



EASTERN WYOMING COLLEGE
BOARD OF TRUSTEES WORK SESSION MEETING

Tuesday, February 11, 2025
EWC Dolores Kaufman Board Room

Vision Statement

Eastern Wyoming College will be an innovative learning environment for academic excellence and community enrichment that champions student success.

College Mission

Student success is our first priority; as a learning community, we provide opportunities that enable students to achieve their goals and enrich our unique region through work, partnerships, and student achievement.

1. Call Meeting to Order

2. Approval of Work Session agenda

Recommended To: Approve the February 11, 2025 Work Session Agenda.

3. Approval of the January 14, 2025 Work Session Minutes

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[Board of Trustees Work Session - Jan 14 2025 - Minutes - Html](#) 

Recommended To: Approve the January 14, 2025 Work Session Minutes

4. GEAR UP Updates: Ms. Chelsea Ballard

5. Data Science Certificate Program Proposal: Dr. Andrew Lincowski

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[BR#15.pdf](#) 

[Proposal Flyer Data Science Cert.pdf](#) 

6. General Education Certificate Program Proposal: Dr. LeAnn Smith, Ms. Kelly Strampe

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[BR#14.pdf](#) 

7. Website Update: Dr. Saygin Koc

8. Update on CTEC Parking lot litigation: Mr. Patrick Korell

9. EWC Organizational Chart Update: Mr. John Hansen

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[Org. Chart-External Updated on 020325.pdf](#) 

[Org. Chart-Internal with names 020325.pdf](#) 

10. Academic and Student Service Update: Mr. John Hansen

11. Adjournment

Recommended To: Adjourn Meeting



EASTERN WYOMING COLLEGE BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, January 14, 2025

EWC Dolores Kaufman Board Room

Attendance

Present:

Members: Randy Adams, Bob Baumgartner, Jeffrey Hawes, Doug Mercer, Katherine Patrick, Kurt Sittner, Jackie VanMark, Rick Vonburg, and Jim Willox

1. Dr. Hawes called the work session to order

2. Approval of the Work Session Minutes

Recommendation: To approve the 12-10-24 Work Session Minutes.

Moved by: Rick Vonburg

Seconded by: Doug Mercer

Carried.

3. EWC / GoGoshen Trainings: Mr. Brian Young and Mr. Darryl Spitzer

Goshen County Business and Education Platform

Mr. Brian Young discussed the idea of creating a platform for business and education to promote community engagement and economic development in Goshen County. He proposed a series of 10 events covering various business topics, co-hosted by Eastern Wyoming College (EWC) and Go Goshen. The aim is to educate the community on business skills, foster new businesses, and help existing ones flourish. Brian also mentioned the potential for partnerships with the Small Business Development Center (SBDC) and the Goshen County Economic Development Corporation. He emphasized the importance of community engagement and the potential for subject matter experts to contribute to the program.

Mr. Spitzer confirmed that the series would be held every few weeks, with each topic covered in a single session. The team also discussed the possibility of exploring grants to fund the initiative.

4. Update on Federal Compliance with USDOE: Ms. Susan Kannenwischer - Ferrilli Consultant

Ms. Susan Kannenwischer, Ferrilli consultant discussed the process of preparing for HCM2 submissions and the need to improve the organization's process. Susan highlighted the importance of data flow and the need for perfect reporting to the government. She also discussed the challenges faced with the HCM2 process, including the need for a new system and the need to regain trust with the Federal Government. Susan also mentioned the creation of a handbook and checklist for the process.

5. Review of EWC Website for Federal Compliance with USDOE: Mr. John Hansen, Vice President for Student and Academic Services

Mr. John Hansen discussed the importance of Federal compliance and the need for transparency in student information. He also introduced a new software update, Lightcast, which provides information on degree programs, earning potential, and job opportunities.

