you. us.

we can make a difference.

University of Wyoming Foundation
Annual Report on Giving • 2021-22
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Thank you for all that you do for the University of Wyoming! As the only university in our great state, we have a huge responsibility. We educate and serve the students and citizens of the state and perform innovative research that makes everyone’s lives better. You are a part of that team.

Thanks to you, private giving to the University of Wyoming achieved $51.4 million for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2022. More than 16,000 donors gave gifts that will go to support students, faculty, and programs immediately or to establish endowments that will support UW in perpetuity. Moreover, the university endowment as of June 30 stands at $751.3 million—a significant total that puts us far ahead of the schools in the Mountain West Conference.

This year—like every year—the UW Foundation is trying to better connect with you, our donors. First, we introduced a new donor experience program, which provides one-to-one connections to UW for thousands of donors that resulted in many meaningful conversations. Second, we developed a comprehensive corporate development and engagement program to help connect our most generous corporate and industry partners with UW through research collaborations, philanthropic priorities, and career opportunities for students.

Our success is your success, and on behalf of the entire university community, thank you. You’ve made an important investment in the students, faculty, and programs of the University of Wyoming.

If you would like to see the impact of your support, visit our website at uwyo.edu/foundation. If you have questions or comments, contact us at (307) 766-6300 or email to foundation@uwyo.edu.

John Stark
President/CEO
We are intrepid explorers and innovative problem solvers, thoughtful partners and thorough planners, empathetic educators and dedicated thinkers. Together, we will make a difference.

It takes resources to make that difference, and thanks to you, the University of Wyoming has those resources. This year alone, private giving totaled $51.4 million. That’s more than 16,000 of you applying your philanthropic dollars to those areas you are most passionate about at the University of Wyoming. Not only that, but you’ve given consistently—our five-year average fundraising total is nearly $50 million.
The University of Wyoming’s donors in partnership with the UW Foundation have created an endowment worth $751.3 million—approaching a billion dollars! You. You helped make this happen. Working together, our impact is remarkable.

The University of Wyoming and our talented and dedicated students and faculty will thrive because of our combined efforts. Together, we are pioneering the future.

**TOGETHER, WE ARE MAKING A DIFFERENCE.**
There are many ways to impact the success of the University of Wyoming. Rest assured that your gift—no matter the size—will do just that. There are a variety of ways to give to UW:

- gifts of cash,
- establishing an endowment,
- charitable bequests and Legacy Match,
- gifts in honor or memory,
- real estate, stock, and other securities,
- retirement plans and life insurance,
- a charitable gift annuity or charitable remainder trust, and
- crypto gifts

You can also make a pledge, and some corporations or organizations match the charitable gifts of their employees, which can double the impact of your gift. Check with your human resources department.

**go ONLINE**
Give securely online at www.uwyo.edu/giveonline

**by PHONE**
Call toll free (888) 831-7795 or (307) 766-6300

**by MAIL**
UW Foundation
Marian H. Rochelle Gateway Center
222 South 22nd Street
Laramie, Wyoming 82070

**or VISIT**
uwyo.edu/foundation to learn more and connect with one of our development directors
We are grateful for your generosity. You have established unprecedented numbers of endowments and made us the envy of many other universities. Together, we are ensuring the future of our state and university.

INVESTMENTS

As we reflect on FY 2022, a few things stand out. First, a small number of investments made in both traditional and nontraditional investment strategies over the past three years have helped sustain the portfolio through the current drawdown. Second, the UW Foundation investment team wants to give credit to the UW Foundation Board—in particular the UW Foundation Investment Committee—for supporting us with their time, intellect, and cumulative experience. It was a collaborative effort in positioning the portfolio.

The return for FY 2022 was -2.4%. Three-year rolling investment returns remain strong, compounding at 11.6%. The UW Foundation’s historical long-run cost of capital, which we define as 7.0%, has grown higher with the recent change in treasury yields because of inflationary pressures. Last year, the UW Foundation investment team noted that the sheer amount of stimulus entering the economy would most certainly create volatility in return expectations—talk about an understatement. Nonetheless, we are pleased that, on a 10-year basis, our returns remain strong at 8.7% per annum. Maintaining this pace of return will require creative analysis combined with identifying opportunities in assets that are either overlooked or where others fear to tread.

Inflation—the result of excess monetary and fiscal stimulus—has proven to be more than transitory and certainly made its appearance known even before Russia invaded Ukraine. COVID-19 lockdowns led to global supply chain disruptions that have not healed. Supply chain problems are further compounded by a growing trade war between the U.S. and China over
advanced semiconductor technology. How much change can the global market handle? The
global wrecking ball called the U.S. dollar is crushing international investment strategies, and
energy has become weaponized. As a result, it doesn’t matter whether you are an emerging
economy or a developed one—currency headwinds are epic.

Real assets were the stars of the inflation-fueled rising-rate environment. This includes private
real estate and commodity-exposed industries. The foundation benefitted significantly from
direct real estate investments and private real estate funds, as well as other private energy
infrastructure investments and one systematic hedge fund. In addition, nontraditional exposure
to fixed income via a short-duration SPAC portfolio fell only 1.5%, which helped to avoid the
carnage in investment grade bonds of -10.3%. In aggregate, these investments help explain how
the foundation avoided some but not all of the market drawdown.

The UW Foundation investment team continues to have three investment goals for FY 2023—
reduce portfolio complexity, reduce fees, and increase long-term compounded returns. These
overarching goals remain the same as FY 2022.

INVESTMENT ALLOCATION

The UW Foundation investment team continually evaluates the investment allocation with
special attention to the investment objectives and cash-flow needs of the endowment. The
liquidity profile of the pool remains adequate to meet the needs of UW for multiple years, even
during turbulent markets. The UW Foundation investment team has updated the allocation
targets for FY 2023 to help address an ever-changing financial landscape as the result of
conversations between the board and our consultant, Meketa.
Note: The fiscal year totals above include disbursements for building projects as well as additional support.
NUMBER OF ENDOWMENTS

FY18: 1,487  
FY19: 1,533  
FY20: 1,589  
FY21: 1,646  
FY22: 1,690

ENDOWMENT VALUE  
IN MILLIONS

FY18: $514.3  
FY19: $535.5  
FY20: $585.9  
FY21: $794.7  
FY22: $751.3
FINANCIAL DASHBOARD

ENDOWMENT PAYOUT
IN MILLIONS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Payout</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>FY18</td>
<td>$18.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FY19</td>
<td>$19.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FY20</td>
<td>$20.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FY21</td>
<td>$20.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FY22</td>
<td>$21.5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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INVESTMENT ALLOCATION
FY22

- REAL ASSETS: 14.6%
- PRIVATE EQUITY: 33.7%
- FIXED INCOME: 23.7%
- EQUITY: 28.0%
Note: In FY22, the UW Foundation changed counting procedures according to CASE (Council for Advancement and Support of Education) standards that allow for the counting of Research Grants from Private Sources.
NEWLY ESTABLISHED ENDOWMENTS
JULY 1, 2021 – JUNE 30, 2022

Excellence in Academics

**Edith B. Allen and Michael F. Allen Excellence Fund in Biodiversity**
Established by Michael F. and Edith B. Allen to foster excellence and provide financial support to the University of Wyoming Biodiversity Institute

**Edith B. Allen and Michael F. Allen Fund for Research and Education in Botany**
Established by Michael F. and Edith B. Allen to foster excellence and provide financial support to the University of Wyoming Department of Botany

