



College of Health Sciences  
Division of Kinesiology and Health  
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September 23, 2020

TO: James Ahern, AVP For Graduate Education  
FROM: Tucker Readdy & John Kambutu, Graduate Council Co-Chairs  
SUBJECT: Haub School MS in Environment, Natural Resources, and Society Feasibility Study

The University of Wyoming Graduate Council completed its review of the proposed Master of Science degree in Environment, Natural Resources, and Society on Wednesday, September 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2020. Certainly, the attendance of both Dr. Rob Godby and Dr. Steve Smutko for the purpose of providing clarification and answering questions on September 9<sup>th</sup>, 2020 was appreciated. In subsequent discussion, the Graduate Council noted many strengths of the proposal, including (but not limited to):

- Documented demand for a 'standalone' MS program in the focal areas of the degree
- Existing capacity for teaching the additional courses proposed for the program
- The likelihood of revenue generation, even in the first year of the program
- The targeted private fundraising to support graduate education, including the MS degree, within the Haub School
- Opportunity for future growth (i.e., a QuickStart program, graduate certificate program)

The primary concern raised by the members of the Council was related to the request for graduate assistantship funding through the Office of Graduate Education. However, this matter was addressed sufficiently by both Dr. Godby and Dr. Smutko, with the understanding that such money will likely need to be acquired by alternative mechanisms.

As such, the members of the Graduate Council voted unanimously in favor of the Haub School's proposal for an MS in Environment, Natural Resources, and Society. If the Graduate Council can be of further service in this matter, please feel free to correspond with either of us accordingly.

Sincerely,

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