Montanan, Fall 2019

University of Montana--Missoula

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LET'S BLAZE NEW TRAILS TOGETHER!

MONTANA OWNED WITH 16 CONVENIENT LOCATIONS THROUGHOUT RAVALLI, MISSOULA, MINERAL, AND FLATHEAD COUNTIES.

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Dear Griz Family,

As we welcome our students, faculty and staff back to campus for the start of a new academic year, UM is animated with Grizzly energy. Our diverse freshman class has their sights set firmly on shaping the future. These students are passionate about climate change, natural resources, public policy, health care, world languages and underserved communities (to name just a few), and UM will offer them the challenges they seek, the skills they need to make an impact and the adventures they will remember for a lifetime.

While we can’t predict the tremendous work these students will accomplish at UM, we can guarantee that all along their journeys, generous UM alumni and employees will support their paths through a tomorrow-proof education.

UM students have the unique opportunity to undergo whole-person learning, to think critically and to live ethically inside and outside of the classroom. There is no better place to do that than at UM.

There are many examples of the fearless Griz spirit in this issue of the Montanan.

Dedicated student leaders in our Advocates program have shared the story of UM with prospective students and their families for 50 years. Our Advocates weave together friendship and purpose in an example of UM at its best. Lubrecht Forest, our experimental forest and largest outdoor classroom, delivers one of UM’s cornerstone missions: conducting meaningful, impactful research for the benefit of Montana’s timber, conservation and natural resource economy. For generations, the forest has served as a classroom of experiential learning.

Dr. Karen King, Harvard University Hollis Professor of Divinity and UM ’76 alumna, reflects on her transformative liberal arts education in Montana. An internationally renowned historian of early Christianity, King embodies the possibilities that come from a UM humanities degree. Throughout her career, she has shed new light on the world’s oldest text while serving as the first woman to hold the nation’s oldest academic endowed chair.

Soon, we celebrate our 100th Homecoming Sept. 30-Oct. 5. We invite our greater Griz family to celebrate along with us by saluting 100 years of our UM Homecoming tradition. Your memories, successes and paths comprise the fabric of UM’s heritage, and you are vital our next 100 years.

For the past century and well into our future, we are grateful for your support. Thank you for reading.

Up with Montana,

Seth Bodnar

@SethBodnar
Thank you Missoula and the University of Montana for eight years of partnership. With 120 Griz alum at the helm, ATG and Cognizant are making a huge impact on our local community!

- Tom Stergios
GM & SVP, ATG Cognizant Missoula

Get to Know ATG Cognizant

ATG Cognizant Employees in Montana

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<tr>
<th>Year</th>
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Attended or Attending UM: 68%
Graduate MT High School: 59%

Business Background: 64%
Other Disciplines: 36%

2018 Economic Impact ATG Cognizant in Missoula
$48.6m

Source: BUREAU OF BUSINESS & ECONOMIC RESEARCH, UM

Missoula ATG Volunteer Hours, 2019
700

Calling All Alumni

Are you working in a technology field out of state but wish you could come home to Montana? ATG Cognizant could be the answer. The average compensation at ATG Cognizant is 80% higher than the average earnings per job in Missoula. Check out atginfo.com/homeatlast for more information!

All-In Missoula

All-In Missoula (AIM) is an innovative ATG Cognizant 12-week paid training program that teams with the University of Montana and Missoula College to teach business and consulting fundamentals, information technology, and cloud basics with a focus on the Salesforce platform. Go to atginfo.com/launch for details!
CONTENTS

18
DIVINE SCHOLARSHIP
Karen King keeps the faith in the big questions.

24
A FORESTER’S WORKSHOP
Lubrecht Forest is ground zero for UM forestry.

30
MOXIE AT 50
The UM Advocates find passion and purpose for 50 years.

DEPARTMENTS:
ABOUT ALUMNI | 48
CLASS NOTES | 41
FACETIME | 16
ARTIFACTS | 50
AROUND THE OVAL | 9

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ON THE COVER:
A sign at Lubrecht Experimental Forest in August. The forest has served as a place for UM experiential learning and research for more than 80 years.
WHERE HAS YOUR GRIZ BEEN?

Do you have a photo of yourself wearing Griz gear in a unique place? If so, send it and a brief description to themontanan@umontana.edu.

Winners will see their photo published in the Montanan. To be considered, photos must be in focus with the UM or Griz logo clearly visible.

Pictures not selected will be shared on UM’s Facebook account, @umontana.

The Montanan would like to thank the following people for recently donating to and supporting the magazine: Janet Fowler Dargitz, State College, Pennsylvania; Leslie Ann and David Watson, Rochester, New York; Nanci Williams, Kalispell.

LETTERS:
The Montanan welcomes letters to the editor. Please sign and include your graduating year or years of attendance, home address and phone number or email address.

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Grizzlies can paddle.

Tiffin Hall, J.D. ’90, and wife Sandi Stevens enjoyed a 16-day raft trip down the Colorado River through the Grand Canyon this spring with a group of friends from Eureka.

Brian Lilletvedt, ’75, J.D. ’78, represents Griz Nation under the big guns on the USS Battleship Missouri at Pearl Harbor this past March.

Retired Col. Valley Swan, ’51, takes the Griz to a southwestern habitat during a recent trip to the Anza Borrego Desert State Park in California. Swan, 91, spent the day searching for wildflower and cactus super blooms with his family.

Theresa Vonada Carpenter, ’87, and her husband, Ken, toured the beaches of Normandy on a University of Utah alumni trip to commemorate the 75th anniversary of D-Day.
Fearless award goes to UM alumnus Carson Cantrell @canteen406, former UM Paragliding Club president. Cantrell made his last flight as a student from Mount Sentinel in his graduation gown on the morning of spring Commencement.
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Montana, Idaho and other underserved and rural areas gained 10 new family medicine physicians when UM’s Family Medicine Residency of Western Montana graduated its fourth class in June.

All 10 graduates have accepted employment, and seven plan to practice in Montana.

“We are very pleased to add to our prior graduates and will now have placed physicians in Browning, Hamilton, Helena, Kalispell, Lewistown, Libby, Missoula, Polson, Red Lodge, Ronan and Whitefish,” says Dr. Ned Vasquez, ongoing program director. “Our graduates also have entered practices in rural communities in California, Idaho and Washington. More than three-fourths of our graduates have remained in Montana, and a similar fraction is practicing in rural and underserved communities.”

The program is a part of UM’s Health and Medicine initiative. Based in Missoula and Kalispell, FMRWM is sponsored by UM and affiliated with the University of Washington Family Medicine Residency Network.

The UM residency program works with an extensive rural training network of 10 sites, including Anaconda, Browning, Butte, Dillon, Hamilton, Lewistown, Libby, Plains, Polson and Ronan, and plans to add new rural sites soon. The residency’s three primary sponsoring hospitals are Providence St. Patrick Hospital and Community Medical Center in Missoula and Kalispell Regional Medical Center.

The FMRWM Class of 2019 graduates and their future practice sites include:

Caitlin Blau, Missoula
Dallas Clark, Red Lodge
Julia Gruetzmacher, Missoula
Ruben Hipolito, Kalispell
Matt Klippenstein, Reno, Nevada
Rachel LaRocca, Woodstock, Vermont
Madeline Mussman, Hamilton
Karen Vesely, Whitefish
Katie Williams, Lewistown
Kelby Wilson, Grangeville, Idaho
UM’s pioneering opioid vaccine lands $3.3 million National Institutes of Health grant

As the nation’s opioid addiction crisis grips families and communities across the country, UM’s Center for Translational Medicine has been awarded a $3.3 million grant from the National Institutes of Health to develop an innovative vaccine targeting opioid addiction.

Last fall, the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases and National Institute on Drug Abuse organized a meeting to bring drug abuse expert and vaccine research teams together to find solutions to the growing opioid-use epidemic. As a result, UM partnered with the University of Minnesota and Hennepin Healthcare Research Institute. The partnership has now generated new research funds and a promising new vaccine candidate.

The principal investigator on the two-year award is Dr. Jay Evans, director of UM’s Center for Translational Medicine and a research professor in the Division of Biological Sciences. Other investigators on the award are Drs. David Burkhart, Kendal Ryter and Helene Bazin-Lee from UM; Marco Pravetoni from the University of Minnesota; and Paul Pentel and Mark LeSage from Hennepin Healthcare Research Institute.

UM scientists in the Center for Translational Medicine have worked on vaccines, adjuvants — compounds that stimulate an immune response — and delivery systems for over 20 years.

“We are applying what we have learned about traditional infectious disease vaccines to combat the growing epidemic of opioid-use disorders,” Evans says.

Scott Whittenburg, UM vice president for research and creative scholarship, emphasized the center’s vital role in biomedical research.

“Research like this demonstrates the University’s commitment to improving the health and well-being of the residents of our state,” Whittenburg says.

The National Institute on Drug Abuse reports that more than 130 Americans die of opioid overdose each day. In Montana, drug overdose deaths are the third leading cause of injury-related death.
New program plans to train, recruit Native STEM talent

Nineteen students, all rising seventh and eighth graders from Montana’s Blackfeet Reservation as well as the Navajo Nation, spent two weeks immersing themselves in University life on campus this summer. The students made up the first cohort of the Montana American Indian Math and Science Program (MT-AIMS), a donor-funded program designed to promote Native American student retention and academic achievement in math and science.

During their stay at UM, the students took part in hands-on STEM activities led by UM faculty and experienced sleeping in residence halls, eating in the Food Zoo, hiking the MT Trail and going on excursions to community events like Missoula’s Out to Lunch.

