



The UW Grand Teton Task Force and the UW Office of Research and Economic Development invite UW faculty and collaborators to propose major directions for work over the next 10 years centered at Grand Teton National Park, at the UW-NPS facility within the Park at the historic AMK Ranch on Jackson Lake (<https://uwnps.org/>). **Well-developed plans resulting from this process will be eligible for significant seed funding support beginning in summer 2021.**

We seek brief statements of interest from groups of 3-8 faculty by March 31st, 2020, which identify the broad themes and types of activities that could be developed into specific programs through a strategic planning process. We encourage participation from all disciplines including the humanities, physical, biological, and social sciences, including business and policy oriented groups, as well as cross-disciplinary teams. Teams should consider focusing programs – research, creative and cultural, or educational programs – around:

- **Disciplinary “low hanging fruit”:** What activities does the location of the AMK Ranch and its surroundings readily facilitate?
- **Trans-boundary scholarship:** What types of activities could be undertaken that help UW to establish unique and transformative research programs focusing on problems that cross physical or political boundaries or span disciplines?

Funding is available to enable 2-3 day strategic planning retreats at the AMK during summer 2020. Working retreats are intended to enable groups to develop white papers describing programmatic plans, including through discussions with NPS and other regional partners.

UW aims to develop a world-class facility in GTNP for world-class scholarship in Wyoming’s world-class setting. The location is ideally suited for transformative and wide-ranging ‘transboundary’ scholarship, which cuts across disciplinary and geographic boundaries on topics from water and wildlife to tourism and international travel and is relevant to places from parks to ranches. Programs at the AMK can also connect UW to communities from the Park Service to the Wind River Indian Reservation. Our vision is that the facility is a home for inspiring discoveries, which advance the frontiers of knowledge through the unique opportunities for scholars in Wyoming’s iconic landscapes; elevating experiences, which enhance and expand place-based learning for UW students, community scholars and experts, and the public; and connecting

communities, which share research and learning opportunities by crossing boundaries and fostering cooperation, understanding, and discourse.

We anticipate that some groups will use the strategic planning retreats to develop proposals that make use of UW's Grand Teton facility as a central element in

- The next UW NSF EPSCoR Track I grant;
- UW's first application for an NSF Science and Technology Center (STC);
- National Science Foundation (NSF) Research Experience Undergraduate (REU) site grants as well as Research Coordination Network (RCN), Macrosystem, or standard research grants;
- National Endowment for the Arts (NEA), National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH), NPS Historic Preservation Fund Grants;
- State-level initiatives through organizations such as the Wyoming Arts Council (WAC), Wyoming Humanities, Wyoming Cultural Trust Fund (WCTF), State Historical Records Advisory Board (SHRAB), State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO), Wyoming Water Development Commission, or the Wyoming Department of Fish and Wildlife;
- Coordination with UW efforts such as the Grand Challenges and Biodiversity Institute, Wyoming Research Scholars and UW SOAR, the Wyoming EPSCoR and NASA Space Grant programs, and centers such as Science and Math Teaching Center (SMTC) and Veterans Service Center;
- Similar support from other federal agencies (e.g., DOE, USFS, USGS); and
- Private foundation grants.

Likewise, we anticipate that some groups will develop educational programs for summer, semester, J-term, or online courses that could be taught at the AMK, including the potential to target audiences interested in "life-long learning" (including Grand Teton National Park's annual ~5 million visitors). We particularly encourage groups to develop plans for multiple overlapping courses enabling students to experience a range of concepts. Such plans will help raise course tuition and fees to support the facility.

Groups should provide a 1-page statement of interest by March 31st, 2020.

Statements of interest should list the 3-8 faculty involved, explain the strategic theme that the group will consider, the types of activities that the group might pursue (e.g., NSF-supported research; creative enterprises; course offerings), what aspects of the mission of the AMK might be served by the activities, and a modest budget for travel and meeting support. Statements of interest should be sent to Bryan Shuman in the Department of Geology & Geophysics, bshuman@uwyo.edu. The Task Force will host an additional information session at 3:30-5 pm on Thursday, February 27th, 2020. Please watch for additional information at <http://www.uwyo.edu/research/announcements/>.

Please contact members of the Task Force for additional guidance:

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