Faculty Senate Resolution 455   **Introduced by**
                                            Faculty Senate Executive Committee

Support of Discontinuance of Low-Producing Graduate Programs

WHEREAS, Standard Administrative Policy and Procedure: Academic Program Review (July 3, 2018) requires the Office of the Provost to review degree production for all academic programs on an annual basis and those that are low-producing (defined as those that average fewer than 5 graduates per year for undergraduate programs and 3 graduates per year for masters programs, over a 5 year period) will be required to conduct an immediate review with a report on the status of the program due back to the Office of the Provost within six months; and

WHEREAS, in January 2023, the Provost requested a review by colleges and schools of programs that were identified as low-producing. The Office of Institutional Analysis (OIA) provided data on all degree programs. The data identified 26 undergraduate and 34 graduate programs that were low-producing. In January and February 2023, the Provost provided the list of identified programs and the data to the Deans and made public the list of programs on the Academic Affairs website. Reports from the colleges and schools on these programs were due July 31, 2023. They included narratives that address the low-completion rate of each program and proposals to either continue, or recommend for reorganization, consolidation, reduction, or discontinuance pursuant to UW Regulation 2-13; and

WHEREAS, at the November 2023 Board of Trustees meeting, President Seidel, Provost Carman, and the Deans of the College of Arts & Sciences and the College of Education recommended the following low-producing graduate programs for review under UW Regulation 2-13:
- M.A. in Philosophy,
- M.A. in Sociology,
- Ph.D. in Educational Administration,
- Ph.D. in Higher Education Administration,
- M.S. in Instructional Technology,
- Ph.D. in Instructional Technology,
- Ed.D. in Adult & Post-Secondary Education,
- Ph.D. in Education-Literacy Education,
- Ph.D. in Education-Mathematics Education,
- Ph.D. in Education-Science Education; and

WHEREAS, the graduation data for the programs listed above, with rationales, are reproduced in the Appendix below; and

WHEREAS, the Faculty Senate Graduate Council has reviewed the proposals to discontinue the graduate programs listed above and after deliberations, the Graduate Council expressed general concern about the loss of diversity in offerings, especially in basic social sciences. However, due to insufficient context and background information available to the Council, it was unable to offer meaningful feedback.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Faculty Senate of the University of Wyoming that it supports the discontinuance of the following graduate programs:

       M.A. in Philosophy

       M.A. in Sociology

       Ph.D. in Educational Administration

       Ph.D. in Higher Education Administration

       M.S. in Instructional Technology

       Ph.D. in Instructional Technology

       Ed.D. in Adult & Post-Secondary Education

       Ph.D. in Education-Literacy Education

       Ph.D. in Education-Mathematics Education

       Ph.D. in Education-Science Education.

Treva E Sprout Ahrenholtz

Treva Sprout-Ahrenholtz

Secretary, Faculty Senate

March 5, 2024

Appendix
Data and Rationales for Graduate Programs Recommended for Discontinuance

<u>M.A. in Philosophy</u>

    Data:

        Number of Graduates in AY 2021-22: 0

        5-Year Average Number of Graduates: 0.6

    Rationale: There is little demand for a major and inadequate resources to support it. The remaining faculty in philosophy are required to continue their B.A.

<u>M.A. in Sociology</u>

    Data:

        Number of Graduates in AY 2021-22: 0

        5-Year Average Number of Graduates: 0.4

Rationale: While there may be some student demand, it is unclear that there is enough to meet minimums. In addition, there is inadequate faculty teaching capacity.

Ph.D. in Educational Administration
Data:

Number of Graduates in AY 2021-22: 0

5-Year Average Number of Graduates: 0.6

Rationale: This graduate-level program is no longer offered for admittance into the College of Education.

Ph.D. in Higher Education Administration
Data:

Number of Graduates in AY 2021-22: 0

5-Year Average Number of Graduates: 0.4

Rationale: This graduate-level program is no longer offered for admittance into the College of Education.

M.S. in Instructional Technology
Data:

Number of Graduates in AY 2021-22: 0

5-Year Average Number of Graduates: 4.4

Note: There were 13 graduates in AY 2017-18

Rationale: This graduate-level program is no longer offered for admittance into the College of Education.

Ph.D. in Instructional Technology
Data:

Number of Graduates in AY 2021-22: 0

5-Year Average Number of Graduates: 0.4

Rationale: This graduate-level program is no longer offered for admittance into the College of Education. Discontinue program after teach-out of the one enrolled student.

Ed.D. in Adult & Post-Secondary Education
Data:

Number of Graduates in AY 2021-22: 0

5-Year Average Number of Graduates: 0.6

Rationale: This graduate-level program is no longer offered for admittance into the College of Education.

Ph.D. in Education-Literacy Education
Data:

Number of Graduates in AY 2021-22: 0

5-Year Average Number of Graduates: 0.2

Rationale: This graduate-level program is no longer offered for admittance into the College of Education.

Ph.D. in Education-Mathematics Education

Data:

        Number of Graduates in AY 2021-22: 0

        5-Year Average Number of Graduates: 0.2

Rationale: This graduate-level program is no longer offered for admittance into the College of Education.

Ph.D. in Education-Science Education

Data:

        Number of Graduates in AY 2021-22: 0

        5-Year Average Number of Graduates: 0.2

Rationale: This graduate-level program is no longer offered for admittance into the College of Education.