The program is modeled on the successful, long-running Alaska Native Science and Engineering Program (ANSEP), which works to increase Alaska Native representation in STEM education and careers. Aaron Thomas, UM associate professor of chemistry and director of UM Indigenous Research and STEM Education, says ANSEP is one of the few successful models in engaging Native students in STEM that works directly with students from sixth grade through graduate school.

Thomas says he hopes the MT-AIMs program at UM can continue providing pre-college STEM programming to Native students that will support their educational success.
**Beer Can Chicken: THE GRIZZLY WAY**

**PREPARATION**
Massage the spice mixture on the skin, under the skin and inside the cavity of the chicken. With a skewer, poke holes all over in the skin. Set the chicken aside and prepare the glaze. Remove half of the beer from each can. Remove the top of the can completely with a church key. Crumble 2 bay leaves into each can.

**GRILLING**
Prepare the grill for medium-high, indirect heat (approximately 350 to 375 degrees). Using a cookie sheet or roasting pan, insert the beer can into the chickens’ rear end. Stand the chicken up on the cookie sheet or roasting pan using the legs to stabilize them. Place the chickens on the indirect side of the grill and close the lid. Grill the chickens until the skin is well-browned and crisp, approximately 40 to 60 minutes. While the chicken is cooking, prepare a vegetable medley. (I like to make it colorful so I use a red, yellow and green bell pepper, a Walla Walla onion and a zucchini). Cut the veggies into approximately 1-inch squares. When the skin is brown and crisp, add the vegetables to the pan, baste the chicken with the glaze, drizzle some of the glaze onto the veggies and cover grill. After about 10 minutes baste the chicken again and drizzle more glaze on the veggies. Cover the grill for 10 more minutes. Grill until thigh meat heats to 170 degrees.

**SERVING**
Once you reach temperature, place chicken on the carving table with the beer can still inserted and let rest for 10 minutes. You can continue to cook the veggies during this resting period if they need it (and add more glaze if needed). After 10 minutes, remove the beer cans, carve the chickens and plate for serving.

**INGREDIENTS**
- Two 2-pound to 4-pound whole chickens.
- Two beer cans of choice.
- Spice Rub and Glaze ingredients.

**SPICE RUB**
Mix all ingredients together in a small bowl:
- 3 tbsp light brown sugar
- 3 tbsp paprika
- 1½ tbsp table salt
- 1½ tbsp ground black pepper
- 1½ tsp cayenne pepper
Reserve 2 tbsp of the rub to put into glaze

**GLAZE**
Mix all ingredients together in a small bowl:
- 4 tbsp light brown sugar
- 4 tbsp ketchup
- 4 tbsp white vinegar
- 4 tbsp beer
- 2 tsp hot sauce (Frank’s preferred)
- 2 tsp spice mixture

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**COMING UP**
Send us your favorite winter recipe themontanan@umontana.edu

THE Griz Family Table winner is Scott “Smitty” Rohan-Smith for his “Beer Can Chicken: The Grizzly Way”. Smitty graduated from Great Falls High School in 1972 and from UM in 1977. He received a Griz barbecue set.
Even more Grizzlies may staff ambulances in the future, as UM announced a new program in paramedicine at Missoula College. Beginning this fall, the four-semester degree program will train students interested in careers as paramedics or emergency medical technicians.

Griz can explore more of their public lands, thanks to UM’s Wilderness Institute, which developed a website, Wilderness Connect, (wilderness.net) to guide recreationalists planning trips in federally designated wilderness areas. The site includes descriptions, regulatory information and interactive maps for all 803 wilderness areas in the U.S.

Say thank you more often, says Dr. Stephen Yoshimura, UM professor of communication studies, who studies the communication of social emotions. Yoshimura’s research suggests that gratitude improves people’s sleep quality and makes them perceive fewer health problems about themselves. Yoshimura was quoted in a Refinery29.com article this past June.

Out-of-state license plates bring more than traffic, according to UM’s Institute for Tourism and Recreation Research. The institute reported 12.4 million out-of-state visitors in 2018 contributed to more than $3.7 billion in travel spending to Montana’s economy.

Bad news for camouflage. UM scientist Scott Mills, who studies how climate change has shortened winter, found that early winters leave white snowshoe hares without enough time to change their fur camouflage before the onset of bare ground. “The hares are the candy bar of the forest,” Mills says. “Our hares in Montana get clobbered in the weeks where they’re white on a brown background.” The article was published in the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences in July.

Grizzlies are inclusive. A rainbow of color illuminated Main Hall in June, signifying UM’s support for our LGBTQ+ community and more broadly the University’s commitment to equality for all. The building was lit for two nights in recognition of Big Sky Pride Week across Montana.

It was a good summer for keeping office windows open. UM welcomed more than 200 elementary, middle and high school musicians from around the state and region in band, jazz, choir and orchestra for the School of Music’s annual residential Summer Music Camp. UM’s campus was filled with sounds and strings of open-air practice concerts.

Good news for pocketbooks, as UM’s financial literacy program earned the No. 5 spot on LendEDU’s nation’s list of top-ranked financial literacy programs among hundreds of colleges and universities nationwide. UM ranked above Duke University, Harvard University, Yale University and Georgetown University for helping students become financially literate.
UM’s Montana Geriatric Education Center was awarded a five-year, $3.75 million grant from the federal Health and Resources Administration. The funding will help the UM center sustain and expand education and training for professionals and communities to improve the health and well-being of older adults across Montana.

UM Cyberinfrastructure was awarded $395,000 from the National Science Foundation to build a high-performance computing cluster for UM researchers and students in support of scientific discovery. Zach Rossmiller, executive director of UM Cyberinfrastructure, will serve as the principal investigator for the one-year grant.

UM’s Master in Public Administration Program received national accreditation for the first time in program history by the NASPAA Commission on Peer Review and Accreditation. It is the only accredited MPA program in Montana and the only one in the nation positioned within a law school. The MPA program is housed in UM’s Alexander Blewett III School of Law.

A radio documentary program produced by UM School of Journalism Dean Denise Dowling and aired by Interim Montana Public Radio, “Alex Not Amy: Growing Up Transgender in the Rural West,” was named a Regional Edward R. Murrow Award winner by the Radio Television Digital News Association and is under consideration for a National Murrow Award. It was named a finalist for an E.B. Craney Award from the Montana Broadcasters Association and Greater Montana Foundation in the Radio Non-Commercial category.
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When Shane Bishop ’86 walked to his professor’s office as a journalism student at UM, he was certain his instructor had called him in to say his reporting career was over before it had begun. Instead, what radio-TV Professor Joe Durso Jr., who came to UM from CBS Radio in Chicago, told him was surprising.

“Joe sat me down and said the words that changed my life: ‘You’re good at this. It’s not going to be long before you’re telling people far older than you what to do, and I’m going to help you get there,” Bishop says.

Durso died in 1998, but not before he saw the kid from Conrad, Montana, work his way from local reporter to producer for NBC’s newsmagazine program “Dateline.”

Today, Bishop holds a 25-year career with “Dateline” and a series of award-winning reporting on major events from natural disasters to human tragedies.

While working on an upcoming “Dateline” episode in Montana with correspondent Keith Morrison, he revealed to the Montanan his storytelling process, the kind of stories that captivate an audience and the power of good journalism.

What have you taken away from the significant historical moments you’ve covered?
I’ve worked on nearly every major news story in America since the World Trade Center was bombed in 1993 – the Oklahoma City bombing, Columbine, 9/11, hurricanes, tornados and mass shootings. Covering tragedies and murder cases, you learn how quickly life can change and why “I love you” and “I’m sorry” are the most important words you can say.

Where is the weirdest place you’ve been while covering a story?
I’ve been everywhere from Athens to Attu to Augusta, Montana. I’ve slept in my car, on the floor, in airports, in a tent at base camp in Denali and some fancy hotels. I feel privileged to have met all those I’ve met and told their stories.
You and Keith have done a lot of reporting on wrongful convictions, including the Barry Beach case in Montana. Tell us about that.

Through my work with Innocence Projects nationwide and Centurion Ministries, I’ve played at least some role in the release of six wrongly convicted men and women. Keith and I just returned from Idaho, where a story we did seven years ago led to new investigations and the eventual release and exoneration of a man named Chris Tapp. He did 20 years behind bars for a murder he did not commit.

What role does journalism play in cases like these?

Real journalism matters. The truth is the truth, and you need people asking questions to get at the truth. We don’t slant things, we don’t care what your politics are. We want you to tell your story. I’ve been at NBC so long, seen so many historic events and been a part of covering so many things, and I’ve never seen anybody at NBC do anything other than try to tell the truth, hold our standards high and treat people with compassion. I’m really proud of that.

Looking back from a career as a “Dateline” producer, what would you tell yourself as a student in the J-School?

A friend of mine, Charles Conrad, had already made his way to New York when I was in college. He told me, “Don’t think anybody’s smarter than you just because they are from New York.” It was a message I needed. You can come from a town like Conrad and play in the big leagues. I think that’s the most important thing for kids in Montana to hear – that you can do anything you want. Be kind, be humble, but never sell yourself short.

What makes a “Dateline” story different than a typical news story?

What I’m looking for as a producer is good characters, conflict and a larger issue to explore. You can tell any story in 15 seconds. For example: In 2007, a Darby woman shot and killed her husband. She’d spent the previous two years setting up his mistress to take the fall for the murder.

But at “Dateline” we tell the story through the eyes of the people who experienced it. I want the people who lived it. In the story we’re working on down in the Bitterroot, I want to hear what it feels like to be the son of the victim and the son of the killer. I want to hear the thought processes of the EMTs, cops and prosecutors. I want to know what was going on in the house before the trigger was pulled. And in an hour or two-hour program, we have the time to let the story unfold in a compelling way.

How willing are people to talk to you about a tragedy?

