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May 2010 news releases

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UM NEWS



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UM NEWS



May 27, 2010

MISSOULA —

A report released last week by the Annie E. Casey Foundation shows Montana fourth-graders are ranked 17th in the nation in reading proficiency, based on findings released by the National Assessment of Educational Progress.

Sixty-five percent of students in Montana's public schools are unable to read at grade-level proficiency when entering fourth grade, a rate that is only slightly better than the national rate of 67 percent (<http://nces.ed.gov/nationsreportcard>; <http://datacenter.kidscount.org/data/acrossstates/Rankings.aspx?ind=5116>).

The Annie E. Casey Foundation raises awareness of the critical importance of achieving grade-level reading proficiency for all children by the end of third grade through the release of its special report, "Early Warning! Why Reading by the End of Third Grade Matters" (www.aecf.org/readingmatters.aspx). The ability to read is central to a child's success in school, lifelong earning potential and ability to contribute to the nation's economy and security.

A broad coalition of organizations, including America's Promise Alliance, Mission: Readiness, and United Way Worldwide, support this call for renewed emphasis on reading success.

Although NAEP scores have shown incremental increases during the past 15 years for most students, disparities in reading achievement persist across economic, racial and ethnic groups. The shortfall in reading proficiency is especially pronounced among low-income children: More than four out of five children from low-income families fail to reach the "proficient" level in reading. The shortfall occurs similarly for low-income children attending schools in cities, suburbs, towns and rural areas, and is especially pronounced in high-poverty schools serving African American, Hispanic and American Indian students.

The primary predictor of future success is whether a person graduates from high school, and early reading skills are essential to achieving that milestone, said Alma Powell, of America's Promise Alliance.

"The National Research Council has shown that a child who is not at least a modestly skilled reader by the end of third grade is unlikely to graduate from high school," Powell said.

The current pool of high school graduates is neither large nor skilled enough to meet the country's national security needs, said retired Army Brig. Gen. Velma Richardson of Mission: Readiness.

"The Defense Department estimates 75 percent of Americans aged 17 to 24 are ineligible to join the U.S. military because they are poorly educated, involved in crime or physically unfit," Richardson said. "Even with a high school diploma, 30 percent of potential recruits fail the entrance exam due to inadequate math and reading skills. We must get today's kids on track to become tomorrow's leaders."

Presently, an estimated 80,000 young adults in Montana are ineligible to join the armed forces (<http://www.missionreadiness.org/press110509.html>).

Recognizing these and other challenges, "Early Warning! Why Reading by the End of Third Grade Matters" has identified four steps to close the gap and raise the bar:

1. Develop a coherent system of early care and education that aligns, integrates and coordinates what happens from birth through third grade so children are ready to take on the learning tasks associated with fourth grade and beyond.
2. Encourage and enable parents, families and caregivers to play their indispensable roles as co-producers of good outcomes for their children.
3. Prioritize, support and invest in results-driven initiatives to transform low-performing schools into high-quality teaching and learning environments in which all children, including those from low-income families and high-poverty neighborhoods, are present, engaged and educated to high standards.
4. Develop and use solutions to two of the most significant contributors to the under-achievement of children from low-income families: chronic absence from school and summer learning loss.

"Because shortfalls in grade-level reading are such strong predictors of future problems, philanthropy is putting a stake in the ground on ensuring that children are able to read at grade level by the end of third grade," said Michael L. Eskew, Casey board chair and former CEO of UPS. "The research is clear and compelling. And it affirms what

common sense tells us. In a knowledge-dependent world and global economy, no city, no region, no nation — including our own — can compete successfully without attending to the basics. And that starts with reading.”

The Casey Foundation is a private charitable organization that fosters public policies, human-service reforms and community support to more effectively meet the needs of today’s vulnerable children and families. For more information, visit <http://www.aecf.org>.

The Montana Kids Count program is funded through the Annie E. Casey Foundation and is part of a national network of Kids Count organizations. Housed in The University of Montana’s Bureau of Business and Economic Research, Montana Kids Count is a statewide effort to identify the status and well-being of Montana children by collecting data about them and publishing an annual data book. For more information, visit <http://www.montanakidscount.org>.

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JE

Local, dailies

052610read

Contact: Julie Ehlers, UM Bureau of Business and Economic Research, 406-243-5113, julie.ehlers@umontana.edu.

UM NEWS



May 27, 2010

MISSOULA –

Explore planets, nebulae and distant galaxies during free public observing nights this summer at the Blue Mountain Observatory. The events are family-friendly, and children are welcome.

The observatory, located on top of Blue Mountain at an elevation of 6,300 feet, is operated by The University of Montana.

Astronomers will be on hand at all events to talk about constellations, how the night sky figures into different cultures and how to find interesting celestial objects with the naked eye or a pair of binoculars.

Observing begins about an hour after sunset, and organizers recommend bringing warm clothes for cool evenings and a flashlight for the walk from the observatory to the parking lot.

Viewing nights will be canceled only if the sky is cloudy or thunderstorms threaten. Before heading up to the observatory, call 406-243-5179 for weather and cancellation updates.

Following is the schedule for public observing nights with approximate starting times:

- June 4, 10:30 p.m.
- June 11, 10:30 p.m.
- July 9, 10:30 p.m.
- Aug. 6, 10 p.m.
- Sept. 10, 9 p.m.
- Sept. 17, 8 p.m. (During this event, the moon will be bright and will be one of the main targets for viewing. Dimmer objects will not be visible.)

More information, directions and a map to the observatory are available online at <http://www.physics.umt.edu/bluemountain>.

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BD

Local, specialized western

052610blue

Contact: Jaylene Naylor, UM Department of Physics and Astronomy, 406-243-5179, jaylene.naylor@umontana.edu.

UM NEWS



May 25, 2010

MISSOULA –

The University of Montana Sustainable Campus Committee presented awards to Jack Mondloch, Nicky Phear, Zack Porter and Robert Duringer to recognize them for their work to help make UM a sustainable campus.

The four received the Greening UM awards at a ceremony and ice cream social held Monday, May 24.

Mondloch, a Facilities Services custodial services supervisor who was active in creating the University's first green cleaning policy, received the Staff Greening UM Award. He and his co-workers have completed research that is integral to institutionalizing green cleaning products that work. Mondloch also has been a valuable resource for UM environmental studies student projects.

Phear, an adjunct instructor in the College of Forestry and Conservation, received the Faculty Greening UM Award. She was instrumental in the establishment of the minor in climate change studies at UM. As coordinator of the University's Wilderness and Civilization Program, she has introduced hundreds of students to the most prominent conservation issues facing western Montana and facilitated connections between students and conservation leaders to establish internship programs that led to future employment. Phear also serves as faculty adviser to the UM student group Climate Action Now.

Porter, who majored in geography at UM, is co-president of Climate Action Now. He received the Student Greening UM Award. He has made significant contributions to campus sustainability through his coordination of sustainable residence hall committees and his work with the University's Revolving Energy Loan Fund. Through his efforts on and off campus, Porter motivates others to become involved in environmental initiatives.

Duringer, UM's vice president for administration and finance, received the Administrator Greening UM Award, in part for his support of the work of Climate Action Now, the Associated Students of UM Sustainability Center and the University's Office of Sustainability. Duringer also participated in the development of the University's recently completed Climate Action Plan that details the goal of carbon neutrality for UM by 2020. He has been instrumental in the creation of a sustainability marketing campaign to influence behavior on campus and is an advocate of the creation of a small-scale biomass facility at UM to provide renewable power generation.