**Branney Artifact Collection Excellence Fund in Anthropology**
Established by John and Theresa Branney to foster excellence and provide financial support for the study and research of the Branney Artifact Collection at the University of Wyoming Department of Anthropology

**Dunham Family Athletics Excellence Fund**
Established by David L. and Kelly L. Dunham to support the men’s and women’s golf programs at the University of Wyoming

**John Haley College of Business Excellence Fund**
Established by John Haley to foster excellence and provide financial support to the University of Wyoming College of Business

**Joseph and Julia Henderson Excellence Fund in Civil and Architectural Engineering and Construction Management**
Established by Joseph and Julia Henderson to foster excellence and provide financial support for the Department of Civil and Architectural Engineering and Construction Management

**Dennis W. Lohse Management and Marketing Excellence Fund**
Established by Dennis W. Lohse to foster excellence and provide financial support to the University of Wyoming Department of Management and Marketing in the College of Business

**Paul Schwieger Memorial Student Enrichment Fund**
Established by Kent and Susan Westedt to provide support and enrichment to students enrolled in the University of Wyoming College of Engineering and Physical Sciences

**Tom A. Thorson Geology Field Camp Fund**
Established by the Harry T. Thorson Foundation, Don and Lois Thorson, and Mary Gullikson to support the Tom A. Thorson Geology Field Camp at the University of Wyoming

**Joe and Arlene Watt Foundation IMAGINE Fund**
Established by the Joe and Arlene Watt Foundation to foster excellence and provide financial support to the College of Agriculture, Life Sciences, and Natural Resources, emphasizing support for faculty, staff, and students whose research, teaching, coursework, and outreach concern invasive plants

**Timberline Hospitalities WORTH Excellence Fund**
Established by Timberline Hospitalities, LLC to support the Wyoming Outdoor Recreation, Tourism, and Hospitality (WORTH) program at the University of Wyoming

**Union Pacific Historical Society Endowment Fund**
Established by the Union Pacific Historical Society to foster excellence and provide financial support to the University of Wyoming American Heritage Center, targeted towards the collection, preservation, and sharing of the Union Pacific Historical Society archives

**Laurence Weinberg Excellence Fund in Sustainability**
Established by Laurence Weinberg to foster excellence and provide financial support to the Haub School of Environment and Natural Resources for the purpose of sustainability initiatives and operations at the University of Wyoming

Faculty Support

**Carrell Family College of Engineering and Physical Sciences Deanship**
Established by Lawrence Carrell to recruit and retain a dean for the University College of Engineering and Physical Sciences and to foster excellence and address critical needs and priorities of the college

**Carrell Family Energy and Petroleum Professorship in the College of Engineering and Physical Sciences**
Established by Lawrence Carrell to support a professorship focused in research and coursework in energy and petroleum

**Gene Humphrey Professorship in Engineering**
Established by Gene Humphrey to recruit and support a professorship in engineering with a preference for a faculty member whose research and teaching focus is in material science and/or energy

**International Wildlife Conservation Chair**
Established by an anonymous donor to recruit and retain faculty at the Haub School of Environment and Natural Resources who have expertise in international wildlife conservation

**Thirsty Acres Pharmacy Faculty and Staff Development Fund**
Established by Joan M. Anderson to support faculty travel, continuing educational opportunities, and seed grants for faculty research or other faculty or staff development opportunities in the School of Pharmacy
University of Wyoming 'Laramigo Award' for Community Engagement
Established by anonymous donors to recognize UW faculty and professional staff both in their work at UW and in service to a Laramie nonprofit organization

Dr. Gail D. Zimmerman Faculty Fellowship at UW-Casper
Established by Dr. Gail D. Zimmerman to recognize and promote the early- and mid-career research and service efforts of faculty at the University of Wyoming at Casper

Student Support

ASUW Noncitizen/International Student Support Fund
Established by the Associated Students of the University of Wyoming to make scholarship grants to students who do not qualify for certain federal financial aid because of their citizenship status

ASUW Student Priorities Fund
Established by the Associated Students of the University of Wyoming to support student priorities at the University of Wyoming that are deemed the most impactful or needed in order to enhance student success at the University of Wyoming

Janice Atkins-Neva Nontraditional Engineering Student Scholarship
Established by Janice Atkins-Neva to make scholarship grants to nontraditional students enrolled in the College of Engineering and Physical Sciences at the University of Wyoming

Diane Burns Memorial Nursing Scholarship
Established by Patrick Burns to make scholarship grants to Wyoming resident students enrolled in the University of Wyoming Fay W. Whitney School of Nursing

Brigadier General Patrick Burns Engineering Scholarship
Established by Patrick Burns to make scholarship grants to Wyoming resident students enrolled in the University of Wyoming College of Engineering and Physical Sciences

Cowboys in the Classroom
Established by Tiger and Laura Robison to make scholarship grants to students enrolled in a music education degree program in the Department of Music

Katherine G. Crowley Scholarship in Finance
Established by anonymous donors to make scholarship grants to nonresident (out-of-state) students with sophomore or higher standing enrolled in finance at the University of Wyoming

Earl E. Crum Memorial Athletics Scholarship
Established by Earl E. Crum to provide athletics scholarships to student-athletes enrolled at the University of Wyoming

Roberta Derr Engineering Scholarship
Established by Gene Humphrey to make scholarship grants to students who are Wyoming residents and who are sophomores, juniors, or nontraditional freshmen enrolled in the College of Engineering and Physical Sciences with a minimum GPA of 2.5 on a 4.0 scale with first preference for students who are members of the National Guard or veterans of the U.S. Armed Services pursuing an education following military service

Dunham Family Fellows in Education
Established by David L. and Kelly L. Dunham to support a cohort of future teacher-leaders during their final semester on campus as well as to support these Dunham Family Fellows during their student teaching residency in a Wyoming school
Dr. George C. Frison Memorial Fund
Established by Todd A. Surovell on behalf of the University of Wyoming Anthropology department to foster excellence and provide financial support to students majoring in anthropology, with a focus on supplementing the stipends of graduate students and graduate fellows

Hammit and Johnson Scholarship
Established by Britton Hammit and Alex Johnson to make scholarship grants to junior or senior students in the College of Engineering and Physical Sciences with a GPA of at least 2.5 with preference for students who focus their research or studies in the field of transportation

D. L. Hawkins Scholarship
Established by Dennis Hawkins to make scholarship grants to undergraduate students enrolled half-time or more at the University of Wyoming College of Engineering and Physical Sciences

Paul Heller Memorial Scholarship in Geology
Established by John J. and Susan J. Heberger to make scholarship grants to any students enrolled in the University of Wyoming Geology and Geophysics programs

Buddy Hirsig Memorial Rodeo Scholarship
Established by Kent and Susan Westedt to make scholarship grants to student-athletes on the Rodeo Team at the University of Wyoming

Phillip A. Hirst Memorial Scholarship in Civil Engineering
Established by William P. Hirst and Sandra S. Miller to make scholarship grants to undergraduates of sophomore or higher standing who are Wyoming residents or GED recipients and enrolled in a degree program within the Department of Civil and Architectural Engineering with a minimum GPA of 3.0

Edna M. Humphrey Engineering Scholarship
Established by Gene Humphrey to make scholarship grants to students who are Wyoming residents and who are sophomores, juniors, or nontraditional freshmen enrolled in the College of Engineering and Physical Sciences with first preference for students who are members of the National Guard or veterans of the U.S. Armed Services pursuing an education following military service

Brian G. Kembel Memorial Scholarship
Established by Harry L. and Shirley A. Kembel to make scholarship grants to graduates of Cheyenne Central High School enrolled at the University of Wyoming

