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## Great Falls student receives funding for research

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# NEWS RELEASE

June 13, 2001

Contact: Melissa MacKenzie, IBS-CORE administrative assistant, (406) 243-6041.

GREAT FALLS STUDENT RECEIVES FUNDING FOR RESEARCH

MISSOULA –

A **Great Falls** student in the Division of Biological Sciences at The University of Montana has received funding for a summer research project.

Junior Kristi Frank earned funding through the Integrated Biological Science.

Courses Organized Around Research Experiences project (Project IBS-CORE), which is designed to involve undergraduate students in biological research.

Frank is one of 21 students who will receive a monthly stipend of \$700 for three months, plus a budget of up to \$1,000 for project-related materials and travel. Her project is titled "Development of a Genetic System for Borrelia Hermsii." She will attempt to genetically manipulate Borrelia hermsii, the agent that causes tick-borne relapsing fever, a bacterial disease endemic to the mountainous regions of the western United States.

Now in its third year, Project IBS-CORE is funded by a \$1.4 million grant from the Howard Hughes Medical Institute and has supported the research of 49 student fellows.

## IBSFrank.rl--2

"Conducting a research project is the best way for students to learn science," said Don Christian, associate dean of the Division of Biological Sciences. "This project has expanded the opportunities that we can provide for our students to learn in this unique way."

For more information about the 2001 research fellows and their work, visit the project's Web site at ibscore.dbs.umt.edu/fellows01.htm.

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NOTE: Contact University Relations if you'd like a picture e-mailed. BD
Great Falls Tribune
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