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UM NEWS



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UM NEWS



January 31, 2012

MISSOULA –

A report on allegations of sexual assault involving University of Montana students was submitted to President Royce Engstrom on Tuesday, Jan. 31.

The report was prepared by Diane Barz, the former district and Montana Supreme Court judge who directed an investigation into the allegations for the University. The report will be released in the next several days after Engstrom has had time to read and review the information.

The president will discuss the status of the investigation at two upcoming public meetings on Tuesday, Feb. 7. The first will be UM's regularly scheduled University Council meeting from 2 to 3 p.m. in University Center Rooms 332-333. The second is a community forum at 5:30 p.m. in the Holiday Inn Downtown, located at 200 S. Pattee St. in Missoula.

###

CBS
Local
013112rept

Contact: Jim Foley, UM vice president for external relations, 406-243-2311, 406-544-9099, james.foley@umontana.edu.

UM NEWS



January 31, 2012

MISSOULA –

Counseling and Psychological Services at The University of Montana will hold a training seminar Tuesday, Feb. 7, on how to assist someone who is having suicidal thoughts.

Dr. Brian Krylowicz, CAPS director, will lead the free seminar, "Help Someone – Help Yourself: First Responder Training," from 3:30 to 5 p.m. in University Center Room 329. The seminar is open to all UM students, faculty and staff, and snacks and drinks will be provided.

The seminar also will be offered Friday, March 23, and Thursday, April 12. To reserve a spot, call 406-243-2809.

The seminar is designed to raise awareness about suicide issues on campus and present several basic strategies and techniques that can be helpful when dealing with suicide.

Participants will learn how to assist students, colleagues and friends who are experiencing depression or suicidal thoughts; become familiar with available services such as CAPS and the national suicide hot line; and learn how to refer those in need of professional help.

###

RN/als

Campus

013112

Contact: Ryan Norton, UM Office of Health Enhancement, 406-243-2809, helpsomeonehelpyourself@yahoo.com.

UM NEWS



January 31, 2012

MISSOULA –

A University of Montana radio-television student has earned ninth place in the television features category of the national Hearst Journalism Awards.

Emily Foster, a senior from Whitehall, earned the honor with stories on topics ranging from the Undie Run charity event on campus to the Brain Zone neuroscience learning center at spectrUM Discovery Area.

Foster's stories originally aired on "UM News," a program produced by journalism students highlighting happenings on campus. The program airs weekly on KPAX in Missoula and other Montana News Station outlets.

The Hearst Awards, often referred to as the "college Pulitzers," accepts contest submissions from students at nationally accredited journalism programs. The program annually awards more than \$500,000 in prizes, stipends and grants.

Judges considered a record 79 entries in the television features category, placing Foster among the ranks of students from the University of Southern California, Arizona State University and Syracuse University.

###

DD/als

Local, hometown (Whitehall Ledger)

013112hrst

Contact: UM School of Journalism, 406-243-4001, .

UM NEWS



January 31, 2012

MISSOULA –

The University of Montana recently created its first Retirees' Association. The association will provide all UM retirees the opportunity to remain involved with the University community through a variety of specially designed activities, events and service opportunities.

"The creation of this new association acknowledges the significant contributions retirees have made to The University of Montana and facilitates their active engagement in the campus community," said Amy Kinch, UM faculty development coordinator.

The association is in the process of developing a set of bylaws and will elect its first set of officers in the next two months.

"The intention of the Retirees' Association is to allow and encourage retirees of all kinds — faculty, administrators, staff and others — to remain connected to UM through social activities, extended-learning opportunities, interest groups and information sessions," said Jerry Fetz, a member of the planning committee for the new group. "It also will help the University take advantage of [retirees'] expertise, wisdom, skills and advice in both formal and informal ways."

The group recently hosted its first social, during which President Royce Engstrom provided an update on developments at the University. This spring the association is planning activities such as a guided art gallery tour, a birding outing, a highway cleanup event, informational meetings on the health care plan and the retirement system, and an evening of theater.

In June, the association will co-host the annual retiree recognition luncheon with the Office of the President. Other activities, such as luncheons, lectures, excursions and retiree interest groups, are being considered for the future.

The UM Retirees' Association is open to all faculty, staff and administrator retirees of UM-Missoula, including those from the College of Technology, as well as their spouses/partners and the spouses/partners of deceased retirees. Retired employees of other units closely affiliated with UM, such as the UM Foundation, also are welcome to apply to participate in the organization.

For more information call Kinch at 406-243-5897, email amy.kinch@umontana.edu or go to the association's website at <http://www.umt.edu/retirees>.

###

ALL

Local, campus

013112reti

Contact: Amy Kinch, coordinator, UM Faculty Development Office, 406-243-5897, amy.kinch@umontana.edu.

UM NEWS



January 30, 2012

MISSOULA –

The University of Montana will offer the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance Program from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. each Saturday from Feb. 4 to March 10 in Gallagher Business Building Room 209.

VITA-certified UM student volunteers will complete free basic tax returns for those who make \$50,000 or less annually. Appointments are not necessary, and tax help will be available on a first-come, first-served basis.

Participants should visit <http://www.irs.gov/individuals/article/0,,id=107626,00.html> beforehand for a list of items to bring. For more information call the UM School of Business Administration at 406-243-4831.

###

CM/als

Local

013012vita

Contact: Margarita Dorzhiyeva, VITA student coordinator, 406-930-1211, margarita.dorzhiyeva@umontana.edu.

UM NEWS



January 30, 2012

MISSOULA –

A leading scholar on the Ottoman Empire, the modern Arab world and Islam in the West will deliver the next installment of the President's Lecture Series at The University of Montana.

Ussama S. Makdisi will present "America and the Arab Struggle for Self-Determination" at 8 p.m. Monday, Feb. 6, in the University Theatre. The first holder of the Arab-American Educational Foundation Chair of Arab Studies at Rice University, Makdisi will discuss missed opportunities for cultural understanding between the United States and Islam, countering notions of an inevitable clash of civilizations.

Makdisi also will give a seminar, "The Origins of Sectarianism in the Modern Middle East," from 3:10 to 4:30 p.m. that day in Gallagher Business Building Room 123. The seminar is held in conjunction with UM's Philosophy Forum, while his evening lecture also will serve as the University's annual Ezio Cappadocia Memorial Lecture on Politics and History. Both events are free and open to the public.

The author of 2010's "Faith Misplaced: The Broken Promise of U.S.-Arab Relations, 1820-2001," Makdisi primarily explores Arab perspectives and archives in his prize-winning research. The Carnegie Corporation named him a Carnegie Scholar in 2009 as part of its efforts to promote original scholarship about Muslim societies and communities in the United States and abroad.

Makdisi also is the author of "The Culture of Sectarianism: Community, History, and Violence in Nineteenth-Century Ottoman Lebanon" and "Artillery of Heaven: American Missionaries and the Failed Conversion of the Middle East." His articles on Ottoman and Arab history have appeared in the Journal of American History, the American Historical Review and other major journals. He received his doctorate in history from Princeton University in 1997.

More information on the President's Lecture Series is available online at <http://umt.edu/president/events/lectures>.

###

ALS

Western Montana

013012makd

Contact: Richard Drake, UM history professor and lecture series organizer, 406-243-2981, richard.drake@umontana.edu.

UM NEWS



January 30, 2012

MISSOULA –

A noted conservationist specializing in aquatic ecology, the Endangered Species Act, river management and research coordination will present the first installment of the spring semester Natural Resource and Environmental Policy Forum at The University of Montana.

