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UM NEWS



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UM NEWS



December 19, 2013

MISSOULA – “Belief” will bring its rich Native American stories and live music to Missoula audiences on Saturday, Jan. 11. The winter play will be performed at 7 p.m. in the George and Jane Dennison Theatre at the University of Montana.

“Belief” stars Salish actress and UM alumna Julie Cajune. The performance is a unique mix of Salish women’s stories, poetry and an original score performed live by musicians on the stage.

“The stories invite you to believe in one’s true self, to believe in magic and to believe in love, the core of all humanity,” Cajune said.

Cajune, a Salish educator, writer and poet, collaborated with playwright Jennifer Finley and director Linda Grinde to create “Belief.” Grinde then worked with both Cajune and Finley to develop the multi-media script.

The play’s original music score was composed by world flutist Gary Stroutsos, Grammy-nominated pianist David Lanz, violinist Swil Kanim and percussionist David Revelli. Powerful and imaginative melodies carry the audience on the journey through “Belief.” Stroutsos, Kanim and a special musical guest will be on stage with Cajune for the Missoula performance.

Tickets can be purchased online at <http://www.umt.edu/griztix/> for \$20 or at the door for \$25.

For more information call Tom Webster, director of the Dennison Theatre, at 406-243-2853 or email thomas.webster@umontana.edu.

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Contact: Tom Webster, director, UM George and Jane Dennison Theatre, 406-243-2853, thomas.webster@umontana.edu.

UM NEWS



December 31, 2013

2013 was a good year for tourism despite the October government shutdown, according to preliminary findings by the Institute for Tourism and Recreation Research at the University of Montana. More than 11 million nonresidents visited Montana and spent nearly \$3.5 billion in the Treasure State.

Nonresident visitation was up 2 percent over 2012. Spending by nonresidents was up even higher: 4 percent in quarter one, 5 percent in quarter two and 20 percent in quarter three.

"The numbers show, and business owners have verified, that spending increased greatly over the previous year," said Kara Grau, ITRR assistant director of economic analysis. "Spending was up across the board in all categories, including a 17 percent increase each in restaurant and bar, retail, and gasoline, as well as a 30 percent increase in groceries and snacks."

An interesting trend of where vacationers come from has occurred over the past three years. Visitors from Alberta have become a higher percent of the overall nonresident vacationer in the first three quarters and now represent the top spot of where Montana's nonresidents reside.

In 2011, Albertans represented 6 percent of all vacationers (Q1-Q3). This increased by 2 percentage points per year for the next two years. In 2013, vacationers from Alberta represented 10 percent of all vacationers to the state, followed by 8 percent from Washington and 7 percent from California.

"This is a significant change for Montana" said Norma Nickerson, ITRR director. "Part of this is due to the relatively stable and nearly equal in value exchange rate between Canada and the United States. In addition, we hear from our neighbors to the north that the Glacier National Park area is less crowded than the Banff area. Many people want the more laid-back visitor experience, and Montana can provide that."

As the 16-day government shutdown in October relates to Montana tourism, it mostly affected the national parks and those who service visitors near the parks. Even with the shutdown, Glacier's overall numbers appear to be up by one percentage point. Yellowstone, while down 7 percent, has updated its people/vehicle count to more accurately represent visitation. This adjustment may be the sole reason for the decline. However, both parks and their concessionaires have said it could have been a banner year if not for the shutdown.

Tourism business owners expressed their experiences related to the government shutdown in the ITRR annual Outlook survey:

- "The government shutdown hurt our much-needed fall revenues for 2013."
- "Even with the government shutdown in a weaker but important part of our season, we still managed to come out with a 3 percent occupancy increase."
- "The government shutdown resulted in lost business. Hopefully this will not happen again."

Other 2013 trends show the following preliminary numbers: Rooms sold in the state were up half a percent. Skier visits for the 2012-13 season were up 2.6 percent. Airport deboardings were down 2 percent. Overall national park visitation in Montana was down 5 percent.

The 2013 Review and 2014 Outlook report is available at <http://www.itrr.umt.edu/Research2014/2013Review2014Outlook.pdf>. All information and reports published by ITRR are available at <http://www.itrr.umt.edu>.

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Contact: Norma Nickerson, director, UM Institute for Tourism and Recreation Research, 406-243-2328, norma.nickerson@umontana.edu.

UM NEWS



December 26, 2013

MISSOULA – The Montana Museum of Art & Culture and the University of Montana are prominently featured on this week’s A&E Television Network’s episode of “Shipping Wars.” The show premiered on Christmas Eve and will re-air at 4 p.m. MST Saturday, Dec. 28. The show highlights “The Plastic Whale Project,” a public art piece that MMAC presented to the Missoula community on Oct. 17, for one afternoon only. The piece was displayed on the stage of the George and Jane Dennison Theatre at UM.

