



2012
ENDOWMENT &
FACILITIES REPORT



UNIVERSITY OF WYOMING
FOUNDATION

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY



CLAYTON HARTMAN
*Chair of the Board
UW Foundation
Board of Directors*



BEN BLALOCK
*President/CEO
UW Foundation*

2012 was a landmark year. The University of Wyoming Foundation celebrated 50 years of successful strategic partnership with the University of Wyoming. One thing is for sure: we could not have done it without you, our loyal donors, alumni, and friends. It is due to your enthusiastic support that Wyoming's university has reached such heights of excellence, and we would like to express our deepest appreciation.

In fiscal year 2012, private giving totaled \$40.1 million from 23,551 corporate, foundation, and individual donors, who over the years have created a total of 1,234 endowments that support scholarships, fellowships, professorships, and discretionary, excellence, and program funds. UW's giving total includes \$11.5 million in estate gifts and over \$5 million in annual giving, as well as gifts in support of Wyoming Public Media and the Cowboy Joe Club.

Key gifts include the following:

- Ultra Petroleum to benefit energy research
- Baker Hughes to benefit energy research
- Marathon to benefit energy research
- Watt Foundation to benefit literacy
- Ellbogen Foundation to benefit literacy and the Ellbogen Center for Teaching and Learning
- McMurry Foundation to benefit nursing
- Harry Konkel to benefit scholarships
- Marvin Millgate to benefit Academic Affairs
- Rentschler family gifted artwork to benefit the UW Collection of Western Art

This is the second consecutive year—and the third year overall—that the UW Foundation has raised over \$40 million in private donations. We do our best to honor the trust you place in us, and we are more dedicated than ever to raising private support for UW while also strengthening the university through prudent investment and financial management. Our success is your success—this public-private partnership helps ensure that Wyoming's university keeps striving to be one of the best.

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

ENDOWMENT PERFORMANCE

Every year, in accordance with its payout policy, the UW Foundation distributes millions of dollars to the university for expenditures such as student assistance, faculty support, library acquisitions, academic program support, facilities, and building and equipment purchases and maintenance. We have you—our donors, alumni, and friends—to thank. Due to your enthusiastic support, we are able to build on this strong foundation of excellence to continue to help launch the successful lives of future generations and to shape the world of tomorrow. Thanks also belongs to Wyoming's Governor and State Legislature, whose support of Wyoming's university is the envy of other states.

When a donor creates an endowed fund, the gift buys shares—much like mutual funds—in the endowment pool. Adding these funds to the endowment pool broadens investment possibilities much more than if each endowment were invested individually. Accounting, however, is done separately for each fund, and based upon the number of shares owned in the pool, income is distributed after an initial one-year waiting period. Endowment distributions may be made from current income, accumulated income, realized appreciation, and principal to the extent necessary to meet the distribution requirements of the payout policy. Earnings above the amount of distributions are added to the corpus, enabling the principal to continue to grow while providing a hedge against inflation.

Endowments are conduits that allow yesterday's students to impact the lives of the students of today and tomorrow. We all must rely on budgets to balance the amount of money coming in against projected expenses, and endowments are the tools that allow the University of Wyoming to do just that. Endowments

provide a firm foundation of assets that are held in perpetuity, the interest of which creates a steady stream of funding for those purposes chosen by the donor. It is this reliability that then allows the university to create its financial plan for the coming year.

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

There are now 1,234 University of Wyoming endowments, and the pooled fund has grown to \$337.5 million as of December 31, 2012.

Due to your enthusiastic support, we are able to build on this strong groundwork of excellence to continue to help launch the successful lives of future generations and to shape the world of tomorrow.





INVESTMENT PERFORMANCE

One of the primary missions of the University of Wyoming Foundation is to exercise superior stewardship of the gifts entrusted to the university. The UW Foundation Board of Directors—in consultation with its professional investment advisor Monticello Associates of Denver, Colorado—works diligently to proactively manage the foundation’s portfolio. Staff and board members combine diverse areas of expertise to bring a wealth of financial experience to the management of the foundation’s investments.

The assets managed by the foundation have grown significantly over the years and have allowed donors to support an expanding number of students, faculty, facilities, and academic programs—even at times when other universities have had to cut back. Funds invested by the foundation include cash, reserve balances, charitable remainder unitrusts and gift annuities, outright gifts, and endowments. The foundation attempts to achieve a balance between current requirements and future needs—to provide a stable and growing income stream to the University of Wyoming while preserving the purchasing power of the endowment assets.