6. Future Roadmap of IT: Mr. Auke Daane

Mr. Auke Daane stated the organization has improved its operations and become more efficient and proactive over time. Mr. Daane presented reports showing a decrease in incidents and an increase in predictability. Most user feedback is positive, but more feedback is desired to identify areas for improvement. Ongoing projects will be to enhance security, standardization, and compliance across various systems. Additionally, the organization is exploring opportunities to share its IT infrastructure and expertise with other entities, which could provide cost savings through economies of scale while improving overall IT maturity in the region. The board appears supportive of researching these potential partnerships further.

7. Work session was adjourned.

Jackie Van Mark, Chairman

Randy Adams, Secretary

Sally Watson, Executive
Assistant

Draft

Eastern Wyoming College Board Report

BOARD REPORT NUMBER: BR#15

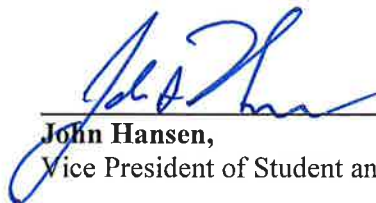
DATE: February 11, 2025

APPROVAL OR RATIFICATION: Move to establish a Data Science Certificate program at Eastern Wyoming College, as proposed by Dr. Andrew Lincowski, and approved by the Curriculum and Learning Council, effective Fall 2025, pending approval by the Wyoming Community College Commission. This includes the addition of two new courses.

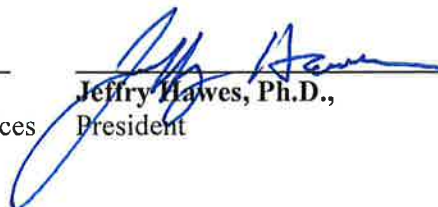
REPORT: The Data Science Certificate is a 16-credit, financial aid-eligible certificate program that can be completed within one academic year. Requirements include courses in computer science, statistics, and math applications. The certificate as proposed requires the addition of two new courses: COMP 2000 (Computing and Society) and GIST 2200 (Spatial Data Visualization). COMP 2000 is a data science disciplines course that will introduce students to contemporary topics related to the application of data science to many fields. GIST 2200 will provide students without foundational skills to map datasets to geographic location information and use the visualizations to make inferences about the underlying data. This certificate is designed to provide foundational transfer credits to two related degree programs at the University of Wyoming. This first is a Data Science, BS degree, which is on track to launch in Fall 2025, along with the currently available Computing Minor. This certificate also provides foundational data science skills for students going into discipline-specific career paths or the workforce.

RECOMMENDATION: It is the recommendation of the College President that the Board of Trustees ratify the addition of the Data Science Certificate for Fall 2025.

REVIEWED AND PREPARED BY:



John Hansen,
Vice President of Student and Academic Services



Jeffrey Hawes, Ph.D.,
President

DATA SCIENCE CERTIFICATE



What is Data Science?

Data science is a new and developing interdisciplinary field, which involves using **scientific methods, algorithms, processes, and systems** to extract insights and knowledge from structured and unstructured data. It combines aspects of **statistics, computer science, and discipline-specific knowledge** to analyze and interpret complex data sets. *The goal of data science is to make informed decisions based on the insights gained from the data.*

Data Science is distinct from computer science and software development. **Computer Science** is the development of code and algorithms, requiring a depth of understanding of computer programming and software architecture. **Software Development** (or engineering) deals with the principles and applications of designing commercial software products.

Jobs Outlook in Data Science

This is difficult to say in Wyoming. Wyoming has lagged far behind in employment in Data Science, but these jobs are ubiquitous across the United States and pay well.

- According to BLS, there are over 200,000 jobs in the Data Science sector and there is an expected 36% increase in the next 10 years.
- The median pay is \$108,000 (bottom 10%: \$61,070, top 10%: \$184,090, in 2023 per BLS).

Beyond full-time, titled Data Science positions, data science skills can be applied in smaller work environments across a broad set of industries. Any business could benefit from analyzing the data collected during their course of business, and use that analysis to make data-informed decisions.

