June 2011 news releases

University of Montana–Missoula. Office of University Relations

Let us know how access to this document benefits you.
Follow this and additional works at: https://scholarworks.umt.edu/newsreleases

Recommended Citation
https://scholarworks.umt.edu/newsreleases/22133

This News Article is brought to you for free and open access by the University Relations at ScholarWorks at University of Montana. It has been accepted for inclusion in University of Montana News Releases by an authorized administrator of ScholarWorks at University of Montana. For more information, please contact scholarworks@mso.umt.edu.
06 2011 News

07/01/2011 - National Conference Extends Registration Deadline, Waives Fee - Tobin Miller Shearer

06/28/2011 - Montana Companies Participate In African Trade Forum - Nicole Hagerman Miller

06/27/2011 - Fulbright Ambassador To Speak At UM About Nepalese Sculpture - Brandon Reintjes

06/24/2011 - New Book About Nation's Most Influential Student Farms Features UM PEAS Farm - Josh Slotnick

06/24/2011 - UM Educator, Student Join Inaugural 'Bhutan Ride For Climate' - Nicky Phear

06/22/2011 - UM To Provide Live Video Of Adventures Of The Mind Summit - Jim Foley

06/21/2011 - Ranch Leaders Meet To Shape Farm Bill Conservation Programs - Dave Naugle

06/20/2011 - UM Radio-Television Students Receive Emmy Awards - Denise Dowling

06/17/2011 - UM Forges New Partnerships With Universities In China - Mehrdad Kia

06/17/2011 - UM Students Make Dean's List - UM Registrar's Office

06/17/2011 - Fulbright Fellowship Takes UM Grad To Israel - Karin Schalm

06/17/2011 - UM Students Earn Degrees - UM Registrar's Office

06/15/2011 - Adventures Of The Mind Summit Offers Unparalleled Academic Event At UM - Jim Foley

06/15/2011 - UM Professor Honored For International Leadership - Peter Koehn

06/15/2011 - UM Student Earns Bronze Medal In Culinary Competition - Tom Campbell

06/14/2011 - Blue Mountain Observatory Offers Free Public Observing Nights - Blue Mountain Observatory

06/14/2011 - Meeting Planned For Bitterroot College Program Of UM - Victoria Clark

06/14/2011 - UM Names Interim Dean Of Mansfield Library - Perry Brown

06/07/2011 - Public Invited To Groundbreaking Ceremony For Second Student-Built House - Alan Fugleberg

06/13/2011 - Mansfield Center Awards Scholarships In Special Natural Resources Competition - Deena Mansour

06/09/2011 - Citizen Scientists To Monitor Wilderness Study Area - Grace Brogan

06/08/2011 - Registration Open For Science, Technology, Math Experience For Girls At UM June 15-17 - Tricia Parrish

06/08/2011 - UM Announces 2011 Class Of Presidential Scholars - James McKusick
06/07/2011 - Second Annual 'Weird Science Dance Party' At Caras Park June 10 - Levi McGarry

06/07/2011 - UM Launches Scholarship For Japanese Students Affected By Earthquake Tsunami - Effie Koehn

06/06/2011 - Mansfield Center Announces Pat Williams Scholarship Awards - Deena Mansour

06/06/2011 - Furthur Takes Adams Center Stage In September - Aaron Reynolds

06/03/2011 - UM Study Suggests Diabetics Burn Fat Faster Than Average Person - Charles Dumke

06/02/2011 - Record Number Of Riders Use UM Buses - Nancy Wilson

06/02/2011 - Montanans Conduct Public Diplomacy Exchange Visit To China - Deena Mansour
MISSOULA —

Organizers of the Beyond Boundaries National Conference, to be held at The University of Montana Oct. 20-22, have extended the deadline to register for the conference to Sept. 15.

The $75 conference fee also will be waived for all participants, thanks to financial support from Humanities Montana and the UM Environmental Studies and African American Studies programs.

The three-day conference, “Beyond the Breadbowl: Hunger, Excess and the American Appetite,” aims to increase dialogue about equality issues and encourage local and national action.

Mark Winne, author of “Closing the Food Gap” and “Food Rebels, Guerrilla Gardeners, and Smart-Cookin’ Mamas,” will begin the conference with a lecture.

The conference is student-facilitated, and undergraduate students are encouraged to participate. Seventy-five participants will be selected on a first-come, first-served basis. Attendees will be responsible for any costs associated with travel and lodging.

Applications for the conference can be found at http://cas.umt.edu/aas/registration.cfm. For more information, email Tobin Miller Shearer, UM assistant professor of history, at tobin.shearer@umontana.edu.

###

TMS/als

Dailies, weeklies

063011conf

**Contact:** Tobin Miller Shearer, assistant professor, UM Department of History, 406-243-6225, tobin.shearer@umontana.edu.
MISSOULA –

Representatives from two Montana companies, SRS Crisafulli, based in Glendive, and The Milky Whey Inc., headquartered in Missoula, recently traveled to Lusaka, Zambia, to attend the 2011 African Growth and Opportunity Act Forum.

AGOA is the centerpiece of the U.S. government’s trade policy with sub-Saharan Africa and is designed to provide countries that do not already have a free trade agreement with the United States liberal access to U.S. markets.

Participation in the forum by the two Montana World Trade Center member companies was made possible through the center’s partnership with the Corporate Council on Africa and its U.S.-African Business Center, which is funded by the U.S. Agency for International Development.

“Africa is the emerging market in the world today,” said Tim McCoy, CCA vice president for business development and director of the U.S.-Africa Business Center. “Montana companies, with their expertise in sectors such as mining and agriculture, are exceptionally well-positioned to take advantage of the many business opportunities to be found now in Africa. CCA is very happy to work with the Montana World Trade Center to provide a steady flow of information to Montana companies about these opportunities.”

Though China’s economy continues to grow rapidly, most of the world’s fastest-growing economies were in sub-Saharan Africa during the first decade of the 2000s. The International Monetary Fund projects that this trend will continue over the next five years.

While AGOA is a progressive U.S. policy that aims to reduce trade barriers, increase diversified exports, create jobs and expand opportunities for Africans, it also offers great benefits for Montana companies. Zambia’s economy is projected to grow at 6.5 percent in 2011 and 6.7 percent in 2012, with manufacturing, electricity, gas, water and construction sectors making major contributions, according to the latest African Economic Outlook report.

Laura Fleming, president and CFO of SRS Crisafulli, an agricultural and industrial pump manufacturing company, and Curt Pijanowski, president of The Milky Whey Inc., a distributor of dairy ingredients, attended the private sector session at the forum that is part of the AGOA ministerial meetings. Participating companies were looking for distributors and in-country representatives. The trip laid the groundwork for international business development and helped the Montana business leaders gain insight into the African market.

“It’s critically important for small businesses to understand new markets firsthand and to build relationships for future success,” said MWTC Executive Director Arnie Sherman. “We are grateful for partnerships and organizations like CCA that make this possible for Montana companies.”

The contacts made during the forum moved the two Montana companies a step closer to business partnerships and increased sales in Africa.

“I feel very fortunate and pleased to have participated in the AGOA trade forum,” Pijanowski said. “The African economies are developing at such a rapid pace that opportunity abounds. I am optimistic about developing lasting business relationships.”

While at the forum, Fleming and Pijanowski met U.S. trade representative Ambassador Ron Kirk. Fleming said she has been intrigued by Zambia’s active mining sector, which SRS Crisafulli currently is serving indirectly, but she was not aware of the AGOA legislation and the forum until MWTC brought it to her attention in early May.

