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NEWS RELEASE

May 2, 2007

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EXCELLENCE AWARDS GO TO UM EDUCATORS

MISSOULA -

The University of Montana College of Arts and Sciences has recognized two faculty members for their teaching excellence and exceptional work with UM students.

Anthropology Assistant Professor Kelly Dixon and political science Associate Professor Karen Adams will be presented Helen and Winston Cox Educational Excellence awards at their department's graduation ceremonies Saturday, May 12.

The awards, given annually since 1996, go to faculty members who have not received tenure at UM. Award winners receive at least \$500 to purchase books of their choice for UM's Marueen and Mike Mansfield Library and an unrestricted cash award.

While service, research and publications are important in determining who receives the annual awards, the primary focus is the faculty member's excellent teaching and time dedicated to mentoring and advising students.

Dixon, the first full-time historical archaeologist at UM, has engaged students inside and outside the classroom since arriving at the University in 2003. Her scholarship spans topics such as archaeology of frontier saloons to forensic investigations of the Donner Party site in California's Sierra Nevada.

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She has taught a wide range of courses, including Archaeological Wonders of the World, Research in Historical Archaeology and Archaeological Field School at Coloma Ghost Town. Her high degree of infectious enthusiasm makes them some of the most in-demand courses in the anthropology department.

Adams brings the challenge and excitement of international relations and organizations to UM students, weaving together international history and current events to prepare them for careers in public policy and international affairs.

She teaches a wide array of courses, including Introduction to International Relations, American Foreign Policy and Model United Nations. Her students frequently comment on her dynamic, interesting discussions and the excellent readings she chooses.

Adams also has played an instrumental role in developing the Model United Nations program, which serves both UM students and Montana's high schools.

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