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UM Opens New Facility for Executive Education

May 12, 2016

MISSOULA – The University of Montana celebrated the opening of its newest campus facility, the Harold and Priscilla Gilkey Building, on Thursday, May 12.

Generously funded through private donations, the 31,411-square-foot building is home to new executive education offerings, the Global Leadership Initiative and the UM Foundation.

“Our executive education programs will help business leaders build strong organizations and support economic vitality, in Montana and beyond,” UM President Royce Engstrom said. “We will combine academic rigor with real-world experiences to build entrepreneurial leaders in our global 21st century.”

Kate McGoldrick, executive director for leadership, entrepreneurship and executive education at UM, will lead the University’s new mandate to partner with industry sectors, organizations and business leaders to develop their leadership capability and build organizational performance. Using a fee-for-service business model, executive education is expected to be self-sustaining and provide long-term financial value for the University.

UM alumni Harold and Priscilla Gilkey made a generous lead gift in support of the project. They were among the 129 donors who provided funds to underwrite construction.

“The University of Montana helped me develop my appreciation for lifelong learning,” Priscilla Gilkey said. “It is our goal that programs held in the Gilkey Building will be a catalyst and springboard for others to achieve their dreams.”

Harold Gilkey, too, sees the enormous benefit that ongoing business education can have for both established and emerging leaders.

“When considering funding for this project, it began as ‘pay back’ but became ‘pay forward,’ as developing true leadership and entrepreneurship through executive education creates many opportunities,” he said.

Harold Gilkey is a 1962 graduate of the UM School of Business Administration and holds a Master of Business Administration from the University of Southern California. He retired as chairman and CEO of Sterling Financial Corp. Priscilla Gilkey is also a 1962 UM graduate. She retired as vice president of community relations for Empire Health Services, a multi-hospital system in Spokane.

Larry Gianchetta, dean of UM’s School of Business Administration, has worked to bring a formal executive education program to UM for over a decade. Now, as he approaches retirement, he feels pride that the school is cementing its reputation as a leader in business education.

“To remain relevant in today’s competitive market for business education, we have an imperative to build robust partnerships with, and create real value for, business organizations and their leaders,” he said. “I am grateful to Harold and Priscilla for the opportunity to build a world-class executive education facility at UM.”

In addition to the executive education programs, the building is home to the Global Leadership Initiative, an undergraduate certificate program designed to foster leadership skills and a critical understanding of 21st century global challenges, and to the UM Foundation, the nonprofit organization that raises and stewards funds on behalf of the University.

The Gilkey Building has received a LEED v4 Gold certification. It is the third LEED-certified building on campus after The Payne Family Native American Center and the Student-Athlete Academic Center. LEED certification prioritizes energy and resource conservation in building design and construction, making it an obvious tool as UM works toward its emissions reduction and sustainability goals. The Gilkey Building will use 24 percent less energy and 34 percent less water than a conventionally designed building of comparable size, resulting in a 32 percent energy cost savings.

The University used local service providers in completion of this facility. L’Heureux Page Werner of Great Falls designed the building, Quality Construction of Missoula led building construction and Missoula’s Intaglio Design managed interior design and layout for the second and garden levels.

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UM Regents Professor Emeritus Receives 2015 Molecular Ecology Prize

May 28, 2015

MISSOULA – The journal *Molecular Ecology* chose University of Montana Regents Professor Emeritus Fred Allendorf as the recipient of its 2015 Molecular Ecology Prize.

The distinguished honor will officially be awarded Aug. 10-14 during the meetings of the European Society for Evolutionary Biology in Lausanne, Switzerland. The prize includes an engraved silver platter.

The field of molecular ecology is a young and inherently interdisciplinary research area. As a consequence, research in molecular ecology currently is not represented by a single scientific society. Likewise, there is nobody that actively promotes the discipline or recognizes its pioneers.

To help fill this void, the editorial board of the journal *Molecular Ecology* created the Molecular Ecology Prize several years ago to recognize significant contributions to this area of research. Allendorf joins some of the most distinguished pioneers in this discipline. A committee with a rotating membership was established to call for nominations and decide on prize winners.

Allendorf is one of a handful of people who founded the field of conservation genetics. He was one of the first to apply genetics to real-world conservation problems, and he has continued to advance the application of genetics, and now genomics, to pressing conservation problems.

His research focuses on the application of population and evolutionary genetics to problems in conservation biology. His book "Conservation and the Genetics of Populations," co-written with UM Professor Gordon Luikart and Sally Aitken of the University of British Columbia, provides an understanding of how genetics can be used to conserve species threatened with extinction.

Allendorf, along with holding the position of Regents Professor Emeritus of Biology at UM, is a Professorial Research Fellow at Victoria University of Wellington in New Zealand. He was a postdoctoral scholar at the University of Aarhus in Denmark and at Nottingham University in England. He also was a Senior Fulbright Fellow at Victoria University of Wellington and has held positions at the University of California, Davis; the University of Oregon; the University of Minnesota; and the University of Western Australia.

He is a Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science and a past president of the American Genetic Association and also served as director of the Population Biology Program of the National Science Foundation.

For more information about this award, call Molecular Ecology Chief Editor Loren Rieseberg at 604-827-4540 or email loren.rieseberg@botany.ubc.ca.

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Montana Improves Ranking for Child Well-Being

July 21, 2015

MISSOULA – While the economy has made gains since the Great Recession, it has left many Montana families in poverty, according to the newly released 2015 KIDS COUNT Data Book from the Annie E. Casey Foundation. More than 47,000 Montana children, or 21 percent of the total child population, live in poverty. The 2015 Data Book can be found online at <http://www.aecf.org/>.

“The child poverty rate in our state has remained more or less stagnant over the years,” said Jennifer Calder, communications director for Montana KIDS COUNT.

Nearly one-third of children live in families where no parent has full-time employment, and even when parents are working full time, wages and benefits often are not sufficient to adequately support a family.

“We know that kids succeed when families succeed,” Calder said. “When we invest in two-generation strategies to address persistent poverty, we can create meaningful change.”

The 2015 Data Book, which focuses on key trends in child well-being in the post-recession years, measures child

well-being in four domains: economic well-being, education, health, and family and community. The Casey Foundation report finds the rising tide of recovery, with both increased employment and more concentrated wealth, has left pockets of low-income, struggling communities and families.

Since the 2014 report, Montana's overall ranking improved one spot from 31st in the nation, to 30th. The most positive change has been improvement of the state's rank in children's health. The previous two years, Montana was ranked 50th in the United States for children's health. This year, the state moved up to 47th. The state has seen significant gains in the number of children with health insurance coverage, and decreases in the rate of teen alcohol and drug abuse.

Montana's ranking for education slipped in the study, in large part due to a decrease in preschool enrollment. Many other states have more children attending preschool, Montana has fewer. This is significant, as high-quality, early education lays a foundation for future learning and development.

"It's like building a house," Calder said. "If you have a strong foundation, you'll have a strong house with few problems. If you have a weak foundation, you can expect a lot of problems down the road."

Children who attend high-quality preschool are more likely to be successful in school, to graduate and attend college. In addition, low-income working parents are better able to work when they have consistent high-quality care for their children.

Montana's rank for economic well-being improved to the 20th spot. One of the drivers is that there are fewer "idle" teens that are not in school or not working, which means more teens are in school and graduating. The report finds that despite the improvement in the overall economic well-being ranking, children living in poverty in Montana remain a persistent problem. While we are several years into the economic recovery, approximately one in five children live in poverty in Montana, the same as in 2008.

Race is one of the strongest factors influencing a child's economic stability. Data show the economic recovery of the past several years has bypassed many children of color.

"The national averages belie the stark reality that millions of children, particularly American Indian, African-American and Latino children live on the precipice of poverty," said Laura Speer, associate director for policy reform and advocacy for the Casey Foundation. "Today, as the economy recovers, we see a widening gap between the living standards of many children of color and other kids."

National and state-level policies have proven that investments in health can create lasting positive differences for children. In Montana, there has been a 30 percent decrease in the overall number of children without health insurance coverage since 2008, with the expansion of public health insurance under Healthy Montana Kids.

However, while 10 percent of all Montana children currently do not have health insurance, 28 percent of American Indian children in Montana do not have health insurance..

While Montana has seen slight improvements in child and teen death rate, the state needs to continue to improve by enacting policies in the areas of traffic safety, suicide prevention and substance-abuse prevention.

In terms of increasing economic security for families with children, tax credits such as Federal and State Earned Income Tax Credits, are huge drivers in lifting working families out of poverty. However, even with these resources, millions of low-income families nationwide still struggle with meeting their families' basic needs.

The Casey Foundation offers a number of recommendations to improve opportunities for all children. The Foundation promotes a two-generation strategy that simultaneously addresses the needs of children, while at the same time providing tools and resources for their parents. Three critical strategies include:

- Providing parents with multiple pathways to get family-supporting jobs and achieve financial stability,
- Ensuring access to high-quality early childhood education, and
- Equipping parents to better support their children socially and emotionally and to advocate for their kids' education.

The Casey Foundation recommends policies that promote higher pay, paid sick leave, flexible scheduling and expanded unemployment benefits that will result in higher family income, reduced parental stress and an increased capacity of parents to invest in their kids. Detailed recommendations can be found in the 2014 report, "Creating Opportunities for Families: A To-Generation Approach, which can be found online at

<http://www.aecf.org/resources/creating-opportunity-for-families/>.

###

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UM Dean Roberta Evans Wins MUS Administrator of the Year Award

June 01, 2015

MISSOULA – The Montana Association of Students recently awarded Roberta Evans, dean of the University of Montana's Phyllis J. Washington College of Education and Human Sciences, the 2014-15 Administrator of the Year award.

Each year this distinguished award is bestowed upon an administrator within the Montana University System who has exhibited a history of excellence in leadership and demonstrated a quality, long-term impact on students.

Recipients of this award must be nominated by students and colleagues.



Through her work as interim chancellor at the University of Montana Western in Dillon, as well as her continued high-caliber leadership of the PJW College of Education and Human Sciences, Evans exemplifies the student-focused, quality administrator that the Montana University System strives to recognize.

Each year, the award is presented to the chosen administrator at a meeting of the Montana Board of Regents. This year, Asa Hohman, president of the Associated Students of UM, presented the award to Evans at the May 22 Board of Regents meeting in Kalispell. A recording of this meeting is online at https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4cW3y_nRdgY.

“She went out of her way to engage with the students of Montana Western, even though she was just serving in an interim role there,” Hohman said. “The students on that campus truly fell in love with her and her passion for education. With Dean Evans you know that she is in academia for the students, for the teaching. She is very selfless.”

“I am not at all surprised to see Dean Evans receive this award from the students,” said UM President Royce Engstrom. “Everything she does is with students in mind.”

“Her work on the Missoula campus as dean, at UMW last fall as interim chancellor and around the state promoting education at all levels is simply outstanding,” he said. “She has more focused energy than just about anybody I know. I am so proud of her.”

To learn more about Evans’ leadership and the things happening within the College of Education and Human Sciences, visit <http://www.coehs.umt.edu/>.

Contact: Peter Knox, communications and outreach manager, UM Phyllis J. Washington College of Education and Human Sciences, 406-243-4911, peter.knox@mso.umt.edu.



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UM Hosts Transition Seminar for High School Students with Disabilities

May 29, 2015

MISSOULA – Twenty-two high school students with disabilities will attend a University of Montana seminar designed to facilitate a smooth transition to college July 20-23.

“Movin’ on in Montana,” a collaboration between UM’s Disability Services for Students, the Rural Institute and Montana Vocational Rehabilitation, will bring together high school students from across the state to learn about disability rights, different expectations between high school and college, and how to use academic support. The students also will meet current UM students with disabilities.

The seminar attendees will stay in a residence hall on campus during the four-day seminar and will have the opportunity eat at a dining hall, attend a mock university lecture and other presentations, and explore community activities in Missoula.

“Students expressed in their applications that they are looking forward to learning more about the UM campus and why self-advocacy is so important,” said Bronwyn Troutman, UM Disability Services for Students coordinator. “This program is a great way to show them what their college experience will be like beforehand.”

For more information on the seminar, call Troutman at 406-243-2663 or email bronwyn.troutman@mso.umt.edu.

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UM Upgrades Internet Speed with Internet2 100G Connector

May 28, 2015

MISSOULA – The University of Montana is now home to a 100-gigabit-per-second fiber connection as an Internet2 Network connector site in Missoula. The ultra-high-speed capability advances UM’s research efforts and expands opportunities to support educational, research and health care institutions across the state.

“The Internet2 Network connection provides great support to our researchers who collaborate with colleagues both nationally and internationally and, in particular, for those involved in big data initiatives and their entrepreneurial activities,” said Scott Whittenburg, UM vice president for research and creative scholarship.

The new capability, which is 10 times faster than UM’s previous connection, will further research efforts in the areas of ecosystems, climate change, environmental health, neuroscience, the search for Earth-like planets in nearby solar systems and more.

“This provides us with amazing opportunities to capture and transmit field sensor data from an array of Internet of Everything possibilities,” said Matt Riley, UM’s chief information officer. “Missoula’s connectivity to the Internet2 Network brings Montana’s research and academic programs to the forefront.”

Riley says network connectivity is key to education and economic development activities in rural states where communities are separated by vast distances. UM connects a portion of Montana's higher education institutions, including four-year, two-year and tribal colleges, as well as the U.S. Forest Service. The new 100G connection provides an opportunity to expand connectivity to more higher education institutions, to the K-12 community, health care facilities, libraries and research laboratories across Montana.

"The University of Montana is a key institution in the northern United States, both for its research and education excellence and its leadership in connecting educational and public institutions in Montana," said Rob Vietzke, vice president of network services at Internet2. "We are pleased to partner with UM to advance its work and provide better network access for Montana's educational institutions."

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New Summer Exhibitions at UM Honor Military Vets, Celebrate Missoula

May 27, 2015

MISSOULA – Two exhibitions opening in June at the Montana Museum of Art & Culture at the University of Montana will feature Montana artist Ben Steele and artists who call or have called Missoula home.

The exhibitions will be on display June 4-Sept. 12 in the Meloy and Paxson galleries, located in the Performing Arts and Radio/Television Center.

The MMAC will premiere “Human Condition: The Art of Ben Steele” and “Hometown: The MMAC Permanent Collection Celebrates Missoula” during an opening reception from 5 to



7 p.m. Thursday, June 4, in the PAR/TV Center Lobby.

The event features an honor-guard recognition and reading of the Congressional Record commending Steele's life and service beginning at 5:15 p.m., a gallery talk by Missoula artist James Todd at 5:45 p.m., refreshments and live music. It is free and open to the public.

Steele, 97, is a World War II veteran and Bataan Death March survivor. As a prisoner he created drawings documenting the Japanese invasion of the Philippines, the capture of American and Filipino POWs and the degradation and cruelty to which the prisoners were subjected. Steele endured 41 months of starvation, dehydration, hard labor, torture and Japanese "hell ships" while crippled by dysentery, pneumonia, malaria, blood poisoning and beri beri. He attributes art making to his survival, recovery and process of forgiveness after the war.

A native Montanan, Steele grew up on a ranch outside **Roundup**. The bulk of drawings he created as a POW were destroyed in the war. Only two originals, created on the back of stolen Japanese military ledgers, remain. These artworks are among the few firsthand visual accounts of the Bataan Death March. Steele, with a near photographic memory, recreated most of his POW art during his recovery at Baxter Hospital in Spokane, Washington, and the Cleveland Art Institute, where he studied art from 1947 to 1950. Steele and his wife, Shirley, donated his artworks to the MMAC Permanent Collection in 2010.

Todd, UM professor emeritus and former director of the School of Art and Humanities Program, will discuss his monumental mural included in the "Hometown"



exhibition. He created his “The Family of Man” mural in 1969 with fellow student John Armstrong. For many years the mural was installed in Christ the King Church before being removed for renovations. This will mark the first time in decades the artwork will be on display for the public to see.

“Hometown” is organized to celebrate the observance of Missoula’s 150th sesquicentennial celebration. The exhibition brings together images of the Garden

City by artists including Tu Baixiong, James Dew, Walter Hook, Marilyn Bruya, Carmen Malsch, Heath Bultman and others.

Two additional events are scheduled in support of “Human Condition.” Henry Freedman will deliver a lecture titled “From Goya to Picasso: A History of War in Art” at 7 p.m. Thursday, July 30, in the Masquer Theatre in the PAR/TV Center. The talk will provide art historical context for Steele’s exhibition as Freedman discusses artists who revealed the human impact and terrible costs of conflict through their art.

The exhibition culminates with a closing reception at 7 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 10, the eve of Patriot Day. Filmmaker Jan Thompson, president of the American Defenders of Bataan and Corregidor Memorial Society, will screen her film “Never the Same” in the Masquer Theatre. The film about the Bataan Death March will be followed by a conversation and Q-and-A session with Thompson and special guest Loretta Swit.

Thompson is an associate professor at Southern Illinois University-Carbondale and currently is working on a new documentary focusing on Ben Steele. Swit, best known for her portrayal of Maj. Margaret “Hot Lips” Houlihan on MASH, narrates the documentary.

A complete schedule of other programs planned throughout the exhibition can be found online at <http://www.umt.edu/montanamuseum/exeventsschedule/calendar.aspx>.

MMAC is committed to making its Permanent Collection an important resource for not only UM, but also for the people of the state and the region. MMAC’s summer gallery hours, June through August, are noon-3 p.m. Wednesday, Thursday and Saturday and noon-6 p.m. Friday. The museum is open to the public with a suggested \$5 donation. For more information call 406-243-2019 or visit <http://www.umt.edu/montanamuseum>.

Contact: Barbara Koostra, director, Montana Museum of Art & Culture, 406-243-2019,

barbara.koostra@mso.umt.edu; Jessica Vizzutti, MMAC programs, publications and fiscal coordinator, 406-243-2019, jessica.vizzutti@mso.umt.edu.



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Crimestoppers Fundraising Concert at UM to Feature B.J. Thomas

May 27, 2015

MISSOULA – Musician B.J. Thomas will perform a benefit concert for Five Valleys Crimestoppers at 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 10, at the University of Montana’s Dennison Theatre.

Tickets are on sale now and are available by calling 406-721-1373. After an initial phone solicitation, tickets will be on sale at Rockin’ Rudy’s in Missoula starting Monday, July 6. Tickets cost \$36 plus applicable fees.

Thomas is a pop singer best known for his 1960s hits “Hooked on a Feeling” and “Raindrops Keep Fallin’ on My Head.” “Raindrops,” featured in the 1969 film “Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid,” hit No. 1 on the Billboard Hot 100 music chart that same year. The song also won an Academy Award for Best Original Song. More than a decade later, Thomas scored another hit, “As Long As We Got Each Other,” the theme song for the popular 1980s sitcom “Growing Pains.”

