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### Main Hall to Main Street, May 2005

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#### Recommended Citation

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## Meeting to address proposed retirement community

### Regents will discuss master plan for UM's South Campus May 10

The state Board of Regents will hold a special meeting Tuesday, May 10, on The University of Montana campus to hear public comment on the proposed South Campus Community project.

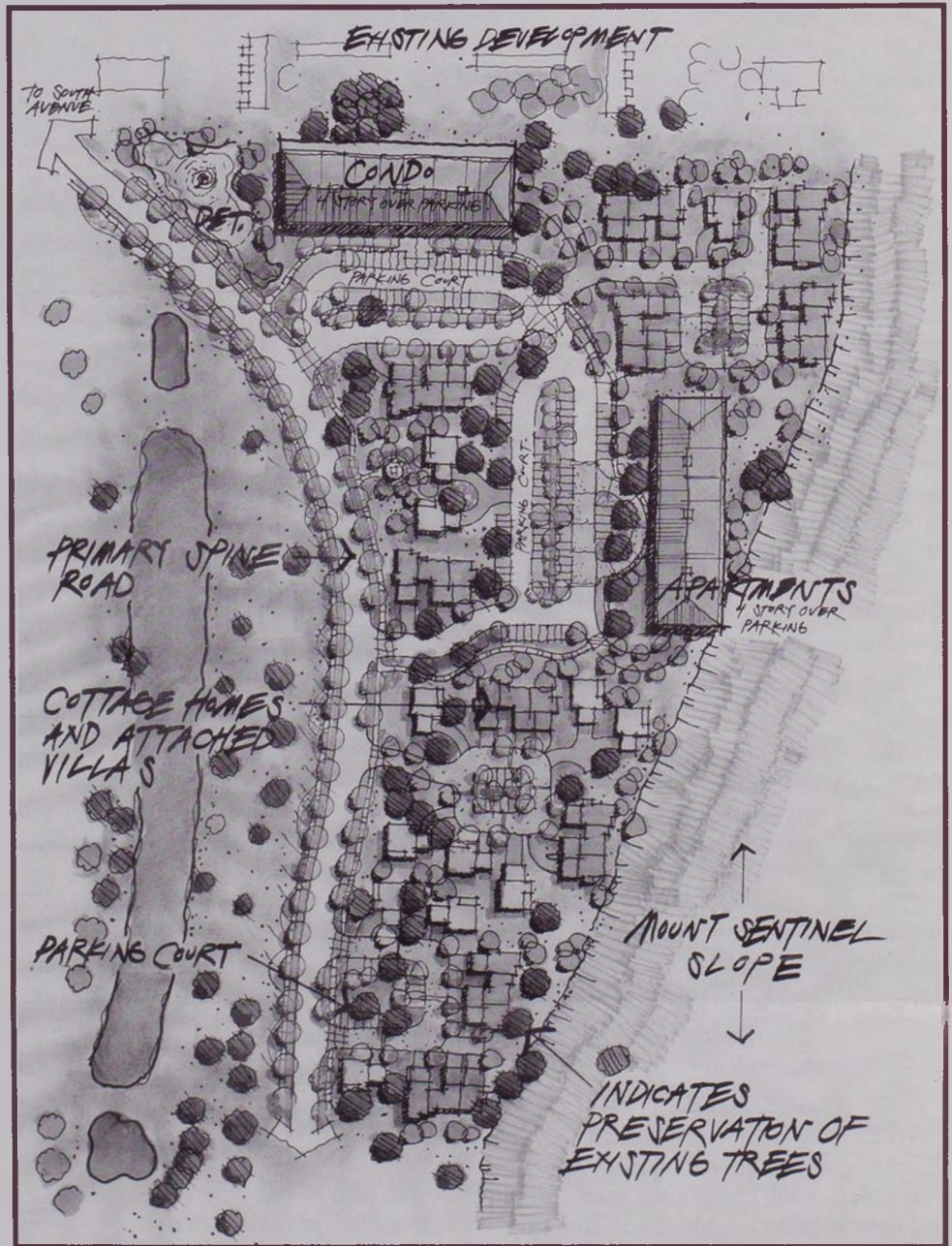
The meeting begins at 2 p.m. in the University Center Ballroom. President George Dennison will give a brief overview of the University's master plan for the 150-acre South Campus. The master plan includes building an adjunct campus — complete with a smaller version of the Oval and academic buildings — as campus grows. As part of that plan, the University is considering a residential community for retired faculty, staff, alumni and friends.

