May 2016 news releases

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DARBY – As part of the kickoff for the Darby Community Public Library Summer Reading Program, “Ready, Set, Read,” community members of all ages are invited to celebrate the grand opening of the University of Montana spectrUM Discovery Area’s “Nano: The Science of Small” exhibit from 4 to 5 p.m. Tuesday, May 31, at the Darby Community Library.

“Nano” engages visitors with hands-on enrichment and career opportunities in nanoscience, the study of structures and materials on the scale of nanometers. The grand-opening celebration will feature a liquid nitrogen ice cream bar, hands-on activities and 3-D printing.

The exhibit opening marks the second year of spectrUM’s collaborative, three-year initiative to foster a robust science, technology, engineering and math – or STEM – learning ecosystem in the Bitterroot Valley. Funded by the Jane S. Heman Foundation, the initiative will bring Summer of Science events to Bitterroot Valley communities through 2017.

“We’re honored to have this opportunity to collaborate and co-create with our partners in the Bitterroot as part of our
ongoing efforts to close opportunity and achievement gaps in STEM and higher education for Montana’s next generation,” said spectrUM Director Holly Truitt.

In recognition of its innovative, community-based approach to STEM engagement, spectrUM has garnered national awards from Simons Foundation and the Coalition for the Public Understanding of Science, as well as through the Noyce Foundation’s Bright Lights Community Engagement awards competition.

This year’s Summer of Science events at the Darby Community Library include:

- **Science Tuesdays**: Every Tuesday from 1 to 2 p.m., May 31 to Aug. 2, children and families are invited to roll up their sleeves and engage in guided science activities, with rotating weekly themes including slime, neuroscience, stomp rockets, dissections, liquid nitrogen and many more.
- **Free Field Trips**: During the month of May, students from Darby Public School are exploring the “Nano” exhibit through guided field trips.
- **Evening Lecture**: Geared toward high-school and adult community members, the June 22 free lecture will feature UM graduate students Kevin Trout and Forrest Jessop, who will present “Nanomaterials and Health.” The lecture will begin at 6 p.m.

During the academic year, the initiative will continue bringing spectrUM’s mobile science exhibits to K-12 schools throughout the Bitterroot Valley. All Summer of Science events are free and open to the public.

The public can visit the “Nano” exhibit at the Darby Community Library from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. on Tuesdays, from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Wednesdays through Fridays, and from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Saturdays. The library is located at 101 ½ S. Marshall St.

###

Contact: Hannah Motl Gimpel, spectrUM Discovery Area associate director, 406-459-2447, hannah.gimpel@mso.umt.edu; Wendy Campbell, library director, 406-821-3964, librarian@darbylibrary.net.
Garden Surrounding UM’s Native American Center Certified as Wildlife Habitat

May 31, 2016

MISSOULA – The native garden surrounding the Payne Family Native American Center at the University of Montana is now designated Certified Wildlife Habitat by the National Wildlife Federation. UM will celebrate the certification during a reception held at 4 p.m. Tuesday, June 14, at the Fire Circle located on the east side of the Payne Center, including a brief guided tour of the garden at 4:15 p.m.

The NWF program encourages homeowners, schools and businesses to provide habitat for wildlife through landscaping practices that promote visits from birds, butterflies and more. To earn certification, an area must provide food, water, cover and places to raise young, and must be maintained using sustainable landscape practices. UM Natural Areas Specialist Marilyn Marler pursued the NWF certification to enhance the community’s understanding of native gardens and to increase awareness in Missoula about the Certified Wildlife Habitat program.
UM’s native garden features wide swathes of native grasses that are drought resistant and provide food for caterpillars and other beneficial insects. A grove of serviceberries produces a delicious berry crop for visiting birds, and nine rock circles in the garden each represent culturally important plants from Montana’s Native American cultures and people.

“The Payne Center garden has a different aesthetic than the lawn and manicured areas that make up most of campus,” Marler said. “While UM has a very attractive campus, I hope that raising awareness of conservation benefits such as helping wildlife and conserving water will increase support for native plants in institutional settings.”

Juliet Slutzker, an AmeriCorps member serving with the National Wildlife Federation as sustainability and habitat educator, helped Marler pursue the certification. Missoula is home to a number of Certified Wildlife Habitats, Slutzker said, but this marks the first time the organization has certified a space on the UM campus.

“The National Wildlife Federation has partnered with the City of Missoula to promote the creation and conservation of wildlife habitats throughout the city, with an ultimate goal of recognizing Missoula as the first Certified Community Wildlife Habitat in Montana,” Slutzker said. “To accomplish this, we need to raise awareness of the benefits provided by certifying yards and gardens as wildlife habitat. The University showcasing a very public native garden as Certified Wildlife Habitat is a great step forward in these efforts.”

UM’s native garden also serves as a classroom for students participating in an internship created by Marler and Assistant Professor Rosalyn LaPier to share their knowledge of Montana’s native plants and their traditional cultural uses.

“I’m excited to have this recognition for the Payne Center garden so that the broader campus community can better understand our goals over here, and so that the students who work in the garden can get some kudos for their efforts,” Marler said. “I always love opportunities for UM to partner with awesome community groups, too.”

Residents, schools and businesses interested in pursuing NWF wildlife habitat certification for their property can call Slutzker at 406-406-541-6708 or email MTEducationCoordinator@nwf.org.

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**Contact:** Marilyn Marler, UM natural areas specialist, 406-544-7189, marilyn.marler@umontana.edu; Juliet Slutzker, AmeriCorps member and National Wildlife Federation sustainability and habitat educator, 406-541-6708, MTEducationCoordinator@nwf.org.
UM News

UM Ranks Among 30 Great Small Colleges for INFP Myers-Briggs Personality Types

May 31, 2016

MISSOULA – The University of Montana recently ranked 22nd among 30 small colleges for learners with an Introversion, Intuition, Feeling and Perception, or INFP, Myers-Briggs personality type. Degree Match published the ranking on its earlier this year.

From more than 200 schools, 30 colleges were selected that provide the kind of environment to strongly suit the INFP personality. Data was gathered from the National Center for Education Statistics’ College Navigator tool and U.S. News & World Report. The following methodology was used for this ranking: overall cost of attendance, student-to-faculty ratio, U.S. News & World Report rankings and INFP areas of study.

“Educating students in the liberal arts tradition at UM means educating students to be creative and critical thinkers, good communicators and skilled writers,” says College of Humanities and Sciences Associate Dean Jenny McNulty.

“As most people will hold a variety of different professional positions over the course of their lifetime, it is important
to have skills that are transferable to be successful in the workforce for the long term. We routinely hear from our most successful alumni, be they doctors, lawyers, coders or writers that their liberal arts education from UM was crucial to their success."

The INFP is someone who has a natural ability to communicate well with those around them. Some careers for INFP learners are jobs in poetry, writing, acting, blogging, freelancing and editing. At the undergraduate level, the following INFP majors are offered at UM: Bachelor of Arts in communication studies with optional concentrations in communication and human relationships, organizational communication and rhetoric and public discourse; Bachelor of Arts in creative writing with optional concentrations in nonfiction, fiction and poetry; Bachelor of Arts in English with a creative writing option; and Bachelor of Arts in theatre. For those at the graduate level of study, there is a master’s level program in theater and creative writing.

Degree Match is an online resource helping people find the right degree for them. Whether embarking on a new career path or searching for an advanced degree, the site’s information and resources can help answer questions about finding the right degree or diploma program. Read the full article online at [http://www.degreematch.org/rankings/30-great-small-colleges-for-infp-personality-types/](http://www.degreematch.org/rankings/30-great-small-colleges-for-infp-personality-types/).

###

**Contact:** Ian Withrow, UM College of Humanities and Sciences media and information coordinator, 406-243-2683, ian.withrow@mso.umt.edu.
MISSOULA – The University of Montana has hired a former College of Forestry and Conservation faculty member to serve as dean.

Tom DeLuca, who spent 12 years at UM, will begin his new duties on Jan. 1, 2017. He currently serves as the director of the University of Washington School of Environmental and Forest Sciences.

“I am thrilled to be taking on responsibility as dean of one of the best natural resource programs in the nation, and I am very happy to be coming home to Montana,” DeLuca said.

As a highly acclaimed soil scientist, DeLuca has an impressive research publication and funding record. In addition to his time at UM and UW, DeLuca has worked as a faculty member at
Slippery Rock University in Pennsylvania and Bangor University in the United Kingdom. DeLuca was also a senior scientist at The Wilderness Society for three years and senior research scientist at the Institute for Subarctic Alpine Research in Sweden.

“Given his depth of experience, and the broad support he received from faculty, staff and administrators, I am confident that Dr. DeLuca can successfully lead the College of Forestry and Conservation,” said UM Provost Perry Brown.

Former dean of the school Jim Burchfield retired in August. UM Professor Wayne Freimund is serving as interim dean.

DeLuca already has outlined his goals in his new role.

“I intend to focus on three overarching objectives while getting up to speed on day-to-day functions: ensure an outstanding student experience; create conditions for faculty, staff and students to do their best work; and pursue a unified vision of how our college will continue to be a leader in sustainable resource management and research.”

Contact: Leana Schelvan, director of communications, UM College of Forestry and Conservation, 406-243-6693, leana.schelvan@umontana.edu.
MISSOULA – A University of Montana graduate student’s research on Alaskan brown bears and red salmon is the May cover story of the high-profile journal Ecology.

Will Deacy, a UM systems ecology graduate student under the direction of UM Professor Jack Stanford, researched brown bears on Kodiak Island, Alaska, in collaboration with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

The article is online at
Brown bears are faced with a challenge: They need to consume lots of salmon each year, but salmon only are available for a few weeks in each shallow spawning ground. However, salmon spawn at different times in different habitats, which could allow bears to eat salmon for long periods of time if they move to different spawning grounds. GPS collars allowed Deacy to observe where and when bears foraged for salmon.

“We found that the bears greatly extend their use of the salmon resource by migrating from one run to another,” Stanford said. “We call this ‘surfing the salmon red wave.’”

“This research shows wildlife have very sophisticated foraging behaviors,” Deacy said. “The bears benefited from variation in spawning timing, which is ultimately created by complex natural watersheds. This highlights the need to conserve complexity in wild places.”

Deacy conducted his field work over the course of five years in the soggy and remote Karluk area of southwestern Kodiak Island, which is accessible only by float plane. The area has one of the most dense brown bear populations on Earth. It also has hundreds of rivers, streams and lake beaches used by spawning Pacific salmon.

The researchers’ studies of Alaskan bears are ongoing. They want to understand how human activities, like bear viewing and low-level flying, impact brown bear salmon foraging behavior.

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Contact: Will Deacy, UM systems ecology graduate student, 816-213-0143, william.deacy@umontana.edu; Jack Stanford, UM professor, 509-997-0365, jack.stanford@umontana.edu.
MISSOULA — Journalist Tom Brokaw will be Allen Secher’s guest on the 100th edition of Montana Public Radio’s monthly musical series “You Must Remember This,” which will air at 8 p.m. Monday, June 6. MTPR also will air portions of the interview on “Here & Now” at 1 p.m. Monday, June 6.

Brokaw’s best-seller, “The Greatest Generation,” frames this hour-long exploration of the hardships and sentiments felt by a generation and reflected in the popular big-band, jazz and popular music of the 1930s and 1940s. This special episode of “You Must Remember This” coincides with the 72nd anniversary of D-Day, the massive and daring allied invasion of Europe that marked the beginning of the end of Adolf Hitler’s Third Reich.

