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# Main Hall to Main St.

Vol. 3, No. 4

Connecting Campus and Community

September 1997

## Pharmacy school's 90th marks 10-year turnaround

**T**en years ago The University of Montana's School of Pharmacy turned a jubilant 80 years old, celebrating its survival of a near-death experience — a run-in with UM's "hit list" of programs slated for elimination in a retrenchment process that eventually closed down several.

But no sooner had the school put away the anniversary party hats than it faced another survival threat. In 1989, the American Council on Pharmaceutical Education, which had only provisionally accredited the school in 1987, gave it a year to supplement its base annual budget by \$400,000 or face loss of accreditation in June 1990.

That threat acted as a rallying cry, bringing administrators, alumni and lawmakers to their feet. With their help, the school won a year's reprieve, which allowed time for the 1991 Montana Legislature to act. It came through with enough funds to supplement what administrators had managed to raise elsewhere, and in June 1991 the school was fully re-accredited.

The trials of its early 80s behind, the school now celebrates its 90th anniversary, and its vital signs are excellent, according to Associate Dean Lori Morin.

"Research funding has risen from \$10,000 in 1988 to more than \$3 million at present to support research and minority recruitment and retention," Morin said. "Student numbers have probably doubled in the past 10 years, and the faculty has grown as resources have permitted, to serve the dramatic enrollment increase."

Now the school's quarters must grow, too. Although no date has been set for completion, Morin said the 90th anniversary will celebrate the coming expansion of the Pharmacy/Psychol-

ogy Building. With the school only about \$3.3 million shy of the \$10.4 million slated for the project, the design has been approved, and architects are working up bids.

The school's record on student performance is more cause for celebration. Morin said the student retention rate is nearly perfect, with less than 5 percent attrition in the past five or six years. And, she said, "In June of this year 100 percent of our 1996 graduates passed the national board test, and their passing average was higher than the national average." What's more, of UM graduates who responded to Career Services' 1996 Graduate Survey, pharmacy graduates topped the salary scale, pulling in about \$55,000.

*(continued on page 4)*



**Pharmacy student Carla Cahoon discusses medications with a western Montana senior citizen during a UM outreach program last spring.**

## UM alumna claims dual membership in reunion classes

**I**n 1954, shortly after Jane Solberg skipped her finals and eloped from her University of Montana dormitory, she vowed to return to college and graduate as an honor student. She did just that when she graduated from UM in 1972 with a bachelor's degree.

Now she says she's entitled to participate in two Homecoming reunions at her alma mater this month. This year's UM Homecoming marks the 40th reunion of the class of 1957 and the 25th anniversary of the class of 1972. Solberg and her husband, Dick, will be in Missoula for the festivities, and she plans to celebrate and be photographed with both classes.

Forty years ago, Dick Solberg, about to graduate from UM, was bound for graduate school at Washington State University. Jane was then a freshman and decided to miss her finals and elope with Dick. The couple was married about midnight by a justice of the peace in Superior with two faculty members

along as witnesses. Jane says her parents were "less than thrilled" when the justice of the peace called them to verify that their daughter was 18 years old.

"They liked Dick and that was the only saving grace," she says.

When the newly married couple returned to UM's campus, Jane remembered she had made a date with another young man for the following evening. A date that, under the circumstances, she broke.

"I broke a date to get married," Jane says. "He was a jock and jocks don't take that kind of thing well, especially when he found out I married a nerdy scientist."

Dick finished his master's degree in botany and went on to UCLA, where he earned his doctorate. He landed a job as a botany professor at UM, and the Solbergs returned to Missoula with their four children.

*(continued on page 4)*



# UM honors 1997 distinguished alums

**S**ix UM alumni who have been highly successful in their careers and outstanding as ambassadors for The University of Montana-Missoula will receive the UM Alumni Association's 1997 Distinguished Alumni Awards during this year's Homecoming celebration.

The award recipients are John G. Connors, Dee Daniels, John M. "Jack" Dietrich, H. Richard Fevold, William P. McGlynn and William A. Reynolds.

**Connors**, a 1984 graduate of the UM business school, is chief information officer for Microsoft Corp. As CIO, Connors oversees Microsoft's worldwide internal technologies infrastructure, corporate information and key internal systems. He helped to secure a donation of software applications to equip computer labs in the William and Rosemary Gallagher Building for the School of Business Administration. Connors, who hails from Miles City, now lives in Medina, Wash.

