

2017 REPORT
**ENDOWMENT
& FACILITIES**
UNIVERSITY OF WYOMING FOUNDATION





many THANKS

On behalf of the University of Wyoming and its many students, faculty, staff, alumni, and friends, thank you for all that you do. Our success is your success—together, we're creating a better future.

In FY 2017, private giving totaled \$52.3 million, bringing the five-year fundraising average to \$53.6 million. Thanks to the incredible support of donors like you, our endowment has outstripped those of comparable institutions—which have much larger enrollments. At \$508.8 million, the University of Wyoming's endowment is the largest in the Mountain West conference.

Key gifts this year include the following:

- John Clay to support the President's Excellence Fund and the Honors College
- Trent Kaufman to support scholarships
- James and Beverly Young to support engineering facilities
- Alchemy Sciences, Inc. to support engineering faculty and research
- Frederick Harris to support zoology and physiology
- Charles McKinley to support zoology and physiology
- Tom and Shelley Botts to support an engineering faculty chair
- Stephen and Patricia Adams to support health sciences
- Stevens Sharkey to support the Wildlife Migration Initiative
- Marian H. Rochelle to support the School of Energy Resources
- Erivan and Helga Haub to support the Haub School of Environment and Natural Resources
- Maury Brown to support athletics

2017 was another successful year in raising private support for UW while also strengthening the university through prudent investment and financial management. The public-private partnership of the university and its donors helps ensure that the University of Wyoming is advancing its mission of excellence in education, discovery, and outreach.

Your individual fund reports are enclosed. If you have questions regarding the attached financial information, please contact Mary Ann Garman, Vice President for Financial Services, at (307) 766-3939 or email to mag@uwyo.edu or Ben Blalock, UW Foundation President/CEO, at (307) 766-3948 or email to bblalock@uwyo.edu. We would like to offer our sincerest thanks for your generosity. Your support makes the difference.



breaking through

IS WHAT WE DO

The theme of the University of Wyoming’s visionary strategic plan is *breaking through*, but the University of Wyoming—and Wyoming as a whole—has been breaking through for generations. It’s our legacy.

Wyoming had the first business west of the Missouri River, the first organized rodeo, the first healthcare co-op, the first U.S. county public library, the first state dinosaur, the first national park, and the first national monument. We’ve been instrumental in the coast-to-coast transportation network and the development of our nation’s energy independence.

Our women voted first, and we had the first female head of a university department, justice of the peace, bailiff, jury, town administration, governor, and head of the U.S. Mint. We also had the first licensed engineer and the first African American police chief, the first basketball jumpshot and the first football game under electric lights. Last and certainly not least, we had a university before we were even a state.

This groundbreaking progress continues today and on into the future. Due to UW’s low student-to-teacher ratio, low student debt, and high earnings for graduates, we

are among the top 10 best states for higher education. Our faculty are preeminent in their fields, developing new techniques and new technologies, and our alumni go on to influence science and industry, education and the arts, justice and politics.

UW is breaking through in enrollment. We’ve set ambitious goals for student enrollment, which includes more first-time freshman, more transfer students from community colleges, more out-of-state students, and more distance education. These benchmarks will be achieved by UW’s very affordable tuition, the



established Native American Education Research and Cultural Center. We actively promote study abroad with the help of one of the largest university study abroad endowments in the nation, and we are attracting more international students. It shows: UW has a 95% student satisfaction rate.

UW is breaking through in alumni success. UW's strategic plan sets the goal of a 60% six-year graduation rate, which exceeds the national average, and unlike students from other institutions, ours graduate with little-to-no debt, and those who do take on debt pay back their loans in record numbers. Once graduated, our alums have 85% job placement within one year of graduation, and their salaries are high—UW has the fifth highest return on investment in the nation. Many of our alums decide to stay connected to their alma mater and to support it through membership in the Alumni Association, career networking, and philanthropy.

UW is breaking through in innovation. The Tier-1 Engineering Initiative provides greater opportunities for students to work with world-class faculty in nationally ranked programs and to engage in cutting-edge research and learning. The Science Initiative challenges UW to address outdated science laboratories and to improve the quality of science instruction and research. The Trustees Education Initiative elevates the College of Education to preeminent status in professional educator preparation. In conjunction with these initiatives, UW has set the goal of 60 endowed faculty positions and external research funding of \$115 million.