Brokaw was inspired to preserve the voices of “The Greatest Generation” while visiting the beaches of Normandy, France, in 1984 on the 40th anniversary of the Normandy landing. In “The Greatest Generation” he wrote, “It is, I believe, the greatest generation any society has ever produced.” Brokaw says that these men and women fought not for fame and recognition, but because it was the “right thing to do.”

Brokaw joined KNBC in Los Angeles in 1966 and has reported for NBC ever since. He served as White House
Montana Public Radio Celebrates 100th Episode of ‘You Must Remember This’ - UM News - University Of Montana

correspondent during Watergate, co-hosted NBC’s “Today” show for six years, and in 1982 became anchor and managing editor of “NBC Nightly News with Tom Brokaw,” remaining in that position until 2004.

In 1998 Brokaw published his first book, “The Greatest Generation,” which went on to become one of the most popular nonfiction books of the 20th century. He followed with six other titles, including “Boom! Voices of the Sixties,” “The Time of Our Lives” and “A Lucky Life Interrupted: A Memoir.”

Secher has broadcasted “You Must Remember This” on MTPR since 2007. For 30 years he hosted a radio broadcast on Armed Forces Radio and won seven Emmy awards for television productions. His monthly MTPR program features classic and contemporary interpretations of the music of “The Great American Songbook” and composers such as George and Ira Gershwin, Cole Porter, Richard Rodgers and Lorenz Hart.

Contact: Linda Talbott, director, Montana Public Radio, 406-243-4154, linda.talbott@umontana.edu; Allen Secher, producer, “You Must Remember This,“, 406-270-8474, Sech1818@gmail.com.
MISSOULA – The University of Montana has named Christopher Shook the new dean of the School of Business Administration. Shook will succeed SoBA Dean Larry Gianchetta, who will retire in June after 41 years at UM.

Shook most recently served as Russell Professor of Management in the Harbert College of Business at Auburn University and previously served as chair of Auburn’s Department of Management. He also has served as the director of Auburn’s Central and Eastern European Studies Program since 2004 and was director of the Lowder Center for Family Business and Entrepreneurship from 2008 to 2011. Shook will assume his new role at UM by Aug. 1.

"I am so pleased to welcome Chris to UM," said UM President Royce Engstrom. "He brings a wealth of experience and achievements, and will lead UM's top-notch business school to even greater heights. We had an outstanding pool of candidates, and I applaud the search committee members for their hard work throughout the process."

"I am thrilled to be joining the School of Business Administration at the University of Montana," Shook said. "The strong foundation of programs, people, funding and facilities, built by Dean Larry Gianchetta and the School of
Business Administration faculty, were just a few of the things that drew me to this opportunity. The support of the business community and alumni and friends was another. I am particularly grateful for the generosity of Mark Burnham, Eric Sprunk and their families in endowing the dean’s position.

“When I visited campus, the sense of excitement for SoBA’s future was palpable, and I am looking forward to strengthening and building on the foundation by working with other units on campus, the local, state and national business communities, and alumni and friends.”

Shook has actively sought out international opportunities for himself and his students, with stints at the Ecole Superieure de Commerce de Pau and ESCEM School of Business and Management in France, and the Academy of Economic Studies in Romania. He has practiced as a CPA, and served as senior associate editor for the Journal of Management. He received his Bachelor of Science degree in accounting from the University of Northern Colorado. He earned an MBA from the University of Mississippi and a Ph.D. in business administration from Louisiana State University.

“Moving to Montana seems like a homecoming of sorts,” Shook said. “I grew up in a small rural community in Colorado where my family has owned a ranch for over a hundred years. It is very exciting for me to be moving back ‘home’ to the West.”

Shook will assume his position at an exciting time for SoBA. This past semester, its students scored in between the 92nd and 95th percentile on the Business Major Field Test. Recent figures show Class of 2015 accounting graduates earned the best scores in the state on the national licensure exam. The Board of Regents just approved a new Master of Science in business analytics and the program will enroll its first students this fall. The school recently awarded a record 147 scholarships totaling more than $386,000 at the annual scholarship banquet. That same week, participants in the John Ruffatto Business Startup Challenge received over $50,000 in awards. And earlier this month, the school celebrated the opening of Harold and Priscilla Gilkey Building.

###

Contact: UM Office of the President, 406-243-2311,
MISSOULA – As classes begin in Bozeman and Missoula, Montana Code School welcomes Nathan Smith, the third cohort and lead instructor in Missoula, to its team.

Montana Code School, a 12-week intensive computer programming boot camp with locations in Bozeman and the University of Montana in Missoula, started classes on May 23. It serves to address the acute and immediate need for computer programmers in Montana’s booming tech sector by training the next generation of tech talent.

“We are excited and lucky to welcome Nathan to our team,” said Kelly Nash, executive director for Montana Code School. “He has a vast amount of industry experience in web development that will greatly benefit our students.”

Currently employed by General UI in Seattle, Smith is living his passion for computer programming. His fascination with computer science and coding started at a young age.

“I think I started programming computers because I was naturally curious about everything,” Smith said. “I started programming on an Apple IIIGS back in middle school. I think I’ve kept with it because it’s one of the best career
paths for people who like making things but who also love the power of ideas."

Smith graduated from Grinnell College in 2005 with a bachelor's degree in computer science. He has worked as a professional software engineer in Seattle the past 10 years, focusing on bioscience, finance and web development, and has worked remotely in places all over the world, from Buenos Aires to Bali. In addition to web development, he maintains an active interest in machine learning, functional programming, DJing with vinyl records and restoring old sound systems. He also has worked as a professional Argentine Tango dancer.

Smith said he is excited to start his Montana Code School experience not only as an instructor, but as a mentor to students.

“It's great to see how Montana Code School is teaching not just the skills and tools of our trade, but also how to work in collaborative teams to build software, which is extremely important,” said Jason Thane, co-founder and CEO of General UI.

Smith will join Nicholas Marucci, lead instructor in Bozeman, as one of the newest members of Montana Code School.

“I speak on behalf of the entire Montana Code School team when I say we are extremely fortunate and thrilled to welcome Nicholas and Nathan to our team,” Nash said. “They bring a wealth of knowledge and experience with them. Both are proven teachers with industry experience who will deliver excellent value to our students. As Montana Code School continues to serve Montana’s business community, we welcome them both and look forward to what they have to bring to the table.”

Montana Code School currently is accepting applications for fall sessions in Bozeman and Missoula. For more information on the program, visit http://www.montanacodeschool.com.

###

Contact: Kelly Nash, executive director, Montana Code School, 406-948-2633, media@montanacodeschool.com
Montana Code School Welcomes New Instructor to Missoula - UM News - University Of Montana

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UM Dining Receives National Award for ‘Star Wars’ Event

May 26, 2016

MISSOULA – UM Dining at the University of Montana recently was recognized with the bronze award in a National Association of College and University Food Services competition.

UM Dining received the bronze for a residential dining special event in the large-size university category.

On Dec. 5, staff at the Food Zoo dining center paid homage to the “Star Wars” movies with the award-winning Star Wars Omelet Bar. The event featured a “Star Wars” inspired menu, elaborate settings, staff members dressed as characters from the movies, karaoke and games. UM Dining’s marketing team created the requisite book-style submission that garnered the recognition.

UM Dining also was awarded the gold and silver awards in the single-retail category for The Iron Griz Bistro and the Galloping Griz food truck.

The annual NACUFS Loyal E. Horton Dining Awards are named in honor of a past organization president and recognized innovator in college and university culinary arts. The awards celebrate exemplary menus, presentations,
special event planning and new concepts in campus dining services.

For more information about the award and to see a complete list of winners, visit http://www.nacufs.org/recognition-dining-awards.

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Contact: Sam Belanger, UM Dining director of marketing, 406-243-5089, samuel.belanger@mso.umt.edu.
UM’s Iron Griz Restaurant Wins Gold

May 25, 2016

MISSOULA – University of Montana Dining’s The Iron Griz – An American Bistro was recently recognized with a gold award in a National Association of College and University Food Services competition.

The Loyal E. Horton Dining Awards, which showcase the best of university food service concepts across the country, are sponsored each year by NACUFS. The competition consists of six categories, including a single-concept retail location such as The Iron Griz. Each category is broken down into small, medium and large universities. The Iron Griz received a gold award in the large university group and is in the running for the Grand Prize.

“The Loyal E. Horton Awards are the top award for facility, concept and menu design in our industry,” said UM Dining Director Mark LoParco.

The Iron Griz offers American cuisine at affordable prices. Guests enjoy the best of the season’s harvest from local farmers purchased through the UM Farm to College Program, as well as produce from the UM Dining gardens. The beef is USDA prime from locally raised Wagyu cattle.

The Iron Griz is open for lunch and dinner seven days a week and is located at the UM Golf Course at 515 South
UM’s Iron Griz Restaurant Wins Gold - UM News - University Of Montana

Ave. E. For more information visit http://www.irongriz.com/.

###

Contact: Sam Belanger, UM Dining director of marketing, 406-243-5089, samuel.belanger@mso.umt.edu.

MC Culinary Arts Student Cooks up Gold in National Competition

May 24, 2016

MISSOULA – A culinary arts student at Missoula College of the University of Montana recently created the top pastry dessert at the American Culinary Federation and Washington State Chefs Association Culinary Competition in Bellingham, Washington.

Katie Barnes, a first-year student at Missoula College UM from El Paso, Texas, took home a gold medal for her deep-fried bunyols with dark chocolate filling, accompanied by a rhubarb caramel sauce, fresh strawberries and pistachio butter ice cream topped with
caramel brittle. The competition, held at Bellingham Technical College on May 15, drew more than 60 student and professional chefs from across the country.

“It was an incredible experience to be able to watch fellow students and professionals compete,” Barnes said. “I have never been in a situation where words of encouragement were the only things said by fellow culinarians and chefs to lift you up. There was not one negative comment during my weekend there.”

Barnes said the competition took discipline. She had 15 minutes to set up, one hour to prepare her dessert and 10 minutes to plate it. Starting two months before the competition, she woke up daily at 4 a.m. to practice preparing the dish before class.

“The most challenging part was the commitment,” Barnes said. “There were multiple times where I thought to myself, ‘Why am I doing this?’ However, coming back home with a gold made it worth it, and I would do it all again just to feel that pride.”

Missoula College sponsored Barnes’ participation in the competition.

For more information call Missoula College culinary arts chef instructor Thomas Campbell at 406-243-7815 or email thomas.campbell@umontana.edu.

###

**Contact:** Thomas Campbell, Missoula College culinary arts chef instructor, 406-243-7815, thomas.campbell@umontana.edu; Katie Barnes, Missoula College culinary arts student, ktbarnes@live.com.
Montana High School Students to Compete at International Health Care Conference

May 23, 2016

MISSOULA – Thirty-two Montana high school students participating in HOSA: Future Health Professionals will attend the HOSA International Leadership Conference June 22-25, in Nashville, Tennessee. They represent Bozeman, Missoula Big Sky, Missoula Sentinel, Great Falls, Great Falls Charles M. Russell and Butte high schools.

One of seven Career and Technical Student Organizations operated through the Montana Office of Public Instruction, Montana HOSA is directed through the Western Montana Area Health Education Center at the University of Montana.

The program is dedicated to enhancing the delivery of compassionate, quality health care and meeting the needs of the health care community by providing opportunities for all health science education students to develop knowledge, skills and leadership. Statewide, Montana HOSA has 535 members and 22 high school chapters.
Throughout the school year individual chapters participate in community service projects, job shadows and leadership activities. Students focus on their health science field of interest and devote the school year to preparing for competition in that field at the state conference. Students attending Tennessee conference placed in events at the state level in the following areas: biomedical laboratory science, persuasive speaking, medical innovation and CPR/First Aid, among others.