“More than 700 visitors viewed the whale sculpture back in October and we’re excited that some of those visitors, and the whole process of safely shipping and getting the whale set up here was filmed by the crew of the nationally viewed ‘Shipping Wars,’” said MMAC Director Barbara Koostra. “National media networks rarely travel to Missoula, and we were thrilled that MMAC, UM and the community were featured during their visit.”

The gray whale was 32 feet long and made of reclaimed plastic bags and other plastic trash. It was created by 900 youth and adults in Thurston County, Wash., as part of an education and outreach project about plastic bags. The primary goal of the project was to creatively engage the public in learning about plastics in our environment, to educate them about other options and to reduce the use of plastic bags.

Artist Carrie Ziegler, an environmental educator from Thurston County and the brains behind the project, traveled to Missoula with the whale to assist with the “Shipping Wars” move. She offered Missoula’s whale visitors valuable insights into the project.

The skin of the whale is made out of 9,000 plastic bags that were braided together by students at 15 different elementary schools. Middle school students formed the 6,000 feet of plastic braids into a mat, similar to a rag rug, to make the skin. The whale’s skin shows a map of the Pacific Ocean and the Great Pacific Gyre – now known as the Great Pacific Garbage Patch. Ocean currents pull trash from America and Asia into the center of the Pacific Ocean. Mammals, birds and fish mistake the plastic for food. The map of the gyre is centered over the whale’s stomach, symbolizing the plastic stuck in the stomachs of marine animals.

The skeleton of the gray whale was created by art students at Tumwater High School and is visible on the whale’s right side. It was made out of disposable plastic forks and cups that are used in many school cafeterias, milk jugs and plastic foam. The design and outreach for the project was completed in fall 2012. The plastics presentations and whale-building workshops took place between January and April 2013. The whale has appeared in parades and celebrations in Washington.

In April 2010, a gray whale washed up on shore in West Seattle. Scientists found about 30 plastic bags and other plastic trash in its stomach. This event inspired the creation of the whale.

For more information on “Shipping Wars” and the episode featuring MMAC’s presentation of the whale sculpture, visit <http://www.aetv.com/shipping-wars/season-5/episode-8>.

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

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

UM NEWS



December 24, 2013

MISSOULA – University of Montana’s spectrUM Discovery Area will host winter break camps Dec. 27, Dec. 30, Jan. 2 and Jan. 3.

Students will be grouped into two age brackets, 6-8 and 9-12. On Monday, Dec. 30 students will explore optical illusions by tricking their brain into seeing something that is not there during the Illusions 101 camp. They will create their own potions and meet two amazing magicians, G. Wiz the science guy and Evan Disney.

All camps will be held from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the UM campus, in Skaggs Building Room 166. The camp schedule follows:

- **Friday, Dec. 27:** SciKids Engineer It
- **Thursday, Jan. 2:** Crime Scene Investigation
- **Friday, Jan. 3:** Chemistry Concoctions

Camps cost \$50 per day, members and siblings receive a 10 percent discount. Scholarships are available for families in need. To enroll, call spectrUM Discovery Area at 406-728-7836.

For camp descriptions, visit <http://spectrum.umt.edu/about/WinterBreak2013.pdf>.

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Contact: Jessie Herbert, spectrUM Discovery Area operations manager, 406-243-4828, jessie.herbert@mso.umt.edu.

UM NEWS



December 23, 2013

The Office for Civic Engagement at the University of Montana teamed up with the Salvation Army and Poverello Center to meet the holiday needs of 30 families and 14 veterans during this year's Adopt-A-Family and Adopt-A-Veteran programs.

Each year, interested members of the University community pair up with local families or veterans who struggle to provide for themselves or their families, to help ensure that everyone in the Missoula area is able to celebrate the holiday season. This year, UM provided food, gifts and other items to 117 people.

Gifts were dropped off at the OCE, located in the Davidson Honors College, and faculty and staff members wrapped all of the gifts during a wrapping party hosted by The Bookstore at UM.

"The Office for Civic Engagement would like to extend our heartfelt thanks and appreciation to all those members of the UM community who participated in the Adopt-A-Family and Adopt-A-Veteran programs," said Colleen Kane, OCE student programs manager. "Your efforts have truly made a difference in the lives of hundreds of Missoula residents during this holiday season."

This year marked the Salvation Army's 17th annual Adopt-A-Family and the Poverello Center's fifth annual Adopt-A-Veteran program.

The OCE serves as the University's primary agent of community activism and civic responsibility. Through various programs and projects, the OCE promotes civic engagement as a means to develop actively engaged citizens in our democratic society.

For more information call Kane at 406-243-5128 or email colleen.kane@mso.umt.edu.

