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NEWS RELEASE

Sept. 16, 2009

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UM ADMINISTRATOR RECEIVES NATIONAL AWARD

MISSOULA —

The Council for Opportunity in Education awarded Ray Carlisle, director of TRIO Student Support Services at The University of Montana, a 2009 Walter O. Mason Award at its annual conference Sept. 10 in San Antonio.

The prestigious award is the highest national honor given by the council for distinguished service and leadership. Carlisle was one of only three administrators to receive the award this year.

The council created the award in 1988 to honor outstanding education opportunity professionals who exemplify the leadership and ideals of Mason, one of the founders of the federal TRIO programs that help economically disadvantaged students receive quality educations at the postsecondary level.

UM's TRIO program, established in 1979, is one of 2,800 programs at more than 1,000 colleges, universities and community agencies nationwide. Funded by a grant from the U.S. Department of Education, the program assists at least 375 active UM students each year.

More information about UM's TRIO Student Support Services program is online at <http://www.umt.edu/trio>.

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