Singer-songwriter Thom Bresh will open for Thomas.

The concert is a fundraiser for Five Valleys Crimestoppers, which operates year-round, toll-free phone lines for

citizens to anonymously report tips on criminal activity. Money raised through the concert will fund rewards for tips used to solve crimes.

For more information call Mike Velasquez with Five Valley Crimestoppers at 406-721-1373 or email fivevalleyscrimestoppers@hotmail.com.

Contact: Mike Velasquez, show manager, Five Valleys Crimestoppers, 406-721-1373, fivevalleyscrimestoppers@hotmail.com.



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UM Student-Produced Documentary Examines Economy of Small-Town Montana

May 22, 2015

MISSOULA – A high school senior packs her bags and gets ready to leave for college, never expecting to return to her hometown. A father of two wants to create opportunity in that same town so someday his children can return home to good jobs. Meanwhile, the town wrestles with the possibility of an economic shot in the arm that potentially poses a threat to

the area's most valuable tourist attraction.



Students in the University of Montana School of Journalism

have created a television documentary examining the economy of small-town Montana. "Changing Home – Small Town Survival" will air at 7 p.m. Thursday, May 28, on MontanaPBS. The documentary is a case study of **White Sulphur Springs**, a town in central Montana with fewer than 1,000 residents.

The people of White Sulphur Springs have ridden the wave of economic boom and bust over the decades but have managed to hang on to the core of the town. Now a mining company wants to develop a copper deposit and bring 200 jobs to the region. But the site sits near tributaries of the Smith River, and people around Montana are concerned the copper mine could damage the scenic waterway.



"I think the viewers will learn that when it comes to the environment, things aren't as cut-and-dried as they may seem," said Holly Sinnema, a UM journalism senior from **Bozeman** who wrote and co-produced the program. "Yes, the mine project poses environmental risks, but White Sulphur desperately needs something to put life back in its economy. There's a lot of gray in issues like this, and I think that's something the audience will take away from the show."

"Changing Home" shows the dilemma facing the people of White Sulphur Springs who are eager for an economic boost and just as eager to protect the Smith. The program steps into the lives of the people affected by the proposal and shows how this latest challenge fits into the roller-coaster economic history of Meagher County.

The program is dedicated to Kalee Scolatti, a UM

journalism graduate who worked as the news director at ABC/FOX in Missoula until she died earlier this month.

Contact: Denise Dowling, associate professor and chair, UM Radio-Television Department, 406-243-4143, denise.dowling@umontana.edu.



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Board of Regents Approves UM Law School Renaming

May 22, 2015

MISSOULA – The Montana University System Board of Regents voted to give the University of Montana approval May 22 to rename its School of Law in honor of Alexander Blewett III, a Great Falls attorney who donated \$10 million to the school.

The school is now called the Alexander Blewett III School of Law at the University of Montana.

The gift is among the largest individual gifts in UM history and will nearly double the size of the law school's endowment, raising it to more than \$21 million. The gift from Blewett and his wife, Andy, will support three areas: consumer law and protection, scholarships and a general discretionary fund.

A celebration of the Blewetts' donation and an unveiling of new signage on the building will take place in September in conjunction with the State Bar of Montana Annual Meeting.

For more information a news release about the donation is online at <http://bit.ly/1AnX19M>.

###

Contact: Melissa Wilson, UM Foundation assistant vice president for marketing and communications, 406-243-4609, melissa.wilson@mso.umt.edu; Kate Stober, UM Foundation, 406-243-2627, kate.stober@mso.umt.edu.



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\$10 Million Gift to Transform UM School of Law

May 21, 2015

MISSOULA – Subject to Board of Regents approval, the University of Montana School of Law will officially become the Alexander Blewett III School of Law at the University of Montana as a result of a \$10 million donation from Alexander “Zander” and Andrea “Andy” Blewett of Great Falls.

The gift, announced May 21 during the Montana Board of Regents meeting in Kalispell, is among the largest individual gifts in UM history.

As determined by the Blewetts and the School of Law, the gift will create an endowed chair in consumer law and protection with endowed programmatic support in that area, provide \$1.5 million for the Access to Legal Education Scholarship Fund and create an endowed discretionary fund for general law school support.

The scholarship donation is structured as a giving challenge. For every gift of at least \$500 others give toward law scholarships, the Blewetts will match those donations with an equal contribution to the Access to Legal Education Scholarship Fund, up to a total of \$1.5 million. If the challenge is met, new scholarship donations will total \$3 million. The UM Foundation will manage the endowed funds to provide ongoing value to the School of Law and its students.

The Blewetts' transformational gift will nearly double the size of the law school's endowment, raising it to over \$21 million.

"Through their wonderful generosity, Zander and Andy Blewett have transformed our law school, ensuring excellence in legal education for decades to come," UM President Royce Engstrom said.

The Blewett family has a longstanding relationship with the School of Law, with Blewett becoming a second-generation graduate in 1971. Blewett's father, Alexander Blewett Jr., graduated from the institution in 1938, and Zander and Andy's sons, Anders and Drew, graduated from the school in 2007.

Blewett learned the value of education from his father, who was born in Butte in 1913. His father earned his bachelor's and law degrees from UM before moving to Great Falls, where he raised a family with his wife, Fern.

Today, Zander Blewett and his sons practice law at Hoyt & Blewett, one of Montana's pre-eminent law firms. Blewett is the managing partner and one of the top trial lawyers in the nation. He is the only Montana lawyer admitted to the Inner Circle of Advocates, an association limited to 100 litigators in the United States. He was the only Montana lawyer to be admitted to the 100 Mountain States Super Lawyers of 2012. Blewett also has been the Montana Trial Lawyers Association Trial Lawyer of the Year twice.

"I received an outstanding legal education at UM Law, as did my father and our two sons," Blewett said. "We love the law school and wanted to do something to ensure that future generations have that same opportunity. Our family believes deeply in the value of public education, the importance of it to Montana and the necessity that we all give back in a way that is meaningful to each of us – whether that's \$50, as was my first gift to the law school, or something more."

The Blewetts' gift positions the School of Law as the top regional law school, and the new consumer law and protection program will give the school yet another edge over the competition.

"The Blewetts' gift will create a program we believe will be unique in the nation," said Interim School of Law Dean Greg Munro. "Moreover, at a time when student debt is increasing nationwide, Zander and Andy are putting law school within reach of more students."

"Zander and Andy Blewett have been great friends to the law school for many years, and it is wonderful to see them make such a significant contribution to the school and to the legal profession in an area that is so important to Montana," said Ed Eck, former law school dean and current head of the Office of Consumer Protection for Attorney General Tim Fox.

A celebration of the Blewetts' donation and an unveiling of new signage on the building will take place in September in conjunction with the State Bar of Montana Annual Meeting.

###

Contact: Melissa Wilson, UM Foundation assistant vice president for marketing and communications, 406-243-4609, melissa.wilson@mso.umt.edu.



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UM Dining Wins National Bronze Medal for 'Beatlemania' Event

May 21, 2015

MISSOULA – The National Association of College & University Food Services recently announced that UM Dining at the University of Montana received a bronze medal at its annual Loyal E. Horton Dining Awards.

UM Dining received the accolade in the 2015 Residential Dining Special Event category for “Beatlemania,” held in December 2014. The UM Dining staff at the Food Zoo paid homage to The Beatles in an event that featured a British-inspired menu, a dining room decorated in the style of various Beatles albums, staff members dressed as members of the band and Beatles karaoke.

UM Dining holds special dining events throughout the school year to add interesting and educational experiences to the regular dining schedule. UM Dining has earned 22 Loyal E. Horton Awards since 1995, five Loyal E. Horton Grand Prizes and awards from various industry organizations for programs, facilities, menus and sales.

In college and university culinary arts, the ultimate professional tribute is a NACUFS Loyal E. Horton Award. The award celebrates exemplary menus, presentations, special event planning and new dining concepts. It also provides an avenue for sharing creative and cutting-edge ideas in campus dining programs.

For more information call Sam Belanger, UM Dining director of marketing, at 406-243-5089 or email samuel.belanger@mso.umt.edu.

Contact: Sam Belanger, UM Dining director of marketing, 406-243-5089, samuel.belanger@mso.umt.edu.



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UM Pre-Med Program Sees Steady Increase in Grads Accepted Into Medical School

May 21, 2015

MISSOULA – With 18 students accepted into medical schools this year, the Pre-Medical Sciences Program at the University of Montana reached an acceptance rate of 64 percent – 20 points higher than the national average of 44 percent.

The pre-med program has seen a steady increase in the number of students admitted into medical programs the past several years. In 2009, seven students received acceptance letters from at least one school. In 2010, just five. The number grew to 12 in 2011, and the program has had between 18 and 21 students admitted each year since then.

Mark Pershouse, Pre-Medical Sciences Program director, credits the steady increase to a task force formed in 2008 to improve pre-medical advising at UM. The task force, created at the request of then-Provost Royce Engstrom, included faculty from the Department of Biomedical and Pharmaceutical Sciences and other units on campus. Its

members formulated a plan to provide increased support to students seeking careers in medical fields.

Now, the program supports students as they navigate rigorous coursework, provides MCAT preparation, coordinates job-shadow and volunteer opportunities, and conducts mock interviews with applicants, among other measures.

“We send students to prestigious medical schools such as Vanderbilt, Duke, Northwestern, Cornell, Colorado, UC-San Diego, Washington University in St. Louis and many others,” Pershouse said.

One recent UM graduate, Jeni Comstock, scored interviews at 10 medical schools and was later accepted to seven of them. She will attend the University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health this fall.

Before revising the pre-med program, UM typically placed one or two students in the University of Washington’s WWAMI regional medical education program each year. This fall, nine UM grads will start their medical studies in Bozeman and Seattle through the WWAMI program.

“Now we aren’t happy until we reach nine or 10,” Pershouse said of UM’s WWAMI placement. “We are proud to say that nearly one-third of the WWAMI class participants in Bozeman are Grizzlies.”

The University’s medical school acceptance rate is particularly impressive, Pershouse said, considering UM’s pre-med program doesn’t try to “weed out” participants in the early years, which could result in even higher acceptance rates.

“The program opens its doors to all who wish to seek out advising,” Pershouse said. “There are no exclusion criteria as on many campuses.”

More information on the UM Pre-Medical Sciences Program is available online at <http://premed.health.umt.edu/>.

Contact: Mark Pershouse, director, UM Pre-Medical Sciences Program, 406-243-4769, mark.pershouse@mso.umt.edu.



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Comedian Dave Chappelle Adds Two More Shows to Missoula Stop

May 20, 2015

MISSOULA – Due to popular demand, stand-up comedian Dave Chappelle has added two more shows to his Missoula stop this summer. In addition to his June 16 performances, Chappelle will perform two sets Wednesday, June 17, at the University of Montana’s Dennison Theatre. Performances both nights will be at 7 and 9:30 p.m., with doors opening at 6 and 9 p.m.

Tickets are on sale at <http://www.griztix.com>, at the Adams Center Box Office and all GrizTix locations. Tickets also may be purchased by calling 406-243-4051 from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. Tickets cost \$57, plus applicable fees.

The shows will contain mature content.

Chappelle, a comedian, screenwriter and producer, is best known for the sketch comedy TV series “Chappelle’s Show,” which aired on Comedy Central from 2003 to 2006. He began his film career in 1993 as Ahchoo in Mel Brooks’ “Robin Hood: Men in Tights” and also had minor roles in “The Nutty Professor,” “Con Air” and “Blue Streak.” He landed his first major role in the 1998 comedy “Half Baked.”

For more information call Chanelle Paakkonen, UM productions marketing coordinator, at 406-243-4719 or email marketing@umproductions.org.

Contact: Chanelle Paakkonen, UM Productions marketing coordinator, 406-243-4719, marketing@umproductions.org.



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More Than 1,500 Students Tour Montana Museum of Art & Culture

May 20, 2015

MISSOULA – Since the opening of the Montana Museum of Art & Culture’s “The Art of the State: Celebrating 120 Years of the MMAC Permanent Collection,” more than 1,500 school-aged children have toured the show. Groups of second- and seventh-grade classes visited the museum at the University of Montana with the help of SPARK! Any Given Child Missoula and the Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts in Washington, D.C.

The collaboration brought museum docents to area schools to present artwork at assemblies where young people learned more about MMAC’s Permanent Collection. After the



presentations, classes toured the exhibition to experience the collection in person. Students from as far as Thompson Falls and Arlee participated in the program. In addition to SPARK! Any Given Child Missoula tours, students from all grades in both public and private schools viewed the exhibition on field trips. UM students, faculty, staff and administration also made many visits to the MMAC galleries.

“Partnering with SPARK! Any Given Child Missoula has been an incredible opportunity for our museum to share Montana’s Permanent Collection with more Missoula County Public Schools students than ever before,” said MMAC Director Barbara Koostra. “It’s been incredibly rewarding to work with our wonderful docents to educate children who, in some cases, have never before visited a museum.”

With support from the Dennis and Phyllis Washington Foundation, reproductions of artwork from the Permanent Collection were given to participating schools, along with a hardbound book of “The Art of the State: 120 Artworks for 120 Years.” At the end of the school year the remaining reproductions will be transformed into a visual lending library for MCPS schools to continue engaging students with MMAC’s Permanent Collection.

“It’s been a joyous experience with all grades,” said docent Anita Kurtz-Magee. “I love doing it.”

Holding the largest collection of art in Montana, including significant historic and contemporary artwork, MMAC is committed to connecting the region with one of the oldest and most prominent fine art collections in the Rocky Mountain Northwest. MMAC serves more than 10,000 Montanans annually through art exhibitions, lectures and other arts programming.

The public can visit “The Art of the State: Celebrating 120 Years of the MMAC Permanent Collection” through

Saturday, May 23. MMAC is located in the Paxson and Meloy galleries of the Performing Arts and Radio/Television Center at UM. The museum's summer hours are from noon to 3 p.m. Wednesday, Thursday and Saturday and from noon to 6 p.m. Friday. A \$5 donation is suggested.

Contact: Barbara Koostra, director, Montana Museum of Art & Culture, 406-243-2020, barbara.koostra@mso.umt.edu; Jessica Vizzutti, programs, publications and fiscal coordinator, Montana Museum of Art & Culture, 406-243-2019, jessica.vizzutti@umontana.edu.



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UM to Host Summer Planetarium Shows

May 20, 2015

MISSOULA – The University of Montana Department of Physics and Astronomy invites the public to its summer planetarium shows in the Payne Family Native American Center Star Gazing Room. The 50-minute shows will be offered at 6:30 and 8:30 p.m. two Fridays each month throughout June, July and August.

The following dates will be included in the summer planetarium show series: June 12, June 26, July 10, July 24, Aug. 14 and Aug. 28.

Tickets cost \$6 for adults and \$4 for children ages 12 and under. Tickets are limited and are available for purchase at <http://www.eventbrite.com/e/star-gazing-room-summer-planetarium-show-tickets-16870752876?ref=ebtn>. Sales end one hour before each show or when sold out.

Each program will take attendees on a tour of the current night skies of Missoula, pointing out noteworthy objects, constellations, planets or upcoming events visible in the night sky. The show then will shift to an engaging topic, or set of topics, chosen by that evening's presenter.

In addition to the various topics, each summer show will include either a preview or an update regarding the July 14 Pluto encounter and the closest approach by the New Horizons spacecraft. Early summer programs will preview the

Pluto encounter and provide background on the types of objects that inhabit the outer solar system. Shows later in the summer will include science updates following the July 14 encounter.

The maximum capacity for public shows is 25 people. Events may sell out quickly. Attendees should plan to be present 10 minutes before the beginning of the show, as the planetarium entrance will be locked after the show begins.

Though the Star Gazing Room is booked through the end of May for visiting school groups and private groups, the UM Department of Physics and Astronomy currently is scheduling summer shows for youth groups, private groups and nonprofit organizations. Spots will be available on a limited basis and can be scheduled based on availability.

For more information about the summer showings or about booking a group event, visit <http://cas.umt.edu/physics/Outreach/default.php>.

Contact: Mark Reiser, UM Department of Physics and Astronomy outreach coordinator, 406-243-2074, mark.reiser@umontana.edu.



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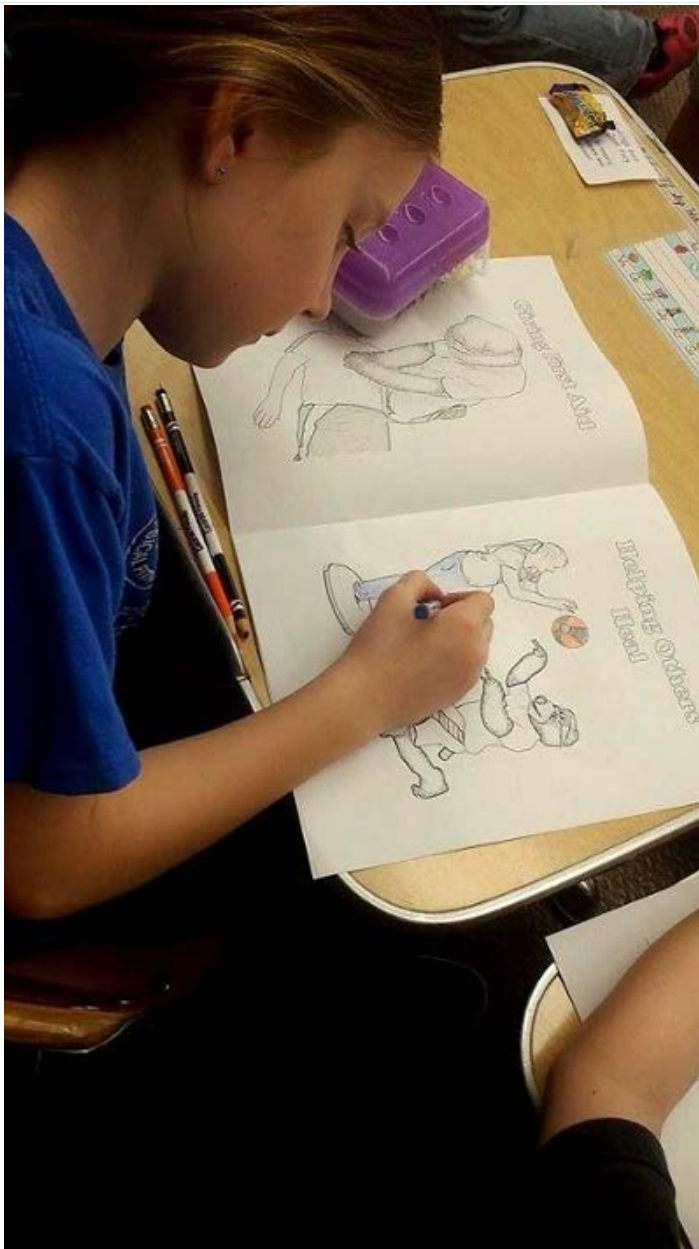
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Athletic Training Program Wins Eighth Consecutive Public Relations Contest

May 20, 2015

MISSOULA – Custom-designed coloring books featuring University of Montana’s mascot, Monte, as an athletic trainer were part of the project that recently earned UM athletic training students the top spot in a national contest. The UM team won the “Best Student Effort” category of the National Athletic Trainers’ Association Public Relations competition for the eighth consecutive year.