Yvette Converse with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service will deliver a talk, "The Great Northern Landscape Conservation Cooperative: A Collective Vision for our Landscape," at noon Tuesday, Feb. 14, in Law Building Room 101. The lecture and interactive discussion are free and open to the public.

Converse coordinates the cooperative initiative, which brings together various agencies and organizations to develop conservation planning for sage/steppe ecosystems, high elevation mountain habitats, diverse wetland ecosystems and important river basins, including the Upper Missouri River.

Since 2010, UM's Natural Resource and Environmental Policy Forum has featured speakers from a variety of disciplines, providing insights into the ways we make decisions, resolve conflicts and plan for sustainable use of our air, water and lands.

UM will host two other lectures in the forum series this spring:

- **7 p.m. Thursday, March 22, Urey Lecture Hall:** Ian Stirling, Canadian polar bear biologist, "The Ecology of Polar Bears, Climate Warming, and the Effects on Human-Polar Bear Interactions" (in cooperation with the fourth International Human-Bear Conflicts Workshop).
- **Noon Tuesday, April 10, Law Building Room 101:** Chris Smith, natural resource policy expert with the Wildlife Management Institute, "From Ancient Rome to the Ruby River: Why the Public Trust Doctrine Matters to You."

The series is sponsored by the UM Center for Natural Resources and Environmental Policy in collaboration with the UM College of Forestry and Conservation, School of Law, Bolle Center for People and Forests, Resource Conservation Program, Department of Geography and Environmental Studies Program, as well as the Indian Land Tenure Foundation.

###

PW/als

Western Montana

013012nrep

Contact: Sarah Bates, UM Center for Natural Resources and Environmental Policy, 406-207-9071, sarah@cnrep.org.

UM NEWS



January 30, 2012

MISSOULA –

The campus bus service provided by the Associated Students of The University of Montana gave a record number of rides on the first day of spring semester.

Six buses that were on routes gave 3,744 rides on Jan. 23, breaking the old record of 3,246 rides. The average number of rides each day hovers around 2,900. The total number of rides given during autumn semester also broke records at 224,884 rides.

The ASUM Park-N-Ride system is free and open to the public. Parking is free at the Park-N-Ride lots. Lots are located at Benton Street and Higgins Avenue, South Avenue and Higgins Avenue, and on Broadway next to MonTEC.

Buses run every five to ten minutes. Also, a bus runs from the mountain campus to the east location at UM's College of Technology every 15 minutes.

UM students own and operate the bus service.

For more information, call 406-243-4599 or visit <http://www.asumbus.com>.

###

AB

Local

012712bus

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

UM NEWS



January 30, 2012

MISSOULA –

The University Center Gallery at The University of Montana will display works by expressionist action painter Mur Quaglia through Friday, Feb. 24 in an exhibition titled "Bridge of Dreams."

An opening reception for the collection of abstract paintings will be held in the UC Gallery from 5 to 7 p.m. on Thursday, Feb. 9, with an artist talk starting at 5:30 p.m. Quaglia, a **Billings** artist, will discuss her work and express what has fueled her artistically for more than 30 years.

The exhibition is free and open to the public. The gallery is open from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday and is located in UC Room 227.

For more information call 406-243-5564 or visit <http://www.umt.edu/uc/ucg>.

###

GL/all

Local, campus, Billings-area media

013012brdg

Contact: Gwen Landquist, marketing and art manager, UC Gallery, 406-243-5555, gwen.landquist@mso.umt.edu.

UM NEWS



January 27, 2012

MISSOULA —

The Montana Museum of Art & Culture at The University of Montana will present a lecture, "The Fra Dana Legacy," by UM art history and criticism Associate Professor Valerie Hedquist at 7 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 2, in the Performing Arts and Radio/Television Center's Masquer Theatre.

Hedquist co-authored the first-ever full biography on Dana with Sue Hart, a professor of English at Montana State University-Billings. Dana is the subject of the current MMAC exhibition "Fra Dana: American Impressionist in the Rockies," on display through Feb. 25 in the PAR/TV Center Meloy Gallery.

Hedquist earned her art history doctorate with honors at the University of Kansas and has taught and written for more than 20 years. In addition to her publications on Vermeer, Gainsborough and Rembrandt, Hedquist has completed reviews and catalog essays for museum exhibitions and has presented papers at local, regional and international meetings.

The exhibition presents Dana's works alongside those of artists she collected, such as Alfred Maurer, William Merritt Chase and Joseph Henry Sharp. Dana's bequest to MMAC in 1948 is central to the richness of the MMAC Permanent Collection and chronicles an important chapter in the development of American art.

Dana, a cattle rancher who lived near Great Falls, was one of the leading artists of the Rocky Mountain northwest. Born in Terre Haute, Ind., in 1874, Dana studied art at the Cincinnati Art Academy, the Art Institute of Chicago and the New York School of Art. In 1893 she moved with her family to Wyoming, where she met her future husband, Edwin L. Dana. The two married in 1896 and worked together to develop in Montana and Wyoming what would become America's largest purebred Hereford operation by 1918. Her desire to study and create art often conflicted with her obligation as a ranch wife.

MMAC's hours are noon to 3 p.m. Tuesday, Wednesday and Saturday and noon to 6 p.m. Thursday and Friday. For more information call 406-243-2019 or go online to <http://www.umt.edu/montanamuseum>.

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NOTE TO MEDIA: Digital images of select items included in the exhibition are available upon request by calling 406-243-2019.

BK/als

Western Montana

012712dana

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

UM NEWS



January 27, 2012

MISSOULA –

The Seventh Annual Missoula Labor Film Festival will take place Friday and Saturday, Feb. 3-4, at the Roxy Theater, located at 718 S. Higgins Ave. in Missoula.

Two films will be shown each day, beginning at 6:30 p.m. The recommended donation is \$5 for one night; \$9 for both nights. There will be a comment period for the audience after each screening.

The film festival is sponsored by the Missoula Area Central Labor Council, The University of Montana Faculty Association, the Montana Public Employees Association and International Programs at UM.

Following is the film festival schedule:

- **6:30 p.m. Friday, Feb. 3:** "Locked Out." This film tells the story of 560 unionized borax miners in the desert town of Boron, Calif., who faced off against Rio Tinto, a British-Australian multibillion dollar global corporation, which locked the miners out of work when they rejected drastic cuts to their pay and benefits.
- **8:10 p.m. Friday, Feb. 3:** "Made in Dagenham." This film chronicles the historic 1968 strike at a British Ford factory. Led by spunky Rita O'Grady, the women walked out when they learn that management has classified them as unskilled workers and substantially capped their wages. The film touches on issues, including the pay gap, collusion between bosses and union reps, global corporate power and sexism, that still influence society today.
- **6:30 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 4:** "The Dark Side of Chocolate." Two journalist-filmmakers traveled to West Africa, where they recorded illegal trafficking of children as young as 7 to the cocoa fields in Ivory Coast, the world's largest cocoa producer.
- **8 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 4:** "Jaffa, the Orange's Clockwork." This film narrates the visual history of the famous citrus fruit, which originated in Palestine and has been known worldwide for centuries as "Jaffa oranges," and how its cultivation brings together Palestinians and Israelis.

###

ALS

Western Montana

012712lbor

Contact: Clare Kelly, UM School of Extended and Lifelong Learning, 406-243-4626, clare.kelly@mso.umt.edu.

