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Main Hall to Main St.

Vol. 6, No. 6

Connecting Campus and Community

Summer 2000

Washington Foundation endows UM scholarship

The Dennis and Phyllis Washington Foundation recently gave \$50,000 to endow the University's 53rd Presidential Leadership Scholarship.

The Washington scholarship will provide talented students with a \$5,000 annual award to cover tuition, fees and some living expenses. It will be presented for the first time next spring for the 2001-2002 academic year. As an endowed scholarship, it will then be awarded in perpetuity.

The Presidential Scholarship Program was started in 1987 and provides UM's most prestigious awards. Recipients are considered the University's top promising students. The awards are given to incoming freshmen in any academic major who are selected through a rigorous screening process. The scholarships are renewable for three years.

All Presidential Scholars are admitted to the Davidson Honors College and afforded many special academic opportunities, including educational travel and internships.

'Best College Buy' list spotlights UM again

UM is among 63 public colleges and universities to land a spot in "America's 100 Best College Buys 2001," proving that a university can be good without being expensive.

Georgia-based Institutional Research and Evaluation Inc., which compiled the list, researched nearly 1,400 schools. The top 100 were chosen based on cost, opportunities for financial aid, high school standardized test scores and grade-point average of entering freshmen. This is UM's fourth year on the list.

"This ranking provides solid evidence of our continued efforts to ensure that we protect the relationship between price and quality," said UM President George Dennison. "We have kept prices down and quality high, and that has earned recognition. We intend to make even greater efforts in the future."

UM earns reaccreditation

The University of Montana earned reaccreditation for another 10 years during its recent full-scale evaluation by a site team from the Northwest Association of Schools and Colleges.

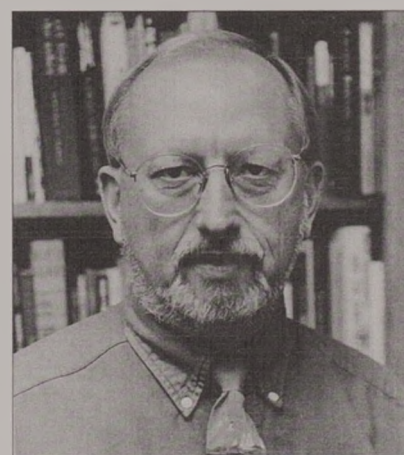
In both its initial 67-page report and its final letter of approval, the accreditation team gave UM more commendations for excellence than recommendations for improvement, even though it cited repeatedly UM's obvious struggle with insufficient state funding.

The documents praised the intellectually sound general education program and the strong interactions among the students, faculty and staff that reflect the interest in and concern for students at all levels. Also commended were UM's unique Native American studies department and its outreach activities in Indian communities; UM's hard-working and dedicated support staff; the new and enhanced teaching and research facilities that foster innovative teaching; rapid growth in extramural funding for research; and the emphasis on the importance of artistic activities on campus and the quality of those activities.

"The seven commendations are about as good as it gets," UM President George Dennison said. "(They) provide confirmation of our own opinion that The University of Montana offers a wonderful experience to students who choose to come. The most serious problems, as the report makes quite clear, derive from the unwillingness or inability of the state to provide a more appropriate funding base."

The team recommended that the University, higher education commissioner and state Board of Regents work with the governor and Legislature to increase support.

The report specifically cited the library's operational budget as inadequately funded to maintain facilities, buy needed equipment and provide ser-



Gerald Fetz, Honors College dean, headed the accreditation self-study.

vices required to meet the instructional and technological needs of students and faculty.

In other recommendations, the report advised the University to develop fully its program for assessing education outcomes, update its comprehensive facilities master plan with attention to information technology, and continue to increase diversity in backgrounds and cultures of the students, faculty and staff.

The evaluation covered the entire University, not just individual departments and schools, and was the culmination of a two-year self-evaluation process led by Davidson Honors College Dean Jerry Fetz, who chaired the Accreditation Steering Committee.

Fetz said the results were gratifying, both in what UM learned about itself in the process and the final thumbs up by the team.

"We did better than we expected," he said. "I think the major concern is the overall state funding of the University," he said. "But that is no different from (accreditation results in) 1989 and 1979. It's a chronic Montana problem."

—Terry Brenner

UM's Van Valkenburg wins national journalism award

Carol Van Valkenburg, a professor in UM's School of Journalism, has been chosen as one of three Journalism Teachers of the Year by the Freedom Forum. The awards honor outstanding teaching and leadership in the core areas of print and journalism instruction reporting, editing, journalism history, media law and ethics.

"Carol Van Valkenburg's talent and creativity are abundant," said Charles Overby, chair and chief executive officer of the Freedom Forum. "She's a respected professional in both education and journalism, a tireless coach and adviser to her students, and a leader in efforts to make journalism more inclusive."



