

UNIVERSITY OF WYOMING

Wyoming established its University in 1887, as a land-grant institution. The main campus is in Laramie, and there is an additional campus at Casper. The University of Wyoming (UW) has almost 14,000 students, some 10,200 of whom are undergraduates. Most of UW's students (74 percent) are state residents.⁷¹⁷ The state government has close ties with the University, which is the only university in the state.

UW's total expenditures for its FY 2016-17 annual budget was first planned at \$270 million, but a state funding crisis in the summer of 2016 reduced its budget by at least \$30 million for that fiscal year, to less than \$240 million.⁷¹⁸ UW received \$187 million in direct state funding in FY2015-16;⁷¹⁹ as of this writing the numbers are not yet final for FY2016-2017, but should be no greater than \$157 million. In the absence of reliable official figures, we have developed a cautious estimate of **\$2.5 million per year for UW's spending on New Civics**. This chapter concludes with our financial analysis.

As in CU-Boulder, CSU, and UNC, the New Civics at UW directs itself at students both inside and outside the classroom. In this chapter we will examine UW's Old Civics, and contrast it with the campus' burgeoning New Civics.

UW's New Civics bureaucracy is much smaller than CU-Boulder's, CSU's, or UNC's. It is embryonic—but it contains all the parts needed for expansion.

1. UW's Office of Service, Leadership & Community Engagement (SLCE), the equivalent of CU-Boulder's CUEngage, CSU's Slice, and UNC's Center for Community and Civic Engagement, runs much of UW's New Civics complex, including its service-learning classes.
2. UW's lacks most of the New Civics programs present at CU-Boulder, CSU, and UNC, but its service-learning classes are the kernels of New Civics programs to come.
3. UW's Honors Program is being prepared for takeover by the New Civics.

UW's New Civics bureaucracy is much smaller than CU-Boulder's, CSU's, or UNC's. It is embryonic—but it contains all the parts needed for expansion.

717 University of Wyoming, UW Quick Facts. <http://www.uwyo.edu/profiles/extras/quick-facts.html>.

718 University of Wyoming, Budget Planning: "A Plan for Budget Reduction at the University of Wyoming," http://www.uwyo.edu/president/_files/docs/2016budgetreduction/budget_reduction_document_062016.pdf; "Fiscal Year 2017 \$7 Million Budget Reduction Schedule," http://www.uwyo.edu/president/_files/docs/2016budgetreduction/fy2017_7m_budget_reduction_schedule_by_division.pdf.

719 University of Wyoming, Operating Budget, Fiscal Year July 1, 2015 to June 30, 2016, http://www.uwyo.edu/administration/_files/docs/budget/fy2016%20operating%20budget%209.4.2015%20web%20final%20.pdf, p. 10.

4. UW has a smaller number of extracurricular New Civics programs than do CU-Boulder, CSU, and UNC.

UW has more Old Civics remaining than its peers in Colorado—and less of the New Civics. UW’s New Civics complex is limited in extent—smaller than UNC’s or CSU’s, and far more rudimentary than CU-Boulder’s. **Service, Leadership & Community Engagement (SLCE)**, the New Civics’ administrative kernel at UW, runs much of the New Civics complex, including its **service-learning classes**. Several **New Civics courses** are the kernels of future New Civics programs. **Alternative Breaks** transforms vacation time into New Civics sessions, **Study Abroad** provides opportunities to extend service-learning to semesters away from UW, and the New Civics extends into UW students’ extracurricular life via programs that include the **Multicultural Student Leadership Initiative**, the **Rainbow Leadership Series**, and the **Good Mule Project**. The programs collectively work to make the New Civics present in significant portions of student life at UW.

The New Civics programs at UW extend the New Civics throughout UW, both inside and outside the classroom. They are limited in extent, not yet as pervasive as at CU-Boulder, CSU, or UNC.

A REMNANT CORE

The University of Wyoming retains the core of the **Old Civics**: it is the sole university in this study that requires all students to take one course in civics. The university does not do so of its own volition, but rather to obey a 1925 mandate by the state legislature.⁷²⁰ UW’s rationale for the course is: “In order to prepare students to be active citizens, a university education should provide graduates with an understanding of the history, cultural context, and principles of the institutions by which they are governed. Wyoming state statutes require this study, [and] the USP endorses its importance for developing responsible citizenry.”⁷²¹

UW used to require students to take (or test out of) just one course: POLS 1000 *American and Wyoming Government*. The university has begun to loosen the rigor of this requirement, and has turned it into a *U.S. & Wyoming Constitutions* distribution requirement.