UM NEWS



January 27, 2012

MISSOULA –

A leading historian of the civil rights era will deliver the annual Martin Luther King Jr. Day celebration lecture at The University of Montana.

Ralph Luker will present “Editing Two Civil Rights Icons: Martin Luther King Jr. and Vernon Johns” at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 1, in the University Center Theater. The event is free and open to the public.

Luker is the editor of a forthcoming collection of papers of Vernon Johns, a minister who was an important figure in the American civil rights movement. Luker also is a former associate editor of the Martin Luther King Jr. papers.

Luker has taught in history departments at colleges and universities across the country and is the author of several books on race, religion and the African-American struggle for equality.

###

ALS

Western Montana

012712mlkd

Contact: Michael Mayer, UM history professor, 406-243-2088, michael.mayer@mso.umt.edu.

UM NEWS



January 27, 2012

MISSOULA —

The University of Montana has 924 students who are degree candidates for autumn semester 2011. The total includes 49 certificates, 152 associate degrees, four education specialists, 548 bachelor's degrees, 130 master's degrees, two juris doctorates and 39 doctoral degrees. There were 31 candidates for double degrees.

See the full list online at <http://www.umt.edu/urelations/info/deanslist.php>.

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

012612grad

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

UM NEWS



January 26, 2012

MISSOULA –

The Spring 2012 Brown Bag Lecture Series hosted by the Maureen and Mike Mansfield Center at The University of Montana will begin Tuesday, Feb. 7, with a presentation by Paul Thompson, the W.K. Kellogg Chair in Agricultural, Food and Community Ethics at Michigan State University.

Thompson will present "What Makes Food Good? Three Problems in Food Ethics" from 11:10 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. in University Center Rooms 332-333.

All lectures in the series are free and open to the public.

Other lectures in the series will be held from noon to 1 p.m. in the Mansfield Conference Room, located in the Mansfield Library. Following is the series schedule:

- **Tuesday, Feb. 14:** "Geoengineering the Climate: Technologies for Rebalancing or Reinforcing Global Inequity" by Jason Blackstock, Senior Fellow for Energy and the Environment at the Centre for International Governance Innovation and visiting research scholar at the International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis in Austria.
- **Wednesday, Feb. 29:** "Literature and the Vietnam War: A Comparative Perspective" by Quan Manh, assistant professor of American literature and ethnic studies, UM Department of English.
- **Tuesday, March 13:** "Cultural Arts in Vietnam's Villages" by Do Thu Ha, visiting foreign scholar, Vietnam National University, Hanoi.
- **Tuesday, March 27:** "Chinese Collectivism: Myth or Reality?" by River Yang.
- **Tuesday, April 10:** "Social Characteristics of the Confucianism of Korea's Chosun Dynasty and Tokugawa Japan" by Tae Young Kim, Department of Japanology, Gangneung-Wonju National University, South Korea.
- **Tuesday, April 24:** "Reflections on Women's Empowerment Issues in Southeast Asia" by visiting State Department exchange professionals from Vietnam, Laos, Cambodia and Thailand.

For more information about the series, visit the Mansfield Center website at <http://www.umt.edu/mansfield> or call 406-243-2988.

###

JS

Local, specialized western

012612bbag

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

UM NEWS



January 26, 2012

MISSOULA –

The School of Music at The University of Montana will host a Keyboard Society Benefit Concert featuring critically acclaimed pianist Barbara Blegen at 3 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 29, in the Music Recital Hall.

General admission tickets cost \$20 and advance reserved tickets cost \$25. They are available at UM Arts Box Office, by calling 406-243-4581 or online at <http://www.ummusic.org>. Student and senior tickets cost \$10 and are available at the UM Arts Box Office or at the door.

The event is a fundraiser for the Grand Matching Campaign, a project of the School of Music's Keyboard Division that is raising money to purchase a new Steinway Concert grand piano for the Music Recital Hall.

###

JS

Local

012612pian

Contact: Steven Hesla, UM School of Music, 406-243-6055, steven.hesla@umontana.edu.

UM NEWS



January 26, 2012

MISSOULA –

The University of Montana Office of Career Services is seeking nominations for the UM Student Employee of the Year award.

Applications are available at <https://www.umt.edu/ocs/seoty/SEOTYNomination.asp> and are due Friday, Feb. 17. Each department may nominate one student employee.

The winning student employee will be announced April 12 during National Student Employment Week. The student also will receive a \$500 scholarship from Career Services.

Students who work part time on campus tend to achieve higher grades, faster degree completion and greater satisfaction with school while posting lower dropout rates than their nonworking counterparts. In a recent survey, these positive findings were attributed to students interacting more frequently with the campus environment, fellow students, faculty and administrators. Students who work on campus possess a greater sense of belonging to the University community.

UM will celebrate National Student Employment Week April 9-13 to acknowledge the valuable contributions students make by working at UM and the benefits students derive from employment.

More information on student employment is online at <http://www.umt.edu/studentjobs/>.

###

JW/als

Campus

012412empl

Contact: Janay Whisman, UM student employment coordinator, 406-243-5627, janay.whisman@umontana.edu.

UM NEWS



January 26, 2012

MISSOULA –

The University of Montana Cheer Squad will host the Griz Garden City Glam Jam cheerleading competition on Sunday, Jan. 29, at UM's Dahlberg Arena.

The event, which brings in more than 300 athletes and coaches to Missoula, is in its fifth year and is one of the largest cheer competitions in Montana. Teams competing this year will travel from Bozeman, Great Falls, Havre, Helena and Kalispell.

The competition begins at 9 a.m. and continues through the afternoon. The day includes solos, duos and stunt groups and concludes with the all-star competition.

The Glam Jam is open to the public, and tickets cost \$5. Admission for senior citizens, military personnel (with identification) and children ages 6 to 17 is \$3, and children 5 and under get in free. Parking also is free.

Proceeds from the Glam Jam benefit the UM Cheer Squad. The squad will perform at the event, along with UM mascot Monte.

###

JC/jh

012611glam

Western Montana

Contact: Christie Anderson, UM assistant athletic director for marketing, 406-243-4336, christie.anderson@mso.umt.edu.

UM NEWS



January 25, 2012

For the second year in a row, The University of Montana ranks No. 14 for producing Peace Corps volunteers among colleges and universities in the medium category, which includes schools with 5,001 to 15,000 undergraduates.

Currently, 32 UM undergraduate alumni serve as Peace Corps volunteers, down from 2011 when 33 undergraduate alumni served. Historically, 780 UM alumni have served as Peace Corps volunteers.

"Colleges and universities prepare thousands of talented undergraduate and graduate alumni for Peace Corps service every year," said Peace Corps Director Aaron Williams. "These alumni go on to serve as Peace Corps volunteers, applying the skills and knowledge they acquired during their studies to promote world peace and friendship and improve the lives of people around the world."

Since President John F. Kennedy established the Peace Corps in 1961, more than 200,000 Americans have served in 139 host countries. Today 9,095 Peace Corps volunteers work in 75 countries in the areas of education, youth and community development, health and HIV/AIDS, business information and communication technology, agriculture and environment.

George Washington University ranks No. 1 in the medium category for the fourth year in a row, with 78 undergraduate alumni serving overseas.

For more information about the Peace Corps at UM, visit the Office of Career Services, located in Lommasson Center Room 154, or go online to <http://www.umt.edu/peacecorps>.

###

MF/all

Western Montana

012512peac

Contact: Dana Foster, Peace Corps representative, UM Office of Career Services, 406-243-2839, peacecorps@umontana.edu.