UM students David Grove, Jessica Paske, Jessica Cremer, Justin Halvorson, Seth Lindauer, Jonathan Skau and Chantal Graham, advised by UM Athletic Training Program Director Valerie Moody and Health and Human Performance instructor Jessica Moore, promoted the theme, “We Prepare, You Perform.” They estimate their multimedia message about athletic training – delivered



through free health screenings, in-person visits, stickers, fliers, marquee-sign messages and more – reached 730,000 people in 12 states.

“Every year the students amaze me with the work they do to promote athletic training,” Moody said. “I implemented this as a classroom assignment when I first arrived at UM nine years ago, and now the incoming students in our program start thinking about ideas to promote athletic training before the class even starts.”

The students provided free health screenings on two separate days at the Poverello Center and free CPR training to the emergency response team at St. Francis Xavier Parish. They visited 10 elementary schools in the Missoula area, delivering coloring books and hosting a Q-

and-A session for students at each school. They arranged a fundraiser at the Tamarack Brewing Company where they spoke about the athletic training profession to about 200 patrons. The students also visited a local physical therapy clinic and participated in two educational in-services with local high school students interested in pursuing athletic training as a career.

To send their message even further, they created videos about athletic trainers who made a difference in their lives and shared them online using social media. They also distributed fliers and stickers to alumni, colleagues and friends across the country. “The Men’s Room,” a Seattle-based radio show with a listenership of about 650,000 people, aired a PSA produced by the UM athletic training students.

“It’s awesome to see our students share their passion and educate others about the profession, and bring recognition back to the

University of Montana and the AT program,” Moody said. Videos about athletic trainers who made a difference in their lives and shared them online using social media. They also distributed fliers and stickers to alumni, colleagues and friends across the country. “The Men’s Room,” a Seattle-based radio show with a listenership of about 650,000 people, aired a PSA produced by the UM athletic training students.



For more information about NATA, the UM athletic training program or the UM Department of Health and Human Performance, visit <http://www.coehs.umt.edu/> or call 406-243-4211.

Contact: Valerie Moody, professor and program director, UM Department of Health and Human Performance, 406-243-2703, valerie.moody@umontana.edu.



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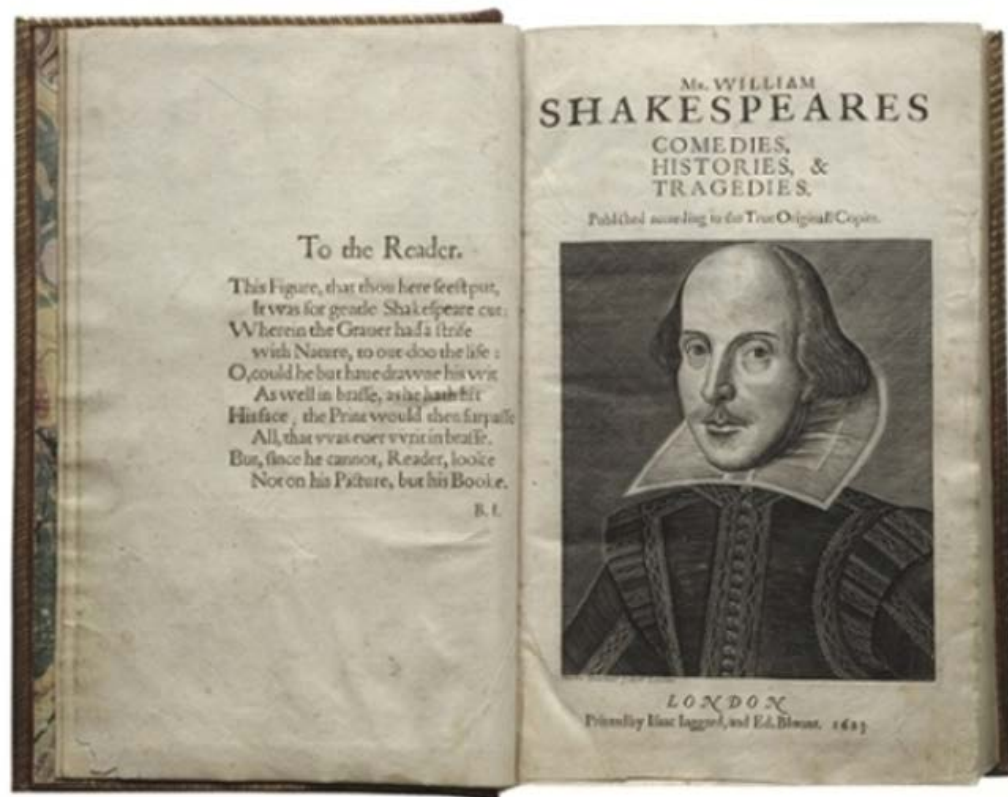
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UM to Exhibit Shakespeare's First Folio in May 2016

May 20, 2015

MISSOULA – The University of Montana, recently named Montana's host for the "First Folio! The Book that Gave Us Shakespeare," national tour, is pleased to announce that the First Folio exhibition will be on display in the Montana Museum of Art and Culture and open to the public May 9-31, 2016.



"We are extremely excited to partner with the Maureen and Mike Mansfield Library and

so many fine organizations to celebrate the extraordinary contributions Shakespeare made to mankind," said Barbara Koostra, MMAC director. "The exhibit promises exceptional cultural opportunities for our state."

The First Folio is the first complete collected edition of William Shakespeare's plays, published in 1623, seven years after his death. Compiled by two of Shakespeare's fellow actors, it preserves 36 of Shakespeare's plays. Without it, we would not have 18 of those plays, including "Macbeth," "Julius Caesar," "Twelfth Night," "The Tempest" and "Antony and Cleopatra."

The MMAC will be the only location in Montana to display the folio during its tour around the country. Koostra is hopeful students and groups from around the state will make the trip to see the historical artifact during its stay in Missoula.

"We are thrilled we will be able to showcase the folio on campus in May 2016," said Julie Biando Edwards, an associate professor at the Mansfield Library. "This is a wonderful opportunity for the community. We're especially pleased that parents and families visiting for graduation will be able to see it."

UM and its partners will offer related programming while the First Folio is on campus, including an opening reception at the MMAC; lectures by UM English Professor John Hunt and Penn State Professor Emerita Linda Woodbridge on "Shakespeare, Jonson and Literary Immortality" and "The First Folio: What it Means, What it Means;" Montana Public Radio programming related to Shakespeare; the Missoula Children's Theatre program "Versed in Verse" for students in grades 9-12; programs and art activities from the Children's Museum Missoula; Montana Association of Teachers of English Language Arts' professional development workshop for pre-service and experienced teachers; and the Missoula Writing Collaborative's writing workshop for ages 8-14.

"This is an excellent opportunity for the library, in collaboration with MMAC and other cultural institutions in Montana, to bring this exceptional educational event to the UM campus and the community," said Shali Zhang,

Mansfield Library dean. "We are looking forward to the opening of the exhibit in May 2016."

The Folger Shakespeare Library holds 82 copies of the First Folio, the largest collection in the world, and more than a third of the 233 known copies. It is believed that 750 copies originally were printed. The library, in partnership with Cincinnati Museum Center and the American Library Association, is exhibiting the folio in all 50 states, Washington, D.C., and Puerto Rico in 2016.

###

About Folger Shakespeare Library

Folger Shakespeare Library is a world-renowned center for scholarship, learning, culture and the arts. It is home to the world's largest Shakespeare collection and a primary repository for rare materials from the early modern period (1500-1750). The Folger is an internationally recognized research library offering advanced scholarly programs in the humanities, an innovator in the preservation of rare materials, a national leader in how Shakespeare is taught in grades K-12, and an award-winning producer of cultural and arts programs – theater, music, poetry, exhibits, lectures and family programs. Learn more at <http://www.folger.edu>.

About Cincinnati Museum Center

Cincinnati Museum Center at Union Terminal is a nationally recognized institution and national historic landmark. Dedicated to sparking community dialogue, insight and inspiration, CMC was awarded the 2009 National Medal for Museum and Library Service from the Institute of Museum and Library Services and received accreditation from the American Alliance of Museums in 2012. CMC is one of only 16 museums in the nation with both of these honors, making it a unique asset and a vital community resource. Union Terminal has been voted the nation's 45th most important building by the American Institute of Architects. Organizations within CMC include the Cincinnati History Museum, Duke Energy Children's Museum, Museum of Natural History & Science, Robert D. Lindner Family OMNIMAX Theater and Cincinnati History Library & Archives. Recognized by Forbes Traveler Magazine as the 17th most visited museum in the country, CMC welcomes more than one million visitors annually. For more information visit <http://www.cincymuseum.org>.

About the American Library Association

The American Library Association is the oldest and largest library association in the world, with approximately 58,000 members in academic, public, school, government and special libraries. The mission of the ALA is to provide leadership for the development, promotion and improvement of library and information services and the profession of librarianship in order to enhance learning and ensure access to information for all.

ALA's Public Programs Office provides leadership, resources, training and networking opportunities that help thousands of librarians nationwide develop and host cultural programs for adult, young adult and family audiences. The mission of the ALA Public Programs Office is to promote cultural programming as an essential part of library service in all types of libraries. Projects include book and film discussion series, literary and cultural programs featuring authors and artists, professional development opportunities and traveling exhibitions. School, public, academic and special libraries nationwide benefit from the office's programming initiatives. Additional information can be found at <http://www.ala.org/programming>.

About the National Endowment for the Humanities

Created in 1965 as an independent federal agency, the National Endowment for the Humanities supports research and learning in history, literature, philosophy and other areas of the humanities by funding selected, peer-reviewed proposals from around the nation. Additional information about the National Endowment for the Humanities and its grant programs is available at <http://www.neh.gov>.

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Report: More Montana Children in Welfare Systems Living in Families

May 19, 2015

MISSOULA – On any given night, about 57,000 children under the care of our nation's child welfare systems are going to bed without the care and comfort of a family, according to a KIDS COUNT policy report released May 19.

The data, highlighted by the Annie E. Casey Foundation in "Every Kid Needs a Family: Giving Children in the Child Welfare System the Best Chance for Success," show children in Montana's welfare system are more likely to live with foster families or relatives.

"Montana is doing better than most states in placing children with families," said Jennifer Calder, communications director for Montana KIDS COUNT. Nationally, 84 percent of children in the child welfare system live in a family placement, the report shows. In 2013, of the approximately 2,200 Montana children in the child welfare system, 90 percent were placed with kin or within a foster family.

"Placement with supportive families is a clear priority in Montana," Calder said.

According to the report, several states have high rates of group placements, but sometimes such placements are

not appropriate. Forty percent of young people who live in group placements while in the care of child welfare systems in the United States have no clinical need to be in such restrictive settings, threatening their well-being and chances for finding a permanent family.

Inappropriate placements have shown to be harmful to a child by limiting opportunities to develop strong, nurturing attachments, according to KIDS COUNT. In addition, group placements can cost seven to 10 times the amount it takes to place a child with a relative or foster family. Children in residential placements range from a high of 35 percent in Colorado to a low of 4 percent in Oregon. Montana has a relatively low rate of 9 percent.

In those instances where children end up in group homes – and it’s usually teens – Montana is trying a new approach to establish secure connections through its Family Intensive Services Unit. Sarah Corbally, the administrator of the Child and Family Services Division at the Department of Public Health and Human Services, said collaborations have been key to the program’s success.

“Providers have been very supportive,” Corbally said. “We have found permanency for some of our most challenging kids even in the first four months of the ISU project.”

Research cited in the KIDS COUNT report shows secure attachments provided to children by nurturing caregivers are vital to their healthy physical, social, emotional and psychological development throughout their life.

“A sense of permanency can take many forms, such as legal guardianship or gaining a trusted mentor,” Corbally said. “It is building permanent connections – lifelong connections – and maybe not exactly what a family looks like to others, but to them – it’s who they’ll depend upon when they are young adults and grown-ups.”

The report is available online at <http://www.aecf.org/>. Additional information is available through the KIDS COUNT Data Center at <http://datacenter.kidscount.org/>, which allows users to create rankings, maps and graphs for use in publications and on websites, and to view real-time information on mobile devices.

Contact: Jennifer Calder, Montana KIDS COUNT communications director, UM Bureau of Business & Economic Research, 406-243-2725, jennifer.calder@business.umt.edu.



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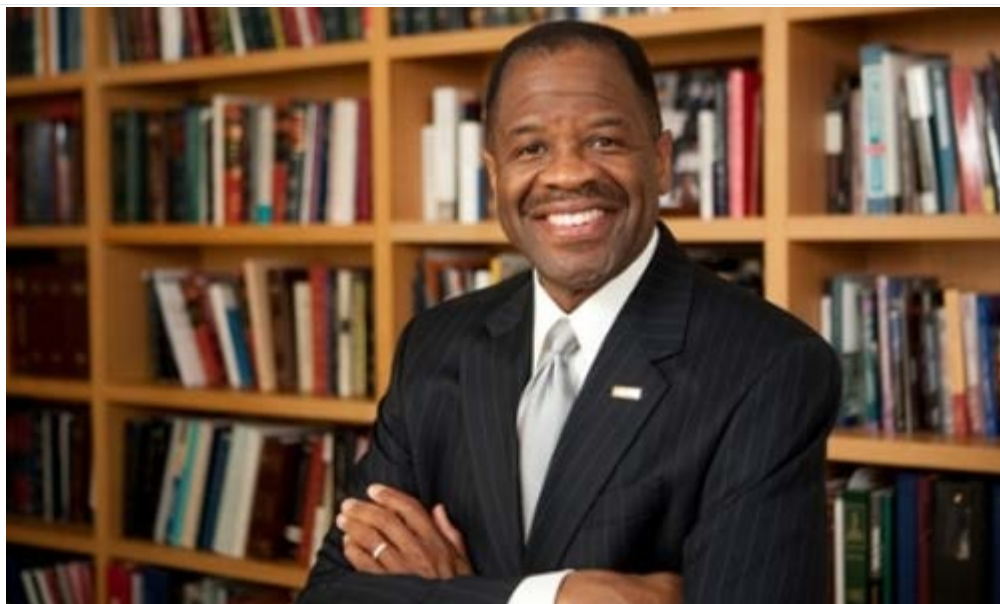
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Head of National Law School Association to Speak at UM Law School Commencement

May 19, 2015

MISSOULA – The current president of the Association of American Law Schools will deliver the graduation address at the University of Montana School of Law Commencement ceremony at 10 a.m. Saturday, May 23.

Blake D. Morant, who also serves as the dean of the George Washington University



Law School, will deliver his speech, titled “You are the Leaders the World Needs,” to the 82 law school graduates earning juris doctor degrees from UM.

Morant is one of the nation’s best-known and respected legal educators and scholars. He has served in numerous leadership positions in the Association of American Law Schools and the American Bar Association, and he regularly speaks across the country and abroad about legal education, diversity and topics relating to his scholarly interests. He has taught at the law schools at American University, University of Toledo, University of Michigan, University of Alabama and Washington & Lee University. He currently is the Robert Kramer Research Professor of Law at GWU.

“As president of the Association of American Law Schools, Dean Blake Morant is at the center of the myriad and complex issues facing schools today,” said Greg Munro, interim dean of the UM law school. “He is an important voice in the legal profession and a great graduation speaker for the UM School of Law.”

The AALS is an association of 176 law schools, including the UM School of Law, that represents more than 10,000 faculty members across the country. Following Morant’s many years of deep involvement at the committee level, the association chose him to serve as president-elect for 2014 and president in 2015.

For more information call Carla Caballero-Jackson, director of external relations for the UM School of Law, at 406-243-6254 or email carla.caballero-jackson@umontana.edu.

Contact: Carla Caballero-Jackson, director of external relations, UM School of Law, 406-243-6254, carla.caballero-jackson@umontana.edu.

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Comedian Dave Chappelle to Perform Two Shows at UM June 16

May 19, 2015

MISSOULA – Stand-up comedian Dave Chappelle will perform two shows Tuesday, June 16, at the University of Montana’s Dennison Theatre. Performances will be at 7 and 9:30 p.m., with doors opening at 6 and 9 p.m.

Tickets go on sale at 10 a.m. Wednesday, May 20, at <http://www.griztix.com>, at the Adams Center Box Office and all GrizTix locations. Tickets also may be purchased by calling 406-243-4051 from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. Tickets cost \$57, plus applicable fees.

The shows will contain mature content.

Chappelle, a comedian, screenwriter and producer, is best known for the sketch comedy TV series “Chappelle’s Show,” which aired on Comedy Central from 2003 to 2006. He began his film career in 1993 as Ahchoo in Mel Brooks’ “Robin Hood: Men in Tights” and also had minor roles in “The Nutty Professor,” “Con Air” and “Blue Streak.” He landed his first major role in the 1998 comedy “Half Baked.”

For more information call Chanelle Paakkonen, UM productions marketing coordinator, at 406-243-4719 or email

marketing@umproductions.org.

Contact: Channele Paakkonen, UM Productions marketing coordinator, 406-243-4719,

marketing@umproductions.org.



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Musician Taj Mahal to Perform at UM

May 19, 2015

MISSOULA – Composer, multi-instrumentalist and vocalist Taj Mahal will perform at the University of Montana's Dennison Theatre on Wednesday, July 22. The doors open at 7 p.m., and the concert will begin at 8 p.m.

Tickets currently are on sale at <http://www.griztix.com>, at the Adams Center Box Office and all GrizTix locations. Tickets also may be purchased by calling 406-243-4051 from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. Tickets cost \$35, plus applicable service fees.

Taj Mahal is known as an influential figure in late 20th century blues and roots music. Though his career began more than four decades ago with the American blues, he has broadened his artistic scope to include music representing regions across the globe, including West Africa, the Caribbean, Latin America, Europe and the Hawaiian Islands. Over the years, Taj Mahal's musical passion and curiosity have led him around the world, and the resulting global perspective is reflected in his music.