The University's Climate Action Plan and information about campus sustainability programs are available on the Greening UM website at <http://www.umt.edu/greeningum>.

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BD

Local, specialized western

052510gren

Contact: Cherie Peacock, UM sustainability coordinator, 406-243-6001, cherie.peacock@umontana.edu.

UM NEWS



May 24, 2010

MISSOULA –

The University of Montana will celebrate the completion of a robust research network across northern states between Seattle and Chicago on Thursday, June 3. The Northern Tier Network Consortium “Golden Spike Event” will begin with a reception at 8:30 a.m. in Law Building Room 201. Presentations will take place from 9:30 a.m. to noon. The event is free and open to the public.

The Northern Tier Network connects Montana and other northern states to a national high-speed network, providing affordable 10-gigabit-per-second network connections -- a 10,000-fold bandwidth increase over a typical broadband connection -- for research, education, public health care and government uses. Completion of the 700-mile route across Montana was the final step of the six-year network project.

The “Golden Spike Event” will include speakers and presenters from Health Information Exchange of Montana, the U.S. Forest Service, Indiana University Global Research Network Operations Center, the Great Plains Network, Internet2, the University of Utah and others.

A variety of video conferencing systems will be demonstrated during the event. Demonstrations also will be open to the public from 9 a.m. to noon and 1 to 4:30 p.m. Wednesday, June 2, in Law Building Room 201.

The Northern Tier Network Consortium comprises research universities from 13 states. More information about the consortium is available at <http://www.ntnc.org>.

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GP/js

Local

052410netw

Contact: Ray Ford, chief information officer, UM Information Technology, 406-243-5350, ray.ford@umontana.edu; Gordy Pace, director of IT Communications, UM Information Technology, 406-243-2371, gordy.pace@umontana.edu.

UM NEWS



May 20, 2010

MISSOULA –

The Montana Museum of Art & Culture at The University of Montana will present an exhibition June 11 through Aug. 7 to celebrate the centennial of Glacier National Park.

The “Glacier National Park Centennial Exhibition” examines the strong aesthetic legacy surrounding the park through traditions held by American Indians and the contributions of the Great Northern Railway, which was pivotal in the development of Glacier’s artistic history through a rich graphic tradition in publications, countless photographs and the fostering of artistic exchanges.

An opening reception will be held from 5 to 7 p.m. Friday, June 11, at the museum’s Meloy and Paxson galleries, located in UM’s Performing Arts and Radio/Television Center. It is free and open to the public.

Glacier National Park is associated with the significant oral traditions and cultural practices of the Amskapi Pikuni (Blackfeet), Squeilo (Salish) and K’tanaxa (Kootenai) peoples. The tribes have used the lands for traditional purposes for generations and continue to value the area as essential to the continuity of their cultural identity.

The exhibition features a rare Blackfeet war record that originally adorned Many Glacier Hotel. It is on loan from the collection of the Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railway in Fort Worth, Texas – the successor to the Great Northern Railway.

Works of notable artists such as John Fery, Julius Seyler and Winold Reiss, who introduced European modernism to the West, also are on view in the exhibition. The Winold Reiss Art School, held summers at Glacier during the 1930s, taught a number of notable students, including Elizabeth Davey Lochrie, who is represented in the exhibition.

The “Glacier National Park Exhibition” also includes a portfolio of Blackfeet Indian tipi designs by John C. Ewer and Jessie Wilber; photographic portraits by Tomer J. Hileman, who served as official park photographer from 1924 to 1940; and selected works by Edward S. Curtis, who documented American Indian tribes just before the creation of the park. Works by Roland Reed, Arthur Dailey, Fred Kiser and others also are featured.

The story of Glacier National Park begins millions of years ago when ice carved, sculpted and shaped the landscape. It was designated the nation’s 10th national park May 11, 1910, and, at more than 1.2 million acres, is the third-largest national park in the lower 48 states. The park was home to 150 glaciers, but today there are 26 remaining. In 1932, Glacier joined Waterton Lakes National Park in Alberta, Canada, to form the world’s first International Peace Park.

MMAC will host two free lectures in conjunction with the exhibition:

- **7 p.m. Thursday, June 24:** “Julius Seyler: An Impressionist Painter in Glacier National Park,” presented by UM history Professor William Farr, author of a book by the same title published last year by the University of Oklahoma Press. Masquer Theatre, PAR/TV Center.
- **7 p.m. Wednesday, July 21:** “Artists of Glacier Park,” presented by UM art Professor Rafael Chacón, who will draw from “Inventory and Background Report on the Paintings in the Historic Lodges of Glacier National Park,” a survey he prepared in 2006 for the federal government. Meloy Gallery, PAR/TV Center.

MMAC summer hours are 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Wednesday through Saturday. A \$5 donation is suggested, and free parking is available near the northeast corner of the PAR/TV Center.

For more information, call 406-243-2019 or visit the museum’s website at <http://www.umt.edu/montanamuseum>.

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NOTE TO MEDIA: Digital images of selected artworks included in the exhibition are available by request. Call Becky Garner, MMAC coordinator of programs and publications, at 406-243-2019 or e-mail rebecca.garner@mso.umt.edu.

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Local, state

051910mmac

Contact: Brandon Reintjes, curator of art, Montana Museum of Art and Culture, 406-243-2019, brandon.reintjes@mso.umt.edu.

UM NEWS



May 20, 2010

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.

Geography Assistant Professor Anna Klene and biology Assistant Professor Winsor Lowe each received a Helen and Winston Cox Educational Excellence Award at 2010 graduation ceremonies for their individual departments.

The awards, given annually since 1996, go to nontenured faculty members and are based on superior contributions to the education of UM students.

Klene participates in faculty development workshops and uses a rich body of field-based data and observations in instruction. Students describe her as a great mentor who is available to them through expanded opportunities for study sessions, field research and special projects. Colleagues say Klene makes an impressive effort to stay informed and transmit new knowledge and information to students.

Lowe has engaged in many activities to develop as a teacher, seeking out mentors and taking time to reflect on lectures to determine what works and what does not. Students describe him as accessible, rigorous, encouraging and respectful. Colleagues say Lowe understands the appropriate balance between rigor and setting the bar high and is supportive of students, helping them see that they can master tough and demanding material.

In addition to cash awards, Klene and Lowe will receive stipends to purchase scholarly materials of their choice for UM's Maureen and Mike Mansfield Library.

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BD

Local, specialized western

051910awrd

Contact: Carol Brewer, associate dean, UM College of Arts and Sciences, 406-243-2632, brewerc@mso.umt.edu.

UM NEWS



May 20, 2010

HAMILTON —

The steering committee for the Bitterroot College Program of The University of Montana will hold a meeting at 3 p.m. Tuesday, May 25, in the Ravalli County Commissioners Meeting Room, located at 215 S. Fourth St. in Hamilton. The BCP Steering Committee is a public board and welcomes community members to observe and participate at its meetings.

Agenda topics will include operations, educational planning, organizational planning and fiscal issues. The meeting agenda will be available Friday, May 21, on the BCP website at <http://www.umt.edu/bcp> (click "BCP Steering Committee" and scroll down to "Meeting Information"), by calling BCP Interim Director Victoria Clark at 406-375-0100 or e-mailing victoria.clark@umontana.edu.