As a journalist my job is to get people to trust and talk to me. I’m a big believer in acknowledging people and validating their pain and their experience, because I think there’s value in it. People do feel better if they talk about things.

I generally FedEx victims’ families a letter, and I offer to meet with them. I’m going to come to their living room and talk to them about it. I think the key is empathy and listening. Nobody can understand what those people go through, but we really try hard to convey what they are feeling. It’s part journalist, part therapist. It’s a strange job description.

What is it like to work with “Dateline” correspondents?

Keith is from Saskatchewan, so we call ourselves “Sons of the Prairie.” He’s genuinely one of the kindest human beings and best writers on Earth (in addition to being a cultural phenomenon and genuine rock star). I also work a lot with Josh Mankiewicz, who I’ve known for 30 years and is another mensch. One of the highlights of my career was producing for Tom Brokaw, and we talked hay prices and Montana politics. I loved that.

How do you come up with story ideas?

We have a story editor who has a team and they scour newspapers everywhere. When I’m home, I scan about 40 papers a day. I try to find my own stories, so I tend to do a lot of stories in Montana, Idaho and Washington, the overlooked corners of rural America. Everywhere I go, people say, “Things like this never happen here.” And it’s just not true. Crime happens everywhere, because problems with love or money are universal.

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Karen King, pictured in her office at Harvard. Photo by Stu Rosner.
Growing up in the 1950s in a small town in southwestern Montana, Karen L. King would ride a horse up into the mountains where she could get broader and more spectacular views of the landscape around her.

She brought that zest for adventure and new perspectives into her scholarship at the University of Montana, which would become the genesis of her academic career.

For the past 22 years she has taught at Harvard Divinity School. In 2009, King became the first woman appointed as Harvard’s Hollis Professor of Divinity, a position founded in 1721, making it the oldest endowed chair in the U.S.

As an expert on the history of early Christianity, focusing on newly discovered papyrus books from Egypt, King’s career represents all that is possible from a career in letters.

“I’m awfully proud of Karen, she has been very influential in the development of the study of early Christianity,” says Ray L. Hart, 91, King’s former adviser at UM, who co-founded the religious studies department in 1969.

Seated on the back porch of her home in Arlington, Massachusetts, about three miles from Harvard, King says that what her UM experience gave her was an unshakable belief in the value of a liberal arts education.

“I’m really grateful to the University of Montana,” says King, 65. “Those are the people and those are the programs that made my career possible.”

King hails from Sheridan, Montana, only a few miles from the historic gold-strike town of Virginia City, nestled in the wide-open Ruby Valley. Her family was Methodist, but she also went to Episcopal bible study, and her best friend was a Baptist. King’s father owned the town pharmacy, which was a community hub, and King worked there during summers. She loved to hike and to read, and she says her small town upbringing instilled the values of trust, neighborliness and honesty.

Though she loved Montana, she also was eager to travel and see the wider world. She spent her last year of high school as an exchange student in Norway, and for college she enrolled in a small liberal arts school in Ohio that was the alma mater of the town doctor’s wife. King remembered brimming with “youthful idealism” that made her want to “save the world, do good, help people.” She wanted to become a doctor herself. When her college in Ohio closed after her freshman year, she returned to Montana and, wanting to continue her liberal arts education, enrolled at UM.

Because she heard that medical schools like well-rounded applicants, she delved into UM’s fledgling religious studies department and became one of its first majors. One of her classes was taught by a young man named John Turner who was studying recently unearthed documents that were filling important gaps in the story of how Christianity came to be.

At the time, Turner was deciphering what are known as the Nag Hammadi texts.
I’m really grateful to the University of Montana. Those are the people and those are the programs that made my career possible.

In 1945, a peasant farmer in northern Egypt near the town of Nag Hammadi discovered a buried earthenware jar. Inside were ancient leather-bound books containing previously unknown works written on papyrus, some of which may have been used as kindling. Fifty-two surviving texts from this trove made their way to the antiquities market of Cairo and eventually to an international team of specialists — including faculty at UM.

Turner, 81, who teaches now at the University of Nebraska, remembers King as an “energetic and ambitious young scholar.”

In his class, she read as-yet unpublished stories and traditions from the first three centuries of Christianity that, for whatever reasons, had not been included in the New Testament. The Nag Hammadi texts are among several important finds that provide riveting fresh new gospels and revelations.

Some portray Jesus’s teaching, rather than his crucifixion and resurrection, as the path to eternal salvation. Others portray God as Father-Mother or simply “the Good.”

Whether readers judge the newly discovered texts to be more akin to a divine director’s cut or ancient fan fiction, they expanded human knowledge about the culture during the budding of what became a dominant world religion. King feels it was an amazing gift that she got to be among the first to read through them, and not in Cairo, Berlin or Oxford, but in Montana (though eventually she would visit those faraway cities to examine the ancient papyrus for herself).

“There’s that sense of adventure, but intellectual adventure,” she says. “You sometimes read something and you have an attraction, or there’s a sparkle there and there’s an at-home sense.”

It was thrilling, she said, to have “the possibilities for thinking and living become larger.”

King’s experience at UM made her aspire to a different vocation than medicine, one which she pursued with the same ambition. She earned a doctorate degree at Brown University in Rhode Island and learned the Coptic language, the final version of ancient Egyptian written in the Greek alphabet, in order to read the new manuscripts in the original language. She won a fellowship from the West German government, and for 18 months she studied in Berlin, where, in the midst of the Cold War, she would cross the wall each week to meet with a leading scholar in East Berlin.

After graduating in 1984, she became a religious studies professor at Occidental College in Los Angeles. In 1997, she rose to a pinnacle in her profession by accepting a teaching position at Harvard. She has lectured across the U.S., as well as in Europe, Korea, Israel and Brazil. Over her 35-year career, she has written five books and over 50 articles about early Christianity. Her combined writings and lectures have illuminated more of the diverse, complex and often overlooked voices from the origins of Christianity.

“Whether in research or teaching, my career has been about becoming clear on the questions,” says King. “I ask: What is the evidence, evidence of? What work is it doing? With what effects? What is at stake? For whom? Why? These questions help us move from bare facts to conversations about ethics and truth, about people’s real lives and what kind of world we want to be part of building.”

Nathaniel Levtow, director of Global Humanities and Religions at UM’s College of Humanities and Sciences, says King’s career “reflects the excellence” of her education at UM. He called her “an inspiration to UM students exploring and pursuing degrees in the humanities today.”

Through her successes, she has learned the value of the lessons she gained from studying the humanities.

“They teach life skills, survival skills,” she says, “for living in our marvelous, perilous, complex world.”

Karen King graduating from UM in 1976.
Karen King atop her horse, K-Daala, in Sheridan in the early 1970s.
Photos courtesy of Karen King.
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For 82 years, Lubrecht Experimental Forest has served as UM’s largest outdoor classroom.
Chris Keyes doesn’t care much for hiking. It’s nothing against the woods – as a research professor at UM’s W.A. Franke College of Forestry and Conservation, Keyes enjoys his time among the trees. It’s just that hiking for pleasure alone feels a little aimless. He would much rather walk somewhere with a purpose.

Which is what he’s doing now, on a hot, midsummer afternoon. He’s blazing up a game trail, tramping over Oregon grape, bunchgrass and mountain aster at UM’s Lubrecht Experimental Forest, a sprawling spread abutting the Blackfoot River, just 30 minutes from campus. Keyes wears a short-sleeved linen shirt tucked into black Carhartts with holes at the ankles. Clicking grasshoppers spring away from his plodding boots. Finally, he stops on the dividing line between two very different stands of trees, ground zero of a 20-year forestry study.

On Keyes’ right are 90-year-old ponderosa pines – tall, healthy trees, widely spaced, with grassy glades in between. The perfect place for a picnic. On his left, the forest is crowded with Douglas-fir saplings and the dry, silvered skeletons of fallen ponderosas — victims of a mountain pine beetle attack.

Keyes is 51, with a sharp nose and an accent that reveals his southern Massachusetts’ roots. These trees tell a story, he explains. The park-like section of forest was first thinned and then treated with a prescribed fire. The other side was only treated with fire. Afterward, the higher density of trees in that stand made it more susceptible to pine beetle infestation, which killed trees and made the stand more vulnerable to wildfire. Nearby, a section of forest was thinned only, and another section served as a control.

One conclusion of this study is that forests treated with thinning and prescribed burns are more resilient to pine beetles and wildfire. Over the past 20 years, UM students and faculty have monitored how these treatments affect wildlife, soils, invasive species, tree growth, pine beetles and more. It’s just one of many study sites at Lubrecht producing decades of data – real-world research that puts UM students in the middle of the science and ideas shaping modern forestry.

“We try to teach students to see this as more than just green stuff, trees and bushes,” Keyes says. “We try to develop their capacity to see forests in four dimensions, to ask: Where is this going over time?”

How did UM end up with a forest of its own? Credit the vision of Thomas Spaulding, dean of the college for 22 years. Spaulding recognized that an experimental forest is the “workshop of the forester,” and he spent 10 years (and 10 cases of Scotch, as the story goes) negotiating with the Anaconda Copper Co. and its mill manager, W.C. Lubrecht, to acquire the land.

In 1937, the Anaconda Company transferred 19,000 acres to the University. That year, the Montana Legislature set up the Montana Forest and Conservation Experiment Station – the research arm of the college – to manage the forest. With more land acquired over the years, Lubrecht Experimental Forest now amounts to 28,000 acres, or 44 square miles.

Plenty of other universities have forests, but they tend to be far
from campus and much smaller than Lubrecht. (Yale’s School of Forestry and Environmental Studies, for example, manages seven forests across three states with a combined area less than 11,000 acres.) Keyes has visited more than 30 university forests, so he knows how Lubrecht compares.

