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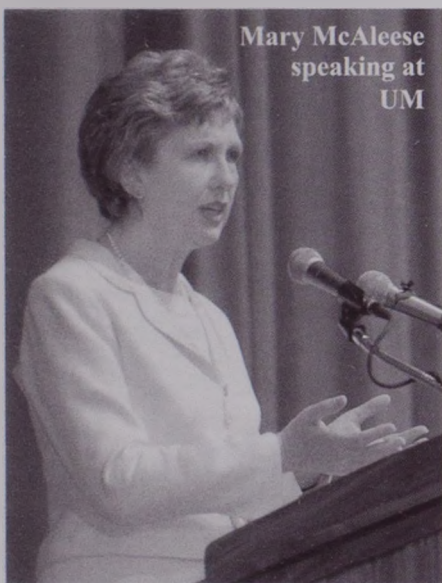
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Mary McAleese
speaking at
UM

Irish president visits campus

Irish student Alan Noonan came to The University of Montana to study and write a master's thesis about how his forefathers helped settle Big Sky Country.

He never suspected the leader of his country would follow him.

Mary McAleese, the president of Ireland, brought the Emerald Isle and Treasure State closer together May 16 when she spoke in a packed University Theatre about the historical and cultural ties linking the two regions. She also helped launch UM's new Irish Studies Program and attended a reception with members of the local Irish community.

"This is fantastic," Noonan said as he watched his president speak. "What an opportunity for somebody like me being a student here. The Irish community had a huge impact on the history of Montana, and I think this visit accentuates it and brings it into the open. I think it's great."

In his introductory remarks, UM President George Dennison said, "The establishment of the Irish Studies Program at this University will provide scholarship, research and friendship and will goad us into

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University earns 78 pardons for citizens convicted of sedition

Seventy-five men and three women who were convicted of felonies for criticizing the American government nearly a century ago received pardons May 3 at a ceremony in the state Capitol in Helena.

Some 50 of those Montanans' descendants were on hand for the ceremony, as were UM faculty members and students who initiated the Montana Sedition Project.

The effort began with UM journalism Professor Clem Work, author of the 2005 book "Darkest Before Dawn." His research blossomed into a "pardon project" undertaken by UM journalism and law students.

Their work paid off when Montana Gov. Brian Schweitzer pardoned those who were convicted in 1918 and 1919 under the state's tough wartime anti-speech law.

About 40 of those people, many of them German-American immigrants, collectively served 65 years at the state prison in Deer Lodge. Some of their grandchildren spoke at the ceremony of the shameful family secret passed down through the generations. They also expressed gratitude for the vindication provided by the pardons.

The Montana Sedition Project has captured national media attention, including articles in the New York Times, Washington Post and U.S. News and World Report.

More information, including photographs and stories of those once punished for exercising their First Amendment rights, are on the Montana Sedition Project Web site at <http://www.seditionproject.net/index.html>. 🐾



Photo by Katrina Baldwin

Montana Gov. Brian Schweitzer at the May 3 pardoning ceremony in Helena

UM journalism school renews accreditation

Started in Army surplus tents in 1914, SUM's School of Journalism has been continuously accredited since 1948.

That winning streak continued May 6 when the professional school's accreditation was unanimously renewed by the Accrediting Council on Education in Journalism and Mass Communications.

"The fact we got unanimous approval is a tribute to the faculty and the achievement of our students," said Jerry Brown, dean

of the journalism school for the past seven years. "This is important for two reasons: First, we get some indication how we compare among the best programs in the country. Also, many major philanthropic trusts and funding agencies only accept proposals from accredited schools."

The school must renew its accreditation every six years. Brown said ACEJMC looks at about 400 journalism

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programs across the country, and only about a quarter of those earn accreditation.

“We can never take our accreditation for granted,” he said. “If you lose accreditation or you are put on provisional status, that’s quite a blow to the program.”

Brown said a great deal of work went into the renewal. First, the school prepared a voluminous self-study. “It was huge, with appendices and tables,” Brown said. “Our whole faculty cooperated in writing the self-study.”

Then an accrediting team visits campus for three days of intense examination of the school and its programs. These people write a report on the on-site evaluation, which is then shared with the accrediting committee that votes on whether the accreditation should be renewed. Brown said the entire process takes more than a year.