The BCP Steering Committee is a collaborative group composed of local Ravalli County stakeholders, UM officials and state higher education representatives. The committee is charged with planning an entity to provide responsive and sustainable adult and higher education opportunities in Ravalli County. BCP currently offers 13 UM College of Technology courses in the Hamilton area.

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VC/als

051910btr

Local, specialized western

Contact: Victoria Clark, interim director, Bitterroot College Program of UM, 406-375-0100, victoria.clark@umontana.edu.

UM NEWS



May 20, 2010

MISSOULA –

Alumni and friends are ensuring future generations will remember the way President George Dennison and his wife, Jane, shaped The University of Montana. Trustees of The University of Montana Foundation, University alumni and community members have contributed more than \$850,000 toward an endowment to honor the Dennisons.

President Dennison plans to retire Aug. 15 after 20 years of leading his alma mater. The George M. and Jane I. Dennison Doctoral Fellows in History Endowment will support fellowships in the UM Department of History, where he earned bachelor's and master's degrees.

The initial fundraising goal for the endowment is \$1 million, with a long-term goal of a \$3 million endowment that funds four \$30,000 fellowships. The first \$850,000 in gifts came from alumni and friends with personal connections to the Dennisons.

Jan and Jerry Norskog of Bigfork gave \$100,000. Norskog earned a bachelor's degree in liberal arts from UM in 1973. Currently leading efforts to reduce mortality in cancer with Genyous Biomed, Norskog remains involved as a trustee of the UM Foundation and the Maureen and Mike Mansfield Foundation.

"Jan and I wanted to join other donors to recognize and honor George and Jane Dennison for their leadership role in the historical transformation of The University of Montana into a university for the 21st century," Norskog said.

The UM Foundation sent a letter to all University employees last week inviting them to contribute to the endowment. In early June, the foundation will mail a letter about the endowment to all alumni who graduated during the years President Dennison served, as well as community members and friends of the University.

Dennison is the longest-serving president in UM history. Dennison's achievements as president include overseeing a nearly 50 percent increase in enrollment, a 138 percent increase in American Indian student enrollment, and the construction and improvement of numerous buildings. During his presidency, grant research funding increased from \$7 million to \$71 million. The partnerships Dennison built with alumni and friends led to \$500 million in private gifts to the UM Foundation. The Montana Grizzlies football team never had a losing season during Dennison's 20-year tenure.

Montana Commissioner of Higher Education Sheila Stearns said, "The legacy of President Dennison will stand in Montana history as a remarkable leader who always addressed the big picture of UM's role in Montana, but balanced that with emphasis on success for individual students."

Contributions to the Dennison Doctoral Fellows in History Endowment may be made online at <http://www.supportum.org> or mailed to the UM Foundation, P.O. Box 7159, Missoula, MT 59807. Names of donors who contribute to the Dennison Endowment by July 15 will be included in a commemorative book that will be presented to President and Mrs. Dennison upon his retirement.

For more information, visit <http://www.supportum.org> or call Ric Thomas, UM Foundation vice president for development, at 406-243-5615 or e-mail ric.thomas@mso.umt.edu.

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BH/ps

Local, state dailies, specialized western

051910denn

Contact: Beth Hammock, vice president for strategic communications and marketing, UM Foundation, 406-243-4609, beth.hammock@mso.umt.edu.

UM NEWS



May 18, 2010

MISSOULA –

The University of Montana College of Technology will offer two courses this summer in Stevensville for those who would like to become a Certified Nursing Assistant.

The training, which will take place during June and August at the Bitterroot Valley Living Center, prepares students for careers in health care under the supervision of a licensed nurse. The center is located at 63 Main St. in Stevensville.

Curriculum includes first aid and CPR training in providing or assisting in client care, use of equipment, documenting and reporting. Theory and clinical study will provide necessary information and skills needed in long-term, home-care and acute-care settings. Students also will prepare for and complete the Montana Department of Health State Competency CNA Evaluation Examination.

The first course begins Tuesday, June 1, from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Students are asked to bring a sack lunch that day. Classes will continue from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. weekdays through June 18, with Saturday classes from 6 a.m. to noon June 5, 12 and 19.

The second course begins Monday, Aug. 2, from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Students are asked to bring a sack lunch that day. Classes will continue from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. weekdays through Aug. 20, with Saturday classes from 6 a.m. to noon Aug. 7 and 14.

The course costs \$800, which includes the textbook, CPR/first aid fee, supplies and the state examination fee. No previous academic experience is required. Complete details about course requirements and additional costs are online at <http://www.cte.umt.edu/Outreach> under "Relevant Links."

Training costs will be reimbursed for those who successfully complete the training and the state competency evaluation examination and are hired by a Medicare/Medicaid-approved facility within one year.

Space is limited. To register, call Mary Opitz of the COT Outreach Program at 406-243-7812 or e-mail mary.opitz@umontana.edu.

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BD

Local, state

051810cert

Contact: Mary Opitz, administrative associate, UM College of Technology, 406-243-7812, mary.opitz@mso.umt.edu.

UM NEWS



May 14, 2010

MISSOULA –

The University of Montana College of Technology will offer a six-week training session during June and July for professionals interested in managing and/or supporting Microsoft Windows Server 2008.

The course is the second in a series of three providing the foundation for the Microsoft Certified Technology Specialist credential. The remaining two courses will be held during fall and spring semesters.

Classes for this session will be held from 3 to 6 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays, June 15-July 22, in Room AD 17 of the COT Administration Building, located at 909 South Ave. W. in Missoula. The course will include an online component in addition to attending classes.

The session costs \$800. It will cover the fundamental skills and knowledge necessary to implement and manage a Microsoft Windows Server 2008 infrastructure, including Domain Naming Services, Dynamic Host Configuration Protocol, secure data transmission and remote access. Lectures, discussions, case scenarios, demonstrations and classroom labs will reinforce concepts.

Using an Internet-based virtual Windows Server 2008 environment, students will learn how to configure and manage the DHCP and DNS server roles, provide communication security, authenticate data integrity using IPSec, manage security updates and maintain network health, and manage networked print and file services.

Within a year, students can complete all three courses required for the Microsoft Certified Technology Specialist credential, the cornerstone of Server 2008 certification. Prospective students should have a working familiarity with Microsoft Windows servers.

For more information or to register, call Mary Opitz of the COT Outreach Program at 406-243-7812 or e-mail mary.opitz@umontana.edu.

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MO/bd

Local, state

051410wdow

Contact: Mary Opitz, program assistant, COT Outreach Program, 406-243-7812, mary.opitz@umontana.edu.

UM NEWS



May 14, 2010

MISSOULA –

“Cannabusiness,” a University of Montana student documentary film that focuses on the personal and professional issues surrounding medical marijuana in Big Sky Country, will premiere on MontanaPBS at 8 p.m. Tuesday, May 25.

Sixty-two percent of Montanans voted for the legalization of marijuana for medicinal purposes in 2004. Since then, the number of medical marijuana caregivers and patients in Montana has exploded. There currently are 12,081 patients and 2,797 caregivers in the state, according to the Montana Department of Health and Human Services.

The legalization of medical marijuana has created a lot of business in Montana, and a lot of problems. As traveling clinics make medical marijuana cards more readily available to walk-in patients, authorities struggle to regulate the use and distribution of the legalized drug. Some cardholders see medical marijuana as a cure to their disease and a more satisfying alternative to heavy prescription narcotics. Others see medical marijuana as Montana’s No. 1 cash crop – a cannabusiness.