“I am profoundly grateful to our hosts and the organizers of the AGOA private sector meetings and to the Montana World Trade Center for bringing this unique forum to my attention, and to CCA for making getting to Lusaka relatively painless,” she said. “For my first adventure to the African continent, I think I picked well.”

Fleming also took part in the grand opening of the Zambia-U.S. Chamber of Commerce in Lusaka, where U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton addressed the crowd. Clinton said the key to successful U.S.-African relations is in building “a relationship of partnership not patronage, of sustainability not quick fixes.”

Montanans Cora Neumann and Joan Wadelton also attended the AGOA forum.

Neumann, who grew up in Bozeman, runs the African First Ladies Initiative at RAND Corp. and was in Lusaka to support Zambia’s First Lady Thandiwe Banda in her role as patron of the African Women Entrepreneurship Program.
Wadelton, who is from Winnett, works for the State Department as a diplomat and was in Lusaka to help manage a program for successful businesswomen from around sub-Saharan Africa who want to do business with the U.S.

More information about the Montana World Trade Center, based at The University of Montana, is online at http://www.mwtc.org.

###

**NOTE TO EDITORS:** Photos are available by calling Nicole Hagerman Miller at 406-243-5856 or emailing nicole@mwtc.org.

NH/bd

Western Montana, dailies, Ranger Review

062811mwtc

**Contact:** Nicole Hagerman Miller, Montana World Trade Center, 406-243-5856, nicole@mwtc.org.
MISSOULA –

Sculptor and 2006 Fulbright Scholar Rachel Stevens will give a presentation about her experiences studying copper-casting techniques used by Newari icon makers in Nepal on Tuesday, July 12, at The University of Montana.

Stevens will present “Sojourner for Form” at noon in James E. Todd Building Room 204. The event, sponsored by the Montana Museum of Art & Culture and the Maureen and Mike Mansfield Center at UM, is free and open to the public.

Stevens, a Fulbright ambassador, is a professor at New Mexico State University in Las Cruces. As a Fulbright Scholar in Nepal, she visited sites sacred to Buddhist and Hindu pilgrims. Those visits and her experiences with the Newari icon makers culminated in her collaboration with the copper artisans of Sulav Studios in Patan, Nepal, and the creation of two contemporary art installations.

In 1998 Stevens was the recipient of a Pollock-Krasner Foundation grant. She attended the Skowhegan School of Painting & Sculpture in Maine and received a Bachelor’s of Fine Arts from the Maryland Institute College of Art in Baltimore and a Master’s of Fine Arts from Syracuse University in New York. She exhibits her sculptures nationally.

The Fulbright Ambassadors Program identifies, trains and engages a select group of former Fulbright Scholars to serve as representatives for the Fulbright program at campus workshops and academic conferences across the United States.

For more information visit the MMAC website at http://www.umt.edu/montanamuseum or call 406-243-2019.

###

BK/bd

Western Montana

062711mmac

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

The Program in Ecological Agriculture and Society (PEAS) Farm, a joint project of The University of Montana and Garden City Harvest in Missoula, is featured in an essay included in the book “Fields of Learning: The Student Farm Movement in North America,” released this month by The University Press of Kentucky.

The book is a volume of essays by pioneering educators directly involved in the founding and management of what “Fields of Learning” editors Laura Sayre and Sean Clark describe as the 15 of the most influential student farms in North America. Arranged chronologically, the essays illustrate how the student farm movement originated in the 19th century, gained ground in the 1970s and flourishes today.

Essays include farms from the University of California, Davis, to Yale University and from The University of Montana to the University of Maine. Josh Slotnick, a lecturer in UM’s Environmental Studies Program, contributed the book’s essay about the PEAS Farm in Missoula.

In the essay, the UM alum describes how he returned to Missoula after earning a master’s degree in professional studies in agriculture extension and adult education at Cornell University. He dreamed of creating an opportunity for UM students and the Missoula community to experience the benefits of growing food with others in a program similar to one he attended at the University of California, Santa Cruz, where he earned a certificate in ecological horticulture.

Slotnick soon connected with the director of the Women, Infants, and Children program in Missoula, who was concerned about continued availability of social programs for those in need, and with UM philosophy Professor Deborah Slicer, who said “Why don’t we make a student farm here, at The University of Montana?”

Those connections were the beginning of several community conversations and a lot of hard work by many people that eventually resulted in the partnership between UM and Garden City Harvest to support the PEAS Farm. Though the road between then and now was rocky at some points, Slotnick describes how UM and the community worked together to create and maintain something greater than either could have done alone.

Today, students at UM can get the experiential education that Slotnick envisioned through the PEAS Farm and the University’s Environmental Studies Program, which offers an emphasis in sustainable food and farming and provides an array of innovative undergraduate and graduate courses related to food and farming.

“A true educational experience should allow students to emerge changed,” Slotnick said. “After the experience they should feel the potential for creating a different type of relationship between themselves and the world. At UM, the PEAS Farm is host to just such a program.”

For more information about the PEAS Farm and the sustainable food and farming emphasis available through UM’s Environmental Studies Program, visit http://www.cas.umt.edu/evst/students_undergrad_emphasis_sff.htm, call Slotnick at 406-239-6993 or email joshua.slotnick@umontana.edu.


###

BD

Western Montana, Dailies

062411peas

Contact: Josh Slotnick, lecturer, UM Environmental Studies Program, 406-239-6993, joshua.slotnick@umontana.edu.
MISSOULA –

Nicky Phear, instructor and program director in The University of Montana’s Climate Change Studies Program, and UM student Mara Menahan will begin pedaling across Bhutan on July 2 to see firsthand how climate change affects the Himalayan country and its people.

The two will be joined by Katy-Robin Garton, a documentary filmmaker with Missoula-based Sprout Films, in the inaugural “Bhutan Ride for Climate,” which was conceived through a partnership between UM’s Climate Change Studies Program and the Washington, D.C.-based Bhutan Foundation.

The trip brings together 15 teenagers from Bhutan and the U.S. to cycle 300 kilometers, crossing three passes over 10,000 feet to explore perspectives on climate change from farmers, foresters, monks, micro-hydro engineers and conservationists. The ride ends at a regional climate summit July 15 in Thimphu, where students will offer recommendations to political leaders based on their experience.

“We’ve designed the program to help students develop their voice and leadership on the issue of climate change,” said Phear, who will serve as one of the ride leaders. “Having a chance to do this in a country committed to carbon neutrality and gross national happiness will be fascinating.”

Throughout their journey, and with the help of a small team of Bhutanese and American educators, the students will use the written word, photographs and short videos alongside social networking tools such as multimedia blogs, Facebook and Twitter to create a unique visual storytelling experience that allows viewers to be a part of the learning adventure as it unfolds.

“I’m most excited for the cross-cultural dialogue,” Menahan said. “Climate change is a global issue, so I feel it’s important for me to understand how my actions affect communities across the globe.”

To follow their journey, visit “Bhutan Ride for Climate” online at http://bhutanrideforclimate.org or Facebook at http://www.facebook.com/pages/Bhutan-Ride-for-Climate/202085863144858 or the Kickstarter page at http://kck.st/kJ6kJMy.

###

NOTE TO EDITORS: The “Bhutan Ride for Climate” itinerary and photos are available by calling Phear at 406-381-3855 or emailing nicky.phear@cfc.umt.edu.

NP/1d

State

062411bhut

Contact: Nicky Phear, instructor and program director, UM Climate Change Studies Program, 406-381-3855, nicky.phear@umontana.edu
MISSOULA –

When one of the nation’s top high school academic summits comes to The University of Montana later this week courtesy of the Dennis and Phyllis Washington Foundation, the public is invited to watch it live online at http://www.adventuresofthemind.org.