UM NEWS



January 25, 2012

MISSOULA –

The University of Montana's Montana Cooperative Wildlife Research Unit has received \$150,000 from the Regina Bauer Frankenberg Foundation to study wolf populations in the Rocky Mountain region.

This gift will be used to study wolves across Alberta, Idaho and Yellowstone National Park. Mortality varies widely among the three areas and may impact pack behavior and ultimately population growth. Genetics will provide insight into how mortality might affect pack composition and stability.

"The Frankenberg Foundation's support was instrumental in helping us develop noninvasive survey methods for wolves," said David Ausband, research associate at MCWRU. "Now their continued generosity will allow us to use those cutting-edge tools to answer important and timely questions about wolf pack stability and wolf conservation in the Rocky Mountains."

"Support like this plays a pivotal role in the research mission of the Montana Cooperative Wildlife Research Unit," said Michael Mitchell, unit leader at MCWRU. "Working in partnership with the state, federal and tribal agencies, we are able to conduct the kind of research that strongly contributes to effective conservation of wildlife species such as wolves."

The Regina Bauer Frankenberg Foundation supports organizations and programs that promote the care, conservation, treatment, well-being and prevention of cruelty to animals.

###

Contact: Tara Jensen, news editor, UM Foundation, 406-461-5782, tara.jensen@mso.umt.edu; David Ausband, research associate, Montana Cooperative Wildlife Research Unit, 406-243-4329, david.ausband@mso.umt.edu.

UM NEWS



January 24, 2012

MISSOULA –

Get ready, University of Montana. MOM is coming to visit.

MOM stands for Mind Over Media, the Pittsburgh-based consulting firm the University hired to assist with strengthening and enhancing UM's marketing and communication efforts through development of a brand strategy. MOM was selected for the job last fall after a national search conducted by UM's 20-member Brand Strategy Task Force.

The company will host what it's calling a "Campus Invasion" on Tuesday and Wednesday, Jan. 31-Feb. 1, to begin the process of determining UM's strengths and distinctive characteristics. Meetings and working sessions will invite input from students, UM employees and the public. Everyone is encouraged to participate.

"Everyone has their own perspective on what sets UM apart, so the more people who participate, the better," said Beth Hammock, co-chair of the Brand Strategy Task Force. "The input we receive in the next couple of months will form the basis of the development of key messages for the University.

"In the end, we would like all members of the campus community to be able to speak succinctly about UM's strengths and serve as brand ambassadors," Hammock said.

MOM will conduct a series of focused information gathering sessions both days with various campus constituents. Members of the public are invited to attend one of two interactive working sessions on Wednesday, Feb. 1, in the University Center North Ballroom. Interactive Working Session I will be held from 3 to 4 p.m., and Interactive Working Session II will be from 4:15 to 5:15 p.m. Campus officials hope for a big turnout from the community.

"The University has so many strong characteristics," UM President Royce Engstrom said, "but we have not had deliberate discussions about what those characteristics are and how we can use them to shape a message that is exciting, powerful and really communicates UM's strengths as a whole. This process will change that."

In addition to speaking with people in person, MOM's research team will send an electronic survey and conduct Web-based focus groups.

A full schedule of MOM's Campus Invasion follows. The MOM staff will gather data using two teams, which accounts for concurrent times.

Tuesday, Jan. 31

8-8:30 a.m. – Morning kick-off with Brand Strategy Task Force Core Team (Main Hall 109)

8:45-9:45 a.m. – Royce Engstrom, president (Main Hall 109)

9:50-10:30 a.m. – Academic officers meeting (Main Hall 004)

10-11 a.m. – Faculty Group 1 (Mansfield Library Theta Rho Room)

11:15 a.m-12:15 p.m. – Faculty Group 2 (Theta Rho Room)

11:15 a.m-12:15 p.m. – Teresa Branch, vice president for student affairs (Main Hall 022)

1:45-2:45 p.m. – Jim Foley, vice president for external relations (Main Hall 109)

1:45-2:45 p.m. – Athletics marketing team (Theta Rho Room)

3-4 p.m. – Campus tour

4:15-5:15 p.m. – Student affairs directors and admissions team (Theta Rho Room)

Wednesday, Feb. 1

7:30-8:30 a.m. – Breakfast with community leaders (University Center 330)

8:45-9:45 a.m. – Campus administrators (Theta Rho Room)

8:45-9:45 a.m. – Staff Group 1 (UC 329)

10-11 a.m. – Student Group 1 (UC 329)

10-11 a.m. – President's cabinet meeting (Main Hall 004)

11:15 a.m.-12:15 p.m. – Staff Group 2 (UC 329 – Alumni Boardroom)

11:15 a.m.-12:15 p.m. – Laura Brehm, president/CEO, UM Foundation (Brantly Hall 102)

1:45-2:45 p.m. – Perry Brown, provost/VP for academic affairs (Main Hall 126)

1:45-2:45 p.m. – Student Group 2 (UC 329 – Alumni Boardroom)

3-4 p.m. – Interactive Working Session I (UC North Ballroom)

4:15-5:15 p.m. – Interactive Working Session II (UC North Ballroom)

5:30-6:30 p.m. – Brand Strategy Task Force (UC 329)

###

CBS

Local

012412vsit

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

UM NEWS



January 24, 2012

MISSOULA –

Prospective students and their families have a unique opportunity to experience life at The University of Montana during UM Days, the University's open house program. Prospective freshmen, transfer students and their families are welcome to participate in the free full-day events.

UM Days are scheduled for Friday, Feb. 17, March 16, 23 and 30, April 13 and 27. The event will also be offered during autumn semester on Friday, Oct. 19, Nov. 9 and 16.

The open house offers campus tours, residence hall viewings, academic sessions with faculty members, student service panels and financial aid presentations.

To register for UM Days or for more information, call 406-243-6266 or 800-462-8636 or visit <http://admissions.umt.edu/experience-um/schedule-a-visit>.

###

JS

Local, state

012412days

Contact: Kevin Molm, UM Enrollment Services-Admissions, 406-243-2071, kevin.molm@mso.umt.edu.

UM NEWS



January 23, 2012

MISSOULA –

Recent visitor evaluations by the Montana Museum of Art & Culture show that since the fall of 2009, guests from 45 states and eight countries have visited its exhibitions and programs.

This information comes from visitors who signed the guest books at the museum's Meloy and Paxson galleries in the Performing Arts and Radio/Television Center at The University of Montana. MMAC estimates about 15 percent to 20 percent of visitors sign its guest book.

During that two-year period, MMAC presented exhibitions focused on Pulitzer Prize-winning photographs from 1942-2008, noted Montana architect A.J. Gibson, European prints from the MMAC Permanent Collection, European masterpieces including works by Renoir and others from a private collection, ceramic works by 60 artists in celebration of the 60th birthday of the Archie Bray Foundation, and Montana artist Ben Steele's POW Collection of paintings and drawings.

"We are extremely gratified to see this extended audience base for our exhibitions and programs," MMAC Director Barbara Koostra said. "For years, Montana's arts community has worked hard to realize a notable standing as a cultural destination, and we hope MMAC plays a role in these efforts. These trends indicate that more and more visitors are coming in with intellectual curiosity and a desire for educational value that inspires."

MMAC also reported that its gallery attendance has quadrupled since 2005. Additionally, since 2005, nearly a million visitors have viewed MMAC's national traveling exhibitions in places from Olympia, Wash., and Ocala, Fla., to Springfield, Mass.