UW is breaking through in university facilities, and the campus has been transformed in recent years. The

Michael B. Enzi STEM facility, opened in 2016, is home to most freshman- and sophomore-level science lab courses. The 2017 High Bay Research Facility provides sufficient space, capacity, and state-of-the-art equipment to grow niche areas of UW research, including improved oil and gas recovery. The 2018 Mick and Susie McMurry High Altitude Performance Center expands the Curtis and Marian Rochelle Athletics Center with state-of-the-art sports technology and enhancements.

To be opened in 2019, the Engineering Education and Research Building will be a high-tech engineering facility that fosters innovation and collaboration among students and faculty. The proposed Science Initiative Facility will have a direct economic impact through the efficient translation of ideas to the marketplace—life and data sciences, mineral extraction, agriculture, tourism, resource management, and high technology. On the horizon, a recently completed 10-year housing plan recommends new and renovated residence halls—the current facilities are over 50 years old.

Last but not least, we are breaking through in philanthropy. The strategic plan calls for a university endowment of \$650 million. With a five-year fundraising average of \$53.6 million, we are well on our way. Each and every year, dedicated and enthusiastic donors like you support their university with gifts large and small, allowing students to work toward their goals of successful and fulfilling lives. You make our accomplishments—and in turn the accomplishments of Wyoming's students and faculty, staff, and programs—possible.

Pragmatic and hard working, we Wyomingites get things done. Breaking through is what we do.

generous support of the Hathaway Scholarship program, private scholarships, transfer agreements, aggressive student recruiting, and an updated housing plan.

UW is breaking through in academics. Once they enroll, students are set to succeed. Our student-to-faculty ratio is 14 to 1, and our goal for freshman retention is 80%. Our Honors Program has been promoted to an Honors College so that our high-achieving students will have a place to call home, and we support multicultural students through the Multicultural Resources Center and other programs, including the recently

endowment **PERFORMANCE**





Endowments are the tools that allow yesterday's students to help today's and tomorrow's students achieve their educational goals, sending them down the road to a successful life.

Everyone relies on budgets to be able to balance the amount of money coming in against expenses, and a university is no different. Endowments are one of the tools that allow the University of Wyoming to budget effectively and the university to create its financial plan for the coming year. That's because endowments provide a firm foundation of assets that are held in perpetuity, the interest of which creates a steady stream of funding for those purposes chosen by the donor. This income provides an invaluable margin of excellence over and above the solid baseline of support from the Wyoming Legislature.

Every year, in accordance with its payout policy, the UW Foundation distributes millions of dollars from endowments to the university for expenditures such as student assistance, faculty support, library acquisitions, academic program support, facilities, and building and equipment purchases and maintenance.

The UW Foundation uses a weighted formula for calculating payout amounts. The payout policy is the result of a careful review of models used by Yale, Stanford, and other major higher education institutions and is designed to smooth year-to-year variations in market performance so that the colleges and units within the university are able to budget more accurately with a predictable and reliable source of funding.

When a donor creates an endowed fund, the gift buys shares—much like mutual funds—in the endowment pool. Adding these funds to the endowment pool broadens investment possibilities much more than if each endowment were invested individually. Accounting, however, is done separately for each fund, and income is distributed based upon the number of shares owned in the pool after an initial one-year waiting period.

Endowment distributions may be made from current income, accumulated income, realized appreciation, and principal to the extent necessary to meet the distribution requirements of the payout policy. Earnings above the amount of distributions are added to the corpus, enabling the principal to continue to grow and providing a hedge against inflation.

There are now 1,467 University of Wyoming endowments, and the pooled fund had grown to \$508.8 million as of December 31, 2017.



investment PERFORMANCE

One of the primary missions of the University of Wyoming Foundation is to exercise superior stewardship of the gifts entrusted to the university, and the assets managed by the foundation have grown significantly over the years and have allowed donors to support an expanding number of students, faculty, facilities, and academic programs—even at times when other universities have had to cut back.

The UW Foundation Board of Directors—in consultation with its professional investment advisor Meketa Investment Group from Boston, Massachusetts—works diligently to proactively manage the foundation’s portfolio, and the UW Foundation staff and Board of Directors Investment Committee are responsible for determining the investment policy and selecting investment managers for the endowment pool. Board members combine diverse areas of expertise to bring a wealth of financial experience to the management of the foundation’s investments.

The board continues to proactively manage the assets to balance stability with rate of return, and the foundation portfolio is fully diversified. The UW Foundation uses a sophisticated asset allocation typical of much larger institutions, which has resulted in more secure foundation holdings that are not unduly influenced by the highs and lows of the equity and bond markets or changes in the political climate.

