

SENATE RESOLUTION #2673

TITLE: ASUW Support for the Implementation of GIST Program
and Certificates

DATE INTRODUCED: October 22, 2019

AUTHOR: President Wilkins

SPONSORS: Senators Mulhall, Pierson, Titus, Trent, and Welsh; Director
Savage

1. WHEREAS, the purpose of the Associated Students of the University of Wyoming
2. (ASUW) Student Government is to serve our fellow students in the best manner possible; and,
3. WHEREAS, the University of Wyoming (UW) strives to improve our land grant and flagship
4. mission by offering top-tier programs that are compatible with our peer institutions; and,
5. WHEREAS, the Provost created the Spatial Sciences Initiative Task Force; and,
6. WHEREAS, this task force has been instrumental in creating the feasibility study for the
7. Geospatial Information and Science & Technology (GIST) undergraduate and graduate
8. curricula; and,
9. WHEREAS, the University of Wyoming Board of Trustees (BOT) approved the notice of
10. intent in May of 2018; and,
11. WHEREAS, the proposed degree program and certificates would give students a path of
12. study that has not yet existed at UW; and,
13. WHEREAS, many of our peer institutions offer similar degree programs; and,
14. WHEREAS, graduate certificates in GIST, Remote Sensing and Unmanned Aerial Systems
15. (UAS) and undergraduate certificates in GIST and remote sensing are highly sought after by
16. employers; and,
17. WHEREAS, these certificates would be offered for all UW students and are applicable to

18. many areas of study such as agriculture, engineering, education, business, and more; and,
19. WHEREAS, offering a completely online graduate degree and certificate program would
20. further UW's goal of increasing its distance education abilities and programs; and,
21. WHEREAS, the UW Faculty Senate Graduate Council voted to support the GIST curricula
22. as shown in Addendum A; and,
23. WHEREAS, according to the feasibility study, the program is projected to create revenue
24. in its first four (4) years as shown in Addendum B.
25. THEREFORE, be it resolved by the Associated Students of the University of Wyoming
26. (ASUW) Student Government that we support the implementation of the Geospatial
27. Information Science & Technology (GIST) program for both undergraduate and graduate
28. education and its accompanying degrees and certificates for the Academic Year 2020 by the
29. Board of Trustees.

Referred to: _____ **Programs and Institutional Development** _____

Date of Passage: _____ **Signed:** _____

(ASUW Chairperson)

“Being enacted on _____ **, I do hereby sign my name hereto and**
approve this Senate action.” _____

ASUW President

Addendum A

UNIVERSITY OF WYOMING

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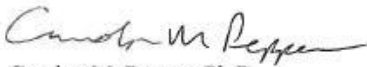
October 11, 2019

Dear Senators Alexander and Chestek:

As Chair of the Graduate Council, I am writing to you in your capacities as Chairs of the Academic Planning Committee and the Faculty Senate to update you on the Graduate Council review of the Geospatial Information Science & Technology (GIST) curricula proposal. After reviewing the New Degree Program Feasibility Study and meeting with Professors Jeff Hamerlinck and Ken Driese, we found the proposed curriculum had academic rigor appropriate for a graduate degree, strong job placement prospects upon program completion, excellent consultation with programs across campus, and sufficient resources requested to meet the program goals. Council members from varied colleges and programs were enthusiastic about the potential for their own graduate students to benefit from the proposed courses and certificates. Moreover, the feasibility study document was clear and compelling in presenting data in support of the program and should serve as a model for future proposed degree programs.

Following our evaluation, the Graduate Council has voted to approve the graduate curriculum portion of the GIST proposal.

Sincerely,



Carolyn M. Pepper, Ph.D.
Professor, Chair of Graduate Council

cc. Jeff Hamerlinck
Ken Driese

Addendum B

Startup Cost of Degrees and Certificates:

These are the projected expenses and revenues from the consolidated *pro forma* budgets for all credentials combined and assuming multi-phased rollout.

Year	Expenses	Revenues	Net
AY 2020-21:	\$ 92,795	\$137,302	\$ 44,507
AY 2021-22:	\$259,246	\$349,687	\$ 90,441
AY 2022-23:	\$316,400	\$574,177	\$257,777
AY 2023-24:	\$322,525	\$713,931	\$391,406