

# University of Wyoming

## College of Arts & Sciences

*Strategic Plan 2024-2029*



UNIVERSITY  
OF WYOMING

College of  
Arts and Sciences



## Vision

The College of Arts and Sciences studies and celebrates humanity—our ideas, creativity, and capacities for achievement. Our interdisciplinary college aims to spark curiosity and imagination, fostering each student's unique strengths and preparing each to meet local, regional, and global challenges.

## Mission

Through diverse ways of knowing and growing human ideas, creation and capacities, the College of Arts and Sciences serves as a nexus for the study, understanding, and expression of our rich and challenging world. We focus on scholarship and creativity that directly engages students in the complex problems of the world.

## **We value:**

- Exceptional teaching, cutting-edge research and creative activity, community engagement and outreach, innovative and entrepreneurial endeavors, and service.
- Engaging with members of all communities, locally and beyond.
- Integrity, responsibility and ethical engagement in our work and in interactions with each other.
- Innovative problem solving and the sharing of knowledge and resources.

## **We are committed to:**

- Offering students a balanced, expansive, and rigorous education that provides the skills and knowledge needed to succeed in a rapidly changing world.
- Encouraging exploration and discovery.
- Nurturing interdisciplinarity and collaboration.
- Providing opportunities for experiential learning.
- Connecting our students and faculty to the world and connecting the world to Wyoming.
- Providing a welcoming and supportive learning community fostered by integrity, inclusivity, constructive and creative dialogue, freedom of expression, and mutual respect.
- Offering a rich array of experiences for all members of our community.
- Supporting our local and state communities.



# Strategic Goals



**Strategic Goal 2:**  
Pursue institutional  
excellence

**Strategic Goal 3:**  
Provide a  
supportive  
community

**Strategic Goal 4:**  
Engage with  
and serve the  
state of  
Wyoming

**Strategic Goal 1:**  
Enhance student  
success

**Strategic Goal 5:**  
Cultivate financial  
stability and  
diversification



## **Strategic Goal 1: Enhance Student Success**

### **Objective 1: Develop an excellent college that prepares students for life and adaptation to a changing world.**

- Incentivize and reward exceptional teaching.
- Conduct a review, assessment, and evaluation of curricula and student learning outcomes to reflect developments in disciplines.
- Provide a supportive environment that uses effective academic advising, faculty mentorship and career advising to prepare our students for success at UW and beyond through implementing a broader use of advising resources, cross-training advisors to ensure advising availability, and facilitating the connections with departments.
- Expand opportunities for students, including career fairs, internships, and educational and employment opportunities for A&S students.
- Assist students to develop entrepreneurial skills through curricula and co-curricular workshops and opportunities in partnership with entities outside of the College.

### **Objective 2: Support opportunities for research/creative activities, experiential learning, and study abroad.**

- Identify, market, and maintain current opportunities for students in these areas.
- Explore ways to support the expansion of these opportunities for students across the College.
- Partner with other entities on campus to provide students with support for these opportunities.
- Prioritize fundraising to support students' involvement in undergraduate research/creative activities, experiential learning, and study abroad.

### **Objective 3: Enhance graduate student education.**

- Support excellence in graduate education through aiding recruitment, research/creative activity, and travel.
- Pursue increased funding for, and number of, graduate assistantships and fellowships.

### **Objective 4: Implement the University's strategic enrollment plan in A&S and increase enrollment and engagement with all student populations, including tribal and underserved students.**

- Track data for inquiries, applications, enrollments, and retention rates by class standing, as well as other key performance indicators to refine success strategies.
- Refine the College of Arts and Sciences' positioning, brand strategies, and brand promise.
- Hire a marketing specialist and a college relations representative to provide support for the college and units to promote programs.
- Ensure the college's involvement in events such as the High School Institute and the Native American Summer Institute, among others, highlighting the college's programs for high school students.
- Support outreach and in-reach events, including engaging with students from other UW colleges in offering our courses and activities,
- Further develop scholarship and financial aid opportunities.
- Partner with the UW Office of Online and Continuing Education and community colleges to provide educational opportunities for place bound students and students across the state.