For more information call Chanelle Paakkonen, UM Productions marketing coordinator, at 406-243-4719 or email marketing@umproductions.org.

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Dr. Herbert Swick to Present on History of Photography at MMAC

May 18, 2015

MISSOULA – The past 175 years, photography has transformed our understanding of the world, challenging and expanding notions of fine art. As part of the Montana Museum of Art & Culture’s exhibition “Art of the State: Celebrating 120 Years of the MMAC Permanent Collection,” Dr. Herbert Swick will present a lecture titled “Transforming Our Visual World: Highlights from the History of Photography.” The lecture will take place at 7 p.m. Thursday,

May 21, in the Masquer Theatre, located within the UM Performing Arts and Radio/Television Center.

Swick will discuss major photographers, technical advances and photographic movements, including several examples drawn from the exhibition and MMAC Permanent Collection. MMAC galleries will be open 30 minutes before and after the event.



Swick has enjoyed photography for more than 40 years and is a member of a local group of dedicated photographers. He works almost exclusively with traditional black-and-white film photography, and develops and prints his images in his own darkroom. For many years, he particularly has been interested in the relationships between medicine and the humanities – art, history, literature and music.

Swick earned his Doctor of Medicine degree from Johns Hopkins University in 1966 and devoted his career to academic medicine, caring for patients, teaching, researching and leading medical-education programs in Wisconsin and Kansas.

As a former executive director of the Institute of Medicine and Humanities, he continues to teach family medicine residents in Missoula and medical students at Montana State University-Bozeman. He also is a founding member of the Montana Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at UM.

Swick serves on the MMAC Advisory Council and works as a docent, leading exhibition tours. He was instrumental in developing the MMAC's partnership with the Any Given Child-Missoula pilot program, inviting K-8 students and

the Missoula public to the galleries in greater numbers than ever before.

Swick was named a national honoree to the Gold Humanism Honor Society in 2006, and is the 2012 recipient of the Cultural Achievement Award presented by the Missoula Cultural Council. He also was named UM's Volunteer of the Year in 2013.

The MMAC is committed to making its Permanent Collection an important resource for UM as well as for the people of the state and region. "State of the Art: Celebrating 120 Years of the MMAC Permanent Collection" continues through May 23.

MMAC's summer gallery hours between June and August are noon-3 p.m. Wednesday, Thursday and Saturday, and noon-6 p.m. Friday. The museum is open to the public with a suggested \$5 donation. For more information call 406-243-2019 or visit <http://www.umt.edu/montanamuseum>.

Contact: Barbara Koostra, Montana Museum of Art & Culture, 406-243-2019, barbara.koostra@mso.umt.edu; Brandon Reintjes, MMAC curator of art, brandon.reintjes@mso.umt.edu.



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UM Research Finds Evidence of Non-Adaptive Evolution Within Cicadas

May 18, 2015

MISSOULA – University of Montana Assistant Professor John McCutcheon has once again discovered something new about the complex and intriguing inner workings of the cicada insect.

The Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences recently published his findings online. In a paper titled “Genome expansion by lineage splitting and genome reduction in the cicada endosymbiont *Hodgkinia*,” McCutcheon and his team found that the nutritional symbionts living inside long-living cicadas have become a lot more complicated. And it’s not necessarily a good thing for the insect.

McCutcheon’s lab examines the symbioses of cicadas, a sap-feeding insect that depends on two bacteria, *Sulcia* and *Hodgkinia*, to make amino acids – essential nutrients it needs to survive. In exchange, the bacteria live comfortably inside the cicada. Since all three divvy up the nutritional roles, each member of the symbiosis is completely dependent on the other two for survival. Bottom line: If the insect loses its bacteria, it dies.

Last year, McCutcheon and his team discovered that in some cicadas, the *Hodgkinia* bacterium had split into two new species. In these insects *Sulcia* was still there, but they found two different kinds of *Hodgkinia*. Thus, what

previously was thought to be a tripartite, or a three-way symbiosis, is now proven to actually be a four-way symbiosis.

Intrigued by this finding, the researchers dug deeper.

“We thought that this weird bacterial ‘speciation’ event might be related to the unusual lifecycle of the cicada, not of *Hodgkinia* itself,” McCutcheon said.

Cicadas are unique among insects for their variable and long lifecycles. The shortest-lived cicada has a two-year lifespan, while the longest-lived have 17-year lifespans.

“We guessed that *Hodgkinia* might have the opportunity to split into more species if it lived in longer-lived cicadas,” McCutcheon said.

That’s exactly what they found. The researchers began by looking at the genome and cell structure of *Hodgkinia* in the longest-lived cicadas – the periodical cicadas called Magicicada. These are the 13- and 17-year cicadas that occasionally come out in enormous numbers in Central and Eastern U.S. – in fact, there is a huge emergence happening right now.

They discovered that, indeed, *Hodgkinia* has fragmented into numerous new species, probably on the order of 20 to 50 or so.

“It’s so complicated that it’s tough to get an accurate count right now,” McCutcheon said.

Hodgkinia seems to have created a massive and messy bureaucracy of genomes and cells. While the role of *Hodgkinia* hasn’t changed, it now takes a collective to accomplish the task of what was once completed by a single cell. In Magicicada, the original functions of *Hodgkinia* are being partitioned off into smaller jobs and roles. However, many or most of these new genomes remain in separate cells.

What does this mean for the cicada? While the internal bureaucracy of its bacteria has gotten out of hand, it is still reliant upon the symbiosis for survival. Now, it likely needs the entire genome collective to survive. This means that in cicadas, the symbiosis has gone from a three-way partnership to one that involves dozens and dozens of interacting and codependent species.

“We think that this complexity is largely the result of non-adaptive evolution, at least from the host cicada perspective,” McCutcheon said. “It’s difficult to imagine a situation where it’s better for the cicada to have to manage 50 versions of *Hodgkinia* instead of one. We think that in long-lived cicadas the cicada can’t stop *Hodgkinia* from splitting, and it either must cope with the changes or the entire symbiosis collapses.”

McCutcheon’s work has implications for the way we think about our own symbionts – such as the power-providing mitochondria in our cells that are the result of a very old bacterial symbiosis – as well as the forces that dictate the structure of genomes in general.

“This wild diversity in genome structure is common in mitochondria, and now we are seeing it in bacterial symbionts, too,” McCutcheon said.

It's another feature that unites symbionts and organelles, and understanding the development of organelles is fundamental to understanding the development of life. Because organelles arose such a long time ago, it's impossible to trace back to the specific events that allowed the organelle to become what it is today. By examining Hodgkinia's evolution, researchers in McCutcheon's lab are hoping to gain insight into the storied pasts of organelles whose history has since been erased.

The paper is available online at <http://www.pnas.org/content/early/recent>.

This research was funded by the National Science Foundation and NASA. For more information call McCutcheon at 406-243-6071 or email john.mccutcheon@umontana.edu.

Contact: John McCutcheon, assistant professor, UM Division of Biological Sciences, 406-243-6071, john.mccutcheon@umontana.edu.



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UM Business School Announces Winners of Business Startup Challenge

May 18, 2015

MISSOULA – The University of Montana School of Business Administration, along with the Montana Academy of Distinguished Entrepreneurs and the Blackstone LaunchPad at UM, have announced the winners of the 26th annual John Ruffatto Business Startup Challenge.

UM MBA student Chad Miller of **Florence** took home the top prize of \$15,000 for his startup plan, Purus. Purus is a Montana-based company dedicated to engineering a sustainable wastewater treatment solution for the oil and gas industry. MonTEC, the UM-based nonprofit business incubator, also will provide the winner with a six-month affiliate membership.

During the 13-hour competition held May 14 at the UM Gallagher Business Building, 16 student teams competed in three rounds of judging and presentations, leading up to the evening's final round, during which four finalists presented their business plans to a panel of 51 judges and an audience of more than 200.

Faculty from higher education institutions across Montana nominated student teams for consideration in the event, which is designed to encourage Montana students to demonstrate real-world activity and evolve their business

ideas based on market interaction and feedback.

The event is judged and coached by venture capitalists, angel investors, bankers, successful entrepreneurs and corporate executives who share their expertise and commit their time before and during the competition.

Support from more than 50 sponsors and private donors funded the more than \$45,000 prize purse and the students' competition expenses. Details on the awards and winners follow.

- **First place:** Purus – UM MBA student Chad Miller of **Florence**. Purus is a Montana-based company dedicated to engineering a sustainable wastewater treatment solution for the oil and gas industry. \$15,000 prize.
- **Second place:** Doces Brasil – UM MBA student Leo Esteves of **Sao Paulo, Brazil**. Doces Brasil is an artisan chocolatier company in Missoula that produces and sells high-end Brazilian recipe desserts to retail and wholesale customers. \$7,500 prize.
- **Third place:** GeoFli – UM MBA student Kyle Pucko of **Webster, New York**. GeoFli is specifically designed for colleges and universities to create multiple versions of the same URL targeting an exact geographic location, with no coding required. \$5,000 prize.
- **Fourth place:** United Methanol Corporation – UM student Stephen Jenkins of **Bigfork**. United Methanol Corporation is a clean technology company focusing on the conversion of low-value woody biomass into high purity methanol and liquid carbon dioxide. \$2,500 prize.
- **Best Undergraduate Business Plan Award:** Item Bounty – UM-Western student Christopher Casties of **Irvine, California**, and Montana State University student Mike Maher of **Sao Paulo, Brazil**. Item Bounty is a web application that provides an interactive community of requesters and finders. A requester is a user who inputs the specifications of a product or service they're looking for online and the fee they are willing to pay for someone to find it.
- **Elevator Pitch (60-second team presentation):** Ndigena – UM MBA students Thomas Kurdy of **Great Falls** and Rachel Strasshofer of **Missoula**. Ndigena produces powerful digital content that includes video production in a lean, documentary style that triggers a consumer's emotional connection. \$2,500 prize.
- **Runner-up Elevator Pitch:** Leo Esteves – Doces Brasil. \$1,000 prize.

The following special awards were given to teams or individuals based on specific criteria:

- **Brandon Speth Passion, Poise, and Charisma Award:** Doces Brasil – Leo Esteves, \$1,000 prize.
- **People's Choice Award:** Purus – Chad Miller. \$2,500 prize.
- **Polymath Award:** Leg Up Innovations – UM student Chantanelle Nava of **Shepherd**. Leg Up Innovations makes life easier for people on crutches. The apparatus attaches to a standard crutch to create a stable, adjustable footrest to place an injured leg on. \$2,500 prize.
- **Most Dynamic and Scalable Award:** Purus – Chad Miller. \$1,000 prize.
- **Blackstone Launchpad Innovation Award:** Dungeon Emporium – UM student William Milligan of **Havre**. Dungeon Emporium is a website to distribute various products designed for use with the Dungeons and Dragons tabletop role-playing game. \$1,000 prize.
- **Manufactured Product Award:** United Methanol Corporation – Stephen Jenkins. \$1,000 prize.
- **Feasibility Award:** Monter Consulting – UM student Katherine Vincent of **Missoula**. Monter Consulting is a full-service online marketing agency offering web development and graphic design services with expertise in search engine rank strategy. \$1,000 prize.

MADE was founded by successful entrepreneurs with the goal of bringing their experience to students and the classroom. In addition to supporting the John Ruffatto Startup Challenge, held each spring at UM, MADE organizes an advanced entrepreneurship seminar series and also honors influential entrepreneurs who demonstrate a commitment to Montana with the Pioneer in Industry Award. For more information about MADE, visit <http://www.business.umt.edu/organizations/MADE.aspx>.

UM's School of Business Administration is accredited by the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business International, the most rigorous accrediting body for business degree programs. For more information visit <http://www.business.umt.edu/>.

Contact: Larae Hackney, special programs coordinator, UM School of Business Administration, 406-243-4830, larae.hackney@business.umt.edu.



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UM Hurling Team to Defend National Title as Host of Championships May 23-24

May 15, 2015

MISSOULA – The University of Montana hurling team will defend its championship title as the Grizzlies host the National Collegiate Gaelic Athletic Association Hurling Championship of America on Saturday and Sunday, May 23-24, at Washington-Grizzly Stadium in Missoula.

Hurling, the national sport of Ireland, is often described as a mix of lacrosse, field hockey and baseball. Said to be the world's fastest field game, hurling is over 3,000 years old, but the Montana Grizzlies hurling team was only recently founded when Naoise Waldron from Kilkenny, Ireland, came to Missoula in fall 2013 to teach Irish as a Fulbright Foreign Language Teaching Assistant.

In May 2014, less than a year later, the Montana Grizzlies participated in the National Collegiate Gaelic Athletic Association Hurling Championship in Gaelic Park, New York, and beat the other seven American hurling teams to bring the title home to Missoula.

This national hurling event promises to be a special tournament as the local champions attempt to become the first club to win two national titles back-to-back, and better yet, to do it on home turf. The Grizzlies will take on teams

from across the United States including the University of California, Berkeley Hurling Club; Stanford University Hurling Club; Indiana University Hurling Club - Purdue University; and the University of Connecticut's Husky Hurling Team.

"It's not often you have the opportunity to see national hurling champions defending their title at home, so we know it will be an epic few days at the University of Montana," said Waldron, who serves as coach and captain of the team he co-founded. "Anyone proud to be Irish or a Griz fan will want to support the Montana Grizzlies Hurling Team by cheering us on at the National Collegiate Gaelic Athletic Association Hurling Championship in Washington-Grizzly Stadium."

Thanks to sponsorship from Missoula's KettleHouse Brewing Company, admission to the games costs \$10 per day for adults, \$15 for a two-day pass, and \$5 for young adults between the ages of 13 and 17. Admission for children age 12 and under is free.

The first games of the 2015 NCGAA Hurling Championship will begin at 11 a.m. Saturday, May 23, and run through 5 p.m. The finals will be held from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday, May 24. At 6:30 p.m. Saturday, a dinner will be provided in St. Anthony's Parish Life Center at 217 Tremont St. Dinner costs \$5 for players and \$10 for all others.

Organizers anticipate attendance at this year's NCGAA Hurling Championship will exceed a couple thousand people, with families and friends of the teams traveling from California, Louisiana and Ireland for the matches. Both the mayor of Missoula and UM's mascot, Monte, will be among those in the crowd cheering on the Montana Grizzly hurlers.

For more information about UM's hurling team, visit the Montana Grizzlies Hurling Facebook page at <http://www.facebook.com/montanagrizzlieshurling> or email grizzlyhurling@gmail.com.

Contact: Naosie Waldron, coach and captain, Montana Grizzlies Hurling Team, 406-239-3318, naoise45@gmail.com; Sine Nic An Aili, public relations officer, Montana Grizzlies Hurling Team, 406-207-6721, sinenicanaili@gmail.com.



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UM Graduates Earn Fulbright Scholarships

May 14, 2015

MISSOULA – University of Montana graduates Ryan Bell, Brinna Boettger and Dylan Gomes recently received Fulbright Scholarship award notifications for the coming year.

Bell, of **Seattle**, earned his M.F.A. in nonfiction creative writing from UM in 2014. He was awarded a coveted Fulbright-National Geographic Digital Storytelling Fellowship. Bell will serve as one of five Fellows, selected out of a pool of more than 400 applicants, who will undertake an in-depth research project on a globally relevant issue, comparing and contrasting how it is experienced across borders. The Fellows host a blog on National Geographic's website and have the possibility of contributing work to National Geographic's print publications such as National Geographic, NG Traveler and NG History.

"My project is called 'Raising the Steaks,'" Bell said. "I will examine how Russia and Kazakhstan are rebuilding their cattle industries in the wake of the Soviet Union's collapse. They're doing so with a surprising source of help: cattle and cowboys from America."

Beginning this fall, Bell will spend nine months traveling through rural Russia and Kazakhstan documenting the

resurgence of a pastoral way of life that was nearly decimated under the Soviet Union.

“What writer doesn’t dream of working for National Geographic? Even better, I get to do so through the auspices of the Fulbright Program,” Bell said. “This Fellowship will make it possible to complete a five-year research project about Russia’s cattle industry in the post-Soviet era. I’m particularly excited to build on work that I completed as an M.F.A. student at the University of Montana, and present it to the National Geographic Society’s international audience.”

Boettger, from **Lewistown**, graduated from UM in 2013 with degrees in Russian and English. She earned a prestigious English Teaching Assistant Fulbright Scholarship, which places recent college graduates and young professionals overseas as English teaching assistants in primary, secondary schools or universities overseas. The award will cover travel expenses, room and board, health insurance and incidental costs.

The program aims to improve foreign students’ English language abilities and knowledge of the United States while increasing the U.S. students’ own language skills and knowledge of the host country.

“I am very honored to have received the Fulbright Scholarship and to have the opportunity to represent the United States and Montana in Belarus,” Boettger said. “I am looking forward to broadening my understanding of Slavic culture and the Russian language while imparting my knowledge of American culture and the English language.”

Before departing for Belarus, Boettger will attend a pre-departure orientation in Washington, D.C., and then will serve as a teaching assistant for nine months. While working in Belarus, Boettger also will work on a supplementary project.

“For my supplementary project, I proposed developing the role of service animals in Belarus,” Boettger said.

Gomes, from **Fort Bragg, California**, graduated from UM in 2014 with a biology degree. He earned a Fulbright U.S. Student Program grant to study bats at the Max Planck Institutes in Germany.

Gomes is one of more than 1,900 U.S. citizens who will travel abroad for the 2015-2016 academic year through the Fulbright U.S. Student Program. Recipients of Fulbright grants are selected on the basis of academic and professional achievement, as well as demonstrated leadership potential.

Recipients of Fulbright grants are selected on the basis of academic or professional achievement, as well as demonstrated leadership potential in their fields. The program operates in more than 160 countries worldwide.

To learn more about the Fulbright Program, visit <http://eca.state.gov/fulbright>.

Students interested in submitting a proposal can call UM Fulbright Program Adviser Liz Ametsbichler at 406-243-5001 or email liz.ametsbichler@mso.umt.edu.

###

Note to the media: To interview Ryan Bell, call 406-579-2030 or email ryantbell@gmail.com. To interview Brinna Boettger, call 406-366-4157 after Saturday, May 16, or email boettger10@yahoo.com. To interview Dylan Gomes,

email dylan_g_21@hotmail.com.

Contact: Liz Ametsbichler, UM Student Fulbright Program adviser, 406-243-5001, liz.ametsbichler@mso.umt.edu;
Clint Walker, associate professor of Russian, UM Department of Modern and Classical Languages and Literatures,
406-243-2501, clint.walker@mso.umt.edu.