**Daniels** is a professional singer and songwriter who earned a degree in art education from UM in 1970. She is involved with elementary and high school students through a music and history performance program called "The Total Self Approach to Music." Daniels is also active in fund raising for many organizations, including International Variety Club, YWCA, Child Finders, Persons With AIDS and Starry Night. Daniels is originally from Seattle and now calls Vancouver, British Columbia home.

**Dietrich** served as Powell County attorney and acting Deer Lodge city attorney in addition to his work in private practice since earning a juris doctorate from UM in 1949. He is currently of counsel with Crowley, Haughey, Hanson, Toole & Dietrich in Billings. Dietrich is a member of the law school's Board of Visitors and the Governor's Committee on Education for the '90s. He also is a trustee for the UM Foundation and served as its president from 1981 to 1982. Dietrich is active in community service as a volunteer on many boards. One of his special interests is helping to secure conservation easements for land preservation through the Montana Land Reliance.

**Fevold** is a UM professor emeritus following a career that included teaching in the chemistry department and the Division of Biological Sciences. He was a Faculty Senate member for 11 years and held the position of vice chair in 1991 and 1992. His extensive service to UM includes membership in the Executive Committee of the Senate; the Admissions, Graduation and Academic Standards Committee; the Faculty Research Advisory Council; and the Graduate Council. His research into the control of steroid hormone production led to many published articles and numerous national and international presentations. A 1956 UM graduate, Fevold lives in Missoula.

**McGlynn** is general manager for Hewlett Packard's personal LaserJet Printer Division in Boise, Idaho, where he is responsible for the design, manufacture and marketing of printers and printer products for the home and small office. He was instrumental in securing a \$303,415 grant from Hewlett Packard to furnish the computer labs in the Gallagher Building with computers and servers. He received his bachelor's and master's degrees from UM in 1980 and 1981.

**Reynolds** is an internal medicine specialist with the Western Montana Clinic in Missoula and until 1993 was a staff physician at St. Patrick and Community hospitals. He received his premed bachelor's degree at UM in 1952 and completed his medical degree at Washington University in St. Louis in 1956, followed by a residency at the Mayo Clinic. Reynolds is active in the UM Alumni Association and was a UM Foundation trustee from 1990 to 1996. He also has been involved in UM's Capital Campaign and the annual Excellence Fund Business Drive.



Connors



Daniels



Dietrich



Fevold



McGlynn



Reynolds

## Students, employers connect at career fair

**B**usinesses interested in sharing knowledge and meeting potential employees are invited to participate in this year's Big Sky Career Fair, sponsored by UM's Office of Career Services.

The 1997 fair runs from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 15, in the University Center Ballroom. The "Opening Doors to Your Future" conference runs from 10:10 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the University Center Montana Rooms.

The career fair and conference are free for both students and fair participants. The events provide students with an opportunity to meet with professionals, investigate employment opportunities, explore job market trends, research specific companies, and practice interviewing and networking skills.

For more information, call the Office of Career Services at (406) 243-2022.

## Dennison charts course for future

**T**he University has embarked on a strategic planning process that will develop a vision for the University's future and create strategies to realize it.

"It seems indisputable that the college or university failing to plan its future will find itself condemned to suffer a future imposed upon it," President George Dennison said in his annual State of the University Address last month.

The planning process will encompass all four campuses of The University of Montana, Dennison said. "We must explore how we can become a single university with a presence in several communities," he said.

To accomplish that goal, Dennison said UM must take full advantage of new technology.

"If we invent and implement new ways to perform administrative functions and deliver services without regard to location, then we will have discovered the means (to accomplish that goal)," Dennison said.

Several task forces have been appointed to begin the strategic planning, the president said. Members will visit campuses in other states to see what works and what does not. They also will call in expert consultants.

Acknowledging that "excessive bureaucracy" causes many existing problems, Dennison pledged to reject any task force recommendations that increase rather than decrease bureaucracy.





# Bear Briefs

## Supreme Justice —

For the second time in two years, the UM law school hosted a visit from U.S. Supreme Court Justice Sandra Day O'Connor. She was on campus Sept. 18 to give the inaugural speech in the new Judge William B. Jones and Judge Edward A. Tamm Judicial Lecture Series. Her talk, "Charting the Course of Federalism: The Supreme Court and State Sovereignty," was delivered to about 500 Montana lawyers, UM law school students and members of the public.