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⁷²⁰ Wyoming Statute §21-9-102 (2010), *Justia*, <http://law.justia.com/codes/wyoming/2010/Title21/chapter9.html>.

⁷²¹ University of Wyoming, University Studies Program, “U.S. and Wyoming Constitutions (V),” <http://www.uwyo.edu/unst/usp-2003/v-requirement/index.html>.

Students now have a choice from six courses that satisfy the civics requirement: ECON 1200 *Economics, Law, and Government*; HIST 1211 *US to 1865*; HIST 1221 *US from 1865*; HIST 1251 *History of Wyoming*; POLS 1000 *American and Wyoming Government*; and POLS 1100 *Wyoming Government*.⁷²²

Students are now allowed to satisfy *U.S. & Wyoming Constitutions* with ECON 1200 *Economics, Law, and Government*; HIST 1211 *US to 1865*; or HIST 1221 *US from 1865*—a course on national government—so long as they can pass a Wyoming Government Exam (1 credit hour), and satisfy that aspect of the civics requirement by scoring at least 70 percent in a one-hour exam with 10 true/false questions and 40 multiple-choice questions. Students also have two opportunities to take a “Challenge Exam” on *American and Wyoming Government*—140 multiple-choice questions and 10 true/false questions—and will satisfy UW’s civics requirement by receiving a score of at least 70 percent. Students who fail this exam twice must take a course on Wyoming government.⁷²³

The requirement frames UW's core civics education as an unpleasant obligation, to be avoided if possible—but at least the university still requires students to acquire a minimum of traditional civic knowledge.

UW structures its requirement so that students who study hard can get out of taking a class on *American and Wyoming Government* or *Wyoming Government*; their reward is the chance to fulfill their requirement instead by taking *Economics, Law, and Government*; *US to 1865*; or *US from 1865*. The requirement frames UW’s core civics education as an unpleasant obligation, to be avoided if possible—but at least the university still requires students to acquire a minimum of traditional civic knowledge.

In Fall 2016, 149 students were enrolled in ECON 1200 *Economics, Law, and Government*;⁷²⁴ 115 in HIST 1211 *US to 1865*; 119 in HIST 1251 *History of Wyoming*;⁷²⁵ 674 in POLS 1000 *American and Wyoming Government* (455 in 3 on-campus classes; 219 online); and 39 in POLS 1100 *Wyoming Government*.⁷²⁶ 1,096 students were enrolled in total. If we multiply the 674 students in

722 University of Wyoming, University Studies, “USP 2015 Approved Courses - Updated 6/3/16,” http://www.uwyo.edu/unst/usp2015/_files/usp_2015_approved_courses.pdf.

723 University of Wyoming, Political Science Department, “Challenge Exam,” <http://www.uwyo.edu/pols/challenge-exam/>.

724 University of Wyoming, Registrar, Fall 2016, “Economics 766-2175,” http://www.uwyo.edu/registrar/class_schedules/fall2016/econ.html.

725 University of Wyoming, Registrar, Fall 2016, “History 766-5101,” http://www.uwyo.edu/registrar/class_schedules/fall2016/hist.html.

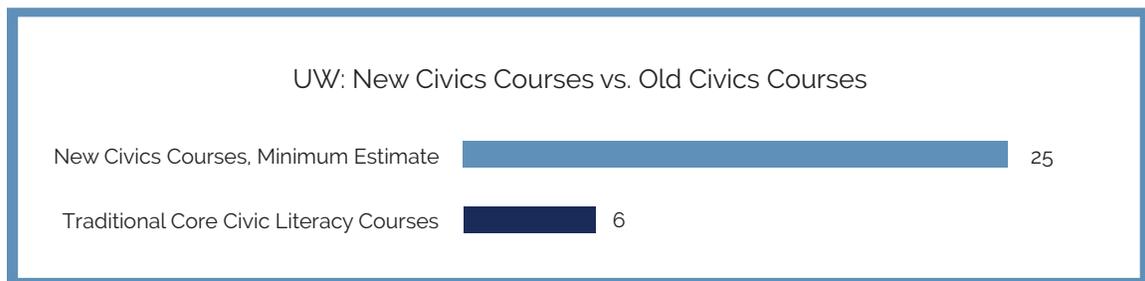
726 University of Wyoming, Registrar, Fall 2016, “Political science 766-6484,” http://www.uwyo.edu/registrar/class_schedules/fall2016/pols.html.

American and Wyoming Government, by 8, then 5,392 out of 10,200 undergraduates at UW take the university’s basic civics course in the course of four years, almost 53%. The remaining 47% of UW undergraduates presumably take the multiple choice examination instead.

