2022-23
YEAR IN REVIEW

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Major Gifts to Support Research
Student Awards
Inter-Tribal Tourism Summit
OUR MISSION

The Haub School of Environment and Natural Resources advances the understanding and resolution of complex natural resource challenges through interdisciplinary education, creation and dissemination of new thought and information, and support of collaborative decision-making.

CONTACT US

University of Wyoming
Bim Kendall House
804 E Fremont St
Laramie, WY 82072
(307) 766-5080

haub.school@uwyo.edu
rückelshaus@uwyo.edu
uwyo.edu/haub
uwyo.edu/rückelshaus

Facebook
Haub School of ENR

@Instagram
@haub.school

Twitter
@UW_Ruckelshaus

LETTER FROM THE DEAN

Dear Friends,

I am so very grateful for your interest in and support of the University of Wyoming’s Haub School of Environment and Natural Resources. As I approach the end of my third year as Dean, I continue to be amazed by the passion, commitment, and impact of our faculty, staff, and students, which is made possible by friends and alumni like you.

I am especially pleased to note that the Haub School will celebrate its 30th anniversary this fall, marking three decades of interdisciplinary approaches to the greatest challenges and opportunities that face our wild and working lands. Across those decades, we remain the only unit on campus with ’environment’ in its name and degree options. In recent years, we have graduated some of the largest classes of students ever and are working creatively to recruit the next cohorts of Haubies. Our research and private giving dollars have also set historic highs. In particular, I’d like to highlight the exciting Liliane and Christian Haub Endowed Term Professorship and a record Giving Day that exceeded one hundred donors. The pages that follow provide details on these accomplishments and more. Our future is bright!

To guide this future, we embarked on a new strategic plan in fall 2022 and have made considerable progress. Looking back at our previous 2018-22 strategic plan gave us a chance to celebrate the incredible success we had achieving our goals to grow our faculty, staff, student enrollments, and impacts. It was even called “the most successful strategic plan I’ve ever seen.” Now, this forward-thinking and critically-important unit is crafting a vision for the future, through an energizing and fantastic team effort!

Thank you for all that you do on behalf of the students, staff, and faculty of the Haub School; your efforts enable us to continue to be creative and grow our impact. Have a wonderful summer and remember, once a Haubie, always a Haubie!

Be well,

John Koprowski, Dean
Haub School of Environment and Natural Resources
Liliane and Christian Haub Professorship

A generous gift from Liliane and Christian Haub will establish a rotating, endowed, professorship to help attract and retain exceptional, early-career faculty to the Haub School. Dean Koprowski says “The continued support of Liliane and Christian Haub—and their generosity in providing a gift that guarantees resources to empower our faculty in perpetuity—exemplify the importance of committed partners and friends to achieve sustainable solutions to environmental challenges.” The professorship will help early-career faculty maximize the impact of their research, teaching and outreach, while helping them progress toward tenure and promotion.

Our Film Festival Grows

Around 200 people attended our second annual Wild and Working Lands Film Festival this April in Laramie, Wyoming, and another 50 showed up for a screening hosted by the East Yellowstone Collaborative in Cody, Wyoming. Films shared stories on wildlife-friendly fencing, black-footed ferret recovery, solutions to raptor electrocutions, adventurous spirits, and more. The film “Father + Nature” told the story of Haub School emeritus board member John F. Turner’s conservation legacy through the voices of several generations of his family on the Triangle X Ranch, with an appeal to support scholarships for students from ranching and fishing backgrounds who wish to pursue careers in conservation.

Dean Koprowski to lead Mongolian Community Tour

In the next step of a growing partnership between the wild and working lands of both Wyoming and Mongolia, Haub School Dean John Koprowski will lead an eleven-day community tour in late May to early June of 2024. From the capital city of Ulaanbaatar to the endless grasslands of the steppe and the rolling sands of the Gobi Desert, steep yourself in the rich history, culture, and biodiversity of the region alongside a dozen other friends and supporters of the Haub School. Email jkoprows@uwyo.edu to be added to the mailing list for emerging details.