The risk, return, and correlation characteristics of the alternative asset classes provide greater portfolio diversification and stability because of their low correlations to the traditional fixed income and equity asset classes. Now more than ever, well-balanced asset allocations have been shown to consistently perform better over time under varying market conditions, rather than being heavily invested in one or two asset classes or trying to time the market.

Funds invested by the foundation include cash, reserve balances, charitable remainder unitrusts and gift annuities, outright gifts, and endowments. The foundation attempts to achieve a balance between current requirements and future needs—to provide a stable and growing income stream to the University of Wyoming while preserving the purchasing power of the endowment assets.

Currently, the pooled permanent funds are invested across a broad range of asset classes in 85 funds among 62 different managers. With the input of the investment consulting firm, the board hires investment managers whose portfolios fit within the foundation’s investment strategy of long-term growth and minimizing risk versus reward. Target allocations and investment managers are reviewed at least quarterly to ensure objectives are being met, and assets are rebalanced to keep them in line with the target ranges for each asset class.

The pool of endowed funds as of December 31, 2017, totals over \$508.8 million, a remarkable number for an institution the size of UW.

The bottom line, however, is only part of the story—the UW Foundation provides services that go far beyond numbers on a page. We help people achieve their philanthropic goals and provide services such as estate planning. We facilitate and manage gifts at all stages in the process—we actively steward donors’ contributions before they become endowments (including pledges, short-term investments, and real estate), and after the fact we make sure endowments are directed according to donors’ wishes. We also connect alumni and friends of Wyoming with their university. Our job is to help the University of Wyoming be the best institution of higher education that it can be.



financial report BY THE NUMBERS

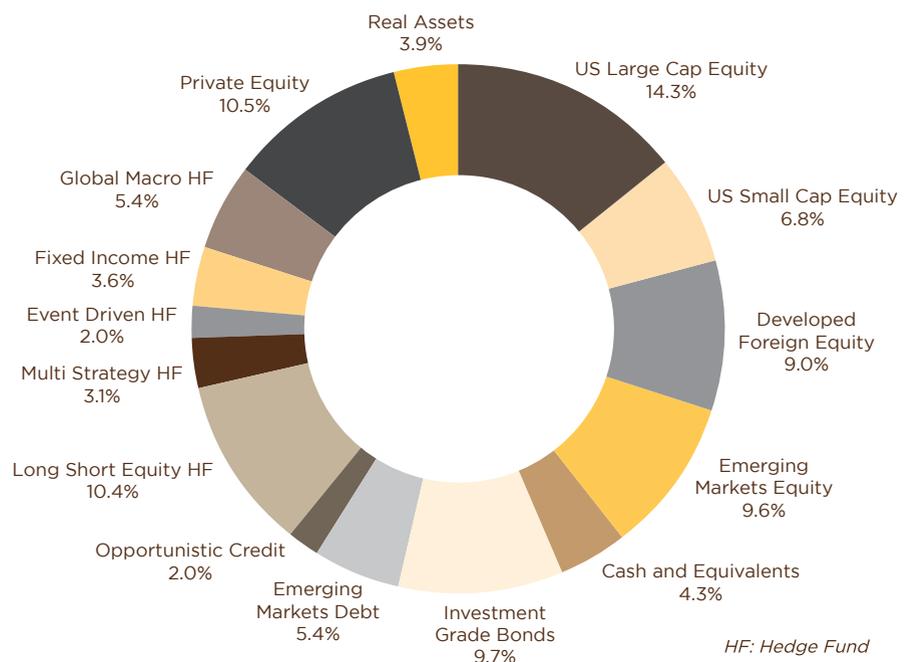
	Latest Quarter	One Year	Three Years	Five Years	Ten Years
NET TOTAL FUND PERFORMANCE					
Total Fund	2.5	13.3	5.9	7.6	4.8
S&P 500	6.6	21.8	11.4	15.8	8.5
Barclays US Aggregate	3.6	15.4	6.6	7.4	4.8
MSCI Emerging Markets	7.4	37.3	9.1	4.3	1.7
Policy Index ⁽¹⁾	3.5	13.8	7.4	7.8	3.8

⁽¹⁾10% S&P 500 / 4% Russell 3000 / 7% MSCI EAFE / 7% MSCI Emerging Markets / 5% JP Morgan EMBI Global Diversified / 3% BBg-Barc US Aggregate TR / 1% 91 Day T-Bills / 33% HFRI Fund Weighted Composite Index / 15% Cambridge Assoc. U.S. Private Equity Index / 15% CPI (inflation) + 3% (1-qtr lagged)

PORTFOLIO GROWTH IN MILLIONS



ASSET ALLOCATION





WPX Drilling Simulator

edging out THE COMPETITION

Thanks to a substantial gift from world-leading technology company Drilling Systems, Wyoming's students will be able to edge out the competition in the field of oil and gas recovery.