MMAC's mission is to acquire and preserve art that expresses the spirit of the American West and its relationship to the world. As the only university and state museum devoted to art and culture in Montana, MMAC presents exhibitions and programs that explore local, regional and global themes.

MMAC's hours during the academic year are noon to 3 p.m. Tuesday, Wednesday and Saturday and noon to 6 p.m. Thursday and Friday. For more information call 406-243-2019 or go online to <http://www.umt.edu/montanamuseum>.

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BK/als

Western Montana

121211mmac

Contact: Barbara Koostra, director, Montana Museum of Art and Culture, 406-243-2019, barbara.koostra@mso.umt.edu.

UM NEWS



January 23, 2012

MISSOULA —

At The University of Montana, 3,037 students made the autumn 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.

See the full Dean's List online at <http://www.umt.edu/urelations/info/deanslist.php>.

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NOTE: The UM students listed made the autumn semester 2011 Dean's List. A ******** indicates a grade-point average of 4.0. An ******* indicates a GPA of greater than 3.5 but less than 4.0 was earned.

JK

Local, dailies, weeklies

012312dean

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

UM NEWS



January 20, 2012

Recently appointed Commissioner of Higher Education Clayton Christian will host a public listening session at The University of Montana from 2:30 to 3:30 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 25, in the Turner Hall Dell Brown Room.

After a welcome and introduction by UM President Royce Engstrom, Christian will share a brief overview of system goals, and then invite questions, interests or concerns from the campus and Missoula communities regarding their perspectives of higher education in Montana.

Christian formerly served as Montana Board of Regents chairman. He recently was hired to replace Sheila Stearns as the new commissioner of higher education. Stearns announced her retirement last May after serving in the role since 2003.

For more information call UM Vice President for External Affairs Jim Foley at 406-243-2311.

###

State

ALL

012012lstn

Contact: Kevin McRae, Montana University System, associate commissioner for communications and human resources, 406-444-0327, kmcrae@montana.edu; Jim Foley, UM vice president for external relations, 406-243-2311, james.foley@umontana.edu.

UM NEWS



January 19, 2012

MISSOULA –

University of Montana President Royce Engstrom will host a mid-year update from 4 to 5 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 25, in the University Center Theater. The event is free and open to students, faculty, staff and the public.

Engstrom will give updates on University initiatives as the spring semester begins and take questions from the audience on all topics. Those who cannot attend the event can watch the update through a live video stream online at <http://www.umt.edu/president/stream/midyear/>.

Additional student forums to address UM's sexual assault investigation will be held in the coming weeks. Those dates will be announced at the midyear update on Jan. 25.

###

JS

Local, campus

011912updt

Contact: Jim Foley, UM executive vice president, 406-544-9099, james.foley@umontana.edu.

UM NEWS



January 19, 2012

MISSOULA –

Contortionists, acrobats and comedians will highlight the New Shanghai Circus at 7:30 p.m. Friday, Feb. 10, in the University Theatre at The University of Montana.

Some of the circus acts date back to harvest festivals that took place 2000 years ago. The modern-day performance involves intricate choreography, amazing lighting, enchanting scenery and powerful music.

Sold out on Broadway, the circus has gotten rave reviews from The New York Times and The Los Angeles Times. The only Chinese acrobatic group to play on Broadway, the show has its own theater in Branson, Missouri.

Tickets cost \$29 for general public and \$13 for students. Tickets can also be purchased as a package that includes Damn Yankees and Solas. Visit <http://www.umproductions.org> for more information regarding package deals. Tickets can be purchased at the Adams Center Box Office, at GrizTix locations, by calling 406-243-4051 or online at <http://www.griztix.com>. Tickets also will be available at the door.

The doors open at 6:30 p.m. The circus is presented by Artbeat Shows in cooperation with UM Productions.

###

AB

Local

011712circ

Contact: Aaron Reynolds, UM Productions marketing coordinator, 406-243-4719, marketing@umproductions.org; Dan Torti, Artbeat Shows, 559-372-7966, artbeatshows@gmail.com.

UM NEWS



January 18, 2012

MISSOULA –

The University of Montana will team up with Montana State University to promote science, math, technology and engineering education for girls as part of the state's recent acceptance into the National Girls Collaborative Project.

Membership in the project, which is funded by the National Science Foundation, will give Montana the opportunity to host free or low-cost professional development opportunities by coordinating with organizations, educators and business professionals serving K-12 female students.

Holly Truitt, director of spectrUM Discovery Area, will work with Suzi Taylor of MSU's Extended University and Martha Peters, program director of Montana NSF EPSCoR, as well as other state leaders to coordinate the project's activities in Montana.

EPSCoR, the Experimental Program to Stimulate Competitive Research, is an NSF-funded collaborative project of the Montana University System with a mission of strengthening research and education in science and engineering.

With its acceptance, Montana becomes one of 24 projects serving 33 states and indirectly reaching more than 5 million girls.

MSU will host an informational meeting in February for people interested in the project and its presence in Montana. More information also is available online at <http://www.ngcproject.org/>.

###

ALS

Local

011812ngcp

Contact: Jennifer Fredette, spectrUM Discovery Area marketing and public relations manager, 406-243-4828, jennifer.gunther@umconnect.umt.edu.

UM NEWS



January 18, 2012

Due to current weather conditions, the Osher Lifelong Institute at The University of Montana (MOLLI) has canceled all classes scheduled for Thursday and Friday, Jan. 19-20. Regularly scheduled classes will resume Thursday, Jan. 26.

For more information call the MOLLI office at 406-243-2905.

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NOTE TO MEDIA: Please broadcast or publish this announcement as soon as possible.

ALS

Western Montana

011812cncl

Contact: Janie Spencer, MOLLI director, 406-243-2705, janie.spencer@mso.umt.edu.

UM NEWS



January 17, 2012

GREAT FALLS –

University of Montana journalism Assistant Professor Lee Banville will discuss evolving Web technologies and how they affect our perceptions of the world during the first installment of the 2012 Bringing the U to You Lecture Series in Great Falls.

Banville will present “The Net Effect: How Does the Internet Continue to Change Everything?” at 7 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 26, at Heritage Hall on the Montana State University-Great Falls College of Technology campus, located at 2100 16th Ave. S.

Tickets cost \$10 for the public, \$5 for students or \$25 for the entire series and can be purchased at Kaufmans Menswear Centre or by calling 406-899-0277.

In its 10th year, the Bringing the U to You Lecture Series is a collaborative effort of the UM and MSU-Bozeman alumni associations. This year’s series features three lectures in addition to Banville’s:

- **Thursday, Feb. 9:** Brent Ruby, UM health and human performance professor, “Experiencing Extreme Human Physiology Outside of the Laboratory.”
- **Thursday, Feb. 23:** Steve Holland, director of MSU’s Montana Manufacturing Extension Center, “Traversing the Technology Valley of Death.”
- **Thursday, March 8:** Scott Bryant, MSU associate professor of management, “Leading with Emotional Intelligence: Why Your EQ Might Be More Important Than Your IQ.”

All lectures will take place at 7 p.m. in Heritage Hall. More information and complete lecture descriptions are available online at <http://umt.edu/alumni/events/cls/utoyou.aspx>.

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ALS

Great Falls-area media

011712grtf

Contact: Jodi Moreau, outreach/volunteer coordinator, UM Office of Alumni Relations, 406-243-6124, jodi.moreau@umontana.edu.

