

University of Montana

ScholarWorks at University of Montana

Main Hall to Main Street, 2005-2010

University Relations

2-1-2008

Main Hall to Main Street, February 2008

University of Montana–Missoula. Office of University Relations

Follow this and additional works at: <https://scholarworks.umt.edu/mainhallmainstreet>

Let us know how access to this document benefits you.

Recommended Citation

University of Montana–Missoula. Office of University Relations, "Main Hall to Main Street, February 2008" (2008). *Main Hall to Main Street, 2005-2010*. 135.

<https://scholarworks.umt.edu/mainhallmainstreet/135>

This Newsletter is brought to you for free and open access by the University Relations at ScholarWorks at University of Montana. It has been accepted for inclusion in Main Hall to Main Street, 2005-2010 by an authorized administrator of ScholarWorks at University of Montana. For more information, please contact scholarworks@mso.umt.edu.



UM's Ken Dial and one of the chukars he uses in his landmark research

Researchers unlock a secret of bird flight

To human eyes, bird flight seems a complex, almost mystical, aerial dance.

However, it may not be as complicated as it looks. High-speed cameras at The University of Montana Flight Laboratory reveal all birds use a similar wing angle relative to the ground to gain altitude, glide, descend or run up steep surfaces.

UM biology Professor Ken Dial said discovery of this fundamental wing stroke may help explain how birds evolved to take to the skies.

"I think many big findings in biology are fairly straightforward common sense and don't require a spectacularly convoluted explanation," he said. "I think that's where the beauty of this resides — its simplicity and utility are quite striking."

The new findings have been published as a letter in the international science journal *Nature*, available online at <http://www.nature.com/nature>. Dial and two of his students, Brandon Jackson and Paolo Segre, are co-authors. The piece has spawned articles worldwide in outlets as varied as the BBC, National Geographic News and Tehran Times.

Dial has studied bird flight for 25 years, photographing them in wind tunnels to learn how they use their wings to manage the air at different speeds. During this research his lab also

— Continued page 2

UM campaign surpasses \$100 million fundraising goal

The University of Montana raised \$131 million during its five-year Invest in Discovery — Connecting People, Programs and Place campaign, soundly surpassing the original \$100 million goal.

National Campaign Chair Deborah Doyle McWhinney was elated by the campaign results and had this to say to the donors and volunteers from Montana and around the country: "Thank you 131 million times! More than 29,000 people chose to invest in making (UM) even stronger. There is no question that the investment by alumni and friends is paying off and in ways that can be felt throughout campus and the state. More affordable education — through scholarships — excellent programs, and new and improved learning facilities will all go to help UM stay at the top of its game."

She also was impressed by the widespread giving of donors, as more than 17,000 alumni and nearly 13,000 first-time donors participated in the campaign. She said more than half of the donors were from Montana.

Responding to the huge outpouring of new donors and reinvesting donors, Laura Brehm, UM Foundation president and CEO, said, "I think people really understand and believe that supporting UM isn't just an investment in higher education, it's an investment in Montana. It's a great day at (UM), and I'm so excited about the possibilities going forward."

UM President George Dennison said,

"Fundamentally, the success of the campaign positioned the University to continue on this path that we've outlined, which is to achieve the vision for a research-oriented, very comprehensive institution that responds to needs nationally and internationally, as well as to those of the region."



National Chair Deborah Doyle McWhinney and President George Dennison discuss the campaign passing the \$100 million mark during a news conference last September.

While Dennison believes UM will always strive for total realization of that vision, "the campaign allows us to more firmly build a foundation from which we can optimistically continue in that developmental path."

Raising \$131 million for the Invest in Discovery campaign is an unprecedented achievement for UM, the UM Foundation and countless volunteers, but the impact of private support does not stop there. Dennison said a stunning \$41 million in private funds also was received by the campus during the same period — a direct result of the productivity of UM faculty in securing grants for research and program support from private foundations and organizations.