Among the strengths cited in the on-site evaluation report were:

- Admirable dedication to a professional program in print and broadcast news rooted in the liberal arts.
- A collegial faculty devoted to effective teaching, advising and mentoring and to the academic and professional success of students.
- Imaginative initiatives for attracting American Indian students to the University and the school and for funding and enhancing the development of Indian journalists throughout the state and across the nation.

The school’s dean, internship and campus media opportunities, quality outside speakers and wide-ranging service at the local, state and national levels also were cited as strengths.

Brown said the school was judged on nine standards and found lacking in only one: assessment of learning outcomes.

“This is a new standard,” he said. “The



Jerry Brown, UM journalism dean, visits the construction site of his school’s new home with Susanne Shaw, executive director of ACEJMC.

reason we were not found in compliance was we hadn’t quantified enough. They said our plan falls short of expectations for a systematic collection, analysis and application of assessment data. We track our graduates, but we don’t spend a lot of time doing surveys and collecting information.

“It turns out we did have quantifiable data with our upper-level writing assessment, but we didn’t know we should have included it,” Brown said. “If we would have, we probably would have been found in compliance.”

These are heady times for the journalism school. The school now has 500 students who are pre-majors or already in the professional program. And in 2007 the school will consolidate all its departments and students — now strewn across five campus locations — into a new building. Currently under construction, Don Anderson Hall will have 53,000 square feet in five stories.

Brown, the fundraiser-in-chief for the

school, said the final price tag for the building will be about \$14 million. Of that, \$500,000 came from state tax coffers and \$1 million came from UM tuition and auxiliary funds. The rest is being raised from private donors, businesses, foundations and trusts, who also have supplied about \$5 million for faculty development and special programs such as reznets and the Native News Honors Project.

The school now has raised about \$11 million to put toward its new home, and Brown said renewed accreditation should help it reach its goal.

“I think this means a lot at this particular time in the school’s history to go into our new building with this enthusiastic appraisal,” Brown said. “A lot is changing. We now offer courses on online magazines, online reporting and Web design. Journalism schools have always had to deal with new delivery systems. But the fundamentals of reporting, editing, accuracy and ethics will never change.”

International internships make dreams come true

What do Oprah, Katie Couric, Brooke Shields, Spike Lee and former President Bill Clinton have in common?

All have completed internships in their field of study. Following the same path would seem a recipe for success. Many UM students complete internships every year, giving them the opportunity to apply skills learned in the classroom to the work setting.

“Internships have become a key element of a competitive student’s resume, helping them distinguish themselves in a global marketplace,” said UM internship coordinator Cheryl Minnick.

Going a step further, many students have applied for and received an internship internationally, exposing them to the global marketplace. An international internship provides students with

the opportunity to expand their skills professionally while seeing the world, Minnick said.

“While an international internship offers great opportunities, it can be an expensive, challenging endeavor,” Minnick said. “Few international internships pay, and the cost of travel and living can be daunting. In addition, language proficiency is often required prior to the internship.”

Even though an international internship sounds like a financial nightmare, many UM students complete an internship abroad because of the amazing opportunities it provides.

Hilary Martens, a UM junior majoring in physics, interned at the Mullard

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Board of Regents Adds New Member—Clayton Christian, owner and chief executive officer of Stewart Title of Missoula, has been appointed by Gov. Brian Schweitzer to the state Board of Regents, which oversees the Montana University System. Christian replaces John Mercer of Polson, who resigned in March, and his term expires in February 2008. A Polson native and UM alum, Christian bought a Missoula title company in 1996 and then partnered with Stewart Title Guaranty to open title companies in eight other cities. He hopes to use his new position to help provide quality, affordable higher education for students and their families.



UM Introduces New Blog—A new blog called “Switchbacks” provides a bird’s-eye view of news and events at UM. The blog was named in honor of the 13 switchbacks on Mount Sentinel’s M Trail. It features timely and interesting news from across campus and beyond, as well as weekly event highlights, important campus information and personal insights from University employees. Readers are invited to join the conversation in the comments section under each post. The blog, developed by University Relations, is online at <http://umontananeews.blogspot.com/>.

New Library Dean Hired—A woman with more than 30 years experience at college libraries has been named dean of the Maureen and Mike Mansfield Library at UM. Bonnie Allen, associate university librarian at Oregon State University in Corvallis since 1999, will join UM July 10. She replaces Frank D’Andraia, who left UM last June for a position with University at Albany, State University of New York. Allen has held administrative responsibility that includes strategic planning, budgeting, policy and personnel for the operational units that serve OSU’s three campuses. She holds a master of business administration degree from Portland State University and a master of library science degree from Indiana University.