The board continues to proactively manage the assets to balance stability with rate of return, and

the foundation portfolio is fully diversified. The UW Foundation uses a sophisticated asset allocation, which has resulted in more secure foundation holdings that are not unduly influenced by the highs and lows of the equity and bond markets or changes in the political climate. The risk, return, and correlation characteristics of the alternative asset classes provide greater portfolio diversification and stability because of their low correlations to the traditional fixed income and equity asset classes. Now more than ever, well-balanced asset allocations have been shown to consistently perform better over time under varying market conditions, rather than being heavily invested in one or two asset classes or trying to time the market.

Currently, the pooled, permanent funds are invested across a broad range of asset classes in 65 funds among 44 different managers. With the input of Monticello, the board hires investment managers whose portfolios fit within the foundation’s investment strategy of long-term growth and minimizing risk versus reward. Target allocations and investment managers are reviewed at least quarterly to ensure objectives are being met, and assets are rebalanced to keep them in line with the target ranges for each asset class.

The pool of endowed funds as of December 31, 2012, totaled \$337.5 million. The bottom line, however, only tells part of the story, and the services that the UW Foundation provides go far beyond the numbers on a page. We help people and facilitate and manage gifts at all stages in the process. We actively steward donors’ contributions before they become endowments—including pledges, short-term investments, and real estate—we make sure endowments are directed according to donors’ wishes, and we provide a wide variety of services, things like estate planning and reconnecting the alumni and friends of Wyoming with their university.

Our university’s endowment—which directly contributes to student success and the faculty, programs, and facilities that support them—stands as a testament to the dedication and generosity of the alumni and friends of Wyoming’s university. We have you to thank for supporting tomorrow’s citizens and leaders and helping to continue UW’s greatest era.





ITS HIGHEST MARKS EVER

In 2012, the strategic partnership between the UW Foundation and the University of Wyoming turned 50—50 years of educating tomorrow’s citizens and leaders, performing world-class research, transferring those technologies to public stakeholders, promoting economic and community development, and stewarding our cultural, historic, and natural resources.

Our anniversary is not the only one on campus. 2012 marked 40 years of Wyoming Athletics Title IX, 100 years of Associated Students of the University of Wyoming (ASUW), 125 years of the university itself, and 150 years of the Morrill Act, which allowed for the creation of land-grant universities.

The year 2012 is a snapshot of where this great university has been, where we are headed, and the enormous impact your endowments have made on the future of us all. It’s been an eventful year.

2012 marked the largest fall enrollment on record, with 13,122 students on the 15th class day of the semester. This increase is reflected in the 55 percent increase in petroleum engineering enrollment, which is the highest in the College of Engineering and Applied Science. Not bad for a program that was restarted in 2005. Many factors draw students to UW, not least of all popular career choices such as petroleum engineering and innovative new programs such as the one-of-a-kind energy systems engineering bachelor’s and also a minor in computational science.

UW once again ranks high on Forbes.com’s list of “America’s Best Value Colleges” compiled by the Washington, D.C.-based Center for College Affordability and Productivity. UW was also ranked among the nation’s most environmentally responsible colleges by the *Princeton Review* and as one of the nation’s top outdoor schools by *Outside* magazine.

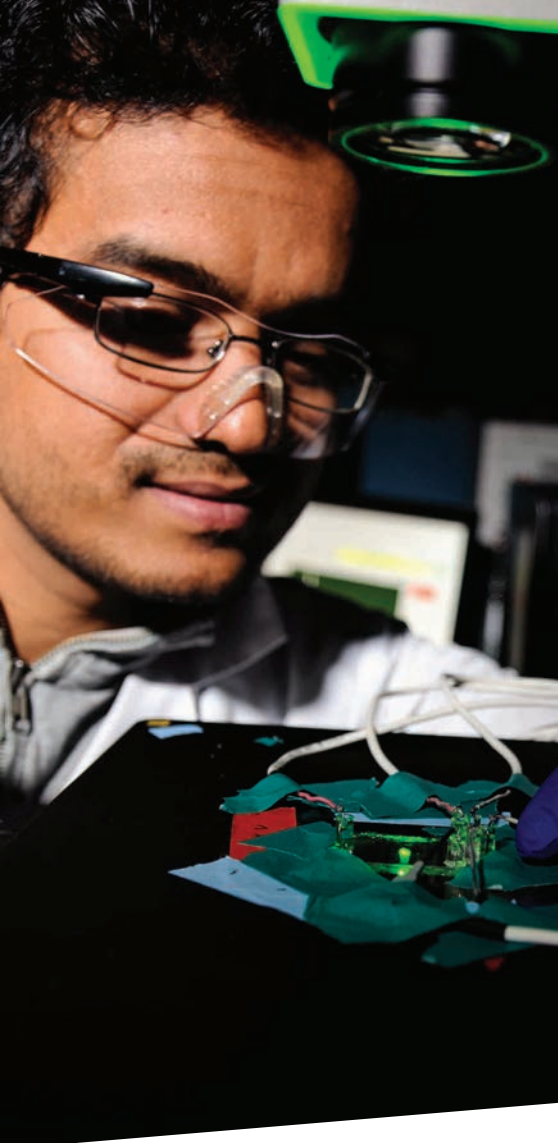
We’ve been winning awards, too. The UW Foundation received the Council for Advancement and Support of Education’s 2012 Educational Fundraiser Award, which honors superior fundraising programs across the country.