Steven J. Kembel Scholarship for College of Business Students
Established by Harry L. and Shirley A. Kembel to make scholarship grants to students enrolled at the University of Wyoming College of Business

Conrad J. Kercher Animal Science Scholarship
Established by Dr. Conrad J. Kercher to make scholarship grants to students enrolled in the Department of Animal Science with a GPA of at least 2.5

Martin E. Knauss Energy Student Fund
Established by Martin E. Knauss to support students enrolled in energy degree programs through scholarships and educational or enrichment opportunities inside and outside the classroom

Making a Difference Scholarship Fund
Established by Jennifer Sales and Greg Lyon to make scholarship grants to nonresident (out-of-state) students with sophomore or higher standing who no longer qualify for federal aid and are enrolled in the College of Business
Harold and Jean Mott Fellowship in Conservation and Migration
Established by the B. Diane Mott Irrevocable Trust to endow a graduate fellowship at the University of Wyoming for researching Wyoming wildlife corridors

J. Wayne Needy Physics Scholarship
Established by J. Wayne Needy to make scholarship grants to students majoring in physics at the University of Wyoming

Nelson Engineering’s Boots Nelson Memorial Scholarship in Civil Engineering
Established by Nelson Engineering to create scholarships for students enrolled in the Department of Civil and Architectural Engineering and Construction Management with a minimum GPA of 3.0

Joel Ostby Student Success and Excellence Fund
Established by Joel Ostby and Diane Vornbrock to foster excellence and provide financial support to University of Wyoming students who are in academic distress, on academic probation, or struggling with substance abuse or addiction, with a preference for first-generation college students, nontraditional students, single parents, and minority students

RNB State Bank – Explore Carbon County
Established by RNB State Bank to support UW students enrolled in the College of Business who are completing internship opportunities in Carbon County

Alan Schroeder Memorial Scholarship in Agricultural Law
Established by the Alan Schroeder Trust to make scholarship grants to undergraduates majoring in the College of Agriculture, Life Sciences, and Natural Resources interested in pursuing agricultural law

Shane C. Siegfried Memorial Scholarship
Established by Shantel Siegfried to make scholarship grants to juniors or seniors enrolled in the College of Business at the University of Wyoming

Silva Family Scholarship
Established by Peter C. Silva to make scholarship grants to students enrolled at the University of Wyoming College of Law who previously graduated from UW

Margaret E. Smith Medical Laboratory Sciences Program Scholarship
Established by the Margaret E. Smith Revocable Trust to make scholarship grants to students enrolled in the Medical Laboratory Science Program pursuing their bachelor’s in medical laboratory science

Fred and Jeanie Staehr Scholarship
Established by Fred W. and Jean F. Staehr to make scholarship grants to students who are residents of Wyoming or Nebraska and enrolled at the University of Wyoming

George Stephens Nongame Species Graduate Student Fund
Established by George M. Stephens, III to support graduate students enrolled in the University of Wyoming Department of Zoology and Physiology with educational or enrichment opportunities inside and outside the classroom

Donald L. Stinson Memorial Excellence Fund
Established by Kathy Stinson Nichols to foster excellence and provide financial support for the University of Wyoming departments of Chemical and Petroleum Engineering with preference to junior or senior undergraduate students who are enrolled in Chemical or Petroleum Engineering at the University of Wyoming and are Wyoming residents

Esther and Hubert Terrell Memorial Scholarship
Established by Connie Terrell to make scholarship grants to students who participate with the Service, Leadership, and Community Engagement Office (SLCE) and have a minimum GPA of 3.0

Trihydro Scholarship for Engineering or Geology
Established by the Trihydro Corporation to make scholarship grants to students studying civil engineering or geology who are Wyoming residents with a GPA of over 3.25

Charlie and Lynn Van Over Athletics Excellence Fund
Established by Charlie and Lynn Van Over to foster excellence and provide financial support to the University of Wyoming Athletics department and the Cowboy Joe Club

Mary Ann P. and Mark H. Wilcox Scholarship in Education
Established by Mary Ann P. and Mark H. Wilcox to make scholarship grants to working teachers or education professionals enrolled as students at the University of Wyoming College of Education

Howard Willson Excellence in Primary Care Scholarship
Established by Belinda Willson to make grants to medical students enrolled in the WWAMI Medical Education program at the University of Wyoming

Dr. Lisa H. Yu Human Nutrition and Rodeo Scholarship
Established by Dr. Lisa H. Yu to make scholarship grants to students at the University of Wyoming with preference for students enrolled in human nutrition, students who are members of the men’s or women’s rodeo team, female nontraditional students, and students who are parents with minor children

Service to Wyoming

Keener and Lisa Fry Family UWAA Excellence Fund
Established by friends and donors of the UW Alumni Association to foster excellence and provide financial support to the University of Wyoming Alumni Association
ANNUAL GIVING

Annual Giving is the only fundraising program of the university that reaches all alumni, parents, faculty, staff, and friends each year to offer giving opportunities for direct support of UW’s colleges, departments, and programs. This creates a vital and dependable source of private support to help the University of Wyoming fulfill its mission to become one of the nation’s finest public land-grant research universities.

clancee REA
Director of Annual Giving and Donor Experience Program
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clancee.rea@uwyo.edu

GIFT PLANNING

The UW Foundation’s Gift Planning staff assists donors in integrating legacy gifts into their financial, tax, and estate planning objectives, maximizing benefits to both donors and the University of Wyoming. With smart planning, you can increase the impact of your gift and reduce the tax burden on your heirs, and/or you can receive an immediate tax deduction, life income, continued use of gift property, or elimination of capital gains tax—all while making a meaningful contribution to UW.

brett BEFUS
Associate Vice President for Development
(307) 766-4259
bbefus@uwyo.edu

MAJOR GIVING

UW Foundation Major Giving is comprised of directors of development working closely with individual donors and with the university to focus on the priorities of each. They help guide the significant and thoughtful commitments that have a major impact on the future of Wyoming’s university.

john SMALL
Senior Associate Vice President for Development
(307) 766-3934
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CORPORATE GIVING

Corporate Giving provides crucial support to all areas of campus. Some of the most significant impacts to UW have come from the remarkable support of corporations. Gifts campus-wide have built facilities, created new programs, and underwritten research that change the world as we know it.

angela VER PLOEG
Director of Corporate Engagement
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FOUNDATION GIVING

Foundations have made a lasting impact on Wyoming's students and the colleges, programs, and facilities that support them. Student by student, foundation-supported scholarships have built a wealth of human capital. Foundations give because it is part of their core mission—to make the world a better place.

katrina MCGEE
Senior Director of Foundation Development and Research Collaborations
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STEWARDSHIP

Built on trust and transparency, stewardship is the careful and responsible management of something entrusted to one's care, and at the university and UW Foundation, we are stewarding your private giving to the best of our ability. Donors can count on timely acknowledgment, accurate reporting, communication of impact, and appropriate recognition of their important contributions as members of the UW team. We do our level best to make sure you, our donors, get the information you need and feel appreciated for the important contributions you are making to the University of Wyoming.

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CORPORATE GIVING CONTRIBUTION TO TOTAL GIVING for FY22

5%

FOUNDATION GIVING CONTRIBUTION TO TOTAL GIVING for FY22

10%
ABOUT THE FOUNDATION

The UW Foundation, established in 1962, is appointed by the University of Wyoming Board of Trustees to raise, receive, and manage private gifts to maximize support for the University of Wyoming.

