UCCS Interdisciplinary Academic Studies Program (IASP)
(updated May 14, 2021)
(posted: April 14, 2021, Final)

Vision: The IASP is set up as an UCCS incubator for multi-college[1] interdisciplinary studies: supporting (a) Academic graduate and undergraduate programs approval process; (b) Promoting all interdisciplinary activities on Campus with events and education; (c) Assessing and evaluating Program Assistant, GTA needs, or supporting research and proposal activities of affiliated members of IASP; (d) Recommend degree programs to CUE, Graduate School, and Provost for implementation; (e) Maintain web-presence and support for approved Interdisciplinary Programs.

IASP's Faculties:

Up to 7[2] Affiliated Faculty – including one Faculty Director and 6 UCCS-faculty or Academic Staff members who are committed to interdisciplinary studies. Membership will be based on established record of integrity and willingness to collaboratively work together in support of new interdisciplinary programs and IASP. Provost will make a final selection of these faculty members in consultation with IASP. Seven additional faculty members may be chosen, one from preferably (but not necessarily) each of the six UCCS colleges and UCCS Library with proven record of interdisciplinary scholarship. These additional faculty members may change from year to year.

Faculty Director[3] at up to 50% workload will be assigned for an at-will position by Provost and Chancellor and will report to the Provost.

Affiliated Faculty are those who satisfy the following criteria:
- who agree to participate in the interdisciplinary program by teaching at least one course or are part of faculty of six above, and agree to support the offering of the interdisciplinary program,

  or,
- who agree to write and submit 1-2 interdisciplinary proposals per year with other affiliated faculty, and submit 1-2 technical papers for publication with their affiliated faculty partners per academic year; If the proposal is funded established research and creative work guidelines for offload in Colleges would apply. If the College does not have such guidelines, then IASP will follow their own guidelines based on best case scenario for the affiliated faculty as IASP's role is to advise and assist these implementation programs.

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[1] Three or more colleges initially as successful UCCS models already exist for interdisciplinary activities consisting of one and/or two colleges.
[2] Up to 13 or more if needed possibly representing, but not required to, all 6 UCCS Colleges and Library
[3] This position is at will and will initially start at the Faculty Director and may change to Associate VC if IASP grows.

■ support IASP yearly activities by promoting educational and interdisciplinary, CU-wide, international and national opportunities, and attending meetings organized by IASP during first week of September, October, Nov, Feb, March, April, and/or June.

Roadmap:

Undergraduate Degree Program Proposal Process: IASP's Committee Members will receive and review the interdisciplinary academic program proposal from Affiliated Faculty group and recommend revisions as necessary. Once CUE approves the degree offering, a recommendation will be forwarded by Associate Vice Chancellor for Undergraduate Education (AVC-UE) to the Provost for approval. Provost will then work with Deans for implementing their respective College portion, determine an academic home for the degree program, and submit paperwork for CU-wide approval.

Graduate Degree Program Proposal Process: IASP's Committee members will review the Interdisciplinary degree program proposal. A recommendation will be forwarded to the Dean of UCCS Graduate School. Once the proposal is approved at the Graduate School meeting, Dean of UCCS Graduate School will send the proposal to Provost for approval. UCCS Provost, if approving the degree program, will contact College Deans for implementing their College portion, determine an academic home for the degree program, and submit paperwork for CU-wide approval; else when not approving, return the proposal back to IASP.

IASP and UCCS-College Interactions: Provost will follow the preferred management plan in the approved degree proposal. IASP will work with the preferred College Dean to house the program in one of the six UCCS Colleges. It is not the role of IASP to house a program, or offer student-degrees or create new courses. IASP will provide guidance to the interdisciplinary faculty in logistics to deliver the degree program so that there is no unreasonable administrative or support burden on the Colleges. IASP will assist the faculty in accepting, and processing admissions for the student, and generally provide minimal administrative support at the level of existing programs through the end of incubation period of the approved program.

Proposal Activity by an Interdisciplinary group: IASP will support proposal writing of an interdisciplinary group by programming budget-preparation and proposal writing support including other logistic assistance to encourage such collaboration. IASP may also help with IRB studies on a limited basis.

Participation in IASP by any UCCS Faculty, Department, College, or Unit is **voluntary**.

IASP's Faculty Director will recommend program support needs such as Program Assistant and possible GTA support to Provost whose decision will be final. At the minimum 1/4GTA and 1/6 Program's Assistant will be recommended for an *approved* IASP interdisciplinary program to support an incubation period until the first set of completed degree programs students graduate and a permanent budget is determined for this degree program.

No changes to UCCS existing degree Programs, Centers and Institutes will be handled by IASP.

Associate Vice Chancellor of Undergraduate Education and Academic Planning, Dean UCCS Graduate School, and Associate Vice Chancellor for Research, Research Integrity officer will be the Advisory Committee for IASP.

Projected IASP cost:
- Faculty Director: Up to 50% workload responsibility to Provost, and two months of summer support.
- Members and Affiliated Faculty: See *meeting expectation* criteria above, exceeding and excellent will be similarly defined. Budget permitting, a $x Honorarium will be offered on a limited basis as determined by IASP to affiliated Faculty.
- Program Assistant: 1/6 Staff per *approved IASP program*
- Student support: 1/4 GTA per *approved IASP program*
- IASP will maintain a web-presence, student retention data, their credit hours for budget or reporting considerations, and placement/employment opportunity of their Alumni of those degree programs which was incubated in IASP until end of incubation period. IASP representative will also attend CUE, Graduate Executive Committee, and All Deans Meeting once a semester.