O'Connor on campus in 1995

O'Connor also visited the Western Montana Bar Association's regular monthly meeting in the morning and participated in a panel discussion for students at the law school in the afternoon. The associate justice sits on the advisory committee for the UM lecture series, which was spearheaded by Robert Bennett, a Washington, D.C., lawyer who has a home near Livingston and serves on the UM law school's Board of Visitors. The series honors the memory of Jones and Tamm, two former Montanans who had distinguished careers on the federal bench in Washington, D.C.

The associate justice last visited UM in May 1995, when she delivered the commencement address for the law school's hooding ceremony.

**Campaign Celebration** — UM's highly successful, five-year Capital Campaign — "Ensuring a Tradition of Excellence" — wraps up next month with a celebration for donors on Saturday, Oct. 18. The grounds of the newly renovated Prescott House, a campaign project, is the site for a pre-football game tailgate party. The revelry starts at 11:30 a.m. The Grizzlies host the Eastern Washington Eagles at 1 p.m.

**UM Days** — High school juniors and seniors from across Montana who see a college education in their future are invited to give UM a good look Saturday, Oct. 18. UM Days, an annual open house on campus, gives prospective students and their parents the opportunity

to spend the day experiencing University life and learning. The program, from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m., is free.

Each student participant will receive a complimentary pass to see the Grizzlies in action against the Eastern Washington University Eagles at 1 p.m. Parents who attend UM Days' activities can see the game at a reduced rate of \$7 per ticket.

Participants are encouraged to register by Thursday, Oct. 16. Registration forms are available at guidance offices in Montana high schools or through UM's Admissions and New Student Services office at (406) 243-6266 or (800) 462-8636.

**Top Teacher** — Photojournalism Professor Patty Reksten recently was named the Robin F. Garland Educator of the Year by the National Press Photographers Association. In presenting the award, the association's past president cited Reksten for having built "almost single-handedly one of America's strongest and most distinguished university photojournalism programs." As a measure of her teaching success, Reksten's students consistently place in national photojournalism competitions.

**Nominations Sought** — If you know of someone from UM or the Montana community who has contributed substantially to making the University a more open and humane learning environment, we'd like to hear from you. The committee responsible for selecting the next Robert T. Pantzer Award recipient is seeking nominations. The award honors Pantzer, UM's president from 1966 to 1974, who provided outstanding leadership in the preservation of unfettered academic inquiry and expression, according to UM Provost Robert Kindrick. The committee wants nominations of individuals who have

demonstrated similar characteristics. The award will be presented at UM's Charter Day ceremony Feb. 19. Letters of nomination are due by Nov. 14 to Kindrick, committee chair, Main Hall, UM, Missoula, Mont., 59812.

**Another Champ** — Dave Guffey, assistant athletic director for media relations, placed third in the nation and first in the region in the College Sports Information Directors of America Writing Contest for his season summary story on the 1995 Grizzly Football National Championship season. His prize-winning recap of the magical season appeared in the 1996 Grizzly football media guide. Now in his 20th year as a Grizzly, Guffey has won 21 district or national awards from the organization.

**Continuing Construction** — All the commotion next to the University Center — replete with noisy machinery, dust and disruption of parking — will end in about a year. In its place will be the new home of two space-starved campus units: the Center for Continuing Education and Printing Services. Once the project is finished, the area will be landscaped and all but a few parking spaces restored. Printing Services will take the ground floor, Continuing Education the second and third floors. The \$4.35 million in bonds to pay for the 32,000-square-foot facility will be repaid with revenues generated by the two units.

**Family Affair** — Parents and families of UM students are invited to Family Weekend at UM Oct. 31-Nov. 2. Campus tours and other activities will be offered for visitors, including a Grizzly football match, when the nation's top-ranked team takes on Cal State Northridge at noon Nov. 1. Call University Communications at 243-2522 for more information.

**Volunteer Recognition** — The Peace Corps recently ranked UM among its top 49 recruiting campuses nationwide, based on numbers of volunteers since 1961, when the corps was founded. To date, 532 Peace Corps volunteers have hailed from UM, ranking it alongside Pennsylvania State University. The University of California at Berkeley tops the list with 2,950 volunteers in 36 years.



## Pharmacy school—*continued*

Graduates of the physical therapy program, which is part of the School of Pharmacy and Allied Health Sciences, came in third with about \$45,000.