UM will host the Adventures of the Mind achievement mentoring summit Thursday through Sunday, June 23-26. The event gives a fascinating array of high achievers the chance to mentor more than 170 of the nation’s most promising high school students from nearly every state.

Live video streaming will be offered online from 5:30 to 7 p.m. Thursday, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday and from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday. Video will feature the opening ceremonies on Thursday and a variety of symposia on Friday and Saturday.

People also can learn about the summit when it is featured on National Public Radio’s “Science Friday” program with host Ira Flatow. The program will air June 24 in Missoula on Montana Public Radio at 1:20 p.m. Friday.

The 50-plus mentors at the summit include accomplished artists, athletes, inventors, Nobel laureates, novelists, scientists, trailblazers and world changers. Among them are Richard Taylor, who earned the 1990 Nobel Prize in physics (one of seven participating Nobel laureates); Peter Norvig, director of research at Google; Bonnie Dunbar, an astronaut who logged 50 days in space; and Roz Chast, the renowned New Yorker cartoonist.

A full list of mentors and a summit schedule are online at http://www.adventuresofthemind.org. A news release about the summit is online at http://news.umt.edu/2011/06/061511mind.aspx.

###

CBS

State, select national media

062211vids

Contact: Jim Foley, UM executive vice president, 406-243-2311, james.foley@umontana.edu; Victoria Gray, Adventures of the Mind founder, 202-437-3155, v.gray@comcast.net.
BOZEMAN –

Twenty prominent landowners from 13 western states recently met in Bozeman to identify ways to maintain and improve working lands conservation – a topic soon to be debated as part of the 2012 Farm Bill.

The event was co-sponsored by the Missoula-based University of Montana College of Forestry and Conservation, as well as the Intermountain West Joint Venture, a public-private partnership that works to conserve bird habitat in 11 western states, and Partners for Conservation, a private landowner organization that fosters land conservation partnerships.

“This event provided a forum for landowners to share their collective insights and experiences in Farm Bill conservation” said Dave Naugle, a wildlife biology professor with UM’s forestry college. “Working western ranchlands are the key to conserving healthy land, water and wildlife for future generations.”

The event’s opening address was given by keynote speaker David White, chief of the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s Natural Resources Conservation Service. He provided a historical perspective of past Farm Bill legislation and explained the agency’s suite of conservation practices to attending landowners.

White has worked with NRCS for 34 years in various capacities. As chief the past two years, he has extensive experience working with national NRCS program policy and implementation. He urged producers and conservation partners to “do that which is right” in these challenging fiscal times.

"Producers at the forum articulated a shared vision for ways the Farm Bill is working to help maintain rural ways of life and sustainable agriculture in the West,” said Jim Stone, a Montana rancher who chairs Partners for Conservation.

Keeping voluntary, incentive-based programs flexible and user-friendly with an emphasis on quantifying environmental benefits emerged as a major forum theme. A second major theme was strategic delivery of existing Farm Bill programs to solve complex natural resource issues.

For example, landowners praised NRCS’ new and exciting Sage Grouse Initiative, which works with livestock producers to achieve wildlife conservation through sustainable ranching – all while reducing regulatory burdens.

"Marshaling existing Farm Bill resources to keep sage grouse off the endangered species list helps private landowners lead by example,” said Mike Byrne, a California rancher and Sage Grouse Initiative participant.

Naugle said landowners plan to infuse their collective voice into 2012 Farm Bill policy and implementation. Forum recommendations are being synthesized in an educational report to continue the dialogue in several venues over the next year.

###

DN/cbs

State, select national publications

062111naug

**Contact:** Dave Naugle, UM wildlife professor, 406-243-5364, dave.naugle@cfc.umt.edu; Ali Duvall, IWJV assistant coordinator, 406-329-3186, ali.duvall@iwjv.org.
MISSOULA –

University of Montana School of Journalism radio-television students recently walked away with three Emmy Awards in the Northwest Regional College Students Awards of Excellence. The honors were presented by the Northwest Chapter of the National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences.

The students won the Emmys in three categories: public affairs, cultural affairs and sports. The awards were presented during the organization’s 48th annual Emmy Award ceremony, held June 11 in Snoqualmie, Wash.

Kaelyn Kelly of Helena and Dan LaDue of Bozeman won in the public affairs category for their story “Interpreting Education.” The story focused on hearing-impaired students at UM and the sign language interpreters who assist them in their courses.

Cody Johnson of Missoula and Kelly earned an Emmy in the sports reporting category. Their piece highlighted Missoula’s Frontier States professional wrestling school, its instructors and students.

Gillette Vaira of Lambert won top honors in the cultural affairs category. Her story, “Filmmaker,” profiled a student in the media arts department at UM and the film he created for his master’s degree project.

UM students garnered seven nominations and won in three of the seven student categories. Associate Professors Denise Dowling and Ray Fanning were advisers on all the winning projects.

###

DD/bd

Western Montana, hometown

062011emmy

Contact: Denise Dowling, associate professor and chair of the UM Department of Radio-Television, 406-243-4143, denise.dowling@umontana.edu.
MISSOULA –

A University of Montana delegation recently negotiated new partnerships with two Chinese universities in Jinan that will bring increased opportunities for faculty and student exchanges and collaborative research.

The delegation’s May 24-June 4 visit to China, led by Associate Provost for International Programs Mehrdad Kia, will add promising opportunities with the University of Jinan and is expected to increase international student enrollment at UM.

The visit also led to extensive potential for collaborative activities in multiple units of the Shandong University of Traditional Medicine, especially with UM’s School of Health Professions and Biomedical Sciences.

While in China, the UM delegation also strengthened academic ties and developed new training programs with two existing UM partner universities in Shanghai and Beijing. The UM delegates and representatives from Chinese partner universities focused on faculty, staff and student exchanges, as well as new training opportunities for researchers, students and faculty.

The delegation visited Shanghai International Studies University, where collaborative efforts will be developed with several SISU programs and academic units to work with UM’s School of Journalism, Central and Southwest Asian Studies Center, and English Language Institute, among other programs.

“We have turned a new page in the friendly cooperation and exchange between our two universities and will work toward the establishment of a new and vibrant relationship,” said Xinwei Sun, director of International Programs at SISU.

In Beijing, Kia met with members of the administration at China Youth University of Political Sciences to organize special training programs for CYUPS faculty, students and staff on the UM campus.

Faculty members and scholars from UM will participate in upcoming conferences to be held in China this fall and during spring semester 2012. For more information, call UM International Programs at 406-243-2299 or email mehrdad.kia@umontana.edu.

###

BD

State

061711china

**Contact:** Mehrdad Kia, UM associate vice provost for International Programs, 406-243-2289, mehrdad.kia@umontana.edu
MISSOULA —

At The University of Montana, 3,184 students made the spring semester 2011 Dean’s List. To qualify for the Dean’s List, students must be undergraduates, earn a semester grade-point average of 3.50 or higher and receive grades of A or B in at least nine credits. No grades of C+, C, C-, D+, D, D-, F, NC or NCR are allowed.

To view the spring semester 2011 Dean's List, visit http://www.umt.edu/urelations/info/deanslist.aspx.

###

NOTE TO MEDIA: The UM students listed in the attached document made the spring semester 2011 Dean's List. A "**" in the “Honors” column indicates a GPA of 4.0. An "*" indicates a GPA of greater than 3.50 but less than 4.0 was earned.

