the change; and,
25. WHEREAS, 69% of students approve the name change, the questions did not ask if students
26. really wanted the name change; and,
27. WHEREAS, the potential name change from the CANR to CALS dilutes the
28. mission, as seen in Addendum D of the CANR and permanent change could deter potential
29. students from enrolling at
30. The University of Wyoming (UW); and,
31. WHEREAS, Wyoming Agriculture contributes nearly \$2.0 billion dollars into the Wyoming
32. Economy and "Agriculture is one of the top three industries in the Cowboy State"
33. (Addendum C); and,
34. WHEREAS one of the UW's administration's goals is to keep students in the state after
35. graduation, and;
36. WHEREAS, not having a strong agriculture program will deter potential students from
37. enrolling at UW and participating in Wyoming's economy post-graduation.
38. THEREFORE, be it resolved by the Associated Students of the University of Wyoming
39. (ASUW) Student Government that if the name of the current College of Agriculture and
40. Natural Resources, it ought to be reflective of the majors that are housed within the college
41. while keeping true to its mission statement, be similar to the University of Wyoming's

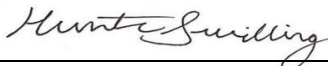
42. (UW's) peer institutions, and keep the importance of production agriculture in mind; and,
43. THEREFORE, be it further resolved that ASUW will advocate for a name that keeps the
44. original intent of the College apparent; and
45. THEREFORE, be it further resolved that ASUW urges that UW be devoted to listening to
46. student opinion regarding a change to the name a college name and should proactively seek
47. these opinions out; and,
48. THEREFORE, be it further resolved that this resolution be sent to the UW President, the UW
49. Provost and any pertinent ASUW or University restructuring committee.

Referred to: Ad-Hoc Restructuring; Advocacy, Diversity, and Policy;

Date of Passage: 4/26/2022 **Signed:** 

(ASUW Chairperson)

“Being enacted on 4/26/2022, I do hereby sign my name hereto and

approve this Senate action.” 

ASUW President

Addendum A

3/26/22, 2:06 PM

UW Finalizes Academic Restructuring Proposal to Present to Trustees | News | University of Wyoming

UW Finalizes Academic Restructuring Proposal to Present to Trustees

November 5, 2021

A major reorganization of the University of Wyoming's academic programs would proceed, although implementation of some significant components would be delayed by a year, under a proposal scheduled to be presented to the UW Board of Trustees Nov. 17-19.

The proposal, which follows months of development informed by thorough review and feedback from internal and external stakeholders, aims to position the university for a vibrant future at a time of uncertain state revenues, economic shifts and a changing higher-education landscape.

"We must consider where we are headed at the same time we make changes to budgets of our various units in response to reductions in recent years," UW President Ed Seidel says. "The academic reorganization plan, combined with new initiatives to improve the student experience and higher education's role in Wyoming's economy, sets the stage for new synergies, scholarly coherence and efficiencies that aren't possible under the university's current structure. Overall, the plan aims to better serve our students and better position us for increased revenue streams from research agencies and corporate partnerships as we strive to become a Carnegie R1 research-intensive institution."

Specifically, the proposal going before the trustees would, effective July 1, 2022, reorganize the College of Education; move and/or consolidate several academic departments; and eliminate four low-enrollment graduate degree programs.

Additional academic reconfigurations -- including movement of several academic departments from the current College of Arts and Sciences, and restructuring and renaming of the current College of Engineering and Applied Science and College of Agriculture and Natural Resources -- wouldn't be implemented until July 1, 2023, pending further refinement.

"After careful consideration of the feedback that we have received from faculty, students, staff and stakeholders, I believe additional time is needed for consideration of how best to implement the major reorganization of the colleges of Arts and Sciences, Agriculture and Natural Resources, and Engineering and Applied Science," Provost and Executive Vice President Kevin Carman says. "I plan to engage in a robust discussion over the next year to carefully consider optimal alignments while minimizing unintended negative consequences of restructuring. This year, UW will be updating its institutional strategic plan, which will be an ideal opportunity to consider how reorganization could position the university for a prosperous future."