The Regents called the meeting in Missoula because they were concerned the issue of the South Campus Community might be lost in the full agenda for the board's regular meeting May 19-20 in Billings. Members also believe the proposed community is an important enough issue for future growth of the campus and Missoula communities to justify a special meeting to focus on the topic. Regents Chair John Mercer said the board will decide at the meeting whether plans for the project are to proceed.

The developers — led by UM alumnus Walt Brett, who helped add some 4,000 extra seats to Washington-Grizzly Stadium two years ago — will present four proposed neighborhoods or phases of the residential component of the master plan. The proposal includes integrating a new golf learning center with biking, walking and hiking trails into the neighborhoods of some 500 living units built as cottage homes, condominiums and duplexes for active seniors.

Dennison said the proposed development makes good sense for UM, adding that the public should be assured the University will not shortchange academic needs in order to build this community.

The proposed community would provide a steady revenue stream to supplement UM's financial needs, turning



This image shows the first phase of the proposed South Campus Community project. It involves a new apartment building with 85 living units, one condominium building with 65 units, attached homes (villas) with 30 units and 12 cottages for single families. (Image by Denver's Kephart design firm)

the South Campus land into an asset that can generate money to help students.

The University expects to earn about \$1 million a year from the proposed residential community.

— Continued back page

# UM students win prestigious RFK Journalism Award

UM journalism students have earned a prestigious national award — one often called the “poor people’s Pulitzer.”

Fourteen student reporters and photographers participating in UM’s Native News Honors Project won a Robert F. Kennedy Journalism Award, which honors outstanding reporting on the poor and disadvantaged. Past winners include Diane Sawyer of ABC, the Chicago Tribune, the Washington Post, National Public Radio and CBS’s “60 Minutes.”

UM won in the college print category for “Sovereignty,” an in-depth look into Montana’s seven Indian reservations that highlights the struggle of tribal communities to regain control over the welfare and future of their people. Judge Barbara Hines wrote, “An impressive entry ... the writing was evocative and perfectly humanized the issues. Incredible photography adds to the package.”

Carole Simpson of ABC News, who has chaired the judging panel, wrote of the RFK Journalism Award: “This award is one of the most prestigious in the journalism community. It says proudly and boldly that the least of us in society will not be forgotten.”

Journalism Professor Carol Van Valkenburg said she received a phone call from Ethel Kennedy, who personally notified UM of the award.

“This is a wonderful tribute to the excellent work produced by our students,” Van Valkenburg said. “I would put their work alongside the best work of many professionals. It is also significant because it honors those many, many people on Montana’s reservations who for years have opened up their

lives and their homes to our students so that their stories could be told.”

Van Valkenburg, photojournalism Professor Teresa Tamura and the winning students will receive the award during a May 24 banquet at George Washington University in Washington, D.C. They’ll be joined by winners from the Los Angeles Times, the New York Times, and PBS’ Frontline.

The students are Jessica Wambach, Adam Weinacker, Alisha Wyman, Fred Miller, Natalie Storey, Sadie Craig, Joe Friedrichs, Meghan Brown, Adam Bystrom, Mike Cohea, Lisa Hornstein, Chandler Melton, Noelle Teixeira, and Heather Telesca.

Now in its 15th year, the Native News Honors Project is a class that allows students to delve into pressing issues facing Indian Country. Each spring semester a group of young journalists gives up their spring break to visit Montana’s reservations and produce stories and photos, which are then printed in a special publication inserted in Montana’s largest newspapers.

The project is sponsored by the John S. and James L. Knight Foundation and UM’s School of Journalism.

The RFK Journalism Awards were founded in 1968 by a group of journalists who covered Sen. Kennedy’s presidential campaign. Dedicated to his youngest child, Rory,

the awards are judged by more than 50 journalists each year. The awards committee consists of six independent journalists who serve as advisers and maintain fairness in the judging.

Today, in its 35th year, the award program has exceeded the expectations of its founders. It is the largest program of its kind and one of the few in which the winners are judged solely by their peers. 🐾



Professor Carol Van Valkenburg and the winning Native News Honors Project issue

## Final exams—May 9-13.

### Art Exhibit—through June 26.

“Contemporary Native American Art — Reflections After Lewis and Clark.” Meloy and Paxson galleries, Montana Museum of Art and Culture, free and open to the public. Information, (406) 243-2019.