JK

Local, dailies, weeklies

061711dean

Contact: UM Registrar's Office, 406-243-2995.
MISSOULA –

Robby Nadler, who received a Master’s in Fine Arts in creative writing at The University of Montana this year, has been awarded a Fulbright Fellowship to travel to Israel in October, where he will work on his book of poetry currently titled “The Prodigal Son.”

Nadler, who is from Los Angeles, will spend nine months in the creative writing program at Bar-Han University and conduct research throughout Israel.

Nadler grew up in an Orthodox community and visited Israel many times during his youth. As a young adult he realized he was gay, and the Orthodox community cast him out. He then changed his name from Doron, a Hebrew name, to Robby and turned away from religion.

A decade later, Nadler became interested in reuniting his faith and sexuality. He said he rejected his cultural, religious and ethnic background and hopes to reclaim that identity through his poetry.

While in Israel, Nadler plans to be involved with Israel’s lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender community, whose struggle with identity mirrors his own. He will specifically focus on the LGBT center in Tel Aviv, which was attacked in 2009 by a gunman, resulting in the deaths of three teenagers.

After completing the fellowship in Israel, Nadler plans to pursue a doctorate in creative writing at the University of Georgia.

###

BD

Local, dailies, hometown

061711fulb

Contact: Karin Schalm, UM Creative Writing Program, 406-243-5267, karin.schalm@mso.umt.edu; Robby Nadler, madler@ucla.edu.
MISSOULA —

The University of Montana has 2,283 students who are degree candidates for spring semester 2011. The total includes 163 certificates, 242 associate degrees, 13 education specialists, 1,316 bachelor’s degrees, 310 master’s degrees, 70 juris doctorates and 169 doctoral degrees. There were 136 candidates for double degrees. The Montana students listed in the attached document are UM degree candidates for spring semester 2011.

To view the full list of graduates, visit http://www.umt.edu/urelations/info/deanslist.aspx.

###

**NOTE:** An "*" after the student’s name indicates the student will graduate with honors by achieving a grade-point average of 3.4 or higher. A "**" after the student’s name indicates the student will graduate with high honors by achieving a 3.7 GPA or higher.

JK

Local, Dailies, Weeklies

061711grad

Contact: UM Registrar's Office, 406-243-2995.
MISSOULA –

Expect the state’s collective IQ to jump several points June 23-26 during the Adventures of the Mind achievement mentoring summit at The University of Montana.

Using the theme “Under the Big Sky,” Adventures of the Mind will give a fascinating array of high achievers the chance to mentor more than 170 of the nation’s most promising high school students from nearly every state.

The 50-plus mentors include accomplished artists, athletes, inventors, Nobel laureates, novelists, scientists, trailblazers and world changers. Among them are Richard Taylor, who earned the 1990 Nobel Prize in physics (one of seven participating Nobel laureates); Peter Norvig, director of research at Google; Bonnie Dunbar, an astronaut who logged 50 days in space; and Roz Chast, the renowned New Yorker cartoonist.

A full list of mentors and a summit schedule are online at http://issuu.com/umontana/docs/adventures. The Adventures of the Mind website is http://www.adventuresofthemind.org.

“Every two years this event brings together some of America’s most promising students – the great thinkers and achievers of tomorrow – with some of the great thinkers and achievers of today,” said Victoria Gray, the event organizer who founded the summit in 2003. “During this weekend our junior achievers will get to meet one another and the mentors, many of whom have been unknowable names in a textbook, television program or Wikipedia entry. But even more important is that the mentors will get to know the student scholars.”

The previous four summits were held at Seattle, the Stanford Linear Accelerator Center, Morehouse College and the Princeton Institute for Advanced Study. This prestigious event was brought to Missoula through generous support by host sponsors Dennis and Phyllis Washington. The summit will be headquartered on the UM campus in the building named for Mrs. Washington, the Phyllis J. Washington Education Center.

“This event allows some amazing students to interact with some very bright and accomplished people,” Mrs. Washington said. “This is an opportunity to open their minds and set goals for their paths in life. We are excited to help bring such a fantastic event to Montana.”

The high-potential students will attend symposia and breakout sessions with names such as “Nobel Aspirations,” “Thinking Like a Winner,” “Math is Not Just for Nerds,” “You Can Make a Difference” and “Finding Your Niche in Life.”

They also may experience hiking to the M above campus, a barbecue and shindig at the Washingtons’ Grant Creek Ranch, dinner on the 50-yard line in Washington-Grizzly Stadium with Heisman Trophy winner Herschel Walker and much more.

When selecting students for the summit, Adventures of the Mind searches beyond traditional achievement benchmarks such as grades and test scores, selecting attendees based on nominations from educators who know the students with exceptional potential – despite obstacles such as learning disabilities and socioeconomic status.

The program also recruits runners-up in national competitions, such as the U.S. Presidential Scholars Program, Intel Science Talent Search and National Spoken Word Competition, as these students often are just as talented as the winners but don’t receive the same recognition, Gray said.

“This event will bring an exciting array of intellect and talent to campus, and we are ready to launch what should be an extraordinary four days,” said UM President Royce C. Engstrom, who also will serve as a mentor. “My hope is that a few of these top students will fall in love with Montana and decide to launch their academic careers here.”

###

CBS

State, select national publications
Contact: Jim Foley, UM executive vice president, 406-243-2311, jfoley@umontana.edu; Mike Halligan, director of government and corporate relations, Washington Business Services, 406-523-1325, mhalligan@washcorp.com; Victoria Gray, Adventures of the Mind founder, 202-437-3155, v.gray@comcast.net.
MISSOULA –

University of Montana political science Professor Peter Koehn recently received the 2011 Michael P. Malone International Leadership Award.

The award, presented annually by the Association of Public and Land-grant Universities Commission on International Programs, recognizes faculty and staff who do not have international activities or programs as a primary responsibility, but through their advocacy and leadership have made an outstanding contribution to furthering international education at the association’s more than 200 member institutions.

The award name honors Michael P. Malone, who as Montana State University president from 1991 until his untimely death in 1999 made many contributions to MSU and to U.S. higher education.

Koehn was chosen for the award, in part, for his incorporation of international considerations in scholarship, program development and teaching both at home and overseas, which the commission said clearly distinguished his nomination. In nominating Koehn for the award, UM President Royce Engstrom noted his “impact on the higher education communities in this country and abroad, on students and faculty members at The University of Montana, on the community of scholars, on the Peace Corps, and on his international partners.”

Koehn, a Fulbright New Century Scholar, is co-author of the book “Transnational Competence: Empowering Professional Curricula for Horizon-Rising Challenges,” released last year by Paradigm Publishers. At UM he directs the University’s popular interdisciplinary minor in international development studies and the Peace Corps Prep program. He also serves on the steering committee for UM’s minor in climate change studies and the University’s master’s degree in public health.

Koehn has taught and contributed to academic program development in Ethiopia, Nigeria, Namibia, Eritrea, Belize, China, Hong Kong and Finland. His recent scholarship has enhanced understanding of African politics and development, U.S.-China relations, global health and medical education, transnational higher-education partnerships, and global environmental and resource challenges.

Koehn said he hopes that the award will bring increased national and international recognition to the quality academic programs and opportunities for internationally meaningful study at the undergraduate and graduate level available at UM and throughout the Montana University System.

“Mike Malone made an incredibly positive impact on higher education here in Montana and nationally,” he said. “I am thrilled and honored that the international leadership of Montana’s faculty is being recognized by the APLU award in his name.”