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Photo outline: University of Montana faculty and staff help wrap gifts donated to the Salvation Army's Adopt-A-Family and the Poverello Center's Adopt-A-Veteran programs. The UM community donated holiday gifts for 30 families and 14 veterans this year. (Photo courtesy of the UM Office for Civic Engagement)

Contact: Colleen Kane, student programs manager, UM Office for Civic Engagement, 406-243-5128, colleen.kane@mso.umt.edu.

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UM NEWS



December 23, 2013

MISSOULA – The Montana Museum of Art & Culture and the University of Montana will be prominently featured on the premiere of a national television program on the A&E Television Network that will air at 12:30 a.m. Wednesday, Dec. 25. The show relates to a giant whale sculpture.

“As many as 4 million viewers tune in to this program every episode and we’re delighted to be featured as part of this season on the network,” said MMAC Director Barbara Koostra. “Be sure to tune in or record the show, as you’ll see a number of Missoulians you may know on the program as well as shots of UM and our community.”

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

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

UM NEWS



December 20, 2013

MISSOULA – Ruth Eddy and Christopher Allen, seniors in the Department of Radio-TV at the University of Montana, recently were named among the top five winners in the nation for the radio category of the prestigious Hearst Journalism Awards.

Funded by the William Randolph Hearst Foundation, the contest provides cash awards in several media categories to the top five students and their colleges.

Eddy, who placed third, and Allen, who placed fifth, also received an automatic berth to the final competition, where more prize money will be awarded. In June 2014, they will receive an expense-paid trip to Washington, D.C, where they will have to quickly create radio stories for consideration.

Eddy, originally of Oak Park, Ill., is the news director for KBGA 89.9, UM's student-run station. Allen, who is from Missoula, is a reporter there. They both file for the weekly radio magazine show Eddy helped create last year, "Word of Mouth." The stories they entered for the Hearst competition aired on that show. They can all be heard at UM Journalism's SoundCloud stream, <https://soundcloud.com/um-journalism>.

Last year, Jessica Murri placed first nationally in the Hearst radio competition. She went on to place second overall at the finals in San Francisco and was awarded \$4,000. Her story about predictions gone wrong and how those affect kite-surfing also won best news coverage and an additional \$1,000. That story is online at <http://bit.ly/1fM2vgC>.

Another recent grad, Samuel Wilson, also competed at the finals in San Francisco and brought home gold. Wilson won the multimedia category with his story about the "real" San Francisco. He filmed and told the story of a tour guide, on the bus and at home. He was awarded \$5,000 and the Hearst medal. His story is online at <http://bit.ly/1fskc3Y>.

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Contact: Denise Dowling, interim dean, UM School of Journalism, 406-243-4143, denise.dowling@umontana.edu.

UM NEWS



December 19, 2013

MISSOULA – Four teams, chosen from a field of entrants, gathered Dec. 11 to present their business plans before a panel of experts at the University of Montana's Fall Business Plan Competition.

Participants vied for \$2,500 in prizes. The awards and winners follow:

- **First place:** \$1,500, UM student Matthew Gangloff, Brattleboro, Vt.; and UM student Andrew Burrington, Missoula: New Leaf Environmental Monitoring.
- **Second place:** \$500, UM student Donna Weathers, Missoula: Everyday Hero.

Stakeholders within the Montana Academy of Distinguished Entrepreneurs wanted to recognize seniors graduating at the close of autumn semester with a competition based on the larger, statewide event held in the spring.

First-place winners Gangloff and Burrington, who both major in management information systems, gave audience members a look at New Leaf Environmental Monitoring, a product designed to monitor chemical toxins in and around the home that will culminate in a citizen-based environmental monitoring movement.

Second-place winner Donna Weathers, also an MIS major, put forward her idea for a smartphone application she called Everyday Hero. Her goal is to market the app to grow and change human behavior by providing anyone with a "help line" when they need assistance and an instrument of good will toward others.

Cody Mosher, a marketing and MIS major, presented his plan to build a smartphone application that provides hunters with all the information they need about specific hunting districts and species.

Max Mattioli, Courtney Porch, Jordan Sullivan and Andrew Stolle, the most diverse group with majors from each department in the School of Business Administration, discussed their ideas for Fish On Fly Company, which offers affordable, accessible and fun guided fly-fishing trips on the Clark Fork River at a discounted rate for UM students.

First- and second-place winners received an automatic entrance into the spring competition. All teams plan to launch their businesses regardless of who won, and each team took home a \$125 prize for making it into the competition.

More information about MADE is available at <http://www.business.umt.edu/DegreesPrograms/MADE.aspx>, and more information about the UM School of Business Administration is available at <http://www.business.umt.edu>.

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Photo cutline: Director Don Gaumer presented awards at the 2013 Fall Business Plan Competition. From left to right: Gangloff, Burrington, Gaumer, and Weathers.