It is an independent nonprofit corporation governed by a board of directors consisting of up to 20 elected voting members, six non-voting ex officio members, and as many voting emeritus members and special appointments as may be elected by the board. Board members bring a wealth of experience from a broad spectrum of professional and personal backgrounds.

The UW Foundation has been a dynamic partner with the University of Wyoming for 60 years. Through the generosity of our many alumni and friends, the UW Foundation raises nearly $50 million a year in private support—money that goes to students and the faculty, staff, and programs that support them. This private support helps to make UW the best educational institution possible.
MISSION

To lift up the University of Wyoming with the power of philanthropy.

VALUES

Quality. Going above and beyond to deliver first-class experiences and interactions.

Integrity. Demonstrating trust, honesty, and responsibility.

Creativity. Making an impact in extraordinary ways.

Purpose. Elevating the university to new heights of excellence and achievement.
MANAGEMENT TEAM

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reggie SLATER
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greg DYEKMAN
Cheyenne, Wyoming

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ed SEIDEL
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Philanthropy is based on voluntary action for the common good. It is a tradition of giving and sharing that is primary to quality of life. To assure that philanthropy merits the respect and trust of the general public and that donors and prospective donors can have full confidence in the not-for-profit organizations and causes they are asked to support, we declare that all donors have these rights.

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A Donor Bill of Rights, Council for Advancement and Support of Education, 1994
Stories of Impact

As you build your own story, be inspired by these
As Larry Carrell recounts the tragic events in his life that have influenced his philanthropy, he lists them in succession, mechanically, with metronomic precision. These are moments of great trauma on the timeline of his life that he’s abbreviated so they can be shared. When he speaks, it doesn’t feel as if there is any other way he could talk about it—not for his sake, but for ours. The brief pauses in between these points on his timeline, where Larry has carried on with his life, are too great for most people to fully comprehend in real time. They are a testament of the phenomenal strength of a man who’s lived, who’s grieved, and who’s surmounted the unthinkable.
In January of 1989, Larry’s wife Kathi sustained severe injuries after being struck by a vehicle as a pedestrian. Since then, Larry has been her primary caregiver. Nine years later, the couple lost their daughter Rebecca to complications related to juvenile diabetes. At the time, the Carrells’ son Wesley made the decision to move closer to Larry and Kathi. Over the years, Larry and Wesley’s relationship strengthened through their shared interests and care of Kathi. Tragically, in 2019, Wesley passed away, just months after Larry had lost his brother Lloyd, both to cancer.

If you’re hearing Carrells’ story for the first time, you’re not ready. If you were hearing it for the one-hundredth time, you still would not be ready. In telling their story, we start with what is hard because it is the catalyst to what is good and right and blessed.

Remarkably, Larry and Kathi will celebrate their 60th wedding anniversary in January 2023.

“My wife and I have been very fortunate in life,” Larry says. “I believe that if you end up with more than you need, you should give back.”

Grief is a lens that can bend the sky into the ground. Larry is an example of how one pushes forward into an unpredictable future. There will be moments in which we experience an unreal amount of pain—for most people this is certain. In the wake of those events, we pause, reassess, and adjust into a new life that does not feel like our own. That adaptation, that accession to a life you were never ready for, is the birthright of grit.

Larry is a proud University of Wyoming alum. He earned his bachelor’s degree in petroleum engineering in 1965, then his master’s in 1968. He went on to work for Chevron, Conoco, and Luff Exploration Co., where he became vice president of operations. He participated as an individual investor in oil and gas ventures while with Luff starting in 1977. In 2003, Carrell formed his own oil and gas business corporation, Carrell Enterprises, Inc. for which he became the owner and president. Carrell Enterprises Inc. was based in Sheridan and has recently been moved to Lewistown, Montana. He semi-retired in 2004 but continues to manage his corporation.

Beyond his professional success, Larry has built a life defined by joy. Together, he and Wesley collected a stunning 30-plus automobile collection, with a vast selection of vehicles that fall under the Ford umbrella—including Mustang Twister Specials, a couple of Boss

“My wife and I have been very fortunate in life. I believe that if you end up with more than you need, you should give back.”

— Larry Carrell
429s, a Boss 302, two Boss 351s, a slew of Shelby fastbacks, and much more. After the passing of his son, Larry pared down his collection through auction, using the proceeds to further his philanthropic efforts.

Larry has made history by helping create the world’s most technologically advanced electric dragster, which broke the 200-mph barrier in a quarter mile in 2020. This world record has yet to be matched. Following this accomplishment, his partner and driver was diagnosed with cancer, which led to the formation of the Faster than Cancer Foundation, a nonprofit that inspires, educates, and supports those living with a cancer diagnosis. The dragster currently runs under the banner of the Faster Than Cancer Foundation.

After visiting his hometown of Winnett, Montana, for a school reunion, Larry donated a significant gift to help build a community center in Petroleum County. The center is a long-awaited dream for Winnett’s community as they didn’t have a place other than the school gymnasium to hold larger events such as weddings and funerals. His support has inspired others to contribute to the town’s prosperity.

Larry has supported community youth programs, reservation schools, debt-free education initiatives, and projects that support senior citizens.

In 2021, Larry established the University of Wyoming Carrell Family Deanship in College of Engineering and Physical Sciences—the second deanship in the history of the university.

“Mr. Carrell is a remarkably generous man,” says UW Provost and Executive Vice President Kevin Carman. “His career accomplishments are extraordinary, and he is now focusing on giving back to programs that are meaningful to him and his family. It is humbling and inspiring to know that his engineering education at UW was transformative and that he is providing this gift to assure the program thrives in perpetuity.”

The Carrell Family Deanship is the most recent gift from Larry, whose philanthropy has supported the College of Engineering and Physical Sciences and the Department of Chemical and Petroleum Engineering in the past.

“One of the great parts about estate planning is getting to see the impact while you are still here.” — Larry Carrell

There’s a great deal of beauty in this sentiment, not because the good is separate from his loss but because it exists in tandem with it.

“One of the great parts about estate planning is getting to see the impact while you’re still here,” Larry says. “It’s allowed me to enjoy seeing how giving back is helping others. It’s a hard subject for some people to talk about, but I’m glad I get to see how it’s making a difference during my lifetime.”
Carol and Ramon Tomé

Carol and Ramon Tomé, through the Tomé Foundation, have given generously to UW since 1995. In 2021, the Tomés supported UW’s Haub School of Environment and Natural Resources with a gift of $600,000 to create the Tomé Scholars to Fellows Program.

“We know that these scholars will make a difference in their field of study and that the university will empower them to do their best,” Ramon says. “Through our support and the university commitment, it is our intent to enable underrepresented students to achieve an education that will make a difference in the lives of others and their own.”

The Tomé Scholars to Fellows Program will be among UW’s premier scholarship opportunities for future leaders in the environment and natural resources sector. The scholarship supports women and/or minority students whose major area of educational focus is in science, technology, engineering, arts, and math (STEAM), including medicine and nursing.

Tomé Scholars receive a full-ride scholarship and funding for one or more unique experiences such as international field courses and community service. Following graduation, these exceptional students become Tomé Fellows, a community of Tomé Scholars.

The Tomés’ previous contributions include a $1 million gift for the Carol and Ramon Tomé Student Admissions Center, located within the Marian H. Rochelle Gateway Center. Additionally, they have contributed to the Mick and Susie McMurry High Altitude Performance Center and the UW Alumni Association. In 2019, Carol retired as chief financial officer of Home Depot. During the global pandemic in 2020, she came out of retirement to serve as the CEO of UPS.