The commission will present the award to Koehn during its summer meeting next month in Ottawa, Ontario. More information is on the APLU website at http://www.aplu.org.

###

BD

Western Montana

061411koeh

Contact: Peter Koehn, UM Department of Political Science professor, 406-243-5294, peter.koehn@umontana.edu.
MISSOULA –

Kacey Swanson, a first-year, full-time culinary arts student at The University of Montana College of Technology, recently brought home a bronze medal she earned as a participant in a one-hour American Culinary Federation competition held at the Art Institute of Seattle.

COT and the ACF Montana Chefs Association sponsored Swanson for the June 11 event, where she competed in practical and contemporary hot-food cooking against 17 other students from culinary programs throughout the Seattle area.

Participants in the Category SK-1 competition had to fabricate and prepare two portions of a finished product based on main course ingredients Rock Cornish game hen, chicken or duck. Swanson, who holds a full-time job at The Depot Bar & Restaurant in Missoula in addition to attending COT, made sautéed côtelettes of chicken with brandied morel sauce stuffed with Mousseline-style forcemeat and served with beet-apple-potato tian, Pont Neuf root vegetables and haricot vert.

###

NOTE TO EDITORS: For a photo of Swanson and more biographical information, call Tom Campbell at 406-243-7815 or email thomas.campbell@umontana.edu.

TC/bd

Western Montana

061411culn

Contact: Tom Campbell, director, COT Culinary Arts, 406-243-7815, thomas.campbell@umontana.edu.
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 small 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:

- July 22: 10:30 p.m.
- July 29: 10:15 p.m.
- Aug. 19: 9:45 p.m. (lunar observing)
- Aug. 26: 9:30 p.m.
- Sept. 30: 8:30 p.m.

More information, directions and a map to the observatory are available online at [http://www.physics.umt.edu/bluemountain](http://www.physics.umt.edu/bluemountain).

###

BD

Western Montana

061411blue

**Contact:** Blue Mountain Observatory, 406-243-5179,
HAMILTON –

The steering committee for the Bitterroot College Program of The University of Montana will hold its monthly meeting at 3 p.m. Wednesday, June 22, at the Human Resource Council Building Meeting Room, located at 316 N. Third St. in Hamilton.

The BCP steering committee is a public board and welcomes members of the public to observe and participate at its meetings.

Agenda topics will include discussion of the BCP five-year Strategic Plan Draft as well as current operational and fiscal issues. The meeting agenda and supplemental meeting materials will be available Friday, June 17, on the BCP website at http://www.umt.edu/bcp (click on “Meetings” under “Steering Committee”), by calling BCP Interim Director Victoria Clark at 406-375-0100 or emailing victoria.clark@umontana.edu.

The BCP steering committee is a collaborative group composed of 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 to Ravalli County residents. The BCP will offer more than 30 UM and College of Technology courses in the Hamilton area during autumn 2011.

###

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

The University of Montana has hired Fritz Snyder to serve as interim dean of operations for the Maureen and Mike Mansfield Library.

Snyder, who recently announced his June 30 retirement as director of the University's William J. Jameson Law Library and UM School of Law professor of law librarianship, agreed to postpone retirement for a year to serve in the Mansfield Library interim position.

In his new position at the University, Snyder will lead and manage the Mansfield Library while Dean of Libraries Bonnie Allen is engaged in a special assignment as academic information technology officer for UM Academic Affairs.

In addition to her special assignment, Allen will remain involved in external development and coordination activities for the Mansfield Library.

###

BD

Local

061411dean

**Contact:** Perry Brown, UM provost and vice president for academic affairs, 406-243-4689, [perry.brown@umontana.edu](mailto:perry.brown@umontana.edu)
MISSOULA –

The Building Futures Program, a community partnership of The University of Montana College of Technology, the Missoula Building Industry Association and the Flagship Program, will hold a groundbreaking ceremony at 3 p.m. Tuesday, June 14, for the partnership’s second student-built house.

To get to the ceremony, which will take place in Missoula’s Linda Vista neighborhood, turn right on Linda Vista Boulevard, left on Christian Drive, left on Alisha Drive and right on Jeff Drive to Lot 11.

MBIA carpentry scholarship recipients, chosen from an application process associated with the construction trades, will be announced during the ceremony. Refreshments will be served.

College carpentry students and local high school students receive hands-on skills training through the Building Futures Program project, which promotes career paths to the building industry. Students will do everything from excavation to carpentry to selecting interior finishes. They are instructed and supervised by COT carpentry educators and local building contractors.

The first student-built house, completed in spring 2010, was heavily supported by local businesses and building contractors. The house was raffled in January 2011.

The Building Futures Committee expects to sell tickets for the second student-built house beginning this fall. All profits from the house will benefit the Building Futures program and the MBIA scholarship program.

UM complies with disability rights laws, including the Americans with Disabilities Act, by making reasonable modifications for individuals with disabilities. To request such a modification for the groundbreaking ceremony, call Alan Fugleberg, COT associate dean, at 406-243-7608 at least 48 hours in advance.

For more information, email Fugleberg at alan1.fugleberg@umontana.edu or go online to http://www.missoulastudentbuilthouse.org.

###

AF/bd

Western Montana

060711hous

Contact: Alan Fugleberg, associate dean, UM College of Technology, 406-243-7608, alan1.fugleberg@umontana.edu.
MISSOULA –

The Maureen and Mike Mansfield Center has awarded a total of $11,000 to 13 University of Montana students in a special natural resources competition for Pat Williams Scholarships.

The scholarships are named in honor of Williams, U.S. congressman from Montana from 1979 to 97. Williams, now a Senior Fellow at UM’s O’Connor Center for the Rocky Mountain West, has taught at the University for 14 years. As a congressman, he was a strong proponent of the federal legislation that started the Mansfield Center at UM.

East Asia and domestic policy were important issues to Mike Mansfield, the Butte miner who went on to become a revered statesman and the longest-serving U.S. Senate majority leader and ambassador to Japan. Mansfield Center Director Terry Weidner said the scholarships follow Mansfield’s example by emphasizing the global nature of responsible decision-making, ethical leadership and the skills necessary for considered policy development.

The scholarships, drawn from an application pool of nearly 40 students, are part of a project that aims to foster civic responsibility in future leaders and further civil dialogue on domestic policy considerations.

Scholarship recipients are:

- Talasi Brooks, law student from Hartford, Conn. Internship with the U.S. Forest Service climate adviser in Washington, D.C.
- Matthew Coomer, senior from Gulfport, Miss. Internship with the Elephant Nature Foundation in Chiang Mai, Thailand.
- Melissa Early, graduate student from Charlotte Court House, Va. Research exploring values-based labeling as a social movement using Predator Friendly Certification, a nascent certification labeling program.
- Brianna Ewert, graduate student from Bradenton, Fla. Research project on beginning farmer support programs.
- Sonya Germann, graduate student from Missoula. Research project exploring restoration and collaboration on the Tongass National Forest in southeast Alaska.
- Emily Gutierrez, junior from Whitefish. Research project involving sustainability and its implications in developing countries, specifically in Mexico.
- David Hooper, graduate student from New Sharon, Maine. Research on the interactions between members of the Nisqually tribe and plants located within Mount Rainier National Park.
- Penny Hudson, graduate student from Missoula. Research on connecting traditional ecological knowledge to diabetes research in anthropology.
- Chelsea McIver, graduate student from Hope, Idaho. Research on building the restoration economy in western Montana.
- Forest Moulton, graduate student from Malone, N.Y. Research assessing visitor evaluations of recreation conditions on the South Fork River.
- Gina Raicovich, graduate student from Roslyn, N.Y. Research to evaluate the potential for a collaborative public dialogue to offer recommendations to key policymakers regarding prairie conservation and land use in northeastern Montana.
- Yvonne Sorovacu, graduate student from Richmond, Va. Research into public knowledge needs of Opportunity citizens concerning groundwater contamination and remediation efforts in a federal hazardous material cleanup site.
- Jennifer White, graduate student from Missoula. Research on local effects of extractive mining in the West.

