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NEWS RELEASE

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March 10, 2000

Contact: Wendy Barger, UM College of Technology, (406) 243-7888.

ABA APPROVES UM LEGAL ASSISTING PROGRAM

MISSOULA --

The legal assisting program offered at The University of Montana College of Technology received American Bar Association approval Feb. 14. Out of 600 such programs nationwide, fewer than 300 are ABA approved.

The term of approval is seven years, with interim reports due every two years to ensure the program remains in compliance with ABA guidelines.

UM's legal assisting program prepares students for careers in private law practices and in the law-related areas of business, industry and government. The goal is for students to understand the function of law, work as paralegals and contribute to the legal profession.

Gaining ABA approval involves submission of an in-depth self-evaluation document with supporting exhibits and a site visit. ABA guidelines are very explicit, and all aspects of the program are scrutinized, including curriculum, faculty and law library access.

For more information about UM College of Technology interns or graduates, call Vicki Micheletto at (406) 243-7803 or send e-mail to vhmich@selway.umt.edu.

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