“Wyoming and the University of Wyoming are close and dear to us,” Ramon says. “The University of Wyoming is our alma mater, and Carol is a native Wyomingite. We are proud to provide an opportunity to continue the support of a diverse student body, one that is inclusive of all people, as the university has done in the past and continues to foster now.”

Are you a committed volunteer? Do you serve on a foundation board? Would you like to support or get involved with the University of Wyoming? Contact the UW Foundation at (307) 766-6300 or foundation@uwyo.edu or the UW Alumni Association at (307) 766-4166 or uwalumni@uwyo.edu.
HARRY T. THORSON FOUNDATION

A Wyoming family supports a century-long UW tradition. A $1 million gift from the Harry T. Thorson Foundation and by the family in memory of Tom Thorson, president of the Wyoming company Black Hills Bentonite LLC, supports UW’s Summer Field Camp, which has been training geologists for almost a century. “Tom loved his experience going to the Summer Field Camp, and it fostered a lifelong love of the outdoors and for Wyoming,” says Tom’s sister, Mary Thorson Gullikson. The camp is a required six-credit-hour six-week summer class. This course is a comprehensive and nationally recognized experiential learning opportunity that provides a professional and broad introduction to geologic field techniques—the culmination of a student’s geological education.

JOHN P. ELLBOGEN FOUNDATION

Today, ethics are more important than ever. A $600,000 gift from the John P. Ellbogen Foundation supports the College of Business’s new Center for Principle-Based Leadership and Ethics. The center will support and connect leadership and ethics efforts on campus and throughout the state through the support of faculty and director positions. “Promoting and developing strong leadership and ethics have far-reaching impacts for not only University of Wyoming students but also the communities they serve,” says Ellbogen Foundation President Mary Ellbogen Garland. “It will set the stage for success in their future careers.” The amazing generosity of the Ellbogen Foundation has supported programs across all UW colleges.

JOE AND ARLENE WATT FOUNDATION

Invasive grasses threaten Wyoming rangelands. A $1 million gift, including state match, from the Joe and Arlene Watt Foundation supports IMAGINE, a UW program that provides collaborative applied and fundamental research and hands-on educational opportunities to combat invasive grass species and restore healthy Wyoming landscapes. IMAGINE, or the Institute for Managing Annual Grasses Invading Natural Ecosystems, is an initiative of the UW College of Agriculture, Life Sciences, and Natural Resources’s Sheridan Research and Extension Center. It’s timely—in 2020, Governor Mark Gordon’s Invasive Species Initiative delivered its final report with recommendations that IMAGINE will address. “Wyoming’s grasslands and wildlife are some of our most important resources,” says Richard Hammer, Watt Foundation.
BETWEEN WYOMING, THE WEST, AND THE WORLD

The Partnership of Polly Weber Smith and John Koprowski
Haub School Dean John Koprowski and famed wildlife photographer Joe Riis (UW class of 2008) met while working on conservation of endangered Gobi bears and the vast desert protected areas of western Mongolia.
Dean of the Haub School of Environment and Natural Resources John L. Koprowski points out that Mongolia has much in common with Wyoming.

“Mongolians have a deep connection to their land,” says John. “For generations, their livelihoods and values have been profoundly connected to their environment. Mongolia’s landscape includes vast sweeps of blue sky, high elevation, grasslands, steep mountain ranges, national parks, and even stunning desert land. Like Wyoming, energy and mining are their biggest industries, followed by tourism.”

The parallels in environment, cultural ideals, and growing industries have contributed to a partnership between the University of Wyoming and Mongolia. Global engagement opportunities like this have been made possible through an exceptional friendship and partnership between Dean John Koprowski and donor Polly Weber Smith.

“After 20 years on Wall Street, I wasn’t sure what my retirement would look like,” says Polly. “Meeting Dr. Koprowski in 2018 while he was at the University of Arizona quickly brought the future into focus.”

Polly’s support for the University of Wyoming is unique. She and John do not share similar professional degrees. She isn’t a UW alum, and in fact she’s never lived in Wyoming.

“Polly has a passion for community-based conservation and research that cultivates ideas that lead to good policy decisions,” says John. “We’ve come together because we share the same sense of connection to our wild and working lands. She’s been a strong partner in helping maximize our impact.”

When John relocated to the University of Wyoming, Polly continued to support his efforts because she believes in his work. Her generosity to the Haub School has supported students and programs through several funds: the Koprowski Excellence Fund, the Koprowski Research Fellowship Fund, the Koprowski Mongolia Research Fellowship Fund, and the Graduate Research Scholarship in Sustainable Landscapes and Livelihoods.

Recently, Polly gave a gift that established the International Wildlife Conservation Chair in honor of John. Following his retirement, the chair will be renamed to the koprowski International Wildlife Conservation Chair and will provide the opportunity for the Haub School and UW to have impact in perpetuity by competing to recruit, retain, and support the very best.

“Gifting funds to John’s vibrant and well-managed endangered species programs, both international and national, began slowly,” says Polly. “John’s skills as a manager of his numerous international research projects and mentorship to his numerous researchers were impressive. More impressive were the quick successes of his programs and his people.”

John’s work has earned him considerable international recognition. He teaches courses in Ecuador, Mongolia, China, and Italy. His research focuses on ecology, conservation, and management of biodiversity with a community-based approach. His work has created partnerships in South America, Europe, Asia, and South Africa.

In Nepal, John helped to conserve freshwater dolphins through research that connected scientists with local fishermen along the Ganges River. His group’s research works to protect Andean bears in the highest mountains of Colombia by working with ranchers and farmers to find strategies that permit economic
opportunity and promote conservation. John has been instrumental in the university’s relationship with Uzbekistan, establishing new partnerships and creating exciting opportunities.

The Haub School attracted John because of the unit’s fundamental belief that the great challenges in our natural world require collaborative efforts that bring people together from all perspectives to find sustainable solutions for our wild and working lands.

In his teaching, John empowers and emboldens his students through interdisciplinary and experiential learning. He has written more than 200 peer-reviewed scientific articles and books and has worked with over 50 graduate students to provide data-informed solutions to conservation challenges.

Through his teaching, expertise, and research, John has earned significant respect in international wildlife conservation. He is a fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, the Wildlife Society, and the Linnean Society of London. Recently, his lifetime of work was recognized through the Aldo Leopold Memorial Award—the highest honor bestowed by The Wildlife Society.

“Deciding to make such gifts in one’s lifetime is a big decision,” says Polly. “It is a decision I have never regretted. It’s an honor to be a partner and see how John’s work is benefiting not only the imperiled animals here in the United States but those around the world.” The International Wildlife Conservation Chair is a gift that will have an impact far beyond Wyoming. Sustainable solutions in biodiversity are achieved through the work of a community. Polly’s passion for conservation along with her trust in John’s efforts are laying the groundwork for students and faculty who are wanting to make a difference without borders. Their partnership has built the momentum, which has fostered significant impact within the University of Wyoming and beyond.

“This chair is creating even greater opportunity for students, faculty, and the university to connect and share our expertise with the world,” says John. “We do such great things here in the state and through the university. Our approaches, successes, and expertise really can have a much greater impact on Wyoming, the West, and the world. Great opportunity exists to export our knowledge in ways where we are not losing that knowledge but are instead being recognized as a leader and attracting and retaining the world’s best. That is what this gift enables us to do for generations of Cowboys who train to have impact during their time at UW.”

If you are interested in joining the efforts of John Koprowski and the Haub School of Environment and Natural Resources, please contact John Paradis at (307) 766-3809 or email jp12@uwyo.edu.

“Deciding to make such gifts in one’s lifetime is a big decision. It is a decision I have never regretted.”