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UM Plans for Rainy Commencement

May 14, 2015

MISSOULA – Maybe the heavens won't open during the University of Montana's 118th Commencement ceremonies Saturday, May 16, in Missoula, but the current forecast calls for rain.

The main ceremony will be held at 10 a.m. in Washington-Grizzly Stadium rain or shine. Audience members will be allowed to use umbrellas in designated areas, but graduating students will not be allowed to use umbrellas – their mortarboard caps will have to suffice.

In the event of a deluge, ushers will guide audience members indoors to watch the online live-stream of Commencement at <http://www.umt.edu/commencement/>.

Several UM professional schools, colleges and departments hold their own ceremonies following Commencement. Tickets may be required for these ceremonies. Those ceremonies and their locations are online at <http://www.umt.edu/registrar/PDF/2015Commencementbrochure.pdf>.

Because of the likelihood of rain, the following units will move to new locations:

- Environmental Studies Program to the North Underground Lecture Hall.

- Department of History to Gallagher Business Building Room 106.
- Liberal Studies Program to Liberal Arts Room 11.
- School of Journalism to the Urey Underground Lecture Hall.

The following units have chosen to keep their outdoor locations:

- Department of Communication Studies on the Brantly Hall south lawn.
- Department of Geosciences on the Clapp Building southeast lawn.

A live broadcast of the main Commencement ceremony will be available in the North Underground Lecture Hall, Urey Lecture Hall, Charles Clapp Building Room 131, Chemistry Building Room 123, Liberal Arts Building Room 11, Social Science Building Rooms 352 and 356, and McGill Hall Room 210.

Max Baucus, Montana's longest-serving U.S. senator and now ambassador to the People's Republic of China, will be the featured speaker. UM will honor Salish tribal elder Louis "Louie" Adams with an honorary doctorate of humane letters for his lifetime spent teaching others the stories, culture and language of his people.

No tickets or reservations are required for the main ceremony, and there is no rehearsal. The stadium will open at 8 a.m. and families and guests should be seated by 9:30 a.m. All degree candidates should meet on the Oval at 8:45 a.m. to line up with their departments for the processional into the stadium, which will begin at 9:30 a.m.

The UM Alumni Association will host the All-Alumni Celebration May 14-16, with special recognition of alumni from the class of 1965 and prior. For more information on reunion events, visit <http://www.grizalum.org>.

For more information about Commencement, visit the Office of the Registrar website at <http://www.umt.edu/registrar/students/graduation.php> or call 406-243-2995.

Contact: UM Office of the Registrar, 406-243-2995, .



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UM Educators Receive Teaching Excellence Awards

May 14, 2015

MISSOULA – The University of Montana College of Humanities and Sciences recently honored three of its faculty members with awards for teaching excellence.

Stephen Yoshimura, associate professor in the Department of Communication Studies, is the recipient of this year's Excellence Award for Teaching Across the Curriculum. Lauren Fern, lecturer in the Department of Mathematical Sciences, and Diane Friend, lecturer in the Department of Physics and Astronomy, each received the inaugural Humanities and Sciences Excellence Award for Teaching at the Introductory Level.

Yoshimura has taught courses that span the full range of communications studies curriculum during the past 12 years. His nominators for the award said he engages students from freshman to graduate level, approaching each course with intellectual rigor, creativity and a commitment to student learning and growth.

"Dr. Yoshimura is a model teacher-scholar," said Sara Hayden, UM Department of Communication Studies chair. "As attested to by the many students who wrote letters in support of his nomination, he is the kind of teacher who is remembered long after students leave our campus."

Yoshimura also serves as the Department of Communication Studies' director of graduate studies, and oversees a research program that focuses on the communication of vengeful and jealous emotion. Recently, he began researching the associations between communication in personal relationships and physical and emotional well-being.

"He is a wonderful colleague," Hayden said. "His work helps the college and our department excel."

Fern has educated nearly 400 students each semester during her more than 13 years teaching mathematics at the introductory level. She said her ultimate goal is to pass on her appreciation of math to as many students as possible. She also said she finds great value instructing the lower-level courses because she is better able to establish a strong math foundation for students, and can influence their perceptions of math in general.

"I'm psyched to wake up every day and do my job," Fern said in a recent interview with the Montana Kaimin. "If you find what you love and what you're passionate about, and you live your life thinking, learning and caring, you can make it a beautiful thing."

Friend teaches introductory astronomy courses with subjects that range from The Evolving Universe to the Science of Science Fiction. She teaches students how to gather and analyze astronomical data, and she said she expects every student "to be a thinking, questioning and contributing member of their own academic development."

Friend's passion for the stars extends beyond the classroom. In the summer, she often can be found hosting open houses at UM's Blue Mountain Observatory. During the school year, she delivers planetarium presentations to local schools.

The Humanities and Sciences Excellence Award for Teaching at the Introductory Level was established to recognize non-tenure-track faculty members who demonstrate excellence in teaching at the introductory level. The Humanities and Sciences Excellence Award for Teaching Across the Curriculum recognizes a faculty member for teaching excellence at all levels. Both awards were founded by the College of Humanities and Sciences External Advisory Board. Next year, the Excellence Award for Teaching Across the Curriculum will be renamed to honor Bill Reynolds, a longtime advisory board member and supporter of the college.

For more information call College of Humanities and Sciences Associate Dean Jenny McNulty at 406-243-4458 or email mcnulty@mso.umt.edu.

Contact: Jenny McNulty, associate dean, UM College of Humanities and Sciences, 406-243-4458, mcnulty@mso.umt.edu.

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UM Business School Lauded for Maintaining Business, Accounting Accreditations

May 14, 2015

MISSOULA – The School of Business Administration at the University of Montana has maintained both its business and accounting accreditations by AACSB International – The Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business. UM’s SoBA is the only program in Montana to hold both accreditations.

AACSB Accreditation is the hallmark of excellence in business and accounting education and has been earned by less than five percent of the world’s business programs. Today, there are 736 business schools in 48 countries and territories that maintain AACSB Accreditation. UM is among 182 institutions that maintain an additional specialized AACSB Accreditation for accounting programs.

“Having both business and accounting programs accredited is unique in Montana and a rare thing in the region,” said SoBA dean Larry Gianchetta. “It is a very difficult thing to achieve. If it were easy, everyone would do it.”

UM's SoBA, established in 1918, was one of the first 50 institutions to earn AACSB's business accreditation. AACSB accredited institutions undergo review every five years to ensure their programs, students and faculty are of the highest quality and continually innovating.

"Business schools must not only meet specific standards of excellence, but their deans, faculty and professional staff must make a commitment to ongoing continuous improvement to ensure that the institution will continue to deliver the highest quality of education to students," said Robert Reid, executive vice president and chief accreditation officer of AACSB International.

"During the accreditation review, the AACSB focused on the impacts of our programs on the community, alumni and the business and accounting professions," Gianchetta said. "We demonstrated both quality and impact at a very high level."

UM's business school is the largest business program in the state, offering a bachelor's degree with six majors and six certificates to choose from, a minor in business, as well as a Master of Accountancy and the only Master of Business Administration program in the state.

"The AACSB peer review team was understandably impressed with our programs, but what really stood out was the engagement with the business community and personal care for students," said Associate Dean Terri Herron. "At the end of the day, it is about people – students, faculty, staff, alumni, employers. We are proud to say that we build and maintain strong relationships."

To learn more about UM's SoBA's business and accounting programs, visit <http://www.business.umt.edu>.

Founded in 1916, AACSB International is the longest serving global accrediting body for business schools that offer undergraduate, master's and doctoral degrees in business and accounting. To learn more about AACSB International accreditation, visit <http://www.aacsb.edu/accreditation/>.

Contact: Terri Herron, associate dean, UM School of Business Administration, 406-243-5878, terri.herron@mso.umt.edu.



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UM Student Earns Fulbright Scholarship to Teach English in Belarus

May 14, 2015

MISSOULA – University of Montana graduate Brinna Boettger recently learned she will travel to Belarus to teach English at the end of the summer.

Boettger, a Russian and English major from **Lewistown**, earned a prestigious English Teaching Assistant Fulbright Scholarship, which places recent college graduates and young professionals overseas as English teaching assistants in primary, secondary schools or universities overseas.

“We are incredibly proud of Brinna and she will make a wonderful Fulbrighter and represent UM, Montana and the United States very well,” said Clint Walker, UM associate professor of Russian.

The award will cover travel expenses, room and board, health insurance and incidental costs.

The program aims to improve foreign students’ English language abilities and knowledge of the United States while increasing the U.S. student’s own language skills and knowledge of the host country.

"I am very honored to have received the Fulbright Scholarship and to have the opportunity to represent the United States and Montana in Belarus," Boettger said. "I am looking forward to broadening my understanding of Slavic culture and the Russian language while imparting my knowledge of American culture and the English language."

Before departing for Belarus, Boettger will attend a pre-departure orientation in Washington, D.C., and will serve as a teaching assistant for nine months. While working in Belarus, Boettger also will work on a supplementary project.

"For my supplementary project, I proposed developing the role of service animals in Belarus," Boettger said.

For more information email Boettger at boettger10@yahoo.com.

Contact: Clint Walker, associate professor of Russian, UM Department of Modern and Classical Languages and Literatures, 406-243-2501, clint.walker@mso.umt.edu .



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UM Offers Intensive Summer Arabic Courses to High School Students

May 13, 2015

MISSOULA – The University of Montana Arabic Studies Program will offer two intensive Arabic language courses to high school students during the Montana Arabic Summer Institute at UM from June 22 to July 10.

The courses are funded through a STARTALK grant from the National Security Agency to expand and improve the teaching and learning of strategically important foreign languages.

Twenty-five students will be recruited and enrolled in two levels: Level one is for students with no previous knowledge of Arabic; level two is for students who have been introduced to the basics either during the summer 2014 program or in high school.

The course aims to develop and improve students' Arabic-language skills – listening, speaking, reading and writing – and cultural knowledge in a fun and academic environment. Students will cook, dance and sing using Arabic. They also will learn how to enable and use Arabic (a right-to-left language) on their computers, iPads and smartphones.

The grant covers the cost of tuition and instruction materials: textbooks, flash drives, notebooks, etc. Upon completion of the courses, each student will earn five college credits.

For more information call UM Assistant Professor and head of the Arabic Studies Program Khaled Huthaily at 406-243-6602 or email khaled.huthaily@umontana.edu. Registration forms are available at <http://cas.umt.edu/mcII/arabic>.

Contact: Khaled Huthaily, assistant professor and head of the Arabic Studies Program, UM Department of Modern and Classical Languages and Literatures, 406-243-6602, khaled.huthaily@umontana.edu.



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UM Study Uncovers Why Songbirds Vary in Time Devoted to Warming Eggs

May 13, 2015

MISSOULA – The amount of time and effort songbirds spend warming their eggs directly correlates to their own survival probability and that of their eggs, according to a study by University of Montana researchers that will appear in an upcoming issue of *The American Naturalist*.

The amount of care



parents provide their young varies greatly across the animal kingdom, particularly among songbird species, who spend

anywhere from 20 percent to nearly 100 percent of daylight hours warming eggs in their nests. A team of researchers led by Thomas Martin, senior scientist and professor at UM's Montana Cooperative Wildlife Research Unit, set out to discover why.

"The reasons why species differ in how much care they provide their young has long been a mystery and of interest to scientists, given that it influences the quality and survival of offspring," Martin said.

The researchers studied parental-care behaviors, egg temperatures and adult mortality rates in 63 species of songbirds. The study, which spanned two decades and four continents, found that longer-living species with more future opportunities for breeding, which are common in the tropics, were less willing to expend energy and risk mortality associated with keeping their eggs warm.

Conversely, species with shorter lives put much more effort into caring for their young because they may not have another opportunity to reproduce. In both cases, the songbirds balance longevity against the risk of their eggs being eaten by predators. Species with a higher likelihood of their eggs being preyed upon invested more effort in keeping their eggs warmer, as warmer eggs take less time to hatch, shortening the time the embryos were exposed to the risk of predation.

Songbird species differ in their risk of predation mainly based on where they nest. Species that nest in cavities in trees, for example, have very low risk of predation, while species that build an open cup exposed on a shrub have a much higher risk.

The species studied varied extensively in the time and effort they spent warming their eggs. Some, such as the Bornean stubtail, endemic to the tropical island of Borneo, spend as little as 20 percent of the first seven hours of daylight warming their eggs. Others, such as the warbling vireo, common throughout North America, spend nearly

100 percent of those hours incubating their eggs.

The study, titled “Adult mortality probability and nest predation rates explain parental effort in warming eggs with consequences for embryonic development time,” is online at <http://www.jstor.org/stable/amernatu.ahead-of-print> and will be published in The American Naturalist in August.

Graduate students Juan Oteyza, Andrew J. Boyce and Riccardo Ton of the Montana Cooperative Wildlife Research Unit also participated in the study.

For more information call Martin at 406-243-5372 or email tom.martin@umontana.edu.

Contact: Thomas Martin, senior scientist and professor, Montana Cooperative Wildlife Research Unit at UM, 406-243-5372, tom.martin@umontana.edu.



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SpectrUM, Ravalli County Museum Kick off 'Summer of Science'

May 12, 2015

MISSOULA – Community members of all ages celebrated the grand opening of the University of Montana spectrUM Discovery Area's "Nano: The Science of Small" May 7 at the Ravalli County Museum and Historical Society in **Hamilton**.

"Nano" engages visitors with hands-on science and career pathways in nanoscience, the study of structures and materials on the scale of nanometers. The grand-opening celebration featured a liquid nitrogen ice cream bar, hands-on experiments and a prize wheel.

The exhibit opening marked the launch of spectrUM's collaborative, three-year initiative to foster a robust science, technology, engineering and math – known as STEM – learning ecosystem in the Bitterroot Valley. Funded by the Jane S. Heman Foundation, the initiative will bring Summer of Science events to Bitterroot Valley communities through 2017.

"We're honored to have this opportunity to collaborate and co-create with our partners in the Bitterroot as part of our ongoing efforts to close opportunity and achievement gaps in STEM and higher education for Montana's next

generation,” said spectrUM director Holly Truitt.

In the past year, spectrUM earned two national awards for its leadership in community-based STEM engagement, one through the Noyce Foundation’s Bright Lights competition and the other from MIT’s Science Festival Alliance.

This year’s Summer of Science events at the Ravalli County Museum include:

- **Science Saturdays:** Every Saturday from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m., May 9 to Aug. 22, children and families are invited to roll up their sleeves and engage in guided science activities, with rotating weekly themes including slime, jitterbugs, astronomy, robot mania, liquid nitrogen and many more.
- **Thursday Night Lectures:** Geared toward high-school and adult community members, this free lecture series will include UM professor Garon Smith’s “Magic from Middle Earth” on May 14; UM graduate student Daniel Eacker’s “Elk Calf Survival and Elk Population Dynamics in the Southern Bitterroot Valley” on May 28; UM graduate student Sharon Bywater-Reyes’ “River Systems” on July 9, and UM graduate students Kevin Trout and Forrest Jessop’s “Nanomaterials and Health” on July 23. Lectures will begin at 6 p.m.

During the academic year, the initiative will continue bringing spectrUM’s mobile science exhibits to K-12 schools throughout the Bitterroot. All Summer of Science events are free and open to the public.

Additional Summer of Science sponsors include UM, the Elliott and Grace Lander Foundation, the Bitterroot Quilters’ Guild, NISE Net and the Center for Environmental and Health Sciences.

Since 1974, the Ravalli County Museum and Historical Society has produced innovative and engaging exhibits that provide enrichment to the public. The museum’s diverse collections create an ideal environment to discover and explore.

The public can visit the “Nano” exhibit at the Ravalli County Museum, located at 205 Bedford St. in Hamilton, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday; from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. Thursday; and from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday. Admission is free on Thursdays and Saturdays. The rest of the week, admission costs \$1 for children, students and seniors and \$3 for adults.

Inspiring a culture of learning and discovery for all, spectrUM Discovery Area is an interactive science center located in the heart of downtown Missoula. SpectrUM serves more than 50,000 Montanans annually through in-museum and mobile programs.

SpectrUM’s Missoula museum is located at 218 E. Front St. and is open to the public 11 a.m.-6 p.m. Wednesday through Friday and 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Saturday. Admission costs \$3.50 per person.

Contact: Hannah Motl Gimpel, community engagement and business coordinator, spectrUM Discovery Area, 406-243-4828, hannah.gimpel@umontana.edu; Tamar Stanley, director, Ravalli County Museum, 406-232-3338, tamarsrcm@qwestoffice.net.



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Commencement Ceremonies at UM Saturday, May 16

May 12, 2015

MISSOULA – The University of Montana’s 118th Commencement ceremony will begin at 10 a.m. Saturday, May 16, in Washington-Grizzly Stadium.

Max Baucus, Montana’s longest-serving U.S. senator and now ambassador to the People’s Republic of China, will be the featured speaker. UM will honor Salish tribal elder Louis “Louie” Adams with an honorary doctorate of humane letters for his lifetime spent teaching others the stories, culture and language of his people.

No tickets or reservations are required for the main ceremony, and there is no rehearsal. The stadium will open at 8 a.m. and families and guests should be seated by 9:30 a.m. All degree candidates should meet on the Oval at 8:45 a.m. to line up with their departments for the processional into the stadium, which will begin at 9:30 a.m.

UM will live-stream the Commencement ceremony at <http://www.umt.edu/commencement/>.

Several of UM’s professional schools, colleges and departments hold their own ceremonies following Commencement. Tickets may be required for these ceremonies. Contact the graduate’s department for additional

information.

The UM Alumni Association will host the All-Alumni Celebration May 14-16, with special recognition of alumni from the class of 1965 and prior. For more information on reunion events, visit <http://www.grizalum.org>.

For more information about Commencement, visit the Office of the Registrar website at <http://www.umt.edu/registrar/students/graduation.php> or call 406-243-2995.

Contact: UM Office of the Registrar, 406-243-2995, .



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Missoula Ranked No. 9 on List of Top College Towns

May 12, 2015

MISSOULA – The American Institute for Economic Research College Destinations Index recently ranked Missoula, home to the University of Montana, among the top College Towns in the U.S.

The index lists the top 75 destinations for 2014-15. Missoula was named No. 9 in the College Towns category. Other towns that made the list include Ithaca, New York; Corvallis, Oregon; and College Station, Texas. Missoula is the only town in Montana to make the list.

According to the report, UM earns the No. 9 spot “for its high concentration of arts, entertainment, and recreation establishments and high level of brain gain, calling itself home to the University of Montana, a public research university.”

The AIER considers 12 key criteria that enrich a college learning experience when creating the index, including three criteria in each of the following four categories: Student Life, Culture, Economic Health, and Opportunity.