UW obeys its legal mandate to provide a civics education for its students, but it attempts to minimize its commitment. The message that this is a chore for the university to complete rather than an ideal it cherishes is amply communicated to UW faculty and students.

OLD CIVICS VS. NEW CIVICS

UW retains a civics requirement, but it still prizes the number of course choices it can provide above providing a solid traditional education. The university offered several thousand courses in Fall 2016, many divided into multiple sections.⁷²⁷ UW provides no overall list of New Civics courses, but in 2010 alone SLCE awarded 11 Community Engagement Mini-Grant Awards to implement community engagement or service-learning courses.⁷²⁸ We believe that by a lowball estimate there are at least **25 service-learning courses a year** at UW. UW lists 6 courses for its *U.S. & Wyoming Constitutions* requirement. New Civics courses probably outnumber Old Civics courses by at least four to one.



THE DEAD WEIGHT OF THE DISTRIBUTION REQUIREMENTS

The University of Wyoming integrates its civics requirement into a standard set of distribution requirements, the University Studies Program (USP). The USP includes *Communications* courses in any of a wide number of disciplines, a *First Year Seminar* in any of a similarly broad number of departments, and courses in *Quantitative Reasoning, Physics and the Natural World, Human Culture*—and the civics requirement, *U.S. and Wyoming Constitutions*.⁷²⁹ A few of the hundreds of courses (129 alternatives for *Human Culture* alone) that can satisfy these distribution requirements can contribute to a traditional civics education, such as CLAS 2020 *Classical Greek Civilization*

727 University of Wyoming, Office of the Registrar, “Main Campus Course Listings,” http://www.uwyo.edu/registrar/class_schedules/fall2016/fa16main.pdf.

728 University of Wyoming, News, “UW Faculty Members Awarded Service-Learning Project Grants,” <http://www.uwyo.edu/uw/news/2010/12/uw-faculty-members-awarded-service-learning-project-grants.html>.

729 University of Wyoming, Office of the Registrar, University Catalog, “The University Studies Program 2015,” http://www.uwyo.edu/registrar/university_catalog/usp.html.

or POLS 4810 *Seminar in Political Philosophy*.⁷³⁰ On the whole, however, UW's distribution requirements do nothing to forward the civics education of its students.

Oddly, neither HIST 1110 *Western Civilization I* nor HIST 1120 *Western Civilization II* can fulfill USP requirements.⁷³¹ Perhaps as a result of that neglect, only 39 students out of UW's 10,200 undergraduates enrolled in HIST 1110 *Western Civilization I* at UW in Fall 2016.⁷³²

Yet many progressive courses do satisfy USP requirements. Courses that fulfill the *Communications* requirement include AAST 4233 *Race, Ethnicity, Gender and Media*, COJO 4260 *Rhetoric and Social Justice*, and WMST 4700 *Feminist Theories. First Year Seminars* include EDST 1101 *Fight the Power: Diversity and Social Justice*, ENR 1101 *Climate Change: Thinking Like a Planet*, and UWYO 1101 *The Challenge of Sustainability: Project Based Learning*. Courses that fulfill the *Human Culture* requirement include CHST 4470 *Chicano Folklore*, HP 3152 *Race and Racism*, WIND 2700 *Gender and Disability*, and WMST 2000 *Intro to LGBTQ/NS Studies*. The *Physics and the Natural World* requirement can also be satisfied by ATSC 2100 *Global Warming: The Science of Humankind's Energy Consumption*.⁷³³ UW's USP distribution requirements skew toward providing education with a progressive stamp.

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Courses that fulfill the Human Culture requirement include CHST 4470 Chicano Folklore, HP 3152 Race and Racism, WIND 2700 Gender and Disability, and WMST 2000 Intro to LGBTQ/NS Studies.

MEET THE NEW CORE, IT AIN'T LIKE THE OLD CORE

UW's College of Arts and Sciences adds further distribution requirements for its students in *Science, Foreign Language, Non-Western Perspectives, and Upper Division Courses Outside Your Major*.⁷³⁴ The *Non-Western Perspectives* requirement is a way to insert the new progressive core

730 University of Wyoming, University Studies, "USP 2015 Approved Courses - Updated 6/3/16," http://www.uwyo.edu/unst/usp2015/_files/usp_2015_approved_courses.pdf.

731 University of Wyoming, University Studies, "USP 2015 Approved Courses - Updated 6/3/16," http://www.uwyo.edu/unst/usp2015/_files/usp_2015_approved_courses.pdf.

732 University of Wyoming, Registrar, Fall 2016, "History 766-5101," http://www.uwyo.edu/registrar/class_schedules/fall2016/hist.html.