Just as the university and its foundation have been being recognized for excellence, so too have UW’s faculty and staff. Here are a few examples just this past year.

Faculty from across the disciplines have received regional, national, and international awards.

- Economics Professors Dave Finnoff and Jason Shogren and their former graduate student Travis Warziniack were awarded best paper of the year by the European Association of Environmental and Resource Economics for their research based on Warziniack’s dissertation on the bioeconomics of invasive species.
- Rattawut Lapcharoensap, MFA Eminent Writer in Residence, received international recognition as the recipient of a major five-year European literary grant from the Abraham Woursell Foundation.
- Polar bear research brought Adjunct Professor Steven Amstrup the 2012 Indianapolis Prize, the world’s leading award for animal conservation.
- Chemistry Assistant Professor Jing Zhou received the National Science Foundation’s Faculty Early Career Development Award, the NSF’s most prestigious award for junior faculty teacher-scholars.
- Extension Entomologist and Associate Professor Alex Latchininsky and his team have received the International Integrated Pest Management Award for Excellence for a grasshopper control strategy that saves landowners money.





- Brett Williams's UW IT Blog was named one of the top 50 IT blogs in higher education by *EdTech* magazine.

Students, too, have been garnering their share of laurels.

- Law students Marci Crank and Kyle Ridgeway earned one of UW College of Law's greatest achievements—a second-place showing at the American Bar Association's Student Client Counseling Competition, a national lawyering skills competition.
- A UW mechanical engineering design team won first place among 19 universities for four self-propelled devices that could collectively complete a relay race in the shortest period of time, each with a unique on-board energy source and motion sensor to trigger the next device.
- Four Theatre and Dance students and a professor received top honors at Region VII Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival and Northwest Drama Conference, including awards for scholarly papers, critics forum, performance, and technical theatre.
- UW received the Trail Boss Award for the top collegiate team from the Society for Range Management, with two students claiming first place and a professor receiving the top teaching award.
- Two UW Graphic Design students won top honors at the Art Director's Club Denver Student Exhibition. Nataliya Lityuk of Cheyenne won best logo design, and Gary Staebler of Powell won best publication design.
- Political Science student Morgan Miller of Cheyenne won an internship to Washington, D.C. with U.S. Senator Mike Enzi.

We could go on and on—with examples of UW's national and international reach, the ground-breaking research of faculty and graduate students, the remarkable visitors who have come to UW, the many publications from across campus, and the media and video that UW people have produced or participated in.

But perhaps the best measure of success is the approval of the people of Wyoming and our students. Wyoming residents have given the University of Wyoming its highest marks ever—a strong majority of the state's citizens believe UW continues to improve, is spending its budget wisely, and is reaching out across the state. UW students approve too. For yet another year, UW students are very satisfied with their university experience, with more than 95 percent expressing approval of their education. They find tuition a worthwhile investment and view the campus as safe and secure, and approximately 80 percent stated that UW has a commitment to excellence and that UW faculty treat students well.

Campus continues to be transformed, with your help. This past year, construction was completed on the Visual Arts Facility, Bison Run Village student housing, Sullivan Plaza near the College of Education, and the School of Energy Resources Energy Innovation Center. The Geological Museum reopened in January 2013. Projects in the design phase include Half Acre Gymnasium, Fine and Performing Arts, the Michael B. Enzi STEM Laboratory (for undergraduate science, technology, engineering, and mathematics), and the Literacy Research Center and Clinic.

On the horizon is the Marian H. Rochelle Gateway Center, a gathering and welcoming space for students, alums, and other UW visitors that also tells the remarkable story of UW. It will embody the dynamic partnership between the UW Foundation and the University of Wyoming and is emblematic of how far we've come as a development organization and a university. It will also support students throughout their lifetime connection with Wyoming's university, a place alums will always be able to call home. Rochelle Gateway Center construction is scheduled in 2013–14, with completion scheduled for fall of 2014.

Know that we strive every day to fulfill the trust you—our donors, alumni, and friends—have placed in us. Our expectations have grown with our organization. Just as we expect students to continue to excel and faculty to do their best teaching and perform worldclass research and the university itself to be one of the nation's finest public land-grant research universities, so too we strive to do our best securing private resources, delivering superior stewardship, and creating enduring relationships with all who share our pride in Wyoming's university.