While the proposed reorganizations were driven, in part, by budget considerations, they would not achieve the reductions necessary to respond to the drop in state funding and reallocate resources for the new initiatives -- establishment of a School of Computing, a Center for Entrepreneurship and Innovation (CEI), and the Wyoming Outdoor Recreation, Tourism and Hospitality (WORTH) Initiative, which are integral to the new Wyoming Innovation Partnership (WIP) involving UW and the state's community colleges.

As a result, working with UW college deans, the Office of Academic Affairs has separately developed a budget reduction plan that achieves a \$5.3 million reduction to academic programs -- with work continuing for a total \$13.6 million budget reduction. Final details on the reductions will come later, but the plan does include eliminating 20-25 faculty positions that have been vacated by resignations and retirements.

"We worked extremely hard with the deans to find ways to achieve our budget targets, continue to be strategic and not harm faculty who dedicate their careers to serving our students," Seidel says. "We have succeeded in not eliminating faculty positions that are currently filled. And, by folding in final implementation of the reorganization with strategic planning, we will ensure strategic outcomes with faculty, staff and student input throughout the process."

A proposal to launch the School of Computing -- which will go through the regular review process involving the Faculty Senate -- is expected to go before the Board of Trustees in January.

Under UW Regulation 2-13, the proposal going to the Board of Trustees this month would:

- Reorganize the College of Education effective July 1, 2022. The plan is for the college to have three divisions: one focused on educator preparation; one for graduate education; and one for innovation and engagement. A review committee would examine a proposal to discontinue two graduate degree programs, the Ph.D. in counseling and the Ph.D. in learning, design and technology.

- Reorganize the colleges of Arts and Sciences, Agriculture and Natural Resources, and Engineering and Applied Science to better align the life and physical sciences, and the humanities, social sciences and arts, with full implementation by July 1, 2023.

- Give authority to the provost and executive vice president to implement some components of the restructuring plan by July 1, 2022, while pausing to engage in thoughtful discussion over the larger, structural changes before implementing changes no later than July 1, 2023.

3/26/22, 2:06 PM

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-- Suspend the required review period specified in Regulation 2-13 to allow for discussion over the next year regarding the move of the Human Development and Family Sciences, and Design, Merchandising and Textiles programs, with a final recommendation to the board in January 2023.

-- Discontinue these degree programs: the Master of Arts in philosophy, the MBA in finance, the MBA in energy and the Ph.D. in statistics.

Among the changes that would take place by July 1, 2022:

- Consolidation of the Department of Computer Science and the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering.
- Movement of the Department of Physics and Astronomy from the College of Arts and Sciences to the College of Engineering and Applied Science, and consolidation of that department with the Department of Atmospheric Science.
- Consolidation of the agricultural communications degree program with the Department of Communication and Journalism.
- Movement of the American Studies Program into the School of Culture, Gender and Social Justice.

Among the changes that would take place by July 1, 2023, pending further refinement:

- Movement of other physical sciences departments -- Chemistry, Geology and Geophysics, and Mathematics and Statistics -- from the College of Arts and Sciences to the College of Engineering and Applied Science.
- Renaming of the College of Engineering and Applied Science, possibly to the College of Engineering and Physical Sciences.
- Movement of the Department of Zoology and Physiology, the Department of Botany and the Life Sciences Program from the College of Arts and Sciences to the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources. With the additional time, work will be done to determine the optimal structure for the consolidated program and to consider alternative placement of life sciences faculty with discipline-specific expertise that aligns better with other academic units, such as those in the College of Health Sciences.
- Renaming of the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources, possibly to the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences.
- Restructuring of the College of Arts and Sciences to emphasize and elevate humanities, social sciences and arts. With the additional time, work will be done to, among other things: possibly launch a Ph.D. program in English; explore opportunities for other Ph.D. programs; and explore partnerships with the planned School of Computing.
- Movement of the Nutrition Program to the Division of Kinesiology and Health in the College of Health Sciences.
- Movement of the Human Development and Family Sciences Program, and the Early Care and Education Center to the College of Education. With the additional time, work will be done to consider alternative placement of the Human Development and Family Sciences Program and faculty with discipline-specific expertise that aligns better with other academic units; consider the appropriate academic home for the Design, Merchandising and Textiles Program; and consider discontinuation of the Department of Family and Consumer Sciences.