UM NEWS



January 17, 2012

MISSOULA –

The University of Montana Wilderness Institute will launch its spring 2012 Wilderness Issues Lecture Series, "Wild Waters in the West," on Tuesday, Jan. 31.

This series brings scholars, writers, scientists and explorers to UM to share stories of the ways in which water shapes natural landscapes, political boundaries and contemporary conservation initiatives. The guest lecturers also will explore how water continues to sculpt our natural, cultural and political environments across the globe.

The lectures will be held at 7 p.m. in Gallagher Business Building Room 122 and are free and open to the public. The schedule is as follows:

- **Tuesday, Jan. 31:** "Indian Tribal Interests and Activities Relating to Western Waters," Joseph Hovenkotter, staff attorney, Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes.
- **Tuesday, Feb. 7:** "Healing the Enlightenment Rift: Rationality, Spirituality and Shared Waters," Aaron T. Wolf, geography professor, Department of Geosciences, Oregon State University.
- **Tuesday, Feb. 14:** "Jacob's Island, a Reading," Phil Condon, assistant professor, UM Environmental Studies Program and author of "Montana Surround: Land, Water, Nature and Place."
- **Tuesday, Feb. 21:** "Protecting America's Last, Best, Wild Rivers in the Era of Climate Change," Scott Bosse, director, Northern Rockies Region of American Rivers.
- **Tuesday, Feb. 28:** "Mega Fish Conservation in Central Asia," Dan Vermillion, owner, Sweetwater Travel Company and Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks commissioner.
- **Tuesday, March 6:** "Oceans of Marine Debris: Rescuing Alaska's Shoreline," Chris Pallister, president, Gulf of Alaska Keeper.
- **Tuesday, March 13:** "An Entirely Synthetic Fish: How Rainbow Trout Beguiled America and Overran the World," Anders Halverson, ecologist and award-winning writer.
- **Tuesday, March 20:** "Ice and Water in the Clockworks: Kayak and Circumnavigation of Ellesmere Island," Jon Turk, scientist, writer and one of National Geographic's Top Ten Adventurers of 2012.
- **Tuesday, March 27:** "Reviving a River: What Does it Take to Make the Clark Fork Clean, Healthy and Whole?" Christine Brick, science director, Clark Fork Coalition.

For more information, call the Wilderness Institute at 406-243-5361 or email wi@cfc.umt.edu.

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Note to media: Speakers are available to be interviewed for print and online media, and for television and radio broadcasts.

LY/all

Local, campus

011712wild

Contact: Laurie Yung, assistant professor, UM College of Forestry and Conservation, laurie.yung@cfc.umt.edu, [406-243-6934](tel:406-243-6934).

UM NEWS



January 17, 2012

MISSOULA –

Southside Johnny and the Asbury Jukes will perform at 8 p.m. Saturday, April 14, at the Wilma Theater.

This will be the band's first performance west of the Mississippi River. Southside Johnny and the Asbury Jukes rose out of the New Jersey Shore music scene in the 1970s, the same place their friend and music legend Bruce Springsteen got his start.

Southside's first three albums were produced by band co-founder Steven Van Zandt, who was part of the E Street Band. Most of the songs on the albums were either written by Van Zandt or Springsteen. The band blends together hard-core R&B and rock with soulful guitar and a blistering horn section. Johnny and his Jukes continue to create a unique twist to the Jersey Shore sound.

A local singer/songwriter will open for the band. Kira Means is a Missoula high school student whose acoustic pop sound has helped her play at local benefit events, talent shows and concerts. In 2009, Means won the First Night Idol contest at the Wilma on New Year's Eve.

Tickets for the concert are on sale now at Rockin Rudy's, at Ear Candy Music, at The Source in the University Center and online at <http://www.inticketing.com>. All tickets cost \$33.

###

AB/ar

Local

011712john

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

UM NEWS



January 17, 2012

MISSOULA --

The University of Montana will hold a community forum at 5:30 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 17, to discuss and answer questions about the University's ongoing investigation into alleged sexual assaults on and off campus.

The forum will take place in parlors C and D at the Holiday Inn Downtown, located at 200 S. Pattee St. in Missoula. It is free and open to the public.

The forum will include a statement from UM President Royce Engstrom, and he and other administrators then will take questions from the public.

For more information call UM Vice President Jim Foley at 406-544-9099.

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ALS
Local
011612form

Contact: Jim Foley, UM executive vice president, 406-544-9099, .

UM NEWS



January 13, 2012

MISSOULA –

The University of Montana's Office for Civic Engagement will host a clothing drive Monday, Jan. 16, in conjunction with Martin Luther King Jr. Day activities in Missoula.

The clothing drive will take place during the Martin Luther King Jr. Day rally, which starts at 5 p.m. in Caras Park in downtown Missoula and continues with a candlelit march to St. Paul Lutheran Church, located at 202 Brooks St.

The drive will benefit Project Homeless Connect, a one-day event on Thursday, Jan. 26, that will pair Missoula's homeless with crucial social services.

Gently used clothing can be dropped it off at the park or the church during the rally. A complete schedule of the rally is online at <http://www.ncbimissoula.org/>.

###

ALS

Local

011312mlkd

Contact: Shanna Ungate, UM Office for Civic Engagement, 406-243-5531, shanna.ungate@mso.umt.edu.

UM NEWS



January 11, 2012

MISSOULA —

The Montana Museum of Art & Culture at The University of Montana will present a lecture by David Emmons, UM history professor emeritus, on Copper King Marcus Daly at 7 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 19, in the Performing Arts and Radio/Television Center's Masquer Theatre.

Brandon Reintjes, MMAC curator of art, will offer opening remarks on Frances Carroll Brown, Daly's granddaughter and subject of the MMAC exhibition, "Frances Carroll Brown: Bitterroot Portraits," on display until Feb. 25 in the PAR/TV Center's Paxson Gallery.

Emmons has written extensively about the Irish in Montana, including Marcus Daly and the Anaconda Copper Mining Company. He is the author of three books and numerous articles and received the Outstanding Teacher Award and the Burlington Northern Faculty research award during his 37-year tenure at UM.

Brown (1909-2002), despite the prominence of her family name, has never been the subject of art historical inquiry or had biographical information compiled.

"To discover a previously little-known artist of the aesthetic caliber of Frances Carroll Brown with direct ties to Missoula and the Bitterroot is enormously exciting," MMAC Director Barbara Koostra said. "Celebrating and preserving the history of art in Montana through works such as these is central to our mission."

Brown's paintings were recently cleaned and conserved, and the drawings were reframed and stabilized using archival materials thanks to a grant from the F. Morris and Helen Silver Foundation.

"Fra Dana: American Impressionist in the Rockies" also is on display through Feb. 25 in the PAR/TV Center Meloy Gallery. Dana's bequest to the museum in 1948 enhances the richness of the MMAC Permanent Collection and chronicles an important chapter in the development of American art.

The exhibition accompanies the first-ever full biography of Dana, co-written by Montana State University-Billings English Professor Sue Hart and UM art history and criticism Associate Professor Valerie Hedquist.

MMAC's gallery hours are noon to 3 p.m. Tuesday, Wednesday and Saturday and noon to 6 p.m. Thursday and Friday. For more information call 406-243-2019 or go online to <http://www.umt.edu/montanamuseum>.

###

NOTE TO MEDIA: Digital images of select items included in the exhibitions are available upon request by calling 406-243-2019.