Photo credit: Paul Gladen

TY/all

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Contact: Tammy Yedinak, assistant to the dean, UM School of Business Administration, 406-243-6195, tammy.yedinak@business.umt.edu.

UM NEWS



December 18, 2013

MISSOULA – Steve Running, University of Montana Regents Professor of Ecology, recently was ranked one of the top 20 most productive authors worldwide in remote sensing research. The ranking came out of a study published in the *Scientometrics* journal, which analyzed citations of remote sensing research between 1991 and 2010.

The study surveyed articles related to remote sensing in the Science Citation Index and Social Science Citation Index databases. Of the top 20 authors, Running was ranked first in geographical influence, third in five-year citations and first in five-year citations per article.

Running has taught at UM since 1979 and is an internationally recognized scholar in satellite-remote sensing data, global vegetation productivity, climate change and more. He currently directs the Numerical Terradynamic Simulation Group at UM, a laboratory that pioneers new approaches for landscape ecological and hydrological analyses.

Running and the NTSG team began working with NASA in the early 1980s to write algorithms for satellites to calculate photosynthesis across the whole world, every day.

The satellites, which were launched in 1999 and 2002, collect data that can be used to determine practical information such as forest range, crop production and drought impacts worldwide. But the data also shows how much Earth's plant life – the biosphere – absorbs carbon dioxide from the atmosphere, which slows down global warming.

While the study identifying Running as an influential author in remote sensing goes back to 1991, his work in the field began a whole decade earlier.

"We started back in 1981, helping NASA design the Earth Observing System, and then became part of the science team to write these algorithms to calculate global plant production," Running said. "We've been on this specific activity for more than 30 years now. We worked for 15 years first establishing and building these satellites."

The global nature of the research informs Running's ranking as the most geographically influential author. A particularly telling graphic in the study shows a map of the world with little maroon dots over regions, each indicating an author and the amount of citations their data and research receive. On a world covered with dots, the largest dot – indicating more than 10,000 articles – sits squarely over Missoula.

"Our data set touches every square kilometer of the whole world," Running said. "With most people, their research is only really viable in their region."

The study is published in the 2013 article "Global remote sensing research trends during 1991-2010: a bibliometric analysis." None of the authors are affiliated with UM.

For more information call Running at 406-243-6311 or email steve.running@umontana.edu. More information on the NTSG can be found at <http://www.ntsg.umt.edu/>.

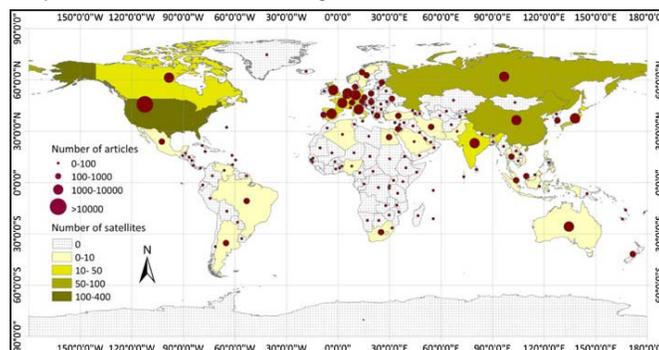
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Photo caption: This figure from the article shows a comparison of spatial distributions of remote sensing research with satellite development of different countries. (Scientometrics graphic)

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UM NEWS



December 18, 2013

MISSOULA – The University of Montana School of Journalism recently was ranked the ninth best college journalism program in the country in a poll by NewsPro magazine and the Radio Television Digital News Association.

The magazine and professional association surveyed news professionals for their 2013 top choices of J-schools around the country, both undergraduate and graduate. Responders emphasized the importance of fundamentals and practical application in programs, such as teaching Associated Press style, grammar and different ways to write about news.

“We were incredibly excited to hear the news of our ranking by news professionals,” said Denise Dowling, interim dean of UM’s School of Journalism. “It not only speaks to the decades of devotion to hands-on teaching by outstanding faculty, but also to the graduates who go out and make a difference in newsrooms across the country.

“The work they do in communities shows they’ve got a rock-solid grounding in practicing ethical journalism in a rapidly changing media world.”

Of the top 10 schools identified in the poll, UM also boasts the lowest yearly cost of attendance for both in-state and out-of-state undergraduate students.

The UM School of Journalism is one of the oldest journalism programs in the country, celebrating its 99th year in 2013. It was established in surplus army tents on the Oval in 1914 and moved to the Journalism Building – now Stone Hall – in 1936. In 2007, the program moved into the newly built Don Anderson Hall.

Undergraduate professional programs include print/online journalism, print/Web design, photojournalism, specialty reporting, television production, television news/documentary and radio. The graduate program focuses on natural resource and environmental science journalism.

The school will celebrate its centennial Sept. 26-27, 2014, welcoming alumni and current students to reflect on 100 years of excellence in journalism education.