733 University of Wyoming, University Studies, "USP 2015 Approved Courses - Updated 6/3/16," http://www.uwyo.edu/unst/usp2015/_files/usp_2015_approved_courses.pdf.

734 University of Wyoming, "Information about Degree Requirements," http://www.uwyo.edu/relstds/_files/major-minor/as_core_reqs.pdf.

curriculum. Fall 2016 courses that fulfilled the *Non-Western Perspectives* requirement included AAST 3670 *African Diaspora*; AIST 2340 *Native American Literature*; ANTH 3420 *The Anthropology of Global Issues*, and ENGL 4600 *Studies: Feminist Theories*.⁷³⁵ Other courses that have satisfied the *Non-Western Perspectives* requirement (under the name *Global Awareness*) have included COJO 4231 *Minority Media Ownership*, PHIL 3520 *Global Justice*, and WNST 4520 *Gender and Sexuality in Postcolonial Writing*.⁷³⁶

The College of Arts and Sciences may also still have a *Diversity in the US* requirement for its students, which forces them to take further progressive courses. The College certainly had the requirement until the introduction of the new USP distribution requirements in 2015. The Arts and Sciences faculty apparently voted in Fall 2014 to eliminate both the *Diversity in the US* and the *Global Awareness* requirements,⁷³⁷ and neither requirement appears in the College's current list of requirements—although the new *Non-Western Perspectives* requirements appears to have replaced *Global Awareness*.⁷³⁸ Yet although the *Diversity in the US* requirement appears to have disappeared, the Fall 2016 UW class schedule still lists which classes meet the “A&S Core Diversity in US” requirement. Examples include AST 1000 *Introduction to African-American Studies*, AMST 3400 *Popular Music and Sexualities*, EDST 2480 *Diversity and the Politics of Schooling*, NURS 3020 *Cultural Diversity in Family Health Care*, and SOWK 4060 *Diversity and Difference in Social Work*.⁷³⁹ The shadow of the Diversity requirement certainly still exists, and perhaps the requirement itself.

The new, progressive core is forming in UW via the College of Arts and Sciences—with some assistance from the University-wide requirements to take courses, especially First Year Seminars,

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735 University of Wyoming, Office of the Registrar, “Main Campus Course Listings,” http://www.uwyo.edu/registrar/class_schedules/fall2016/fa16main.pdf.

736 University of Wyoming, “Global Awareness ASG Course List,” http://www.uwyo.edu/as/_files/current/global-awareness.pdf#global-awareness.

737 Tim Steere, “Arts and Sciences eliminates course requirements,” *Laramie Boomerang*, September 21, 2014, http://www.laramieboomerang.com/news/arts-and-sciences-eliminates-course-requirements/article_0858b55f-29fb-541d-b841-f928acb1eb98.html.

738 University of Wyoming, “Information about Degree Requirements,” http://www.uwyo.edu/relstds/_files/major-minor/as_core_reqs.pdf.

739 University of Wyoming, Office of the Registrar, “Main Campus Course Listings,” http://www.uwyo.edu/registrar/class_schedules/fall2016/fa16main.pdf. Also see University of Wyoming, “Diversity in the US ASD Course List,” http://www.uwyo.edu/as/_files/current/diversity.pdf#diversity.

which skew toward progressive advocacy. Moreover, the language of the mission statement of the University Studies Program, which articulates the rationale of UW's distribution requirements, already uses the language of the New Civics: "University Studies encourages students to become active citizens in a diverse democracy. Through multi-and inter-disciplinary inquiry, students gain the perspectives necessary to deal with complex issues, appreciate the viewpoints of others, function effectively in multicultural communities, understand the responsibility to participate in democratic society, and communicate clearly in a civic environment."⁷⁴⁰ This language prepares the way to insert a progressive, New Civics core into UW's all-university course requirements.

The mission statement of the University Studies Program, which articulates the rationale of UW's distribution requirements, already uses the language of the New Civics.

*ARTWORK, WYOMING STUDENT UNION
[STUDENT CENTER], UW*

A mural on immigration adorns the UW student center, the Wyoming Union. The mural depicts a mustachioed white man wearing a cross necklace, a dagger, and a conquistador helmet facing a pregnant Native American woman. Behind her are people in modern clothing holding signs that say "What's wrong with amnesty?" "Give us your poor, your tired, but NO Mexicans!" "WE ARE WORKERS NOT CRIMINALS," "A FENCE WON'T STOP US," "We value humanity and cultural diversity," and "THIS COUNTRY WAS BUILT ON OUR BACKS."



740 University of Wyoming, University Studies Program, "What is the University Studies Program?," <http://www.uwyo.edu/unst/>.

