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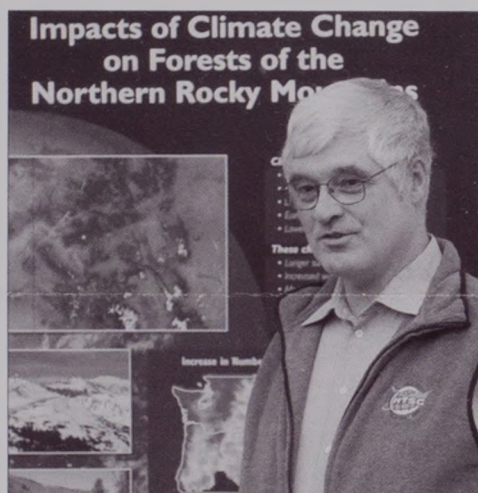
Running helps create climate change index

Steve Running, Regents Professor of Ecology at The University of Montana, was a key player in creating a new worldwide climate change index unveiled Dec. 9 at the United Nations Climate Change Conference in Copenhagen, Denmark.

The new index distills the complexity of the Earth's climate down to one number, much like the Dow Jones industrial average condenses volumes of data from the business world into a single figure. The index uses key indicators of global change – carbon dioxide, temperature, sea level and sea ice – to obtain its results.

"Some people still question whether the Earth's climate is changing as rapidly and profoundly as the majority of climate scientists suggest," Running said. "I think this index will help nonscientists understand why people in my line of work are so concerned about the major planetary-scale changes taking place."

The index was produced by a group Running is affiliated with, the International Geosphere-Biosphere Programme, which studies climate change phenomenon. IGBP is headquartered with the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences in Stockholm, and Running was among a core group of eight who developed the idea.



UM Regents Professor of Ecology Steve Running worked with a group of international scientists to create a new worldwide climate index, which was unveiled last month in Copenhagen.

Running said the index gives an annual snapshot of how the planet's complex systems – the ice, the oceans, the land surface and the atmosphere – are responding to changing climate. The index rises steadily from 1980, the earliest date the index has been calculated, dipping only in 1982, 1992 and 1996 – years when the world experienced major volcanic eruptions.

He said the index provides an excellent visual tool that shows how external events can have rapid planetary-scale effects. The climbing cumulative index also highlights the extent human activities are affecting the planet's climate system.

Each parameter is normalized between -100 and +100. Zero is no annual change. One hundred is the maximum recorded annual change since 1980. The normalized parameters are averaged. This gives the index for the year. The value for each year is added to that of the previous year to show the cumulative effect of annual change.

Running said IGBP scientists may develop other indexes relating to global change such as land use, fisheries exploitation, population, fire and extreme events, as well as backdating the new index. The overall index will be updated annually.

Running is a professor in UM's College of Forestry and Conservation and directs the University's Numerical Terradynamic Simulation Group, which has written software for NASA environmental satellites. He was a lead author for the North American section of the 2007 Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change Report, and his IPCC committee shared a Nobel Peace Prize with Al Gore that year. 🌱

New director to help UM capitalize on research

UM has hired a new director of technology transfer to help commercialize campus research, generate new startup companies and otherwise enhance the state's economy.

Joe Fanguy started in his new role this fall and is based in the Office of the Vice President for Research and Development. He replaces longtime UM administrator Jon "Tony" Rudbach, who passed away last year.

Fanguy came to UM from the Office of Research and Economic Development at Mississippi State University, where he was assistant director of the Office of

Technology Commercialization. During his tenure there, he also worked as an applied research scientist and technology licensing associate.

"It's an honor to have been selected for this great leadership opportunity within The University of Montana's growing research community," said Fanguy, who earned a doctorate in biophysical chemistry with an emphasis in biotechnology instrumentation from Mississippi State University.

He was selected for the UM position from among three finalists brought to campus after a national search.

"We were fortunate to bring someone of his caliber to campus," said Daniel Dwyer, UM vice president for research and development. "He has the perfect background to help license UM intellectual properties – patents, copyrights and trade secrets – and to help rev the state's economic engine."