For more information call Dowling at 406-243-4143 or email denise.dowling@umontana.edu. The list of the top 20 journalism programs is available at http://rtdna.org/article/survey_the_top_20_journalism_schools#.UrHwafRDt8H.

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UM NEWS



December 16, 2013

MISSOULA – The Archie Bray Foundation for the Ceramic Arts in Helena provides an environment for ceramic artists to work and thrive. A recent economic study conducted by the Bureau of Business and Economic Research at the University of Montana found that accomplishing this mission also has a significant impact on the Montana economy through job creation and income generation.

The study's author, BBER economist Patrick Barkey, found that in years in which special events occur at the Archie Bray Foundation, the operations of the organization ultimately support 38 year-round equivalent jobs, \$2.1 million in income to Montana households and more than \$4 million in sales recorded by Montana businesses.

According to the study, Archie Bray impacts the Montana economy in three quantifiable ways:

- Business operations making ceramic art and distributing school supplies generate jobs, sales and payments to vendors and suppliers.
- The educational facility hosts workshops and artist-in-residence programs that attract spending by out-of-state artists and students who take part in these activities.
- Archie Bray draws out-of-area visitors attracted to the foundation's reputation and cultural activities.

"The impact of the Bray as a destination for cultural tourists was a bit of a surprise," Barkey said. "Cultural tourists tend to be older and more affluent and also tend to stay longer when they visit. We often think of the arts as something you do with money. But it's important to recognize that the arts also bring money into the state economy."

Set against the ruins of a 26-acre former brickyard three miles from downtown Helena, the Archie Bray Foundation for the Ceramic Arts is internationally recognized as a gathering place for emerging and established ceramic artists. Founded in 1951 by brick maker Archie Bray, the site is listed on the National Register of Historic Places and draws visitors from around the country and beyond who purchase artworks and art supplies and attend events and workshops hosted on site.

BBER is a research center producing economic and industry data for Montana. For more information visit <http://www.bber.umt.edu/>.

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Contact: Patrick Barkey, director, UM Bureau of Business and Economic Research, 406-243-5113, pat_barkey@business.umt.edu.

UM NEWS



December 16, 2013

MISSOULA – Community members age 50 and older can now register for Winter 2014 courses through the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at the University of Montana.

Taught by distinguished UM faculty, emeritus faculty and professionals from the community, Winter 2014 MOLLI courses will take place Jan. 23- Feb. 28. Registration is open for all courses.

Courses cover a variety of topics, including the symphony, World War II in the Pacific, experimental drawing, Cuban art and culture, disease and its effects on your body, life and death on the Eastern front, everyday law for the non-lawyer, Montana history and more.

To view the course schedule, course descriptions and instructor biographies, visit <http://www.umt.edu/molli>. An annual membership fee of \$20 is required to enroll in a course. Registration costs \$60 per course, per participant and there is a two for \$100 discount available for your first two courses.

For more information or to register for courses over the phone, call the MOLLI office at 406-243-2905 or visit the School of Extended & Lifelong Learning in the Todd Building adjacent to the University Center at UM.

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Contact: Eileen Flannigan, Program Coordinator, Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at UM, 406-243-2905, eileen.flannigan@mso.umt.edu.

UM NEWS



December 12, 2013

MISSOULA – A University of Montana class, Can Giving Change the World?, granted \$10,000 to local nonprofits on Thursday, Dec. 12, at the Davidson Honors College.

The class, part of UM's Global Leadership Initiative, focused on awarding grants to nonprofits that operate within Missoula County and combat youth hunger or youth depression. Organizations submitted grant proposals to the class earlier this semester.

This semester's winners are:

- **Mountain Home Montana:** \$2,000 to support the young mothers' support group.
- **Garden City Harvest:** \$3,000 to support the Youth Harvest Project.
- **Watson Children's Shelter:** \$2,000 for children's fruits and vegetables nourishment.
- **The Girls Way:** \$3,000 for Thursday Funshops: Developing Strong, Smart, Real Girls.

The philanthropy class at UM teaches students about social responsibility and community building to address and resolve social issues. Students study the role of philanthropy and giving strategies to meet local needs. Andrea Vernon, director of the Office for Civic Engagement, and communication studies Associate Professor Gregory Larson secure the grant monies for the class from the Learning by Giving Foundation. (For an animated video about the Learning by Giving Foundation, click [here](#).)

"It has been my privilege to be part of this course for several semesters now and I can attest that this funding makes for a wonderful educational experience for our students, as well as provides a nice benefit for the Missoula community," Larson said.

The Global Leadership Initiative is a four-year program open to students in all majors. Students engage in innovative seminars, pursue experiential learning opportunities, interact one-on-one with inspiring leaders and learn how to be a leader for the global century.