This fall the school launched a six-year doctor of pharmacy program while continuing to offer the bachelor's degree — which takes five years — for students who choose the shorter route to a professional degree and into the work force. Another addition to the curriculum, the doctoral program in pharmaceutical sciences began in January 1996 and produced its first graduate last May. While technically not a pharmacy school program, the pharmacy technician program at UM's College of Technology gets help and advice from UM faculty members who sit on the advisory committee.

While building and maintaining its programs on campus, the school has also paid heed to various constituencies around the state. The new doctor of pharmacy program includes an external component, offered via distance learning, for practitioners with a bachelor's degree who want to move up professionally.

In 1993, the school began its Health Careers Opportunity Program with a three-year \$400,000 training grant from the U.S. Public Health Service. The program targets American Indian high school students in an effort to redress the imbalance between the percentage of pharmacists who are Indians and the percentage of the state and national population that is Indian.

## Solberg — *continued*

Jane waited until the last of her children entered school and then returned to school herself.

"When the youngest turned 6, I said goodbye," Jane says. "By the time I finished, I had a whole lot of credits, many more than I needed because I liked school so much."

She finished a master's degree in speech pathology and audiology and went to work for the state to help four counties bring speech pathologists into their school districts. She also worked in the Anaconda public schools and in the Head Start program.

The couple's four children all graduated from college, three of them from UM.

Jane remembers both stints at UM fondly. Dean Maureen Clow was not happy when Jane eloped, she says, but when Jane returned to UM, the two became great friends. She also remembers protesting Kent State on the Oval while her husband was the dean of the College of Arts and Sciences.

Today, she and Dick are retired and live in Whitefish, the town where they met years ago — while Dick was a college student off on a ski weekend and Jane was in high school. They were on a blind date that Jane cut short because, she says, "There was a good-lookin' skier from Ennis in town."

—Beth Cogswell, *University Communications*



Solberg in 1954

The grant has just been renewed through the year 2000.

Also since 1993, the school has been dispensing pharmaceutical advice to doctors and druggists around the state through the Drug Information Service. It's a boon to rural doctors and small-town retail pharmacists who don't have easy access to a medical library or various reference materials.

For the layperson interested in pharmaceuticals, pharmacy Professor Rustem Medora provides information about the healing properties of herbs for a weekly radio show, "The Plant Detective: A Phytomedicinal Whodunit," which began in December 1996. And senior citizens benefit from students the school sends out as educators and clinicians for Montana's Rural Consortium for Health Outreach Information and Screening program. This project of UM's Rural Institute on Disabilities offers monthly health screenings, presentations and demonstrations on health topics for adults 60 and over.

At this point in the school's existence, it hardly matters that the school actually opened at Montana State University — then the Montana State College of Agriculture and the Mechanical Arts — in 1907 and didn't move to UM until 1913. UM was the chosen site from the start and would have had the school in 1907 but for lack of space. In other words, adding those six years to the school's age is quite OK. Call it 90 and going strong.

—Terry Brenner, *University Communications*

## Herbal expert kicks off President's Lecture Series

In response to their growing popularity nationwide, UM will spotlight herbal remedies as the topic for this year's first President's Lecture Monday, Sept. 29, at the Missoula campus.

Professor Emeritus Varro E. Tyler of Purdue University, author of 16 books on the beneficial uses of herbs, will discuss "What You Should Know About Herbal Medicine," focusing on dietary supplements and providing general information about top-selling herbs and potentially harmful ones. His lecture will begin at 8 p.m. in the Montana Theatre of the Performing Arts and Radio/TV Center.

"Tyler is the most renowned national and international authority on therapeutically useful drugs obtained from plants," according to UM pharmacognosy Professor Rustem Medora. "He is also cautious about plant drugs. Many people in this business are careless or blase. Tyler says things and does things that prevent people from getting hurt."

Tyler's UM visit also includes a public seminar at 3 p.m. Sept. 29 titled "Regulations, Science and Pharmacognosy: Their Influence on the Future of Herbal Medicine." Room 123 of the Gallagher Building is the seminar site.

Tyler has taught pharmacognosy at the universities of Nebraska and Washington as well as at Purdue University, where he also was dean of the School of Pharmacy. His list of 16 published books includes "The Honest Herbal" and "Herbs of Choice: The Therapeutic Use of Phytomedicinals." He has also written more than 270 articles for professional journals.

Tyler's visit will highlight the 90th anniversary of UM's School of Pharmacy and Allied Health Sciences.



The University of  
**Montana**

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