Students attending the 2016 HOSA ILC are:

- **Butte High School**: Carmody Caitlin, Quinn Cunneen, Maddi Hoff, Caitlyn Sheehan and Shalia Tadday.
- **Great Falls CMR High School**: Megan Bahnmiller, Maddison Handa, Erynn Murphy, Isabelle Pellot and Courtney Schroeder.
- **Great Falls High School**: Helen Margaris, LaReesa Mitchell and Hareen Seerha.
- **Missoula Big Sky High School**: Juliana Denishchich, Yana Denishchich, Bonnie Long, Samantha Mathis and Corbin Witt.
- **Missoula Sentinel High School**: Magnolia Chinn, Anika Melzer-Roush and Julia Vonessen.

For more information call Martha Robertson, Montana HOSA director, at 406-243-4746 or email martha.robertson@mso.umt.edu.

###

**Contact**: Martha Robertson, Montana HOSA: Future Health Professionals director, 406-243-4746, 406-243-4746.
UM Students Showcase Politics on Reservations, Autism in Upcoming Project Debuts

May 23, 2016

MISSOULA – Two student-produced projects from the University of Montana School of Journalism will go public this week.

Students in the journalism school’s Documentary Film Unit class researched, directed and produced “Aging Out: Autism in Montana.” The students documented the struggles of four Montana families with children on the autism spectrum. The program focuses on the lack of services and care for young adults with autism and how parents are searching for options.

“I want to do something that’s worthwhile, and I feel we have a good group to do it,” said senior Peter Riley, the director of the show. “Everybody knows we have each other’s back as a team, and everyone’s really stepped up and come to the table with some fresh ideas and some talents.”
“Aging Out: Autism in Montana” premiered May 13 to an audience of friends, family and the subjects of the documentary. The rest of Montana can see the show at 8 p.m. Tuesday, May 24, on MontanaPBS.

In the Native News Honors Project, journalism students covered politics on Montana’s American Indian reservations and created print and multimedia pieces to tell different stories across the state. They paired up into teams with one reporter and one photographer and dispersed across Montana to cover the stories.

Their project, “Across the Divide,” will be available in print through the Missoulian and the Billings Gazette. The stories, along with their multimedia components, are online at http://nativenews.jour.umt.edu/2016/.

Founded in 1914, the School of Journalism is now in its second century of preparing students to think critically, to act ethically and to communicate effectively. The school recently was ranked among the top 10 journalism programs in the country by the Radio Television Digital News Association.

To learn more about the School of Journalism, visit http://jour.umt.edu/.

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Contact: Denise Dowling, professor, UM School of Journalism, 406-243- 4143, denise.dowling@mso.umt.edu.
UM Research Teams to Study Endangered Bats on Air Force Bases

May 20, 2016

MISSOULA – The Center for Integrated Research on the Environment at the University of Montana will monitor endangered bats on U.S. Air Force bases through its ongoing partnership with the U.S. Department of Defense and Army Corps of Engineers.

Beginning at the end of May, two-person teams of veterans and UM students will conduct acoustical data surveys to detect the presence of Northern Long-eared Bats on 14 different Air Force bases over three weeks.

As of April 2015, the Northern Long-eared Bat is protected under the Endangered Species Act. The U.S. Air Force initiated the surveys to ensure adherence to any requirements pertinent to the bat’s ESA listing.

The teams include veterans C.T. Callaway and Jacob Howard, UM student-veteran Christina Cain and UM undergraduate student Ingrid DeGroot. CIRE Program Coordinator Austin Blank said the project is beneficial for both the Department of Defense and UM.

“The bat survey is both an interesting and important project as the Department of Defense takes a proactive
approach to land management,” Blank said. “It is a great opportunity to advance undergraduate applied research at the University of Montana and further develop CIRE and UM's relationship with the Department of Defense and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.”

The Department of Defense is charged with military land management. In May 2014, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers announced a five-year, $45 million cooperative agreement with UM to study and solve environmental and cultural resource problems across the nation.

Through the agreement, the University also assists the Corps in implementing land and water ecological restoration, maintenance and training for optimal management of public resources. Together, the two entities work to promote positive ecosystem health, endangered species awareness, and the continuing wealth of natural resources on Air Force bases.

“CIRE’s involvement is particularly exciting as the DoD seeks to bridge the gap between academia and applied field research,” Blank said.

CIRE is a center at UM organized within a suite of investigation, research and support areas with specific roles and responsibilities strategically designed to address the particular needs of its clients. In addition to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the Department of Defense, CIRE works with agencies, foundations and private organizations to accomplish specific research goals.

For more information call Blank at 406-243-4009 or email austin.blank@umontana.edu.

Contact: Austin Blank, Center for Integrated Research on the Environment program coordinator, 406-243-4009, austin.blank@umontana.edu.
MISSOULA – A Memorial Day ceremony at the Fallen Soldier Memorial on the University of Montana campus will honor Montana’s service members who paid the ultimate sacrifice.

The UM Veterans Education and Transition Services Office, in coordination with members of the American Indian Support and Development Council, organized the event, which is scheduled to begin at 1 p.m. Monday, May 30. The ceremony is free and open to the public.

This year, organizers will honor Antonio “Tony” C. Burnside (Many Hides) of the Blackfeet Nation, who was killed in action overseas in 2012. Blackfeet tribal member Kevin Kicking Woman will lead the service with two traditional songs and a prayer. UM graduate student Dustin Monroe will tell Burnside’s story from the perspective of a close friend.

For more information call Shawn Grove, UM Veterans Education and Transition Services Office director, at 406-243-5044 or email shawn.grove@umontana.edu.
Contact: Shawn Grove, UM Veterans Education and Transition Services Office director, 406-243-5044, shawn.grove@umontana.edu.
MISSOULA – Explore planets, nebulae, star clusters and distant galaxies during seven upcoming free observing nights at the University of Montana’s Blue Mountain Observatory.

Public observing nights this summer are scheduled for the following Fridays: June 3, July 1 and 29, Aug. 5 and 26, and Sept. 2 and 23. The events are family-friendly and children are welcome. Attendees are asked to reserve a free ticket for each person in their group via Eventbrite at http://bit.ly/1R9dd0m.

The observatory, located atop Blue Mountain at an elevation of 6,300 feet, is operated by UM. Astronomers will be on hand at all events to discuss what’s being viewed through the telescopes, point out constellations, show attendees how to find interesting celestial objects with the naked eye or a pair of binoculars and discuss recent astronomical discoveries.

Observing begins about an hour after sunset, and organizers recommend bringing warm clothes for cool evenings and a flashlight for the short walk to the observatory. To ensure the open house nights remain safe and pleasurable for all, smoking and alcohol are prohibited.
A link to Eventbrite, a map, directions to the observatory and complete observing information is available on the Blue Mountain Observatory website at http://hs.umt.edu/physics/Blue_Mountain_Observatory/. Viewing nights will be canceled if the sky is cloudy or fire or thunderstorms threaten visibility. Check the Public Observing Information page on the website for important information about cancellation announcements and other frequently asked questions.

For additional information call Diane Friend, UM physics and astronomy lecturer, at 406-243-4299 or email diane.friend@umontana.edu.

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**Contact:** Diane Friend, lecturer, UM Department of Physics and Astronomy, 406-243-4299, diane.friend@umontana.edu.
MISSOULA – The Montana Associated Students named University of Montana President Royce Engstrom Administrator of the Year on Thursday, May 19, at a Montana University System Board of Regents meeting in Havre.

The award is given annually to a higher education administrator in Montana who has gone above and beyond in service to students. Student government presidents and vice presidents from all state public universities across Montana selected Engstrom for this award.

Engstrom received the award...
for how he handled realigning
UM's workforce so that the
budget reflected the institution's current enrollment.

Associated Students of UM outgoing President Cody Meixner presented the award to Engstrom.

"Royce never makes an ill-informed decision," Meixner said. "He has a reputation for involving every party, to the extent that he can, in all action he takes. This is exhibited most recently in his decision to include ASUM, Faculty Senate and Staff Senate leadership in his Cabinet, so as to ensure that all voices are at the table when tough decisions are being made."

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Contact: Cody Meixner, ASUM outgoing president, 406-529-7676, cody.meixner@umontana.edu.
UM Announces Summer Public Planetarium Shows

May 18, 2016

MISSOULA – The University of Montana Department of Physics and Astronomy invites the public to its summer planetarium shows in the Payne Family Native American Center Star Gazing Room this May through August.

The 50-minute shows will be offered at 6:30 and 8 p.m. on Thursdays May 26, June 9 and 23, July 7 and 21, and Aug. 4 and 18.

Tickets cost $6 for adults and $4 for children ages 12 and under, and are available for purchase at http://hs.umt.edu/physics/Outreach/PublicShows.php. The maximum capacity for public shows is 28 people, so tickets are limited. Shows generally sell out far in advance and are not available the night of the show.

Each program will take attendees on a tour of the current night skies of Missoula, pointing out noteworthy objects, constellations, planets or upcoming events visible in the night sky. The show then will shift to an engaging topic, or set of topics, chosen by that evening’s presenter.

Attendees should plan to arrive 10 minutes before the beginning of the show to check in. The planetarium entrance
UM Announces Summer Public Planetarium Shows - UM News - University Of Montana

will be locked after the show begins.

Though the Star Gazing Room is booked through the end of May for visiting school groups and private groups, the UM Department of Physics and Astronomy currently is scheduling summer shows for youth groups, private groups and nonprofit organizations. For more information about the summer showings or about booking a group event, visit http://cas.umt.edu/physics/Outreach/default.php.

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**Contact:** Mark Reiser, outreach coordinator, UM Department of Physics and Astronomy, 406-243-2074, mark.reiser@umontana.edu.
MISSOULA – Joshua Millspaugh, an internationally recognized wildlife conservation researcher and educator, will join the University of Montana’s College of Forestry and Conservation as the next Boone and Crockett Professor of Wildlife Conservation.

Millspaugh was selected through a national search and will join UM’s wildlife biology faculty this fall. He is currently the William J. Rucker Professor of Wildlife Conservation and interim director at University of Missouri’s School of Natural Resources.

“We are extremely excited for Dr. Millspaugh to join us at the University of Montana,” said Chad Bishop, director of the Wildlife Biology Program. “His excellence in teaching and research will undoubtedly strengthen the Wildlife Biology Program and at the same time bolster our long-standing partnership with the Boone and Crockett Club.”

The club started its national endowed professorship program at UM in 1992. Millspaugh will become the fourth Boone and Crockett professor, following Hal Salwasser, Jack Ward Thomas and Paul Krausman.
"I am deeply honored to have been selected for this position and thrilled to join the outstanding faculty at the University of Montana," Millspaugh said. "The partnership between the Boone and Crockett Club and UM is an incredible opportunity to integrate management and policy, while mentoring the next generation of wildlife professionals. I am excited to advance the mission of this endowment."

Millspaugh holds a doctorate in wildlife ecology from the University of Washington and has been at the University of Missouri since 1999, serving as the Pauline O'Connor Distinguished Professor of Wildlife Management for four years.

His research centers on the study of vertebrate population ecology at three scales: physiological processes, individual space use and resource selection, and population-level dynamics. He has received a superior graduate faculty award, the Missouri Governor's Award for Excellence in Teaching and the USDA National Teacher of the Year award, among other recognitions for his teaching.

Millspaugh also is a fellow in The Wildlife Society, organized by Boone and Crockett Club members in 1937, and has been recognized several times for his accomplishments.

"The purpose of our university programs at the national level is to produce well-rounded resource managers and policy-makers," said Boone and Crockett Club President Morrison Stevens. "The goal is to follow Theodore Roosevelt's model of having the right people in the right places to make the right decisions at the right time in terms of managing our nation’s natural resources."