NEW CIVICS AT UW: SMALL, BUT GROWING

UW has more Old Civics remaining than its peers in Colorado—and less of the New Civics. UW’s New Civics complex is limited in extent—smaller than UNC’s or CSU’s, and far more rudimentary than CU-Boulder’s. **Service, Leadership & Community Engagement (SLCE)**, the New Civics’ administrative kernel at UW, runs much of the New Civics complex, including its **service-learning classes**. Several **New Civics courses** are the kernels of future New Civics programs. **Alternative Breaks** transforms vacation time into New Civics sessions, **Study Abroad** provides opportunities to extend service-learning to semesters away from UW, and the New Civics extends into UW students’ extracurricular life via programs that include the **Multicultural Student Leadership Initiative**, the **Rainbow Leadership Series**, and the **Good Mule Project**. The programs collectively work to make the New Civics present in significant portions of student life at UW.

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Still, they are growing.

SLCE OF WYOMING

UW’s **Office of Service, Leadership & Community Engagement (SLCE)** is the New Civics’ administrative kernel at UW; SLCE runs much of the New Civics complex, including its **service-learning classes**. SLCE’s Service-Learning also provides Community Engagement Mini-Grant Awards, usually “between \$200 and \$700, [which] are available to fund the implementation of new community engagement or service-learning projects as well as the continuation of established projects in existing courses.” In 2010, eleven grants ranging from \$500 to \$1,500 were awarded to courses including *Communities of Story Tellers*; *Partnering with the Community through Grant Writing*; *Campus Sustainability*; *Professional Writing in the Community*; and *Environmental Stewardship: First Year Experience*.



Erin Olsen,
Assistant Director,
Service, Leadership &
Community Engagement

SLCE has worked in the past with Colorado Campus Compact’s Engaged Faculty Institute (EFI), which provides “training and support for faculty who are currently, or hope to, implement service learning into their curriculum.” SLCE now supports its own on-campus Engaged Faculty Learning Community, in collaboration with the Ellbogen Center for Teaching and Learning.⁷⁴¹ The faculty

741 University of Wyoming, Wyoming Union (Division of Student Affairs), “Service Learning,” <http://www.uwyo.edu/union/slce/community-engagement/service-learning.html>; University of Wyoming, Wyoming Union (Division of Student Affairs), “Community Engagement Mini-Grants,” http://www.uwyo.edu/union/slce/_files/community-engaged-scholars/community_engagement_mini-grant_2015_2016.pdf; University of Wyoming, News, “UW Faculty Members Awarded Service-Learning Project Grants,” <http://www.uwyo.edu/uw/news/2010/12/uw-faculty-members-awarded-service-learning-project-grants.html>.

participants do not appear to be recompensed, but they no longer have to travel to Colorado to learn how to incorporate service-learning into their courses.

CIVIC HONORS

UW's Honor's Program has also begun to integrate itself into the New Civics. The Honors Program advertises itself as providing "co-curricular opportunities," "the breadth of knowledge needed by citizens," and instruction in "how to become engaged citizens and to understand the ethnic and cultural diversity of America and the world."⁷⁴² The 2014 External Review Report of the Honors Program also stated that "With the WHO [Wyoming Honors Organization] community service activities and study abroad programs, the Honors Program has embraced the concept of participatory, experiential honors education. In addition, several honors courses incorporate hands-on, experiential elements."⁷⁴³ The Honors Programs has not yet been formally restructured as a vessel for the New Civics, as its counterparts have been at CSU and UNC, but that change presumably will come soon enough.

"The Honors Program has embraced the concept of participatory, experiential honors education."

COURSES IN NEW CIVICS: KERNELS OF PROGRAMS TO COME

Just as the UW Honors Program has been prepared to turn into a full-blown New Civics program, so other New Civics programs are present in embryo—as **service-learning or civic engagement courses**. Several service-learning courses offered in Fall 2016 appear by their titles and descriptions to be exercises in New Civics that are also intended to lay the groundwork for the formation of permanent New Civics bureaucracies.

EDST 1101 FYS: *Citizen Factory* (24 students enrolled) introduces students "to active learning, inquiry of pressing issues, and individual and collaborative processing of ideas. Open to all, the course will appeal to any student with an interest in the public schools or schooling for democracy."⁷⁴⁴ *Citizen Factory*

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742 University of Wyoming, Office of the Registrar, "University Honors Program," http://www.uwyo.edu/registrar/university_catalog/7mischnr.html.

743 University of Wyoming, University of Wyoming Honors Program, "External Review Report, November 3-4, 2014," https://www.uwyo.edu/acadaffairs/_files/docs/honors_external_review-2014.pdf.

