Haub School of Environment and Natural Resources Report to the UW Board of Trustees November 2025



The Haub School of Environment and Natural Resources supports students as well as citizens, stakeholders, and decision makers by giving them the skills and tools they need to build durable, inclusive solutions to our most pressing environment and natural resource challenges

Haub School Advisory Board Members

• Contributed \$24k in match for the Haub School during giving day!

Academic Programs

- We built a new **certificate in Global Environmental Futures** that enables students to package multiple international experiential learning courses together along with a core course.
- In October, we brought two nights of inspiring films to Laramie as part of **Mountainfilm on Tour**.

Student Services

- In October, students participated in "Interview Practice with Real Employers," a lightning round with employers from around the state. Employers shared some common mistakes job applicants make when answering tough questions.
- Students visited **Brush Creek Ranch** Resort in Saratoga to learn from their hospitality, guiding, and tourism expertise.
- WORTH provided resources for Haub School undergrads to participate in a **Wyoming Tourism Industry Familiarization Tour to Casper, Glendo, Guernsey, and Cheyenne**. This year's FAM tour focused on hospitality, events, and cultural resources. Jordan Kobliska hosted industry mixers in Casper and Cheyenne where students networked with over 60 professionals.
- We hosted representatives from **Xanterra**, Yellowstone National Park's concessions management company, on campus for a Company Day. They tabled in the Union, guest lectured in ORTM 3000, served on a job interview panel workshop, and hosted a meet-and-greet lunch with students. Overall, they interacted with over 35 students!
- **Paul Turner** and **Paul Bonifas** presented at a panel about data centers. These two experts and UW alumni are in the thick of data center planning and building, both nationally and locally.
- Seats are available for the following 2026 field and global programs
 - o Winter Ecology Grand Teton National Park January 2026
 - o Expedition Leadership Canyons, UT Spring Break 2026
 - o Canyonlands: Climate, Water, Culture Grand Canyon National Park Summer 2026
- On December 12th, we will celebrate with students, families, faculty and staff at our Haub School Winter Graduates Celebration.

Faculty and Staff Updates

- **Temple Stoellinger** and **Melanie Armstrong**, together with other Haub School faculty, staff, and students, worked with the Wyoming **Governor's office** to help facilitate the *Gathering Cowboy State Energy Workshop* in October, which focused on the opportunities and challenges of data center development in Wyoming.
- Congratulations to the Haub School's **Staff and Faculty Award Winners**
 - Richard Verco Haub School Award for Excellence in Teaching
 - Rico goes above and beyond in shaping the academic and professional journeys of our students.
 - o Jordan Kobliska -Haub School Award for Excellence in Advising
 - Jordan goes above and beyond in shaping the academic and professional journeys of our students.
 - o Melanie Matthews Haub School Award for Inclusivity and Engagement:
 - Melanie supports an inclusive environment within the school and demonstrates excellent collaborative scholarship, service, and community engagement.
 - The Friend of the Haub School **Award for Excellent Partnership** went to **Jason Baldes**, of the Wind River Tribal Buffalo Initiative and Central Wyoming College, who has demonstrated exceptional dedication to supporting and enriching the experiences of our students and members of the Haub School community.

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- Congratulations to **Tarissa Spoonhunter**, the inaugural recipient of the Liliane and Christian Haub Professorship for early career faculty.
- **Jake Hochard** and **Bryan Leonard** are working with a PhD student who will be speaking to the state's budget and appropriations committee about research that revealed that the public favors federal appropriations for **wildfire prevention**.
 - <u>https://www.uwyo.edu/news/2025/09/uw-research-public-favors-more-wildfire-prevention.html</u>
 - https://www.wyomingpublicmedia.org/science/2025-09-11/survey-americans-want-more-investment-preventing-wildfires-not-only-suppression
 - <u>https://www.wyomingnews.com/news/local_news/wyoming-study-shows-people-want-more-focus-on-fire-prevention/article_536178d7-fc4a-41c7-9e22-3f18b9e113f5.html</u>
 - <u>https://www.jhnewsandguide.com/jackson_hole_daily/state_and_regional/wyoming-study-shows-people-want-more-focus-on-fire-prevention/article_3ae1939d-f05e-4acc-80a3-8d1a5fc36a3d.html</u>

The Ruckelshaus Institute

- Save the date! The next **Emerging Issue Forum** will be April 13 & 14, 2026, in Laramie on **nuclear** energy development in the state.
- Western Confluence magazine, a publication of the Ruckelshaus Institute, is now seeking story ideas for our issue on the **full fuel cycle of nuclear energy development** from uranium mining to spent fuel storage. visit our website for more information.

Biodiversity Institute

• The **Wyoming Naturalist Program** provides education and training to participants in biodiversity, ecology, conservation, management and interpretation, with a goal to create leaders in the effort to protect natural resources and the places where people in Wyoming live. Learn more and apply at www.wyomingnaturalists.com/register

Wyoming Conservation Corps

- Amanda Harper is the WCC's new Senior Program Coordinator, with offices now in Crane Hall.
- We're conducting summer crew leader interviews this month.

UW's Center for Global Studies highlighted some of our students and faculty:

- Olivia Poore, a Centennial Award Recipient, is a BS student in Environmental Systems Science and Environment and Natural Resources. She traveled to Laikipia County in Central Kenya to study the human influence on wildlife behavior at nutrient hotspots.
- Marcus Anderson, a Centennial Scholar and a Tomé Scholar, is a BA student in Environment & Natural Resources and was recognized for his project in Panama "Do tropical ant-following birds respond to acoustic cues of predators?"
- **Tara Righetti,** a Haub School and School of Energy Resources/ College of Law Professor traveled to Scotland to build a community of scholarship around international energy and sustainability topics.
- Maggie Bourque, a Haub School Senior Lecturer, co-led a course focused on place and the theatrics of space in Edinburgh, Scotland during the Fringe Festival. Students started at Walter Scott's uniquely theatrical space and then dove into all the excitement of Edinburgh's events. For eleven lucky students, the Center for Global Studies financially helped make this great experiential learning opportunity into an achievable reality.