Taken together, he said, the University has benefited from \$172 million in private support

— Continued back page

Radio-TV grad works with MTV

K Lynn Sloan, a 2007 graduate of the KUM radio-television department, has been chosen by MTV to serve as a citizen journalist contributing to MTV's Choose or Lose Street Team '08 election coverage.

Sloan will submit weekly multimedia reports on MTV's social activism Web site, think.mtv.com, and will keep a blog discussing political and social issues affecting Montana youth.

"I couldn't have invented a more perfect job for myself," she said. "I've been a political hobbyist for a long time, but also grew up very passionate about youth involvement in social causes like volunteering and activism. I hope I'll be able to inspire young Montanans to get involved and show that even voices in small Montana towns matter."

Sloan also looks forward to tackling other issues such as education, the environment and exploring whether young people in Big Sky Country feel connected to national issues.

She will be a one-person band, producing reports to inform young people on the issues that matter to them the most.

She just returned from a three day "Journalism Boot Camp" at the MTV headquarters in New York City, where she met her 50 other counterparts, discussed political issues facing other young voters nationwide and learned about her new assignment.

"It was refreshing to me that a lot of the basics of reporting we talked about in New York were review for me," Sloan said. 🐾

American Indian activist to speak

Winona LaDuke, a leading international activist for American Indian and environmental causes, will give the next installment of the President's Lecture Series at UM on Monday, Feb. 25.

LaDuke's presentation — "Creating Just Societies: The Environment, the Economy and Human Relations in the Next Millennium" — will focus on what is required for the creation of just societies that are in harmony with nature.

The event will take place at 8 p.m. in the Montana Theatre, located in UM's Performing Arts and Radio/Television Center.

Earlier that day from 3:10 to 4:30 p.m., LaDuke will give a seminar titled "Indigenous Thinking on Sustainable Development: Strategies for the Northern Plains-Great Lakes Region" in Gallagher Business Building Room 123.

Both events are free and open to the public. They are presented in collaboration with UM's academic affairs office, the University's women's studies, environmental studies and Native American studies programs, and the Montana Museum of Art & Culture.

LaDuke, a member of the Anishinaabe nation, is executive director of Honor the Earth, a national organization formed to meet the needs of a growing Native environmental movement.

A graduate of Harvard and Antioch

universities, she has written extensively on American Indian and environmental issues. Among her books are "Recovering the Sacred: The Power of Naming and Claiming," "Last Woman Standing" and "All Our Relations: Native Struggles for Land and Life."

LaDuke was Ralph Nader's Green Party vice-presidential running mate in 1996 and 2000.

In 1989, she received the Reebok Human Rights Award and used part of the proceeds to start the White Earth Land Recovery Project.

In 1994, LaDuke was nominated by Time magazine as one of the country's 50 most

promising leaders under 40. She also has received the Thomas Merton Award, the Ann Bancroft Award and the Global Green Award. In 1997, she was named a Ms. Magazine Woman of the Year.

LaDuke was instrumental in bringing "Impacted Nations" to the Montana Museum of Art & Culture at UM. The traveling exhibition, now in the museum's Meloy and Paxson galleries, features 52 works by 44 contemporary American Indian artists that address the conflict between Native people's relationship to the earth and the political and economic forces that undermine it.

LaDuke will speak at a closing reception for the exhibition from 6 to 8 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 26, at the museum. 🐾



Winona LaDuke

Bird Flight Secret — continued

studied adolescent birds as they learned to fly.

"We figured the stroke angles were going to be all over the place, but it turned out to just be a single stroke," he said.

The researchers found that birds use wing strokes confined to a narrow range of less than 20 degrees. This directs aerodynamic forces about 40 degrees above the horizontal, permitting a 180-degree range in the direction of travel.

Dial's lab already has discovered that birds can use their wings like the spoiler on a race car to run up steep surfaces. He calls this behavior wing-assisted incline running. Those results were published in the journal *Science* four years ago.

