Proposed Initiative: This initiative proposes to reconstitute the Masters Program in Sustainable Community Development as a university-wide, multidisciplinary program with contributions from faculty in all colleges. This masters would directly involve departments and faculty across all colleges at UWRF. Sustainability is based on an understanding of the social, economic, and environmental dimensions of almost any issue and strives to develop answers to questions that can address these issues.

Proposed by: Charles P. Rader, Department of Geography and Mapping Sciences for the Sustainability Across the Curriculum Workshop

What strategic goal does this initiative support?
Distinctive Academic Excellence; Global Education and Engagement; Innovation and Partnerships

Describe how the initiative supports the goal(s).
This initiative address all three strategic goals. 1 - Distinctive Academic Excellence - building on the first incarnation of the program. This initiative would provide an institutional commitment to sustainability education at the masters level. Regionally, there are no competing programs with a focus on applied sustainable community development. 2 - Global Education and Engagement - sustainability is neither tied to one place or another. Many of the entrepreneurial challenges that we face locally are global challenges as well. Having a basis to understand and study approaches to sustainability looks for global solutions based in local actions across the globe. Many master's projects have the potential to work in a globalized setting. 3 - Innovation and Partnership - many of the masters projects have the potential to involve collaboration between many departments on campus. In addition, the applied nature of the program based on project work that has direct community involvement.

Based on the definition of university-wide initiative, indicate how the proposed initiative has a university-wide impact.
Since sustainability is based on economic, social, and environmental concerns. Each college has a role to play in the development of a Masters in Sustainable Community Development. This initiative would have faculty from all colleges develop curriculum that would serve as the basis for the program. This would require the development and teaching of courses specific to the program and the interaction of faculty from multiple colleges in working with the students' masters committees. In addition, many of the applied research projects taken on by the students in working with in the context of their chosen community. This has the potential for creating a dynamic of institutionalizing multi-disciplinary research. The research would be directly rooted in solving sustainability issues in the community and would strengthen the university's role within the community.

Please provide a set of benchmarks and/or indicators of success to support your initiative.
Several measures of success would indicate success of the initiative.
1 - Establishment of a core curriculum of courses that would provide students with the a broad understanding of sustainability principles in solving local problems. The development of a core curriculum of 8- courses would be required.
2 - Number of students enrolled in program would be a success. Initial projections, indicate that a cohort of 12 students would be able to sustain the program. Successful recruitment of this number within two years of startup would be a measure of success.
3 - Impact of the applied projects undertaken by students would be a final measure. These would assess the impact that the project has across the three areas of sustainability and the final adoption of projects by the communities in which the projects are focused.
What elements are involved in the initiative?
Sustainability, Inclusiveness, Human Capital, Technology, Facilities, Finance

Indicate how each element would be/would not be affected by the initiative.

- **Sustainability**: This initiative directly relates to the core educational mission of the university. It deals directly with sustainability based education at a masters level. The design of the curriculum will engage students and faculty across the spectrum of social, economic, and environmental issues considered in sustainability. Furthermore, it engages students and faculty directly in providing solutions to local and global sustainability through applied projects.

- **Inclusiveness**: Sustainability by its own right strives for inclusiveness. Any project should not only consider the most-advantaged members of society but the least advantaged members of society. Sustainability-based education and research broaden the level of understanding across all community members and examines the deep structures of their social, economic, and environmental impacts. A masters also would open up greater opportunities for non-traditional students on this campus. This is important to having an inclusive campus culture. This should be a university-wide academic program with a solid basis in the department involved in the program. Placing the program in Outreach would not provide the inclusive nature of multidisciplinary interaction.

- **Human Capital**: This initiative would require commitment of faculty and time in the development of the curriculum and the organizational structures for the program. It will require a commitment of release time from the colleges for curriculum development and launch of the program, but once established should be self-funding to provide replacement back to the colleges for those faculty engaged in the program. Release time for a faculty coordinator for the program will be required. With growth of the program a graduate program assistant will need to be provided support for maintenance of the program.

- **Technology**: This initiative will have a minor impact on technology. Course on the up-to-date use of technology for sustainability will be taught. This may require some specialized monitoring instrumentation and software. Maintenance of a high level of access to scholarly journals through the Library will be required to provide resources for students and faculty engaged in research.

- **Facilities**: This initiative should have minor impact on existing facilities on campus. With growth of the program a designated program office central to campus would be required.

- **Finance**: There will be initial costs to starting the program. This initiative proposes a 1/4 time each semester release for faculty developing the core curriculum from each college during the first two years of operation. Once a fully established cohort of students is enrolled the program should transition to a self-funding model based on tuition revenue.

- **Other**: 