The scholarships are funded by a congressionally directed grant administered through the U.S. Department of Education. However, the projects funded by this grant do not necessarily represent the policy of the Department of Education and do not assume endorsement by the federal government.

For more information visit the Mansfield Center’s website at http://www.umt.edu/mansfield.

###

Western Montana, hometown
Contact: Deena Mansour, project manager, UM Maureen and Mike Mansfield Center, 406-243-2713, deena.mansour@umontana.edu.
MISSOULA –

The Wilderness Institute at The University of Montana invites citizen monitors to help collect scientific data this summer from a wilderness study area in the backcountry of the Gallatin National Forest in southwest Montana.

The Citizen Science monitoring program will take place in the 155,000-acre Hyalite Porcupine Buffalo Horn Wilderness Study Area. This year’s effort is in collaboration with the Gallatin National Forest, and is part of the institute’s goal to record the conditions in Montana’s seven wilderness study areas.

Experienced trip leaders will lead small groups of volunteers on backcountry trips to gather data on invasive species, recreation impacts and wildlife in the study area. The trips range from three to five days and will be held during July and August.

Trip locations and dates are:

- **Friday-Monday, July 1-4:** Buffalo Horn and Beyond. Explore stunning wild country north of Yellowstone National Park.
- **Friday-Tuesday, July 8-12:** Big Creek Loops. Hike the Gallatin Crest in the heart of this spectacular country.
- **Saturday-Monday, July 16-18:** Rock Creek Loop. Hike through the Gallatin Petrified Forest to beautiful Lake Elsie.
- **Friday-Sunday, July 22-24:** Bozeman’s Backyard: Hyalite Canyon. Hike through the Gallatin Canyon, alpine lakes, waterfalls, rugged peaks and more.
- **Thursday-Monday Aug. 4-8:** Hyalite Adventure. Explore Fridley Peak, Hylait Lake and Shower Falls.
- **Friday-Sunday, Aug. 12-14:** Eaglehead Mountain and Golden Trout Lakes. Panoramic views, high-mountain lakes, Windy Pass and more.
- **Friday-Monday, Aug. 19-22:** Sentinel Loop. Crest Windy Pass, traverse alpine meadows, summit the Sentinel.
- **Friday-Monday, Aug. 26-29:** Gallatin Crest Sweep. Explore the spine of the Gallatin Crest.

More information about Citizen Science and trip details are on the Wilderness Institute website at [http://www.cfc.umt.edu/wi/citizen_science.html](http://www.cfc.umt.edu/wi/citizen_science.html). For more information or to sign up for a trip, call 406-243-5361 or email citizenscience@cfc.umt.edu.

According to the institute’s Citizen Science Program Director Catherine Filardi, the Forest Service is tasked with maintaining the wilderness character of these areas but doesn’t always have the manpower to assess how the areas are faring.

“It’s hard for agencies to get a handle on what’s going on across these large landscapes with fairly limited budgets,” she said. “Citizen monitors can help fill in those information gaps by being the eyes and ears on the ground.”

“This year’s trips will be visiting spectacular areas of the Gallatin Range, while covering every trail mile within the wilderness study area,” Filardi said. “It’s a great way to get into the backcountry with a fun group of people while gaining a better understanding of your backyard wilderness.”

A report summarizing results will be distributed to land managers and other interested parties. Filardi hopes it will provide critical information to help inform stewardship activities and future decision-making.

“Our role is to provide objective, scientific information,” she said. “Others decide how to use that information.”

This is the Wilderness Institute’s seventh year running Citizen Science projects in designated wilderness and wilderness study areas. During that time, the program has worked with more than 250 volunteers to conduct monitoring and restoration in seven wilderness areas and four wilderness study areas in Montana and Idaho.

Funding for the project is provided by the National Forest Foundation, the U.S. Forest Service and the Cinnabar Foundation.

###
Citizen Scientists To Monitor Wilderness Study Area - UM News - The University Of Montana

Contact: Grace Brogan, UM Wilderness Institute Citizen Science outreach coordinator, 406-243-5361, citizenscience@cfp.umt.edu.
MISSOULA –

Schools from across the state will offer a free opportunity at The University of Montana this month for high school girls who will enter their junior year this fall to experience college life and explore science, technology, engineering and mathematics.

The summer 2011 Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) program will take place from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Wednesday through Friday, June 15-17, at UM's Phyllis J. Washington College of Education and Human Sciences.

The three-day program is part of a statewide plan to enhance educational and career opportunities for females. Created by math and science educators from Montana schools, colleges and universities, the program's research-based, hands-on activities are designed to give girls a greater awareness of the skills needed to be competitive in the 21st century.

Registration for the summer STEM experience is free, but space is limited. For more information or to apply, call Tricia Parrish, state coordinator for the Montana Math and Science Teacher Initiative, at 406-243-4405 or 406-550-9194 or email tricia.parrish@mso.umt.edu. Collaborators in this summer's STEM experience are Missoula County schools, Helena Public School District, Carroll College, Montana State University-Bozeman, St. Labre Indian School, Salish Kootenai College, Polson School District and UM.

STEM participants can put a lab coat and rubber gloves on and see firsthand how people breathe, learn about some of the chemical processes that allow our bodies to function, use GPS to navigate the UM campus, explore scuba diving and more.

The girls will stay in UM residence halls and have the opportunity to experience college life. Information also will be available to help participants understand the requirements necessary for successful application to Montana colleges and universities.

All participants will receive a UM gift bag, school supplies and other surprises to keep for the new school year. Breakfast, lunch and dinner will be provided.

###

TP/bd

Local, State

060811stem

**Contact:** Tricia Parrish, state coordinator of the Montana Math and Science Teacher Initiative, UM Phyllis J. Washington College of Education and Human Sciences, 406-243-4405, 406-550-9194, tricia.parrish@mso.umt.edu.
MISSOULA —

The University of Montana has awarded 24 Presidential Leadership Scholarships to 24 exceptional incoming freshmen from across Montana and the nation.

The scholarships recognize outstanding talent, academic performance, leadership and contribution to the community. This year’s scholarship winners were chosen from a field of more than 400 qualified applicants.

Scholarship recipients become members of UM’s Davidson Honors College and receive a four-year tuition waiver, as well as $5,000 to $7,500 per year.

Montana’s crop of 2011 Presidential Leadership Scholars are Taylor Steubs of Billings; Nicole Thelen of Bozeman; Taymee Brandon, Gavin Hagfors, Coral Larson and Eamon Ormseth of Great Falls; Jameson Boslough and Michael Zarling of Helena; Geoffrey Glidewell of Lolo; and Shaun Bummer, Matthew Freeman and Nathaniel Goodburn of Missoula.


###

JM/rm

Local, dailies, hometowns

060811lead

Contact: James McKusick, dean, Davidson Honors College, 406-243-2541, dhc@umontana.edu.
MISSOULA –

The University of Montana’s spectrUM Discovery Area will celebrate the last day of school for local children on Friday, June 10, by hosting the “Second Annual Weird Science Dance Party” at Caras Park.

The event, which features spectrUM exhibitions and live performances, begins at 6:30 p.m. Admission is $3 per person or $15 for a family group.