"But once the animal gets up, it has to come down," Dial said. "When it comes down, it effectively uses the same wing stroke. So this tells the rest of the story. It's not unlike a helicopter that can't move its rotor much. But if you change the power and tilt it just a touch, you can come up with all sorts of new maneuvers, and that's what we are showing."

Evolutionary biologists have long been divided into two

camps about the origins of bird flight. One group believes avian ancestors took wing by climbing and gliding from trees. The other believes early birds ran along the ground, beat their feathered forelimbs and eventually took off.

Dial now offers a rival idea — the ontogenetic-transitional wing hypothesis — which suggests birds evolved incrementally by learning to use their wings to run up steep surfaces. This gave them a survival advantage, and eventually their ancestors became strong enough for true flight. And since the basic angle for wing-assisted incline running and true flight are similar, Dial suggests the transition into the air was easier.

Ground-dwelling partridges called chukars were used in the initial research, and Dial was able to confirm the fundamental wing stroke among 20 other bird species.

Dial has worked at UM for 20 years. As an experimental functional morphologist, he designs experiments to study the function and structure of animals. Besides being a professor in UM's Division of Biological Sciences and director of the flight lab, he directs the Research Station at Fort Missoula. He also is the former host of "All Bird TV" on Animal Planet. 🐾

President's Office Art—Two paintings by influential modernist British artists are now available for public viewing at UM. "E.O.W. on her Blue Eiderdown" by Frank Auerbach and "White Relief" by Ben Nicholson are on view in the Main Hall President's Office lobby, open to the public from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. The paintings are on loan to the Montana Museum of Art & Culture from a private collection. Auerbach helped spearhead a renaissance in British figurative art. Nicholson (1894-1982) was one of the most important and controversial British modern artists. For more information, call 406-243-2019 or visit <http://www.umt.edu/montanamuseum>.



Helping the World—New figures show UM retained its top 25 ranking for producing Peace Corps volunteers. UM is No. 17 on the 2008 list that ranks medium-size colleges and universities with enrollments between 5,001 and 15,000. UM now has 23 alumni serving in the Peace Corps. This year's ranking places UM ahead of Brown and Yale universities. The University of Virginia topped the list with 72 volunteers. The Peace Corps was founded in 1961 by President John F. Kennedy, and more than 190,000 Americans have served in the organization since then. Volunteers have been invited by 139 host countries to work on issues ranging from AIDS education to information technology.



Chris Servheen

Grizzly Guy—Chris Servheen, a UM wildlife biologist and mammalogist, has been honored for his 30 years of significant work in grizzly bear conservation with the 2008 George B. Rabb Conservation Award. Servheen, who serves as the grizzly bear recovery coordinator for the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, was chosen for the award by the Chicago Zoological Society. Servheen studies the negative impact that building developments have on grizzly populations and works to reverse that impact. He leads research projects that use unobtrusive Global Positioning

System collars. When placed on grizzly bears in the wild, these collars yield a wealth of information about how the animals change their movements and habits in response to human activity. The Rabb award honors the animal welfare and worldwide conservation leadership of George Rabb, president emeritus of the Chicago Zoological Society.

Courses for Veterans—UM's College of Technology has started offering free college prep courses for qualified veterans. The classes are meeting in the evenings twice per week until May 6. Course offerings include basic computer skills, writing and math. Classes are offered at COT through the Montana Veterans Upward Bound program. For more information or to enroll in one or more classes, call 877-356-VETS or visit <http://www.vubmt.com>.

Airwave Excellence—Two UM radio-TV students have earned honors in the prestigious Hearst Journalism Awards Program. Natalie Neumann, a junior from Sidney, and Dan Boyce, a junior from Lewistown, won accolades in the radio features competition. Neumann placed eighth with her stories and won \$500. Her work focused on a graffiti artist, a cartographer whose work has been impacted by climate change and the Run for Respect, which was part of Sexual Assault Awareness Month. Boyce placed 14th in the competition with his stories on a homeless man, UM's Foresters' Ball and the new Native American studies center on campus. Both students' work aired on Montana Public Radio and KBGA College Radio. The Hearst Journalism Awards are known as the "college Pulitzers." They recognize, reward and inspire exceptional college journalists and the faculty and programs that contribute to their success.