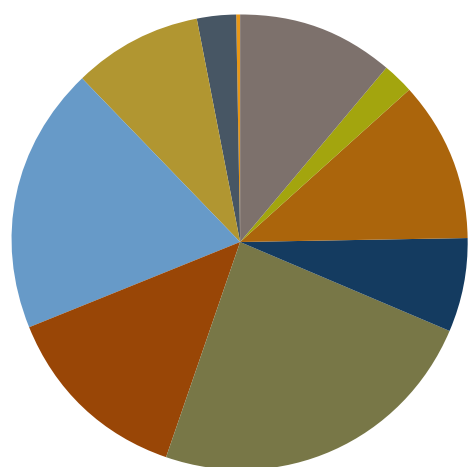
ENDOWMENT PERFORMANCE

| | Latest Quarter | Last Two Quarters | One Year | Three Years | Five Years | Eight Years |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------|----------------------|--------------|----------------|---------------|----------------|
| NET TOTAL FUND PERFORMANCE | | | | | | |
| Total Fund | 2.04 | 6.77 | 12.16 | 8.27 | 1.91 | 5.19 |
| S&P 500 | -0.38 | 5.94 | 15.98 | 10.87 | 1.66 | 4.21 |
| Barclays US Aggregate | 0.21 | 1.80 | 4.22 | 6.19 | 5.95 | 5.43 |
| MSCI Emerging Markets | 5.58 | 13.75 | 18.22 | 4.66 | -0.92 | 11.32 |
| Policy Index ⁽¹⁾ | 1.56 | 4.40 | 7.49 | 2.58 | -1.55 | 2.05 |
| Total Fund Median | 1.25 | 6.03 | 11.78 | 7.81 | 2.88 | 5.08 |

⁽¹⁾ Policy index as of 3q10: 10% S&P 500, 10% Barclays US Aggregate, 5% Russell 2000, 10% EAFE, 17.5% HFRX Hedged, 22.5% HFRX AR.
Policy index previous to 3q10: 20% S&P 500, 10% Barclays US Aggregate, 10% Russell 2000, 15% EAFE, 10% HFRX Hedged, 15% HFRX AR.

| | 12/31/08 | 12/31/09 | 12/31/10 | 12/31/11 | 12/31/12 |
|-------------------------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| PORTFOLIO GROWTH IN MILLIONS | | | | | |
| Total Fund | 204.7 | 254.9 | 296.0 | 303.1 | 337.5 |
| Total Equity | 76.8 | 99.1 | 85.8 | 68.4 | 84.1 |
| Total Alternative Investments | 104.5 | 121.2 | 179.2 | 205.2 | 221.6 |
| Total Fixed Income | 23.5 | 34.6 | 30.9 | 29.5 | 31.7 |

ASSET ALLOCATION IN MILLIONS



| | | | |
|---|-------|----------------------|--------|
| ■ | 11.3% | Large Cap Equity | \$38.3 |
| ■ | 2.3% | Small Cap Equity | \$7.8 |
| ■ | 11.3% | International Equity | \$38.0 |
| ■ | 6.5% | Fixed Income | \$22.0 |
| ■ | 24.0% | Absolute Return | \$81.2 |
| ■ | 13.5% | Hedged Equity | \$45.4 |
| ■ | 19.1% | Private Equity | \$64.3 |
| ■ | 9.0% | Real Assets | \$30.5 |
| ■ | 2.9% | Cash | \$9.7 |
| ■ | 0.1% | Liquidating Funds | \$0.3 |

AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2012
\$337.5

THE GIFT OF READING

Thea Stidum knows first-hand the importance of literacy. She taught first grade for many years in the Sacramento school district before moving up the ranks to become the first female principal of her school.

“I taught first grade,” says Thea, “and many youngsters came from homes where no English was spoken and there was some poverty involved and a lot of people on welfare—they weren’t exposed to books. It was so much fun in first grade to do nursery rhymes and silly poems and that kind of thing. The kids loved silly words, and they loved getting engaged with a book and being able to read.”

She adds, “You can’t really succeed in school or anyplace else unless you can read. It just has to start young.”

After teaching but before going into administration, Thea received her master’s degree from the University of Wyoming College of Education in its nationally recognized counselor education program. She remembers her time fondly: “I just can’t thank the university enough for that particular program and the training I got there. It prepared me for everything else I did after that.”

These are the reasons that Thea has pledged a significant gift in support of the University of Wyoming College of Education’s new Literacy Center and Clinic, which will serve as the epicenter of literary expertise in the state. Located on the first floor of the College of Education Annex, the center’s mission is to improve the quality of literacy learning, literacy instruction, and literacy leadership for all Wyoming children, birth through high school.