The index uses data from the Census Bureau, Bureau of Labor Statistics, Department of Housing and Urban

Development, National Science Foundation and Small Business Administration.

“The ‘college experience’ is about more than simply attending a top-notch university,” AIER states in the ranking report. “The city or town where the school is located also is important. The people students meet, the places they go, and the jobs they may hold are essential supplements to formal education.”

For more information about the AIER College Destinations Index, visit <https://www.aier.org/cdi>.

Contact: UM Vice President for Integrated Communications, 406-243-2311, .



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SpectrUM's Motion Exhibit Travels to Dixon

May 12, 2015

MISSOULA – The University of Montana spectrUM Discovery Area will bring its popular Motion exhibit to **Dixon** on Thursday, May 14.

Highlights of the exhibition include a larger-than-life spinning turntable, a gravity well and spectrUM's ever-popular flight simulator.

A free family science night will be held from 5 to 7 p.m. at the Dixon Elementary School gym, where students will be able to share their knowledge with family, friends and community members.

"We travel hands-on science around the state, transforming gymnasiums and cafeterias into powerful science learning centers that help inspire Montana's next generation of scientists, health care providers, engineers and visionaries," said Holly Truitt, spectrUM director.

Since 2006, spectrUM has transported exhibits and educators to 75 schools and public libraries in 29 counties, including all seven American Indian reservations in Montana. In total, spectrUM's mobile science program has

served more than 45,000 people, of whom 30 percent are Native American and 75 percent live in rural communities.

Inspiring a culture of learning and discovery for all Montanans, the University of Montana spectrUM Discovery Area is an interactive science center located in the heart of downtown Missoula. Annually, spectrUM serves over 50,000 Montanans through in-museum and mobile programming.

SpectrUM's sponsors and partners include the Center for Structural and Functional Neuroscience, the Dennis and Phyllis Washington Foundation, the Jane S. Heman Foundation, the National Institutes of Health, the National Science Foundation EPSCoR Program, NISE Network, the Noyce Foundation, the O.P. and W.E. Edwards Foundation, SciGirls and Western Montana Area Health Education Center. Its Science for All Scholarship Fund has given the gift of science to more than 10,127 Montana children. This tour stop is powered by the O.P. and W.E. Edwards Foundation.

The public can visit the spectrUM Discovery Area at 218 E. Front St. in Missoula. Public hours are 11 a.m.-6 p.m. Wednesday through Friday and 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Saturday. Admission costs \$3.50 per person.

For more information or to book a school visit, call spectrUM STEM Education Program Manager Jessie Herbert at 406-243-4828 or visit <http://www.spectrum.umt.edu>.

Contact: Jessie Herbert, STEM education program manager, spectrUM Discovery Area, 406-243-4828, jessie.herbert@umontana.edu.



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UM to Host Annual Environmental Health Symposium

May 11, 2015

MISSOULA – The 11th annual Clean Air & Healthy Homes high school symposium will take place from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Tuesday, May 19, in the North Underground Lecture Hall at the University of Montana.

Hosted by the UM Center for Environmental Health Sciences and the Department of Chemistry, the event showcases student research projects focusing on indoor air-quality issues related to radon, carbon monoxide and particulate matter. The symposium will feature oral presentations and posters on air-quality investigations conducted by students from rural communities throughout Montana, Idaho and Alaska. Approximately 100 high school students will share their research findings with an audience of their peers, teachers, university mentors and agency partners.

The symposium is a great opportunity for the public to learn how students are addressing indoor air pollution concerns in their homes and schools, including radon, a major environmental public-health concern throughout the region. Student research is innovative and wide-ranging: Previous projects have examined pollution levels associated with coal trains and traffic circles, as well as exposures from ski waxing and fast-food preparation.

The Montana Department of Environmental Quality and the Science Education Partnership Award Program

sponsored by the National Institutes of Health provide major funding support for the symposium.

More information is available online at <https://education.cehs.health.umt.edu/content/cahhp-overview>.

Contact: Diana Vanek, outreach coordinator, UM Center for Environmental Health Sciences, 406-546-4254, diana.vanek@mso.umt.edu.



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Gift Supports 'Smart Classroom' Renovation in UM's Liberal Arts Building

May 11, 2015

MISSOULA – Thanks to gifts from UM alum, businessman and philanthropist Dennis Eck from **Wolf Point** and his wife, Gretchen, from **Butte**, the University of Montana's College of Humanities and Sciences will soon have some of the most advanced technology on campus.

The Ecks' contributions will create a vertical technology corridor of "smart classrooms" in the college's Liberal Arts Building. The gift will enable about a dozen classrooms to be upgraded, offering professors advanced audio/visual resources for their teaching and research. The Ecks' gift also will help the college develop a comprehensive master plan for upgrades and renovations to the building.

"This new technology will enhance the kind of teaching, learning and research opportunities we can offer our students and faculty," said UM College of Humanities and Sciences Dean Christopher Comer. "It is an immensely important step toward our goal to renovate the Liberal Arts Building and move the College of Humanities and Sciences forward."

The smart classrooms will be easy-to-use, technology-rich, flexible environments that support and facilitate many

learning methods and styles, including distance education. The classrooms will allow faculty to explore new and more engaging methods of interacting with students and help students become more successful scholars and lifelong learners.

Technology enhancements planned for the project include interactive smart boards and video walls, multiple LCD screens, video conferencing capabilities and capacity for interaction with faculty and students' tablets and computing devices.

Other room refurbishment may include improved temperature control, moveable furnishings and other aesthetic upgrades to improve the educational environment. The first phase of renovations to the vertical corridor will begin Monday, May 18, with the removal of window coverings on the building's façade.

In his business management career, which has spanned the United States and Australia, Eck discovered that technology benefited not only his customers and shareholders but also his employees. He appreciates the way technology integrates different methods of doing things and helps distribute information among staff.

"I am a fan of technology being used to help people," he said.

He sees the same potential at UM.

"When I came for a visit to campus last year, I looked in the Liberal Arts Building and not much had changed since the 1960s," Eck said. "I thought, there is no reason you couldn't take this building and bring it into a technologically modern era, to keep pace with the great professors."

Eck graduated from UM in 1968 with a degree in political history. He says his liberal arts education provided a foundation for critical thinking that has benefited him throughout his life. Now he is grateful to be able to give back.

"I've been lucky. Now it's time to make a difference."

For more information on the Liberal Arts Building renovations call campus Architect Jameel Chaudhry at 406-243-5576 or email jameel.chaudhry@mso.umt.edu. For more information on the Eck's gift to the UM Foundation, call senior writer/editor Kate Stober at 406-243-2627 or email kate.stober@umontana.edu.

Contact: Ian Withrow, communications coordinator, UM College of Humanities and Sciences, 406-243-2683, ian.withrow@umontana.edu.

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UM Students With Disabilities Test Olympus Products, Offer Feedback

May 08, 2015

MISSOULA – The University of Montana’s Disability Services for Students recently assisted Olympus Corporation in evaluating its digital-voice recorders in order to improve the quality and usability of their products.

Nineteen UM students with disabilities participated in the evaluation and gave feedback to company representatives who visited UM April 21-22.

Olympus Corporation is a Japan-based manufacturer of precision products such as endoscopes, digital cameras and voice recorders. Olympus provided UM’s DSS several models of their digital-voice recorders to be used and evaluated.

“I am so excited that I was able to try a recorder that is not yet released in the United States,” said Kelly Lunstad, one of the student evaluators. “Over the last three weeks, I used an Olympus recorder to record lectures as a modification and then downloaded it to my computer. I could easily edit, bookmark and delete a part of the recordings. This technology has helped me so much with accuracy of recalling lectures.”

The students' feedback will be used by the Olympus Corporation to improve the usability of their products and to attain their goal of access through technology.

"We are proud of our partnership with Olympus," said Amy Capolupo, director of UM's DSS. "This partnership has helped our students achieve skills in the areas of global communication, product innovation and personal development."

For more information about the collaboration, call Capolupo at 406-243-2243.

Contact: Mika Watanabe, Disability Services for Students coordinator, 406-243-6535,
mika.watanabe@umontana.edu.



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New 'Backroads of Montana' Episode Makes Connections

May 08, 2015

MISSOULA – A new episode of the popular “Backroads of Montana” series will premiere at 8 p.m. Monday, May 18, on MontanaPBS.

Subtitled “Making Connections,” the program introduces viewers to Iris Dodge, who was inspired to record the vanishing cowboy life in paint and poems. Producer Gus Chambers attended the opening of Dodge’s art show at the Western Heritage Center in **Billings**, then hit the road to **Wilsall**, **Ennis** and **Alder** to meet some of the men she painted – and learn how to pronounce “Wilsall.”

At the annual Lineman’s Rodeo in **Butte**, producer John Twiggs watched professionals and amateurs show off their skills while brushing up on the latest safety techniques. The friendly competition gives linemen a chance to catch up with colleagues in their demanding profession that keeps the power on in Montana.

In **Jefferson City**, producer Ray Ekness spent a warm August afternoon walking along Prickly Pear Creek amid the beautiful flowers, plants and trees of the Tizer Botanic Gardens and Arboretum, which may be the prettiest six acres in Montana.

The energy and humor of Roz Kristofferson, an 84-year-old dance instructor in **Kalispell**, brings the program to a graceful finale. As Twiggs found, Kristofferson's students learn that dance technique can make for lasting connections.

William Marcus hosts the program from the annual **Creston** Auction and Country Fair just east of Kalispell, where thousands of people turn out each April to bid on everything from chain saws to heirloom antiques.

"Backroads of Montana" is funded by the Greater Montana Foundation, the Montana Office of Tourism and the University of Montana.

MontanaPBS is composed of KUFM-TV in Missoula and KUSM-TV in Bozeman and is a statewide service of UM and Montana State University. Check local listings for the channel or visit

<http://www.montanapbs.org/about/broadcast-area/>.

Contact: William Marcus, host, "Backroads of Montana," 406-243-4154, william.marcus@umontana.edu.



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UM Athletic Training Students Earn 100 Percent Pass Rate on Certification Exam

May 07, 2015

MISSOULA – Twelve University of Montana athletic training students recently took the Board of Certification exam, a high-stakes evaluation that enables students graduating from accredited athletic training programs to enter the work force as certified athletic trainers. All 12 students graduating from the UM program this spring took the exam in April, and all of them passed on their first try.

“Our students’ success on the BOC exam is no doubt a reflection of the time and energy the students have invested in their education,” said Valerie Moody, program director for the UM Athletic Training Program. “This is incredibly exciting and rewarding for our athletic training faculty, staff and clinical preceptors who work so closely with our students day-in and day-out to help prepare them to enter the profession.”

UM students far exceed the national average first-time pass rate of 82 percent. Over the past four years, 34 out of 35 students in the UM Athletic Training Program have passed the exam on their first attempt, bringing the program’s overall first-time pass rate up to 97 percent for the past four years.

This year’s 100 percent pass rate also includes the inaugural class of students graduating from the Masters in

Athletic Training Program, setting the program off to a promising start.

Contact: Valerie Moody, program director, UM Athletic Training Program, 406-243-2703,
valerie.moody@umontana.edu.



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UM Hires New Missoula College Dean

May 07, 2015

MISSOULA – Shannon O'Brien, the education policy adviser for Montana Gov. Steve Bullock, will become the next dean of Missoula College University of Montana on July 1.

O'Brien replaces Interim Dean Jane Baker, who has led MC since October 2014, and Barry Good, who was dean from 2006 to 2014.

"We couldn't be more excited to welcome Shannon to campus," UM Provost Perry Brown said. "She has the right mix of experience to lead Missoula College into the future, as well as into the college's new building on East Broadway when it opens in summer 2017."

O'Brien was selected after a national search by a committee led by Chris Comer, dean of UM's College of



Humanities and Sciences.

In her current position, O'Brien advises the governor on early childhood care and education, K-12 and postsecondary development, and workforce and economic development.

She earned a doctorate in educational leadership from UM in 2013. She also holds a certificate in education administration from the University of Washington (2007), a master's degree in teaching and secondary social studies from Gonzaga University (1994) and a bachelor's in political science from UW (1991).

O'Brien has held several teaching and administrative positions, including those at the American School in Madrid, Spain; Stanwood (Washington) High School; Ferndale (Washington) School District; and Appalachian State University in North Carolina. She worked as an independent consultant for educational and organizational change from 2007 to 2013, and from 2009 to 2011 she was an instructor and adjunct professor at UM's Phyllis J. Washington College of Education and Human Sciences.

"I'm ready for this new role," O'Brien said. "Missoula College is poised to take a leap in enrollment, resource development and statewide leadership. I appreciate that it's positioned within an outstanding four-year university and a community of private industry leaders who are ready and willing to collaborate."

Contact: Perry Brown, UM provost and vice president for academic affairs, 406-243-4689, perry.brown@umontana.edu.

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BBER Study Finds Local Communities Bear Largest Burden of Timber Sale Litigation

May 07, 2015

MISSOULA – A study completed by the University of Montana’s Bureau of Business and Economic Research examined the costs and impacts associated with litigation of U.S. Forest Service timber sales in the Northern Region. The study found that economic impacts to communities – in the form of lost jobs; labor income; and federal, state and local taxes – are the largest potential outcomes from litigation.

“Payments of plaintiffs’ attorney fees, which have been of interest to Congress, are just the tip of the iceberg when it comes to the cost of litigation of Forest Service projects,” said Todd Morgan, BBER director of forest industry research.

Using the Spotted Bear River project as a case study, Morgan found that even though no plaintiff attorney fees were paid in the case, the economic impacts of litigation could have exceeded \$10 million and 130 jobs for the state’s forest-products industry and local communities.

In comparison, the study showed smaller litigation costs to the federal agencies associated with the SBR project. Direct costs to the Forest Service were about \$95,000 and about \$4,500 for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, not including the costs of the Department of Justice and Office of General Council attorneys defending the Forest Service and FWS.

“When a project is litigated, it is typically the agency’s environmental analysis of the project that is questioned,” Morgan said. “And the agency with its legal counsel must defend the analysis.”

These analyses often have links to other Forest Service projects because highly interrelated issues, such as endangered species habitat, are the basis of many cases. This interconnectedness often stalls other Forest Service projects that are not being litigated directly.

In recent years, litigation has encumbered 40 to 50 percent of the Northern Region’s planned timber harvest volume and treatment acres, and litigation of the SBR project alone involved more than 25 percent of the Flathead National Forest’s fiscal year 2013 timber program.

“These figures are particularly important because litigation of individual cases often exceeds one or two years,” Morgan said. “The relatively simple SBR project we examined spent over 1,000 days in litigation.”

On Feb. 23, the district court judge ruled in favor of the Forest Service on the SBR case. The decision was not appealed to the Ninth Circuit Court within the 60-day appeal period.

The duration of litigation, particularly for cases with a high level of interconnectedness, has a chilling effect on many other projects because of the uncertainty that exists while cases remain in litigation (including appeals to higher courts). The delays and uncertainty caused by litigation affect local businesses and communities, as well as the Forest Service – even when the agency prevails in court and the timber sales eventually go forward.

The study was completed for the Forest Service and the Montana Forest Products Retention Roundtable. It is available online at: <http://www.bber.umt.edu/pubs/forest/BBERLitigationRpt2015.pdf>.

BBER is a leading collector of primary data for business, economic and social science in Montana, providing information about Montana’s state and local economies for more than 50 years. The bureau’s Forest Industry Research Program has provided analysis of the forest products industry throughout the West for more than 35 years. For more information visit: <http://www.bber.umt.edu/fir/>.

Contact: Rob Van Driest, marketing director, UM Bureau of Business and Economic Research, 406-243-5113, rob.vandriest@business.umt.edu.

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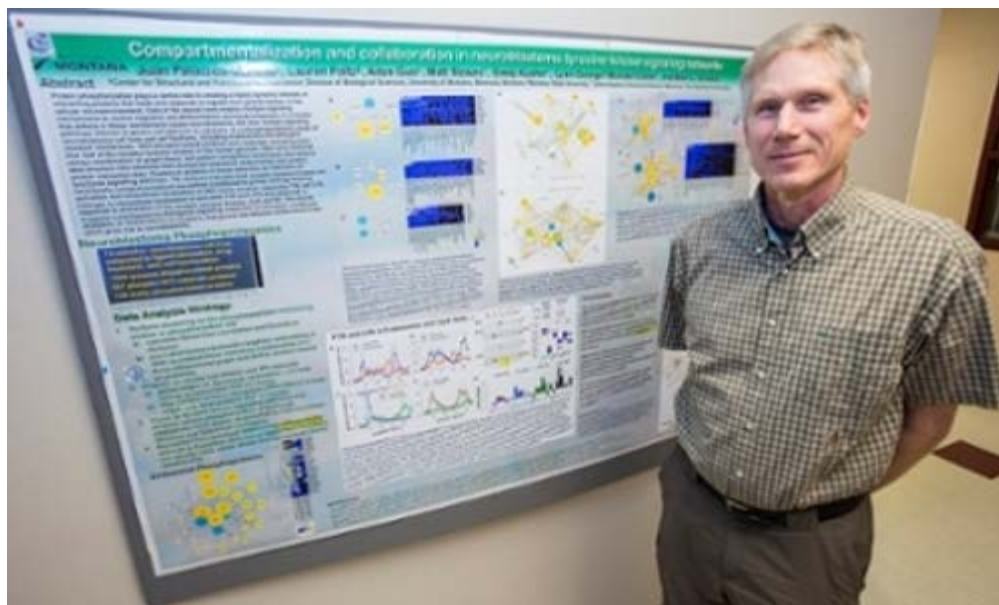
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UM Biologist Advances Cancer Research With New Data Analysis Techniques

May 07, 2015

MISSOULA – Patience and persistence are beginning to pay off for University of Montana Professor Mark Grimes, whose research about the behavior of cell proteins in childhood cancer recently was published by the Public Library of Science Computational Biology.

In his quest to understand the childhood cancer called neuroblastoma – which is not the most common type of



childhood cancer, but is the most lethal – Grimes started at the subcellular level, isolating organelles containing molecules that signal to cells to divide, die or differentiate. As a cell biologist, he wanted to understand why cancer cells behave differently than other cells.

Grimes laid the groundwork for his research by identifying a large number of signaling proteins using mass spectrometry in collaboration with Cell Signaling Technology, a company in Danvers, Massachusetts. He collected more data than he knew what to do with.

“I spent an embarrassingly long time staring at a spreadsheet trying to figure out what it all meant,” Grimes said.

Perplexed, he set off on a five-year adventure in unknown territory: data analytics.

“I felt like Don Quixote for a while, wandering through the wilderness, because I’m really a cell biologist,” Grimes said, “I’m not a statistician. I’m not a computer programmer.”