For more information call Vernon at 406-243-5159 or email andrea.vernon@umontana.edu.

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Local

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

UM NEWS



December 11, 2013

MISSOULA – The Montana Information Systems Association, a student organization housed within the University of Montana’s School of Business Administration, will be recognized at an upcoming international conference for their outstanding fundraising efforts.

During an awards luncheon slated for noon on Tuesday, Dec. 17, in Milan, Italy, UM’s chapter of the Association for Information Systems will be honored for their fundraising abilities. According to faculty adviser Clayton Looney, the group employed a creative strategy which was very successful.

“This is an extraordinary accomplishment for the MISA student group,” Looney said. “Receiving international honors from AIS demonstrates SoBA’s commitment to developing outstanding business professionals who are well-prepared to excel in an information-intensive, global marketplace.”

Former MISA members, now UM alumni have remained connected to the student group. Looney attributes the chapter’s success to the support and engagement of its alumni.

AIS is the premier global organization for academics specializing in information systems. Founded in 1994, AIS is an international professional society of 4,000 members from 90 countries and a key player in the advancement of the information systems academic community.

MISA has been recognized by AIS for upholding the international organization’s mission – to serve society through the advancement of knowledge and the promotion of excellence in the practice and study of information systems.

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Contact: Tammy Yedinak, assistant to the dean, UM School of Business Administration, 406-243-6195, tammy.yedinak@business.umt.edu.

UM NEWS



December 11, 2013

MISSOULA – University of Montana’s professional education programs recently earned their highest national accreditation review since 1954, when the Phyllis J. Washington College of Education and Human Sciences became a founding member of the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education.

The accreditation evaluated 42 professional education programs across four colleges and schools, ranging from teacher preparation in elementary education to advanced degrees in school administration and school psychology, among many others.

“Under the leadership of Dean Roberta Evans, the Phyllis J. Washington College of Education and Human Sciences delivers outstanding educator-preparation programs and ensures their candidates and graduates are successful,” said B. Joyce Stallworth, NCATE team chair and associate provost at the University of Alabama. “During the entire accreditation review process, the unit provided clear evidence that it meets the six rigorous NCATE standards.

“Throughout the onsite visit, all administrators, faculty, staff and students demonstrated their commitment to excellence,” Stallworth said. “I was impressed with the level of professionalism exhibited by everyone at the University.”

High accreditation scores highlight the college’s excellence in preparing future P-12 teachers and other school professionals.

“A strong teaching workforce is critical for good schools and the economic strength of Montana,” Gov. Steve Bullock said. “The University of Montana has a long tradition of preparing teachers to serve our students from before they enter kindergarten until they graduate from high school.”

The accreditation process occurs every seven years. The assessment requires the college to submit more than 3,000 data reports, policy documents and examples of student work. These documents were reviewed by educational leaders across the nation and within the state.

The peer-review process culminated in a site visit, where 11 evaluators spent three days engaged in presentations, interviews and school visits with more than 160 UM administrators, faculty, teacher candidates, graduate students, recent UM graduates and P-12 teachers and principals. They presented their findings to the Montana Board of Public Education and the NCATE/CAEP Continuous Improvement Commission for final review and recommendations.

Unanimously, the programs were awarded accreditation with the highest scores possible. Review findings emphasized their outstanding leadership, assessment system and innovative use of digital learning models, noting that the programs are poised for tremendous growth.

“At the University of Montana, we know our College of Education and Human Sciences is among the absolute best in the nation,” said UM President Royce Engstrom. “These NCATE results confirm that through an in-depth review from outside evaluators.”

“To attain such a high level of recognition through this rigorous process is noteworthy,” said Denise Juneau, Montana superintendent of public instruction. “The work that has gone into program development and delivery on the UM campus will benefit Montana schools and students for years to come.”

The programs also were lauded for their collaborative efforts among experts across the UM campus and area P-12 school partners, all of whom played key roles in earning distinction for UM’s teacher-preparation programs in the review.

“The excellence of the college starts with an outstanding faculty who care deeply about their students and about educational research,” Engstrom said. “Combined with forward-thinking leadership and state-of-the-art facilities, the college is a tremendous source of pride for UM and for the state of Montana.

“I want to extend my personal thanks to everyone from the College, across campus and area P-12 schools who helped achieve this extraordinary accreditation outcome.”

With the goal to maintain a high level in the next seven-year accreditation, leaders in the college have set new benchmarks for excellence.

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ALL

State

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Contact: Peter Knox, communications and outreach manager, Phyllis J. Washington College of Education and Human Sciences, 406-243-4911, peter.knox@umontana.edu.

