

September 22-23, 2010

**ITEM 148-1601-R0910**

**Equine Studies Department**

---

**THAT**

The University of Montana Western requests that a new Equine Studies Department be created from the current Equine Studies Program in the Department of Business and Technology.

---

**EXPLANATION**

Current equine programs have grown substantially both in numbers of students and in number of faculty. While some of the equine degree programs and options have a substantial business component, most have a substantial component of social and behavioral science as well as natural science. Thus, they do not fit well into any existing department at Montana Western. Equine program inclusion in the Business and Technology Department has made it more difficult to recruit students, and to secure outside funding.

The two degrees in Natural Horsemanship were initially begun in partnership with local business and with the support of the local community. That support has been increasing over time but these partners are also questioning the appropriateness of having these interdisciplinary degrees residing in the Business and Technology Department.

---

**ATTACHMENTS**

Level II Request Form  
Curriculum Proposals