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JOURNALISM SCHOOL ANNOUNCES VISITING PROFESSORSHIP

MISSOULA--

Jonathan Weber, former editor-in-chief of The Industry Standard, will be The University of Montana's first T. Anthony Pollner Distinguished Professor, the School of Journalism announced Thursday.

Weber is the founding editor of the highly regarded weekly business magazine that covered the Internet economy from 1998 until August. Before joining the magazine at its inception, Weber was technology editor at the Los Angeles Times, preceded by stints as a business writer in the Times' New York and San Francisco bureaus.

The visiting professorship was created by the family and friends of T. Anthony Pollner, a 1999 UM journalism graduate who died in an accident near London in May. It will bring to the school a distinguished working journalist for one semester each academic year. The professor will teach and work closely with the Montana Kaimin, the University's student newspaper, where Pollner worked as a reporter and Web designer.

"I am delighted to have the opportunity to contribute to the excellent journalism program at The University of Montana," Weber said. "The University and the Pollner family are committed to advancing the practice of journalism in combination with a broad liberal arts education and I'm honored to be able to join them in that endeavor."

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Journalism Dean Jerry Brown called Weber the "ideal person to inaugurate this professorship. He will bring fresh insights to students and faculty in journalism and across the campus, and perpetuate Anthony Pollner's interests in aggressive reporting and in the role of technology in society."

UM's School of Journalism, founded on the Missoula campus in 1914, is one of the nation's oldest undergraduate journalism schools. Graduates work at many of the nation's best newspapers and include among their ranks reporters and editors who have worked on teams that have won seven Pulitzer Prizes.

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