The additional year also would allow careful review of the potential implications of the proposed reorganizations of the College of Arts and Sciences, College of Agriculture and Natural Resources, and College of Engineering and Applied Science. Those considerations include reallocation of staff support and academic advising; redistribution of operating budgets; assignment and stewardship of endowments; and administrative structure.

A number of degree programs initially targeted for elimination would be maintained under the provost's recommendations: bachelor's degrees in German and French, as well as in Spanish, German and French secondary education; master's degrees in political science, international studies, sociology and architectural engineering; graduate degrees in entomology; and the master's degree in family and consumer sciences, pending potential reorganization of that department.

The full proposal to the Board of Trustees, along with other information, will be available at www.uwyo.edu/acadaffairs/program-review/current/program-documents.html (<https://www.uwyo.edu/acadaffairs/program-review/current/program-documents.html>). Comments will continue to be accepted until the Nov. 17-19 board meeting.



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Addendum B

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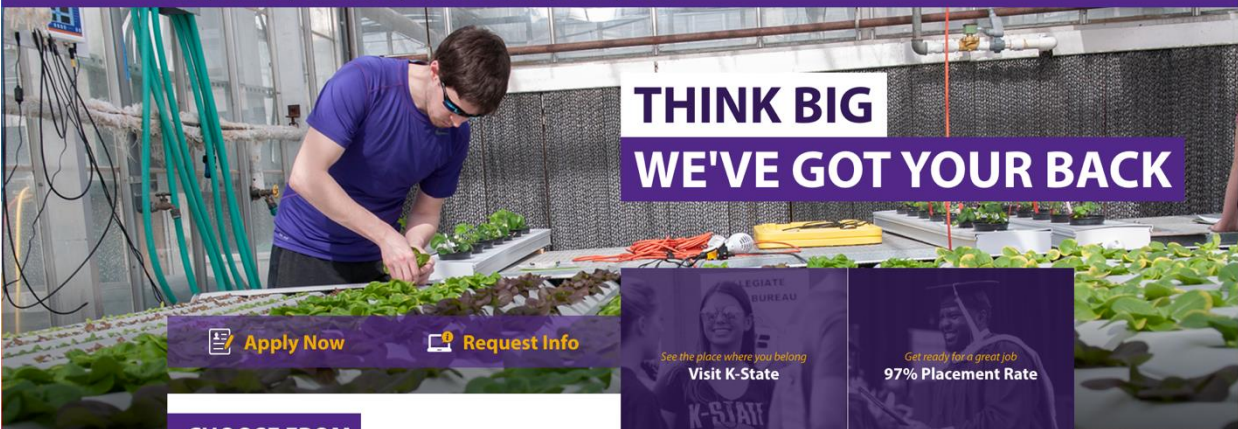
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and agroecosystems



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Advancing

At MSU's College of Agriculture, we grow leaders.

MSU was founded in 1893 as the Agricultural College of the State of Montana. Today, the College of Agriculture is an integral part of fulfilling MSU's land grant mission to provide a liberal, practical education to the sons and daughters of Montana. As part of the College of Agriculture, the Montana Agricultural Experiment Station (MAES) conducts research on old and new challenges for Montana's agricultural community. MAES creates opportunities for students and faculty to excel through hands-on learning, to serve through campus and community engagement, to explore unique solutions to distinct and interesting questions and to connect Montanans with the global community.



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Addendum C

3/26/22, 2:11 PM

USDA - National Agricultural Statistics Service - Wyoming - About Us

About Us

The United States Department of Agriculture's (USDA) National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS), Wyoming Field Office conducts surveys and prepares statistics concerning the production and prices of agricultural products grown, the structure of the agricultural industry, and many other agricultural-related topics in Wyoming. These agricultural statistics are part of the national program of statistics prepared and released by NASS. There are 14 Regional offices and 30 field offices that serve all 50 states. Also, through cooperative agreements, the Wyoming Field Office serves the statistical needs of the Wyoming Business Council, the University of Wyoming Agricultural Experiment Station, and the Wyoming Department of Agriculture. NASS published the first cattle inventory for Wyoming in 1867, over 150 years ago and 23 years before Wyoming became a state.