The University of Montana | Missoula, MT | Contact UM | Accessibility

UM NEWS



December 10, 2013

MISSOULA – A real estate agent whose success depends upon the beauty and health of Flathead Lake is contributing to continuous lake monitoring. Dusty Dziza, owner of Flathead Lake Land & Home in Kalispell, puts aside a percentage of her commissions from Flathead Lake property sales for the University of Montana Flathead Lake Biological Station. She donated more than \$1,000 this fall. Dziza stepped up to support the cause after hearing FLBS Director Jack Stanford discuss the station’s important work at the annual Flathead Lakers meeting in July.

“What makes Flathead Lake such a valuable and treasured resource is the size of the lake, combined with the extraordinary water quality,” said Dziza. “There is no question that the water quality has a direct and significant impact on real estate values. The only hope we have in protecting the water quality we all enjoy is to ensure the continuation of the great work done by the Flathead Lake Biological Station.”

She intends to continue making this contribution into the future.

Dziza’s donation supports monitoring of Flathead Lake water quality and ecology, adding to a data record that began in the 1890s. Monitoring of water quality helps to ensure that Flathead Lake remains one of the cleanest large freshwater lakes in the world. At stake is the ecological health of the Flathead Basin, as well as quality of life for all those who enjoy or live on the waterfront.

“It is great to have community support for Flathead Lake and our monitoring program,” said Stanford.

The donation will be matched by an anonymous donor as part of a Lake Monitoring Challenge Grant announced in December 2011. For each dollar raised up to \$1 million, the donor will contribute an equal amount. The challenge grant continues through December 2014.

Established in 1899, UM’s Flathead Lake Biological Station is one of the oldest active biological field research stations in the United States. It is internationally renowned as a freshwater mecca for ecology and limnology researchers and students.

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KS/JS

Flathead, Local

121013lake

Contact: Tom Bansak, research scientist and development coordinator, UM Flathead Lake Biological Station, 406-982-3301 ext. 229, tom.bansak@umontana.edu.

UM NEWS



December 09, 2013

MISSOULA – Country singer Don Williams will perform a concert at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, June 18, in the George and Jane Dennison Theatre at the University of Montana.

Tickets for the show will go on sale at 10 a.m. Friday, Dec. 13. They are available online at <http://www.griztix.com>. Tickets range in cost from \$39.50 to \$55, and will cost an additional \$3.50 if purchased the day of the show.

Williams, known as the “Gentle Giant,” has built a career writing songs that speak to people’s hearts. His hits include “Good Ole Boys Like Me,” “I Believe in You,” and “Amanda and Tulsa Time.” He was inducted into the Country Music Hall of Fame in 2010.

“I don’t think there’s anything we have to do daily in our walk that’s more important than how we deal with each other,” Williams said. “To me, it’s everything. So when you’re looking for songs, if they can express that, then you’ve found something special.”

For more information call Tom Webster, director of the Dennison Theatre, at 406-243-2853 or email thomas.webster@umontana.edu.

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BP

Local, Western Montana

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UM NEWS



December 09, 2013

MISSOULA – University of Montana Dining will host the 16th annual Great UM Christmas Cookie Cook-Off on Friday, Dec. 13. This year's event, themed "Willy Wonka and the Chocolate Factory," will be held from 2 to 6 p.m. in the UM Lommasson Center's Food Zoo Dining Room.

UM students, employees and their families are invited to join UM Dining to spread holiday cheer by baking and decorating cookies. Guests may bring home up to half of the cookies they bake, and the other half will be donated to local youth homes, senior homes, group shelters and other nonprofit organizations.

The event is open to faculty and staff with an active Griz Card, their families and friends. UMD is supplying its personnel and facilities. Sysco Foodservice of Montana is donating the cookie dough and decorations.

Annually, about 300 dozen cookies are donated to 16 local charities and more than 29 campus departments participate in the festivities. In addition to cookie making, there also will be beverages, music and a children's play area. Santa will join in the party from 5 to 6 p.m.

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JM/all

Local

120913cook

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UM NEWS



December 06, 2013

MISSOULA – More than 1,600 students from all over the world recently competed in the semiannual Capsim Challenge to see who has the corporate intellect to be a winning CEO. Christopher Chew, a University of Montana School of Business Administration student rose to the top of the competition, taking second place in the Foundation challenge.

Students from more than 280 universities competed in the online challenge, in which participants manage a simulation of a multimillion-dollar company. The simulation challenge is a global online competition held in the spring and fall semester each year. The competitions are open to all students who have used a Capsim business simulation in their university or two-year college course in the previous 12 months.

Chew, a senior from Key Largo, Fla., studying management information systems, participated in the Foundation challenge where he was selected as one of the top six competitors worldwide. During the fall challenge, he competed against five other students to run a hypothetical company that produces sensors.

Each competitor started with a \$40 million company for which they were presented with problems and asked to input their decisions.

"They have the chance to make decisions on research and development, how to market products, how to automate production, financing their investments and planning for improvements, among others," said Shawn Clouse, UM associate professor of business. "The simulations are designed to get students to think like executives."