744 University of Wyoming, Registrar, Fall 2016, "Educational Studies 766-3130," http://www.uwyo.edu/registrar/class_schedules/fall2016/edst.html.

presumably is the seed of a Public Achievement franchise at UW.

CNSL 1101 FYS: *EPIC Leadership* (24 students enrolled) “is an innovative survey course providing students with a basic understanding of what it means to think and act like a leader no matter what their role is in an organization, group or community. It covers eighteen fundamental and timeless leadership principles that every effective leader should understand.”⁷⁴⁵ Meanwhile, the Wyoming Leadership program offers the course CNSL 2000 *Intro to Student Leadership*,⁷⁴⁶ while UWYO 3000 *Student Leadership in Supplemental Instruction* teaches students “peer leadership, best practices in supplemental instruction, and student reflection. Will strengthen leadership knowledge and skills and introduce effective methods for group facilitation and SI curriculum.”⁷⁴⁷ These two courses appear to be the core of a forthcoming Leadership Studies Minor.

New Civics classes at UW appear to be concentrated in the First Year Seminars and the University of Wyoming (UWYO) classes. These programs should be taken to be components of the New Civics bureaucracy at UW.

In Fall 2015, students could take UWYO 1101 *Ignite Your Passion: Creating Change Through Service and Action*, in which students provided “service in the local Laramie community,” acquired “a foundation for understanding the role of public scholarship, community engagement, and social action,” and learned to “examine and critique strategies for social and environmental change, while becoming familiar with the expectations and responsibilities for successful community engagement.”⁷⁴⁸ This course will be the core of a Wyoming INVST.

UW’s New Civics advocates will build their administrative infrastructure out of such classes.

745 University of Wyoming, Registrar, Fall 2016, “Counselor Education 766-5649,” http://www.uwyo.edu/registrar/class_schedules/fall2016/cnsl.html.

746 University of Wyoming, Service, Leadership, and Community Engagement, “Leadership Courses,” <http://www.uwyo.edu/union/slce/leadership/leadership-courses.html>.

747 University of Wyoming, University Catalog, “University of Wyoming (UWYO),” http://www.uwyo.edu/registrar/university_catalog/uwyo.html#UWYO3000.

748 University of Wyoming, “First-Year Seminar Fall 2015 Course Offerings,” http://www.uwyo.edu/cacs/_files/documents/fys%20fall%202015%20course%20descriptions.pdf.

New Civics classes at UW appear to be concentrated in the First Year Seminars⁷⁴⁹ and the University of Wyoming (UWYO)⁷⁵⁰ classes. These programs should be taken to be components of the New Civics bureaucracy at UW.

NEW CIVICS HERE, NEW CIVICS THERE

The New Civics also extends into UW students' extracurricular life via several programs, including the **Multicultural Student Leadership Initiative**, the **Rainbow Leadership Series**, and the **Good Mule Project**.

The **Multicultural Student Leadership Initiative (MSLI)** “is an involvement opportunity for students who support diversity and want to make a difference during their time at UW. MSLI is dedicated to supporting students in their first year on campus by developing their leadership skills and building a supportive social network through mentoring.” MSLI includes Mentoring and Leadership Development, the latter of which includes “leadership development workshops and special community building activities.”⁷⁵¹

The **Rainbow Leadership Series (RLS)** coordinates the community organizing of gay (“LGBTQ”) students by way of “leadership development opportunities.” The RLS calls on participating students to *commit to involvement in one of the opportunities on campus; better understand the role collaboration plays in social change; develop an individual call to action, encouraging others to collaborate in their cause; find a common leadership purpose with other participants in the series; and take part in a leadership activity that promotes social change.*⁷⁵²

The **Good Mule Project (GMP)** is a conference promoting progressive advocacy and activism: “a student-led initiative at the University of Wyoming fostering a community of dialogue and action around issues of multiculturalism and diversity through the lens of social

*Good Mule Project
Consciousness
Workshops include
Identity Windows,
Privilege, Roots
and Shoots:
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and Subordinate and
Dominant Groups.*

749 University of Wyoming, University Catalog, “First-year Seminars,” <http://www.uwyo.edu/unst/usp2015/fys-courses/#inline12>.

750 University of Wyoming, University Catalog, “University of Wyoming (UWYO),” http://www.uwyo.edu/registrar/university_catalog/uwyo.html#UWYO3000.

751 University of Wyoming, Wyoming Union (Division of Student Affairs), “Multicultural Student Leadership Initiative,” <http://www.uwyo.edu/union/slce/leadership/msli.html> ; University of Wyoming, Multicultural Affairs, “Multicultural Student Leadership Initiative (MSLI),” <http://www.uwyo.edu/oma/msli/>.