This gift of a Drilling and Completions Simulation Laboratory will give UW facilities unlike any other in the world—making UW one of the most technologically advanced institutions on earth in this field. The College of Engineering and Applied Science is partnering with Drilling Systems to construct the lab, which will create a university supercenter.

“Drilling Systems is honored to be associated with the University of Wyoming and their efforts to develop the ‘Engineer of the Future,’” says Jim Krupa, Regional Director, Drilling Systems. “The new Engineering Education and Research Building Simulation Lab will allow students, faculty, as well as oil and gas companies, to be exposed to the most advanced drilling and completions simulation technology in the market. The state of Wyoming’s Tier-1 Initiative is placing them at the top amongst their peers and will allow them to remain competitive for years to come.”

Drilling Systems was founded in 1988 and has its headquarters with design and manufacturing facilities in Bournemouth, United Kingdom. An expert in

oilfield training simulation technology, the company has delivered over a thousand training simulators to locations in 50 countries across the world.

“The Drilling Systems gift is an important component for the future of UW’s energy programs and will help the university better prepare students for their future,” says UW President Laurie Nichols. “It will put us on the leading edge in this area of student education, and it’s also a great example of how public-private partnerships contribute to the future of the university and the state. I would like to thank Drilling Systems for this excellent opportunity.”

The memorandum of understanding between Drilling Systems and UW outlines a partnership to combine expertise in energy industry solutions through simulation, visualization, modeling, consulting, and training.

Drilling Systems will provide the university with exclusive access to emerging technologies and the ability to influence the development of future products and services that benefit both parties. In return, UW will provide insight and thought leadership across a range of programs. Drilling Systems and UW will also collaborate on joint strategic projects that seek to further both organizations internationally.



Shirah Reyher working on the simulator

“This effort will allow UW students and faculty to utilize the most advanced simulation systems in the world,” says Michael Pishko, dean of the College of Engineering and Applied Science. “The partnership is yet another illustration of the commitment we’ve made as a college to be a destination for education and research. Thanks to this generous gift, the Department of Petroleum Engineering and the university can continue to establish a reputation as a top-notch program on the global stage.”

The lab will be housed in the new UW Engineering Education and Research Building—a new engineering facility that fosters innovation and collaboration among students and faculty. Planned for completion in 2019, the building is located on the north end of campus near 11th and Lewis streets, across Lewis from the existing Engineering Building.

In the meantime, the equipment is being assembled and housed in a research facility in Houston, Texas, so that faculty can train on the hardware and software. In addition, the UW Shell 3-D Visualization Laboratory will introduce new visualization techniques and computer and theoretical modeling, including enhanced oil and gas downhole modeling.

UW continues to use its current drilling simulator facility in the Energy Innovation Center, which includes Drilling Systems simulators. Once the new lab is completed, that equipment will then be moved to the new lab space, and new features will be added—including a dual cyber chair drilling and well control simulator, simulators for wireline and coiled tubing, and a workspace formatted to house large classes.

The Drilling and Completions Simulation Laboratory and its advanced technology will allow the College of Engineering and Applied Science to create master’s and doctoral degree programs in drilling and completions. This initiative will also support UW’s efforts to achieve Tier-1 status as a nationally recognized institution of academic excellence and world-class research.

“The hands-on learning resulting from Drilling Systems’s commitment to UW immediately takes our students outside the classroom and into the real world,” says Ben Blalock, UW Foundation president.

Wyoming runs on energy. In fact, more than sixty percent of the state’s revenues come from energy. Because of that, our economy and institutions depend on this vital source of income, and we are so very thankful for their support.

It is the job of the University of Wyoming to prepare students for their future success, and one way that we accomplish this is through preparing students to thrive within our most central economic engine. We’ll be able to do just that thanks to this new state-of-the-art drilling and completions laboratory.

students discover primary

ALFRED JACOB MILLER

Primaries sources are the bedrock of the edifice we know as history. Scholars pour through archives overflowing with this essential material in order to create the shared story of who we are.

An essential mission of the University of Wyoming American Heritage Center is to bring those primary sources to students of all ages. In 2005, this mission became a lot easier when the Graff family established an endowment to create the Alfred Jacob Miller Classroom and donated this artist's priceless works to adorn the walls. The AHC's collections are made available to students of all ages through classes taught in this state-of-the-art classroom.