**Reunions**—starting **May 12**, classes of 1935, 1945 and 1955. Information, Alumni Association, (406) 243-4236.

**President’s Social and Spring Class Reunion**—**May 12**, 2 p.m., Adams Center, Hall of Champions. Information, (406) 243-5321.

**American Indian Graduate Reception**—**May 13**, 3 p.m., Turner Hall

## UM Events

Dell Brown Room. Information, American Indian Student Services Program, (406) 243-6308 or 243-6352.

**Building dedication**—**May 13**, 3:30 p.m., Science Complex main entrance, Science Complex renamed in honor of Charles H. Clapp, UM’s president from 1921 to 1935. Information, (406) 243-4824.

**Commencement activities**—**May 14**, College of Arts and Sciences and College of Technology ceremony, 9:30 a.m., Adams Center. Professional schools

ceremony, 2 p.m., Adams Center.

**Special Olympics**—**May 18-20**, Montana 2005 State Summer Games, Adams Center, various UM locations. Parade of Athletes Opening Ceremony, 7 p.m., **May 18**, Dahlberg Arena, UM Olympic Village, East Auxiliary Gym. **May 18-19**, Information, (406) 243-5321.

**Shrine Circus**—**May 20-21**, Adams Center. Information, (406) 243-5321.

**Summer semester**—**May 23-June 24**, session one. Information, (406) 243-6014.

**Concert**—**May 23**, Phil Vassar with guest Joe Nichols, 7 p.m., Adams Center. Tickets \$32 at all GrizTix locations. Information, (406) 243-5321.

**New Dean of Helena COT**—A Utah community college administrator has been named the new dean of the UM Helena College of Technology. Daniel J. Bingham, currently associate vice president of business services at Salt Lake Community College, will assume his new position July 5. He replaces UM Executive Vice President Bob Frazier, who has served as interim dean at the Helena campus since former Dean Steve Hoyle retired last November. Bingham brings more than 15 years of educational and practical experience in two-year college leadership and teaching to his new position. He was hired after a national search. In his current position since 2003, Bingham previously served as Salt Lake Community College's executive dean during 2001-2003 and as assistant to the president and site administrator during 2000-2001.

**Partners in Education**—The School of Education honored several local programs and people with Partnership Awards April 8 at the 16th Annual Education Reception. This year's reception also celebrated the school's 75th anniversary. The awards recognize those who have shown commitment and dedication to preparing future educators by providing mentorship opportunities in a variety of areas. The honorees are Lolo elementary and middle schools; Glenn Moffatt Jr., a health enhancement instructor at Paxson Elementary School; the New Directions Wellness Center in UM's Department of Physical Therapy; Kenneth Welt, director of UM's Counseling and Psychological Services; and Dave Shreeve, superintendent of Forsyth Public Schools.

**New Dean Hired for Honors College**—Maryland educator James McKusick has been hired as dean of the Davidson Honors College at UM. McKusick currently serves as director of the honors college at the University of Maryland, Baltimore County. He starts his UM position July 1. During his 20 years at UMBC, McKusick has taught English literature and served in a variety of administrative positions, including scheduling officer and English department chair. His varied administrative experience has been supplemented by significant scholarship and leadership to the wider UMBC community through service on a number of committees and councils.

**Native Take on Historic Duo**—Art depicting the viewpoints of Native American artists on the Corps of Discovery and the Lewis and Clark Bicentennial will be on display at UM's Montana Museum of Art and Culture through June 26. "Contemporary Native American Art — Reflections After Lewis and Clark" features 31 paintings, prints, photographs, sculptures and installations by 19 nationally and internationally recognized artists. It's in the Meloy and Paxson galleries of the Performing Arts and Radio/Television Center. Gallery hours are 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Tuesdays through Thursdays and Saturdays and 3 to 7 p.m. Fridays.

**Public Radio Exceeds Goal**—Listeners from across the state and beyond answered Montana Public Radio's call for support during the station's annual on-air fund-raiser held April 2-10. MTPR supporters pledged \$440,000, exceeding this year's goal of \$433,000. In addition to the pledges, listeners donated more than 2,700 premiums. In the fund-

raiser's annual grand finale, "Pet Wars" — in which listeners call in pledges in the names of their pets — dogs won the competition with 1,441 pledges, just nine more than the cats.

