

THE UNIVERSITY *of* MONTANA WESTERN

# FOUNDATION

---

## 2019-2020

# IMPACT REPORT

*Journal for*



# THE POWER OF ONE

---

*a letter from the executive director*

**DEAR MONTANA WESTERN ALUMNI & FRIENDS,**

On behalf of the entire Montana Western community, I want to thank you for recognizing the exceptional power of one gift. Together, with your investment, we have made a significant difference in the lives of our students, faculty and staff. We appreciate your thoughtful leadership, volunteer efforts and commitment to this one-of-a-kind institution.

The past fiscal year brought challenges we have never seen before. With these challenges we also experienced tremendous support. During FY20, UMW received \$1,676,136 in combined support for scholarships, programs and capital projects.

Through the stories and statistics in this impact report, we hope to demonstrate how your support continues to benefit our future leaders who will move us to the highest levels of excellence.

Thank you, and Go Dawgs!



Roxanne G. Engellant



# FY 2020 IN REVIEW

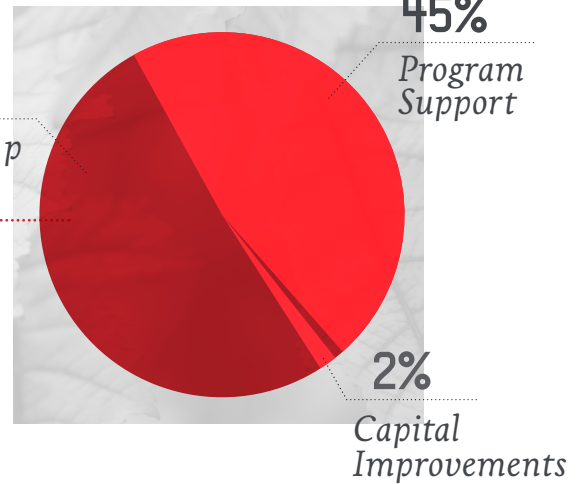
Total Gifts  
Received

**\$1,676,135**

**\$896,469**

Total Foundation  
Funds directed  
to UMW

53%  
Scholarship  
Support



**1,124**

Gifts under  
\$1,000



Alumni  
Participation  
Rate

**50%**

# UMW FOUNDATION ENDOWMENT

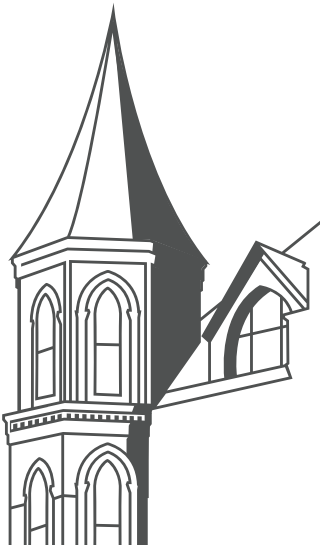
Value of  
Endowment

**\$11,523,603**

**\$467k**

Total Distribution  
from Endowment  
Fund in Support  
of Students and  
Programs at UMW

FY20



12 mm

10 mm

8 mm

6 mm

4 mm

'10 '11 '12 '13 '14 '15 '16 '17 '18 '19 '20

Returns are calculated as per the last of the fiscal year, June 30.



# UMW ALUMNI GIVE BACK



## WALLY FELDT

Wally Feldt grew up in Dillon, Mont. and is the fourth generation of his family to attend Montana Western. Wally earned a bachelor's degree in liberal studies in 1973 and began what would be a long career in radio and sports writing. In 1990, Wally began writing for UMW as sports information director and added news and publications duties to his list of responsibilities. He held that position until 2009. Wally has served as the Director of Media Relations for the Frontier Conference since 1993. He was inducted into the Bulldog Athletics Hall of Fame in 2015. Wally is a very proud Bulldog who pays it forward by giving to Bulldog Athletics, the WMC 1970's Alumni Scholarship, the Jean Feldt Memorial Scholarship and much more. He has established a planned gift that will fund Bulldog Athletic Scholarships long into the future.

# UMW ALUMNI GIVE BACK

## TRAVIS & RYANN GIBSON

Travis and Ryann Gibson transferred to Montana Western by way of athletics, Travis to play football and Ryann for athletic training and secondary education. Growing up in Twin Bridges and Dillon, respectively, they already knew the “Western Way” and knew immediately that they were home. The Gibson’s returned to Montana Western as staff members several years ago and love the small campus that provides a family atmosphere and fosters a sense of community. Their love of athletics is still a major component of their lives and will continue with their oldest son, Peter, committing to play Bulldog Football. Travis and Ryann feel giving back to Montana Western is an easy way for them to support their “home.”





## SETH LANG - STUDENT SUCCESS STORY

Seth Lang grew up in Helena, Mont. and knew early on that he wanted to work in the public sector. He also knew that he needed a college education to achieve his goal. Over the course of time and working with several teachers who were tremendous mentors, Seth adjusted his goal to teaching the next generation about government and giving them the tools to engage in the political process.

Seth grew up in a single parent household and was determined to work hard to financially support his dream of becoming a Government and History teacher. His aspirations to empower his students to be great citizens at home and abroad and to teach them skills that will follow them throughout their life is dependent on completing his education. Scholarship support has helped make that possible and has relieved some of the financial burden he endures to reach his goal. Like Seth, scholarship support is vital to the majority of our students.

Thank you for helping us educate the next generation of teachers.



## PAUL HELFRICH - STUDENT SUCCESS STORY

The flexible block schedule at Montana Western has allowed Paul to participate in research experiences that are hard to find at the undergraduate level. From vegetative surveys in Glacier National Park to an internship on a coastal island in North Carolina, Paul's entire journey at UMW has been experiential. Having extensive access to lab hours and one-on-one professor mentorships has given Paul tremendous opportunities as he continues his goal of attaining a Ph.D.

"It's one thing to have a class and learn in a big lecture hall of 200 students, but it's an entirely different thing when you are able to build one-on-one mentorships with your professors. Experience One has allowed me to conduct graduate level research at the undergraduate level."





# BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Deb Creger, Board Chair

Phil Willett, Board Vice-Chair, Class of 2003

Glen Leavitt, Secretary/Treasurer

Judy Siring

Ted Ori, Class of 1980

John Warren

John Schuyler

Mike Basile

Collin Erb

Ron Fick

Charlene Loge

Fred Snook, Class of 1968

Taylor Nahrgang, Class of 2010

Paul Tash

Jane Haker, Class of 1972

Tom Tucker, Class of 1975

Josh White

William Kriegel

*Journal*