## **Strategic Goal 2: Pursue Institutional Excellence**

### **Objective 1: Raise A&S's scholarly national and international capacity and profile.**

- Incentivize and reward exceptional research and creative activity.
- Encourage and provide support to further develop a culture of research/creative activity across all units.
- Partner with Academic Affairs, the Research and Economic Development Division, and the Foundation to increase support for research/creative activities across the College.
- Partner with the Research and Economic Development Division to hire a grant officer with expertise in the arts, social and behavioral sciences, and humanities.

**Objective 2: Increase the visibility of, and grow excellence in, our disciplinary and interdisciplinary programs.**

- Support and develop initiatives in the social and behavioral sciences, humanities, and the arts.
- Support and develop interdisciplinary initiatives, increasing opportunities for students, staff, and faculty.
- Expand teaching and research/creative activity multidisciplinary opportunities across the College and the University.

**Strategic Goal 3: Provide a Supportive Community**

**Objective 1: Foster a culture of community that values and supports students, faculty, and staff.**

- Partner with upper administration and college units to develop initiatives to reward, retain, and hire excellent staff and faculty.
- Facilitate community-building activities across the College.
- Explore possibilities for a centralized A&S space for student gathering and socialization.
- Establish a student committee to advise the Dean.
- Develop a centralized calendar of college events.
- Explore ways to integrate distance students into the variety of experiences offered by the college.

**Strategic Goal 4: Engage with and Serve the State of Wyoming**

**Objective 1: Support Wyoming's economic and community development.**

- Leverage college strengths in the social and behavioral sciences, humanities, and arts to help diversify Wyoming's economy and contribute to the communities in Wyoming.
- Implement the Wyoming Innovative Partnership Grant to support Wyoming's Creative Economy.
- Support and implement the vision and mission of the new Neltje Center for Excellence in Creativity and the Arts.

## **Objective 2: Enhance A&S's connections with and service to the people of Wyoming.**

- Emphasize the value of a well-rounded education with external stakeholders and employers.
- Identify and publicize current efforts of faculty, staff, and students in our Wyoming communities.
- Support and expand public facing programs, including distance education programs.
- Explore ways to support the expansion of community engagement efforts across all units in the College.
- Coordinate efforts and leverage resources across the College to continue to serve Wyoming communities.

## **Objective 3: Grow educational opportunities for Wyoming.**

- Support and grow K-12 initiatives.
- Establish, support, and grow attractive distance education programs.

# **Strategic Goal 5: Cultivate Financial Stability and Diversification**

## **Objective 1: Audit business processes to ensure effectiveness.**

- Develop streamlined processes in the college for staff, faculty, and administrator training.
- Partner with Human Resources to develop opportunity ladders for staff.
- Conduct a review, assessment, and evaluation of curricula and student learning outcomes to increase efficiencies across the program curricula.

## **Objective 2: Enhance partnerships between UW and the UW Foundation.**

- Leverage and grow fundraising for A&S priorities with private, corporate, and non-profit groups.
- Partner with the UW Foundation to grow funding for research/creative activity and scholarships across disciplines.
- Explore ways to utilize Foundation funds to support faculty positions including new endowed faculty, department head, and deanship positions.



**Objective 3: Partner with the Research and Economic Development Division to grow funding for research and creative activity across disciplines.**

- Hire a grant officer with expertise in the social and behavioral sciences, arts, and humanities.
- Expand opportunities for internal research/creative activities funding.
- Support activities allowing for the pursuit of external research/creative activity funding.
- Encourage and support participation in research/creative activities workshops resulting in future funding.



UNIVERSITY  
OF WYOMING

College of  
Arts and Sciences