‘Flat Spot’ Encouraged—The UM student government has passed a resolution encouraging students to take more credits each semester to save money and finish earlier. As students are registering for fall semester, senators with the Associated Students of UM hope their resolution draws attention to the so-called “flat spot” — the fact that it costs the same amount of money to take 21 credits as it does to take 12. The measure acknowledges that high student loans are a problem for many UM graduates. Introduced by ASUM Sen. Andrea Helling — now the ASUM president — the resolution also cites a UM study that shows students who take an average of 15 credits a semester have a 50 percent greater chance of graduating. The study also shows that students who take advantage of the flat spot graduate in less time with less debt and a higher grade-point average.

UM Researcher Published in Science—An article by UM paleontologist George Stanley, an expert on modern and ancient coral reefs, appears in the May 12 issue of *Science*, one of the world’s leading research journals. The article, “Photosymbiosis and the Evolution of Modern Coral Reefs,” describes how mutually beneficial relationships between one-celled algae called zooxanthellae and corals stimulated reef growth and led to successful reef building across the eons and into modern times. Stanley was invited by *Science* to write the article, and this is the fourth time he has published in the journal.

Historical Maps Available—The Regional Learning Project at UM has scoured archives across the continent, seeking historical maps of Big Sky Country. The latest finds — 20 maps titled “Missouri & Yellowstone River Headwaters/Crow” — have just been published. The maps are fourth in a series of five called “Discovering Our Own Place, A Map Saga for Montana.” The 9-by-12-inch images show areas west of the Continental Divide at various stages of Montana’s development. The maps are available at The Bookstore at UM for \$54, and educational discounts are available. For more information, call (406) 243-1234.

What Lewis and Clark Saw—Landscapes of the Lewis and Clark Trail in a variety of 20th-century art styles will be exhibited through Aug. 19 in the Meloy and Paxson galleries of the Montana Museum of Art and Culture at UM. The exhibition, titled “Landscapes Along the Lewis and Clark Trail,” features 45 paintings and prints from the museum’s Permanent Collection, depicting scenes in Montana and Washington. Museum hours through May are 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Tuesday through Thursday and 4 to 8:30 p.m. Friday and Saturday. During June, July and August, museum hours are 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Wednesday through Saturday.

Radio-TV Earns Honors—Projects by UM radio-television students and Associate Professor Ray Ekness were chosen as best in the nation at the recent Broadcast Education Association conference held in Las Vegas. Ekness took top honors in the faculty television news competition for his work “Cowboy Poet,” a profile of Great Falls resident Paul Zarzyski. Eli Bierweg and Kevin Farmer took top honors in the television sports reporting category with a story on UM’s lacrosse team. Producers of The Footbridge Forum, which airs on UM’s KBGA radio station, won first place in the student audio competition and also were named “Best of Festival” winners at the conference. UM junior Ryan Coleman received the Harold E. Fellows Scholarship for academic performance and integrity.

Faculty Rewarded For Excellence—The UM College of Arts and Sciences has recognized two faculty members for their teaching excellence and exceptional work with UM students. Winston and Helen Cox Educational Excellence awards went to Bryan Cochran, assistant professor of psychology, and Adam Nyman, assistant professor of mathematical sciences. The awards go to faculty members who have not received tenure at UM. Winners receive at least \$500 to purchase books of their choice for UM’s Mansfield Library, plus an unrestricted cash award. While service, research and publications are important in determining award recipients, the primary focus is excellent teaching and time dedicated to mentoring and advising students.

Radio Reporter Advances—Stan Pillman, a senior in the UM radio-television department, is one of five students who are finalists for the Hearst Journalism Awards Program’s radio news competition. The program, funded by the William Randolph Hearst Foundation, is college journalism’s most prestigious awards competition. Pillman took first place in the preliminary round of the journalism awards competition in radio news. He earned \$2,000 and was invited to compete in the semifinals. In April, he learned that he has advanced to the competition finals, which will be held in June in San Francisco. 🐻

Irish President — continued

developing our understanding and familiarity with Irish language, literature, history and culture.”

Bolstered by several standing ovations, McAleese said there was “a lovely synchronicity” involved with her visit, since it was exactly 100 years ago that Douglas Hyde — an Irish-language scholar who later would become Ireland’s first president — came to Montana and discovered Irish settlers who had lovingly protected their language and culture. This was at a time when the Gaelic tongue had almost been eradicated at home, so McAleese honored those pioneers for helping preserve the language.