UM's Wildlife Biology Program is world-renowned for the quality of its research and undergraduate and graduate programs. The program is administered by the College of Forestry and Conservation, the Division of Biological Sciences and the Montana Cooperative Wildlife Research Unit and is the only UM program with two endowed positions, the Boone and Crockett Professor and the John J. Craighead Chair.

"Our ability to attract Dr. Millspaugh to the University of Montana speaks directly to the power of these high-profile, endowed positions for recruiting the very best faculty in a given field," said Bishop.

"Josh Millspaugh is a great addition and will be a tremendous asset in terms of accomplishing this part of the club's mission," Stevens said.

In addition to UM, the Boone and Crockett Club has endowed professorships and fellowships at Michigan State University, Oregon State University, Texas A&M Kingsville and the University of Wisconsin Stevens Point, as well as pending programs at several other land grant universities around the country.

Founded by Theodore Roosevelt in 1887, the Boone and Crockett Club promotes guardianship and visionary management of big game and associated wildlife in North America. The club maintains the highest standards of fair-chase sportsmanship and habitat stewardship.

For more information on the Boone and Crockett Club, visit http://www.boone-crockett.org/.

To learn more about UM's Wildlife Biology Program, visit http://www.cfc.umt.edu/wbio/.
Contact: Chad Bishop, director, UM Wildlife Biology Program, 406-243-4374, chad.bishop@umontana.edu; Greg Duncan, account executive, Blue Heron Communications, 800-654-3766, greg@blueheroncomm.com.
Fulbright to Instruct Intermediate Hindi at UM

May 16, 2016

MISSOULA – The University of Montana will offer intermediate Hindi for the first time with the arrival of a new Fulbright Fellow and teacher's assistant from India during the upcoming school year.

Surbhi Jain will teach elementary and intermediate Hindi in 2016-17 as part of UM's South and Southeast Asian Studies in the Liberal Studies Program.

UM first offered elementary Hindi classes this year, taught by Fulbright teacher's assistant Gaurav Misra, and became one of the four universities in the nation allotted a Hindi
Jain, who is 23 years old and has never travelled beyond India before, holds a bachelor’s and a master’s degree in English literature. She is from Uttar Pradesh, the Hindi heartland, but, since her father is in the Indian Air Force, has lived in many parts of India, including Tamil Nadu and Rajasthan.

“The different regions of India possess wonderful rich cultures of their own – cultural beliefs and practices inherited over thousands of years,” Jain said. “While living in these cultures and interacting with them, we learn of things we have never heard before.”

Jain’s native language is Hindi. She is interested in organizing the celebration of Indian festivals on campus and introducing Missoulians to the different regional cuisines of India.

“The diversity of India is a universally known fact,” Jain writes. “It gives me immense pleasure in saying that I have had a firsthand experience with it, which makes me feel incredibly proud of being an Indian.”

Jain’s courses, LHS 191 and 291 in the fall and MCLG 191 and 291 in the spring, will build on the parts of Hindi taught by Misra.

Jain and Misra are funded by Fulbright and brought to UM at the request of the South and Southeast Asian Studies program. The program hopes to continue applying for instructors to teach the Hindi 100- and 200-level sequences in the future.

Hindi, the national language of India, is the third-most spoken language in the world. It is an Indo-European language, connected through a common ancestor to European languages, including English. It is almost completely phonetic and written exactly as it is spoken, with every letter of the alphabet standing for just one sound.

For more information on the courses, call Ruth Vanita, professor in UM’s Liberal Studies Program, at 406-243-2171.
Fulbright to Instruct Intermediate Hindi at UM - UM News - University Of Montana

or email ruth.vanita@umontana.edu.

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**Contact:** Ruth Vanita, professor, UM Liberal Studies Program, ruth.vanita@umontana.edu; G.G. Weix, professor, UM Department of Anthropology, 406-243-6319, gg.weix@mso.umt.edu.
MISSOULA – With the Montana Code School at the University of Montana set to expand services to the Bozeman area later this month, the program has announced the hiring of Nicholas Marucci as the new lead instructor.

“I speak on behalf of the entire Montana Code School team that we are extremely fortunate and thrilled to have Nick – who comes with a wealth of knowledge and life experience – join our team,” said Kelly Nash, executive director of Montana Code School. “We know he will play an instrumental role in not only instructing, but helping move Montana Code School forward with new and innovative ideas.”

Montana Code School, a 12-week, intensive computer programming boot camp that got its start in Missoula in 2015 and will begin its inaugural class in Bozeman on Monday, May 23, creates a pipeline of talent for the technology community. The code school’s mission is to address the acute and immediate need for computer programmers to serve Montana’s booming tech sector by training the next generation of talent.

Marucci is no stranger to the intensive boot camp method of learning, having attended DevMountain in Provo, Utah. Proficient in web development, he also has extensive experience in computer languages such as CSS, HTML and
JavaScript.

“I am excited to join the team,” Marucci says. “I am excited to start my career in Bozeman as the lead instructor. It looks like I will have a substantial influence on the future and growth of Montana Code School.”

Marucci started his career with the U.S. Marine Corps, so he is well-versed in intensive learning atmospheres. He ended his career with the Marines in 2009 and enrolled in college, graduating in 2012 from the University of Buffalo with a bachelor’s degree in mechanical engineering.

He interned with General Motors Components Holding LLC, then worked with Parker Hannifin Corp.’s Parflex Division, from June 2012 to November 2015. He then enrolled at DevMountain.

“After being involved for many years in the manufacturing industry, I found it to be very conservative and old-fashioned,” Marucci said. “I had always been good with computers, and I wanted to find myself in a more forward-thinking and experimental environment. So, while working as a new product development engineer, I took on an online HTML and CSS class. During this class, I became super excited about what it did and what else I could do. It was really inspiring because I love creating interesting, beautiful things – whether that be a home project, a painting of mine or a digitally rendered webpage.

“I love the experience of teaching people new things,” Marucci said. “Early on in my career, I was actually considering being a math teacher. Getting into web development, I find that I can combine my logical engineering mind with my creative, experimental spirit. And seeing the face of a student, when I help them over a hurdle, is priceless. I am inspired and it is so fulfilling when a student realizes that, while coding is hard, they have the ability and are fully capable of being a great web developer.”

For more information visit http://www.montanacodeschool.com/.

Contact: Kelly Nash, Montana Code School executive director, 406-948-2633, media@montanacodeschool.com.
MISSOULA – University of Montana forestry Professor Beth Dodson is the project director of a grant recently funded for $1.4 million from the U.S. Department of Agriculture and U.S. Department of Energy’s Biomass Research and Development Initiative.

Researchers will use the grant to identify and overcome the barriers to using biomass from fuels-reduction and forest-restoration treatments. Dodson and her team will look at the logistics, economics and sustainability of using an otherwise disposed resource as fuel for bioenergy operations.

“This research will substantially improve our ability to sustainably use forest-based feedstocks to offset fossil fuels for the benefit of society and the forest resource,” Dodson said. “We will do this by improving the treatment design, harvest and handling of forest biomass to maximize environmental sustainability and human health while minimizing costs.”

Dodson will lead the operations team for the grant. John Goodburn, a UM forestry professor, will co-lead the silviculture team along with Michael Battaglia from the U.S. Forest Service Rocky Mountain Research Station.
Ching-Hsun Huang, a forest economist from Northern Arizona University, will co-lead the economics team along with Nathaniel Anderson from the U.S. Forest Service Rocky Mountain Research Station.

“Research of this type demonstrates our forward-thinking faculty and their appreciation of the role forest resources, including woody biomass, play in meeting our increasing energy and product needs,” said UM College of Forestry and Conservation Interim Dean Wayne Freimund.

The agencies funded a total of $10 million to invest in green energy research, authorized by the 2014 Farm Bill and supported by U.S. Sen. Jon Tester.

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**Contact:** Beth Dodson, integrated natural resource planning associate professor, UM College of Forestry and Conservation, 406-243-5542, elizabeth.dodson@umontana.edu.
UM’s School Psychology Ph.D. Program Earns First Accreditation

May 13, 2016

MISSOULA – The school psychology doctoral program at the University of Montana has successfully obtained accreditation from the American Psychological Association. The doctoral program matriculated its first student in fall of 2005 and graduated its first student in 2014. This is the program’s initial accreditation.

School psychologists, like clinical or counseling psychologists, are health service psychologists who provide expertise in mental health, learning and behavior to help children and youth succeed academically, socially and emotionally.

“The school psychology Ph.D. program at UM is the only program in the state of Montana that prepares future school psychologists to work with children in a variety of settings, including schools, hospitals and community mental health centers,” said Anisa Goforth, director of UM’s School Psychology Graduate Training Programs. “We are also the only APA-accredited doctoral program in the region, so this accreditation means we are able to train more psychologists who can meet the mental health and academic needs of children and youth.”

The School Psychology Program is housed in UM’s Department of Psychology and has three full-time faculty...
members: Greg Machek, Jacqueline Brown and Goforth. The department also includes the Experimental Psychology Program as well as the Clinical Psychology Program, which has been fully accredited by APA since 1965.

“We are so fortunate to have the dedicated and highly qualified school psychology faculty who shepherded this effort along,” said Christine Fiore, chair of the Department of Psychology. “Greg Machek, as director of the School Psychology Program at the time, was unstoppable in all of his work ensuring our success. Certainly, the expertise of Drs. Goforth and Brown, and our exceptional school psychology students solidified our success in achieving this milestone as well.”

Status as an accredited program means that doctoral students have met rigorous, nationally recognized standards for the provision of quality mental health care set by APA. Programs seeking accreditation by APA undergo an extensive self-assessment and onsite review by APA Committee on Accreditation.

“It is incredibly exciting for me to graduate from an APA-accredited program,” said Laura Ambrose, a school psychology doctoral student who soon will begin her pre-doctoral internship (similar to a medical residency) at Kennedy Krieger Institute at Johns Hopkins University. “This means that I will be eligible for many wonderful opportunities in the future to work with children, families and education and mental health professionals.”

To learn more about UM’s School Psychology Programs, visit http://hs.umt.edu/psychology/school-psychology/.

The APA Commission on Accreditation is recognized by both the secretary of the U.S. Department of Education and the Council for Higher Education Accreditation as the national accrediting authority for professional education and training in psychology. To learn more about APA accreditation, visit http://apa.org/ed/accreditation.

Contact: Anisa Goforth, UM School Psychology Graduate Training Programs, 406-243-2917, anisa.goforth@mso.umt.edu.
UM’s School Psychology Ph.D. Program Earns First Accreditation - UM News - University Of Montana
New UM Student-Produced ‘Business: Made in Montana’ to Premiere on MontanaPBS

May 12, 2016

MISSOULA – A new edition of the award-winning, University of Montana student-produced television program “Business: Made in Montana” is set to premiere across the state on MontanaPBS.

“Business: Made in Montana” profiles companies that create products in Big Sky Country and do business around the state, the country and the world. The new program will premiere at 7:30 p.m. Thursday, May 26, on MontanaPBS. An encore presentation is scheduled for 10:30 a.m. Sunday, June 5.

This episode introduces viewers to Kalispell Kreamery in Kalispell, Flathead Lake Brewing Company in Bigfork, Louie’s Montana Pasties in Deer Lodge, KornUtopia in Missoula, Bad Goat Forest Products in Missoula and Montana Silversmiths in Columbus.

Kalispell Kreamery in Kalispell takes care of their animals with a Cow Bill of Rights. They hope their extra care
leads to better dairy products for consumers. More information on the creamery is online at http://www.kalispellkreamery.com/.

Flathead Lake Brewing Company creates beer while focusing on efforts to protect Montana’s environment. More information on the company is online at http://flatheadlakebrewing.com/.