NEW HIRES

Ellen Aikens, Assistant Professor, School of Computing and Haub School

Callie Berman, Postdoctoral Research Associate, WyACT

Melissa Bukovsky, Associate Professor and Derecho Professor, Regional Integrated Earth System Modeler

Anderson De Figueiredo, Postdoctoral Research Associate, WyACT

Jordan Kobliska, Internship and Employment Coordinator

Bryan Leonard, SER Associate Professor of Environment and Natural Resources (starting fall 2024)

Jewell Lund, Co-Production Coordinator, WyACT

Rebecca Witinok-Huber, Associate Research Scientist, WyACT

HIGHLIGHTS

Ellen Aikens

Callie Berman

Melissa Bukovsky

Anderson De Figueiredo

Jordan Kobliska

Bryan Leonard

Jewell Lund

Rebecca Witinok-Huber

To learn more about our team, please visit uwyo.edu/haub/about-us/people

Poster design by Graham Marema
ACADEMIC PROGRAMS

First Graduates in Environment, Natural Resources & Society

In an exciting milestone, the master of science in environment, natural resources & society program graduated its first cohort of students this spring. The three graduates tackled a range of complex issues with their theses while gaining applied experience working with the Ruckelshaus Institute, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and the Collaborative Solutions program. Hurray for our graduates!


Taylor Kruger. Thesis: “Conversations about Climate Change: Perspectives from Wyoming Ranchers”


Student Awards and Scholarships

2022-2026 Tomé Scholars
Paula Medina | Powell, WY: BS Civil Engineering and ENR, Honors Program
Megan Yarborough | Mountain Home, AR: BS Environmental Systems Science and Rangeland Ecology & Watershed Management, Honors Program

2023 Haub School Outstanding Undergraduate Award
Kami Grimm | Cheyenne, WY: BS Environmental Systems Science and ENR, minors in Sustainability and Horticulture
Ruby Jenco | St Joseph, MO: BS Environment & Natural Resources and Wildlife & Fisheries Biology & Management, minors in French and Outdoor Leadership, Honors Program
Walker Koberlein | Lawrence, KS: BS Environmental Systems Science and ENR, minors in Spanish and Sustainability, Honors Program

2023 Haub School Outstanding Graduate Award
Courtney Garrity | Huntington Beach, CA: MS Zoology and ENR
Taylor Kruger | Fryeburg, ME: MS Environment, Natural Resources & Society

Haub School Enrollment

AY 18/19 438  AY 19/20 432  AY 20/21 437  AY 21/22 418  AY 22/23

1. Collaborative Practice Minor
2. ENR Graduate Minor
3. ENR Graduate Major
4. Juris Doctorate/Masters in ENR
5. Environment Natural Resources & Society Masters
6. Sustainability Minor
7. Outdoor Leadership Minor
8. Environment and Natural Resources Minor
9. Outdoor Recreation and Tourism Management Major
10. Environmental Systems Science Major
11. Environment and Natural Resources Major

Graduate Programs 49
Undergraduate Majors 124
Undergraduate Minors 298

2023 Haub School Outstanding Graduate Award
Courtney Garrity | Huntington Beach, CA: MS Zoology and ENR
Taylor Kruger | Fryeburg, ME: MS Environment, Natural Resources & Society

Finalists 2023 Rosemarie Martha Spitaleri and Tobin Outstanding Graduate Award - L to R: Walker Koberlein, Ruby Jenco, Kami Buchanan, Kamrin Grimm

Four of twelve finalists across the University of Wyoming were Haub School students:
Kelly Buchanan | Sheridan, WY: BS Environmental Systems Science and ENR, BA Spanish, minor in International Studies, Honors Program
Kami Grimm | Cheyenne, WY: BS Environmental Systems Science and ENR, minors in Spanish and Horticulture
Ruby Jenco | St. Joseph, MO: BS Environment & Natural Resources and Wildlife & Fisheries Biology & Management, minors in French and Outdoor Leadership, Honors Program
Walker Koberlein | Lawrence, KS: BS Environmental Systems Science and ENR, minors in Spanish and Sustainability, Honors Program
RESEARCH, SCHOLARSHIP, AND CREATIVE ACTIVITY

Jackson Fork Ranch-University of Wyoming Research Project
A major gift from Joe Ricketts’ Jackson Fork Ranch will support conservation and stewardship across Wyoming and fund the Jackson Fork Ranch-University of Wyoming Research Project. The project will engage UW faculty, researchers, and students in critical biodiversity research, starting with lesser understood animals of the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem like red fox, beavers, red squirrels, and golden eagles. Haub School faculty Joe Holbrook will serve as the inaugural Wyoming Biodiversity Term Professor, a two-year professorship. Holbrook also received the University of Wyoming’s second annual Presidential Scholarly Achievement award for outstanding early-career faculty.