Van Valkenburg

A Great Falls native, Van Valkenburg has taught at UM for nearly 20 years, having previously worked for the Missoulian from 1972 to 1981.

Ten years ago she helped create the Native News Honors Project at the University to encourage young journalists to broaden coverage of American Indians, Montana's largest minority population. Student teams of reporters, photographers, editors and designers are chosen to research a topic, visit the state's seven Indian reservations and produce a tabloid newspaper that is distributed statewide through daily newspapers and on the reservations. Last year, for the first time, the student teams produced an hour-long documentary that aired on public television.

Van Valkenburg serves as faculty adviser to the 101-year-old UM student newspaper, the Montana Kaimin. She also works as a copy editor for the Philadelphia Inquirer during the summer and continues her research on Japanese detainees in the United States during World War II. She is author of a 1995 book "An

Alien Place: The Fort Missoula Detention Camp, 1941-1945."

"I hope I give my students the same passion for this profession that my professors gave me," said Van Valkenburg. "I tell them that learning journalism is learning how to think. I believe in asking a lot from students because I'm so impressed with what they can deliver."

Van Valkenburg will receive a medal and \$10,000 for her award, which will be presented at the Freedom Forum awards luncheon on Wednesday, Aug. 9, at the convention for Education in Journalism and Mass Communications in Phoenix. She was selected for the award by a committee of former editors and educators from nominations submitted to the Freedom Forum by UM journalism Dean Jerry Brown and Associate Professor Dennis Swibold.

This is the fourth year the awards have been given.

"Journalism is fortunate to have such devoted and energetic teachers who set high standards for their students," said Felix Gutierrez, senior vice president and executive director of the Freedom Forum Pacific Coast Center. "We're proud to honor them."

The Freedom Forum is a nonpartisan, international foundation dedicated to free press, free speech and free spirit for all people.

Prestigious griz award given to the late James B. Castles

UM presented one of its highest honors, the Order of the Grizzly, posthumously to attorney and businessman James B. Castles during a spring ceremony in Portland, Ore.

The Order of the Grizzly was created in 1965 to recognize Montanans of highest distinction. The award is conferred on individuals whose philanthropic and civic activities have changed the face of UM. Castles is the first person to be inducted into the Order of the Grizzly in more than 10 years.

A Missoula native who also spent much of his youth in Superior, Castles made his mark in the Portland area, where he was associated with Tektronix, an electronic-instruments firm, and the M.J. Murdock Trust, one of the largest private foundations in the Northwest. He died in Portland in 1995.

"I think it most appropriate for the late Jim Castles to become the first inductee to the Order of the Grizzly for the new millennium," UM President George Dennison said. "Jim had such a distinguished career, and he gave generously of his time and resources to support the University, especially its schools of law and forestry."

Castles graduated from UM's law school in 1938. He then practiced law in Montana until World War II, when he served in the U.S. Coast Guard. After leaving the military he resumed his law practice in Portland. There he incorporated Tektronix Inc. on behalf of his Coast Guard buddy, Jack Murdock, and Howard Vollum. The firm eventually grew to become the world's largest manufacturer of oscilloscopes and other electronic instruments. From 1946 to 1961 he was the firm's outside legal counsel. He then joined the company full time as general counsel and corporate secretary. He served on the Tektronix board of directors from 1953 to 1988.

Castles was one of three original trustees of the M.J. Murdock Charitable Trust, formed in 1975 through the will of Jack Murdock. The trust has awarded grants in excess of \$296 million, including ones to UM for the School of Pharmacy and Allied Health Sciences, Broadcast Media Center, Division of Biological Sciences, the Motor Control Lab and the Castles Center at Lubrecht Experimental Forest.

Personally, Castles also was a generous supporter of the University. His gifts resulted in seminar rooms in the School of Law, as well as that school's Justice Wesley Castles and James B. Castles Professional Development Center. He also helped create the Castles Forestry Center, the law school's Diamond Jubilee Endowment, scholarships for law and forestry students, and one of the first Presidential Leadership Scholarships. He was a member of the UM Foundation Board of Trustees from 1964 to 1977.

The Order of the Grizzly was established in the 1960s by former UM President Robert Johns and the UM Foundation. The honor has since been bestowed on 25 outstanding individuals who have Montana connections but aren't necessarily UM graduates. The intent of the award is to keep the recipients close to Montana and its flagship University. The recipients each receive an Order of the Grizzly insignia — a miniature casting of a grizzly sculptured by UM art Professor Emeritus Rudy Autio.

Other Order of the Grizzly members include William Allen, UM '22, chair of The Boeing Co.; James Browning, UM '41, chief judge of the 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals; Carroll O'Connor, UM '56, television actor, producer and writer; and Harold Urey, UM '17, winner of the Nobel Prize for Chemistry.