A family business and a traditional miners’ lunch helped create Louie’s Montana Pasties in Deer Lodge.

Missoula’s KornUtopia creates “kettle korn” and other sweet and savory products that are enjoyed by popcorn lovers from Thompson Falls to Bozeman. More information on KornUtopia is online at http://www.kornutopia.com/.

By “tree-cycling,” Bad Goat Forest Products of Missoula takes wood that would otherwise be wasted and transforms it into works of art. For more information on the business, visit https://badgoatgoodwood.com/.

Montana Silversmiths in Columbus creates works of art inspired by the Rocky Mountain West lifestyle. The company is online at http://www.montanasilversmiths.com/.

Students at the UM School of Journalism and Department of Radio-Television produced the program during autumn semester 2015. Junior journalism student Caryn Foehringer hosts the program. During the past 23 years, “Business: Made in Montana” has featured more than 200 different businesses.

For photos and additional information on this episode visit http://www.montanapbs.org/BusinessMadeInMontana/2302/2302/.

“Business: Made in Montana” is made possible with support from the Greater Montana Foundation. Founded by pioneer broadcaster Ed Craney in 1958, the GMF provides grants to improve the quality of communications of important issues through electronic media. More information is available online at http://www.greatermontana.org.

MontanaPBS comprises KUFM-TV in Missoula and KUSM-TV in Bozeman and is a service of UM and Montana State University. More information is online at http://montanapbs.org.

Contact: Ray Ekness, professor, UM School of Journalism, 406-243-4088, ray.ekness@umontana.edu.
New UM Student-Produced ‘Business: Made in Montana’ to Premiere on MontanaPBS - UM News - University Of Montana
May 12, 2016

MISSOULA – The University of Montana celebrated the opening of its newest campus facility, the Harold and Priscilla Gilkey Building, on Thursday, May 12.

Generously funded through private donations, the 31,411-square-foot building is home to new executive education offerings, the Global Leadership Initiative and the UM Foundation.

“Our executive education programs will help business leaders build strong organizations and support economic vitality, in Montana and beyond,” UM President Royce Engstrom said. “We will combine academic rigor with real-world experiences to build entrepreneurial leaders in our global 21st century.”

Kate McGoldrick, executive director for leadership, entrepreneurship and executive education at UM, will lead the University’s new mandate to partner with industry sectors, organizations and business leaders to develop their leadership capability and build organizational performance. Using a fee-for-service business model, executive education is expected to be self-sustaining and provide long-term financial value for the University.
UM alumni Harold and Priscilla Gilkey made a generous lead gift in support of the project. They were among the 129 donors who provided funds to underwrite construction.

“The University of Montana helped me develop my appreciation for lifelong learning,” Priscilla Gilkey said. “It is our goal that programs held in the Gilkey Building will be a catalyst and springboard for others to achieve their dreams.”

Harold Gilkey, too, sees the enormous benefit that ongoing business education can have for both established and emerging leaders.

“When considering funding for this project, it began as ‘pay back’ but became ‘pay forward,’ as developing true leadership and entrepreneurship through executive education creates many opportunities,” he said.

Harold Gilkey is a 1962 graduate of the UM School of Business Administration and holds a Master of Business Administration from the University of Southern California. He retired as chairman and CEO of Sterling Financial Corp. Priscilla Gilkey is also a 1962 UM graduate. She retired as vice president of community relations for Empire Health Services, a multi-hospital system in Spokane.

Larry Gianchetta, dean of UM’s School of Business Administration, has worked to bring a formal executive education program to UM for over a decade. Now, as he approaches retirement, he feels pride that the school is cementing its reputation as a leader in business education.

“To remain relevant in today’s competitive market for business education, we have an imperative to build robust partnerships with, and create real value for, business organizations and their leaders,” he said. “I am grateful to Harold and Priscilla for the opportunity to build a world-class executive education facility at UM.”

In addition to the executive education programs, the building is home to the Global Leadership Initiative, an undergraduate certificate program designed to foster leadership skills and a critical understanding of 21st century global challenges, and to the UM Foundation, the nonprofit organization that raises and stewards funds on behalf of the University.

The Gilkey Building has received a LEED v4 Gold certification. It is the third LEED-certified building on campus after The Payne Family Native American Center and the Student-Athlete Academic Center. LEED certification prioritizes energy and resource conservation in building design and construction, making it an obvious tool as UM works toward its emissions reduction and sustainability goals. The Gilkey Building will use 24 percent less energy and 34 percent less water than a conventionally designed building of comparable size, resulting in a 32 percent energy cost savings.

The University used local service providers in completion of this facility. L’Heureux Page Werner of Great Falls designed the building, Quality Construction of Missoula led building construction and Missoula’s Intaglio Design managed interior design and layout for the second and garden levels.

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Contact: Kate Stober, UM Foundation Marketing Department, 406-243-2627, kate.stober@mso.umt.edu; Kate McGoldrick, executive director for leadership, entrepreneurship and executive education, 406-243-4831,
MISSOULA – “Backroads of Montana: Sharpshooters,” a new episode in the popular MontanaPBS travelogue series, premieres statewide at 8 p.m. Monday, May 23, on MontanaPBS.

The 42nd episode in the 25-yearlong series begins in Great Falls, where producer John Twiggs met Leah Walbon, a remarkable woman with a sharp eye at the pool table. She'll sink a few shots and share stories from her extraordinary 100-year life.

In Lincoln, Twiggs followed members of the Sitch family, who run a co-ed basketball tournament that keeps their late father’s memory alive. Pete Sitch, who died in a logging accident, was a strong supporter of local sports. The tournament celebrates athletics and good sportsmanship.

In Billings, producer Ray Ekness visited Lou Adler, the “King of the One-Armed Bandits.” He buys, sells and restores antique slot machines. At any one time, he has nearly 300 machines, in what his wife calls “a hobby gone wrong.”
The Alberton High School Panthers might be the most-photographed team in Class C sports. Producer Gus Chambers met Rae Deschamps, who has patrolled the sidelines for more than 40 years, snapping big plays, small miracles and thousands of memories. With Alberton combining with Superior for sports, Rae’s career may be coming to an end.

William Marcus hosts the program from the historic M&M Bar in uptown Butte.

“Backroads of Montana” is made possible by grants from the Greater Montana Foundation, The Montana Film Office and the University of Montana. Check local listings for channels.

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Contact: Gus Chambers, KUFM media manager, 406-243-4093, gus.chambers@umontana.edu; William Marcus, “Backroads of Montana” host, 406-544-8618, william.marcus@umontana.edu.
UM Lands $1.2 Million Grant to Train Speech-Language Pathologists in Rural Montana

May 12, 2016

MISSOULA – It is a brand-new day for the provision of services to Native American and rural populations in Montana. The University of Montana’s Department of Communicative Sciences and Disorders, in partnership with the Rural Institute for Inclusive Communities, has been awarded a $1.2 million grant to provide training to professionals seeking to become competent, certified speech-language pathologists and contribute to the speech, language and literacy needs in their respective rural communities. The grant is funded by the U.S. Department of Education’s Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services.

The innovative project, titled “UM Online University Training for Rural and Equitable Accessibility in Communication Habilitation” and known as UM-OUTREACH, is one of eight proposals selected for funding from a nationwide pool of 30 applicants. Through the provision of unique, accessible and equitable training opportunities, UM-OUTREACH will prepare numerous professionals as they complete graduate training to become certified speech-language pathologists.
Roughly two-thirds of funding from this grant will directly support scholars to attend school and include a generous living stipend, course materials, travel expense and tuition package. In addition, the grant will allow for the technological expansion of the Department of Communicative Sciences and Disorders graduate program to accommodate UM-OUTREACH scholars. Finally, this funding will aid in the implementation of a unique mentored clinical supervision model to support academic and clinical success at distance locations across the Montana.

The UM-OUTREACH grant will expand graduate programming to include an emphasis on specific knowledge and skills important for successful clinical intervention in rural areas. Training will include sensitivity to cultural and linguistic diversity, as well as tele-health intervention and implementation. For rural and Native American populations in particular, this method of health care delivery can dramatically reduce costs and increase the quality of care provided.

Under the direction of Julie Wolter, associate professor and associate chair of UM’s Department of Communicative Sciences and Disorders, UM-OUTREACH will be a collaborative project between UM faculty and Martin Blair, executive director of UM’s Rural Institute for Inclusive Communities, which serves as a resource in education, research and service as it relates to the needs of people with disabilities in rural communities.

“This is an incredible opportunity to address the acute shortages of speech-language pathologists throughout Montana,” Wolter said. “With this funding we can provide the necessary clinical services to the disproportionate number of individuals who require these speech, language and literacy services in rural and remote areas.”

This type of funding also has significant implications for an academic department like Department of Communicative Sciences and Disorders, as well as the University as a whole. Through the collaborative efforts of Wolter, Blair and their team, a unique set of opportunities will be developed and a wealth of expertise can be offered across the state. As such, a larger and more diverse group of qualified, dedicated graduate students will be drawn to UM.

“This grant not only provides unparalleled educational opportunities for students in rural communities with a passion for helping those with communication disorders, but will also lead to filling job positions and addressing rural disparity in speech-language pathology services for Montanans,” said Amy Glaspey, professor and chair of the Department of Communicative Sciences and Disorders. “It will connect education, employment and rehabilitation and those coordinated efforts will benefit all individuals in rural communities.”

Approximately 30 students graduate every year from UM’s Department of Communicative Sciences and Disorders with a Master of Science degree in speech-language pathology, and during the next five years, 16 scholars from rural and American Indian communities will graduate from the UM-OUTREACH program. It is expected that these 16 graduates will become certified speech-language pathologists to serve the communication, speech, language and literacy needs in their respective rural communities within Montana and the West.

For more information on UM-OUTREACH, the Department of Communicative Sciences and Disorders within the Phyllis J. Washington College of Education and Human Sciences at UM, call Wolter at 406-243-2605 or email julie.wolter@mso.umt.edu.

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**Contact:** Peter Knox, communications manager, Phyllis J. Washington College of Education and Human Sciences,
UM Lands $1.2 Million Grant to Train Speech-Language Pathologists in Rural Montana

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UM Students Win Critical Language Scholarships for Travel to Russia, Morocco

May 11, 2016

MISSOULA – Two University of Montana students have won highly competitive U.S. Department of State Critical Language Scholarships for all-expenses-paid trips to Russia and Morocco this summer.

Julie Ammons, a Russian major and Missoula native, will participate in the CLS Program in Vladimir, Russia, from June 13 to Aug. 14. During the program, she will stay with a host family and attend language courses and cultural events, along with other students who have won the scholarship, for full immersion.

Ammons said the location of the trip is special because the Russian program at UM has a pen-pal exchange with students in Vladimir, and she already knows two pen pals there.

She also has taken advanced-level Russian literature, language and culture classes and said she enjoys studying it because Russian culture is unique.
“People (in Russia) take poetry, music and novels very seriously, and literature voices these strong and passionate ideas,” Ammons said. “Beauty and suffering are both deep cultural values. I am fascinated by a culture where nearly everyone has memorized a favorite poem and will gladly stand up and recite it for you with full feeling.”

Ammons holds a bachelor’s degree in biology and expects to graduate in December 2016 with a bachelor’s in Russian and minors in history and German. She plans to pursue a doctorate in Russian language and literature and eventually become a professor.

“I have always had a passion for languages, cultures, history and literature – I just didn’t realize that it was a field of study I could pursue until a few years ago,” Ammons said. “The Russian program at UM has been incredibly stimulating and nurturing.”