Money raised will benefit spectrUM’s Science for All Scholarship Fund, which provides financial aid to schools and children across Montana who wish to access the discovery area’s inquiry-based science education. To date, the fund already has helped almost 400 children access dynamic science education.

This year’s party features live music, selected activities from spectrUM’s traveling exhibitions, a performance by UM’s G. Wiz, exotic animals from Potomac’s Animal Wonders, booths from the Zootown Arts Community Center and the Children’s Museum of Missoula, and a special appearance by UM mascot Monte. Participants are encouraged to attend in zany clothing or costumes, creating a fun and festive atmosphere.

The spectrUM Discovery Area is a science learning center dedicated to inspiring a culture of learning and discovery through experiences, programs, educators and technologies that help all Montanans advance their curiosity about science and the world around them. Each year spectrUM reaches more than 39,000 children in Montana through in-museum science exploration and statewide traveling exhibitions to rural and tribal communities across the state. Of the children who interacted with spectrUM last year, 55 percent came from low-income areas or belonged to Title I schools in some of the most impoverished counties in Montana.

Through numerous outreach programs and participation in community events such as the Western Montana Fair and the River City Roots Festival, spectrUM inspires kids of all backgrounds to pursue careers in science, mathematics and technology.

For more information visit the spectrUM Discovery Area website at http://spectrum.umt.edu.

Contact: Levi McGarry, AmeriCorps VISTA volunteer, spectrUM Discovery Area, 406-243-4828, levi.mcgarry@mso.umt.edu; Lisa Woods, spectrUM Discovery Area business manager, 406-544-5184, lisawoods81@gmail.com.
MISSOULA –

The University of Montana Foundation has established a scholarship for UM students from Japan who were afflicted by the March earthquake that caused a tsunami and nuclear disaster.

The Japan Rising Opportunity Scholarship demonstrates UM’s continued support for its Japanese students and Japan as a whole. The UM Japan Earthquake and Tsunami Relief website, [http://www.umt.edu/japan](http://www.umt.edu/japan), provides a link to the fundraising page for those wishing to donate.

Donors who contribute $100 or more to the scholarship fund will receive the “UM’s Heart Goes Out to Japan” poster, the product of collaboration between the UM and Missoula communities to support Japan in the aftermath of the disasters.

Mika Watanabe-Taylor is a UM alumnus from Japan now working for the University’s Disability Services for Students. “I believe this scholarship will give other Japanese people, especially those most heavily impacted by the disasters, a wonderful opportunity to pursue their dreams of attending college in the United States,” she said.

“As a foreign student, my student visa restricted my ability to work,” Watanabe-Taylor said. “Scholarships helped me ease such financial limitations and helped me pursue my dreams. Because of this experience, I strongly value scholarships and am excited about the Japan Rising Opportunity Rising Scholarship.”

The new scholarship is for both undergraduate and graduate students from Japan. Students from across the country may apply, but preference will be shown to students from the Iwate, Miyagi and Fukushima prefectures in the Tohoku Region. Applicants must have met all UM admission criteria in their respective fields of study.

A scholarship committee appointed by Effie Koehn, director of the UM Office of Foreign Student and Scholar Services, will determine the scholarship recipients and amounts. For more information call Koehn at 406-243-5580 or email effie.koehn@umontana.edu.

###

CBS

Local, dailies

060711japn

Contact: Effie Koehn, director, UM Office of Foreign Student and Scholar Services, 406-243-5580, effie.koehn@umontana.edu.
MISSOULA –

The Maureen and Mike Mansfield Center has awarded a total of $12,000 to 13 University of Montana students who are recipients of spring 2011 Pat Williams Scholarships.

The scholarships, drawn from an application pool of nearly 60 students, were awarded competitively to students pursuing internships and research related to public policy across a broad range of fields.

Named in honor of Williams, U.S. congressman from Montana from 1979 to 1997, the scholarship program is part of a project that aims to foster civic responsibility in future leaders and further civil dialogue on domestic policy considerations.

Williams has taught at UM for 14 years and is a Senior Fellow at the University’s O’Connor Center for the Rocky Mountain West. While serving in Congress, he was a strong proponent of the federal legislation that started the Mansfield Center at UM.

East Asia and domestic policy were important issues to Mike Mansfield, the Butte miner who went on to become a revered statesman, the longest serving U.S. Senate majority leader and an ambassador to Japan. Mansfield Center Director Terry Weidner said the scholarships follow Mansfield’s example by emphasizing the global nature of responsible decision-making, ethical leadership and the skills necessary for considered policy development.

The spring 2011 Pat Williams Scholarship recipients are:

- Caitlin Ajax, junior from Cody, Wyo. Internship in Amman, Jordan, on civic engagement with the nonprofit organization Hamzet Wasel.
- Josh Fomon, graduate student from Iowa City, Iowa. Internship with CutBank, UM’s literary journal, to expand the publication’s outreach to underserved populations.
- Nora Gartner, junior from Chicago. Internships as an interpreter at Travelers’ Rest State Park and Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks.
- Aislinn Heavy Runner-Rioux, graduate student from Browning. Research project on the impact the All Nations Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation program has on Native American college students in science, technology, engineering and mathematics.
- Kate Jaffe, graduate student from Seattle. Research project exploring the history of organ donation public policy and the bioethical issues of these policies through a collection of oral histories.
- Patrick Nicholson, graduate student from Danville, Va. Research project on the sulfur dioxide cap-and-trade allowance market and five related energy markets to determine if cap-and-trade programs increase volatility in energy markets.
- Helen Russette, senior from Havre. Research project assessing the accessibility standards in rural health clinics and community health centers for those with disabilities.
- Thomas Schumann, graduate student from Washington, D.C. Research examining school-based instruction in personal finance as a policy option for improving financial knowledge and outcomes in Montana.
- John Semmens, law student from Great Falls. Internship with the American Civil Liberties Union.
- Kate Sheridan, graduate student from Eugene, Ore. Research on a history of microlivestock in urban environments.
- Jonathan Van Dyke, graduate student from Missoula. Research on the impact of the courts on annual funding agreements between tribes and federal agencies.

The Pat Williams Scholarships are funded by a congressionally directed grant administered through the U.S. Department of Education. However, the projects funded by this grant do not necessarily represent the policy of the Department of Education and do not assume endorsement by the federal government.

For more information visit the Mansfield Center’s website at http://www.umt.edu/mansfield.

###

DM/bd
Contact: Deena Mansour, project manager, UM Maureen and Mike Mansfield Center, 406-243-2713, deena.mansour@umontana.edu.
Furthur Takes Adams Center Stage In September - UM News - The University Of Montana

MISSOULA –

Furthur, the band that continues to push musical boundaries with highly impressive improvisations and timeless renditions of Grateful Dead classics, will bring its Summer of 2011 tour to The University of Montana’s Adams Center on Tuesday, Sept. 27.

Formed by Phil Lesh and Bob Weir, the band is composed of all-star talent that includes Jeff Chimenti, Joe Russo, Sunshine Becker, Jeff Pehrson and John Kadlecik.

The UM show starts at 7 p.m. Doors open at 5:30 p.m. Tickets cost $45 and go on sale Friday, June 10. They are available at all GrizTix locations, online at http://www.griztix.com or by calling 888-666-8262.

For more information visit http://www.Furthur.net or http://umproductions.org.

###

Contact: Aaron Reynolds, marketing coordinator, UM Productions, 406-243-4719, marketing@umproductions.org.
MISSOULA –

A research team from The University of Montana may have discovered a new advantage for Type 1 diabetics: They may burn fat at a greater rate than non-diabetics during exercise.