Nineteen students from the radio-television department in the UM School of Journalism interviewed doctors, legislators, police officers, caregivers, patients and community members about the impact of medical marijuana on their lives. The interviews reveal how Montana residents are struggling to find a balance among the business, health and legal issues involved with medical marijuana in their communities.

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GV/bd

Local, state

051710marj

Contact: Denise Dowling, UM Department of Radio-Television associate professor, 406-243-4143, denise.dowling@mso.umt.edu.

UM NEWS



May 13, 2010

MISSOULA –

The University of Montana will hold its 113th Commencement ceremony Saturday, May 15, on the Oval in front of Main Hall. The ceremony will be simulcast live online at <http://umt.edu/commencement>. The signal will begin streaming at about 8 a.m. Saturday.

The faculty and graduate processional begins at 9:30 a.m. This year's Commencement speaker is the University's longest-serving president, George M. Dennison. More than 3,000 graduates are invited to participate in the ceremony.

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JS

Local

051310stre

Contact: Ed Johnson, UM registrar, 406-243-2412, edwin.johnson@mso.umt.edu.

UM NEWS



May 12, 2010

MISSOULA —

The University of Montana, in collaboration with Montana Tech of UM in Butte and Carroll College in Helena, will host four EducationUSA international advisers in early June.

The advisers — Margaret Anyigbo of Nigeria, Aleksandra Augustyniak of Poland, Tetiana Kotko of Ukraine and Sudarrshan Saha of India — will meet with various academic departments, faculty and international students while touring UM's campus on Monday, June 7.

The advisers also will tour Montana Tech, Carroll College, Salish Kootenai College in Pablo and UM's Flathead Lake Biological Station during their weeklong visit to Montana. While in Helena, they will meet Lt. Gov. John Bohlinger.

Out of 20 applications, the proposal submitted by UM, Montana Tech and Carroll College was one of eight chosen to host the EducationUSA advisers.

EducationUSA is a global network of advising centers supported by the U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs. Each year, EducationUSA collaborates with the College Board to sponsor adviser visits to colleges and universities around the nation following the Association of International Educators annual conference in late May.

For more information, call Julie Cahill, UM international admissions counselor, at 406-243-5844 or e-mail julie.cahill@mso.umt.edu.

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JC/als

Local, dailies, specialized western

051210intl

Contact: Julie Cahill, UM international admissions counselor, 406-243-5844, julie.cahill@mso.umt.edu.

UM NEWS



May 12, 2010

MISSOULA –

University of Montana faculty and Debating Science Workshop participants recently published an article titled “Choosing Carbon Mitigation Strategies through Ethical Deliberation” in *Weather, Climate, and Society*, the quarterly journal of the American Meteorological Society. A summary of the article will be featured as a noteworthy paper in an upcoming issue of the *Bulletin of the American Meteorological Society*, the society’s monthly publication for members.

The article was co-written by UM geosciences Assistant Professor Rebecca Bendick, workshop participants Kyla M. Dahlin, Brian V. Smoliak, Lori Kumler, Sierra J. Jones, Athena Aktipis, Ezekiel Fugate, Rachel Hertog and Claus Moberg, and UM Center for Ethics Director Dane Scott.

Workshop participants are graduate students from leading universities around the country who attended the National Science Foundation Debating Science Workshop at UM during the summer of 2008. After the workshop students collaborated during an online course taught by Bendick, who is a co-principal investigator on the NSF Debating Science Workshop project. The article is the result of deliberations conducted during the course.

The authors “developed and used a new method for making difficult decisions in contexts where there are many different kinds of stakeholders with different values and different expertise, where important information is incomplete or unknown, and where stakes are high.” The authors found that a new deliberative method could help in making decisions regarding complicated issues such as climate change mitigation. According to the article summary, “Using our new technique, a very disparate group of negotiators was able to rank carbon emissions mitigation strategies by quality, incorporating economic, ecological, technological and social values with flexible weighting.”

The new method for online ethical deliberation was developed as part of the Debating Science Program in 2008. The program educated science and engineering graduate students on ethics and deliberation in the context of science debates. The program included summer workshops in Missoula and online courses using the Online Deliberation Center. The tool was developed by principal investigators Scott, Bendick and philosophy Associate Professor Christopher Preston, along with staff from UM’s Center for Ethics and support from Nick Shontz of UM Information Technology. Nearly 60 graduate students from across the country participated in Debating Science Workshops and courses in 2007 and 2008.

For more information on the article or the NSF Debating Science Program, call Blake Francis at the UM Center for Ethics at 406-243-6605, e-mail blake.francis@mso.umt.edu or visit the center’s website at <http://www.umt.edu/ethics>.

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BF/js

Local

051210deba

Contact: Blake Francis, UM Center for Ethics, 406-243-6605, blake.francis@mso.umt.edu.

UM NEWS



May 12, 2010

MISSOULA –

Montana Digital Academy invites state high school students to enroll in its online learning program.

Located in The University of Montana's Phyllis J. Washington Education Center, MTDA is the state's publicly supported K-12 online school and is specifically designed to offer flexible education options to Montana students. Courses are offered free of charge for the 2010-11 school year only.

MTDA courses are delivered via the Web, and students can access them whenever and wherever they want. Content is taught by qualified Montana-licensed instructors and aligned with state educational standards, including Indian Education for All. MTDA teachers provide the final course grades, and credit is granted by the schools where the students are enrolled.

Students receive their assignments and submit their homework online. Courses are available 24 hours a day, seven days a week. MTDA can help reduce or eliminate the course conflicts that many students experience, allowing them to build a schedule that is right for them.

This fall, MTDA will offer more than 45 high school courses. Students looking for a new academic challenge can take Advanced Placement courses, and a wide variety of elective courses expose students to subjects that may not be available in local schools. In the future, courses will be offered for middle and elementary school students.

For more information, visit <http://www.montanadigitalacademy.org>. To enroll a student in MTDA course work, contact the student's high school counselor or a school administrator.

Following is a list of MTDA courses now available:

- **English:** English 1, 2, 3 and 4; AP English Language and Composition; AP English Literature and Composition.
- **Math:** Algebra 1; Geometry; Algebra 2/Trigonometry; Pre-Calculus; AP Calculus AB; AP Calculus BC.
- **P.E. and Health:** Health; Physical Education I; Physical Education II.
- **Science:** Earth Science; Biology; Chemistry; Physics; Environmental Science; AP Biology; AP Physics B; AP Environmental Science.
- **Social Studies:** Global Studies; Montana History; World History; U.S. History; AP U.S. History; American Government; Current Issues in Government; AP U.S. Government & Politics; Psychology.
- **World Languages:** Chinese 1 and 2; French 1 and 2; Latin 1 and 2; Spanish 1 and 2; German 1 and 2.
- **Electives:** Digital Photography; Microsoft Office Suite; Native American Studies; Oceanography; Web Design.

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CK/bd

Local, state

051210mtda

Contact: Collier Kaler, project assistant, Montana Digital Academy, 406-243-4619, collier.kaler@mso.umt.edu.

UM NEWS



May 12, 2010

MISSOULA —

The Center for Ethics at The University of Montana will sponsor the “The Morality of Animal and Human Relationships” summer lecture series in June.

The series will feature scientist and author Marc Bekoff, who will present “The Moral and Emotional Lives of Animals and Why They Matter” at 7 p.m. Wednesday, June 16, in Gallagher Business Building Room 123.