“Only a very small number of major donors at UW can be recognized for their support of the College of Education—it is rarified air territory of which Thea Stidum is a part,” says Kay Persichitte, dean of the College of Education. “Thea’s giving history in the College of Education was extensive before her recent major gift to the Literacy Research Center and Clinic. She is a long-time, active member of the College Advisory Board. Her passion, commitment, and focus on public education settings and services that support learning for all children are unmatched. We are so fortunate that Thea has chosen to support us in so many ways.”

At present, there are two types of literacy organizations in the nation—there are clinics that collaborate with schools where children and their parents come for diagnostics, and there are university centers that perform research that is disseminated to the public. UW’s center and clinic combines both of these models into an innovative and holistic new approach that is unmatched in the nation.

Bringing all this together, the UW center will serve as a clinic and outreach center for children throughout Wyoming, it will perform research that will be disseminated through technology transfer, and it will team up with school and community organizations. Rather than simply accusing schools of failing, the center will collaborate with schools to identify issues and then find solutions to those problems.

Not only is the Literacy Center and Clinic an exemplar of this vital new approach, it is also a model of the public-private partnership among the university, the State, and private donors. In addition to Thea Stidum, lead gifts have been received from Mickey and Jeanne Klein, the Joe and Arlene Watt Foundation, Don and Betty Walters, and the John P. Ellbogen Foundation. The State Legislature has thrown its support behind the effort, and First Lady Carol Mead has been actively advocating on its behalf.

The center is scheduled to open in the winter of 2013.

“You can’t really succeed in school or anyplace else unless you can read. It just has to start young.”





ONE WHO SERVES

The following is an excerpt from the Distinguished Service Cross citation—an award second only to the Medal of Honor—for then-Captain Barry Gasdek for his actions in Vietnam on September 22, 1968.

When his unit came under intense enemy fire, Captain Gasdek exposed himself to the hail of bullets to encourage his men, fire his weapon and hurl hand grenades at the aggressors. ... As he returned with the carriers, they came under accurate small arms and mortar fire which wounded him in the leg. Despite his painful injury, he continued on to his men and organized the evacuation of the wounded to the tracks. Carrying the most seriously injured man on his back, he crawled more than a hundred meters through a murderous barrage to the vehicles and placed him in the medic track. ... When one of his radio operators was killed and the other wounded, Captain Gasdek administered first aid to the injured man and carried the radio equipment himself. ... The following morning he led an attack on the enemy, forcing the aggressors from the area. During the engagement he received a shrapnel wound in the back, but again refused evacuation to remain with his troops.



“You just don’t know what freedoms you have in the United States until you spend time out of country,” Barry says.

Then a friend of his, a general, invited him to Wyoming to be a professor of military science for the University of Wyoming ROTC program, which he did for a decade. He then became the inaugural Wyoming State Veterans Service Officer, retiring just recently.

“That was really rewarding,” Barry says, “in the sense that you knew you helped an individual and they knew that you helped them.”

He has been active in various capacities—often as Commander—in the American Legion, VFW, Wyoming Veterans Commission, Disabled American Veterans, Army Reserve, American Red Cross, United Way, and Boys State, among other organizations.

But that was not enough. Ever generous, Barry not only gives his time but also his resources. He has established four scholarships in honor of his three siblings that support nursing, music, chemistry, and ROTC.

“When I went to Vietnam, everything I owned I could put in an AWOL bag, one of those little satchel bags,” Barry says. “So now that I’m a little better off, I don’t mind sharing with other people, and that’s one of the reasons I gave the money to the university.”

In a Congressional tribute, U.S. Sen. John Barrasso said of Barry,

LTC Barry Gasdek, Retired, has devoted his entire life to serving his country, his brothers in arms, and the people of Wyoming. He is a fighter, a mentor, a teacher, and a good man. He embodies the cowboy ethics and what it means to be a citizen of Wyoming. It is certain that the legacy of his leadership will inspire new generations of brave soldiers. On behalf of the State of Wyoming and the United States of America, I thank Barry for his service. His boots will be hard to fill.

Indeed, very large boots to fill.

“That was really rewarding in the sense that you knew you helped an individual and they knew that you helped them.”

During his 49 years of service in the military, Barry was a Pathfinder and a Ranger serving around the world, and in addition to the Distinguished Service Cross, he earned the Silver Star, five Bronze Stars, two Purple Hearts, a Soldier’s Medal, the Legion of Merit, and 17 Air Medals. He retired at the rank of Lieutenant Colonel.

Whether in military or civilian life, Barry has spent his life serving others.

The son of a Pennsylvania coal miner and steel worker, Barry was a Boy Scout and then an Eagle Scout. He supported his teammates as a football linebacker and offensive guard at Derry Area High and Indiana University in Pennsylvania, as well as wrestling heavyweight and serving as captain of the track team. He thought he might be a teacher and a coach, but then he was commissioned in the Army as a Second Lieutenant and had a distinguished military career.

