



Natural Resources Conservation Service
510 Utah St.
PO Box 6
Medicine Bow, Wyoming 82329-0006

February 15, 2010

To Whom It May Concern:

It is with great pleasure that I write in support of the equipment request for the Facilities being proposed for the Chadron State College Agricultural Program.

As a graduate at Chadron State College, the education I received advanced me into a graduate program and into a successful career with the Natural Resources Conservation Service. The motivation and drive the program created for me assisted greatly in gathering the skills and technology knowledge I did not have the opportunity to gain at Chadron. Since my graduation, I have been able to use GIS remote sensing and mapping technologies to develop plans. With this equipment available readily in the Agricultural program it would provide a vast knowledge and assist agencies in bringing on college graduates with less training needed on the job.

The laboratory classes and livestock handling course work that I completed was some of the most interesting and exciting portions of my education. Many of these items were gained through field trips that were outside of the timeframe of classes and required a greater expense to the class. But they provided the hands on knowledge and applied knowledge that is of the greatest benefit to my education. By having the lab equipment in the department and having handling facilities on the premises of the college, travel costs and time can be saved while providing a wide variety of teaching perspectives with less risk and greater ease. The field trips can be of greater benefit by having some lab/class work time prior to going to the field to work with landowners in the general application.

The request for laboratory equipment, livestock handling equipment and GIS laboratory will advance the educational opportunities of the college above the previous program and open the doors to more students to job opportunities greatly. The more experience we can have in handling livestock, having firsthand knowledge of livestock health, behavior, handling, and land resource inventory equipment, the more prepared for the job world they will be. I was able to gain a great education from Chadron, but these improvements would have opened new fields of study, the opportunity to do graduate research at this site, and led to a wider variety of employment outside of my education. So I am in strong support of this request for equipment for the new Agricultural Complex at Chadron State College.

If there are any concerns or questions, I can be contacted at 307-379-2542 (office) or 307-251-8312 (cellular).

Sincerely,

//s-electronic/ Marji J. Patz

Marji Patz, Rangeland Management Specialist
Helping People Help the Land
An Equal Opportunity Provider and Employer