Limited Campus Cruising—With construction of an expansion to Washington-Grizzly Stadium in full swing, students and visitors to campus are reminded that a portion of Campus Drive is closed to through traffic. Parking also will be in short supply this semester, so people are encouraged to use Missoula's Mountain Line buses, which are free with a Griz Card, or convenient Park-N-Ride locations provided by the University. Park-N-Ride services are free and open to the public. Schedules are online at <http://www.umt.edu/asum/ot>. For Mountain Line bus schedules and routes, visit <http://www.mountainline.com>.

Connecting Campuses—A new 21-foot Champion bus now serves UM students traveling from the main campus to the UM College of Technology. The bus is equipped with a lift and is the first of a series of three new buses that will be arriving at UM. The new buses are a result of Associated Students of UM negotiations with University administrators for improved transportation options for the campus community. UM students overwhelmingly passed a fee increase for the ASUM Office of Transportation to purchase the new buses, and UM administrators facilitated a loan process so that purchase of the new buses could begin. Bus service between campus and COT runs every 20 minutes. The first semester that this service ran, it carried 20,827 riders. Complete information about student and public transportation options for getting to and from UM and COT are online at <http://www.umt.edu/asum/ot>.

Projects That Protect—The UM Wilderness Institute is now accepting proposals for grants that support historical research, creative writing and wilderness studies projects that explore Montana's land and people. The grants range from \$400 to \$1,000 and are awarded through the University's Matthew Hansen Endowment, which was established in 1984 as a memorial to Hansen and his ideals. The proposal deadline is March 1, and awards will be announced in April. Projects should encourage mindful stewardship of the land and contribute to the preservation of Montana's heritage. For more information call 406-243-5361, e-mail wi@cfc.umt.edu or go online to <http://www.cfc.umt.edu/wi>.

International Addition—The Maureen and Mike Mansfield Foundation, a nonprofit organization that promotes understanding and cooperation in U.S.-Asia relations, has invited Mary Byron, a managing director of Goldman Sachs in Japan, to join the foundation's board of directors. Byron heads Sachs' Technology Division and also is responsible for the Asia regional Technology Division. The foundation has offices in Tokyo, Washington, D.C., and UM's Missoula campus. 🐻

Fundraising Success — continued

during the campaign years, and there is no doubt that this critical source of funding will continue to be central to the University's future and its success.

Campaign donors targeted their gifts to specific areas of interest. They gave \$26 million for student support, including 486 undergraduate scholarships and 79 graduate fellowships that were created or enhanced. Faculty support totaled \$11 million and included fully funding the Craighead Chair in Wildlife Biology and the Poe Family Professorship in Entrepreneurship.

Academic programs received \$57 million in gifts to create or enhance 419 current-use funds and 239 program endowments. Support for renovations and new buildings amounted to \$37 million. Don Anderson Hall for journalism was dedicated in May 2007, as was the Biomedical Research Facility and Science Learning Complex addition to the Skaggs Building for the College of Health Professions and Biomedical Sciences.

Even though the Invest in Discovery campaign has come

to a close, there are still many critical needs on campus that would benefit from private support. These include the Endowed Chair in Cardiovascular Sciences; the Native American Center; UM's most prestigious undergraduate awards, the Presidential Leadership Scholarships; the Phyllis J. Washington

Education Center; the Montana Museum of Art & Culture; the Montana University System Honors Scholarships, awarded to outstanding students from Montana high schools; the Gilkey Center for Executive Education; the Law School Building renovation and addition; the T. Anthony Pollner Distinguished Professor in Journalism; and the alumni center.

