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NEWS RELEASE

Jan.9, 2004

Contact: Frank D'Andraia, UM dean of library services, (406) 243-6800.

GRANTS TO SUPPORT MONTANA HUMANITIES PRESERVATION EFFORTS

MISSOULA —

The University of Montana-Missoula has received a \$5,000 Humanities Preservation and Access Grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities.

The funds will provide seed money to establish a preservation program for all collections at UM's Maureen and Mike Mansfield Library. The Mansfield Library is the state's largest, with more than 1.4 million items. It holds 11,000 linear feet of archival materials and significant collections of newspapers, films, audio recordings and other important records of Montana's cultural history.

"Preservation and conservation needs are a growing concern for the nation's research libraries, and UM's Mansfield Library is no exception," said Frank D'Andraia, dean of library services. "A considerable number of our holdings are unique to Montana. We need to preserve our rare materials, as well as conserve and maintain our heavily used working collections. I am delighted that NEH concurs."

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