Temple Stoellinger named PERC Senior Fellow
Temple Stoellinger has been promoted to Senior Fellow at PERC, the Property and Environment Research Center, a national leader in market solutions for conservation. Stoellinger brings expertise in wildlife law, environmental and natural resource law and policy, and public land law to a network of respected scholars and professionals conducting original research around market-based conservation.

Rhiannon Jakopak honored for research and teaching
Rhiannon Jakopak earned the University of Wyoming Own It! Award for Outstanding Women in STEM. As a researcher in the Monteith Shop, Jakopak studies whether chronic wasting disease is passed between mother and offspring and the effects that transfer might have; her work was recently featured in High Country News. Additionally, Jakopak mentors undergraduate students through teaching and running the Wyoming Wildlife Fellowship Program, and earned a “Tip of the Cap” from the University of Wyoming Mortar Board for “exceptional contributions to UW and inspiration of students.”

SELECT PUBLICATIONS


Agricultural Easements Workshop

In January 2023, the Ruckelshaus Institute’s Private Lands Stewardship Program and the Intermountain West Joint Venture hosted a discussion-based workshop focused on actionable items to increase the pace and scale of the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service’s Agricultural Conservation Easement Program. Resulting recommendations included: boost capacity to implement programs, build relationships between land trusts and the NRCS, leverage funding using existing models, share information to increase collaboration around and support for conservation easements, and emphasize and value certified entities that can accelerate easement closings.

Listening Sessions & Scenario Planning in Critical Watersheds

The Center for Climate, Water and People held a workshop in the Upper Snake River to understand manager needs and questions related to water availability and followed it up with a scenario planning workshop in Moose, Wyoming to explore future scenarios and how managers could plan now for future changes. In partnership with HIPARI, the center also held listening sessions on the Wind River as a first step in developing relationships for future collaboration. The center, a partnership between the Haub School and the University of Wyoming’s Established Program to Stimulate Competitive Research (EPSCoR), aims to foster interdisciplinary research, education, and services related to the challenges and opportunities posed by shifts in climate and water availability.

Collaboration and Water Symposium

Following the graduation of the 2022-23 Collaboration Program in Natural Resources (CPNR) cohort in Thermopolis, CPNR director Deb Kleinman hosted a symposium on collaborative approaches to water challenges in Wyoming and the West. Among the diverse presenters and participants, Haub School adjunct faculty member Anne MacKinnon offered a pre-symposium webinar on fundamentals of water in Wyoming, adjunct faculty member Wes Martel led a morning walk and discussion of tribal history around water rights, associate professor Corrie Knapp presented on climate, and CPNR graduates Jeff Cowley, Darren Rhea, and Natalie Allio discussed their own collaborative work around water.
OUR GENEROUS DONORS

Thank You for Your Support. Private Giving: May 1, 2022—June 20, 2023

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Grant Dollars

In addition to our general income and expenditures, Haub School faculty bring in funding to support research through grants and contracts. In FY 23, our faculty brought in nearly $4 million.

INCOME

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EXPENSES

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FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Income and Expenditures: Fiscal year July 1, 2022 – June 31, 2023

Income

- Total Income: $7,323,336

Expenses

- Total Expenditures: $5,986,317
SUPPORT INCLUSIVE, INFORMED NATURAL RESOURCES SOLUTIONS
Contribute to educating future natural resource leaders and supporting sound, lasting solutions for natural resource challenges.

Send by mail:
UW Foundation, 222 S 22nd St, Laramie, WY 82070
Call during normal business hours:
(307) 766-6300 or (888) 831-7795
Give online:
https://www.givecampus.com/campaigns/33450/donations/new

Your gift is tax deductible as provided by law. Thank you for your support. Please reference giving code A23WC