A professor emeritus of ecology and evolutionary biology at the University of Colorado in Boulder, Bekoff will discuss the moral and emotional behavior of animals, such as cooperation, empathy, love and grief, which he observed during his 32 years of scientific inquiry. He will argue that humans need to expand their “compassion footprint” to include animals.

“I would hope that as we learn more from animals and accept that they have emotions and feel pain that we would adjust our behavior,” Bekoff said. “From a functional point of view, we need to use this information to make the lives of animals better and treat them well.”

Other lectures in the “The Morality of Animal and Human Relationships” series are:

- Noon, Tuesday, June 15, Anderson Hall Room 316: “Walk on the Wild Side: The Use of Animal Images in Advertising” by Deni Elliott, Poynter Jamison Chair in media ethics and press policy at the University of South Florida.
- Noon, Thursday, June 17, Anderson Hall Room 316: “Highways, Wildlife, and the Cultural Politics of Road Ecology” by Sandra Koelle, doctoral candidate in the History of Consciousness Department at the University of California-Santa Cruz.

All lectures in the series are free and open to the public, and discussion sessions will follow each. For more information, go to <http://www.umt.edu/ethics>, call Center for Ethics project coordinator Blake Francis at 406-243-6605 or e-mail blake.francis@mso.umt.edu.

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BF/als

Local, specialized western

051210anml

Contact: Blake Francis, UM Center for Ethics project coordinator, 406-243-6605, blake.francis@mso.umt.edu.

UM NEWS



May 12, 2010

MISSOULA —

Billings artist Victoria Franck Wetsch announced she will donate 10 percent of the proceeds from sales of her encaustics, or hot wax paintings, to Bee Alert Technology, a research company affiliated with The University of Montana.

The donation will support research of Colony Collapse Disorder, a mysterious malady that has been depopulating beehives around the world for the past several years. Researchers at UM, led by biology Professor Jerry Bromenshenk, are working to discover the cause of the disappearance of one of Earth's major pollinators.

"Our honeybees are vital to the world's ecosystem, and they are a key contributor to our major food crops through the natural process of pollination," Franck Wetsch said. "As an encaustic artist, I became aware of Colony Collapse Disorder through my interaction with beekeepers. My concern regarding this crisis has led me to promote awareness and to help support continued research of CCD."

Encaustic artworks consist of beeswax, fossilized resin and pigments that are painted onto a surface substrate while in their molten state. The pollen in the wax gives paintings a golden luster, and over time the surface cures to form enduring works of art.

For information on purchasing or to view Franck Wetsch's encaustic paintings, visit her website at <http://www.franckwetsch.com>.

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ALS

Local, dailies, specialized western

051210artb

Contact: Jerry Bromenshenk, UM biology professor, 406-243-5648, beerresearch@aol.com; Victoria Franck Wetsch, artist, 406-598-1418, franckwetsch@gmail.com.

UM NEWS



May 11, 2010

MISSOULA –

University of Montana President George M. Dennison co-chairs Second Nature's National Transportation Policy Task Force, a group of 15 college and university presidents that recently made recommendations urging Congress and the Obama administration to overhaul the nation's transportation policy to make reducing greenhouse gas emissions a top priority.

"As leaders of colleges and universities committed to sustainability, we understand the practical challenges of reducing greenhouse gas emissions from transportation and other sources," Dennison said. "We think the evidence clearly shows our nation's transportation system does not currently have a sustainable course in any sense."

Dennison said revenues have become inadequate even to maintain our current system, price signals lead to inefficient and environmentally damaging impacts, and the U.S. spends \$1 billion daily for foreign oil.

"Congress must reshape our national transportation policy to address these realities," he said.

The task force worked closely with Transportation for America and the Pew Center on Global Climate Change to formulate its recommendations. Among the highlights are:

- Congress should make reducing greenhouse gas emissions a fundamental goal of transportation programs – on a par with mobility and safety – and establish specific performance targets, accountability systems, incentives and sanctions to ensure results.
- The U.S. needs to lead the world in technological breakthroughs to significantly improve vehicle efficiency and develop low-carbon fuels.
- Transportation financing and pricing must reinforce energy goals by incorporating carbon-based fees to send a strong price signal for both the purchase and use of vehicles to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.
- State and local programs must expand transportation options through multiple strategies that meet local needs, including expanded carpooling and vanpooling, walking and biking, transit and working from home, as well as better linkages between modes.
- Congress should make it a priority to improve the efficiency of our transportation system by improving maintenance, repairs and operations; subjecting major new construction projects to multi-modal life-cycle analysis; and more closely coordinating transportation and land-use planning.
- Congress should encourage and reward state and local innovation and increase federal funding for research, data collection and evaluation.

In the coming months, the task force will reach out to other higher education leaders to engage their support and expertise in advancing the recommendations and elevate the national dialogue about transportation policy, energy and climate goals.

In 2007 Dennison was one of the first 100 in the nation to sign the American College and University Presidents' Climate Commitment, dedicating UM to reduce carbon emissions to zero. Since then the University has taken major steps to become a leading model in the community and the nation for working to eliminate greenhouse gas emissions, including the creation of a campus Climate Action Plan, which is available online at <http://www.umt.edu/greeningum/documents/CAPFinal.pdf>. More information about UM sustainability efforts can be found at <http://www.umt.edu/greeningum>.

Second Nature is a national, Boston-based nonprofit organization that serves and supports senior college and university leaders in making sustainability the foundation of all learning and practice in higher education. Visit the organization's website at <http://www.secondnature.org>.

Information about Transportation for America is online at <http://www.t4america.org>. The Pew Center on Global Climate Change website is <http://www.pewclimate.org>.

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CBS

Local, specialized western, dailies

051110clim

Contact: George M. Dennison, UM president, 406-243-2311, george.dennison@umontana.edu.

UM NEWS



May 10, 2010

MISSOULA —

Hundreds of high school and tribal college students and teachers from around the Northwest will converge on The University of Montana campus for the sixth annual "Air Toxics Under the Big Sky" science symposium from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Wednesday, May 19, in the North Underground Lecture Hall. The event is free and open to the public.

The symposium, hosted by the UM Center for Environmental Health Sciences and the Department of Chemistry, is a regional gathering for students, educators and community groups interested in raising public awareness about environmental health issues. It will feature oral and poster presentations prepared by students to showcase their indoor air quality research findings from the past year.

The symposium also will provide opportunities for students to work alongside UM scientists to examine components of air pollution, giving them real-world experience on problems relevant to their communities and encouraging them to seek further education in environmental and biomedical sciences.

Symposium sponsors include the Toyota USA Foundation, Montana Department of Environmental Quality and National Center for Research Resources.

For more information, visit <http://www.umt.edu/cehs/AirTox.html>, call Diana Vanek, Center for Environmental Health Sciences outreach coordinator, at 406-546-4254 or e-mail diana.vanek@umontana.edu.

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DV/als

Local, specialized western

050710symp

Contact: Diana Vanek, outreach coordinator, UM Center for Environmental Health Sciences, 406-546-4254, diana.vanek@umontana.edu.

UM NEWS



May 10, 2010



Nancy Wilson, ASUM Office of Transportation director; Bob Duringer, vice president for administration and finance; and Hugh Jesse, director of Facilities Services; officially open a new bus parking garage at The University of Montana on May 5.