“There seems to be a kind of hand of history at work here,” McAleese said. “It’s no mere accident that we inaugurate a program of Irish studies whose hand and its heart are focused on the Irish language.”

She said her country provided UM with \$40,000 to help start the Irish Studies Program, which is the first program of its kind west of the Mississippi. She also lauded Terry O’Riordan, a UM Gaelic language instructor from Ireland and a University College Cork graduate, for his work to help create the unique program.

Initially UM will offer a minor in Irish studies, but instructors hope to expand to a major in the next several years. The program will offer instruction in conversational Gaelic, as well as Irish literature, history, music, dance, film and theater. Students also will have the opportunity to study at Ireland’s University College Cork, an institution UM had developed strong partnerships with.

Though five Irelands could fit inside Montana, McAleese said Irish settlers made a huge impact on their new home, and she used a Chinese proverb to illustrate this point: Those who drink the water should remember with gratitude those who dug the wells.

“I hope the establishment of this program will develop a new chapter in the relationship between Ireland and Montana,” she said. “It’s a relationship, you know, that stretches back more than 150 years. It’s about Irish men and women who made Montana their home and held Ireland in their hearts.” 🍀

Internships — continued

Space Science Laboratory south of London, England. While there she analyzed data provided by the National Aeronautics and Space Administration Cassini/Huygens Mission — a spacecraft that has been orbiting Saturn since July of 2004 and is the first long-term study of the planet and its largest moon, Titan.

“It has always been my dream to work for NASA on a space mission and (last) summer provided me that opportunity,” she said. “Working with internationally recognized scientists on one of the most important space missions of today is a great honor and a unique opportunity.”

Martens had researched the mission while at UM under Daniel Reisenfeld, a physics and astronomy professor. Reisenfeld knew of Martens’ deep interest in the mission and her intent to study abroad, and he contacted a colleague at the London laboratory on her behalf. Only weeks after sending her resumé, Martens was invited to join the lab’s team for the summer.

While interning, Martens received a broad variety of experiences such as analyzing data acquired by the Cassini Plasma Spectrometer — a device onboard the spacecraft.

“Working in a space science laboratory, with a team of people on the same mission as you, is a completely different experience from researching one on one with an adviser,” Martens said. “This is the type of experience I was only able to get from an internship at a lab devoted specifically to what I was interested in studying.”

A senior graduating at the end of this spring with a degree in business, Roger Schulze came to the United States to pursue schooling after he was born and raised in Germany. While working at adidas-Group AG, the corporation responsible for creating the famous three-stripe athletic shoe and golf-giant MAXFLI, among other things, he decided he wanted to pursue higher education and gain international experience at the same time. Knowing the beauty of Montana because his dad grew up in Kalispell and had told him stories, he decided to apply to UM.

Last summer Schulze decided to return to adidas-Group AG to pursue an

internship. Returning for an internship at the company where he worked for nearly two years before attending UM seemed a natural choice for him. While there he worked with active Internet Technology projects and took it upon himself to improve the relations and communication between team project members by implementing staff barbecues, bowling and volleyball games.

“Anytime you can be involved in a full-scale global project there is nothing but to learn from the co-workers, consultants and friends that were established,” he said.

Schulze went home to Germany to work for adidas-Group AG, but hopes to return to the School of Business to obtain a graduate degree.

This summer, Lindsey Brandt, a senior studying German and liberal studies, will intern with the United States Commercial Service in the Department of Commerce in Munich, Germany. She will work with the department for three months, putting in 38-hour work weeks and assisting in market research and correspondence between German and American companies. Her internship will be unpaid, but the President’s Office paid for her travel expenses.

Brandt applied for this internship because she’s been exposed to international trade issues in many of her economics classes and wanted to experience the process firsthand.

“I’m really excited about this internship because it’s a chance for me to tie together a few areas of interest that I otherwise wouldn’t have necessarily had the opportunity to combine, namely Germany and the German language with economics,” she said.

One of the great aspects of applying for an international internship through the government, Brandt said, is that it’s less complicated when dealing with visa issues.

While international internships can be expensive, they pay for themselves tenfold in experience and stand out on a resume.

“International internships offer solid opportunities to professionally network and significantly increase a student’s chance at securing a full-time position upon graduation,” Brandt said.

—By Brianne Burrowes



The University of
Montana

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