**UM Students Graduate in About Four Years**—A new UM study shows that it takes students working for a bachelor's degree an average of 4.88 years to graduate. The study looked at students who had originally enrolled at UM and then graduated in 2004. The study did not include students who began school at other institutions. Nationally,

according to the National Center for Education Statistics, students graduating from four-year institutions graduated after 4.8 years, which means UM is close to the national average. The national study also compared the results with students who graduated in 1993, who took an average of 5.3 years to graduate. UM's data shows more than 40 percent of 2004 graduates completed their degrees in four years and almost 73 percent finished in less than five years. Officials say the Four Bear program at UM, which helps students create a four-year plan and offers priority registration for those enrolled, should be given credit for UM's success.

**Halls of Power Internship**—UM student Ashley Sparano recently was chosen as one of only eight student interns for the U.S. Senate Committee on Finance. Sparano, a junior from Missoula double majoring in business administration and communication studies, will serve her internship in Washington, D.C., from May 23 to Aug. 5. Sparano first heard of the internship opportunity through UM internship coordinator Cheryl Minnick. Sparano already has a marketing internship with Missoula's First National Bank, to which she will be welcomed back when she returns. She wanted to try for the Senate internship to bring her out of her comfort zone and open new opportunities, she said.

**Going to the Pros**—Four UM football players are bound for the NFL. Justin Green, a 250-pound fullback who rushed for 1,784 yards and 22 touchdowns in two seasons for the Griz, was picked by the Baltimore Ravens in the fifth round of the NFL draft. He was the 158th pick overall. Three other Griz players weren't among the 255 players selected in this year's draft, but quarterback Craig Ochs, tight end Willie Walden and lineman Cory Procter all signed free-agent deals immediately after the draft. Ochs is bound for San Diego, Walden will go to the Kansas City Chiefs and Procter will motor to Detroit. This marks the second consecutive year a Griz has been drafted. Dylan McFarland was picked up in the sixth round by Buffalo a year ago.

**UM Forges Ties With Ireland**—A recent UM conference worked to forge new opportunities for academic and business collaboration between the Treasure State and the Emerald Isle. The Montana-Ireland Conference was held April 25-26. It offered a variety of roundtable discussions and keynote addresses on wide-ranging topics. Last year UM officials paid a visit to Ireland's University College, Cork, to form an exchange program with that institution. Cork was chosen because the majority of the Irish who came to Montana to mine copper came from Cork. 🐻



and Dennison said that money would help defer rising tuition costs.

Over the past 12 years tuition has increased by more than 100 percent while state support has dwindled to about 12 percent of the University's overall institutional budget.

