



# ROI

## AT THE PEW CHARITABLE TRUSTS

Welcome to ROI, Pew's report to our philanthropic partners, highlighting the returns we are seeing from your investments with us.

We are deeply grateful for the opportunity to work with like-minded individuals and institutions that share the commitment of our founders to serve the public good. These collaborations recognize that we can accomplish more together than any one of us can alone.

Following are highlights from our most recent accomplishments, brought to life with your support. We look forward to your comments and suggestions in return—and to continuing our work with you in the decades ahead.



# ARCTIC WATERS MORE SECURE AGAINST IMPACTS OF INCREASED SHIPPING

New measures for routing vessels through the Arctic waters of the Bering Strait aim to prepare the region for increased traffic by navigating ships on the safest course and around ecologically and culturally sensitive areas. Pew and our programmatic and philanthropic partners are among those celebrating the safeguards.

In May, the International Maritime Organization (IMO), a United Nations agency, adopted the first two-way routes for vessels traveling between the Arctic and Pacific oceans. The measures will keep vessels farther from shore to avoid communities, sensitive coastlines, and shallow-water hazards, such as shoals. The IMO also recognized three areas to be avoided because of their ecological and cultural values.

Philanthropic partners, including the Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation, the Oak Foundation, and the Tundra Glacier Fund, have all played a role in securing these measures to protect marine life in the region.

With our partners, Pew has developed close relationships with conservation groups, Indigenous peoples, academic entities, and others to gain Arctic protections and help ensure that the IMO regulations accounted for the impacts of ship traffic on coastal communities. For example, Kawerak Inc., the regional tribal consortium, provided critical leadership in this effort and continues to lead the way on Arctic shipping advocacy to safeguard the northern Bering Sea.

[Learn more.](#)

*“Indigenous communities, like those in the Alaskan and Canadian Arctic, are increasingly and disproportionately affected by climate change. As we address environmental issues, it’s important that we work with partners like Pew that share our global concern for ocean ecology and our commitment to local communities.”*

—KRISTIAN PARKER, OAK FOUNDATION TRUSTEE



## 2018 PEW BIOMEDICAL SCHOLARS AND FELLOWS ANNOUNCED

Tom Grill/Getty Images

For more than 30 years, Pew and our partners have supported more than 1,000 promising early career scientists through our biomedical research programs. The scholars receive valuable financial support and entry into a community that encourages calculated risks and collaboration across disciplines and national borders. This summer, 37 researchers joined the prestigious group.

The investigators, recognized as Pew [biomedical scholars](#), [Latin American fellows](#), and [Pew-Stewart Scholars for Cancer Research](#), explore a broad range of biomedical mechanisms that lay the groundwork for improving human health and defeating disease. The programs offer support for talented individuals as they pursue high-risk, high-reward ideas. Current

participants meet annually to discuss their work, and the gatherings have proved fruitful for new collaborations. A fourth initiative, the [Innovation Fund](#), gives pairs of alumni additional grants to pursue interdisciplinary research.

The Kathryn W. Davis Peace by Pieces Fund, a donor-advised fund at Pew, supports five of this year's biomedical scholars as well as the Innovation Fund teams. The Alexander and Margaret Stewart Trust provides funds for five Pew-Stewart scholars annually. Fundación Williams provides an additional year of study for one Argentine in the Latin American fellows program. Williams and Fundación Bunge y Born also support fellows who return to Argentina after their postdoctoral exchange in the U.S.

*"As an organization committed to promoting science and education in Argentina, we are proud to work with Pew to nurture talent, promote cultural exchange, and build capacity across the biomedical sciences in our region."*

—MARTÍN OLIVER, FUNDACIÓN WILLIAMS



## FACTUAL AND OPINION NEWS STATEMENTS PROVE CHALLENGING TO DISCERN

Tom Merton/Getty Images

In today's fast-paced and complex information environment, news consumers must make rapid-fire judgments about how to internalize news-related statements—statements that often come in snippets and through pathways that provide little context. A new Pew Research Center survey of U.S. adults examines a basic step in that process: whether members of the public can recognize news as factual—something that's capable of being proved or disproved by objective evidence—or as an opinion that reflects the beliefs and values of whoever expressed it.

When measuring the public's ability to distinguish between five factual statements and five opinion statements, the study found that a majority of Americans correctly identified at least three of the five statements in each set. But this result is only a little better than random guesses. Factors like

political awareness, digital savvy, and trust in the news media were found to affect Americans' ability to accurately identify news-related statements as factual or opinion.

The center offers an [online quiz](#) that allows you to test your own ability to distinguish factual statements from opinions and compare your results against the public's. Complete results from the survey are available [here](#).

The John S. and James L. Knight Foundation, the Ford Foundation, the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, and the Open Society Foundations provided support for this Pew Research Center study. Support for the research is part of the Knight Foundation's Trust, Media and Democracy initiative, which aims to strengthen the role of strong, trusted journalism as essential to a healthy democracy.



Katye Martens/The Pew Charitable Trusts

## ONE LAST THING

Many of our donors are interested in learning more about how Pew and our partners choose where to focus our efforts. Our president and CEO, Rebecca Rimel, recently discussed this in an interview with the radio program “The Business of Giving,” which you can listen to or read [here](#).

Pew’s nonpartisan, evidence-based work is guided by an abiding commitment to use the power of knowledge to serve the public good. We couldn’t do this without you, our partners, who provide valuable resources to help us solve today’s most challenging problems.

Whether advancing environmental protections, examining the impact of policies on taxpayers and communities, or providing information about relevant trends in society, we are stronger and more effective with partners at our side.

We invite you to reach out to Sally O’Brien, senior vice president for institutional partnerships, at [sobrien@pewtrusts.org](mailto:sobrien@pewtrusts.org). And please feel free to share “ROI at Pew”—we welcome others like you who share our commitment to making lasting change.