MISSOULA -

The Associated Students of The University of Montana celebrated the opening of a bus garage May 5 that houses the Park-N-Ride and UDASH buses for the ASUM Office of Transportation.

The buses offer service to three Park-N-Ride lots, a shuttle between the main campus and the College of Technology, and a late-night bus to downtown Missoula.

Bus service on campus has grown from a single van to a seven-bus fleet in 10 years. Before the new garage, buses were parked outside and were plagued with cold-weather start problems. The garage will help buses get started and rolling in a timely fashion and will protect them during the summer months when they are not in service.

The bus service makes campus more accessible and sustainable. Last academic year the service saved 44,000 pounds of carbon monoxide from being released into Missoula's atmosphere. The bus service provided 343,593 rides in the 2008-09 academic year and is projected to give 375,000 rides in the 2009-10 academic year.

The ASUM Office of Transportation has three replacement buses on order. By next fall, two of those buses will be in service, and the third bus should arrive next spring. The new buses will all be low-floor buses, which will give the service better and more reliable Americans with Disabilities Act accessibility. The buses also will be able to carry more passengers.

Since 2008, students and the University administration have invested \$1.44 million in buses and in the bus garage. Funding was provided through a \$26 per semester student fee, a Congestion Mitigation Air Quality grant and UM's Administration and Finance and Student Affairs offices.

The bus service is free and open to the public. For more information, visit the ASUM Office of Transportation website at <http://www.umt.edu/asum/ot>.

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NW/bd

Local, specialized western

051010tran

Contact: Nancy Wilson, director, Associated Students of UM Office of Transportation, 406-243-4599, nancy.wilson@mso.umt.edu.

UM NEWS



May 07, 2010

MISSOULA –

School of Business Administration students at The University of Montana recently learned about philanthropy firsthand when they awarded \$10,000 to five local nonprofit organizations.

The Individual and Corporate Philanthropy class is an opportunity for students to learn about the relationship between nonprofit and for-profit organizations and individual and corporate philanthropy. They also take part in a philanthropic experience funded by the Learning by Giving program. With a generous grant from the Sunshine Lady Foundation, students learned about the importance and practice of philanthropy by disbursing grants to Missoula-area nonprofits serving needs related to youth or hunger.

The students issued a request for proposals in April and received 25 submissions from local nonprofits requesting \$83,384 in funding to support a variety of programs and services. With only \$10,000 to award, the students implemented a rigorous in-class review and scoring process to determine which projects to fund.

In the end, five Missoula nonprofit organizations received funding: Garden City Harvest, Missoula Aging Services, Watson Children's Shelter, Missoula Food Bank and Friends to Youth. Grants ranged from \$1,000 to \$3,500.

Doris Buffett, sister of Warren Buffett, is the benefactor of the Sunshine Lady Foundation, which provides the grant money for this opportunity to integrate curriculum focused on philanthropy.

Bambi Douma, a UM business professor, and Andrea Vernon, director of the University's Office for Civic Engagement, wrote the grant to bring the Learning by Giving program to UM. They are excited about offering the new Individual and Corporate Philanthropy class this semester.

"The students brought a great deal of enthusiasm," Vernon said. "They learned firsthand about the important role of corporate and individual philanthropy in helping our community meet and tackle its most pressing needs. The response and interest level of local nonprofits was equally impressive."

Students will reward the winning proposals and celebrate community engagement during a special campus ceremony on Monday, May 10.

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AV/cbs

Local, specialized western, dailies

050710phil

Contact: Andrea Vernon, director, UM Office for Civic Engagement, 406-243-5159, andrea.vernon@mso.umt.edu.

UM NEWS



May 05, 2010

MISSOULA –

The University of Montana's chapter of Golden Key International Honour Society will hold the "Better World Book Drive" Monday through Friday, May 10-14.

Books can be donated from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. in the University Center near the buy-back area outside The Bookstore at UM.

Books collected will go to fund literacy initiatives worldwide through Better World Books. To date, the organization has converted more than 35 million donated books into \$7.5 million for literacy and education and has diverted 13,000 books from landfills.

More information about Better World Books is online at <http://www.betterworldbooks.com>.

For more information about the book drive or UM's Golden Key International Honour Society, call Ronnette Burns at 406-544-7778 or e-mail burnsrl@yahoo.com.

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BD

Local, specialized western

050510book

Contact: Ronnette Burns, UM chapter of Golden Key International Honour Society public relations, 406-544-7778, burnsrl@yahoo.com.

UM NEWS



May 05, 2010

MISSOULA —

Tony Attwood, a world-renowned autism and Asperger's syndrome expert, will present "A Complete Look at the Autism Spectrum," a daylong conference Monday, July 19, at The University of Montana.

The conference, sponsored by UM's Neuro Networking Club, will be held from 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. in the University Center Ballroom. It will cover many aspects of the autism spectrum, such as relationships, emotional management and social skills.

Registration is required and is available through GrizTix, <http://www.griztix.com>. Registration costs \$140 for professionals, \$70 for high school and college students and family members of those with autism or Asperger's, and \$50 for individuals with autism or Asperger's.

Attwood is a clinical psychology professor at Griffith University in Australia. He has written several books on the autism spectrum, including "The Complete Guide to Asperger's Syndrome." He also founded the Minds & Hearts Asperger's Syndrome and Autism Clinic in Brisbane, Australia. For more information on Attwood, visit <http://www.tonyattwood.com.au>.

The Neuro Networking Club is a UM social group for adults with autism or Asperger's syndrome and their friends. For more information on the club or the conference, call Treva Bittinger, event organizer, at 406-543-0003 or e-mail treva.bittinger@umontana.edu.

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TB/als

Local, dailies, specialized western

050410atwd

Contact: Treva Bittinger, event organizer, 406-543-0003, treva.bittinger@umontana.edu.

UM NEWS



May 03, 2010

MISSOULA –

The University of Montana will hold its 113th Commencement ceremony Saturday, May 15, on the UM Oval in front of Main Hall – the first time in the University’s history that the ceremony will be held in that location.

More than 3,000 graduates are invited to participate in the ceremony, which begins at 10 a.m. Graduates who plan to take part will line up at 8:45 a.m. near the Lommason Center. Guests and family members are asked to be seated by 9:20 a.m. The faculty and graduate processional begins at 9:30 a.m.

This year’s Commencement speaker is the University’s longest-serving president, George M. Dennison, who plans to retire Aug. 15, 2010 – 20 years from the day he became UM’s 16th president.

Large video screens will flank the main stage, and an additional video screen will be placed at the center of the Oval for better viewing of the central Commencement ceremony. A concert sound system will provide high-quality audio.

The central Commencement ceremony also will be simulcast via the Internet on large screens in the following campus locations: North Underground Lecture Hall, Urey Lecture Hall, Clapp Building Room 131, Chemistry Building Room 123, Liberal Arts Building Room 11, McGill Hall Room 210 and Social Science Building Rooms 352 and 356. A campus map is available online at <http://umt.edu/home/map>.

The ceremony also will be simulcast live online at <http://umt.edu/commencement>. The signal will begin streaming at about 8 a.m. Saturday.

Individual ceremonies for professional schools will begin at 11:30 a.m. Individual ceremonies for the College of Arts and Sciences and the College of Technology will begin at 1:30 p.m. Each ceremony will last about one hour. More details about Commencement are on the UM Registrar’s Office website at <http://www.umt.edu/registrar>.