The team studied fat and carbohydrate oxidation rates in 29 individuals with Type 1 diabetes. Study participants – 19 females and 10 males – were tested for aerobic capacity and metabolic data during a stationary cycle or treadmill test to exhaustion. The researchers then recruited an age- and gender-matched group of non-diabetics from the community to serve as the control.

"For the first time, we set out to explicitly compare fuel utilization in Type 1 diabetics and healthy adults," said UM health and human performance Associate Professor Charles Dumke, lead author of the study. "While we know diabetics' elevated blood sugar and insulin administration affect fuel utilization, we have not studied this in healthy adults until now."

For all study participants, metabolic data was recorded every two minutes during exercise. Blood glucose was recorded pre-exercise (20 minutes and five minutes before) and post-exercise (5 minutes and 20 minutes after). Carbohydrate and fat oxidation were calculated at 50, 60, 70 and 80 percent of aerobic capacity. All subjects avoided strenuous exercise for 24 hours and fasted for two hours before testing.

Study results suggest that at the same relative intensity Type 1 diabetics oxidize fat greater and carbohydrates less than non-diabetics, Dumke said. Before and throughout exercise, diabetics had higher blood sugar levels and slower carbohydrate burning than their non-diabetic counterparts. However, diabetics did have the advantage in fat burning. Fat oxidation was consistently higher in the diabetic group.

"The results are significant in that despite elevated blood sugar values, Type 1 diabetics appear to oxidize fat at greater rates," Dumke said. "This is perhaps to compensate for their lack of endogenous insulin production.

"Insulin is a powerful hormone in the control of fuel utilization. Since Type 1 diabetics rely on exogenous insulin administration, they in essence also control their muscles' fuel selection during exercise," he said. "Our pretest instructions of a two-hour fast likely resulted in lower basal levels of insulin in the Type 1 diabetics."

The UM research was presented this week at the American College of Sports Medicine's 58th Annual Meeting and Second World Congress on Exercise is Medicine, which is being held through June 4 in Denver.

###

ACL/bd

State, select national media

060211dbet

Contact: Charles Dumke, associate professor, UM Department of Health and Human Performance, 406-243-6176, charles.dumke@mso.umt.edu.
MISSOULA –

The Associated Students of The University of Montana Office of Transportation gave 397,744 rides during the 2010-11 academic year – a record number on their six Park-N-Ride and UDASH buses.

The new record includes riders who used the South Park-N-Ride, East Broadway Park-N-Ride, College of Technology shuttle and UDASH, the late-night bus, as well as special shuttles such as those offered for home football games and Commencement.

The ASUM transportation system is free and open to the public. Service is available during UM’s autumn and spring semesters.

By replacing single-car drivers and getting students, faculty and staff in the buses, the system saved 53,282 pounds of carbon monoxide, 8,313 pounds of hydrocarbons and 2,393 pounds of nitrogen oxides from being released into Missoula’s air shed. The system also relieved congestion in and around the University area.

Next academic year the system will boost services. The East Broadway Park-N-Ride will be changed from 20-minute bus service to 10-minute bus service. The late-night UDASH bus will change from a half-hour service to 15-minute service on Friday and Saturday nights.

For information about routes and other services offered by the ASUM Office of Transportation, visit http://www.umt.edu/asum/ot.

###

NW/bd

Western Montana

060111tran

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

Eight Montanans will travel to China next week for a public diplomacy mission on global environmental issues under the sponsorship of the U.S. Department of State and organized by the Maureen and Mike Mansfield Center of The University of Montana.

The Mansfield Center has been awarded a $440,000 grant by the U.S. Department of State to implement a two-way exchange program with China on global environmental issues. The program focuses on young professionals who work in the field of the environment and want to establish international partnerships and new ways of looking at shared concerns.

The Montana contingent will be accompanied by two Alabamans who work on various aspects of coal mining and methane recovery. Program participants are:

- Jonathan Andrew David, natural resource specialist – minerals, Bureau of Land Management, Miles City.
- Matthew Stanton Frank, associate editor, Missoula Independent, Missoula.
- Ross Patrick Keogh, planner and analyst, Sagebrush Energy, Missoula.
- Melissa Deanne Mitchem, environmental specialist, Industrial Energy and Minerals Coal Program, Montana Department of Environmental Quality, Helena.
- Rosemary Jan Moore, field organizer, Northern Plains Resource Council, Billings.
- Monica Lynn Pokorny, wildlife habitat restoration ecologist, Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes, Polson.
- Brianna Carolie Randall, water policy director, Clark Fork Coalition, Missoula.
- Joaquin Small Rodriguez, environmental youth organizer, Native Action, Lame Deer.
- Seth Autrey Newton, oil and gas attorney, Rosen Hanwood P.A., Tuscaloosa, Ala.

The group of 10 Americans will travel to Beijing and Guizhou, China, for three weeks, June 7-26. They’ll also engage with 20 Chinese counterparts traveling to Montana in September.

In describing why she looks forward to representing Montana, Mitchem said, “I’ve learned to appreciate our wealth of natural resources and understand the responsibilities that come along with having them. For the past five years, I’ve dedicated my career to reclaiming lands impacted by resource extraction, developing and teaching responsible practices, and enforcing those practices through regulation. I love what I do and am proud to be a steward of Montana.”

Moore adds, “Working with and learning from other young professionals who are working toward positive change will be greatly beneficial for us as we begin our careers. I am interested in developing lasting professional relationships with Chinese counterparts where we can continue to exchange our understanding and development of environmental issues long after the program has come to a close.”

The Office of Citizen Exchanges of the U.S. Department of State provides grants to U.S. nonprofit organizations to conduct two-way exchange programs that provide substantive professional development and support to emerging leaders from the U.S. and foreign countries. The purpose of each exchange program is to engage with foreign leaders in critical professions, to demonstrate respect for foreign cultures and to promote mutual understanding between the people of the United States and other countries.

The Mansfield Center promotes better understanding of Asia, U.S. relations with Asia, and ethics and public affairs in the spirit of U.S. Sen. Mike Mansfield and his wife, Maureen.

“This U.S.-China exchange project is an integral part of the Mansfield Center’s efforts to increase mutual understanding between the U.S. and Asia,” said center Director Terry Weidner. “The program offers Americans the opportunity to share their expertise and experience with their foreign counterparts and to learn about Chinese problems and perspectives.”

The exchange will be divided into two phases. The first phase consists of a visit by 10 Americans to Beijing and Guizhou, a province in southwest China, to look at environmental issues. Participants will be accompanied by Suhan Chen, Mansfield Center Confucius Institute co-director.
An orientation about national environmental concerns, supplemented by cultural enhancements such as visits to the Great Wall and the Forbidden City, will launch the program in Beijing. The group then will fly to Guiyang, the capital of the province of Guizhou, where they will participate in a series of workshops and discussions on provincial issues before separating into teams for travel to relevant environmental sites throughout the province.

The second phase of the program starts with the visit of 20 Chinese to the U.S. this fall. Though based in Missoula, the Chinese group also will travel to Glacier National Park and Helena. The group will further develop their understanding of U.S. environmental issues with visits to Alabama and Washington, D.C.

"China’s environmental problems may require far-reaching reforms that can only be carried out by a new generation of leaders," Weidner said. “Both the American and Chinese participants will have a real opportunity to make a difference.”

###

DM/bd

State

060111chna

Contact: Deena Mansour, Maureen and Mike Mansfield Center project manager, 406-243-2713, deena.mansour@umontana.edu.