“No other university has a forest as large, easily accessed and highly visited as ours,” he says. “This place is like the spiritual home of the College of Forestry and Conservation. When alumni come back, this is where many of them want to go first.”

Lubrecht is also a community resource, open to the public for hiking, mountain biking, walk-in hunting and Nordic skiing. People get married there, and have reunions. The forest is a training site for federal and state agencies like the U.S. Forest Service and the Department of Natural Resources and Conservation. It’s a venue for nonprofit retreats, quilter conventions, whitewater canoe races and more.

One day in the woods, Keyes stepped out of his car and noticed a young man in fatigues inch-worming his way through a culvert. He was an ROTC student conducting a simulated mission. Another time, Keyes turned a corner and saw a body in the road with a pine bough in its chest and blood everywhere. It was a prop for a wilderness first-responder course.

The facilities at Lubrecht’s Camp Loop range from the newer “Upper Camp,” with conference rooms, labs and a lodge, to the older, more rustic “Lower Camp,” complete with a recreation hall, a cookhouse, seven boxcars turned into bunkhouses and seven small cabins built by forestry students in the 1950s.

From 1957 to 1969 and again from 1976 to 1992, students spent the entire spring quarter at Lubrecht, learning about forestry and sleeping in the boxcars and cabins. The college doesn’t hold a spring camp anymore, but students still develop skills and camaraderie at Lubrecht with classes and events like the Fall Smoker, a bonfire and barbecue at Jones Pond. Early on, students get an orange vest, tape measure, compass and clinometer and learn “timber cruising” — the art of calculating a forest’s timber. Later, they can make management decisions on a student-run square mile of Lubrecht called Section 13.

“They’re working with their hands, using actual tools,” says Dean Tom DeLuca, who started bringing students to Lubrecht in the 1990s as a soils professor. “There’s a whole lot you can do up there. It’s convenient, and it’s ours.”

Wood sciences Professor Ed Burke takes students to Lubrecht to learn how to operate a small sawmill. Professor Kelsey Jencso, Montana’s state climatologist, maintains a comprehensive watershed monitoring system on Elk Creek, a Blackfoot tributary that runs through Lubrecht.

“In a smaller forest, you couldn’t afford to set aside a whole watershed for research,” DeLuca says. “We can set up these long-term research sites and let them rip. We don’t have to get permission.”

The promise of expansive research possibilities so close to campus is part of what drew Justin Crotteau to pursue his Ph.D. here in 2014. Crotteau spent three summers in Lubrecht researching mountain pine beetle activity and wildfire vulnerability in forests treated with thinning and controlled burns.

Crotteau recalls visiting Lubrecht for the first time. “I really felt excited about being able to spend time there,” he says. “It’s like a playground for research and forestry experience. And I immediately felt some ownership of it.”

In the research he did, the classes he took and the courses he
taught, Crotteau found that there was no substitute for the boots-on-the-ground learning at Lubrecht. “You start to realize that there’s forestry that you learn in a book, and there’s forestry that you need to get done, that’s very practical.”

Crotteau is now applying these skills to his job as a research forester for the U.S. Forest Service in Juneau, Alaska. He says the research conducted in Lubrecht is applicable across the West, because the forest type — ponderosa pine, Douglas fir and larch — is so widespread. Individual landowners right up to the federal government can draw on that research to become better stewards of forests.

“Our values have diversified,” Crotteau says. “In the past, forestry was very much commodity-driven, wood-driven. Now, our commodities also include recreation, water and resilience to insects and fire.”

Lubrecht’s management has reflected those shifting values. In the timber-hungry 1960s, the forest produced nearly 1.3 million board feet of lumber each year. Lubrecht is still actively managed for timber, and students help design and oversee actual harvesting operations. (Not to mention the annual “Pole Run,” in which the Forestry Club fells 400 lodgepole pines to build the set for the Foresters’ Ball.)
In the near future, Lubrecht may contribute 500,000 board feet of lumber for a new College of Forestry and Conservation building on campus that will use small-diameter trees in a sustainable new material called cross-laminated timber. Dean DeLuca also would like the forest to generate its own energy by adding a solar array to the field in Lower Camp, and by using biomass fuel from thinned trees to heat the buildings in winter.

To illustrate another future possibility, Chris Keyes is beelining through the woods again as a pair of squirrels chitter and chase each other around a tree. Keyes wades into a fragrant clump of Douglas-fir regeneration — perfect Christmas trees — and finds a stake in the ground. It's the center of a resource inventory plot, one of 300 scattered around the forest. The trees in this plot are numbered, and their vital statistics — height, diameter, volume — are closely monitored. These measurements, though, aren't made to determine how many board feet of lumber the trees could produce, but how much carbon they are storing.

Keyes explains that Lubrecht is exploring the process of entering California’s cap-and-trade carbon offsets market, in which companies can offset their emissions by paying for the protection of carbon-storing forests. It’s a novel idea, and the certification procedure is rigorous, but Keyes is optimistic it could be a significant revenue source for Lubrecht. The move wouldn’t preclude harvesting timber in the forest, he says, and it would create exciting new teaching opportunities.

“People tend to think of forestry as a 20th-century profession,” he says. “But this will be putting our students at the cutting edge of a whole new way of looking at forests.”

Managing a forest for its carbon might sound antithetical to traditional forestry, but Keyes doesn’t see it that way. Ever since Lubrecht was first logged in the late 1800s by teams of oxen and lumberjacks with crosscut saws, forestry has been evolving. And having a forest like Lubrecht — a workshop for faculty and students to tinker in — ensures that the College of Forestry and Conservation evolves with it.

“Forestry is not the science of cutting down trees,” Keyes says. “It’s the study of forests as a long-term venture. We’re hands-on conservationists with a lot of patience.”

Jacob Baynham graduated from UM with a journalism degree in 2007. He writes for Outside and other magazines. He lives in Missoula with his wife, Hilly McGahan ‘07, and their two sons.
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Sarah Larson, The New Yorker
When the UM Advocates lead others, they find passion and purpose

BY ERIKA FREDRICKSON

Kari Swartz Diloo still fully embraces her identity as a member of the UM Advocates even though she graduated from the University of Montana more than 20 years ago.

Diloo left Missoula right after graduation for the big-city opportunities of Seattle. She is now the chief marketing director for Microsoft’s Xbox.

She says her time being a UM Advocate helped to shape the leadership skills she’s built her success upon.

“It taught me how to rally other people,” Diloo says. “In business you can’t be successful on your own. And what Advocates really taught me is how to work within a team and inspire people to do their best.”

The UM Advocates program, which promotes the University through campus tours, orientation activities, social gatherings and community volunteerism, celebrates its 50th anniversary this year. The storied program has inspired students like Diloo to thrive as college ambassadors and, in turn, become well-rounded citizens of the world.

Each new generation features a diverse group of students, representing a wide range of majors and backgrounds. The program has cultivated a long-standing reputation as a welcoming connector between alumni, students, prospective students, staff and instructors with the larger Missoula community. For current Advocates and former Advocates like Diloo, what makes the program unique isn’t just its activities, but its core attitude and philosophy.
“There was a code of conduct for Advocates,” Dilloo says. “It was this rallying cry of ‘moxie.’ As an Advocate you are positive and proactive, and you brought that special sauce that allows you to navigate any experience. It didn’t matter if you were having a conversation with prospective students or if you were at a football game talking with alumni of a different generation. It was about how you represented yourself and how, in turn, you represented the University. And that was something we took pretty seriously.”

The advocate group was formed in 1969 by the alumni office as a direct reaction to the University’s reputation as a protest school. At the time, the UM was often referred to as the “Berkeley of the Rockies” because of its counterculture atmosphere. As a school of humanities, it was the perfect venue for heated and often polarized debates in the face of the Vietnam War. The gap of understanding between baby boomer students and alumni of the greatest generation was widening, and it only grew more intense after the Kent State shootings and subsequent protests on campuses across the country. UM needed to find a way to create common ground.

“The alumni director at the time came up with the idea of sending some of our students out to represent the University,” says Liston, director of UM Alumni Relations. “The University wanted to get the message out that, ‘Hey, while we may have these new ideas, we’re still Montana kids. We still share these same ideals as the older generation.’”

For a couple of years, the UM Advocates group was like a student speakers bureau for UM, Liston says. But its role under original Director Deanna Sheriff became even more practical when the model for Montana’s higher education system changed so that funding was directly based on enrollment.

“That was the birth of recruitment,” Liston says. “The Advocates were tapped at that point because they were trained to give presentations, they were trained to talk positively about the University, and they were charged with going out to the high schools to recruit.”

It worked for Montana high school students like Liston. In 1978, the year after a group of UM Advocates showed up at Helena High School, Liston joined the group as a freshman at UM.

“I was really impressed with how much they knew about the campus and how excited they were,” he says.

The UM Advocates were distinctive because other schools across the country had nothing like it. Liston recalls representing the school with fellow student advocate Dan O’Fallon at a recruitment fair in Chicago. He remembers they were the only young students there among the sea of middle-aged and silver-haired recruiters, and their mere presence created
a buzz among both prospective students and admissions representatives from other schools.

“Other admissions people kept asking what we were doing differently,” Liston says. “But we just did what we’ve always done: We engaged with the students, and they related to us because we were just like them.”

Over the years the Advocates became indispensable to the University, but the internal culture they developed was equally important. The process of getting in was rigorous — multiple interviews, mock presentations, in-depth written applications — so when you were selected, it was a high honor induction into a tight-knit group.

But the hard work was rewarded. Advocates had notoriety on campus and were a forever family. Hours spent on planning and leading Orientation led to floats on the river after a full day of work. Liston, who would eventually become an Advocate coordinator, helped solidify the group’s motto: Sierve diende celebra, meaning “serve then celebrate.”