Natalie Stockmann, a sophomore from Burlington, Vermont, will study Arabic in Meknes, Morocco, for eight weeks. She currently is participating in the Wild Field Rockies Institute and plans to work with rural communities to help manage and conserve natural resources.

“After studying Spanish in Nicaragua and volunteering in rural towns, I developed an interest in community engagement and development,” Stockmann said. “My interest in the Middle East combines my passion for language study, resource conservation, social justice, rural development and community engagement. My participation in the CLS Program will help me achieve my future goals.”

Stockmann is majoring in environmental studies with a minor in Arabic studies. She said she became interested in Arabic because of its differences from Latin-based languages.

“After two years of Arabic, I feel that my opportunities to expand my knowledge of Arabic are endless,” she said. “The diversity of dialects, as well as the fusion of Arabic and other languages from the Arab world, make the study of Arabic a lifelong commitment for me.”

Ammons and Stockmann were chosen among 560 other undergraduate and graduate students from all over the country to participate in the CLS Program. A part of the U.S. Department of State, the CLS Program is a fully funded summer overseas language and cultural immersion program that has sent more than 5,000 students abroad in the past 10 years.

For more information on the CLS Program, visit http://clscholarship.org/.

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Contact: Laure Pengelly Drake, director of external scholarships and advising, UM Davidson Honors College, 406-243-6140, laure.pengellydrake@umontana.edu.
UM Students Win Critical Language Scholarships for Travel to Russia, Morocco - UM News - University Of Montana
UM Professor Earns Grant to Create Mental Health Trainings for Rural Communities

May 10, 2016

MISSOULA - Rural communities have unique characteristics that affect the ability to meet the mental health needs of children. Thanks to a University of Montana seed grant, Lindsey Nichols, assistant professor in the Department of Counselor Education, will develop new and improved mental health facilitation training and implementation models that can be adapted to meet the unique needs of rural communities across Montana.

Working with UM Assistant Professor of Psychology Anisa Goforth, Nichols will use the funding to assist in improving awareness, knowledge and skills training for pre- and in-service PK-12 educators.

According to the American Counseling Association, rural communities in Montana - which often maintain a fear of prejudice and stigma associated with mental health care - also face the added challenge of significant geographic distances to quality, consistent mental health professionals and services.
"After traveling to various schools and conferences and consistently hearing from Montana educators that they need more information about addressing social/emotional issues, I'm excited for the opportunity to develop a curriculum to address those needs," Nichols said. "We want to create an accessible, sustainable and relevant training for our unique communities to empower people to better understand and respond to mental health needs in their professional roles."

The project aims to have important implications in the fields of education as well as mental health. There is a current trend in education whereby educators are recognizing that schools can provide both academic and social-emotional support to children as they prepare for college and/or career readiness. Educators are recognizing that if a child experiences mental health distress, they are not likely building academic skills in mathematics or reading. Similarly, policymakers have recognized that addressing mental health through social-emotional curricula should be an integral part of educational curricula.

"Our Montana schools and teachers are responding to many student needs, including student mental health," said Kirsten Murray, chair of the UM Department of Counselor Education. "What's great about Drs. Nichols and Goforth's work is that it prepares teachers with basic mental health skills, and our students benefit. Holistically attentive teachers and supportive environments do amazing things for learning."

To learn more about the Improving Educators' Understanding of Rural Children's Mental Health grant or the Department of Counselor Education at UM, call Nichols at 406-243-5820 or email lindsey.nichols@mso.umt.edu.

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Contact: Peter Knox, communications manager, UM Phyllis J. Washington College of Education and Human Sciences, 406-243-4911, peter.knox@mso.umt.edu.
UM Physical Therapy Student Wins National Scholarship

May 10, 2016

MISSOULA - A University of Montana student recently was named the recipient of the American Physical Therapy Association's 2016 Minority Scholarship Award. Alyssa Schock, a third-year student in UM's doctorate of physical therapy program, received $5,000.

Each year the APTA honors outstanding physical therapy students who demonstrate active participation, potential for superior achievements in the field, academic excellence and appropriate display of professionalism as a future physical therapist. The APTA will recognize Schock and other scholarship winners at a ceremony and reception on Thursday, June 9, in Nashville.
Schock's research at UM focuses on the increased incidence rate of diabetes among Native Americans, specifically on the Flathead Indian Reservation, where her hometown is located. She plans to return home after graduation to practice physical therapy in St. Ignatius.

"Receiving this scholarship has been an honor," Schock said. "Recognition through this scholarship validated my passion for serving my people and the importance of higher education."

"Our faculty members are really excited that Alyssa has been recognized by the APTA," said Jennifer Jeffery Bell, associate director of clinical education in UM's School of Physical Therapy and Rehabilitation Science. "Alyssa is a true asset to the field of physical therapy and the Native American community. Not only has she worked to improve health care on the Flathead Indian Reservation, but she also serves as a mentor and role model for other Native Americans who are interested in entering the health professions."

Schock is a 1998 graduate of St. Ignatius High School and the daughter of Dr. Jera Stewart of St. Ignatius and Jeff Stewart of Missoula.

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**Contact:** Jennifer Jeffery Bell, associate director of clinical education, UM School of Physical Therapy and Rehabilitation Science, 406-243-6827, jennifer.bell@umontana.edu; Alyssa Schock, UM physical therapy student, 406-207-4436, alyssastewart@hotmail.com.
UM Study: Wildfires to Increase in Alaska with Future Climate Change

May 10, 2016

MISSOULA - Climate change is melting glaciers, reducing sea-ice cover and increasing wildlife activity - with some of the most dramatic impacts occurring in the northern high latitudes.

New research by University of Montana affiliate scientist Adam Young and UM fire ecology Associate Professor Philip Higuera projects an increased probability of fires occurring in Alaskan boreal forest and tundra under a warmer, drier climate.
Their work recently was published in the journal Ecography.

The paper titled "Climatic thresholds shape northern high-latitude fire regimes and imply vulnerability to future climate change" is available online at http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/ecog.02205/abstract.

Young, also a doctoral candidate at the University of Idaho, projects that by the end of this century the probability of burning in many high-latitude ecosystems in Alaska will be up to four times higher than seen in recent decades. Tundra and the forest-tundra boundary, which have not burned often in the past, are particularly sensitive to projected changes in temperature and moisture.

"We looked at the location of wildfires across Alaska during the past 60 years and, not surprisingly, found that they were most common in regions with warm, dry summers," Young said. "The more interesting result of our work is the emergence of a distinct temperature threshold that separates areas that have and have not burned in recent decades. Above this threshold, we see a sharp increase in the likelihood that a fire will occur in a region."

The research highlights that regions crossing this temperature threshold as a result of climate change are the most vulnerable to increased burning.

Boreal forests and tundra store an estimated 50 percent of Earth's soil carbon. Increased fire activity could release more stored carbon into the atmosphere, which would increase atmospheric greenhouse gas concentrations and potentially have global implications.

The researchers used a database of fire history, which has been maintained by the federal government since 1950, and combined it with information on vegetation and climate to develop statistical models that predict the most important controls of historic fire activity.

Young and Higuera expect their results will help scientists and managers better understand when and where fires occur in northern high latitudes and how fire activity will change in the future.
includes scientists from the University of Illinois and the environmental consulting firm Neptune and Company Inc.

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**Contact:** Philip Higuera, associate professor of fire ecology, UM Department of Ecosystem and Conservation Sciences, 406-243-6337, philip.higuera@umontana.edu; Adam Young, affiliate scientist, UM Department of Ecosystem and Conservation Sciences, adam1.young@umontana.edu.
UM Student Wins Business Startup Challenge, Winners Announced

May 09, 2016

MISSOULA – The University of Montana School of Business Administration, along with the Montana Academy of Distinguished Entrepreneurs and the Blackstone LaunchPad at UM, have announced the winners of the 27th annual John Ruffatto Business Startup Challenge.

Zachary Falen of Missoula, a UM management information systems undergraduate student, took home the top prize of $15,000 for his startup plan, Bloom Content. Bloom Content is a cloud-hosted web platform that...
connects undergraduate content-producers with local businesses looking to stand out online. Bloom gives local businesses a convenient, affordable option for generating custom video, photo and graphic content.

During the 13-hour statewide competition, held May 5 at UM’s Harold and Priscilla Gilkey Building and Gallagher Business Building, 16 student teams competed in three rounds of judging and presentations, leading up to the evening’s final round, when four finalists presented their business plans to a panel of 55 judges and an audience of more than 200.

The event is judged and coached by venture capitalists, angel investors, bankers, successful entrepreneurs and corporate executives who share their expertise and commit their time before and during the competition.

“Montana has a special ecosystem that allows us to link students to statewide and national mentors, angel investors and venture capitalists in a personal way that other states just cannot do,” said Paul Gladen, director of UM Blackstone LaunchPad and CEO of the Montana Academy of Distinguished Entrepreneurs, the organization that runs the competition.

Support from more than 50 sponsors and private donors funded the more than $50,000 prize purse and the students’ competition expenses. Details on the awards and winners follow.

- First place: Bloom Content – Falen, $15,000 prize.

- Second place: Second Nature – Montana State University graphic design student Shae Stein and MSU mechanical engineering student Seth Carlstrom. The Second Nature shower chair helps improve the bathing experience of dementia patients and their caregivers through a unique set of product features aimed at alleviating the stress felt by both parties. $7,500 prize.
Third place: Chilton Skis – UM forestry school graduate student George Gaines and UM accounting student Marguerite Thordarson. Chilton Skis is a Missoula-based manufacturer creating an all-mountain ski from salvaged and sustainably harvested wood, combined with modern composite materials. $5,000 prize.

Fourth place: Birds of Feather – UM marketing and management student Matthew Gillespie, UM marketing student Alexis Schreder and UM finance student Colton Carter. Birds of a Feather Co. sources down feathers from legally hunted migratory birds across the U.S. Its mission is to provide a sustainable product through ethical sourcing methods to help companies create the top-quality gear consumers use every day. $2,500 prize.


Elevator Pitch (60-second team presentation): Danceador and Chilton Skis – UM dance student Johanna Ciampa delivered a pitch for Danceador, a virtual dance ambassador that will bring world dance to one platform. It will be a simple, intuitive resource that contains comprehensive global dance content, which can easily be accessed and filtered with summaries from dance ethnographers. Gaines and Thordarson of Chilton Skis tied Danceador for first. Each team will receive a $1,750 prize.

A number of special awards were given to teams or individuals based on specific criteria. This is the inaugural year of the Athena Award given to a team featuring outstanding contributions from female students. The award winners follow:

- Brandon Speth Passion, Poise, and Charisma Award: Falen. $1,000 prize.
- People’s Choice Award: Second Nature, Stein. $2,500 prize.
- Polymath Award: Danceador, Ciampa. $2,500 prize.
- Most Dynamic and Scalable Award: Polo: The Social Calendar, MSU student Waylon Roberts. Polo: The Social Calendar is an app that allows you to effortlessly find out when you and your friends are free at the same time. The large-scale platform allows friends to communicate and coordinate social events. $1,000 prize.
- Blackstone Launchpad Innovation Award: Second Nature, Stein and Carlstrom. $1,000 prize.
- Manufactured Product Award: Chilton Skis, Gaines and Thordarson. $1,000 prize.
- Feasibility Award: Tip Top Nail Bar, UM management student Gabrielle Gebauer and marketing student Michela Millette. Tip Top Nail Bar is a local nail salon that provides nontoxic and natural manicure and pedicure services in a fume-free, relaxing and hip environment. $1,000 prize.
- Athena Award: Bakaate, MSU-Billings business management students Bessie Crooked Arm, Sabrena Half and Violet Birdinground. Bakaate is a publishing company that aims to inspire and empower children to take care of mother Earth and respect all Native cultures through books and dolls.
This competition further supports Montana’s reputation as the “Economic Frontier.” Montana ranks No. 1 in startup activity by the Kauffman Foundation; both state universities host Blackstone LaunchPad, startup incubators funded by the Blackstone Charitable Foundation; and a new Montana venture fund, Next Frontier Capital, aims to raise $20 Million in investments for high-tech businesses in Montana.