In 2005 and 2008, Robert Graff established the endowments that created the classroom. Graff is the son of Everett Graff, prominent Chicago collector and philanthropist who more than 30 years ago donated paintings by nineteenth century artist Alfred Jacob Miller (1810–74) to the AHC. The Wyoming Legislature also doubled the Graff family gift through the state matching funds program, helping to support both Wyoming's cultural heritage and the students who make up Wyoming's future.

"We so appreciate the support of the Graff family," says Ginny Kilander, head of reference services, AHC.

"And it's more than just the space—it provides an educational opportunity for UW students and students from a lot of different places to actually view paintings that were created however many hundreds of years ago," adds Bill Hopkins, collections manager, AHC. "They could have stayed in private hands and never been shared with anybody, but they have been shared—that's due to the generosity of the Graff family."

The classroom offers students their own "home" in the AHC, with ample space and state-of-the-art technology that allows faculty to explore the rich resources of the AHC with students of all ages.

Before the classroom's construction in 2005, students competed with visiting scholars and members of the public for space in the Owen Wister Western Writers Reading Room. With the new classroom, those in the Reading Room are not interrupted by students taking classes, and the dedicated classroom space allows setup before a class begins, more engaged and lively students, and larger classes. Not only that, but the technology allows educators to explore the material in many different ways and to link it more effectively to the world at large.

Last year, 82 classes—over 1,300 students—from UW, community colleges, Wyoming History Day, and K-12



Hunting Elk, c. 1865, by Alfred Jacob Miller



Graff family at the fall 2005 dedication of the Alfred Jacob Miller Classroom

sources in the CLASSROOM

schools used the Alfred Jacob Miller Classroom. Classes have included history, English, theater and dance, art, political science, education, world culture and food, sports and society, honors, and freshman engagement classes. They have also included more exotic subjects such as zombies and superheroes—Stan Lee’s archive resides at the AHC.

Alfred Jacob Miller was the first major painter to choose the Rocky Mountain fur trade as his subject and was the first artist of his generation to explore the Rocky Mountain West. He traveled from Maryland to the 1837 fur trade rendezvous in what is today Wyoming with Sir William Drummond Stewart, a Scottish nobleman and sportsman. Afterward, Miller produced a large number of oil paintings of his experience for Stewart’s castle in Scotland. Twenty of these paintings are at the AHC.

“The fact that the paintings are in an institution in Wyoming, the subject of the paintings themselves—I think that’s fabulous,” says Hopkins.

“They’re in a place where their study can be augmented by other sources—photographs of the Wyoming landscape, written materials from the artist and historians about the creation of the paintings and the people involved in that creation. All that together makes a really rich research environment,” says Kilander.

ALFRED JACOB MILLER

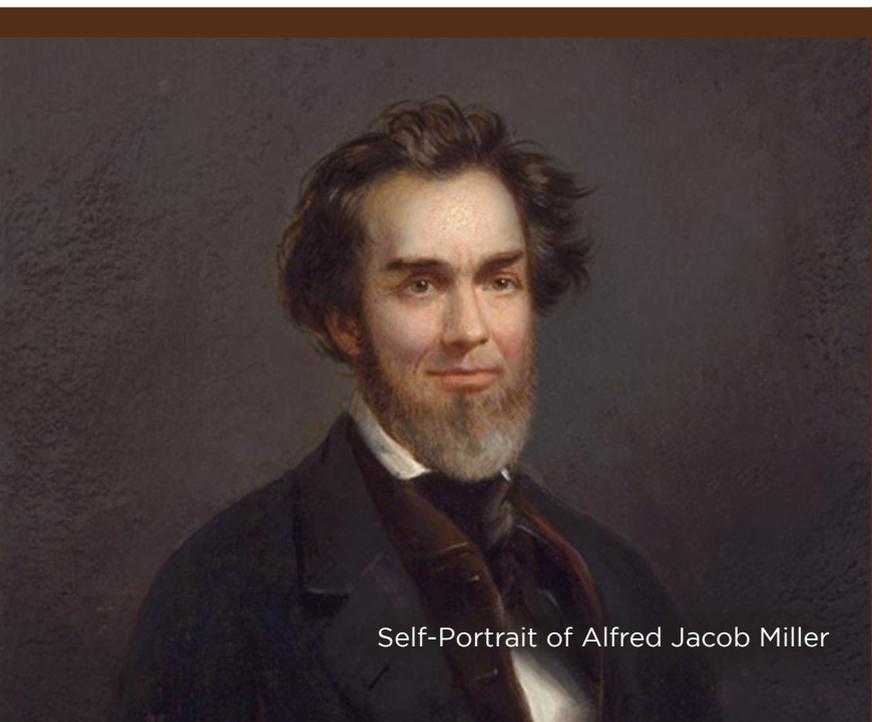
Alfred Jacob Miller was born in Maryland and trained in Paris and Rome. He returned to the U.S. and was engaged by Captain William Drummond Stewart, a Scots nobleman with a taste for adventurous travel, to document the annual fur trade gathering in the Rocky Mountains held near what is today the town of Pinedale, Wyoming.