Karissa Drye, who is now the operations and program director for the affordable housing nonprofit Homeword in Missoula, was accepted into UM Advocates in 2002. For her, the “serve then celebrate” motto had a major impact on her experience and gave her skills for the nonprofit world. Advocates maintain their position by receiving points through volunteering with, for instance, the Alumni Association or the Office of the President. But they also work off campus cleaning up sections of highway, taking care of animals at the Humane Society and serving meals at the Poverello Center.

“Being ambassadors out in the community, I think that benefits the University as well,” she said. “We were out there not to promote ourselves but just to do some good.”

On campus, Advocates receive intense training, which prepare them to navigate serious student issues and help them remain unflappable even while not taking themselves too seriously.

Gillian Glaes was accepted into the UM Advocates program around the same time as Dilloo in the mid-1990s. Like so many future Advocates, she was looking for a place to belong and a platform to come out of her shell.

“Think it really shaped my college experience in profound ways and also helped me to work on some skills I was a little deficient in, like public speaking,” Glaes says. “It was always a joy to share my experience at UM with prospective students and their parents. I really appreciated that.”

Now in her fifth year as a visiting professor of history at UM and director of the Humanities Institute, Glaes still sees campus through the lens of an Advocate. She is always looking for ways to make connections with prospective students who might be interested in history. She sees her job through the perspective of faculty, students and staff because UM Advocates instilled the idea of understanding those perspectives.

“I don’t think there’s a more authentic way to represent a university than through the eyes of the students who go there,” she says.

The UM Advocates articulate the magic of the organization through the word “moxie,” which every Advocate brandishes in their vocabulary.

It’s a word the second director of UM Advocates, the late Frank Matule, started using as a way to identify the groups’ style and approach. Over the years, the UM Advocates has changed its meeting location, shifted focus and revamped its campus orientation strategies, but the “moxie” part has never wavered.

Jack Whittle, one of UM’s current Advocate coordinators, still sees moxie as the critical ingredient for the longstanding and beloved program.
Just like Liston, Whittle has traveled to prospective student events to recruit new students.

Whittle and his fellow coordinators will help welcome former Advocates returning for the group’s 50th anniversary, for which they collected historical photos and stories. He said it’s important to have a sense of where the Advocates came from and where they want to go from here.

The program has changed, and Whittle says that’s partly because his peers wanted to provide a more inclusive environment. The application process, for instance, is still rigorous, but it also builds in the concept that people skills might be able to develop over time.

“I felt like there were so many people that could grow to become great Advocates,” he says. “We made it more open, more accessible, changed the recruitment process, changed the application, got more in-depth about it. We look at applicants as a holistic person and their potential to be a campus leader and grow.”

Campus tours have also shifted from just showing-off buildings and reciting University history to focusing on how every student can succeed. The UM Advocates now share information that’s a hybrid of campus history, student experiences and academic prowess.

“Now it’s more like this is why UM is special, this is why and how you will be successful while also incorporating our own student experiences,” Whittle says.

For Whittle, being an advocate is crucial to that experience, just like it was for Liston, who met his wife, Jorrun Fallan, in the UM Advocates. Now their children are in the group along with Dilloo’s niece.

The UM Advocates began with the idea that there’s almost nothing more powerful than when people can find common ground. Even as social media becomes central to conversation, the group has reinforced the idea that face-to-face time — on a campus tour, during a recruitment fair, at a spring fling — has a lasting impact. Recently, former Advocates participated in a letter-writing campaign to prospective students. There is some quantifiable evidence it made a difference in enrollment, but the anecdotes were prominent: Prospective students appreciated the personal touch. It made UM stand out.

“I think at this really critical moment for UM, I hope that everyone recognizes the important role the Advocates have played and do play and can play in really shaping the future of UM,” Glaes says. “I think it’s a really exciting moment to mark the 50th anniversary but also to reflect on how the organization can continue to change its role as we enter this new era.”

Scott Jourdonnais ’82 and Jed Liston ’82 as UM Advocates in 1981.

EDITOR’S NOTE: The Montanan extends our deepest gratitude to the thousands of UM students who have served as Advocates since 1969. While we couldn’t possibly print every experience or memory, we do encourage readers to send on their UM Advocate stories and memories to themontanan@umontana.edu. We’ll collect and post them to our online magazine found at https://www.montanan.umt.edu.
A LIFETIME OF GIVING BACK

Dr. Bill Reynolds’ relationship with the University of Montana stretches back to 1935, when he took his first class on campus — as a kindergartner. Later, he ran varsity track, was a member of Sigma Chi fraternity and served as student body president before earning his pre-med degree in 1952. His time at UM prepared him to attend a top medical school in St. Louis, where he met and married Joanne “Jo” Flanagan, a registered nurse. Since returning to Missoula in 1963, he has been a beloved physician and a tireless advocate for his profession and community.

All the while, his dedication to UM has not wavered. By realizing the tax benefits offered by various ways of giving, Reynolds has made a bigger impact than he originally thought possible, creating a legacy of support.

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DR. BILL REYNOLDS
A LIFETIME OF GIVING BACK
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Each year, the UM Alumni Association recognizes alumni who have brought honor to the University through service and leadership in a variety of industries. This year, five UM alums will receive Distinguished Alumni Awards for expanding the boundaries of cultural preservation, transportation, business, health care sustainability and education.

Miami Tribe of Oklahoma member Daryl Baldwin ’96, M.A. ’99, of Liberty, Indiana, has influenced the field of linguistics for his work to revitalize the “sleeping” language of Myaamia. Through analyzing archival materials, building on linguistic reconstruction and even raising his family with the language, Baldwin revived the language despite the absence of native speakers – which earned him a “Genius Award” from the MacArthur Foundation in 2016. He now serves as director of Miami University’s Myaamia Center, an internationally recognized research center he founded in 2001 to help preserve the language and culture. His leadership in other organizations, such as the Endangered Language Fund, has given hope to Native cultures whose languages are in danger of not being passed on. Baldwin also works as director of the National Breath of Life Archival Institute for the Indigenous Languages of North America.

Lana Richards Batts ’68, of Lakeside has blazed her trail as a leader in the male-dominated trucking industry. For 20 years, her work as senior vice president of government affairs for the American Trucking Associations transformed its large lobbying staff into a powerhouse. After serving as president of the Truckload Carriers Association, Batts started her own mergers and acquisitions firm, Transport Capital Partners, and in 2011 co-founded the fast-growing trucking background screening company, Driver iQ. She became the first female and non-multimillionaire to earn the top award of the trucking industry in 1994 – the S. Earl Dove Award–twice was named Woman of the Year by the Women’s Transportation Seminar and also was the first female recognized with the Professional Truck Driver Institute’s Lee Crittenden Memorial Award in 2006. She is widely sought-after as a spokesperson for the trucking industry today.

Dennis Eck ’67, of Corona del Mar, California, has improved multiple organizations through technology, unique business solutions and education. While enjoying a successful grocery retail career, he developed an education program for employees at Coles Myer, Australia’s largest retailer, as well as community outreach programs to bring high school dropouts back to full employment and education. Eck earned Australia’s Astute Business Leader of the Year title in 2000. Under Eck’s direction, the U.S. company Ulta Salon Cosmetics & Fragrance experienced extensive growth from 100 to 1,400 stores. Eck and his wife have supported women in business and politics through multiple causes and funded a program with the University of California-Irvine to save the hair of women undergoing chemotherapy. At UM, the Ecks have contributed more than $8 million to renovate the Liberal Arts Building and created the Native American Scholarship Fund and the NEW Leadership Program.
During her 34 years as a nurse, Elizabeth “Beth” Schenk ‘81, of Missoula has led the way for sustainability in health care. Through her work in multiple positions at Providence St. Patrick Hospital in Missoula, she has spearheaded environmental stewardship efforts to reduce healthcare-generated pollution, saving nearly $1 million annually. Schenk created one of the first hospital workplace recycling programs in 1992, and her innovation has led the way for pollution reduction plans within the Providence St. Joseph Health system — the third largest nonprofit health system in the nation — and development of the Nurses Environmental Awareness Tool, used across the country and internationally. She serves on multiple professional and volunteer boards and is an American Academy of Nursing Fellow and assistant research professor at the Washington State University College of Nursing. Schenk also is a founding member of Montana Health Professionals for a Healthy Climate.

Mandy Smoker Broaddus, M.F.A. ’03, of Helena is an educational advocate for Native Americans, humanities leader, consultant and well-known writer. She also is a member of the Assiniboine and Sioux Tribes of Montana’s Fort Peck Reservation. As director of Indian education for Montana’s Office of Public Instruction for nine years, she earned multiple recognitions for her efforts to improve access and close achievement gaps for American Indian students. Some of these include the 2015 National Indian Education Association Educator of the Year award, nomination to the National Advisory Council on Indian Education by President Barack Obama in 2016 and the Montana Governor’s Award for Excellence in Performance in 2017. A published poet and regional Emmy-award winner, Smoker Broaddus just was appointed to serve as one of two poet laureates for the state of Montana. She now practices as a regional Indian educational consultant throughout the Pacific Northwest.

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1960s

DAVID DODD
’62, Richland, WA, is retired after a 44-year career in nuclear chemistry. He was hired at the Hanford Nuclear Reservation in Richland, Washington, to conduct chemical analyses on the quality of cooling water on the last nuclear reactor built and then reassigned to an analytic laboratory that recovered plutonium and uranium from spent nuclear fuel. Dodd established an environmental monitoring organization for the site, and then worked part-time on the design for a laboratory to monitor the vitrification of nuclear waste before fully retiring.