BRIMMER SCHOLARS

WYOMING'S 'RHODES SCHOLARSHIP'

The Judge Clarence A. Brimmer Scholars Program is Wyoming's Rhodes Scholarship—one of the most competitive and prestigious offered by the Law School and the university. It rewards student excellence in legal education in the classroom and in extracurricular activities, as well as in service to the Law School, UW, and the people of Wyoming.

Brimmer Scholars receive substantial scholarship stipends—up to \$10,000, the largest awarded by the College of Law—to defray the expenses of the third year of law school, and they make a commitment to service during that third year.

Students of the Law School who excel during their first two years—whether in the classroom, on the *Law Review*, in public service, or elsewhere—can apply during the second semester of their second year. Five students are chosen as finalists, and then the Brimmer Scholars Committee interviews the finalists and selects the winner. Members of the committee include a representative of the federal judiciary or bar, a representative of the Wyoming Supreme Court, a faculty member, the dean, a past Brimmer Scholar, and a member of the Brimmer family.

It is fitting that this award honors the long and distinguished career of Judge Clarence A. Brimmer.

U.S. District Court Judge Clarence A. Brimmer is a Wyoming native born in Rawlins in 1922. After receiving his BA in 1944, he served in the U.S. Army Air Force during World War II from 1945-46 and earned his JD in 1947 from the University of Michigan. He served as Wyoming Attorney General from 1971-74 and then as U.S. Attorney for the District of Wyoming in 1975. He was nominated by President Gerald Ford to become a U.S. District Court judge in 1975 and served as chief judge from 1986-92. In 2006, he elected to take senior status. His son Philip is now a U.S. District Judge in Colorado.

The inaugural Brimmer Scholars, chosen in 2011,

are Stephanie Holguin of Riverton and Leah Schwartz of Jackson.

Holguin graduated magna cum laude in 2003 from the University of Wyoming with degrees in Criminal Justice and Sociology. Prior to coming to UW, she took courses at Central Wyoming College. Between her undergrad and law school, she worked as a child protection social worker in Arizona, and she continues to volunteer with young people who have aged out of the foster care system. She worked as a research assistant at the College of Law, volunteered her language skills in the Domestic Violence Clinic, and was the vice president of Wyoming Law Students for Equal Justice. She received her JD with honors in 2012 and now practices law with Kain & Burke, PC in Grand Junction, Colorado.

"It is a high distinction to be selected as the Judge Clarence A. Brimmer Scholar and means more than just being awarded a scholarship," says Holguin. "It signifies the pursuit of excellence through community service, professionalism, hard work, and integrity. These are the characteristics Judge Brimmer emulates, and every law student and member of the bar should strive to exemplify. I am honored to be one of the first Brimmer Scholars. As such, I hope to inspire others and will endeavor to make positive contributions to my community, just as Judge Brimmer continues to do. I am blessed to have been a part of such an incredible program designed to honor Judge Brimmer's amazing legacy."

Schwartz earned her undergraduate degree in English literature at Stanford University. The legal profession is a family tradition—her parents



Stephanie Holguin



Leah Schwartz

Bill Schwartz and Cheryl Ranck Schwartz both graduated from UW College of Law and practice in Jackson. Philanthropy and service are also a family tradition—the Schwartz family has established the endowed William T. Schwartz Professor of Law at UW. Although Leah was not sure at first that she wanted to enter the family's profession, her parents were her inspiration and she ultimately realized that she wanted to advocate on people's behalf. She was an intern in the UW Legal Services Program and served as Legal Services Student Clinic Director. She also served as the president for the Wyoming Law Students for Equal Justice, volunteered for the Wyoming Access to Justice Commission, and submitted a case note to an edition of the *Wyoming Law Review*. She graduated with her JD in 2012 and now serves as term law clerk for Chief Judge Nancy Freudenthal at the U.S. District Court in Wyoming.

"I'm so grateful for the Brimmer Scholars Program," says Schwartz. "The best part of the program to me was that it afforded an opportunity to meet Judge Brimmer. It is a huge honor to be associated with his legacy in any way. Thank you to the Brimmer family for giving back to the law school and for inspiring students like me to follow Judge Brimmer's admirable lead—both as a lawyer and as a person."

IMPACTING THE LAW

The Kepler family has made an extraordinary impact on the UW College of Law.

The Kepler Chair in Law and Leadership was established by the Paul Stock Foundation in partnership with the Kepler family to honor lawyers Charles, his daughter Loretta, and his nephew Courtney and their contributions to the UW College of Law and the practice of law in general.