After starting in the same place, participants ended up in drastically different situations.

Following a simulated eight-year period, Chew ended the competition with about \$24 million in profits, \$87 million in sales and a final score just nine points shy of the first-place competitor.

Capsim is the world's largest business simulation platform. More than 500 universities and corporations use the introductory Foundation or more complex Capstone programs.

"This is the first year we've had a UM undergraduate compete," Clouse said. "I'm extremely proud of Christopher's achievement of second place among worldwide competitors."

In May, UM School of Business Administration graduate student Curtis Walette took first place in the Capsim Capstone competition.

For the Foundation challenge results, visit <http://www.capsim.com/business-simulations/challenge/Fall-2013-Foundation-Challenge.pdf>.

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BP/all

State, Hometown

120413caps

Contact: Christopher Chew, student, UM School of Business Administration, 406-274-0395, christopherchew@hotmail.com; Shawn Clouse, associate professor, UM School of Business Administration, 406-243-5985, shawn.clouse@umontana.edu.

UM NEWS



December 05, 2013

MISSOULA – A recent article in a professional psychology journal recognized the University of Montana’s doctoral program in clinical psychology as one of 10 accredited programs that has “exceptionally good outcomes for its students.”

The article examined 233 programs accredited by the American Psychological Association, analyzing match rates for internships and pass rates on the standard psychologist licensure exam. The researchers found that the UM is among "select programs [that] appear to be value-additive during training and evidence a student body that is achieving markedly better than expected."

UM psychology Associate Professor Bryan Cochran said one of the reasons for great student outcomes is the program’s combination of theoretical and practical training. Students will spend years conducting research, but they also are trained in providing psychotherapy services under one-on-one supervision.

“When it comes time for students to leave our program, students have worked exceptionally hard throughout their training. They’ve received close mentoring and supervision from a number of our faculty members,” Cochran said.

UM’s program is fairly small for a clinical psychology doctoral program, hosting 10 faculty members and accepting only six to eight new students each year, out of an applicant pool ranging from 125 to 200.

Cochran said the program uses a holistic model when selecting students, including telephone or on-site interviews, letters of reference, personal statements, research and clinical experience, as well as students’ GRE scores and GPAs. This process results in students who are an excellent fit for the program in a variety of domains.

“We get amazing students who come here from all over the United States to further their education,” he said.

The article, “Hidden Gems Among Clinical Psychology Training Programs,” was published in the October issue of Training and Education in Professional Psychology. None of the article’s authors are affiliated with UM.

For more information call Cochran at 406-243-2391 or email bryan.cochran@umontana.edu.

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BP

Local

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UM NEWS



December 03, 2013

MISSOULA – University of Montana President Royce Engstrom will travel to the Montana Hi-Line as part of the “We are Montana” tour of the state. Engstrom and other senior UM leaders will travel to six towns Monday through Wednesday, Dec. 9-11, to meet with and listen to educators, alumni, students, legislators and community members.

“I enjoy these opportunities to visit communities across our state to strengthen our connections with the people we serve as a flagship university,” Engstrom said. “We are always looking to improve our connections with so many Montanans across this great state and share stories of our outstanding students, faculty and alumni.”

The fourth leg of the tour travels to Heart Butte first, then to Browning and Cut Bank and concludes in Box Elder and Havre. Tour members also will visit Great Falls high schools on the return trip to Missoula.

The UM Alumni Association will host community events in Cut Bank and Havre and encourage residents of nearby communities to attend. Both events are free and open to the public. The schedule follows:

- **Cut Bank:** 5-7 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 10, Elks Club, located at 18 S. Central Ave.
- **Havre:** 5-7 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 11, private residence.

The events will offer community members a chance to meet with Engstrom and connect with alumni and friends.

University officials plan to visit numerous high schools on this leg of the tour, including Heart Butte High School, Browning High School, Cut Bank High School and Havre High School. Additionally, visits are being planned with Great Falls High School, C.M. Russell High School and Central High School on Thursday, Dec. 12.

Previous legs of the president’s “We are Montana” tour stopped in Miles City, Glendive, Sidney, Poplar, Glasgow, Helena, Butte, Dillon, Bozeman, Big Sky, Livingston, Big Timber and Billings. Engstrom is scheduled to visit additional cities across Montana through the winter and spring, traveling a total of 3,500 miles.

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Note to the media: Members of the media are invited to attend the community events, and interviews with Engstrom may be arranged in advance by calling Rebecca Power, assistant to the president, at 406-243-2311 or by emailing rebecca.power@mso.umt.edu.

ALL

Browning, Cut Bank, Great Falls, Box Elder, Havre-area media

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Contact: Peggy Kuhr, UM vice president for integrated communications, 406-243-2311, peggy.kuhr@umontana.edu.