FRANK TAINER
’64, Bozeman, has published 148 research articles, a textbook and children’s coloring books since graduation, as well as served in the Peace Corp as a volunteer in Chile for two years. He received a doctorate at the University of Minnesota, and he credits his tough classes as a forestry major at UM for his success as a professor in forest pathology.

DENNIS MEYER
’66, Lakewood, WA, was inducted into the Helena Sports Hall of Fame this past July. An outstanding high school wrestler, he competed on the mat team for the Griz and entered the Big Sky Conference Wrestling Championships in the 1960s.

RICH MOY
’66, M.A. ’72, Swan Lake, recently retired as a United States commissioner of the International Joint Commission, created by the 1909 Boundary Waters Treaty between the United States and Canada. Moy was nominated by former President Obama and confirmed by the U.S. Senate in June 2011. He was the first Montanan named to the commission in its 110-year history, even though Montana borders three Canadian provinces – more than any other state.
1980s

BRIAN LANNAN
’82, Claremont, CA, retired from Southern California Edison in December 2017, the area’s primary electricity supply company and spent time some finishing household remodeling projects – but not for long. He now works as director of project controls for PFES, a provider of strategic construction management and project management services to the electric utility industry.

JAMES WEISER
’82, Valencia, CA, works as a geologist for an environmental consulting firm in Southern California. He has had a variety of experiences in mining, oil and gas, the Bureau of Land Management and geothermal sciences, as well as with the U.S. Forest Service. “I attribute much of what I have done to the very awesome University of Montana,” he says. “Loved my time in Missoula, from rafting the Blackfoot and skiing Lolo Pass to having a night out at the Top Hat. Go Griz!”

LAURA DOWLING GREALISH
’83, University Place, WA, co-authored with Tamra Chandler “Feedback (and Other Dirty Words): Why We Fear It, How to Fix It.” The book, just released, is described as “a practical and irreverent guide to taking the sting out of feedback and reclaiming it as a motivating, empowering experience for everyone involved.” Grealish is a senior consultant and executive coach with PeopleFirm and helps clients create thriving environments, high-performing teams, modern performance management techniques, improved organizational effectiveness, and customized learning and development programs.

DELOIT R. WOLFE
’87, Bothell, WA, was promoted to interim president and center director at Impact Washington, a statewide nonprofit providing support to the manufacturing community. He has worked for the organization since 2013 and has more than 21 years of experience in consulting, education and advocacy.

KURT WILSON
’89, Missoula, retired as a staff photographer and photography editor at the Missoulian after 34 years. He has received five Lee President’s Awards and four international Pictures of the Year Awards, as well as numerous other journalism awards, for his vivid visual storytelling through photos. Wilson hopes to now work on personal projects, including art, portraiture and documentary.

CORRECTION:
Last issue, we misspelled Deborah Tobola’s ’88, Santa Maria, CA, last name “Tabola.” Since the issue was published, her memoir “Hummingbird in Underworld: Teaching in a Men’s Prison” has hit the shelves.

1990s

GUS CHAMBERS
’85, Missoula, is retiring as a long time voice on Montana Public Radio and a producer for MontanaPBS. Chambers hosted Thursday Morning Freeforms for many years at MTPR, where he has worked since 1980. Chambers is known for his award-winning documentaries, including “C.M. Russell and the American West,” “Glacier Park’s Night of the Grizzlies,” “The Bicycle Corps: America’s Black Army on Wheels,” “A Conversation with Walter,” “For This and Future Generations: Montana’s 1972 Constitutional Convention,” “Joseph Kinsey Howard: A Life Outside the Margin” and “Montana, My Montana: The University of Montana’s Century Toward Excellence.” He also is a producer for the popular “Backroads of Montana” series.

TOM LYSAGHT
M.F.A. ’91, Los Angeles, just published his book “Persian Passion: Of Gods and Gargoyles.” The novel describes a messianic movement instigated by a Persian prisoner in an Iranian village as the throne of Persia is fought over, all during Europe’s “Year of Revolution” in 1848. Lysaght has written multiple plays in Spanish and English, and he became founding director and resident playwright of El Teatro de Pan y Paz and manager of Radio Bahá’í of Lake Titicaca during a residence in the Andes. He also taught literature and writing at Brentwood School in Los Angeles for 20 years.
ATHLETIC TRAINERS.

Dedicated himself to providing concussion awareness schools throughout Western Montana, and Heard has trained. The program has 13 athletic trainers serving seven Dedicated himself to providing concussion awareness schools throughout Western Montana, and Heard has trained. The program has 13 athletic trainers serving seven

'MICHAEL EDWARD O'BIEN

'S9, Fairbanks, AK, left Fairbanks last July for two years of adventure. Since then, his family has driven east and west across Canada and climbed, paddled and swam across the U.S. and Mexico. Along the way, they've enjoyed adventuring with UM friends Erika Serviss-Low '97, Helena; Sarah Kerley Amaral '96, Brookfield, CT; and Scott Roderick '96, Harwinton, CT.

J.C. WEIDA

'92, M.S. '95, Missoula, will enter the Montana Athletic Trainers Association Hall of Fame. He has worked as an athletic trainer at UM since 1996, and he became head trainer in 2013. Weida helped pass Dylan Steigers Protection of Youth Athletes Act through the Montana Legislature in 2013, organized an annual workshop for area athletic trainers for two decades and led an effort to ensure Montana required licensure for athletic trainers. He is only the third person to hold the title of head athletic trainer at UM since 1935.

MARY D’AVERSA

M.S. '93, Rigby, ID, is the district manager for the Idaho Falls district of the Bureau of Land Management, overseeing nearly 4 million acres of public land. She completed the Harvard Kennedy School Senior Executive Fellows Program in 2018 and is married to Mark D'Aversa, M.S. '98.

DAVID LOGERSTEDT

'93, Newark, DE, recently was promoted to associate professor with tenure at the University of the Sciences in Philadelphia, where he has been a faculty member since 2015. He received the American Academy of Sports Physical Therapy’s Excellence in Teaching Award in 2018. His research focuses on knee injuries, and he teaches in the musculoskeletal track of the physical therapy curriculum.

MICHAEL EDWARD O’BIEN

'S9, Fairbanks, AK, left Fairbanks last July for two years of adventure. Since then, his family has driven east and west across Canada and climbed, paddled and swam across the U.S. and Mexico. Along the way, they've enjoyed adventuring with UM friends Erika Serviss-Low '97, Helena; Sarah Kerley Amaral '96, Brookfield, CT; and Scott Roderick '96, Harwinton, CT.

M.ES. '95, Butte, also will join the Montana Athletic Trainers Association Hall of Fame. Heard, hired right after graduating from UM, has worked with Montana Sports Medicine for 22 years and is head licensed athletic trainer. The program has 13 athletic trainers serving seven schools throughout Western Montana, and Heard has dedicated himself to providing concussion awareness to the community and pushing for state licensure for athletic trainers.

JUSTIN FARLEY

'92, Casper, WY, was named the new president and CEO of the Casper Area Economic Development Alliance. Farley is a mentor and coach at the Wyoming Small Business Development Center and in his new position will focus on growing businesses in the Casper area. He has experience as an owner of Papa Murphy’s and Quiznos franchises.

2000s

MICHAEL FITZGERALD

M.F.A. '00, Missoula, is the chief executive officer of Submittable, a tech-based company in Missoula that recently raised $10 million through investor partnerships. The funding will go to developing artificial intelligence for the Submittable platform, which accepts, reviews and ranks millions of submissions and applications across multiple industries, as well as expanding its hires. FitzGerald holds an M.F.A. in creative writing from UM, and more than half of Submittable’s employees are also UM alums. Read more about him in the Spring 2013 issue of the Montanan.

ANDREA TUINSTRA

M.F.A. '00, Spokane, teaches classes at the Clay Connection and performs group art activities and demonstrations for different agencies through the Spokane area, where she has lived for 15 years. She also is active in several regional art associations and Inland Northwest Bluegrass Music Association events as a member of the traditional art and music community.

SIMEON MILLS

M.F.A. '04, Spokane, recently published his novel “The Obsolete,” a tale of two robot twin brothers dealing with high school. Mills teaches middle school English in Spokane and drawing at Eastern Washington University. He also is a cartoonist, and his graphic novel “Butcher Paper” earned an Artist Trust grant in 2012.

KATIE E. SULLIVAN

‘06, J.D. '10, Missoula, serves as a state representative for District 89 on multiple legislative committees: Energy, Telecommunications and Federal Relations; Rules, Business and Labor; and Agriculture. She practices law in Missoula, focusing on intellectual property law, business startups and privacy. Sullivan sponsored seven bills, four of which passed this legislative session, as an advocate for higher education, public lands, health care access and cost control, data privacy, pharmaceutical cost transparency and small business.

THATCHER SZALAY

‘05, Missoula, was inducted into the Montana Football Hall of Fame. Szalay led the Griz to their Division I-AA national championship as an offensive guard in 2001, and he played for the Cincinnati Bengals, Baltimore Ravens and Seattle Seahawks.
EMILY LUND
’10, Salt Lake City, was featured in the journal Clinical Science for her research on interpersonal violence against people with disabilities. She holds a doctorate in disability disciplines from Utah State University, which grew out of her research at UM’s Rural Institute. She is an associate professor at The National Research and Training Center on Blindness and Low Vision at Mississippi State University. Lund’s research has been published extensively.

MARYLESA MARIE HOWARD
M.A. ’09, Ph.D. ’13, North Las Vegas, received the sole Presidential Early Career Award for Scientists and Engineers in the state of Nevada. The award is the highest honor granted by the government for leading scientists. Howard works at the Nevada National Security Site as a supervisor, scientist and mathematician. Her research focuses on quantitative imaging science, and she has developed methods for using satellite images to study the evolution of ecologies over time, better X-ray imaging techniques and a new approach to image segmentation. Her work has been highlighted by the Society of Industrial and Applied Mathematics and the American Institute of Physics.