UM will present four honorary degrees this year. Recipients are Robert S. Bennett, one of the nation’s most prominent attorneys and a generous and dedicated friend of UM, Honorary Doctor of Law; Stewart M. Brandborg, a towering figure in the American conservation movement, Honorary Doctor of Science; John Hollenback, a lifelong Montanan who has worked tirelessly to steward state lands, Honorary Doctor of Science; and Matt McCann, a former state representative and champion of higher education, Honorary Doctor of Humane Letters.

Commencement weekend gets under way with class reunions, receptions and open houses Friday, May 14.

President Dennison will host a free continental breakfast for graduates and their guests from 7 to 8:30 a.m. Saturday in the University Center Atrium.

Commencement weekend concludes with the ROTC Commissioning at 6 p.m. Saturday outside Schreiber Gymnasium.

Continuous bus service to campus from Park-N-Ride lots on East Broadway and at Dornblaser Field will begin at 7:25 a.m. Saturday. Information about services for guests with disabilities or mobility concerns is available by calling UM Disability Services for Students at 406-243-2243. UM’s Access Map with information about physical accessibility on campus is online at <http://umt.edu/accessmap>.

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BD

Local, dailies, specialized western, tribal

050410comm

Contact: Ed Johnson, UM Registrar, 406-243-2412, edwin.johnson@umontana.edu.

UM NEWS



May 04, 2010

MISSOULA —

"Glacier Park's Night of the Grizzlies," a film documenting the harrowing events that took place in the park Aug. 12, 1967, will premiere at 8 p.m. Monday, May 17, on MontanaPBS ((KUFM-TV in Missoula and KUSM-TV in Bozeman).

The film, co-produced by Gus Chambers and Paul Zalis, examines the summer night when two grizzly bears attacked campers in separate, remote areas of Glacier National Park, killing Julie Helgeson and Michele Koons. The incidents were the park's first reported fatal bear attacks since it opened in 1910 and marked a watershed moment in the nation's bear management policies.

The documentary features interviews with survivors Roy Ducat and Paul Dunn, as well as archival material, photographs, still-camera re-enactments and additional interviews, to provide a 360-degree account of that summer's events in Glacier, framed by the overriding theme of the grizzly bear and its survival in the 21st century.

"The events of that night are at the dramatic center of the film," Zalis said. "We were challenged not to just tell the human stories — a near-mythic tale of a terrifying night — but just as importantly, to tell a bear story that furthers understanding of the species and hope for its continued survival."

Three-time regional Emmy winner Chambers directed "Glacier Park's Night of the Grizzlies," and Zalis wrote the script. Veteran actor and Missoula native J.K. Simmons narrates the film. The Greater Montana Foundation, Montana Cultural Trust, Friends of MontanaPBS and The University of Montana provided funding for the documentary.

MontanaPBS is a public service of UM and Montana State University in Bozeman. For more information, go online to <http://www.montanapbs.org>.

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NOTE TO EDITORS: High-resolution promotional photographs are available by clicking the Pressroom link at <http://www.montanapbs.org/GlacierParksNightoftheGrizzlies/>.

WM/als

Local, specialized western

050410notg

Contact: Gus Chambers, MontanaPBS producer, 406-243-4093, gus.chambers@umontana.edu.

UM NEWS



May 04, 2010

MISSOULA –

The University of Montana Presidential Search Advisory Committee held a candidate screening workshop May 3. The group started its initial review of applicants, which will continue through the May 19 application deadline.

The committee is searching for the successor to UM President George M. Dennison, who intends to retire Aug. 15 after two decades at the helm.

The search is on schedule, with current efforts focused on building a robust pool of highly qualified candidates, said Clayton Christian, the Board of Regents vice chair who leads the search committee.

“The position is attracting the interest of exceptional prospects,” Christian said. “Members of the University community and educational leaders from throughout the country have joined the search efforts by nominating potential candidates.”

The committee continues to solicit nominations and applications. Direct all inquiries to Bill Franklin, consultant to the search, at bjf@academic-search.com or 830-249-1444.

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CBS

Local, specialized western, dailies

050410pres

Contact: Clayton Christian, vice chair, Montana Board of Regents, 406-728-1500, clayton@stewartmt.com.

UM NEWS



May 04, 2010

MISSOULA —

Betsy Dalessio, a curriculum and instruction graduate student at The University of Montana, entered the winning submission in a contest sponsored by UM Extended Learning Services. The contest challenged participants to draw inspiration from an actual Summer Semester course to answer the question "What Will YOU Do This Summer?"

Dalessio's answer, "Dance like no one's watching," which describes DAN 327: Dance in Elementary Education, received the most votes of the 15 finalists XLS posted on its website. She won a \$500 Summer Semester 2010 tuition/fee waiver.

"In order to be a good elementary teacher, you have to let your inhibitions down and be a part of the classroom," Dalessio said. "I'm nervous to take a dance class — so the answer keeps me in check with my goals. I want to be a teacher who is relatable and a bit fun and goofy."

XLS also randomly chose one winner from the 350 students, staff and faculty members who voted in the online contest. Kurtiss Penman, a media arts major, received a \$500 tuition/fee waiver for Summer Semester 2010.

For more information on the contest or Summer Semester 2010, go online to <http://www.umt.edu/xls/summer/>, call Jessica Carter, XLS program manager, at 406-243-6496 or e-mail jessica.carter@umontana.edu.

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JC/als

Local

050410summ

Contact: Jessica Carter, UM Extended Learning Services, 406-243-6496, jessica.carter@umontana.edu.

UM NEWS



May 04, 2010

MISSOULA –

The University of Montana will hold several events Thursday, May 13, to celebrate the completion and opening of The Payne Family Native American Center – the first of its kind at any American university.

The public is invited to join tribal leaders and community, state and campus representatives for the day's events, which will include many Native American traditions to honor and dedicate the new center.

From the beginning American Indian people have led the effort to establish the Native American center at UM. A historic sunrise ceremony was held in 2006 to bless the building site – the first time in more than 100 years that all the state's tribal leaders gathered for a single, unified purpose. Leaders from all Montana tribes also were present at the April 2008 groundbreaking ceremony at UM, and they will return to see the culmination of a project that began with discussions in 2004.

"The Payne Family Native American Center underscores our commitment to serve all Montanans, not just some," UM President George M. Dennison said. "It also places The University of Montana in a unique leadership position nationally and is a source of tremendous pride for everyone involved."

The formal dedication ceremony will take place from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. on the UM Oval directly in front of the center. Seating will be provided. The ceremony will begin with an opening convocation by author and historian Joe Medicine Crow. Speakers will include Native American activist Elouise Cobell, UM Native American studies alumnus Jon Swan and Montana Gov. Brian Schweitzer.

Student-led tours of the center will be available from 1 to 4 p.m. and from 6:30 to 8 p.m. The new center will house UM's Department of Native American Studies, American Indian Student Services and related campus programming. Information about American Indian Student Services and various campus Native American student organizations will be available in the center's Kyi-Yo Room.

The University also will host a reception for tribal dignitaries, campus partners and donors. Terry Payne, a UM alumnus and Missoula businessman, is the center's lead donor. Other key donors include First Interstate Bank and the Indian Land Tenure Foundation, a nationally recognized organization headquartered outside Minneapolis. The Native American center also was a top campus priority in UM's successful "Invest in Discovery" campaign that ended in December 2007.

