WHAT IS WYSCI?

MISSION
The University of Wyoming Science Communication Initiative (WySCI) was launched in 2017 as a grassroots, faculty- and staff-driven initiative to enhance the UW community’s capacity to effectively share science with the state and the world.

VISION
WySCI is a grassroots, campus-wide initiative which envisions a campus community that values, supports, and creates effective science communication and engagement.

PARTNERS
WySCI and its services are possible thanks to support from 16+ units on campus, including the Biodiversity Institute, College of Engineering and Applied Science, Communication & Journalism Department, Department of Zoology & Physiology, Department of Visual and Literary Arts, Ecosystem Science and Management Department, Ellbogen Center for Teaching and Learning, Graduate Student Network, Haub School of the Environment and Natural Resources and the Ruckelshaus Institute of Environment and Natural Resources, UW Extension, UW Science Initiative’s Learning Actively Mentoring Program, UW Science Initiative Wyoming Research Scholars Program, Wyoming INBRE, Wyoming NSF EPSCoR, Wyoming Migration Initiative, and Wyoming NASA Space Grant Consortium.

How WySCI Supports SciComm + Broader Impacts at UW
WySCI supports, creates, and values the following:

Training
• SciComm Certification (75+ people enrolled in 1st month, from across North American & a range of professional sectors
• 15+ semester-long courses
• 23+ campus trainings & workshops, including evergreen resources for the NSF GRFP & annual scholarly writing program
• 300+ participants
• Weekly newsletter: curates global SciComm trainings, resources & jobs (100s of subscribers from USA and abroad)

Research
• Consulting/support for enhanced grant writing & Broader Impacts efforts
• Leadership in Science of SciComm and Broader Impacts research on & beyond campus
  o Campus-wide and course-based needs & perspective surveys
  o Art-science integration research
  o Teaching of SciComm research

Culture
• Enhance internal (UW) awareness & valuation of SciComm and Broader Impacts
• Foster campus community & capacity around SciComm and Broader Impacts
• Foster the creation of relevant awards & fellowships at UW
• Enhance T&P credit for related work (for all employee types)
• Growth towards peer institutions for related services, support, etc.
WySCI IMPACTS

“WySCI expertise helped me secure internal agency support for a multi-million-dollar, science-focused proposal.”
~Adjunct Professor + UW alum, UW Dept. of Zoology & Physiology/state agency researcher

CONSULTING
15 UW departments
5 External universities, state agencies, scicomm experts
93.9% made progress due to WySCI

78% of support requests = research + funding
50% of UW support requests = faculty
100% would recommend WySCI or already have

TYPES OF SUPPORT

CAREER LEVEL OF THOSE SEEKING SUPPORT

MADE PROGRESS DUE TO WySCI

1st TIME SEEKING SUPPORT

RECOMMEND WySCI

“We are so lucky to have you here at UW! I have recently been hitting a wall with a student who is mostly awesome, except when it comes to writing meaty, meaningful words for a grant proposal. Your fantastic [grant application] resource comes just at the right time. THANK YOU!!! Now I have some homework resources for my student and I to review and reflect upon that will hopefully move the mark considerably more than I have in the last couple weeks.”
~Full Professor, UW Dept. of Geology & Geophysics

“WySCI is a very good resource. I wish the university can support their effort.”
~Assistant Professor, UW Department of Physics and Astronomy after consultation on framework of broader impacts, community-engaged outreach best practices, and ‘match-making’ with relevant campus partners to develop broader impacts part of major NSF proposal

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