MADE was founded by successful entrepreneurs with the goal of bringing their experience to students and the classroom. In addition to supporting the John Ruffatto Startup Challenge, held each spring at UM, MADE organizes an advanced entrepreneurship seminar series and honors influential entrepreneurs who demonstrate a commitment to Montana with the Pioneer in Industry Award. For more information about MADE, visit http://www.business.umt.edu/organizations/MADE.aspx.

UM’s School of Business Administration is accredited by the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business International, the most rigorous accrediting body for business degree programs. For more information visit http://www.business.umt.edu/.

For more information call Gladen at 406-396-3534 or email paul.gladen@mso.umt.edu.

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**Contact:** Paul Gladen, UM Blackstone LaunchPad director and CEO of Montana Academy of Distinguished Entrepreneurs, 406-396-3534, paul.gladen@mso.umt.edu.
UM Environmental Health Symposium to Feature Student Air Quality Research

May 09, 2016

MISSOULA – Nearly 175 high school students will participate in the 12th annual Clean Air and Healthy Homes environmental health symposium from 9:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. Tuesday, May 17, in the North Underground Lecture Hall at the University of Montana.

The symposium will feature oral presentations and posters outlining air quality investigations conducted by students from eight different schools and communities throughout Montana and Idaho. Participating students will present their research findings to an audience of 200 people, including their peers, teachers, university mentors and agency partners.

The event is a great opportunity for the public to learn about how students are addressing indoor air pollution issues within their homes and schools, such as radon, a major environmental public health concern throughout the region. Previous projects have examined pollution levels associated with coal trains and traffic circles, as well as exposure from ski waxing and fast-food preparation. Results from these innovative and wide-ranging projects also have inspired school improvements such as radon mitigation and new ventilation systems.
Jointly hosted by the UM Center for Environmental Health Sciences and the Department of Chemistry, this annual symposium focuses on indoor air quality issues related to particulate matter, radon and carbon monoxide. The Montana Department of Environmental Quality and the National Institute of Health’s Science Education Partnership Award Program provide major funding support for the event.

Contact: Naomi Delaloye, education coordinator, UM Center for Environmental Health Studies, 406-243-2046, naomi.delaloye@umontana.edu.
MISSOULA – The University of Montana will graduate more than 3,000 students this spring, and most of those will participate in the 119th Commencement exercises at 10 a.m. Saturday, May 14, in Washington-Grizzly Stadium.

Academy Award-winning actor J.K. Simmons will be the featured speaker. Simmons, who graduated from UM in 1978 with a bachelor’s degree in music, also will receive an Honorary Doctorate of Humane Letters. Former U.S. Forest Service Chief Jack Ward Thomas will receive an Honorary Doctorate of Science.

No tickets or reservations are required for the main ceremony, and there is no rehearsal. The stadium will open at 8 a.m., and families and guests should be seated by 9:30 a.m.

Coffee will be served on the south side of the Oval for degree candidates and their families beginning at 8 a.m. All degree candidates should meet on the Oval at 8:45 a.m. to line up with their departments for the processional into the stadium, which begins at 9:20 a.m.

UM will live-stream the Commencement ceremony at http://www.umt.edu/commencement/, and there will be regular social media updates.
Several of UM’s professional schools, colleges and departments hold their own ceremonies following Commencement. Tickets may be required for these ceremonies. Contact the graduate’s department for additional information.

For more information about Commencement, visit the Office of the Registrar website at [http://www.umt.edu/registrar/students/graduation.php](http://www.umt.edu/registrar/students/graduation.php) or call 406-243-2995.

The UM Alumni Association will host the All-Alumni Celebration May 12-14, with special recognition of alumni celebrating their 50th and 50-plus class anniversaries. For more information on reunion events, visit [http://www.grizalum.org](http://www.grizalum.org).

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**Contact:** UM Office of the Registrar, 406-243-2995, registration@umontana.edu.
MISSOULA – Six University of Montana computer science seniors have reached for the stars by launching an interactive website to help teach physics and astronomy.

The website allows faculty to load a solar system to the page and have their students adjust the size, density, gravity, etc. of the stars and planets to learn about orbits, habitable zones around stars and more. Site visitors also can zoom in and out and track orbits on the simulation, and anyone who wants to save their own simulations can create
an account.

UM students Alexander Dunn, Aaron Cameron, Benjamin Campbell, Dillon Wood, Michael Kinsey and Rebecca Faust worked on the project as part of their Advanced Programming: Theory and Practice II class, taught by computer science Professor Joel Henry. They also collaborated with Diane Friend, a lecturer in the Department of Physics and Astronomy.

Building on a rudimentary software product Cameron and Kinsey previously had developed and asking an astronomy professor about valuable features and requirements, the students divided up the work into three parts: the server, the visual interface and the simulator. Once each part was complete, they brought everything together into a website.

“For the most part, each of us were dealing with at least one framework or web technology that we hadn’t worked with before, so we ran into learning curves along the way,” Cameron said.

Over the course of spring semester, the students logged 478 hours of work planning, designing, developing and deploying the application.

Cameron said he hopes the tool will be used as an improvement to existing applications by STEM educators to teach physics and math concepts in planetary physics.

“It is a tool that is equally fun and educational, which serves as an interesting way to introduce students to planetary physics,” Cameron said.

Unlike many other technological tools, the application also is fairly timeless.

“The tools currently available are developed in technologies that are no longer supported,” Campbell said. “As time progresses these tools will become nonfunctional. Because our application is written with modern technologies it will be widely available for the next generation of students to use.”
To view the project, visit https://demo.orbitable.tech/#/s/random.

Contact: Joel Henry, professor, UM Department of Computer Science, 406-243-2218, joel.henry@mso.umt.edu.
MISSOULA – This week when University of Montana students move out of residence halls and off-campus rentals, they will have a convenient place to dump unwanted items that isn’t a dumpster.

On Wednesday through Friday, May 11-13, the Campus Thrift program will host six collection sites located both on and off campus where students can drop off any items they no longer want. Collected items will be sorted and then sold at the Campus Thrift sale from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Thursday, May 19, at Schreiber Gymnasium.

Unsold items will be donated to local thrift stores. All proceeds from the sale will benefit campus sustainability projects identified by the departments organizing the program.

“There is a tremendous amount of waste generated during student move-out,” said Katherine Auge, ASUM Off-Campus Renter Center director and one of the Campus Thrift organizers. “Most of the things that end up in the trash are gently used items that can easily be reused.”

The collection sites will accept everything from clothes to housewares to small appliances. Mattresses, textbooks,
Campus Thrift Program Aims to Reduce Waste During Student Move-Out

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Campus Thrift Program Aims to Reduce Waste During Student Move-Out - UM News - University Of Montana

large furniture and hazardous materials will not be accepted.

The four on-campus sites will be conveniently located outside residence halls. The two off-campus sites are the Phi Delta Theta fraternity house, located at 1125 Helen Ave., and the University Villages Community Center at 3 Elkhorn Ct.

Campus Thrift is a collaborative effort between the UM Sustainability, UM Recycling, the ASUM Off-Campus Renter Center and the Residence Life Office. The program is recruiting volunteers now to staff the collection sites, to assist with sorting items before the sale and to work the sale. Both students and community members are encouraged to volunteer and tangibly reduce waste from move-out week. All volunteers will receive one free item of their choice. Interested parties can sign up to volunteer via Facebook at “UM Campus Thrift” or by emailing campusthrift@mso.umt.edu.

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Contact: Katherine Auge, ASUM Off-Campus Renter Center director, 406-243-2017, campusthrift@mso.umt.edu.
MISSOULA – “Motion,” one of the University of Montana spectrUM Discovery Area’s popular traveling exhibits, will visit Victor Tuesday through Thursday, May 10-12.

Featuring hands-on exhibits and activities exploring the wonders of physics and engineering, “Motion” will transform the Victor School Multipurpose Room into an interactive science museum. Highlights of the exhibition include a larger-than-life spinning turntable, a gravity well and spectrUM’s ever-popular flight simulator. This tour stop is powered by the Jane S. Heman Foundation.

Students also are able to share the “Motion” exhibition and activities with families, friends and community members at a free Family Science Night from 5 to 8 p.m. Thursday, May 12, at the Victor School Multipurpose Room.

SpectrUM is an interactive science center located in the heart of downtown Missoula. Committed to inspiring a culture of learning and discovery for all, it serves more than 50,000 Montanans annually through its in-museum tours and mobile programs.
Since 2006, spectrUM has brought exhibits and educators to 73 schools and four public libraries in 30 Montana counties, including all seven American Indian reservations in the state. Of the 52,000 Montanans reached by spectrUM’s mobile science program, 30 percent are Native American and over 75 percent live in rural communities.

SpectrUM Director Holly Truitt said the goal of spectrUM’s mobile outreach is to “help inspire Montana’s next generation of scientists, health care providers, engineers and visionaries.”

SpectrUM’s sponsors and partners include the UM Center for Structural and Functional Neuroscience, Community Medical Center, the Dennis and Phyllis Washington Foundation, the Jane S. Heman Foundation, the National Institutes of Health, the National Science Foundation EPSCoR Program, NISE Network, the Noyce Foundation, the O.P. and W.E. Edwards Foundation, SciGirls, the Simons Foundation and the Western Montana Area Health Education Center. Its Science for All Scholarship Fund has given the gift of science to more than 12,000 Montana children.

The public can visit spectrUM at 218 E. Front St. in Missoula. Public hours are 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Wednesday through Friday and 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday. Admission costs $3.50 per person.

For more information or to book a school visit, call spectrUM STEM Education Program Manager Jessie Herbert at 406-243-4828 or visit http://www.spectrum.umt.edu.

Contact: Jessie Herbert, STEM education program manager, spectrUM Discovery Area, 406-243-4828, jessie.herbert@umontana.edu.
UM Accounting Students Have Highest CPA Exam Pass Rate in State

May 05, 2016

MISSOULA – The numbers have been crunched and the results are in for the annual report of Certified Public Accountant exam pass rates. Accounting students in the University of Montana School of Business Administration who took the national licensure exam for the first time in 2015 rose to the top, ranking No. 1 in the state out of six institutions and No.18 nationally among medium-sized programs.

“We had the highest first-time pass rate amongst all schools with at least 10 candidates in Washington, Oregon, Idaho and Montana,” said Terri Herron, SoBA associate dean. “These results speak to the quality of our faculty and the education delivered to our students. Many may not realize that the CPA exam not only assesses accounting knowledge, but also finance, economics, business law, operations and communications. It is a tough exam.”

The National Association of State Boards of Accountancy produced the report. NASBA provides licensing and academic credential evaluation services for state boards of accountancy.

UM ranked in the top 100 out of all 821 schools nationwide for first-time pass rate. UM’s pass rate of 70 percent is the highest overall first-time pass rate in the state and far above the national average of 55 percent.
UM Accounting Students Have Highest CPA Exam Pass Rate in State

For more information call Terri Herron at 406-243-5878 or email terri.herron@umontana.edu.

Contact: Terri Herron, associate dean, UM School of Business Administration, 406-243-5878,
terri.herron@umontana.edu.

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UM Student Wins Honorable Mention in Goldwater Scholarship Competition

May 05, 2016

Missoula – University of Montana student Mariah McIntosh recently earned an honorable mention in the Goldwater Scholarship competition, the top national award for undergraduate research in science, math and engineering.

