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### Bank displays sculpture honoring Montana financier

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## **NEWS RELEASE**

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Jan. 30, 2006

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### **BANK DISPLAYS SCULPTURE HONORING MONTANA FINANCIER**

#### **MISSOULA—**

A sculpture created by Montana artist Bill Stockton in 1972 to honor Hugh Galusha now is displayed for public viewing in the atrium of the **Helena** branch of the Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis.

Titled "Dialogue," the bronze and concrete sculpture is on permanent loan to the bank from the Montana Museum of Art and Culture at The University of Montana.

Galusha, a native of Helena, was a director of the Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis and president of the 9th Federal Reserve District. He was head of the accounting firm, Galusha, Higgins and Galusha, and was a partner in a law firm with the late Pete Meloy.

A scholar of western history, especially the creation of the National Park system, Galusha was a conservation activist and wilderness advocate. He died in 1971 while on a snowmobile trip in Yellowstone National Park.

"Dialogue" depicts three bronze heads on concrete bases engaged in lively and inspiring conversation. The heads are created in an expressive way with found metal objects, such as nails melted in bronze. Each figure shows a different facial expression representing qualities important to a constructive dialogue: active listening, reflecting and sharing ideas.

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The artwork symbolizes Galusha's philosophy about dialogues, which is stated on the bronze plaque that accompanies the sculpture: "He believed that dialogue, as a mutual exchange of ideas and interests could lead individuals to greater involvement and concern."

The sculpture, which was exhibited at UM's Maureen and Mike Mansfield Library in the 1990s, was commissioned by a committee of Galusha's friends, including Jean Baucus. Galusha's family helped make the restoration and relocation of "Dialogue" possible.

"It was lovely for his friends to honor him this way," said Galusha's daughter, Molly Galusha of **Missoula**. "We are so glad to get the sculpture out of storage and back on display."

Sculptor and painter Bill Stockton, who died in 2002, was an important artist who helped bring modern art to Montana when Western and romantic art were dominant in the state. His works have been widely exhibited and are included in the permanent collections of the Montana Museum of Art and Culture and the Yellowstone Art Museum in **Billings**.

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