—Polly Weber Smith
Some say it started in 1881 when Salt Lake City became the fifth city in the world to have central station electricity. Some say it started when Rocky Mountain Power (formerly Utah Power & Light) was officially founded in 1912.

Rocky Mountain Power has been giving back to its communities and supporting our energy future for over a century. And, for fifty years, it has supported the University of Wyoming. In total, it has given over $1 million to UW programs, supporting hundreds of students and faculty from all areas of UW.

Its philanthropic arm, the Rocky Mountain Power Foundation, was created in 1988 by parent company PacifiCorp. The foundation’s mission, through charitable investments, is to support the growth and vitality of the communities served by Rocky Mountain Power and Pacific Power.

Every year, Rocky Mountain Power, through the Rocky Mountain Power Foundation, gives to UW and chooses the areas that they are most passionate about, ranging from the Jody K. Humphrey Inspirational Staff Award to the Malcolm Wallop Civic Engagement Program, from the Haub School and Ruckelshaus Institute to the College of Engineering and Physical Sciences K–14 STEM Education Programs.

By supporting these initiatives, Rocky Mountain Power is making a difference in the lives of UW students and faculty, as well as making a positive impact on current and future generations of Wyoming.

“The Rocky Mountain Power Foundation aims to support impactful organizations—like the University of Wyoming—that perform critical work in our region,” says Abbie Rice, Rocky Mountain Power Foundation manager. “These groups work tirelessly to strengthen our communities, and the foundation is proud to serve as a dedicated partner in their efforts.”

Would your company like to partner with the University of Wyoming? Contact us at the UW Foundation, and we can connect you with the right people on campus. Also, you may be able to support UW through company matching. Use this tool at uwyo.edu/match to check if your company matches your gifts.
Hydrogen is important to our energy future. Tulsa-based energy infrastructure leader Williams supported the School of Energy Resources Hydrogen Energy Research Center (H2ERC) with a $500,000 commitment over five years. This new center is dedicated to applied hydrogen research, collaboration with Wyoming stakeholders, and the growth of a hydrogen industry in the state. In 2021, Williams was a Wyoming Energy Authority grant recipient as part of the Wyoming Hydrogen Pilot Project, conducting a feasibility study to evaluate water access, compatibility, and asset integrity in support of green hydrogen production. The study is being conducted in partnership with SER.

Since 2000, Western EcoSystems Technology, Inc.—WEST—has partnered with UW to support programs in environmental statistical analysis and data science applications. These include the WEST Research Awards for Quantitative Analysis in Wildlife and Fisheries Ecology in the College of Arts and Sciences, which goes to zoology and physiology, mathematics, and statistics grad students with statistics projects. In addition, WEST support helped UW win one of five National Science Foundation grants, which came on the heels of another five-year $20 million National Science Foundation grant—at the time, the largest research grant in UW history. This previous grant stimulated wide-ranging research into Wyoming’s water resources and advanced UW’s ability to perform data science for large teams.

The world needs more nurses, and a gift of $250,000 from the Cheyenne Regional Health System helps do just that. It creates a nursing faculty position in the Fay W. Whitney School of Nursing. Responsibilities include teaching, student advising, research, creative activities, service to the university and community, and administrative responsibilities. “Nursing requires extensive and lifelong education to stay on top of all the advances in health care,” says Cheyenne Regional Chief Nursing Officer Tracy Garcia. “This partnership will help ensure that nurses in our health system and region have an opportunity to continue to learn, a vital part of providing high-quality nursing care.”
THE RITCHIES GIVE BACK TO THE COMMUNITIES THEY LOVE

VERY MUCH A

Relationship Business
When you meet Cody Ritchie for the first time—even if it’s your job to interview him—he begins the conversation by asking about you and finding connections you never knew you had. By the end of the conversation, you feel like you just reconnected with a high school buddy.

That’s because he loves people. He’s a self-professed glass-half-full kind of guy: “If I meet someone who’s glass half empty, I try to bring them over to our side.”

And it is our side. Wyoming is a small town, as they say. Cody’s friends who are not from Wyoming or haven’t attended UW feel it. “You have something we never had,” they tell Cody. “People are so friendly. People are so warm.”

Cody is the founder, CEO, and managing partner of Crest Insurance Group, a full-service insurance brokerage licensed in all 50 states, and he’s excited to bring his business back to his home state. After expanding into Colorado from Arizona, now Crest Insurance is moving back into Wyoming.

“It’s not monetary rewards that get me fired up,” Cody says. “It’s seeing others around you doing well—because if they’re doing well, you’re doing well. Helping others is the Cowboy Way.”

Cody grew his business on Wyoming values: “Good work ethic, keeping your word, doing the right thing, treating people fairly, not thinking you’re above everybody else. The Code of the West—those are the pillars I use to run our business.”

Crest Insurance Group employs more than 250 people in Arizona, California, and Colorado—and now Wyoming—and specializes in commercial property, casualty, and workers compensation insurance, bonds, employee benefits, personal auto insurance, umbrella and homeowners insurance, and individual life and health insurance.

“That’s what we know how to do—we get involved in communities,” Cody says. “Ours is very much a relationship business.”

Cody has stayed involved with his alma mater. He and his wife Patsy recently gave the lead gift supporting the West Side Renovations to War Memorial Stadium. The project is still being finalized but will include
improvements and upgrades to restrooms, concessions, seating, ADA compliance, and the press area. The project is being supported by private gifts and funding from the Wyoming State Legislature and UW. This is just the latest in a long line of gifts from the Ritchies. Cody has been supporting UW since he left for Arizona in 1987. “I’m a pay-it-forward kind of person,” Cody says. “I live for the next day.”

Cody is very proud of the great friends he made at UW. He’s just as proud of the ones who went on to become CEOs of major corporations as he is of the ones who are schoolteachers and coaches in Cheyenne who impact so many lives.

“The only way our university and state is successful is if we’re all pulling together.”

— CODY RITCHIE

As a UW student, Cody was a walk-on for Cowboy football under Coach Al Kinkade, as well as playing rugby. He earned his bachelor’s in business administration and then went on to earn a master’s in exercise sport science and athletic administration at the University of Arizona.

Cody says, “I love an underdog story. I felt like in my business—we were underdogs. I feel like Wyoming, in a certain way, we’re underdogs when we go take on the mega-universities. But all of us who choose to go there—we embrace it, love it. Together, we need everybody pulling in the same direction.”

“That old adage—a rising tide lifts all boats,” Cody says. “All of a sudden, we have an avalanche of people out there, supporters of Wyoming, from getting students there to getting donors there to getting people to know about our school.”

Wyoming, too, is a relationship business. Cody says, “The only way our university and state is successful is if we’re all pulling together. We’re all better together.”
The seventh annual UW Giving Day was a record-breaking event. Spearheaded by UW Foundation Annual Giving, it was held during Homecoming this year. UW Giving Day 2021 raised a total of $2,421,333 from 3,629 donors across the U.S. and the world in 108 campaigns that benefit programs across campus. This breaks the record set in 2019 of over $1.6 million from 1,110 donors.

All eight UW colleges and many other programs across campus were supported. All UW programs had the opportunity to set up campaigns to raise money where it’s needed most. For every gift in support of a college, another could go to a small initiative or program run by students not targeted by traditional fundraising.

Over $500,000 was available in matching and challenge funds, which allowed donors to increase the impact of their giving. Matches are funds that allow donors to double the impact of their gifts. Challenges are similar but are generally based on the number of donors or amount raised. Once a threshold is reached, the fund is unlocked.