Field offices collect data by mail, secure internet website with personalized survey code, telephone, fax, and in person primarily from farmers and ranchers in sample surveys. Data are verified, analyzed, summarized, and published only in summarized totals. Individual producer data are always kept confidential and protected from subpoena or review by any outside entity by the strongest confidentiality laws in the United States. NASS statisticians in Wyoming, Denver, and Washington, D.C. review and publish National, State, and County estimates. Many of the statistics are market-sensitive, so all data are released at a prescribed, pre-announced time and date according to a calendar that is available to everyone prior to the beginning of each year.

Over 400 national reports are issued annually and several Wyoming-specific reports follow shortly after the national reports are released. In addition, the Census of Agriculture is conducted every five years by NASS. The Census of Agriculture is the only complete set of agricultural data by county available for the U.S. The reference years are 2017, 2012, etc. and historic versions are available back to 1840, including back to 1870 for Wyoming. The 2017 Census of Agriculture was mailed in December 2017 and data collection and analysis continued throughout 2018. Results will be published beginning April 2019.

The Wyoming Field Office works with the Wyoming Business Council, the University of Wyoming Agricultural Experiment Station, and the Wyoming Department of Agriculture on cooperative surveys specifically requested and funded by the State of Wyoming. Currently, NASS publishes the Wyoming Sheep Death Loss report and Wyoming Winter Wheat Variety report in cooperation with the Wyoming Business Council.

The Wyoming Field Office publishes several reports which are available by subscription. Click on the "[Subscribe to WY reports \(./Subscribe_to_WY_Reports/index.php\)](#)" link on our home page.

Wyoming Agriculture

With cash receipts near \$2.0 billion annually, agriculture is one of the top three industries in the Cowboy State along with minerals and tourism. Wyoming has the largest average size of farms and ranches in the United States.

Most people associate Wyoming with the famous bucking bronco that adorns our license plate. In fact, cowboys help make cattle production by far the largest agricultural commodity in the state. Wyoming's cattle industry dates back to the middle 1800's when settlers first began crossing and settling the West. NASS began publishing cattle estimates in 1867. After the Civil War, cattle ranching became one of the most prominent businesses and Cheyenne became a world trade center for cattle. For years, Wyoming range cattle have commanded top market value. However, cattle is certainly not the only agricultural product important in Wyoming.

The high plains and mountain meadows of Wyoming are well-known for producing some of the finest sheep and wool in the world. Wyoming ranks second in the U.S. in wool production and lamb crop. Wyoming wool is some of the finest and most desirable produced in the U.S. fetching some of the highest prices year in and year out. Our

Addendum D

3/29/22, 1:25 PM

Mission Statement and Future Plans | College of Agriculture and Natural Resources | University of Wyoming

What are you looking for?



MISSION STATEMENT / FUTURE PLANS

COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Mission Statement

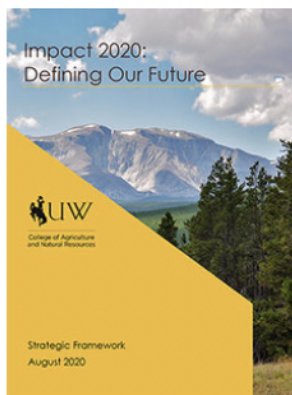
The mission of the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources at the University of Wyoming is to be the proactive leader in education and scholarship to cultivate healthy, sustainable systems for Wyoming's agriculture, environment and natural resources, and rural communities. Our vision is to serve people through the application of the land grant principles of learning, engagement, and discovery.

Future Plans

UNIVERSITY OF WYOMING:

- Strategic Plan - Breaking Through: 2017-2022 (<http://www.uwyo.edu/strategic-plan/>)

COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE AND NATURAL RESOURCES



(https://www.uwyo.edu/uwag/college-overview/_files/uw-college-of-agriculture-strategic-framework-12-4-2020.pdf) **Impact 2020: Defining Our Future** (https://www.uwyo.edu/uwag/college-overview/_files/uw-college-of-agriculture-strategic-framework-12-4-2020.pdf) builds on the strengths the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources, offering to grow knowledge, people, and communities across Wyoming. This strategic framework is transformative and offers a path forward that addresses the needs of the different segments of the Wyoming communities we serve. This five-year framework enables us to focus our efforts on maximizing the impact we can have around the complex issues surrounding the varied fields encompassed within our College.



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Addendum E