Top 10 Fastest Growing Occupations

	Percent employment change, projected 2023–33	Employment change, projected 2023–33, in thousands	Median annual wage, May 2023
Wind turbine service technicians	60.1%	6.8	\$61,770
Solar photovoltaic installers	48.0%	12.0	\$48,800
Nurse practitioners	46.3%	135.5	\$126,260
Data scientists	36.0%	73.1	\$108,020
Information security analysts	32.7%	59.1	\$120,360
Medical and health services managers	28.5%	160.6	\$110,680
Physician assistants	28.5%	43.7	\$130,020
Computer and information research scientists	25.6%	9.4	\$145,080
Physical therapist assistants	25.4%	27.5	\$64,080
Operations research analysts	23.0%	28.3	\$83,640

Data Science and Related Disciplines in Wyoming

Laramie County Community College (LCCC) has introduced tech-related programs, including AAS degrees in **Data Analytics** and **Cyber Security**. **Casper College** also offers the **Cyber Security, AAS**.

All Wyoming community colleges, **except EWC**, offer a Computer Science, AS and/or Software Development, AS, as a result of WIP initiatives.

Critically, **University of Wyoming** is launching a **Data Science, BS** planned for Fall 2025 and currently offers a **Computing Minor**. The certificate for EWC has been designed for course transfer into both.

Why a Data Science Certificate?

This certificate plan offers a low-risk entry for EWC into the degree areas of computer and data science, only requiring the addition of two courses: Computing and Society (COMP 2000) and Spatial Data Visualization (GIST 2200).

Possible enrollment populations:

- Add to existing student's degree programs in math, biology, business, social science, or interdisciplinary studies.
- Standalone workforce skills: testing into or passing college algebra (MATH1400) allows students to complete the certificate program without other coursework.
- Additional program credential in a popular and growing field to attract students to EWC.

EWC should continue to assess the capability to grow in computer and data science to address the 21st century economy and remain competitive.

Data Science Certificate Program Requirements

Students complete 16 credits

Qualifying for Financial Aid.

Required Core Courses

COSC 1010 – Intro to Computer Science I (3 cr, Fall)

COMP 2000 – Computing and Society (2 cr, **new course**)

STAT 2050 – Fundamentals of Statistics (4 cr, Fall or Spring)

GIST 2200 – Spatial Data Visualization (3 cr, **new course**) *prereq: COSC1010*

Program Electives (choose one)

COSC 1030 – Computer Science I (4 cr, Spring, on demand) *prereq: COSC1010*

MATH 2200 – Calculus I (4 cr, Fall) *prereq: college algebra & trigonometry*

MATH 2350 – Business Calculus (4 cr, Fall) *prereq: college algebra*

MATH 2355 – Math Applications for Business (4 cr, Spring) *prereq: college algebra*

Eastern Wyoming College Board Report

BOARD REPORT NUMBER: BR#14

DATE: February 11, 2025

APPROVAL OR RATIFICATION: Move to establish a General Studies Certificate program at Eastern Wyoming College, as proposed by faculty, and approved by the Curriculum and Learning Council, effective Fall 2025, pending approval by the Wyoming Community College Commission.

REPORT: The General Studies Certificate is a 22-23-credit, financial aid-eligible, certificate program that can be completed within one academic year. Requirements include one course from every general education category, providing a broad introduction to academic disciplines in higher education and touching on every Institutional Learning Outcome at Eastern Wyoming College. This certificate is designed for students who are transferring to another institution after one year of attendance at EWC or students who commit to completing an AA or AS degree at EWC. This certificate is also designed for concurrent and dual enrollment students who take many of these courses throughout their high school career. It promotes general education requirement completion and a valuable focus on college credit transferability and completion. It will provide greater accuracy and better guidance for outreach coordinators and high school counselors who advise these students. This certificate would also be of value for students who are committed to enhancing workforce skills, including critical thinking, technological literacy, effective communication, and knowledgeable citizenship. This certificate offers a valid credential for students considering employment and/or the pursuit of a college degree.

RECOMMENDATION: It is the recommendation of the College President that the Board of Trustees ratify the addition of the General Studies Certificate for Fall 2025.