The Office of Technology Transfer manages UM's intellectual property portfolio, creates business relationships with external organizations and plays an active role in the formation of startup companies launched to commercialize UM technology. 🌱

UM Educators Named Fellows—Two UM faculty members recently received distinguished fellowships in their respective fields of study. Professor Beth Lo of UM's School of Art was named a USA Hoi Fellow. A renowned artist who works in ceramics and mixed media collage, Lo was one of 50 chosen from across the visual, literary and performing arts to receive a USA Fellowships, which are presented annually and include unrestricted grants of \$50,000. Tom Martin, a faculty member in the UM Division of Biological Sciences, was named a Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science. Martin, assistant leader of the U.S. Geological Survey's Montana Cooperative Wildlife Research Unit at UM, was named a Fellow as part of the Section on Biological Sciences for his distinguished contributions to the advancement of community and population evolutionary ecology and for serving in officer and advisory roles for many national organizations.



program director in 2000 but maintained his posts as music director and host of the popular "Jazz Sessions" program on Thursday afternoons. He will continue his jazz disc jockey shift. Hired as KUFM program director in 1973, Conrad began such programs as "Music at Dawn," "Bach and Before" and "Keyboard Masterworks." MTPR is a public service of UM and is broadcast on transmitters in Missoula, Helena, Butte, Kalispell, Hamilton and Great Falls. For program schedule information, visit <http://www.mtpr.org>.

UM Employees Donate To Charities—Despite tough economic times, nearly 700 UM administrators, faculty members and staff recently participated in the 2009-10 Charitable Giving Campaign by donating \$127,471 to local charitable organizations. During the Charitable Giving Campaign, campus volunteers distribute informational packets to UM employees, who can make donations to various local organizations via one-time gifts or payroll deductions. The agencies selected to participate in the campaign are closely scrutinized to ensure that all donations go directly to local services. The fundraising effort that became UM's Charitable Giving Campaign began during the 1986-87 academic year when faculty and staff pledged \$25,000. Since then the amount raised has increased nearly every year. Last year's campaign total was \$125,841.

New Exhibit Opens At MMAC—A traveling exhibition featuring artists from across the United States who used white supremacist propaganda to create thought-provoking works of art is at the Montana Museum of Art & Culture through Saturday, March 6. "Speaking Volumes: Transforming Hate" is on display in the museum's Meloy and Paxson galleries, located in the Performing Arts and Radio/Television Center at UM. Two public events will take place in February in conjunction with the exhibition: Katie Knight, curator of "Speaking Volumes: Transforming Hate," will present a lecture at 7 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 4, in the Masquer Theatre in the PAR/TV Center. A panel discussion featuring artists Dana Boussard, Stephen Glueckert and Lisa Jarrett will begin at 7 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 25, in the Montana Theatre in the PAR/TV Center. Panel moderator will be former MHRN Director Ken Toole. For more information, call 406-243-2019 or visit the museum's Web site at <http://www.umt.edu/montanamuseum>.

Economic Seminar Hits The Road—As the nation heads toward economic recovery, it appears job losses and unemployment rates during the recession were much higher for men than for women. How has this played out in Montana? And what are the latest economic trends and forecasts for the nation, state and local economies? These questions and more will be discussed as the 35th Annual Economic Outlook Seminar – "Economic Recovery: What's Ahead for Men and Women Workers?" – heads to nine Montana cities during January, February and March. The program is presented by the UM Bureau of Business and Economic Research and features economic researchers and experts from throughout the Montana University System. The seminar runs from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. Registration costs \$80. A complete schedule and registration information is available on the BBER Web site at <http://www.bber.umt.edu>.

University Offers Greeting Cards, Prints—UM is selling greeting cards and photographic prints featuring popular campus images such as Main Hall, Monte and the Missoula Valley from Mount Sentinel. An image of snowy "Main Hall in Winter" is featured on a 5-by-7-inch greeting card available as a boxed set of 10 in the new Montana Memories Photo Gallery and Store. The store is online at <http://umt.edu/urelations/market/store.aspx>. Single UM greeting cards with this and other images will be available soon in local retail stores. The online store also offers classic campus images in sizes from 8-by-10 inches to 16-by-20 inches, as well as dramatic 6.5-by-19-inch panoramic prints. The photographs are by official campus photographer Todd Goodrich and others. Wholesale inquiries can be directed to University Relations at 406-243-2522 or umphotos@umontana.edu.

Series Explores Books, Art That Changed Lives—The 2010 Community Lecture Series at UM will begin Tuesday, Feb. 16, and tickets are now available for purchase. This year's series – "The Power to Move: Books and Art that Changed Our Lives" – features lectures by six outstanding UM faculty members who will examine selected books and works of art that changed the way we think and behave. Lectures will take place from 7 to 8:30 p.m. Tuesdays, Feb. 16 through March 23, at the University Center Theater. Each event will include a question-and-answer session. Cost for the complete lecture series is \$20 for the public, \$15 for UM Alumni Association dues-paying members and \$10 for students. To view the series schedule or purchase tickets, visit <http://www.grizalum.org> or call the UM Office of Alumni Relations at 406-243-5211. 🐻

Longtime MTPR Programmer Retires—After more than 35 years shaping classical music sojourns for Montana Public Radio listeners, Terry Conrad, music director for "Morning Classics," retired Jan. 1. Susan Israel, a "Morning Classics" host, will assume the music director duties. Conrad retired as the station's



The University of
Montana

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