In addition to the formal dedication ceremony, the following events are free and open to the public May 13:

- 8:30 a.m.: "Coming Home" walk from the Adams Center to the center of the Oval. The public is invited to participate in or enjoy the symbolic walk, led by children from Arlee's Salish language revitalization institute. Representatives from all Montana tribes will participate. A flag song and flag raising ceremony will be held on the Oval.
- 10 a.m.: Dedication of the center's Bonnie HeavyRunner Memorial Gathering Space. HeavyRunner (Blackfeet) received a juris doctor degree from UM in 1988. She served as director of the Native American Studies Program and was instrumental in the creation of the University's Department of Native American Studies. HeavyRunner lost a long battle with cancer in 1997.
- 11 a.m.: An event on the UM Oval to honor the artisans, craftspeople, visionaries, designers and implementers of the fine details of the center.
- 11:45 a.m.: Lunch on the Oval, sponsored by UM and the Crow Nation. Prepared by UM Catering Services, the menu will include buffalo soup, vegetarian soup, fry bread, and huckleberry and cherry cobbler. The Crow Nation donated the buffalo.
- 1 p.m.: Henry Real Bird, storyteller and Montana poet laureate, will give a presentation on the first floor of the center.
- 1-3 p.m.: Students will give academic presentations on the first floor of the center. A documentary by UM's Indigenous Filmmakers Club will be shown on the center's second floor.

American Sign Language interpreters and listening devices will be provided during the day's events, and the parking lot located behind and east of Main Hall has been designated for people who hold a valid disability parking permit. Those who need assistance getting to the seating area on the Oval can call 406-243-6131.

Event organizers recommend using public transportation to get to and from campus if at all possible. For those who need to drive to campus, all parking in lots that require decals on campus will be open to the public, with the exception of Quick Stop, reserved and metered spaces.

For more information, call Linda Juneau, UM tribal liaison, at 406-243-6093 or e-mail linda.juneau@umontana.edu.

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BD

Local, state, tribal

050410pnac

Contact: Christopher Comer, dean, UM College of Arts and Sciences, 406-243-2632, christopher.comer@umontana.edu; James Foley, UM executive vice president, 406-243-2311, james.foley@umontana.edu.

UM NEWS



May 03, 2010

MISSOULA –

The University Center Art Exhibits Program at The University of Montana is displaying artwork by Big Sky High School students in the UC Study Lounge during May.

An opening reception for the exhibit will take place from 5 to 6:30 p.m. Friday, May 7, in the lounge, located on the second floor of the UC in Room 220. Refreshments will be served and the student artists will attend.

For more information, call Megan Riggs, art exhibits coordinator, at 406-243-5622 or e-mail ucartexhibits@mso.umt.edu.

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JS

Local

050310bshs

Contact: Megan Riggs, UM University Center art exhibits coordinator, 406-243-5622, ucartexhibits@mso.umt.edu.

UM NEWS



May 04, 2010

MISSOULA –

University of Montana students are encouraged to apply for Fulbright grants for international study and research and English teaching assistantships abroad.

The Institute of International Education, in cooperation with the U.S. Department of State and the J. William Fulbright Foreign Scholarship Board, has announced the launch of the 2011-12 U.S. Student Program competition. The program awards more than 1,500 grants annually and currently operates in more than 140 countries. Fulbright English teaching assistantships now are available to more than 50 countries.

The grants generally provide funding for round-trip travel, maintenance for one academic year, health and accident coverage, and full or partial tuition.

Applicants to the Fulbright program must be U.S. citizens at the time of application and hold a bachelor's degree or the equivalent by the beginning of the grant. In the creative and performing arts, four years of professional training or experience meets this basic eligibility requirement.

Students currently enrolled at UM should call Assistant Professor Clint Walker, UM Fulbright program adviser, at 406-243-2501 or e-mail clint.walker@mso.umt.edu for information.

UM students wishing to apply must submit applications electronically and in hard copy by Thursday, Sept. 30, to meet the UM campus deadline. The national IIE deadline for electronic applications is Monday, Oct. 18.

Interested students are encouraged to begin the application process in late spring or early summer and should call or e-mail Walker or visit the Fulbright website at <http://www.fulbrightonline.org> for more details.

The Fulbright U.S. Student Program does not require applicants to be currently enrolled in a college or university. The program also encourages applications from young professionals interested in an international experience.

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CW/bd

Local, specialized western

050410fulb

Contact: Clint Walker, assistant professor and UM Fulbright program adviser, 406-243-2501, clint.walker@mso.umt.edu.

UM NEWS



May 03, 2010

MISSOULA –

Extended Learning Services at The University of Montana is offering a Crown of the Continent Discovery Tour this summer. Participants will learn from experts about the region and its unique history, culture, geography and ecology.

The 10-day event includes three days at UM and a seven-day tour of the Crown of the Continent region, including Glacier National Park during its centennial. It will take place Aug. 9-19. Cost is \$2,010, which includes tour transportation, lodging and most meals. Academic credits are available for an additional fee.

Space is limited. The registration deadline is Friday, July 9. To register or for more information, go to the Extended Learning Services website at <http://umt.edu/xls/summer/programs/crown/default.aspx>, call Jessica Carter at 406-243-6496 or e-mail jessica.carter@mso.umt.edu.

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JS

Local, dailies, state, specialized western

050310tour

Contact: Jessica Carter, UM Extended Learning Services, 406-243-6496, jessica.carter@mso.umt.edu.

UM NEWS



May 03, 2010

MISSOULA –

Joel Beckham, a University of Montana junior from Rosebud, has been awarded a National Security Education Program Boren Scholarship to study in Moscow next year. Beckham majors in Russian.

NSEP is a federal initiative designed to build a broader and more qualified pool of U.S. citizens with foreign language and international skills. The program's Boren Scholarships provide up to \$20,000 to U.S. undergraduates to study in areas of the world that are critical to the nation's interests and underrepresented in study abroad.

This year, only 138 awards were offered nationwide from a pool of 925 applicants. Beckham is the first UM student to receive the prestigious award.

Two other UM students who major in Russian – Jane Blevins, a junior from Missoula, and Travis Vincent, a sophomore from Bigfork – also have been awarded highly competitive U.S. Department of State Critical Language Scholarships to study in Russia this summer.

The CLS program of the State Department's Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs will hold intensive institutes overseas in 13 critical-need foreign languages.

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BD

Local, hometowns

050410rssa

Contact: Clint Walker,, UM Department of Modern and Classical Languages and Literatures assistant professor, 406-243-2501, clint.walker@umontana.edu.

UM NEWS



May 03, 2010

MISSOULA –

University of Montana junior Wabusk Ragged Robe is the winner of “The Meaning of The Payne Family Native American Center” essay/speech contest that was organized by UM American Indian Student Services.

Native American students were asked to share their perspectives on the significance of The Payne Family Native American Center in the format of an essay that will be shared during the May 13 ceremonies to dedicate the new building at UM.

Ragged Robe is a member of the Gros Ventre tribe. He came to UM last year after earning an associate’s degree in liberal arts and Native American studies at Stone Child College in Box Elder.

Ragged Robe majors in Native American studies and anthropology at UM. After graduating next year, he plans to pursue a master’s degree in interdisciplinary studies at the University. He will receive a \$500 honorarium for the winning essay.

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BD

Local, hometown (Fort Belknap, Havre, Great Falls, Rocky Boy, Box Elder), Tribal

050310robe

Contact: Salisha Old Bull, UM American Indian Student Services, 406-243-6308, salisha.oldbull@mso.umt.edu.