REVIEWED AND PREPARED BY:

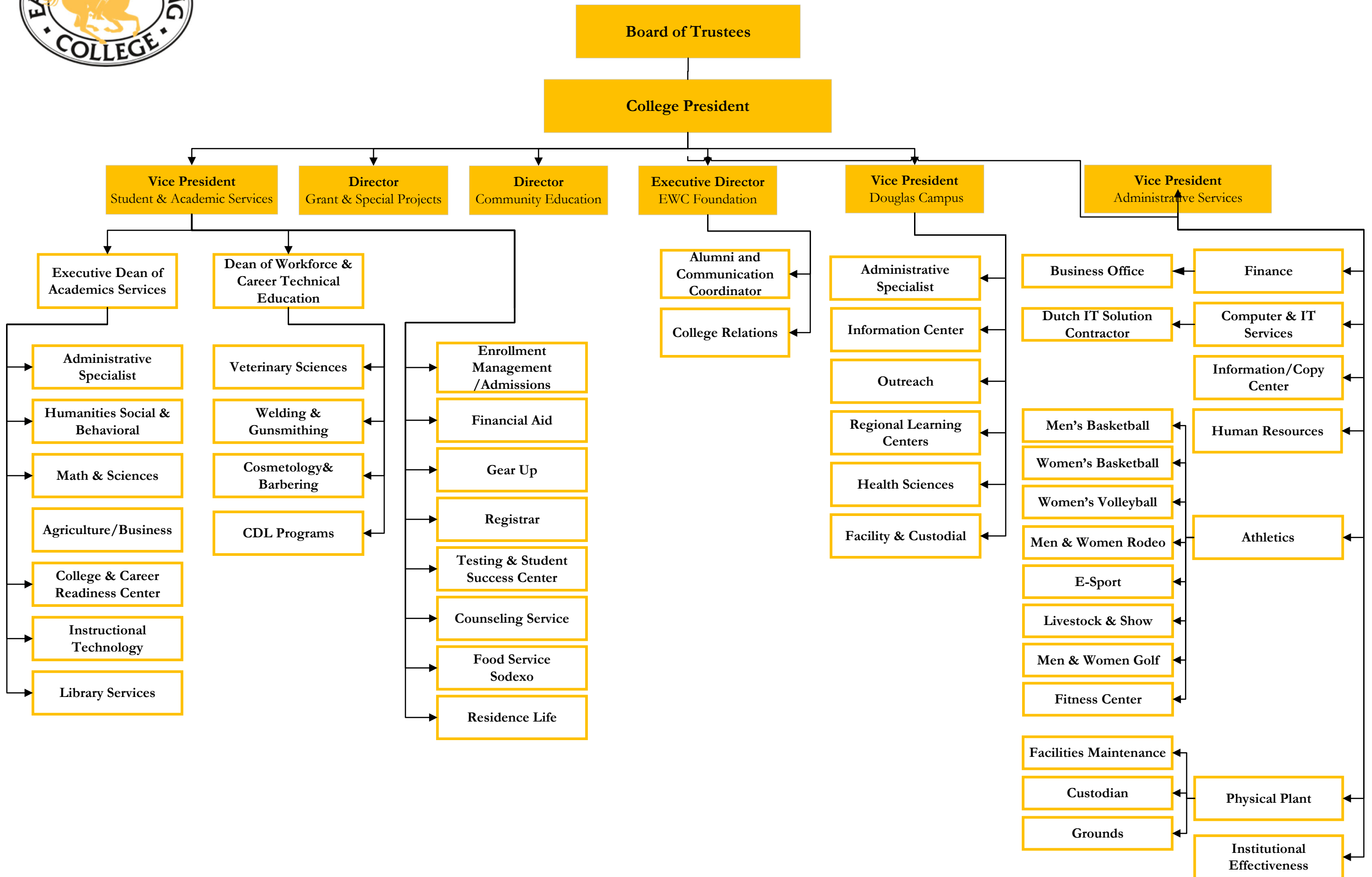
Debbie Ochsner

Debbie Ochsner, Ed.D., Executive Dean of
Academic Services


Jeffrey Hawes, Ph.D., President



Eastern Wyoming College Organizational Chart





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