"I hope I give my students the same passion for this profession that my professors gave me . . . I believe in asking a lot from students because I'm so impressed with what they can deliver."



Bear Briefs

Encountering Grizzlies—The annual Great Griz Encounter is set for 3 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 20, at the UM River Bowl. Grizzly football players and coaches will be on hand to meet the public, sign autographs and toss footballs with youngsters during the free event. As usual, the public will get the first glimpse of new Griz items, including the commemorative logos for the 100th grudge match between the Montana Grizzlies and the Montana State Bobcats. The game will be played Saturday, Nov. 18, at Washington-Grizzly Stadium.

Visiting Montana—Montana ranks fifth overall among the 11 states along the Lewis and Clark trail for the coming Corps of Discovery bicentennial commemoration during 2003-2006, according to UM's Institute for Tourism and Recreation Research. ITRR gleaned the information from a survey of 1,400 people across the nation who travel for leisure at least once a year. Using the same survey, ITRR predicts the bicentennial celebration will bring roughly 8.9 million visitors to Montana in addition to the base visitation the state normally receives.

Thanks, Friends—The Friends of the Maureen and Mike Mansfield Library recently bought almost \$10,000 worth of high-cost items for the library's various research collections. The items are the Encyclopedia of Religion and Ethics, New Groves Dictionary of Music and Musicians and the Encyclopedia of Psychology, "A Search for American Voice in Theater" and "The Development of Chemistry." First organized in 1952, the Friends is a nonprofit organization dedicated to enriching UM's library collections and extending these resources to the greater Missoula community. During the 1990s alone, the group gave more than \$72,000 in support to the library.

International Homecoming—The UM Alumni Association extends international alumni a special invitation to come home to campus this fall. A special reunion will be held with classmates, faculty and host families during traditional Homecoming weekend events, scheduled for Oct. 6-7 this year. Call Effie Koehn of Foreign Student and Scholar Services at (406) 243-2226 or send e-mail to fsss@selway.umt.edu.

New UC—After a nine-month, \$3.6 million make-over, the third floor of the University Center now sports a high-tech conference center, a 300-seat movie theater, seven meeting rooms, new lounge areas and a refurbished ballroom. The renovation brings the building to a total of 300,000 square feet of meeting space and 7,700 square feet of exhibition space, which management hopes will attract major academic and business conferences. Before the renovation, the space violated safety codes and had seen little improvement since the UC's construction in 1969. A \$12 student fee will cover much of the renovation financing. The University administration, Dining Services and UC each contributed a fifth of the cost. To find out more about space rental, call (406) 243-4113.



Japanese technicians prepare a research helicopter for flight at Lubrecht Forest.

Helicopter Science—A remote-controlled helicopter operated by a team of Japanese scientists hovered over UM's Lubrecht Experimental Forest June 20-23 to scan forest vegetation. The minicopter, about a quarter the size of a normal helicopter, was being used to check global vegetation data obtained from NASA's Terra environmental satellite. Terra uses software that forestry Professor Steve Running and his team wrote for a satellite instrument that measures productivity of Earth's vegetation every few days.

Happy Students—A Noel-Levitz Student Satisfaction Inventory given to about 900 UM students during fall 1999 and spring 2000 showed that students enjoy their educational experience and give the school high marks for its knowl-

edgeable faculty, stimulating intellectual environment and safe, attractive campus. Not surprisingly, UM's parking crunch got the most gripes. But the survey, given to students at more than 500 colleges and universities, showed that parking is a major problem at campuses across the country.

Inspiring Others—LaDonna Fowler, director of two programs for American Indians at UM's Rural Institute on Disabilities, was honored in June in Chicago as one of 20 great leaders of the disability rights movement. Access Living of Chicago chose her for the award. Fowler, who was born with spina bifida, has been a leading advocate for Indians with disabilities, working with tribes across the nation on disabilities issues and helping tribes develop disabilities policies. She is an enrolled Assiniboiné at the Fort Belknap Indian Reservation but has lived most of her life on the Flathead Indian Reservation, and she worked for Salish Kootenai College from 1988 to 1994, before coming to UM.

Healthy Score—This spring the national Accreditation Association for Ambulatory Health Care granted UM's Curry Health Center full accreditation for three years based on its high level of compliance with association standards. The center received commendation for quality of care, quality of management, clinical records, surgical and pharmaceutical services, environmental safety, governance, administration and professional development. Three years is AAAHC's highest mark in an accreditation process that looks closely for weaknesses and areas of potential mistakes. AAAHC accredits at least 20 kinds of ambulatory health care organizations, including health maintenance organizations and pain management clinics.