752 University of Wyoming, Wyoming Union (Division of Student Affairs), “Rainbow Leadership Series,” <http://www.uwyo.edu/union/slce/leadership/rainbow-leadership.html>.

justice activism.” At one Toolbox Workshop, participants learn about “**Lobbying!**” from Melanie Vigil, who “is the Graduate Assistant for Community Engagement in the SLCE Office. Having a strong passion for LGBT advocacy, Melanie has lobbied, testified, and organized for important LGBT legislation both in the State of Wyoming and on a national level.” Ms. Vigil instructs participants “how to be an effective social justice advocate by learning how to write strategic letters/emails to elected officials, how to testify, and how to navigate difficult conversations with adversaries.” GMP Consciousness Workshops include *Identity Windows*, *Privilege*, *Roots and Shoots: Deconstructing the Cycle of Oppression*, and *Subordinate and Dominant Groups*.⁷⁵³

All of these extracurricular activities are channels for further New Civics advocacy.

YOU’LL FIND NEW CIVICS EVERYWHERE

UW’s New Civics advocates, following the playbook of their peers in Colorado, also extend progressive advocacy into time away from the campus. They have made sure that UW’s **Study Abroad** provides service-learning in semesters away from UW, notably by way of a service-learning program in Kenya that has been run out of UW-Casper since 2004.⁷⁵⁴ In the summer of 2016, the University offered the latest iteration of this service-learning study-abroad course, EDEL 4975/EDCI 5480

International Cultural Immersion & Service Learning in Kenya. Participating students “will make an impact during tree-planting activities in Karura Forest, an ‘urban forest’ and environmental jewel under threat from developers. By planting trees, you will stand in solidarity with Kenya’s Green Belt Movement.” The course syllabus added that students “will also examine ways in which the course will have influenced them as citizens of a “globalized” world.”⁷⁵⁵

“By planting trees, you will stand in solidarity with Kenya’s Green Belt Movement.”

The **Alternative Breaks** franchise at UW also transforms vacation time into New Civics sessions. The Summer 2016 trip “will focus on environmental sustainability, education and maintenance of

753 University of Wyoming, Wyoming Union (Division of Student Affairs), “The Good Mule Project,” <http://www.uwyo.edu/union/slce/community-engagement/good-mule-project.html>; University of Wyoming, Wyoming Union (Division of Student Affairs), “Keynote Speakers,” http://www.uwyo.edu/union/slce/community-engagement/speaker_bios.html#Good Mule Speakers.

754 University of Wyoming, Kenya Service Learning Study Abroad Summer 2015, “Kenya Service Learning Study Abroad Summer 2015,” <http://www.uwyo.edu/edstudies/faculty-research-community-involvement/kenya-service-learning-study-abroad-summer-2015/>.

755 University of Wyoming, International Studies: Kenya, “Summer 2016 Learning Through Service,” <http://www.uwyo.edu/outreach/uwcasper/study-abroad-kenya/>; University of Wyoming, International Studies: Kenya, “2016 Kenya International Service Learning,” http://www.uwyo.edu/outreach/uwcasper/_files/documents/2016-kenya-summary.docx; University of Wyoming, International Studies: Kenya, “2016 Kenya Summer Session Course Syllabus,” http://www.uwyo.edu/outreach/uwcasper/_files/documents/2016_Kenya%20Syllabus.docx.

Glacier National Park, with stops in Jackson, WY and Yellowstone National Park.” At the University of Wyoming, the program is advertised as providing “a sharpened sense of civic duty.”⁷⁵⁶

I’M GROWING BIGGER AND BETTER IN EVERY WAY

UW’s plans to expand civic engagement are as yet modest. In its draft *Strategic Plan 2015-2020*, UW states as one goal among many that it wishes to “Expand the engagement of undergraduates in faculty scholarship and service learning experiences.” This is to be done by expanding “the funding opportunities for research and creative activity internships,” considering “the inclusion of undergraduate research in majors as a capstone experience” and creating “a budget line-item of \$250,000 per biennium supporting undergraduate research,” and by expanding “the funding and credit-bearing opportunities for service learning and community engagement.”⁷⁵⁷

These goals will leave UW’s New Civics complex substantially smaller than its Colorado rivals. Still, **in Wyoming as in Colorado, the New Civics is growing.**

UW STILL SPENDS ON NEW CIVICS, EVEN AS IT TIGHTENS ITS BELT

As noted above, UW’s total expenditures for its FY 2016-17 annual budget was first planned at \$270 million, but a state funding crisis in the summer of 2016 reduced its budget by at least \$30 million for that fiscal year, to less than \$240 million.⁷⁵⁸ UW received \$187 million in direct state funding in FY2015-16;⁷⁵⁹ as of this writing the numbers are not yet final for FY2016-2017, but direct state funding should be no greater than \$157 million (65%).