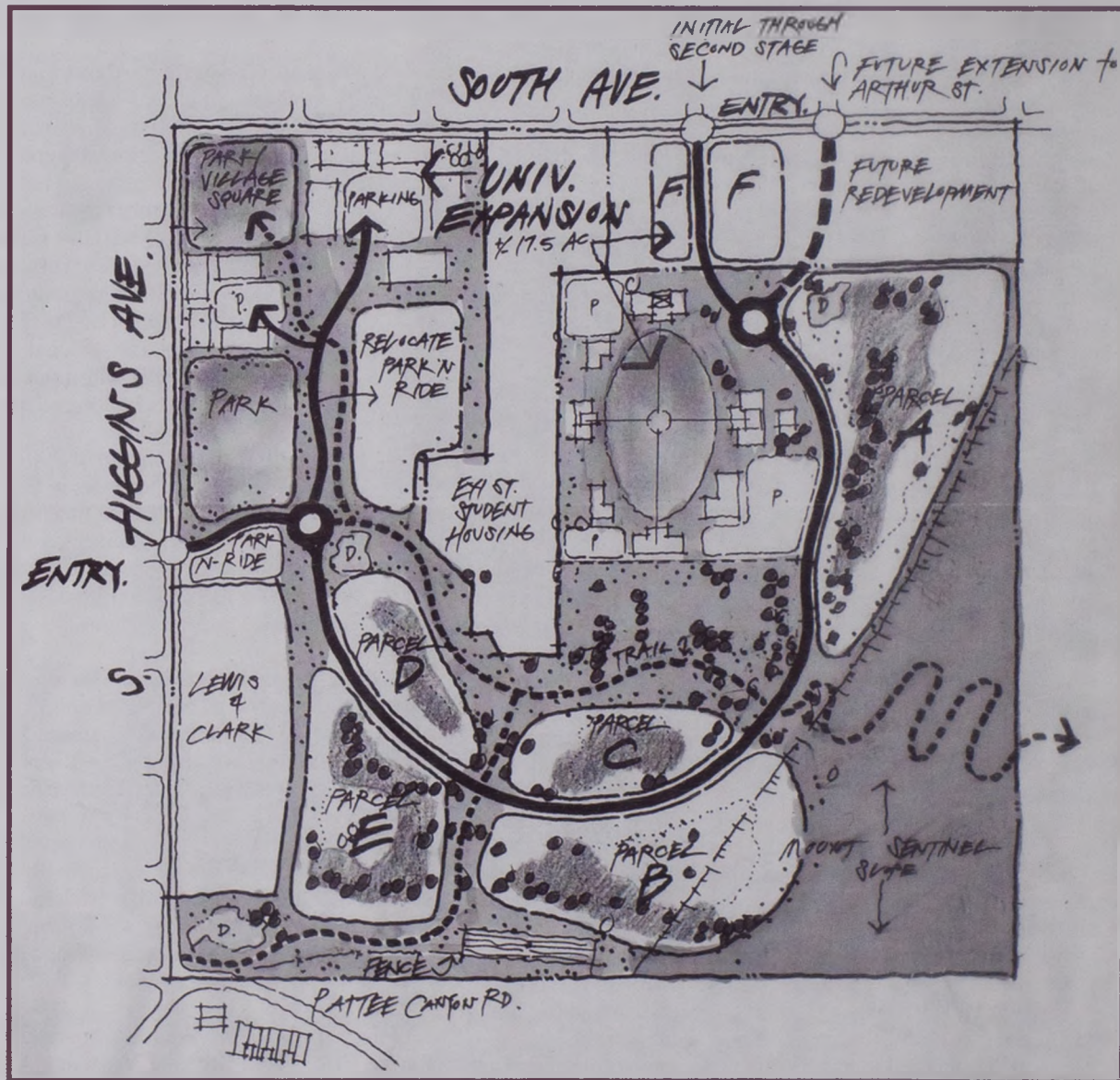
For Missoula County, the residential community would generate an estimated \$715,000 in real-estate tax revenues that currently don't exist, said Bob Duringer, UM vice president for administration and finance. In addition, developers say the project would spur \$50 million in construction, creating jobs for the area.

As with similar developments at other universities nationwide, the Missoula project would become a unique component of UM, and its residents would have the opportunity to be fully integrated into University life.

The community, Dennison said, will connect retirees with lifelong learning opportunities, which is part of the University's mission. UM students will benefit from interaction with alumni, professors and staff who can serve as mentors.

A survey of campus employees and alumni conducted over the winter by the UM Alumni Association showed strong interest in the residential community development. A majority of those who responded said they found the concept "very appealing" or "somewhat appealing."

Since the first of the year, developers and UM officials have held a series of public forums and meetings to seek input on the proposed project and to hear peoples' concerns.



This shows the long-range plan proposal for UM's South Campus Community, including a second oval.

This type of project isn't a new idea. With millions of baby boomers getting ready to retire, a growing number of universities have expanded their mission and vision to include campus based planned communities for retired faculty, staff, alumni and friends. Recently Duringer and Rosi Keller, associate vice president for administration and finance, traveled to several such communities to see what worked and what didn't.

"The University's expansion into this service area neither dilutes our academic core nor lessens our focus on students," Duringer said. "It simply adds another dimension to our educational and outreach mission and further diversifies our campus culture. It also provides some of the financial stability we will need to remain viable and vibrant in the years ahead."



The University of  
**Montana**

*The Discovery Continues*

Main Hall to Main Street is published by University Relations at The University of Montana. Send questions or suggestions to Cary Shimek, editor, Brantly Hall 330, Missoula, MT 59812, or call (406) 243-5914. Brianne Burrowes, Colter Delin, Holly Fox, Rita Munzenrider and Patia Stephens are contributing editors and writers. Photos are by Todd Goodrich unless stated otherwise. The newsletter is online at <http://www.umt.edu/urelations/mainhall>.