Brehm said the University embarked upon this historic \$100 million capital campaign in July

2002. After amassing \$72 million, the campaign transitioned from a private to public phase in 2005 and set the date of Dec. 31, 2007, to bring the campaign to its official conclusion.

For more information or to learn more about supporting UM, call the UM Foundation at 406-243-2593 or go online to <http://www.DiscoveryNeverEnds.org>.



INVEST IN DISCOVERY

Securing the Future of The University of Montana

Nie publishes new book

A new book by UM Associate Professor Martin Nie examines what drives ongoing conflicts surrounding public lands and resources and how they can be better managed.

The book — "The Governance of Western Public Lands: Mapping Its Present and Future" — was released this month by University Press of Kansas.

In the book Nie, who teaches natural resource policy in UM's forestry college, explores factors that make issues controversial, how they have been dealt with in the past and ways they might be better managed in the future.

He looks closely at the designation of U.S. Forest Service roadless areas and management of the Tongass National Forest in Alaska, using these cases to investigate issues about governing federal lands in the West.

The book also addresses conflict areas such as snowmobiles in Yellowstone National Park, bear and wolf protection, fire and forest health, drilling in Montana's Rocky Mountain Front and federal grazing policy.

Mike Dombeck, who has served as chief of the U.S. Forest Service and director of the Bureau of Land Management, said the book "should be required reading for all students of public policy and land management, as well as those who depend upon and care for our public lands."

For more information, go online to <http://www.kansaspress.ku.edu/niegov.html>.

Concert—
Feb. 22. World Rhythms,

7:30 p.m., University Theatre. \$6 general; \$4 students/seniors. Information: 406-243-6880, griz.music@umontana.edu.

UM Concert Band Festival—
Feb. 24-26. all day Sunday through Tuesday, various locations. Information: 406-243-6880, griz.music@umontana.edu.

Play—Feb. 26-March 1. **March 4-8.** "Stop Kiss," 7:30 p.m., Masquer Theatre, PAR/TV Center. Information and tickets: 406-243-4581.

Exhibit—March 6-April 2. Bachelor of Fine Arts Senior Thesis Exhibitions. 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday; 11 a.m.-7 p.m. Thursday. Social Science Building Gallery of Visual Arts, 406-243-2813.

Concert—March 7. Jazz Bands, 7:30 p.m., University Theatre. \$6 general; \$3 students/seniors. Information: 406-243-6880, griz.music@umontana.edu.

International Culture and Food Festival—March 9. noon-5 p.m., University Center. \$2 adults;

UM Events

\$1 children. Information: UM Office of

Foreign Students and Scholar Services, 406-243-2226, fss@umontana.edu.

Faculty Opera Recital—March 10. 7:30 p.m., Music Recital Hall. Features seven UM faculty members. \$6 general; \$4 students/seniors. Information: 406-243-6880, griz.music@umontana.edu.

Spring Dance Showcase—
March 11-15. 7:30 p.m., **March 15.** 2 p.m.; PAR/TV Center Open Space. Information and tickets: 406-243-4581.

Play—March 11-15. "Cyclone," Montana Repertory Theatre production, 8 p.m., Crystal Theatre, 515 S. Higgins. \$10 Tuesday-Thursday; \$15 Friday and Saturday. Tickets: At the door or call 406-243-4581. Information: 406-243-6809, <http://www.montanarep.org>.

Symphonic Wind Ensemble—
March 14. "Home From Tour" concert, 7:30 p.m., University Theatre. \$5 general; \$3 students/seniors. Information: 406-243-6880, griz.music@umontana.edu.



The University of
Montana

Main Hall to Main Street is published by University Relations at The University of Montana. Send questions or suggestions to Cary Shimek, editor, 330 Brantly Hall, Missoula, MT 59812, or call 406-243-5914. Brianne Burrowes, Brenda Day and Rita Munzenrider are contributing editors and writers. Todd Goodrich is the primary photographer. The newsletter is online at <http://www.umt.edu/urelations/mainhall>.



Printed on recycled paper. Please recycle.