The Kepler family also established the Kepler Fund for Professional Education, which supports student legal clinics. These clinics allow law students to practice under the supervision of faculty while still in school. Caseloads are actual cases, and it is not a simulation. Clinics include defender aid, legal services, domestic violence, and prosecution assistance, as well as practicums in estate planning and international law/social justice.

The Keplers have also made significant gifts in support of the Loretta Kepler Scholarship, which supports women first-year law students, and the Brimmer Legal Education Center.

Charles, Ursula, and Loretta have made a timeless impact on the University of Wyoming College of Law, but who were they?

An adventurer, scholar, and preeminent lawyer, Charles was known as Kep. He and his brother Forrest, known as Frosty, grew up in Cheyenne. Kep met Ursula, his future wife, while still in high school, but they didn't marry until 1944 between Kep's stints overseas serving in World War II. He enrolled at UW in 1940 but did not earn his JD in law until 1948, after receiving a Purple Heart—wounded by a sniper in France—and the rank of captain in the U.S. Army. He went on to earn his master of laws at the University of Michigan and then served as a business law professor at UW and the University of Oklahoma.

He and Ursula then moved to Cody, which he called “the best place in the world,” to work for Husky Oil Company. In 1960, Kep joined Alan and Milward Simpson to form a law practice, where his daughter Loretta, “his favorite partner,” would eventually join him for a few years.

During his working years, Kep taught in the UW Law School and served as president of the Wyoming State Bar and was chair or a member of many professional boards and commissions—including the National Conference of Commissioners on Uniform State Laws and the State Board of Bar Examiners, among many others. He was named Super Lawyer and a Best Lawyer in the Nation.

Throughout his life, Kep gave his time and his resources. He actively contributed to the Buffalo Bill Historical Center, Northwest Community College, and the formation of the Cody Hospital District, and through his work with the Paul Stock Foundation, Kep was instrumental in awarding hundreds of scholarships and grants to UW students. He was also instrumental in building the Paul Stock Aquatic Center at the Rec Center in Cody, where later he would accompany Ursula each morning as she swam.

His advice to the Law School graduating class of 2007 was this: “If the judge gives you 20 minutes, take 10, and if the judge gives you 30 minutes, take 15.”

Athletic and talented, Ursula also grew up in Cheyenne, where she worked in the family bakery, participated in sports and orchestra, and dressed as Annie Oakley for parades. She earned her bachelor's at UW in 1944, and then she and Kep married. Exactly 11 years to the day after they were married, their daughter Loretta was born.

Ursula played piano and church organ and led the choir. She also played flute, violin, harmonica, and anything else that made music. She led the Cody Girl Scouts, loved to ski at Sleeping Giant, and believed strongly in being able to swim, and so under her tutelage, generations of Wyomingites learned to swim. Ursula reportedly was still perfecting a new breast stroke well into her 80s.

She called Kep “Mr. K,” and they traveled to all seven continents. She finished his stories, and he quietly listened to hers.

Their charming and gifted daughter Loretta excelled in her professional life. After earning



Jack Richard Photograph Collection, MS 89
McCracken Research Library
Buffalo Bill Historical Center, Cody, Wyoming
Kepler family, 1972
PN.89.62.11588.1

her bachelor's in biology at UW, she went on to receive her JD in law and practiced with her father in Cody. She then earned her master's in tax law from New York University and worked for law firms in Seattle until becoming a benefits attorney at Boeing. While at Boeing, she and her team successfully argued *Egelhoff v. Egelhoff* before the Supreme Court, which reaffirmed federal rights over state rights. Afterward, she was known to have said, “I was THAT close to Ruth Bader Ginsburg.” She married Dan Illich, a friend since high school, and they have a son Matt and a daughter Claire.

We mourn the loss of these three extraordinary individuals. Loretta died tragically of ovarian cancer in 2010 at age 55. Charles died in 2012 and was followed within the month by Ursula. They were both 89.

[For more on the Keplers' gifts and their impact on students, go to <http://youtu.be/Vss4VFlchJs>.]





A VERY FINE FACULTY AND STUDENTS

A university is only as strong as its people.

Dr. Andrew Vanvig knows the importance of attracting quality undergraduates, graduate students, and faculty to the UW College of Agriculture and Natural Resources. He was head of the Agricultural Economics department for 25 years and a faculty member for 34 years.

What better way to attract the cream of the crop than to reward excellence? Dr. Vanvig and his wife Connie did just that when they set up three endowments, and friends and colleagues also made significant contributions to support these endowments:

- the Andrew and Connie Vanvig Scholarship that benefits undergraduates majoring in agricultural economics,
- the Andrew and Connie Vanvig Graduate Fellowship that rewards outstanding achievement inside and outside the ag econ classroom, and
- the Andrew Vanvig Distinguished Lifetime Achievement Award that goes to a tenured or active retired faculty member who demonstrates continued dedication to students and research.