During the spring and summer of 1837, Miller made dozens of sketches that captured the life of his traveling companions, trappers, Native Americans, and the life and scenery of the fur trade. Among Miller’s best regarded works is his *Green River Rendezvous*. Miller’s written accounts of his travels add to his paintings: “buffaloes drinking and bathing at night,” the threat of prairie fire, the discovery of wild honey, “the great presence of mind, dexterity and courage” of Native women hunting bison on horseback, and a future of trains and tourists.

After his return from the West, Miller was commissioned by Stewart to paint studio versions of his trail sketches that were hung in Murthly Castle, Stewart’s hunting lodge in Perthshire, Scotland. The Miller paintings at the AHC are some of those commissioned by Stewart. In 1842, after completing his assignment in Scotland, Miller returned to Baltimore, where he became noted as a portraitist.

Although his landscapes tend to resemble European models and his figures are often stylized and classical in pose, Miller’s art constitutes an important historical record. No other artist had the opportunity to observe and record the era of the American fur trade in such detail. For this reason, Miller’s paintings are considered as much historical documents as artistic works.

The Alfred Jacob Miller paintings at the AHC are gifts of Robert C. Graff; Everett D. and Verde Clark Graff; and Charles B. Nevins, husband of Nancy Graff. We are triply indebted to Robert Graff for his generous support for the conservation and security of the Miller paintings, as well as for his philanthropic commitment to the creation of the Alfred Jacob Miller Classroom.



Self-Portrait of Alfred Jacob Miller

scholarship helps sing

FULFILL



Scholarship recipient Laurie Linton with children Rylee and Tristan

Going to college is demanding for anyone, but it's especially challenging for single mothers.

Luckily, there's help out there. The Myra Fox Skelton Scholarship at UW-Casper provides a generous monthly living allowance and gives students the breathing room to achieve academic success, to more actively participate in their children's lives, and to give back to the community through volunteer service.

Students must be single parents pursuing a college degree to better their lives and the lives of their children. Funds reduce the number of hours they have to work and increase the time they have for their studies and families.

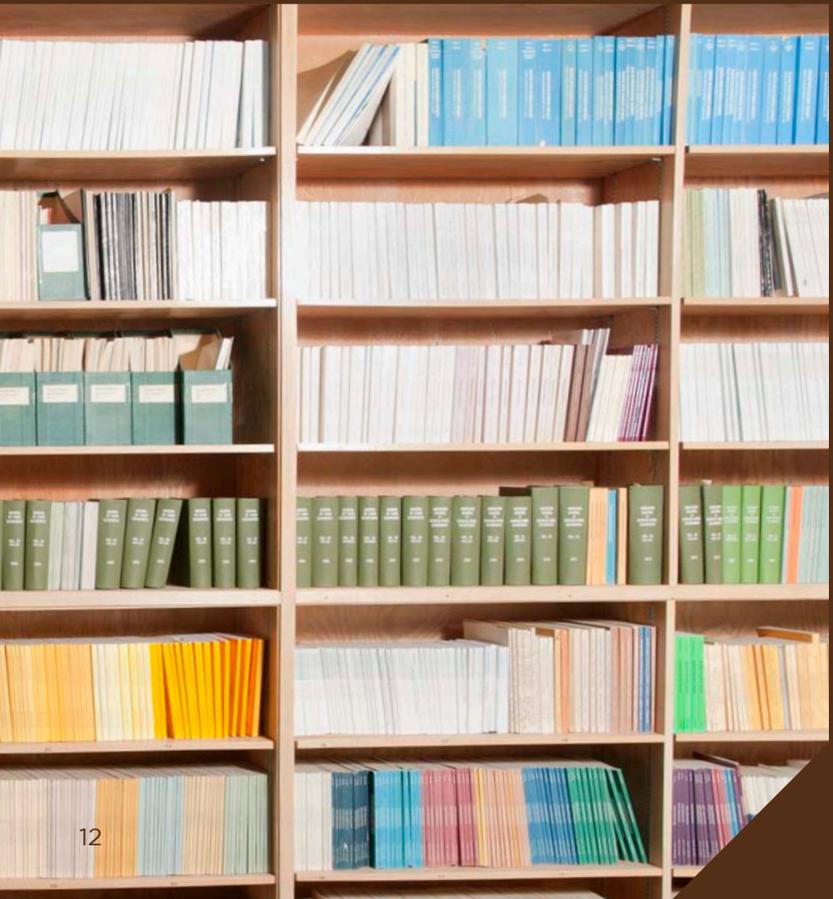
Scholarship recipient Laurie Linton is a straight-A student and the mother of Rylee and Tristan.