Lasting Memorial—Be a part of UM's history and help support its future by buying an engraved brick on the Oval for yourself or a special person you want to remember. As part of UM's Centennial Celebration in 1993, the area around the grizzly bear statue was paved with bricks to create Centennial Circle. By purchasing a \$150 brick, you will help fund University promotional efforts and Oval brick restoration. To find out more, call University Relations at (406) 243-2488 or e-mail bsommer@selway.umt.edu.

UM becomes national teaching center for Lewis and Clark bicentennial

A program at UM has positioned itself to become a leading provider of information about the coming 2003-2006 Lewis and Clark bicentennial.

UM's Earth Observing System Education Project has been selected by the National Lewis and Clark Bicentennial Council to house a new National Lewis and Clark Education Center.

Alex Philp, assistant director of the EOS Education Project, said the new center will train teachers to augment their Lewis and Clark instruction through the use of satellite imagery, multimedia productions, Internet delivery, improved curriculum development, geospatial data and much more.

The NASA-funded EOS Education Project was formed at UM to disseminate Earth science imagery and supportive curricula to the global educational

community — especially information from NASA's Earth Observing System, a flotilla of satellites now being launched. Now that the National Lewis and Clark Education Center has been added to the project, Philp said, EOSEP will use a Lewis and Clark theme in all its endeavors for NASA.

He said the education center will gain national exposure when it is highlighted on the NASA Earth Observatory Web site, located online at earthobservatory.nasa.gov.

"This new center will be an unprecedented educational opportunity for teachers and students," Philp said. "We look forward to assisting all parties in the development of interdisciplinary educational programs related to the Lewis and Clark experience and America's landscape legacy."

UM hires new arts and sciences dean

A zoologist and environmental scientist with extensive administrative experience will be the new dean of UM's College of Arts and Sciences.

Thomas A. Storch, professor and dean of the College of Science at Marshall University in Huntington, W.Va., since 1994, will replace James Flightner, who retired after more than a decade as UM's CAS dean.

Storch will arrive at his new UM post Aug. 15, bringing with him more than 30 years of academic experience, including

research, teaching, public service, fund raising and administrative leadership.

He holds a bachelor's degree in premed from Ohio Wesleyan University and master's and doctoral degrees in zoology from the University of Michigan.

Over the years he's taught 16 courses ranging from zoology and limnology to algology, aquatic microbiology, biotechnology, environmental science and watershed processes.

In the past decade he's pulled in more than \$3.18 million in research and education grants.

Documentary producer earns recognition

A UM television producer has won two prestigious awards for his work on MontanaPBS.

KUIM-TV and UM Broadcast Media Center producer Gus Chambers received a 1999-2000 Rocky Mountain Emmy Award for his program "The Bicycle Corps: America's Black Army on Wheels," which aired on MontanaPBS in December. This award from the Arizona Chapter of the National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences (NATAS) was in the Outstanding Program Achievement category for Cultural Issues Documentaries. Chambers was the only

Montana winner in this year's awards.

Chambers' program also won an E.B. Craney Award for Noncommercial Program of the Year from the Montana Broadcasters Association.

The Arizona Chapter of NATAS includes Arizona, New Mexico, Utah, Montana and areas of California, Wyoming and Texas. Each June the organization honors television excellence with the Rocky Mountain Emmy Awards.

"The Bicycle Corps" is scheduled to air nationwide on the Public Broadcasting Service Sept. 4.

UM Calendar

Monday, Aug. 7

Applications available—for UM Homecoming parade, call 243-5211 for more information. \$10 entry fee. Application deadline is Sept. 29.

Thursday, Aug. 10

Concert—Bruce Cockburn, singer/songwriter, 8 p.m., University Theatre. Tickets are \$19/advance, \$21/day of show. Call (406) 243-4051 or (888) Montana.

Sunday, Aug. 20

Great Griz Encounter—3 p.m., River Bowl. Call 243-4336 for more information.

Thursday, Aug. 24

Concert—Grammy award-winning singer and fiddler Alison Krauss and her band Union Station, 8 p.m., University Theatre. Tickets are \$26 in advance or \$28 the day of the show. Call (888) MONTANA or 243-4051.

Friday, Aug. 25

Stargazing—at the Blue Mountain Observatory, weather permitting. Observing begins about an hour after sunset. Call 243-5283 to ensure observing will happen. Free.

Tuesday, Aug. 29

Concert—Bela Fleck & the Flecktones, bluegrass, 8 p.m., University Center Ballroom. Tickets \$21/general, \$19/faculty, staff and students. Call (406) 243-4051 or (888) MONTANA.

Wednesday, Aug. 30

Fall Orientation—through Sept. 1. Call Admissions and New Student Services at (406) 243-6266 or (800) 462-8636.

Friday, Sept. 1

State of the University Address—coffee at 9:30 a.m.; President George Dennison gives the annual State of the University Address at 10 a.m., Montana Theatre, Performing Arts/Radio-TV Center.



The University of
Montana

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