UW is the first public university to accept cryptocurrency on Giving Day, and UW Giving Day 2021 was no exception—we can accept gifts in 54 types of cryptocurrency and tokens. UW raised $15,927 in 20 crypto gifts.

Each year, UW Giving Day takes place online at www.uwyo.edu/givingday and across campus. The 2021 annual celebration of giving was held Oct. 20–21, noon to noon, with the theme of #givegold.

“We can’t express enough how much we appreciate all who made a gift on UW Giving Day,” says Jack Tennant, the former director of Annual Giving and now executive director of the UW Alumni Association.

Annual giving supports the area or areas at UW that you love. To make a gift to Wyoming’s university, visit uwyo.edu/giveonline.
CHARLOTTE BROWNING

Charlotte Browning has given annual gifts since 1989 to support the UW Choral Foundation. When Charlotte was a senior in high school, she won a contest and was selected to go with UW Chorale on a European collegiate tour. Her incredible memories of that trip sparked her interest in becoming a music teacher herself, and so she came to UW. After graduating in 1976, she became a music teacher and eventually the principal of Scottsbluff Elementary, until her recent retirement. Because of her time with UW Chorale and her closeness with the Choral Foundation, she says, “That’s who gets my money!” Charlotte will continue to support the Choral Foundation in the coming years and loves to share memories of her time in Laramie.

LINDMIER FAMILY

Wyoming history is a passion shared by many. Tom Lindmier and his brothers Bob and Jeff believe in the importance of Wyoming history, an appreciation instilled by their father William C. Lindmier, Jr., or Bill. During Wyoming’s settlement, Bill’s family were homesteaders, plumbers, legislators, and other positions in public service. Through their mother Irene (Manning), they were ranchers, freighters, and veterans of World War I. Bill served as well—in the Navy during World War II—and afterwards he worked as a fireman for the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad (Burlington Northern). He joined his father W. C. Lindmier in Douglas Plumbing and Heating and then established his own plumbing business. Throughout his life, Bill collected a legacy in the history of railroads, the Boy Scouts, the Navy, and homesteading, including photographs, train tickets, stories, and more. This material will be preserved in perpetuity at the American Heritage Center. UW is so thankful for the Lindmiers’ thoughtful contribution to the AHC’s outstanding collections.

PETER KLINE

UW alum Peter Kline is a senior vice president, wealth management advisor, and portfolio manager of Merrill Lynch Wealth Management, and he credits his UW education for an amazing career. Peter also founded Marathons with Meaning, a program dedicated to making running more accessible for people with disabilities. About success, Peter will tell you that there’s no secret sauce, no easy trick—just keep moving. He encourages us all to love unconditionally and give of our time, our hearts, and our energies—the best parts of ourselves—to help others. In the end, it’s those experiences that will truly measure life’s successful moments. Peter has kept in touch with UW through his support of the College of Business to pay forward the education he received so many years ago.
This would be the last conversation Dave Dunham would have with his father, Lee.

Lee had two questions for his son. First, how big would his funeral be?

Wearing a blue isolation medical gown, mask, and a face shield, Dave faced his father. At the height of the global pandemic, it was not likely that they could hold services. With sensible disappointment and a kind of smile, Lee responded, “I knew you were going to say that.”

The second question, had he given any thought to how he’d spend the money he would leave him?

The answer to this should be easy—a vacation home in Palm Springs.

Dave and his wife Kelly are avid golfers, aspiring snowbirds. They could buy real estate, spend the winter months in southern California, and retire into sunlight and Bermuda grass. Yes, this answer was easy, but it didn’t seem right. It didn’t feel like the Dunham thing to do.

“Dad, we have and we’re going to do something with the University of Wyoming. We’re going to do something in education.”

With a modest chuckle, Lee smiled fully, saying “Well, I would love that.”
Dave felt the finality in the last conversation he had with his father. In the record of Dunham history, Lee is the last word of its final sentence. Dave is the period at the end of it all. As an only child, without children of his own, Dave is the last to hold the Dunham name.

It was more than a last conversation between father and son, it was much bigger than that. It was every Dunham conversation that had come before, every heirloom of advice passed down, the full weight of it now rested on Dave. In the long stretch of Dunham history, how would they be defined, how would they be remembered?

This existential anxiety is relieved by the fact that the Dunhams were and continue to be goodhearted people who take care of their community. Marvin “Lee” Dunham devoted his entire life to his passion for education. His career spanned nearly five decades, beginning with Platte County School District No. 1 in the fall of 1957. He earned his master’s degree in education administration from the University of Wyoming while teaching full-time. He taught English at Wheatland Junior High School for nine years before becoming principal. Lee then became Wheatland Junior High School’s principal for 23 years and served on the school board for 12 years.

During his accomplished career, Lee worked tirelessly to bring out the best in thousands of students. He took great joy in maintaining relationships with those he taught and those he led.

“The entire lifeblood of a small community is the school system,” says Dave. “The school provides a means of community spirit. I have such vivid and positive memories as a young boy, tagging along with my father to every school activity imaginable. For both Kelly and I, education had such a big impact. Our students in some ways feel like our own children, and we wanted to find a way to help them while honoring Dad.”

Both Dave and Kelly are also educators. Dave discovered his love of teaching later in life. After earning an accounting degree through UW, he relocated to Denver to work for one of the most prestigious accounting firms in the world.

“My dad had instilled in me a true joy of learning,” says Dave. “As I progressed in my finance career, I soon found out that success in this world was not defined internally but externally with competition for titles and money. I was good at what I did, but I wasn’t learning.”

When Dave met and fell in love with Kelly, he realized that although they were
the same age, their lives were in different places. Kelly’s career as an educator was both enriching and inspirational. Despite his corporate success, Dave felt stuck. In his mid-40s, he realized he wasn’t living up to the Dunham name by living a life unfulfilled.

“I had led a life far different than I was raised,” says Dave. “I had strayed from what had made me who I was. The two most influential individuals in my life, my wife and father, were both career educators. As a result, I had a tremendous amount of respect for those in education.”

Kelly encouraged and supported Dave as he left finance and went back to school to obtain his teaching license. It was the best career decision he could have made. The significant impact of the Dunham family is helping to support and inspire future leaders in education.

Dave and Kelly have established the Dunham Family Fellows in memory of Lee. The program provides significant awards that support deserving students who are embarking on their student teaching residencies and are in need of financial assistance. The Dunham Family Fellows is advancing the next generation of educators by addressing student teaching adversity, such as housing challenges.

The mission of the Dunham Family Fellows is to support all education majors on their journey to becoming a teacher, in every way possible.

A passionate user and follower of other people’s quotes, Dave cites political scientist Kalu Ndukew Kalu for his words, “The things you do for yourself are gone when you are gone, but the things you do for others remain as your legacy.”

“I was 62 at the time of our last conversation,” says Dave. “In my entire 62 years, that was the most meaningful moment I had with my father. We talked about how proud we were of each other, and I made him the promise of giving back to UW. It’s the most important and rewarding thing we’ve ever done.”
Like many legacies, this one begins with the love story—a story of two teachers who changed the lives of so many.

Archie Jurich was a business teacher at Jackson-Wilson High School, as well as the basketball and football coach. Lois Kemper was hired to teach girls physical education and to coach cheerleading. They were both handsome, smart, athletic, fun, and talented. They fell in love, and in 1960 they married. As Archie’s obituary said, “It was truly a match made in heaven and they were an amazing couple who influenced and guided many of Jackson’s young people during their years in education.”