Rylee is fourteen and also a straight-A student. Her passion is softball, where she's a pitcher and first baseman, and she plans to go on to college on a softball scholarship. "She's very smart and very beautiful and tall," Laurie says. "She's taller than me."

Tristan is an energetic seven-year-old. He's in Cub Scouts and just learned to ice skate so he can play hockey this fall. "He's full of energy and is improving at school," Laurie says. "He loves to play with his friends."

Laurie grew up in Green River and was married for 17 years. She initially earned associates degrees in both social work and special education from Western Wyoming Community College. She worked as a paraprofessional in a special education classroom.

The special education extension program was discontinued at Western Wyoming Community College, however, and so she had to move to further her education: "This was exciting and scary at the same time because I grew up in Green River and had lived in



le mothers **DREAMS**

the area my whole life. This was a chance to start over again and better our lives.”

Without the Myra Fox Skelton Scholarship, she would not have been able to make the move. “I did not have enough money to move or be a full-time student, but I was determined to make it happen,” she says. “I must be honest—I was skeptical about (whether I would get) this wonderful scholarship. That was a deciding factor for me.”

Laurie continues, “There are no words to express my gratitude and joy to know that I will be able to continue my education so that I can provide for my children’s future.”

Move they did, but it brought changes: “I did a lot of soul searching and realized that elementary education was not what I really wanted to be.” She loves helping others, and so she changed her major back to her first love, social work: “That was my calling.”

Once in Casper, Laurie began volunteering for the Food for Thought Program. “This is a wonderful program that provides food for children that need to cook for themselves or their families on the weekends,” she says. “The program makes sure children have food over the weekends and holiday breaks.”

She will graduate this May with her bachelor’s with honors in social work. After that, she hopes to work for an organization that provides services to single parent families or special needs children. She also wants to go on to get her master’s.

Laurie says, “My daughter is an adolescent and I feel that this is a crucial time for her to be empowered by the right influences. My son is seven years old. I feel happy to be home with him. The Myra Fox Skelton Scholarship has given me time with my children, to relish watching them grow up to be wonderful citizens, and to spend precious time that I would miss if I had to work at a full-time job.”



MYRA FOX SKELTON

Donor and fund namesake Myra Fox Skelton was born in Nebraska in 1899. When she was 12, her family moved to Dubois, and she went on to attend the University of Wyoming. She moved to Thermopolis in 1922 and was elected superintendent of schools in Hot Springs County at age 23—reportedly the youngest person to hold office in Wyoming and the youngest in the U.S. to hold the superintendent’s office. She married Warren V. Skelton, and together they entered into the oil and gas business. Warren became Wyoming Oil and Gas Commissioner in 1939, and they moved to Casper.

A dedicated philanthropist, Myra gave back to her community in many ways. She supported the UW Alumni Association, Casper College, and religious and service organizations. The Myra Fox Skelton Energy Institute building at Casper College houses technology facilities for electronics, engineering, assistive technology, water quality, and computer graphics.

Myra passed away in 1986, but her generosity lives on through her foundation and the many women and their families that she has helped succeed. Her legacy continues to make the world a better place.



Christie Wildcat and Stephin Littleshield study together in the Native American Education, Research and Cultural Center

northern arapaho CELEBRATES 30 YEARS

The Northern Arapaho Endowment Fund is a testament to the power of philanthropy, and for more than 30 years, the endowment has served as one of the most successful scholarships at the University of Wyoming. Since the first disbursement to six students in 1989, the endowment has gone on to assist 108 students with 241 scholarships.

The fund was established to help tribal members gain formal educational skills directly beneficial to the Northern Arapaho people. It primarily provides scholarships that are awarded to enrolled members of the Northern Arapaho tribe who are juniors or seniors seeking their first bachelor's, graduate students, and short-term students seeking certification. Funds may also be used for distinguished professorships and departmental chairs.