So he sought out people who had those skills. He teamed up with Laurens van der Maaten, a pattern recognition specialist at Delft University of Technology in the Netherlands, and Paul Shannon, senior software engineer at the Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research in Seattle, and started learning the skills himself.

“And after many trials and errors, I learned about a pattern-recognition technique that works really well and discovered a few new tricks that are actually pretty fundamental,” he said. “Which is why I’m excited about this paper, because not only the results are interesting, but the way we analyze the data brings new tools to bear on these kinds of problems in general.”

By collaborating with people in the field of pattern recognition and bioinformatics, Grimes developed a way to calculate relationships in the data, even when that data contains a lot of missing information, as his did.

“I figured out a way to calculate relationships leaving the holes in there,” he said, “because there are so many holes that if you put zeroes in there, the zeroes all correlate with each other and you get no information.”

Grimes’ new technique labels the zeroes as “data not available” rather than a numerical value, telling his algorithm only to analyze relationships among data that exists. Once he applied the new technique to the data he collected, the methods of sorting data into groups, called clustering, became more robust and the relationships became clearer: in cancer cells, the components that determine the cell’s behavior – whether the cell will live, die, migrate or change identity (differentiate) – are functionally compartmentalized into distinct collaborative groups.

Therapeutic progress has been slow for neuroblastoma. Grimes and his research partners at Cell Signaling Technology analyzed a large number of neuroblastoma cells, dissecting them to find the specific location of their signaling proteins. The analysis found two related proteins act like central hubs that distinguish responses to the activation of different receptors.

Grimes hopes that by understanding the fundamentals of cell signaling, scientists eventually might be able to change the signals within cancer cells. For instance, they could trigger cancer cells to die rather



than metastasize.

Since humans are born with more cells than we need to survive, many cells in our bodies already are “programmed” to die. And by harnessing the same signals in those cells, Grimes said it just might be possible to tell cancer cells to do the

same.

“If we can understand the fundamentals of signaling, then we can hope to manipulate these pathways and maybe apply it to neuroblastoma,” he said. “If we can get them to march a little bit further in their differentiation, we could use that differentiation to make each cell susceptible to programmed cell death.”

And if this signaling works for neuroblastoma cells, scientists possibly could use the same technology on all cancer cells.

“If we understand how different receptors elicit distinct cell responses,” Grimes said, “we can devise strategies to manipulate cancer cells to cease proliferation, differentiate or commit cell suicide.”

He said it’s important to understand the highly dynamic network of interacting proteins and how they communicate inside the cellular environment to understand the cause of cancer.

“We’ve made tremendous progress on cancer, but we also have to acknowledge we’ve really just sampled a teaspoonful of an ocean full of things we need to do,” he said. “We have a huge amount to do to increase the quality of life, survival and even lifespan. There’s a lot to do on many fronts.”

Grimes’ research paper, “Neuroblastoma Tyrosine Kinase Signaling Networks Involve FYN and LYN in Endosomes and Lipid Rafts” is available online at <http://journals.plos.org/ploscompbiol/article?id=10.1371/journal.pcbi.1004130>.

For more information call Grimes at 406-243-4977 or email mark.grimes@mso.umt.edu.

Contact: Mark Grimes, associate professor, UM Division of Biological Sciences, 406-243-4977, mark.grimes@mso.umt.edu.

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UM Researcher Contributes Frost-Free Seasonal Data to National Climate Assessment

May 06, 2015

MISSOULA – University of Montana Professor John Kimball is among a group of researchers nationwide who are contributing data to the National Climate Assessment.

This month marks the one-year anniversary of the U.S. Global Change Research Program's 2014 National Climate Assessment, an effort spearheaded by the federal government to fulfill a need for reliable, scientific



information about current and future changes, impacts and effective response options to a changing climate.

“Today is the anniversary of the release of the 2014 National Climate Assessment,” said Melissa Kenney, University of Maryland research assistant professor. “So it’s fitting that the U.S. Global Change Research Program is releasing the first product of a sustained U.S. National Climate Assessment – indicators,”

The USGCRP tasked prominent researchers nationwide to provide scientific data that ultimately can help decision makers understand and respond to climate change. Each technical team will take on a specific indicator of climate change. Based out of Missoula, Kimball is on the technical team that is working on data related to phenology – or the timing of seasonal processes.

Indicators of climate change can communicate key aspects of the changing environment, point out vulnerabilities and inform decisions about policy, planning and resource management. The indicators communicate some of the key aspects of the changing climate, such as temperatures over land and at sea, greenhouse gas levels in the atmosphere, the extent of Arctic sea ice, and related effects in sectors like public health and agriculture.

Some of the indicators show climate-related trends over time, whereas others show the status of resources that may be affected by climate change in the future. Kimball’s team will contribute data for the frost-free season, defined as the number of frost-free days in a year, which reflects the overall warming trend in the climate system.

Kimball developed a nonfrozen season indicator data set at UM, which was selected as one of the indicators to be used in the climate change assessment because it provided data on the entire continental United States and was traceable and defensible.

Essentially, the data Kimball organized shows how the frost-free season has changed over time. The UM lab uses satellite microwave remote-sensing data to measure when the land is frozen and not frozen. The data set, collected by NASA satellites two times a day since 1979, is one of the longest satellite remote-sensing records available. It shows the worldwide timing and length of the nonfrozen season.

“The timing and duration of that nonfrozen season is particularly important for influencing the timing of vegetation growth and the duration of the growing season,” Kimball said. “Effectively we are defining the frost-free season each year, and because we have more than 30 years of data, we can begin to understand decadal changes.”

The data shows that the growing season has increased by about two days each decade in the continental U.S.

“That has a big effect over a 30-year period,” Kimball said. “We are generally getting a growing season that is a week longer.”

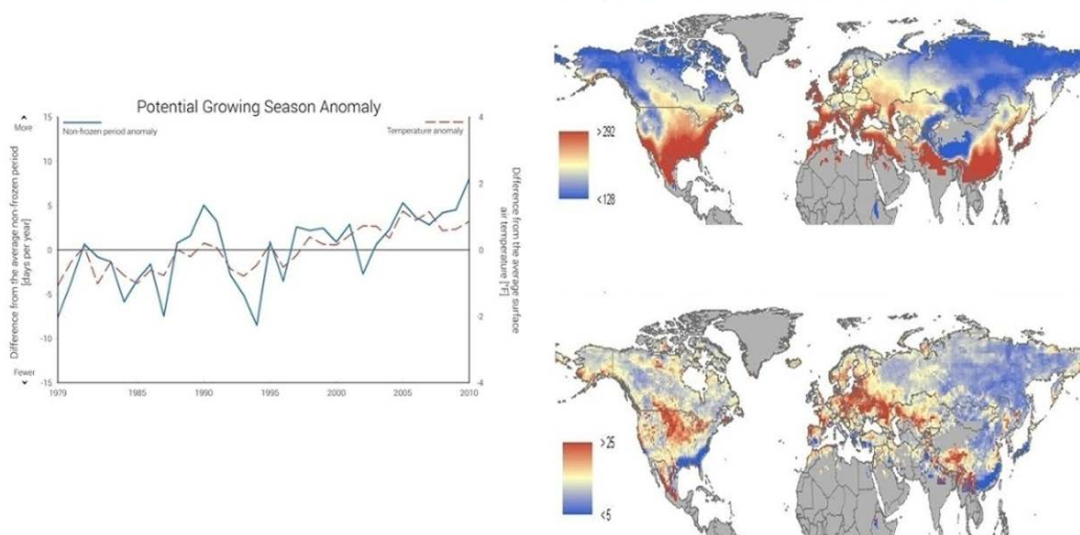
This indicator can help decision makers understand and anticipate possible impacts on agricultural and natural resource sectors. For instance, some pests and pathogens affecting forests and crops are projected to benefit from warmer temperatures and longer frost-free seasons. A lengthening frost-free season also may impact habitat conditions and wildfire risk.

“This information will help land managers and politicians plan accordingly,” Kimball said. “But, it also will help inform the public of the kind of environmental changes they are seeing across the nation.”

“This indicator system is a really important first step,” said Anthony Janetos, Boston University Frederick S. Pardee professor and director of The Frederick S. Pardee Center for the Study of the Longer-Range Future. “Not just as a baseline of impacts but also as a way to begin chronicling how we adapt to the impacts we cannot avoid.”

For more information on Kimball’s study, call him at 406-243-4922, email johnk@ntsg.umt.edu or visit <http://www.globalchange.gov/browse/indicators/indicator-frost-free-season>.

For more information on the national climate assessment, visit <http://nca2014.globalchange.gov/>.



Contact: John Kimball, UM professor, Department of Ecosystem and Conservation Sciences, 406-243-4922, johnk@ntsg.umt.edu.

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Long-Running UM Student-Produced TV Program Highlights Montana Businesses

May 06, 2015

MISSOULA – Customized vintage wood signs, bamboo shin guards for soccer players, custom skis made from bamboo, long bows designed by a famous archer and concrete logs that look like wood are the subjects of a University of Montana student-produced television program featuring Montana-based businesses.

“Business: Made in Montana” profiles companies that create products in Big Sky Country and do business around the state, the country and the world. The new program will premiere at 8:30 p.m. Monday, May 18, across the state on MontanaPBS. An encore presentation is scheduled for 10:30 a.m. Sunday, May 31.

This episode features Meissenburg Designs in **Bigfork**, Legends Soccer in **Whitefish**, Caravan Skis in **Bozeman**, Howard Hill Archery in **Hamilton** and Everlog Systems in **Missoula**.

Meissenburg Designs specializes in developing vintage photos and artists’ masterpieces into personalized signs. Using raw materials from Montana, they ship their creations all over the world.

Three Whitefish soccer players make up Legend Soccer Company. The startup company looks to make an impact

in the soccer industry with a lightweight, sustainable, bamboo shin guard that founders hope changes the game.

Skiing and sustainability are the motives behind Bozeman's Caravan Skis. The company creates a variety of skis made from bamboo.

A Bitterroot Valley business keeps the legacy of a famous archer alive by making high-quality bows with legendary status. Howard Hill Archery touts making the best longbows in the world.

Missoula's Everlog Systems creates structural concrete logs and concrete log siding for custom homes throughout the U.S.

Students at the UM School of Journalism and Department of Radio-Television produced the program during autumn semester 2014. Junior journalism student Sean Robb hosts the program. In the past 22 years, "Business: Made in Montana" has featured more than 200 different businesses. For photos and additional information on this episode visit <http://www.montanapbs.org/businessmadeinmontana/2202/2202/>.

"Business: Made in Montana" is made possible with support from the Greater Montana Foundation. Founded by pioneer broadcaster Ed Craney in 1958, the GMF provides grants to improve the quality of communications of important issues through electronic media. More information is available online at <http://www.greatermontana.org>.

MontanaPBS is comprised of KUFM-TV in Missoula and KUSM-TV in Bozeman and is a service of UM and Montana State University.

Contact: Ray Ekness, professor, UM School of Journalism, 406-243-4088, ray.ekness@umontana.edu.



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Award-Winning Artist Jason Isbell to Perform at UM

May 05, 2015

MISSOULA – Jason Isbell, who was named Artist of the Year by the Americana Music Association in 2014, will perform at the University of Montana’s Dennison Theatre on Wednesday, Aug. 5. The concert will begin at 7:30 p.m., and doors open at 6:30 p.m.

Tickets for the show go on sale at 10 a.m. Friday, May 8, at <http://www.griztix.com>, at the Adams Center Box Office and all GrizTix locations. Tickets also may be purchased by calling 406-243-4051 during business hours, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. Tickets cost \$35, plus applicable service fees.

The New York Times Magazine said Isbell is “one of America’s thoroughbred songwriters, with a knack for rueful melodies and the kind of grainy, blue-collar detail that pins a song in your mind.”

His highly anticipated fifth album, “Something More Than Free,” releases on Friday, July 17. It features 11 new songs of Isbell’s southern-inspired vignettes of working-class men, women and traditions.

Isbell will be joined by his band The 400 Unit, featuring Debby Deborja, Chad Gamble, Jimbo Hart and Sadler

Vaden, as well as special guest artist Damien Jurado.

For more information call Chanelle Paakkonen, UM Productions marketing coordinator, at 406-243-4719 or email marketing@umproductions.org.

Contact: Chanelle Paakkonen, UM Productions marketing coordinator, 406-243-4719, marketing@umproductions.org.



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UM Business School Honors Alumni for Career Achievements

May 05, 2015

MISSOULA – The University of Montana School of Business Administration will honor three alumni for outstanding career achievements at the 68th Annual Donor Recognition and Scholarship Awards Banquet on May 8.

The three honorees are Margaret Woo '75, Outstanding Distinguished Alumna; Mark Matsko '80, Outstanding Alumnus; and Jena Gardner '92, Outstanding Early Career Alumna.

Woo was born and raised in **Havre**. After graduating from high school, she spent a year in Germany as a foreign exchange student and enrolled at UM in 1971. Woo graduated from UM with high honors, earning a bachelor's degree in business administration with a concentration in accounting. She went on to earn a Master of Business Administration at Boston's Northeastern University in 1977.

Woo began her career in 1977 at Galusha, Higgins & Galusha CPAs in **Helena**. During her time at GHG, she advanced to shareholder status in 1993 and later retired after 32 years with the firm. Woo was only the fifth woman to achieve shareholder status at the firm since its inception in 1919 and chaired the firm's tax committee before retirement. Her professional affiliations included membership in the American Institute of CPAs and the Montana

Society of CPAs.

Throughout her career, Woo served on many local nonprofit organization boards, including those for Region IV Family Outreach, Helena Presents/the Myrna Loy Center, Helena Family YMCA, the Grandstreet Theatre, the Montana Club, the Friendship Center and the Archie Bray Foundation. In addition, Woo was a member of the Small Business Advisory Council and served on the UM Student Affairs Advisory Board from 2004 to 2009.

Woo resides in **Helena** and enjoys many outdoor activities. She continues to volunteer for local organizations and supports UM as a member of the President's Club and the UM Alumni Association. She also is a trustee for the Haynes Foundation.

Matsko grew up in **Great Falls** and began college at Montana State University in Bozeman but transferred to UM after his first quarter. While at UM, Matsko was elected Associated Students of UM business manager, married, passed the CPA exam and graduated with high honors in both accounting and economics/political science.

Matsko worked at Great Falls Coca-Cola for one year before moving to Boise, Idaho, to take a job with Arthur Andersen in their tax department. The lure of private business quickly brought him back to Great Falls Coca-Cola two years later, where he was actively involved in the acquisition of additional bottling plants in Kalispell and Missoula.

Matsko held several positions, including president, from 1983 until he negotiated the sale of that firm in 1986. Using his accounting and management experience, Matsko found his passion and transitioned to the investment industry. He worked as a security analyst in Washington, D.C., and became a chartered financial analyst. After moving back to Boise, he started his own investment firm, worked as a broker at D.A. Davidson and in 1996 became a partner in Burroughs & Hutchinson, the first Registered Investment Advisor in Idaho. Since he became president in 2001, the firm has grown to \$300 million under his supervision and recently changed its name to Selway Asset Management.

Matsko is active in civic and social groups throughout Boise. As coach of eight softball teams, fourteen basketball teams and a soccer team, he spent many evenings and weekends with his three daughters and their teammates. A former board member of the United Way Treasure Valley, Crane Creek Country Club and UM Alumni Association, he also served three terms with the UM Foundation Board of Trustees.

Matsko attributes any success he has had to the support, love and encouragement of his wife, Carrie.

Gardner grew up in **Hamilton** and graduated with honors from UM's School of Business Administration. An entrepreneur, marketing expert, best-selling author and travel industry icon, Gardner turned a lifelong passion for travel into a thriving enterprise. She founded Global Group by JG in New York City in 2002 and has since built it into a highly successful consulting firm. The company offers an integrated portfolio of sales, marketing, public relations and branding services to help companies gain exposure, build brands, establish networks and increase sales within the travel, luxury and experiential lifestyle sectors. The firm has been named by Inc. magazine as one of the country's fastest-growing privately held companies for four consecutive years.

Gardner's innovative approach to business has made her a sought-after industry consultant. Named one of the Top 25 Most Extraordinary Minds in Sales and Marketing by HSMIAI, she is an international keynote speaker, having been invited to present at the Global Women's Forum, the Global Eco Conference, the Fortune Luxury Summit, the Luxury Marketing Council, the BVI Business Outlook Conference and the Luxury Portfolio SUMMIT.

She is also a contributing writer for Enterprising Women, Luxury Portfolio and Business BVI magazines and co-author of the best-selling book "Women Who Mean Business." Gardner serves on the judging committee for the World Travel and Tourism Council's Tourism for Tomorrow Awards, which recognizes and promotes best practices in sustainable tourism, and the Tourism Cares' Lifetime Achievement in Travel Philanthropy Award.

Gardner credits her own life-changing journeys as the inspiration for her company, as well as her altruistic efforts. She sponsors eight children globally and co-founded the Bodhi Tree Foundation, a nonprofit organization dedicated to supporting environmental and humanitarian efforts related to travel and tourism sustainability. The foundation recently launched the S.A.F.E. campaign dedicated to galvanizing and uniting the tourism industry to help end the dramatic rise in poaching of Africa's elephants.

A licensed CPA with an extensive background in luxury hotel management, Gardner spearheaded sales and marketing efforts for Ritz-Carlton and Montana's Triple Creek Ranch before founding Global Group. She credits her professional success and core values of hard work, dedication and loyalty to her deep Montana roots. Gardner is the proud mom of triplet 2-year-old boys Dylan, Aidan and William.

For more information visit <http://www.business.umt.edu>.

###

Note: Photos of the alumni receiving the awards are available by calling Tammy Yedinak at 406-243-6195 or by emailing tammy.yedinak@business.umt.edu.

Contact: Tammy Yedinak, dean's executive assistant, UM School of Business Administration, 406-243-6195, tammy.yedinak@mso.umt.edu.



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UM Student Awarded Critical Language Scholarship to Study Arabic in Morocco

May 05, 2015

MISSOULA – After he graduates this month, University of Montana senior Eamon Ormseth will spend his summer studying Arabic language and culture in Morocco.

The U.S. State Department awarded Ormseth a Critical Language Scholarship, which will fund his participation in an all-expenses-paid intensive Arabic program in Meknes, a city in northern Morocco.

Ormseth will spend several hours a day in the classroom perfecting his technical knowledge of the language, but also will have opportunities to interact with the community and immerse himself



in the culture and dialects of the region. Before leaving the U.S. in June, he will participate in an orientation program in Washington, D.C.