“We’re pleased to be able to do that,” says Dr. Vanvig. “We think investment in the university is a good investment. It seemed like a win-win situation, not only for the students receiving the scholarship but also the college and the university. It may make the difference between people going to college or not, if they’re able to get a scholarship. Education is very important.”

Sam Cordes, former department head, had the original idea for the undergraduate scholarship, and the Lifetime Achievement Award was Dean Frank Galey’s idea. “It was a good idea,” says Dr. Vanvig.

His time at UW was very fruitful, for which he commends his “very fine faculty.” During his tenure, the number of students within the ag econ department grew from 11 to 145. One of his advisees was Dick Taggart, who manages the budget of Weyerhaeuser Co., a Fortune 200 company with annual sales of \$22 billion.

“I was very pleased to learn that Dr. Vanvig was going to be recognized in this year’s *Endowment and Facilities Report*,” says Taggart. “Forty-five years ago, Dr. Vanvig was my graduate advisor. His quiet encouragement and patient guidance led me to the courses and research that provided the foundation for my future career. For someone pursuing a graduate degree in ag economics who did not have an agricultural background, I could not have had a better advisor.”

Dr. Vanvig’s contributions to agricultural economics include many professional and extension publications on his research on the statistics on farm and ranch finances and lending in Wyoming. He studied the land market and initiated an annual survey of real estate values that continues to this day. He has always been a staunch advocate for the land-grant mission of teaching, research, and extension, and his professional life reflects that dedication.

Both Dr. Vanvig and Connie grew up in North Dakota. Dr. Vanvig graduated from North Dakota State University, Cornell University, and the University of Minnesota, while Connie graduated from Concordia College and the University of Denver. Dr. Vanvig was a professor at the University of Arizona before joining the UW faculty.

“Andy enjoyed working at the university very much,” says Connie. “He’s gone back to farming now. I asked him once which he enjoyed more—the farming or the academic work—and he said ‘I love them both.’ A lucky man—many people don’t find one career they really enjoy.”

Among many other things, Dr. Vanvig was instrumental in organizing the Western Agricultural Lenders Institute. This organization was initiated to foster cooperation with the Wyoming Bankers Association to provide Wyoming loan officers with the opportunity to stay abreast of current developments in agricultural finance.

Upon retirement, the Vanvigs moved to their farm near Beach, North Dakota, to raise durum wheat for pasta, flax, oats, alfalfa, and lentils, utilizing a no-till production system designed to help the soil retain moisture and to provide protection against wind and water erosion. They winter in Arizona.

Above all, Dr. Vanvig has stressed the importance of staying on top of the changing technology of agriculture and agricultural financing, to which he feels a college education is the key. That’s where his and Connie’s support comes in—making it possible for the best and brightest to do just that.

“The University of Wyoming is unique in that it is the only major university in the state,” says Dr. Vanvig. “It’s got a strong commitment to the people in the state. I’d encourage other people to support the university. The funding situation for universities is that financial support from the major federal agencies is being cut back. It’s an excellent investment.”

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The University of Wyoming Foundation has been a dynamic partner with the University of Wyoming for more than 50 years. Through the generosity of our many alumni and friends, the UW Foundation raises an average of \$38 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.

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UW Foundation Board of Directors consists of up to 30 elected voting members, six non-voting ex-officio members, and as many voting emeritus members as may be elected by the board. The UW Foundation Board meets throughout the year to guide the foundation in achieving its mission. Board members bring a wealth of experience from a broad spectrum of careers and professional and personal backgrounds.

You can support the University of Wyoming by giving your gift online at www.uwyo.edu/giveonline or contacting the University of Wyoming Foundation at (888) 831-7795 or (307) 766-6300 or by e-mail at foundation@uwyo.edu.



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We aspire to be a premier strategic partner with the University of Wyoming in achieving its desire to become the nation's finest land-grant university.

MISSION

We enhance excellence and distinction at the University of Wyoming by securing private resources, delivering superior stewardship, and creating enduring relationship with all who share our pride in Wyoming's university.

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We aspire to set the highest performance standards in the following areas, which we consider essential to the successful achievement of our mission and attainment of our vision.

- **Accountability:** Faithfully steward the resources entrusted to us while maintaining transparency in all aspects of our management of these resources.
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- **Quality:** Exceed expectations with exceptional service based on timeliness, accuracy, and responsiveness.
- **Trust:** Nurture high-trust relationships by listening carefully and communicating clearly.

Pictured on front cover: Sabrina Forbis, first SER Graduate (December 2011) doing an internship for Encana testing water samples at Frenchie Draw, WY



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