SEAN PARKS
Ph.D. ’14, Missoula, was honored with the U.S. government’s highest honor for scientists and engineers, a 2019 Presidential Early Career Award for Scientists and Engineers. Parks works as a research landscape ecologist at the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s Forest Service – Rocky Mountain Research station in Missoula. His career with the U.S. Forest Service began in 2002, and his research since has helped land management agencies understand the longer-term benefits of wildland fire and the responses of forest vegetation and fire regimes to climate change.

2010s

BRIAN MCGRAITH
’08, Missoula, recently won the World Muay Thai Council Intercontinental Light Heavyweight title in Japan. For the past five years, McGrath has worked abroad in suburban Tokyo as a boxing/kickboxing instructor.

ROBIN “BOBBI” FURRER
’13, Lewis McChord, WA, recently went to France for Normandy anniversary activities as an officer in the Army. She also is a former Griz track athlete.

LAUREN J. RUSSELL
’09, Portland, received the Multnomah Bar Association’s 2019 Michael E. Haglund Pro Bono Award for her exceptional service as a young lawyer. Russell is a leader with the Legal Aid Night Clinic and co-chair of Dunn County’s Pro Bono Committee, as well as a member of Dunn Carney’s Litigation Group and the Personal and Professional Litigation Team. Her practice focuses on employment matters and commercial litigation.

ALAN MARR
’16, Woodbridge, VA, launched the third and final edition of his “Relics of Etheria” board game this year. Marr, who holds an art degree from Christopher Newport University and a biology degree from UM, first began working on the game in 2011. Since founding Pint Size Games in 2016, he also has released the planet exploration card game “A.R.C.,” with another game on the way.

HANNAH WILSON
J.D. ’17, Kalispell, will travel to Serbia this fall on a Fulbright grant. During law school, she worked at the United Nations International Criminal Tribunal for former Yugoslavia in The Hague, Netherlands. During her Fulbright year, she will teach English and continue studying international criminal law and transitional justice. She is a judicial law clerk to Justice Dirk Sandefur of the Montana Supreme Court.

MO SHEA
’19, Helena, was crowned Miss Montana 2019 and will compete in the Miss America Pageant in Atlantic City, New Jersey, this fall. Shea graduated this past spring with a degree in cellular and molecular neuroscience and plans to enter medical school to specialize in dermatology this fall. With her platform “Love The Skin You’re In: Skin Cancer Prevention,” she led an effort at UM to certify the University as a Skin Smart Campus by the National Council for Skin Cancer Prevention in honor of her mother, who was diagnosed with skin cancer last year.
IN MEMORIAM
We extend sympathy to the families of the following alumni, faculty and friends. Names without class or degree years include UM alumni, employees and friends. To be included in "In Memoriam," the UM Office of Alumni Relations requires a newspaper obituary or a letter of notification from the immediate family.

Office of Alumni Relations
107 Brantly Hall
Missoula, MT 59812
alumni@umontana.edu

Material for “In Memoriam” reached our office by July 31, 2019.

1940s

Ruth Ellen Plank Barrett ’42, Great Falls
Shirley Noel "Mae" McKinsey ’44, Bozeman
Alice Drum Blair ’46, St. George, UT
Leona Lillian Lampi Hansen ’46, M.A. ’50, Coeur d’ Alene, ID
Ruth Olcott Owens ’46, Ojai, CA
Shirley Jean Hazel Armstrong ’47, Carson City, NV
Doris Marie Gerdrum King ’47, Alexandria, MN
Mary Jane “M.J.” MacDannell Beaman ’48, Missoula
Ralph John Hartse ’48, M.M. ’50, Miles City
Robert Lloyd "Bob" Staffordson ’48, M.M. ’49, Bozeman
Ted Raymond Burton ’49, Kalispell
Dale S. Fallon ’49, The Dalles, OR
Richard Lewis "Dick" Grieb ’49, Great Falls
Ruth Luella Crosskey Long ’49, Helena

1950s

Margaret Louise "Peggy" McDonald Collins ’50, Phillipsburg
Charles Leonard Jacobson, J.D. ’50, Great Falls
Leonard F. "Len" Lusk ’50, Richland, WA
George David Remington ’50, Columbus
Elizabeth A. "Betsy" King Forbes ’51, Billings
George "Roger" Livelyn ’51, Maple Valley, WA
Richard H. "Dick" Lee ’52, Missoula
Joyce A. "Sis" Cartensens Watt ’52, Bishop, CA
Clyde Davies Blake Jr. ’53, Coeur d’ Alene, ID
Mabel Caroline Hansen Hockett ’53, Helena
Bette Rae Wolfe Lindsey ’53, Billings
Rose Irma Bugli Morrisey ’53, M.Ed. ’61, Missoula
Wayne O. Roseth ’53, Great Falls
Joann Ruth Helmer Jackson ’54, Boise, ID
George Henry "Pouger" Tarrant ’54, Butte
Myles J. "Jack" Thomas, J.D. ’54, Billings

1960s

James "Gary" Sloan ’60, Whitefish
Diane Ardean Moore Mousiaux ’60, Kalispell
Rick M. DeMarinis ’61, M.A. ’67, Missoula
Gary T. Sackett ’61, Carmichael, CA
James Joseph "Jim" Antonich ’62, M.A. ’64, Claremont, CA
James A. "Jim" Flightner, M.A. ’62, Missoula
C. Christine Jensen ’62, Clinton
Ronald Edwin "Ron" Larson ’62, Midland, TX
Noel Edward "Ed" Nelson ’62, M.A. ’69, Brookings, OR
Neal Stewart DeLude ’63, Adelanto, CA
Lawrence Walter "Larry" Boettcher, M.Ed. ’65, Great Falls
William Lewis "Bill" Irwin ’65, Hamilton
Leila May Renfrow Samuelson ’65, Columbia Falls
Elwood F. Wineholt ’65, Brunswick, MD
Lydia Imbery Bousch ’66, Alexandria, VA
Robert Arthur "Bob" Davidson ’66, Billings
Linda Louise Borgen Ulvedal Eileen ’66, Arvada, CO
James Ward "Jim" Johnson, J.D. ’66, Kalispell
Lana K. Nelson ’66, Columbia Falls
William Clayton "Bill" Sherm ’66, East Windsor, NJ
Patricia A. "Pat" Shevaller ’66, Helena
Jerry D. Skelak ’66, Conrad
Douglas Allen "Doug" Barnes ’67, Billings
Lois Arlene Tates Nesper Dobberstein ’67, Victor
Susan Denton Inman ’67, Florence
Gary D. Svec ’67, Billings
Stanley Keith "Stan" Underwood ’67, Missoula
Charles M. "Chuck" Woodfill, Ed.D. ’67, Boulder City, NV
Robert Lowell "Rob" Zimmerman ’67, J.D. ’72, Missoula
Mary Jean Elizabeth Martin Cabe ’68, M.Ed. ’85, Coeur d’ Alene, ID
Daniel Douglas "Dan" Russell ’68, M.Ed. ’74, Sun City West, AZ
Melvin J. "Mel" Stark ’68, Hamilton
Edward Earl Curnow, M.A. ’69, Cameron

1970s

Mary Kathryn "Kay" Bozman ’70, Billings
James Burton "Burt" Johnson, M.Ed. ’70, Conrad
Barbara Ann "Barb" Winkman Sanders ’70, Phillipsburg
Joseph Patrick "Joe" Sheehan ’70, Montrose, CO
Charles David "Dave" Gordon ’71, J.D. ’75, Billings
Keith David Haker, J.D. ’71, Miles City
Dennis Mathew Hemmer ’71, M.S. ’75, Cheyenne, WY
James Steven "Steve" Hiken, Ed.D. ’72, Christina
David D. "Hutch" Hutchinson ’72, Lewistown
Forrest Lee Billings ’73, Concord, CA
Kevin L. MacIntyre ’73, Billings
Susan Innala Stevens ’73, Missoula
Kenneth "Garry" Dyer ’75, M.S. ’85, Missoula
James Otis "Jim" Boyette ’76, Kalispell
Maureen Patricia Sullivan Dougherty ’76, Missoula
Gary Lawrence Beck ’78, Missoula
Jacqueline Marie "Jackie" "Toots" Lamb Killean Schonbachler ’79, M.Ed. ’86, Missoula
Janell Farago Steffani ’79, Great Falls

1980s

Michael C. "Mike" Balsam ’80, Tacoma, WA
Marsha Jo Murray-Lusby ’80, Portland
John L. Woon ’80, East Helena
Janice Marie Zimmers Combs Breitenfeldt ’81, Whitehall
David Earl Fred ’81, Costa Mesa, CA
Gyda Ione (Guenther) Swaney ’81, M.A. ’86, Ph.D. ’97, Missoula
Dorothy June Marsh ’82, Billings
Jeanette Louise Day Herberst ’83, 86, Missoula
Patricia A. Burkhardt ’84, Stevensville
Robin Wade Owens ’85, Great Falls
Christine Ann "Chris" Werthorn, J.D. ’85, Clancy
David Bruce Mitchell ’86, Olympia, WA
John Eugene Hansen ’87, Kalispell
Carole June Gilson Hitchcock-Kinze ’87, Pablo
Dorothy Lucille Wimman Karr ’87, Missoula
Larry E. Huesle ’88, Missoula
Patrick Emmett Connors ’89, Bozeman
Penny Devlin Matheson ’89, Missoula