"I'm excited to be surrounded by the Arabic language as well as Morocco's unique culture and landscape," Ormseth said. "I hope to explore the beautiful Atlas Mountains and the rich history of Meknes."

Ormseth is a graduate of C.M. Russell High School in **Great Falls**. He will graduate with degrees in history and Central and Southwest Asian studies, as well as minors in Arabic studies and economics. He also was named the Mortar Board Outstanding Senior for the UM Department of History.

Following the program, Ormseth plans to extend his stay in the Middle East to work with a nongovernmental organization on education issues and continue studying Arabic and Middle Eastern history.

"Eamon is studying Arabic to prepare for two intertwined careers in the academic world and in the world of social service," said Laure Pengelly Drake, director of external scholarships and advising for the UM Davidson Honors College. "He will need a high level of proficiency with the different language usage of those worlds, so this in-depth program in-country presents a wonderful opportunity."

The scholarship program is part of a U.S. government effort to dramatically expand the number of Americans studying and mastering critical foreign languages. It provides fully funded, group-based intensive language instruction and structured cultural enrichment experiences to approximately 550 undergraduate and graduate students from across the country each year. Program participants are expected to continue their language study beyond the scholarship and apply their critical language skills in their future professional careers. Eighteen UM students have accepted Critical Language Scholarships since the program's inception in 2006.

For more information call Drake at 406-243-6140 or email laure.pengellydrake@umontana.edu.

Contact: Laure Pengelly Drake, director of external scholarships and advising, UM Davidson Honors College, 406-243-6140, laure.pengellydrake@umontana.edu.



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Swartz Family and UM Announce Legacy Scholarship, Award First Winner

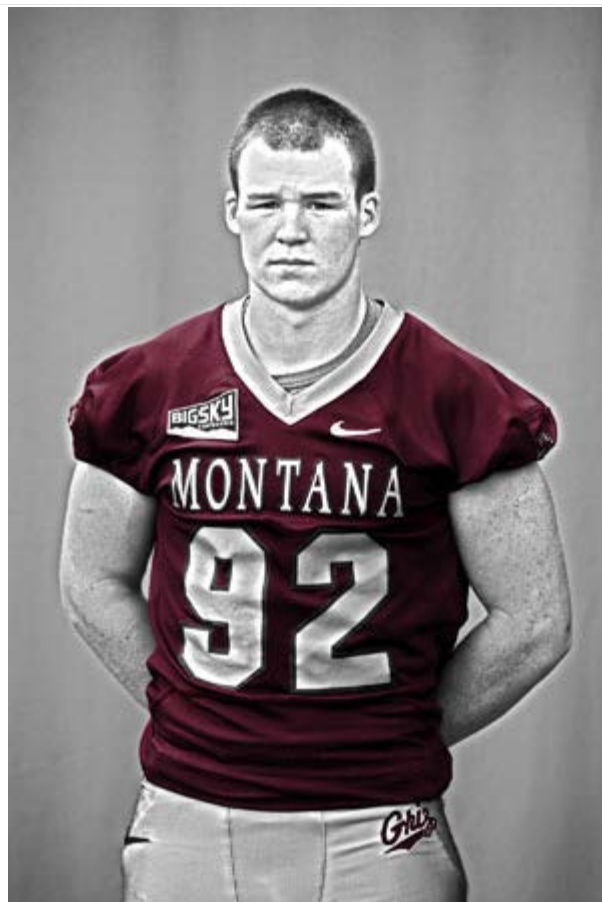
May 05, 2015

MISSOULA – Kole Swartz, a 19-year-old redshirt freshman defensive end for the University of Montana Grizzly football team, lost his life in a tragic accident on March 15. An outpouring of love, support and community generosity inspired Kole’s family to find a way to give back.

Today, just weeks after an unfathomable loss, the Swartz family and UM are proud to award the first Kole Swartz Legacy Scholarship.

“Through the darkness of our unimaginable loss has come astounding support that has provided much solace and comfort for our family,” said Jennifer Swartz, Kole’s mother. “We are so thankful to the Missoula, Clinton, Frenchtown and University of Montana communities for making the Kole Swartz Legacy Scholarship a reality.”

Kole Swartz was a 6-foot-5-inch tower of passion, muscle and commitment to Griz football. He lived his life with enthusiasm, joy and love – for football and for his family, girlfriend and friends. Inspired by Kole to help kids working hard to realize their dreams on the field and in the classroom, the Swartz family designed the Kole Swartz Legacy Scholarship to benefit defensive players from Montana.



“Kole would have been so touched to see all of the ways, big and small, that he was loved by so many,” said Sean Swartz, Kole’s father. “This scholarship allows us to contribute annually to the team that Kole loved so much. It’s absolutely fitting that the first-ever winner of the Kole Swartz Legacy Scholarship is Kole’s teammate, friend and roommate, Evan Epperly.”

Epperly, a redshirt freshman from **Kalispell**, will play safety for the Griz during the 2015 season. He was one of Kole’s closest friends, his teammate (East-West Shrine Games, Montana-Dakota All-Star Game and the Griz) and his roommate on campus. His scholarship will be for the 2015-16 academic year.

“Kole’s family and friends have turned his tragic loss into a gift of support for generations of students to come,” said Kent Haslam, UM director of athletics. “We are truly humbled and honored to continue Kole’s legacy through this scholarship.”

Over 350 donors made contributions to the scholarship fund, which continues to grow. The Swartz Scholarship is one of more than 2,500 privately funded scholarships awarded by the University of Montana Foundation every year. To make a donation in support of the Kole Swartz Legacy Scholarship, please visit <http://www.supportum.org/give/> or call 1-800-443-2593.

###

Contact: Melissa Wilson, UM Foundation assistant vice president for marketing and communications, 406-243-4609, melissa.wilson@mso.umt.edu.



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UM Now Offering Master's in Early Childhood Education

May 05, 2015

MISSOULA – The Department of Curriculum and Instruction at the University of Montana now offers a Master of Education in Early Childhood Education. This is the only degree of its kind in Montana and will serve to benefit the state's youngest populations and those who work with them.

Developed by Susan Harper-Whalen, associate dean of the Phyllis J. Washington College of Education and Human Sciences; Julie Bullard, professor in the Department of Curriculum and Instruction; and Kristin Dahl Horejsi, co-director of the UM Learning and Belonging Preschool, the program is designed to meet national and state early childhood education standards. The coursework will be delivered in an online format to create a readily accessible master's degree option for current teachers and other human-service professionals to prepare them for emerging needs in the workforce.

"This is an innovative and accessible program that has been needed in Montana for quite some time," Harper-Whalen said. "We are thrilled to be able to offer advanced degrees to early childhood professionals across the state and in a format that works with their schedules and professional demands."

There are two options within this degree program: an Early Childhood Education option and an Advanced Early Childhood Education option. The former is designed specifically for professionals who do not have a degree in early childhood but are interested in or currently established in early childhood careers. Pending final state approval, currently certified K-8 teachers can complete this program to earn Montana's new P-3 early childhood teaching certificate. The latter is developed to advance the preparation of leaders in the field of early childhood and is designed for professionals who have completed baccalaureate degrees in early childhood education, as well as professionals with diverse academic backgrounds who work in the early childhood field in leadership roles that do not require the direct implementation or supervision of early childhood curriculum.

"Being able to align our curriculum to meet the needs of early childhood education professionals across the state is so exciting," Horejsi said. "Working in conjunction with the Early Childhood Project, Montana's Early Childhood Education Consortium, and the Montana chapter of the National Association of the Education of Young Children, there are more opportunities for professional advancement and high caliber early childhood education in Montana than ever before."

Prospective students are encouraged to apply for the program as soon as possible, as classes begin this summer.

For more information about the program or to apply, visit the Early Childhood Education website at <http://www.coehs.umt.edu/departments/currinst/masterofed/Early%20Childhood%20Education.php>.

Contact: Peter Knox, communications and outreach manager, UM Phyllis J. Washington College of Education and Human Sciences, 406-243-4911, peter.knox@mso.umt.edu.



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UM Student to Study in UK This Summer Through Fulbright Scholarship

May 05, 2015

MISSOULA – University of Montana student Ellen Ipsen will hop across the pond this summer to attend the Fulbright UK Summer Institute for Undergraduates, a program that fosters relations between the United States and United Kingdom and teaches American students more about the UK.

Ipsen, a sophomore from **Missoula** majoring in history, will examine the topic of slavery and the Atlantic heritage while studying at the University of Bristol's Fulbright Institute in southwest England.

"I am excited to learn more about the African,



European and American perspectives on slavery and witness the impact of the slave trade on modern British culture,” Ipsen said.

Ipsen graduated from Hellgate High School in 2013. During her freshman year at UM, Ipsen took the Davidson Honors College study abroad trip to Ireland and Northern Ireland, and she will attend Leiden University in the Netherlands for fall semester 2015.

The US-UK Fulbright Commission sends U.S. students with at least two years of undergraduate study left to the UK for an academic and cultural summer program. The program covers roundtrip airfare, tuition and fees, accommodations, food and a social program. Participants experience an exciting academic program at a highly regarded UK university, explore the culture, heritage and history of the UK, and develop their academic abilities by improving presentation, research and communication skills.

For more information call Laure Pengelly Drake, director of external scholarships and advising for the honors college, at 406-243-6140 or email laure.pengellydrake@umontana.edu.

Contact: Laure Pengelly Drake, director of external scholarships and advising, UM Davidson Honors College, 406-243-6140, laure.pengellydrake@umontana.edu.

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Initiative Beams UM Professors Into High Schools Across Montana, U.S.

May 04, 2015

MISSOULA – How do chemists change the way we grow food? How do the molecules in our brains shape our thoughts and feelings? How does place inspire scientific inquiry and exploration?

On May 6 and 7, high school students across Montana and around the U.S. will explore these questions in interactive, digital classes taught by University of Montana faculty. During the 50-minute classes, professors also will discuss their career pathways and share their experiences in higher education.

The digital classes include:

- “Sense of Place and Scientific Exploration,” Natalie Dawson, director of the Wilderness Institute.
- “Your Brain: from Molecules to Mind,” Mike Kavanaugh, director of the Center for Structural and Functional Neuroscience.
- “The Way Things Work, One Molecule at a Time: Organophosphate Insecticides,” Chuck Thompson, professor, UM Department of Biomedical and Pharmaceutical Sciences.

The digital classes will be facilitated by Inspired Classroom, a Missoula-based company that uses technology to enrich classrooms around the world.

“We know how vital role-model experiences are in helping students chart a path to higher education and meaningful careers,” said We Are Montana in the Classroom Director Holly Truitt. “We are so excited for high school classes as far away as Los Angeles and North Carolina – and all across Montana – to engage with these inspiring professors and to experience what it’s like to be a college student at the University of Montana.”

We Are Montana in the Classroom connects UM faculty members and students with K-12 learners, allowing them to preview the learning opportunities of college. The initiative is a collaboration between UM Admissions, the Phyllis J. Washington College of Education and Human Sciences, spectrUM Discovery Area and the UM Office of International Programs.

Limited space is still available for We Are Montana in the Classroom’s digital classes. Teachers who wish to enroll can email Alli DePuy at alli@inspiredclassroom.com.

Contact: Holly Truitt, director of We Are Montana in the Classroom, 406-243-4872, holly.truitt@umontana.edu.



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UM to Host Annual Business Plan Competition

May 04, 2015

MISSOULA – The University of Montana School of Business Administration, along with the Montana Academy of Distinguished Entrepreneurs and Blackstone LaunchPad at UM, will showcase the entrepreneurial aspirations of students from across the state at the 26th Annual John Ruffatto Business Startup Challenge. Formerly known as the John Ruffatto Business Plan Competition, the event will take place Thursday, May 14, in the Gallagher Business Building on the UM campus.

Montana is gaining recognition as an entrepreneurial frontier – a place with not just an abundance of natural beauty but also a talented workforce that prides itself on education and an uncommon work ethic.

“The hardy, driven and entrepreneurial spirit of the state’s original settlers proves to be one of Montana’s greatest assets in the new global economy,” special programs coordinator Larae Hackney said, “and the statewide Business Startup Challenge solidifies this reputation.”

As one of the oldest competitions in the country, the business school is proud to host this prestigious event for another year. Faculty-sponsored teams from higher education institutions across Montana are invited to compete.

From those teams, 16 will be chosen to compete on May 14 for more than \$45,000 in prize money.

The panel of judges who will evaluate the teams' startups consists of venture capitalists, angel investors, bankers, attorneys, corporate executives and successful entrepreneurs. Over the course of the day and two rounds of pitches, judges will narrow the field of 16 down to four finalist teams. The finalists will present their startup to the public audience at 5:30 p.m. on May 14.

The name change reflects the rise of the lean startup philosophy, which encourages "getting out of the building" to research, develop and validate business startup ideas over more traditional business plan documentation.

This year's event will reward competing teams that demonstrate real-world activity and evolve their business ideas based on market interaction and feedback. This change is being mirrored at business plan competitions around the world and also is reflected in programs such as Startup Weekends that emphasize doing over planning.

The John Ruffatto Business Startup Challenge is a highlight of the spring semester at SoBA. Competing students spend weeks and sometimes months developing and refining their written and oral presentations for the competition.

The shared business ideas and educational experience of this competition have helped Montana in many ways over the years, leading to successful businesses such as Big Sky Brewing, American Expedition Vehicle, Market on Front and Five on Black.

For more information about supporting or attending the event, visit <http://www.mtbusinessstartup.com/>, call SoBA Special Programs Coordinator Larae Hackney at 406-243-4830 or email larae.hackney@business.umt.edu.

Contact: Larae Hackney, special programs coordinator, UM School of Business Administration, 406-243-4830, larae.hackney@business.umt.edu.



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UM Collection of Bud Moore Photos, Recorded Stories Now Available Online

May 04, 2015

MISSOULA – The Maureen and Mike Mansfield Library at the University of Montana recently published an online collection showcasing original photos and audio recordings by well-known Montana forester, conservationist and author William Robert “Bud” Moore.

The Bud Moore Photographs and Sound Recordings Collection, hosted by the Montana Memory Project, is free for the public to view online at <http://bit.ly/1ztATur>. It features more than 4,500 images and 1,400 recollections recorded by Moore, author of “The Lochsa Story: Land Ethics in the Bitterroot Mountains.”

The images range in date from the 1930s to 2009 and document both the personal and professional aspects of his



life.

Born in Florence in 1917, Moore was known as a true Montana woodsman. He joined the U.S. Forest Service full-time as a young man, beginning a career that would span several decades and many changes in land-management policy. Following his retirement in 1974, Moore wrote and spoke on sustainable forestry, trapping, hunting and other wilderness topics. He published "The Lochsa Story" in 1996.

Before he died in 2010, Moore started organizing his extensive collection of images and recording his recollections about them and the events they portrayed. Following his death, Moore's children donated the collection to the Mansfield Library, where staff worked to transition the files from their original spreadsheet, enhance the descriptive information, and make the photo and audio content available online. The original slides and photographs are housed at UM's Archives and Special Collections, along with Moore's journals and other writings, as part of the Bud Moore Papers.



"Pop always had a keen interest in upcoming generations and felt that young people hold the key to future solutions for the planet," said Moore's daughter, Vicki. "I think he would be very pleased to see his stories made available to the general public, and especially to researchers and thinkers concerned with our wildlands and how we are connected to them. He would feel good knowing that his experiences and learning will still be of use long after he himself has gone to join the Great Spirit."

For more information call Donna McCrea, head of Archives and Special Collections, at 406-243-4403 or email donna.mccrea@umontana.edu.

Contact: Donna McCrea, head of Archives & Special Collections, UM Mansfield Library, 406-243-4403, donna.mccrea@umontana.edu.

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Missoula College Culinary Arts Students to Host Annual Capstone Dinner May 14

May 04, 2015

MISSOULA – Students in the Culinary Arts Program at Missoula College University of Montana will host the annual Capstone Dinner at 5 p.m. Thursday, May 14. Held at the MC campus, located at 909 South Ave., the event is open to the public, and tickets cost \$80 per person.

Students crafted the menu for this year's dinner, titled "Night Caps: Supper Club," which pays homage to the food and entertainment of the 1930s and 1940s.

Graduating culinary arts students will take guests back in time to when an evening out was a planned all-night affair. The dinner features classic supper-club dishes, including terrines, canapés, shrimp cocktails and a wedge salad. The main entrée will be a bacon-wrapped petite tender of beef au poivre. All courses will be served with appropriately paired wines. To finish, the students will serve Baked Alaska for dessert.

Performers will play live music throughout the event, opening opportunities for guests to dance. Participants also can bid on silent auction items.

“The 2015 culinary class is proud to showcase the talents and knowledge they have acquired over the past two years,” said Missoula College Culinary Program Director Tom Campbell. “They look forward to presenting their Capstone Dinner to the public in a comfortable and interactive atmosphere.”

Community members can purchase tickets by calling 406-243-7870. Proceeds will support the MC Culinary Arts Program, which enables students to participate in competitions, exhibits, field trips, conferences and the Capstone Dinner.

For more information or to subscribe to the culinary program mailing list, email Campbell at thomas.campbell@umontana.edu or Kassandra Warner, Culinary Arts Program director, at kassandra.warner@umconnect.umt.edu. Further information also is available on the Capstone’s Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/MCCACapstone>.

Contact: Tom Campbell, director, Missoula College Culinary Arts Program, 406-243-7815, thomas.campbell@mso.umt.edu.



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UM Junior Wins Prestigious Psychology Grant

May 01, 2015

MISSOULA – University of Montana junior Philip Thomas recently earned a prestigious \$5,000 grant from Psi Chi, the national honors society of psychology. The scholarship will support his research to understand the effectiveness of UM’s Youth Engagement Through Intervention program, a weeklong intensive treatment designed by UM researchers.

Thomas, a **Bozeman** native, majors in psychology and aims to pursue an educational-specialist degree in school psychology.

“I grew up with a brother who has very low-functioning autism,” Thomas said. “I knew from a young age that I wanted to be involved in a career that made an impact on children with disabilities and their families.”

YETI is an intensive, weeklong social-skills intervention for children ages 8 to 13 with autism spectrum and related disorders. The program uses evidence-based practices such as video modeling, visual schedules and social narratives to improve social skills.

Thomas' research with the YETI program aims to examine whether the skills taught in the program are being maintained and used at home and whether individualized treatments are effective for reducing disruptive behaviors within group settings.

"I am thrilled to learn that I have been awarded the grant, and I'm excited to have the opportunity to learn about different treatments for children with autism through this study," he said.

Contact: Anisa Goforth, assistant professor, UM Department of Psychology, 406-243-2917, anisa.goforth@umontana.edu.



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