BK/als

Western Montana

011112mmac

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

UM NEWS



January 11, 2012

MISSOULA --

Award-winning singer and storyteller Bill Harley will perform selections from his new CD, "High Dive," Sunday, Jan. 29, at The University of Montana.

The event begins at 2 p.m. in the University Theatre. Tickets are \$15 for adults and \$10 for students. Limited premium seating costs \$20 for adults and \$15 for students.

A nationally recognized family entertainer, Harley has won two Grammy awards for his humorous stories and songs about growing up. His tales of school bus adventures, the mysterious teachers' lounge and the treacherous high dive at the public swimming pool delight audiences of all ages. The Boston Globe describes Harley as a performer who has the gift to turn a fight with his kids over control of the car radio into an uproarious tale -- combining wry observation with well-crafted folk, pop and rock music to tell tales that tickle the funny bone and tease the brain.

Tickets can be purchased online at <http://www.griztix.com>, at all GrizTix locations or by calling 406-243-4051 or 888-MONTANA.

Harley also will perform in Butte at 2 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 28, at the Mother Lode Theatre. Tickets cost \$15 and are available at the Mother Lode Theater Box Office or by calling 406-723-3602. Proceeds will benefit the Butte Center for the Performing Arts.

###

AB/ao

Western Montana

011012harl

Contact: Montana Public Radio, 406-243-4247, .

UM NEWS



January 11, 2012

MISSOULA –

Dr. Carla Fritz, a physician at The University of Montana's Curry Health Center, will serve as medical staff at the 2012 Winter Youth Olympics taking place Jan.13-22 in Innsbruck, Austria.

Fritz, who is board-certified in family and sports medicine, will treat sports injuries and illness for the U.S. team, coaches and support staff at various venues throughout western Austria. The medical team for the United States Olympic Committee chose Fritz because of her outstanding work as a volunteer team physician for the U.S. junior weight lifting team.

"I am honored to be chosen to serve the athletes who represent the United States during these competitive games that bring together the best in young winter athletes," said Fritz, who also works in the UM Department of Intercollegiate Athletics and is the lead physician for the Grizzlies football team.

The Youth Olympic Games will bring together 1,059 top athletes ages 14 to 18 who represent more than 60 countries. Athletes will compete in 15 winter sporting events and participate in a variety of cultural and educational programs.

The 2012 event is the first Winter Youth Olympic Games held since their creation in 2007 by the 119th session of the International Olympic Committee. The first Summer Youth Olympics were held in Singapore in 2010.

The committee created the Youth Olympic Games with the vision of a new event designed to inspire young people around the world to participate in sports and adopt and live by the Olympic values of excellence, respect and friendship.

###

DB/als

Western Montana, dailies

011112olym

Contact: Dave Bell, UM Curry Health Center director, 406-243-2244, david1.bell@umontana.edu.

UM NEWS



January 11, 2012

MISSOULA –

Social media creates a paradox for college campuses. While Facebook, Twitter and other networks help build communities at The University of Montana, those communities have been disconnected from the University's Web pages.

Now there's a new tool at UM that facilitates a connection between the two. It's called Community Hub and is online at <http://www.umt.edu/communityhub/>. The first release of Community Hub includes about 40 campus social media communities.

Community Hub is a searchable directory of UM-related social media channels developed by the IT web team that can be used to find UM content on Facebook, Twitter, Flickr and YouTube. It also catalogs UM blogs and email listservs. Sites are searchable by keywords and categorized by subject and social media platform.

"For incoming students it's a great way to get involved," says Jamie Robertson, a Community Hub developer. "You might not know that there's a backcountry ski club, but you can find out that there's a group and they have a blog. Or you can search by type, so if you want your Facebook page to have all of the cool stuff going on at UM, you can just look at who has Facebook pages."

Robertson points out that Community Hub is not a tool to consume content from social media sites. Rather, it's a way to find communities and feeds and subscribe to them with one click.

UM departments and clubs that would like to have their social media sites listed in the directory can submit a request from the Community Hub homepage at http://umt.edu/communityhub/contact_form.php. Only University-sponsored activities and interests will be included on the site.

"The burden is on people who have something to put in the Community Hub to let us know," said Tom Battaglia, assistant CIO for Technology Support Services in IT. "We can't do that for them, but we've provided the tool."

"The hope is that some of these communities that are languishing because of no exposure will benefit from this," Robertson said. "We think Community Hub will encourage campus collaboration and community, which is something that any university wants."

###

GP/js

Campus, local

011012socl

Contact: Gordy Pace, UM director of IT Communications, 406-243-2371, gordy.pace@umontana.edu; Tom Battaglia, assistant CIO for Technology Support Services, 406-243-2555, tom.battaglia@umontana.edu.

UM NEWS



January 10, 2012

MISSOULA –

A new bus service offered by the Associated Students of The University of Montana is providing transportation options for students taking classes during Wintersession.

Buses run from the Lewis and Clark Park-N-Ride to campus from 8:25 a.m. to 5:25 p.m. Monday through Friday.

The late-night bus service, UDASH, also is running on weekends through the winter break. The service is free and open to the public.

Regular bus service will resume Monday, Jan. 23, with service every five minutes from south campus, every 15 minutes from the College of Technology to main campus and every 10 minutes from the East Broadway lot. UDASH will run Monday through Wednesday until midnight and Thursday through Sunday until 2:30 a.m.

More information can be found at <http://www.umt.edu/asum/ot>, and live bus routes can be seen at <http://www.asumbus.com>.

###

AB

Local

011012bus

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

UM NEWS



January 10, 2012

MISSOULA –

Ranchers in Sidney are receiving \$1 million royalty checks. Homeowners are renting unheated garages to oil workers for \$600 a month. And new technology has opened up billions of barrels of oil in the Bakken, arguably the largest inland oil find in the U.S. in the past 50 years. Is Montana's eastern energy boom here to stay? What does it mean for statewide employment? Tax revenues? Are we next in line for North Dakota's payday?

Tom Richmond, administrator and petroleum engineer for the Montana Board of Oil and Gas, will discuss these developments in Montana's energy sector and the state's prospects for future growth at the 37th Annual Economic Outlook Seminar, "Montana's New Energy Frontier: What are the Prospects?"

The half-day seminar and luncheon will highlight economic trends for local, state and national economies. Economists Patrick Barkey and Paul Polzin from the Bureau of Business and Economic Research at The University of Montana will present economic forecasts for each seminar city. Industry experts will provide the outlook for Montana's important sectors: nonresident travel, health care, agriculture, real estate, manufacturing and forest products.

Longtime Montana journalist Ian Marquand will moderate a luncheon panel of community leaders and industry experts on local economic issues.

The seminar runs from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m and will be held in nine Montana cities during January, February and March. Registration costs \$80, which includes a booklet, lunch and a one-year subscription to Montana Business Quarterly, BBER's award-winning business journal. Continuing education credits are available, and groups of five or more qualify for discounted registration.

The series begins in **Helena** on Tuesday, Jan. 24, at the Best Western Great Northern Hotel. Following is the schedule for other seminar cities:

- **Great Falls** – Wednesday, Jan. 25, Hilton Garden Inn
- **Missoula** – Friday, Jan. 27, Hilton Garden Inn
- **Billings** – Tuesday, Jan. 31, Crowne Plaza
- **Bozeman** – Wednesday, Feb. 1, Best Western GranTree
- **Butte** – Thursday, Feb. 2, Express Ventures Inn/La Quinta Inn
- **Kalispell** – Friday, Feb. 10, Hilton Garden Inn
- **Lewistown** – Tuesday, March 13, Central Montana Education Center
- **Havre** – Wednesday, March 14, Montana State University-Northern, Hensler Auditorium

The 2012 Montana Economic Outlook Seminars are sponsored by NorthWestern Energy and Benefis Health System.