1990s

Wendy Lou Floerson Sandefur ’90, ’93, Frenchtown
Gregory Hamlin "Greg" Arnes, M.P.A. ’91, Helena
Donnie Jean Cleveland Arno ’91, Florence
Donna Louise Eckley Fangsrud ’91, Missoula
Carole Louise Brown Sparh ’92, Missoula
Susan Lynne Ayers Zeller ’92, Colorado Springs, CO
David Andrew Donahue ’93, Tempe, AZ
Sally Kay Bertelsen ’94, Kalispell
Laura Irene Hernandez Alvarez ’94, M.A. ’12, Missoula
Erik Robert Foster ’94, Missoula
Diane Lyn Keogh Warren ’94, Missoula
Anna Marie Schlinger Sampson ’95, Helena
Robert John Dalke ’96, 97, Missoula
Jonathan David Ford ’96, Kingsport, TN
Todd Richard Silly ’97, Helena
2000s
Gregory Frederick “Greg” Hettick ’02, Dixon
Cara Jean Wherley ’09, Missoula

2010s
Nicholas Curchin Peterson Vrooman, Ph.D. ’10, Helena
Timothy Garrison “Tim” McNally ’12, Minot, ND
Morgan Lynn Miller, Ph.D. ’13, East Helena
Bryson Patrick Allen ’18, Bainbridge Island, WA

FORMER STUDENTS, FACULTY AND STAFF

Joanne Lorraine “Jody” Rhoads Anderson, Missoula
Julie Ann Peterson Kukennmeister Arispe, Olympia, WA
Richard McDowell “Dick” Boehmler, Missoula
James S. “Jim” Carstens, Aloha, OR
Alfred Bertram “Bert” Guthrie III, Choteau
Donald Edwin “Don” Habbe, Missoula
Clarice J. “Chris” Henderson Hinman, Choteau
Robert W. “Robin” “Roh” Johnson, Billings
Wilmae Lou Fluhrt Keaster, Belt

Robert Dennis “Bob” “Denny” Liston, Missoula
Stephen Aloysius “Buddy” Lozar, Polson
Carol Jean Dunstan Lucas, Winter Garden, FL
Daniel Thomas “Dan” McNally, Billings
John Egisto Notti, Stevensville
Margery Fel Palmer, Missoula
James Houghron “Jim” Polin, Missoula
Ralph Pomniczowski, Great Falls
Mark Daniel Roberts, Missoula
Jes F. Roskelley, Spokane
Molly McCullough Scott, Missoula
Carol May Noel Sendelbach, McPherson, KS
Charline “Sandy” Galloway Smith, Missoula
Ronald Leon “Ron” “Ronnie” Standifer, Cloverdale, CA
Larry D. Swanson, Missoula
William Howard “Bill” Tremper, Missoula
Trina Joy Chaney Valenciich, Menthee, CA
Lyle Eugene Westgard, Hamilton

FRIENDS AND PARENTS

Virgil Alme, Westminster, CO
Enniece A. Amaya, Missoula
Marie Kasperick Brazier, Helena
Robert W. Robin “Roh” Johnson, Billings
Wilmae Lou Fluhrt Keaster, Belt

Andre Alexander Gagnier, Missoula
Clark Randolph “Cork” Gee, Missoula
Edward A. “Chub” Gill, Sr., Deer Lodge
Kathryn A. “Kate” Bellows Grimes, Helena
Lonnie Richard Harmon, Billings
Vincent C. “Vince” Harrington, Missoula
Betty Ann Rush Holm, Mesa, AZ
Peter Anton “Pete” Jacobsen, Missoula
Judith Helen “Judy” Haxton Jacobson, Butte
Paul Lawrence Johns, Missoula
Charles Raymond Martin, Sun City West, AZ
Larry Julius Matten, Missoula
Joyce Hirschy McDowell, Wisdom
Charles Michael “Charlie” Nau, Missoula
Harvey Elmer Olson, Missoula
James Howard “Jim” Orry, Raleigh, NC
Dale Eugene Rainig, Great Falls
John Elmer “Jack” Reidy, Missoula
Janet Gay Ripke, West Hills, CA
Leonard A. “Len” Sauer, Stevensville
Durward “Bud” Stevens, Lolo
James Robert “J.R.” “Jim” Scarborough, Missoula
Carol McGrath Sullivan, Butte
Sidney I. “Sid” Turnerquist, Bozeman
Patricia Gaye “Pat” Sargent Vargas, Zephyrhills, FL
Joan Margaret Horan Waters, Missoula

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At the University of Montana, we enjoy a passionate, world-class alumni network. Our student experience creates a bond that sets the stage for a meaningful lifelong connection. Walking across the graduation stage is intended to be a launch point, not an end point. Our bond and our relationship, however, require cultivation, nurturing and growth.

This year, I’m humbled to take the helm as board chair of your UM Alumni Association, along with a talented group of fellow alums, with a simple, yet daunting challenge to strengthen the lifelong connectedness of nearly 105,000 living UM alumni. Pretty easy, huh? Hardly. But what an exciting challenge at an important time for the University. I believe the UM alumni base has been an undervalued and underused asset of the institution, given the enthusiasm and appreciation of our graduates. Now is the time to realize that potential.

President Bodnar has challenged the institution to Think Big. Be Bold. And as an alumni association, we’re moving in exciting, bold directions when it comes to engagement. We’re investing significant resources in building out alumni chapters across the country to facilitate stronger networks where our alumni aggregate in metropolitan areas. We’re investing in an individual engagement program to better facilitate connection to our worldwide alumni, wherever they may be. And we’re thinking more strategically about your needs, your situation and how we as an alumni network can help you.

We’re also adapting and embracing certain paradigm shifts, given how society is shifting. Three come to mind:

1. Continued involvement from our alumni must be earned, not expected. If we operate on the premise alumni owe something back to the institution, we will miss the mark. Provide value, and alumni will reciprocate in big ways.
2. Strategy must be built around the needs of alumni, not the University. If we provide valuable alumni offerings – be it continuing education, certificate programs, networking opportunities, career assistance/mentorship, etc. – we will strengthen our bond and let the University be the beneficiary.
3. Engagement opportunities must meet you where you’re at, given life realities. Let’s face it, time is a precious commodity, and we’re all better suited to engage if we know the activity is important, relevant and time sensitive. We appreciate those realities.

The creation of an engaged, supportive alumni base is critical to the mission of UM’s success. Step back and reflect on the relationship you enjoy today with UM. What can we do to help you succeed? Let’s think big as we realize the potential of this incredible alumni network we’re blessed to be a part of.

CHRIS NEWBOLD J.D. ’01
LETTER FROM
ALUMNI BOARD CHAIR
CHRIS NEWBOLD
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ALUMNI ASSOCIATION
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We know the rules of the natural world when it comes to wild grizzlies. Give them plenty of berth, don’t surprise them and be extra mindful in fall and spring.

But during this autumn, for this particular bear, UM’s cherished Ursus arctos horribilis welcomes your awe.

As we toast our 100th Homecoming this fall with University activities and celebration, there’s a second and equally important UM anniversary to proclaim: our bruin’s 50th birthday.

UM’s mammoth Grizzly Bear statue was commissioned by former UM President Robert T. Pantzer who led UM from 1966 to 1973. The famous griz was created from the hands of former UM faculty and ceramics legend Rudy Autio.

According to news releases from UM’s former Information Services offices, UM’s griz arrived campus on Aug. 27, 1969.

Before a truck delivered the nearly 3-ton bronze bear to the UM campus 50 years ago, a story uniquely Montana took place.

Autio arrived on the UM campus as new faculty member in the University’s Art Department in 1957, after studying ceramics at the Archie Bray Foundation in Helena.

For years prior, the dream of a physical mascot was heavy on the mind of President Pantzer, as another school 300 miles east had chosen a feline version.

At the same time, Autio desired a bigger space on campus for ceramics teaching and
At the head of the Oval, standing tall at 7 feet and 5,000 pounds worth of bronze, is UM’s beloved campus Grizzly Bear statue.
sculpting. It was Vietnam wartime and budgets, materials and adequate classroom space were tight.

Rumored to have been encouraged over a liquid lunch courtesy of President Pantzer, Autio agreed to create a UM mascot in exchange for a ceramics studio to be located in the former ice rink on campus, providing Autio the teaching and workshop space he desired.

It was a deal.

Visiting zoos, studying photographs and relying heavily on paintings of grizzlies by the late Charles M. Russell of Great Falls, Autio created several plaster-silica models of the bear at his home in Missoula. University alumni Brian Persha, formerly of Great Falls, and John Murphy, formerly of Snohomish, Washington, assisted Autio in making early models of the grizzly.

Bronze for the statue was donated by the Northern Pacific Railway Co. and the Pacific Hide & Fur Depot in Missoula.

The final prototype was shipped to San Francisco, where the bronze version of the statue was completed by the San Francisco Art Foundry, then driven to Missoula.

The cost of casting and shipping the bear was estimated to be about $12,000—a substantial portion of which was contributed by UM alumnus Joseph Theibes of Great Falls.

The bear was given its permanent home in a concrete podium with a backdrop of Main Hall, surrounded by a habitat of manicured perennials, in the same place that UM used to call its “Baby Oval.”

Autio went on to mold the UM ceramics program into one of the best in the nation, and he chaired the UM School of Art from 1957 to 1985. His works are all around the UM campus, as well as in the Montana Museum of Art and Culture Permanent Collection.

Autio’s griz has served as our trusted campus sentinel and a symbol of UM’s undauntable spirit for the past five decades, welcoming all walks of life to UM.

Readers, we welcome your letters and photos of your favorite memories with our Grizzly Bear. Send them to themontanan@umontana.edu, and we may print your letter and photo in our winter issue.
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