UM FACULTY, STAFF TO RECEIVE LAURELS AT MAY 2 RECEPTION

MIS SOU LA --

Twelve outstanding University of Montana faculty, staff and volunteer staff members will collect cash awards and kudos Thursday, May 2, at the annual Faculty and Staff Awards Reception.

The reception is scheduled from 4-6 p.m. in the University Center Ballroom. Award winners are:

■ $1,000 Academic Administrator Award — Betsy Bach, communication studies department chair since 1993, faculty member since 1979, specializing in organizational and instructional communications courses. Bach won UM’s Distinguished Teacher Award in 1991 and in 1992 received a Master Teacher Award from the Western States Communication Association, for which she now serves as president-elect.

■ $1,000 Administrative Service Award — Susan Matule, director of Printing and Graphic Services since 1993. Matule also managed UM’s Word Processing Services during 1982-90 and Campus Quick Copy and Word Processing during 1990-1993. Colleagues praise her exceptional managerial, leadership and team-building skills. Matule won UM’s Employee of the Quarter Award in spring 1987.

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$1,000 Annual Diversity Award — Larry Gianchetta, dean of the School of Business Administration since 1986. Gianchetta helped establish and serves as adviser to the national American Indian Business Leaders program for students, established in 1995 and headquartered at UM. He's a member of the Ford Foundation Task Force on Tribal Relations and in 1993 participated in the Entrepreneurial Development Institute for Native American small business owners in Montana.


$1,000 Distinguished Service to International Education — foreign languages and literatures Professor Gerald Fetz. Fetz directed UM’s Study Abroad Program in Vienna during spring quarters 1975, 1977 and 1986. He spent 1972-73 in Munich on a German academic exchange fellowship and 1990-91 as Fulbright exchange visiting professor at the University of Heidelberg. Fetz received UM’s Distinguished Teacher Award in 1988.

$1,000 Distinguished Teacher Award — drama/dance Associate Professor Amy Ragsdale, head of the dance division since 1988. Ragsdale has performed with various dance companies and in 1992 took students to New York to perform in the Morningside Dance Festival. Her choreographed work aired on CNN World News in 1992, and she was featured on KSPS-TV.

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"Northwest Profiles" in 1993. She received the School of Fine Arts Distinguished Faculty Award in 1992.

- **$3,500 John Ruffatto Memorial Award** — journalism Associate Professor Dennis Swibold. Before joining UM’s journalism faculty in 1991, Swibold worked 10 years as a reporter, editor and columnist, winning many awards for excellence. He created the Community News Service to provide weekly newspapers with coverage of statewide issues and in 1995 organized the state Freedom of Information Conference. The Ruffatto Award recognizes a faculty member who puts knowledge about small business to work in the classroom.

- **$1,000 Most Inspirational Teacher Award** — biological sciences Assistant Professor Erick Greene, chosen for the award by Silent Sentinel, an honor society that polls graduating seniors. Cited for innovative, "hands-on" teaching strategies, Greene is also known for his research on the lazuli bunting, a songbird that produces individually distinct songs. A Japanese film crew will document his bunting research in Missoula later this spring.

- **$1,000 Outstanding Academic Advising Award** — curriculum and instruction Professor Jean Luckowski. Luckowski has been adviser and mentor to hundreds of undergraduate and graduate students over the past 12 years and is considered one of the state’s most knowledgeable people on licensing and certification regulations. Students and colleagues praise her "open door" policy and unfailing concern for students’ welfare.

- **$1,000 Outstanding Staff Award, fall semester** — Laura Plute, accounting technician for the forestry school. Considered the mainstay in the school’s accounting office, Plute is in charge of budgeting, payroll and other financial matters. Co-workers cite her attention to detail.

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and wise money management practices. Piute is completing a degree in accounting at UM and has served a two-year term as vice president for UM’s chapter of the Montana Public Employees Association.

■ **$1,000 Outstanding Staff Award, spring semester** — Jan Pruyn, programmer/analyst in Computing and Information Services since 1984. Dubbed the guru of student records computing on campus by her co-workers, Pruyn wins praise for her tireless efforts on behalf of students, particularly during registration and fee payment, when she’s often had to spend half the night trouble-shooting program glitches.

■ **$1,000 Outstanding Volunteer Award** — Richard E. Juday, chemistry department volunteer. Juday began teaching organic chemistry at UM in 1947, branching out into water-quality research before retiring in 1977. During 1977-1984 he volunteered roughly half time to this research, and he still spends most of each day in his laboratory. His studies have been used by state and federal government agencies and organizations interested in the water quality of the Missoula Valley.

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