UW’s Office of Service, Leadership & Community Engagement (SLCE), the core of its New Civics, has one full-time position, two graduate student employees, and two undergraduate employees;⁷⁶⁰ judging by the University of Delaware proxy information,⁷⁶¹ it probably disposes of **\$500 thousand**. Further support to the New Civics from administrative personnel marbled throughout UW should amount to at least as many personnel: we may add another **\$500 thousand (\$1 million total)**.

756 University of Wyoming, Wyoming Union (Division of Student Affairs), “Alternative Breaks,” <http://www.uwyo.edu/union/slce/service/ab.html>.

757 University of Wyoming, *UP4 Strategic Plan 2015-2020, Executive Level Summary* (2014), p. 10, http://www.uwyo.edu/acadaffairs/plans/14-20/up4_draft.pdf.

758 University of Wyoming, Budget Planning: “A Plan for Budget Reduction at the University of Wyoming,” http://www.uwyo.edu/president/_files/docs/2016budgetreduction/budget_reduction_document_062016.pdf; “Fiscal Year 2017 \$7 Million Budget Reduction Schedule,” http://www.uwyo.edu/president/_files/docs/2016budgetreduction/fy2017_7m_budget_reduction_schedule_by_division.pdf.

759 University of Wyoming, Operating Budget, Fiscal Year July 1, 2015 to June 30, 2016, http://www.uwyo.edu/administration/_files/docs/budget/fy2016%20operating%20budget%209.4.2015%20web%20final%20.pdf, p. 10.

760 University of Wyoming, Service, Leadership & Community Engagement, “Meet Our Staff,” <http://www.uwyo.edu/union/slce/staff/>.

761 University of Delaware, 2015 Documentation Reporting Form: Carnegie Community Engagement Classification, <https://www1.udel.edu/engage/downloads/University%20of%20Delaware-carnegie-first-time-app.pdf>.

UW provides no list of service-learning courses, but in 2010 alone SLCE awarded 11 Community Engagement Mini-Grant Awards to implement community engagement or service-learning courses.⁷⁶² We believe that by a lowball estimate there are at least 25 service-learning courses a year at UW, taught by the equivalent of 4 instructors; this would add another **\$1 million (\$2 million)**. If we multiply 25 classes by an average undergraduate class size of 29,⁷⁶³ and multiply that number in turn by in-state undergraduate tuition and fees for a three-credit class of \$505, we get a figure of **\$366 thousand (\$2.366 million)**. Miscellaneous administrative costs should probably add **\$150 thousand**; cautiously, we may put that total at **\$2.5 million**.

We do not attempt to estimate a great many items that should be included in an accounting of the costs of the New Civics, including

1. administrative overhead;
2. pensions for New Civics staff and faculty;
3. student fees for New Civics activities;
4. the Student Affairs budget;
5. budgets of overlapping bureaucracies dedicated to progressive advocacy (Offices of Diversity, Sustainability, and so on);
6. all student housing costs; and
7. university fundraising and publicity dedicated to the New Civics

We believe that these items alone would easily double our estimate—and even this list does not account for incalculables such as opportunity cost and reputational cost.

\$2.5 million is a much smaller figure than at CU-Boulder, CSU, or UNC—but it is \$2.5 million spent in a year when UW has had to cut more than \$30 million dollars from a budget of \$270 million. It is \$2.5 million spent at a time when UW may eliminate 85 salaried positions, and is considering eliminating the entire department of Philosophy. It is \$2.5 million that the University of Wyoming can ill afford.

762 University of Wyoming, News, “UW Faculty Members Awarded Service-Learning Project Grants,” <http://www.uwyo.edu/uw/news/2010/12/uw-faculty-members-awarded-service-learning-project-grants.html>.

763 University of Wyoming, UW Profiles, UW Quick Facts, <http://www.uwyo.edu/profiles/extras/quick-facts.html>.

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764 “University of Wyoming may have to eliminate 85 positions,” KGWN, July 14, 2016, <http://www.kgwn.tv/content/news/University-of-Wyoming-may-have-to-eliminate-85-jobs-386816001.html>.

765 Justin W., *Daily Nous*, “Philosophy at University of Wyoming Threatened,” May 26, 2016, <http://dailynous.com/2016/05/26/philosophy-at-university-of-wyoming-threatened/>.