Archie had grown up in Rock Springs and earned his bachelor’s and master’s in education. During this time, Archie also served his country through his work in Army interpretation and counterintelligence during World War II. Lois attended college in Missouri and taught in Iowa.

Archie and Lois taught a combined 60 years in Jackson and then opted for early retirement in 1982. They then began spending the winter months in Lake Havasu City, Arizona, playing golf, boating, lake and fly fishing, camping, and grouse hunting—most of all, just being together. Tragedy struck, though, when Lois died of cancer in 2008. Lois’s death left a huge void in Archie’s life, as the years with his beloved Lois had been the happiest he had ever had. Archie passed away in 2018.

The Jurichs’ legacy is immense. They leave behind generations of students they taught and coached, as well as fellow athletes and friends. They also left their legacy at the University of Wyoming. With their estate, the Jurichs supported the Archie J. and Lois Kemper Jurich Memorial Scholarship Fund, which had been established in 2013. This scholarship supports UW students from Rock Springs who have financial need. During their lifetime, the Jurichs also supported the Literacy Research Center and Clinic and the UW Alumni Association, among other things.

What’s your Wyoming legacy? You can include support for UW students in perpetuity in your estate while also making an impact today through a Legacy Match. Go to uwyo.edu/giftplanning to learn more.
BILLIE JON HACKER KING

In the 1990s, Billie Jon Hacker met the love of her life Kyle King when he approached her about his 401(k) distribution. They both worked for the Salt River Project, an Arizona utility company. Billie Jon was in HR. They had both been married before and weren’t looking for relationships. However, after taking it slow they were married in 1999. Together, they established a scholarship for women students at UW, which arose because Billie Jon is a UW alum and from Kyle’s experience seeing, when he managed a call center, the challenges women face. In establishing this fund, Billie Jon and Kyle were charter members of the UW Legacy Society. Kyle passed away in 2021, and UW is forever grateful to him and Billie Jon for their kind generosity.

VINCE SIREN

UW accounting and MBA alum Vince Siren has been a quiet but extraordinary supporter of the University of Wyoming. He gives to honor the people who have made a difference in his and other people’s lives. This includes his parents Sylvester and Edna Siren and his beloved sister Anne Siren Levig, all UW grads, as well as several UW professors. As an accountant, he uses various tools to make the broadest and deepest impact he can. Starting in 1967, he gave unrestricted gifts to UW through the UW Foundation that could go where they were most needed. He’s also supported several programs, everything from the Alumni Association to Cowboy Joe. In 2001, he established the Sylvester and Edna Siren Memorial Athletic Scholarship. In addition to cash donations and a bequest, he uses vehicles as charitable gift annuities and IRA charitable contributions (QCDs) to support several scholarships named for those who have impacted his life. He continues to support his family’s fund, the Siren Memorial Scholarship in history and foreign languages in honor of his parents, and he established the Vince Siren Energy Accounting Scholarship for students in the College of Business. Vince’s overwhelming support deserves our deepest gratitude.

KEENER AND LISA FRY

Keener Fry’s energy is contagious. His smile is a mile wide, and he draws you in with his kindness and enthusiasm. He just retired from his position as executive director of the UW Alumni Association, and we at the UW Foundation are honored to have him join us as contract director of development. Prior to the Alumni Association, he served in UW Athletics as senior associate athletics director and for Cowboy Joe as associate director of annual giving. Before that, he worked for the accounting firm Arthur Anderson and Marshall University. He graduated from Virginia Tech in 1981 with honors, earning his bachelor’s in accounting and then a master’s in sports management. Through it all, his rock has been his wife Lisa and their two sons, Joseph and Cameron. Keener’s dedication extends far beyond his work—he and his wife Lisa are including UW in their estates through the Keener and Lisa Fry Family University of Wyoming Alumni Association Excellence Fund, which fosters excellence and provides financial support to the Alumni Association.
IT'S ALL ABOUT THE KIDS
Charlie and Lynn Van Over Support UW Student-Athletes Through Their Estate
Charlie and Lynn Van Over of Rock Springs love the Pokes. They’ve not voluntarily missed a game for years. Last year, they only missed one when they were turned back at Sinclair for the men’s CSU basketball game because the roads were closed due to a blizzard. “They wouldn’t even let us go to Saratoga and around,” Charlie says, “so we had to go home.”

Because of their love of UW Athletics, the Van Overs have included UW Athletics and the Cowboy Joe Club in their estate plans. “To be used for the students,” Charlie says with a twinkle in his eye. They also received Legacy Match from the UW Foundation, which goes immediately to an area of their choice—they chose to support the Western Thunder Marching Band.

Charlie and Lynn particularly love UW basketball, both men’s and women’s. They started out sitting in the nosebleed seats, but very soon they invested in season tickets, and before you know it, Charlie was invited to join the board of the Cowboy Joe Club. He’s been on it ever since and just stepped down from the role of club president.

Celebrating a passion for UW Athletics and the people who make it special.
The Van Overs got involved with UW Athletics when forward Bill Garnet and guard Charles Bradley played at UW in the late ’70s and early ’80s. Their devotion deepened during the years of forward Fennis Dembo and center Eric Leckner in the mid- to late ’80s. Their passion only increased through the years of Coach Joe Legerski and Coach Gerald Mattinson. “I watched them play high school basketball in Rock Springs,” Charlie chuckles.

“I loved Larry Shyatt,” Charlie adds. “He was a true gentleman.” Charlie and Lynn got to know Coach Shyatt, his wife Pam, and their son Jeremy, who served as assistant coach. “During his tenure, we had great kids, fabulous kids.”

One of the things Charlie loved about Coach Shyatt and Coach Allen Edwards was that the student-athletes were a real team, on and off the court. “They’re together,” Charlie says. “They hang together.”

Indeed, what Charlie and Lynn love about attending games and actively supporting UW is their interactions with the student-athletes. “We really get a chance to meet the kids,” Lynn says.

For example, Charlie drove all the way from Rock Springs to watch a basketball practice last week. “Just for practice,” Lynn says with a smile.

“They gave me a seat right on the court,” Charlie says. “A lot of the kids I know because I’ve been here, but a lot of the kids I don’t know, I’ve never met. Every kid came over and shook my hand.” Emotion catches in his voice. “That’s kind of neat.”

“Coach (Jeff) Linder is teaching them not only to be players but to be gentlemen,” Lynn says.

“And to be scholars,” Charlie adds. “I’m so proud of them in the classroom.”

Charlie and Lynn both grew up in Colorado and met at college in Trinidad, where Lynn was studying music and Charlie was studying drafting. They have a son who is married with two kids.

Charlie has been an athlete throughout his life. He played football and basketball and wrestled. For 42 years, Charlie was an architect, first for Kellogg and Kellogg and eventually for his own company, Plan One/Architects. His firm has designed many of the state’s educational, correctional, historic, and financial institutions. Since he was a kid, he has crafted elaborate scale models of houses and other structures.

Lynn has worked in a number of positions, including at an elementary school library, for an eye doctor, and for an accountant. “All people-related—I love people,” Lynn says. “Service is a motivating factor.” In addition to her passion for music, Lynn makes beautiful handmade greeting cards.

Charlie and Lynn are happy that they can support the thing they both love—UW student-athletes.

“My hope is that we build athletes who are wonderful human beings,” Lynn says.

“Being on Cowboy Joe, I understand the struggles financially of the Athletics department,” Charlie says. “I hope that this will help fill some gaps in providing scholarships in academics, so that we continue to be successful on the field, court, pool, but we’re still extremely successful academically.”

“My hope is that we build athletes who are wonderful human beings,” Lynn says.