For more information or to register for a seminar, visit the BBER website at <http://www.bber.umt.edu> or call 406-243-5113.

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CH/js

Local, state

011012semi

Contact: Christina Henderson, UM Bureau of Business and Economic Research, 406-243-5113, christina.henderson@business.umt.edu.

UM NEWS



January 09, 2012

MISSOULA --

Country music legend George Jones will perform Tuesday, March 6, at The University of Montana.

Jones will present his show, "The Possum," in the University Theatre. Doors open at 6 p.m., and the show begins at 7:30 p.m. Main floor tickets are \$75. Luge tickets are \$65, and balcony tickets are \$55.

The country star began his career as a young child, performing for tips on the streets near his hometown of Saratoga, Texas. In 1955 he recorded his first top-five hit, "Why Baby Why." Jones continued to rise to the top, but his stardom didn't come without struggle. Bad management, tax problems, cocaine abuse, alcoholism and massive debt almost destroyed his career.

Jones bounced back to record his most successful single, "He Stopped Loving Her Today," in 1980. The song won him numerous awards, including a Grammy. In 1998 Jones sobered up for good and recorded his "Cold Hard Truth" project, which won him a second Grammy. He was inducted into the Country Music Hall of Fame in 1992 and became a living legend of country music. Today, Jones is 76 and performs about a 100 shows a year.

Tickets for the March show can be purchased at the University Theatre Box Office, all GrizTix locations, by calling 406-243-4051 or 888-MONTANA, or online at <http://www.griztix.com>.

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Contact: Thomas Webster, University Theatre director, 406-243-2853, thomas.webster@umontana.edu.

UM NEWS



January 09, 2012

MISSOULA –

Climate change in the form of reduced snowfall in mountains is causing powerful and cascading shifts in mountainous plant and bird communities through the increased ability of elk to stay at high elevations over winter and consume plants, according to a groundbreaking study by University of Montana scientists.

The study, "Climate impacts on bird and plant communities from altered animal-plant interactions," was published online Jan. 8 in the journal Nature Climate Change.

The study not only shows that the abundance of deciduous trees and their associated songbirds in mountainous Arizona have declined over the past 22 years as snowpack has declined, but it also experimentally demonstrates that declining snowfall indirectly affects plants and birds by enabling more winter browsing by elk. Increased winter browsing by elk results in trickle-down ecological effects such as lowering the quality of habitat for songbirds.

The authors are U.S. Geological Survey scientist Thomas Martin, who also is a UM biology professor, and UM biology Professor John Maron. They mimicked the effects of more snow on limiting the ability of elk to browse on plants by excluding the animals from large, fenced areas.

They compared bird and plant communities in these exclusion areas with nearby similar areas where elk had access, and found that during the six years of the study, multi-decadal declines in plant and songbird populations were reversed in the areas where elk were prohibited from browsing.

The study demonstrates a classic ecological cascade, Martin said. For example, from an elk's perspective, less snow means an increased ability to freely browse on woody plants in winter in areas where they would not be inclined to forage in previous times because of high snowpack. Increased overwinter browsing led to a decline in deciduous trees, which reduced the number of birds that chose the habitat and increased predation on nests of those birds that did choose the habitat.

"This study demonstrates that the indirect effects of climate on plant communities may be just as important as the effects of climate-change-induced mismatches between migrating birds and food abundance because plants, including trees, provide the habitat birds need to survive," Martin said.

"This study illustrates that profound impacts of climate change on ecosystems arise over a time span of but two decades through unexplored feedbacks," USGS Director Marcia McNutt said. "The significance lies in the fact that humans and our economy are at the end of the same chain of cascading consequences."

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NOTE TO EDITORS: Four high-resolution images to accompany this story are available by emailing cary.shimek@umontana.edu.

CP/cbs

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Contact: Thomas Martin, UM professor and senior scientist and assistant unit leader, USGS Montana Cooperative Wildlife Research Unit, 406-243-5372, tom.martin@umontana.edu; John Maron, professor, UM Division of Biological Sciences, 406-243-6202, john.maron@mso.umt.edu.

UM NEWS



January 05, 2012

MISSOULA –

The University of Montana Jazz Band will continue a 42-year tradition when it travels to four Montana cities this month on its annual concert tour.

Residents of Whitehall, Bozeman, Big Timber and Billings will have the opportunity to hear the band perform many traditional big band favorites along with more contemporary jazz and rock selections. The performances will feature several outstanding student jazz soloists. All concerts are free and open to the public.

The tour schedule is as follows:

Wednesday, Jan. 18:

- **1 p.m.:** Whitehall High School Gym
- **7:30 p.m.:** Grace Bible Church, Bozeman

Thursday, Jan. 19:

- **1 p.m.:** Sweet Grass County High School Gym, Big Timber
- **6 p.m.:** Yellowstone Valley Brewery, Billings

Friday, Jan. 20:

- **11:15 a.m.:** Billings Skyview High School Auditorium
- **2 p.m.:** Billings Senior High School Auditorium

The tour is sponsored by the Associated Students of UM and the UM School of Music.

For more information call Lance Boyd, jazz director, at 406-243-5071, the UM School of Music at 406-243-6880 or email lance.boyd@umontana.edu.

Information about the UM School of Music is online at <http://www.umt.edu/music>.

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Local, Big Timber, Billings, Bozeman, Whitehall media

LB/all

010512jazz

Contact: Lance Boyd, professor, UM School of Music, 406-243-5071, boydlr@mso.umt.edu.

UM NEWS



January 03, 2012

MISSOULA –

The University of Montana has issued an initial report on an investigation into allegations of sexual assault involving students. The report is preliminary, and the University continues to aggressively pursue the investigation.

Former District and Montana Supreme Court Judge Diane Barz, who is directing the investigation for the University, completed and delivered the initial report to UM President Royce Engstrom on Dec. 31. The complete report is online at <http://umt.edu/president/>.

Barz and her colleagues Lucy France, director of UM's Equal Opportunity and Affirmative Action Office, and Charles Couture, UM dean of students, are investigating three allegations of sexual assault that may have occurred on or off campus. The investigative team has interviewed more than 30 witnesses to date, including students, coaches, student-athletes, administrators and members of the public.

UM now is actively investigating alleged student-to-student sexual violence, which under federal Title IX laws could indicate a hostile environment. The outcome of the investigation will be disclosed upon completion, in compliance with student and medical privacy laws.

"As the report indicates, we do not have specific evidence implicating anyone at this time," Engstrom said. "The University takes these allegations seriously, and we are committed to aggressively pursuing the investigation. If the investigation uncovers sufficient evidence, we will take immediate action under the Student Code of Conduct."

Engstrom also asked UM Vice President for Student Affairs Teresa Branch to increase educational outreach efforts on issues related to sexual assault, with new educational programs in place across campus when classes resume Jan. 23.

The University will continue to cooperate fully with law enforcement to move any possible criminal investigation forward. Anyone with information regarding the allegations can call France at 406-243-5710, email lucy.france@umontana.edu or submit a form available online at <http://www.umt.edu/eo>.

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Contact: Jim Foley, UM vice president, 406-544-9099, james.foley@umontana.edu.