In 2017, UW President Laurie Nichols outlined renewed partnerships with the Northern Arapaho and Eastern Shoshone tribes as a priority for the new university strategic plan and established a seven-member committee to advise her on Native American affairs.

"I appreciate the willingness of these individuals to provide broad advice and input to me on our work to develop a more open, inclusive, and positive environment for Native American students," Nichols says.

Long-term analysis of this endowment allows us to validate the effectiveness of proper financial management. With an initial contribution of \$500,000 by the Northern Arapaho Tribe in 1987, which was

matched by state funding dollars for a total of \$1 million, the Northern Arapaho Endowment has continued to grow and serve its intended purpose—assisting young men and women achieve meaningful degrees.

Since the first disbursement of \$4,112, annual disbursements have grown exponentially and now total a staggering \$1.9 million lifetime. Despite that incredible amount of outreach, the value of the endowment has also continued to grow and has now more than doubled in value to \$2.3 million. For FY 2018, the scholarship was awarded to 12 students for a total of \$68,717.

Current recipients of the Northern Arapaho Endowment Fund, who will continue to receive support for the coming year, are Mia Holt, a senior in physiology with a minor in American Indian studies from Lander; Nicola Holt, a senior in anthropology from Lander; Colleen Friday, a master's student in rangeland ecology and watershed management from Laramie; and Reinette Tendore, a master's student in social work with a minor in American Indian studies from Mill Creek. New recipients are Kateri Warren, a junior in criminal justice from Riverton, and Rosena Hazelwood, a junior in business administration from Saint Stephens.

"I have fought many obstacles outside of school to maintain my eligibility, but I am still here and working as hard as ever," says Mia Holt. "I intend to do my absolute best for the remainder of my time here at the University of Wyoming. I hope to become a good role model for other students in my community."



Native American Education,
Research and Cultural Center

no endowment OF SUCCESS

John Nutter, former administrator of the endowment, says that the initial goal of the scholarship was to provide young men and women of the Northern Arapaho Tribe with the ability to attain a meaningful degree, but that the community impact has been overwhelming, as students who graduate from the university return to the reservation.

“A significant number of Arapaho families live in poverty, thus the financial assistance to attend college is a major opportunity for their children,” Nutter says. “On top of that, transitioning from reservation life to life in Laramie—or even to taking UW courses online or at a local community college—requires substantial adjustment.

“With their training, they have become teachers, accountants, engineers, social workers, and leaders in many other professions,” he continues. “They now serve as models for what can be accomplished by Native students. They have earned bachelor’s, master’s, and doctoral degrees. Many have returned to serve their people on the Wind River Indian Reservation, making a better life for their tribe. Others have gone on to serve in various capacities around the country, taking with them their culture and traditions to share with others.”

The success of the Northern Arapaho endowment is a testament to the power of philanthropy. The visionary leadership of the Northern Arapaho Tribe has created the perfect example of how foresight, investment, and proper financial management can have a lasting impact on community outreach.

NATIVE AMERICAN EDUCATION, RESEARCH AND CULTURAL CENTER

Moving away from home and attending university can be difficult for any student, but it can be particularly taxing on Native American students who leave behind their extended cultural network when they leave home. Now, with the establishment of the new Native American Education, Research and Cultural Center in 2017, Native students will find all the support they need—both academic and cultural—allowing them to better adjust to campus life while maintaining the Native value system.

“Many Native Americans have an extended family network that is unlike the nuclear families that exist in traditional dominant culture today,” Director James Trospen says. “In addition, the emphasis that Native Americans place on collaboration can leave them behind in a competitively charged, individualistic academic environment.”

The center is part of UW President Laure Nichols’s plan to increase the number of Native American students, including members of the Eastern Shoshone and Northern Arapaho tribes of the Wind River Indian Reservation, who enroll in and graduate from UW. The center will help UW fulfill its mission of providing opportunities for personal growth, physical health, and leadership development for Native American students, helping them connect their traditions and cultures to their education.

The center houses the American Indian Studies program, the High Plains American Indian Research Institute, the student Keepers of the Fire organization, and other student organizations. It provides one-on-one academic, financial aid, personal, and cultural guidance and strategies that promote Native American student recruitment and retention. It will also feature peer mentor support, connections to resources for tutoring, childcare, cultural events and activities, guidance to balance academic and cultural/spiritual commitments, and academic spaces. The center is located in the facility that formerly housed UW’s Honors Program on the corner of 10th and Iverson streets.



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