WHO WE ARE: STAFF AND FACULTY

John Kopprowski, Dean and Wyoming Excellence Chair
Steve Smurko, Associate Dean, Wyoming Excellence Chair, and Spencer Chair of Collaborative Practice
Heather N. Abarnathy, Assistant Research Scientist
Ellen Aikens, Assistant Professor, School of Computing and Haus School
Melanie Armstrong, Ruckscheilau Institute Director and Associate Professor
Drew Bennett, MacMillan Private Lands Stewardship Professor of Practice
Collie Berman, Postdoctoral Research Associate
Colleen Bourque, Administrative Associate
Maggie Bourque, Associate Lecturer
Anastasia Brady, Special Events Coordinator
Travis Brammer, MacMillan Program Conservation Fellow and Assistant Research Scientist
Mitch Brunet, Assistant Research Scientist
Melissa Bukovsky, Associate Professor, Derecho Professor, Regional Integrated Earth System Modeler
Courtney Carlson, Instructional Designer for Distance Education
Tyler Carroll, Project Coordinator, Wyoming Conservation Corps
Kayla Clark, Associate Lecturer, Graphic Design
Curt Davidson, Assistant Professor, Outdoor Recreation and Tourism Management
Anderson De Figueiredo, Postdoctoral Research Associate
Wes Eaton, Visiting Assistant Professor
Hillery Byerly Flint, Postdoctoral Research Associate
Aaron Freland, Academic Advising Manager
Jim Fried, Program Director, Wyoming Conservation Corps
Nicole Ghezzi, Graduate Coordinator and Assistant Research Scientist
Sara Ghezzi, Outdoor Recreation and Tourism Management Professor of Practice
Zayne Hobbler, Academic Advising Professional
Jacob Hochard, Knobloch Assistant Professor of Conservation Economics

Joe Holbrook, Assistant Professor, Carnivore and Habitat Ecology
Rhiannon Jakopak, Outreach Coordinator and Research Scientist
Caleb Johnson, Project Coordinator, Wyoming Conservation Corps
Corrie Knapp, Assistant Professor, Environment and Society
Jordan Kobilka, Internship and Employment Coordinator
Bryan Leonard, SER Associate Professor of Environment and Natural Resources (starting fall 2024)
Jewell Lund, Co-Production Coordinator
Birch Malotky, Emerging Issues Initiative Coordinator
Melanie Matthews, Academic Programs Senior Project Coordinator
Maria Vittoria Mazzamuto, Assistant Research Scientist
Dan McCoy, WORT Initiative Director
Kimberly Messersmith, Business Manager, Executive
Kevin Manteith, Professor and Wyoming Excellence Chair, Natural Resource Science
Emilene Outland, Editor and Communications Coordinator
John Paradis, UW Foundation Development Director
Ben Regan, Assistant Research Scientist
Tara Righetti, Occidental Chair in Energy and Environmental Policies, Law, SER, and ENR
Wai Yan Su, Postdoctoral Research Associate
Austin Smith, Assistant Research Scientist
Tarissa Spoonhunter, Assistant Professor, Director of High Plains American Indian Research Institute
Temple Stoecker, Associate Professor and Wyoming Excellence Chair, Law and ENR
Richard Vercoe, Associate Lecturer
Brittany Wagler, Assistant Research Scientist
Taylor Wegstaff, Montebil Shop Lab Coordinator and Assistant Research Scientist
Rebecca Witnok-Huber, Associate Research Scientist

Derrel and Jeanette Carruth
Dustin and Carly-Ann Carruthers
Mary Rose Cassa
Ted Chu
Jonathon Cummings
Warren and Carol Darrow
Curt Davidson
Weston Eaton
Abbie Engelstad
Michael and Joyce Evans
Brent and Samantha Ewers
Kit and Todd Freedman
Aaron Freland
James Fried
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Suzanne Ghezzi
Joseph and Susan Green
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Corrine Knapp and Thomas Grant
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Clancee and Randall Rea
Dwayne Richardson
Ryan and Angela Schelhaas
Thomas and Amy Shaw
Leonard Smutko and Mary Corcoran
Casey Terrell
Robert and Gail Turner
Maria Vittoria Mazzamuto
Stephen Wander
Robert Warburton
Jan Wittrow
Kayla Young
Michael Zuerlein

Emilene Ostlind
Kurt and Kimberly Olson
Kenneth Nyson and Carol Henney Nyson
Kurt and Kimberly Olson
Emeline Ousland

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ALUMNUS SPOTLIGHT: TRAVIS BRAMMER, JD/MA ’22

Travis Brammer earned a JD/MA dual degree from the UW College of Law and the Haub School in 2022. After graduating, he served as a Ruckelshaus Institute Conservation Fellow, during which he coordinated the Senior Conservation Fellowship with Bob Dreher, helped plan a summit on improving the process for federally-funded agricultural land easements, and was awarded the Law360 Distinguished Legal Writing Award for his article “Using Land and Water Conservation Fund Money to Protect Western Migration Corridors.” He has recently accepted a position as the Director of Conservation for the Property and Environment Research Center, where he will focus on developing and implementing innovative approaches to conservation. Congratulations Travis, you will be missed.

What about you?
Haubies, we want to know how you are changing the world. Complete our 2023 alumni survey for a chance to win great prizes. www.bit.ly/alumni-23