McIntosh also recently earned a prestigious Udall Scholarship for her commitment to a career in the environment.

McIntosh, a junior, is majoring in biology with a concentration in organismal biology and ecology, as well as minoring in climate change studies and wilderness studies. She is the daughter of Jan Schroeder and Bruce McIntosh of Corvallis, Oregon, and a graduate of Corvallis High School. She plans to be a university plant ecologist.
The Goldwater Scholarship was designed to foster and encourage outstanding students to pursue careers in the fields of mathematics, science and engineering. Students must be nominated for the scholarship by a faculty representative.

For more information on McIntosh’s nomination call Laure Pengelly Drake, UM director of external scholarships and advising, at 406-243-6140 or email laure.pengellydrake@umontana.edu.

Contact: Laure Pengelly Drake, director of external scholarships and advising, UM Davidson Honors College, 406-243-6140, laure.pengellydrake@umontana.edu; Mariah McIntosh, UM student, 541-207-5952, mariah.mcintosh@umontana.edu.
MISSOULA – The University of Montana Veteran Education Transition Services Office will team up with Missoula College and TRiO to host a dinner event designed to inform veterans who are not currently attending college and their family members about the opportunities available at Missoula College.

The event will begin at 6 p.m. Monday, May 9, at the Missoula College East Campus, located at 909 South Ave. W. The event is free and open to the public and includes dinner and dessert. No RSVP is required.

Admission counselors, program representatives and current veteran students will be available to answer participants’ questions. Daryl Lee, VETS Office program coordinator and a retired U.S. Marine, also will present on the status of prior learning assessments, or the ability for veterans to gain college credit for prior learning they’ve completed during active duty.

For more information call UM VETS Office Director Shawn Grove at 406-243-5044 or email shawn.grove@umontana.edu.
Veterans Considering College Invited to Learn About Missoula College Programs - UM News - University Of Montana

Contact: Shawn Grove, UM Veteran Education Transition Services Office director, 406-243-5044, shawn.grove@umontana.edu.

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UM Researchers Receive More Than $1 Million to Study Wildfire

May 04, 2016

MISSOULA – Researchers in the University of Montana College of Forestry and Conservation recently earned more than $1 million in funding from the Joint Fire Science Program through five separate awards involving faculty from all three departments in the college.

Forest ecology Associate Professor Andrew Larson is principal investigator of a project to look at how wildfires shape vegetation and fuels in the forests of north-central Washington. His project proposal titled “Landscape Evaluations and Prescriptions for Post-Fire Landscapes” was awarded $384,000. Larson says he and co-investigators will “develop an integrated framework for assessing post-fire landscapes that helps managers identify how and where fires achieved management objectives, or not.”

Natural resource policy Professor Martin Nie is a co-principal investigator along with Sharon Hood, UM alumna and research ecologist at the U.S. Forest Service Rocky Mountain Research Station, on a project that was awarded $377,000. Nie, together with a graduate student, will examine how fire management decisions can be more effectively integrated into national forest plan revisions and, more broadly, examine the meaning, metrics and management of resilient landscapes and fire regimes.
Fire ecology Associate Professor Philip Higuera is the principal investigator of two projects: one awarded $355,000 to examine how climate variability impacts tree regeneration in low-elevation forests in the Northern Rockies and the other awarded $290,000 to study the ecological and social impacts of wildfires.

Forest landscape ecology Associate Professor Solomon Dobrowski, UM postdoctoral scientist Kim Taylor and UM alumnus Sean Parks, now a research ecologist with the U.S. Forest Service Rocky Mountain Research Station, are co-principal investigators on Higuera's first project titled "Climate Variability and Post-Fire Forest Regeneration in the Northern Rockies."

Higuera and co-investigators will use tree rings to examine at how ponderosa pine and Douglas fir regenerated after past fires. They will create a model that can help managers predict when and where those trees will re-populate burned forests in the future.

“This work is important because it will help us understand how wildfires and climate change will interact to determine if, when, and where lower-treeline forests will regenerate in the future,” Higuera said.

UM Research Assistant Professor Alex Metcalf and recreation management and human dimensions of natural resources Assistant Professor Libby Metcalf are co-principal investigators on Higuera’s second project titled “Identifying Ecological and Social Resilience in Fire-Prone Landscapes,” and will investigate communities in the Northern Rockies and Pacific Northwest that have been impacted by large fires to see how they adapt to their post-fire landscape. Additional collaborators include Carol Miller from the USFS Rocky Mountain Research Station and Dave McWethy from Montana State University.

Additionally, Larson is co-principal investigator on a $278,000 award with University of Washington Research Associate Van Kane and principal investigator Utah State University Assistant Professor James Lutz to research tree mortality after wildfire. Trees growing in crowded, high-stress environments are known to have higher probability of mortality, but current models of fire-caused tree mortality do not include local crowding.

“One of our key goals is to validate existing models of post-fire tree mortality, in order to determine how much improvement is possible if we include information about local crowding,” Larson said.

The Joint Fire Science Program is a federally funded program that funds scientific research on wildland fire.

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Contact: Leana Schelvan, director of communications, UM College of Forestry and Conservation, 406-243-6693, leana.schelvan@umontana.edu.
MISSOULA – In 2003, the University of Montana’s School of Business Administration created its first privately funded professorship thanks to a gift from Carol Jean Byrnes in honor of her late husband, Donald. Now, a second act of generosity ensures the Donald and Carol Jean Byrnes Professorship in Finance will continue for generations to come.

With a posthumous gift of $1 million, made through the Community Foundation of Tampa Bay, Carol Jean Byrnes has created an endowment for the professorship. That means the donation will be invested, and the proceeds will support the position in perpetuity.

“This gift will ensure the University of Montana School of Business Administration carries on a strong tradition of building financial literacy among our students and contributing to the broader field of study,” said Dean Larry Gianchetta.

There have been two Byrnes Professors at SoBA since 2003: Joseph Vinso, who served from 2003 to 2007, and Keith Jakob, who joined the UM faculty in 2000 and has served as Byrnes Professor since 2007.
With private support, the Byrnes Professor can more easily pursue research and maintain a record of publication in top journals. Not only does this scholarly work benefit the field in general, it also translates to superior teaching. Jakob has taught courses at UM in corporate finance and investments, as well as financial statement analysis. He has published papers in the world’s elite finance journals, including Journal of Financial Economics, Financial Management and the Journal of Financial Research.

The Byrnes family’s donations also support the Byrnes Accounting and Finance Research Seminar, which showcases internationally renowned experts and helps students deepen their knowledge and understanding of the field. Since 2003, SoBA has hosted 62 lectures on topics such as financial audits, wealth management and accounting ethics.

Carol Jean and Donald both are from Glendive and met during high school. After serving as a Navy seaman in World War II, Donald earned a bachelor’s degree in accounting from UM in 1949. Upon his graduation, the couple spent time in cities around the country before settling in Tampa, Florida, where Donald rose to chief executive of the Spalding and Evenflo Companies before retiring as president and chief executive of Pueblo Xtra International.

Despite the distance and a busy schedule managing multinational companies, Donald always found time to return to Missoula. His business acumen made him an oft-invited lecturer at UM’s business school, but it was his willingness to share his personal experiences and interact with students that made him a class favorite. He also served on the UM Foundation Board of Trustees, and was vice chairman when he passed away in 1995.

Although Carol never attended college, she supported UM because of the special place it held in Donald’s heart. Her first gift established a merit-based scholarship for business undergraduate and graduate students from Montana. Since it was inaugurated in 1997, the fund has helped more than 25 students attend UM. She expanded her support in 2003 by establishing the Byrnes Professorship, and now her and Donald’s legacy will live on at UM forever thanks to her final act of generosity.

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**Contact:** Kate Stober, UM Foundation, 406-243-2627, kate.stober@umontana.edu.
$1 Million Gift Creates Lifelong Funding for UM Professorship in Finance - UM News - University Of Montana
MISSOULA – Mass spectrometry is a technique used to identify the chemical makeup of a given sample, and University of Montana researcher Robert Smith just earned funding that may improve the process.

Smith, a UM computer science assistant professor, was awarded a CAREER grant from the National Science Foundation. He will receive $742,000 during the next five years.

CAREER grants are the most prestigious award for junior faculty, and this is the third one presented to a UM researcher this year.

“I am very excited for this award,” Smith said. “It provides the resources for the next phase of our research, which presents the possibility of dramatically advancing the field of mass spectrometry.”

Mass spectrometry has a broad range of applications of societal...
interest, including in medicine, forensics and basic biological sciences. Smith said his research develops new analysis techniques that allow mass spectrometry data to be used in ways that are not currently possible. This may lead to advances in fields like medical diagnostics, drug development and better research into poorly understood ailments involving proteins, such as Alzheimer’s disease.

He said mass spectrometry plays a role in many investigations because it can quantify and identify the major components – such as proteins, lipids, metabolites – of almost any cellular system.

His research develops a fundamentally different approach to mass spectrometry output signal analysis by:

n Creating a different paradigm for mass spectrometry signal processing that segments the entire output file instead of extracting subregions of interest.

n Showing that current methods are insufficient through a quantitative evaluation.

n Enabling future research by capturing currently excluded low-abundance molecules.

n Demonstrating how this new paradigm broadens future experimental possibilities with a novel correspondence approach built on the additional information provided by the proposed segmentation techniques.

Smith said a significant part of his plan involves outreach to Seeley-Swan High School, where researchers and teachers will team up to teach students problem-solving skills using computers in subjects such as chemistry, math and biology.

"With Robert receiving this award, we now have three CAREER grants this year, which matches 2009 – the last time we accomplished this scientific hat trick," said Scott Whittenburg, UM vice president for research and creative scholarship. "It’s gratifying that the NSF is recognizing the amazing potential of our young research faculty members."

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Contact: Robert Smith, UM computer science assistant professor, 406-243-2833, robert2.smith@umontana.edu.
UM Students Win Udall Scholarship Competitions

May 03, 2016

MISSOULA – Two University of Montana students recently were honored with Udall Scholarships. Mariah Mclntosh and Clare Vergobbi both won full scholarships, marking the 39th and 40th times a UM student earned this prestigious award, and Kathleen Stone earned the Udall Honorable Mention.

Mclntosh and Vergobbi will receive up to $7,000, which will support their studies for the 2016-17 academic year. All three students will be provided networking opportunities through the nationally recognized scholar program.

Udall Scholars are selected on the basis of commitment to careers in the environment or, for Native Americans, commitment to careers in tribal public policy or health care. Scholars
also must show leadership potential and academic achievement.

The independent review committee awarded 60 Scholars and 51 Honorable Mentions. This class of Udall Scholars was selected from 482 candidates nominated by 227 colleges and universities. Forty Scholars intend to pursue careers related to the environment. Fifteen American Indian/Alaska Native Scholars intend to pursue careers related to tribal public policy, and five American Indian/Alaska Native Scholars intend to pursue careers related to health care.

McIntosh, a junior, is majoring in biology with a concentration in organismal biology and ecology, as well as minoring in climate change studies and wilderness studies. She is the daughter of Jan Schroeder and Bruce McIntosh of Corvallis, Oregon, and a graduate of Corvallis High School. She plans to be a university plant ecologist.

Vergobbi, a junior from Salt Lake City, is majoring in ecological restoration and biology with a concentration in organismal biology and ecology and a minor in environmental studies. She is the daughter of Anne Riordan-Vergobbi and David Vergobbi of Salt Lake City and a graduate of West High School. She plans a career in restorative agriculture.

Stone is majoring in journalism, with minors in Spanish and climate change. She plans to use her studies for multimedia environmental journalism, covering issues related to sustainable agriculture, climate justice and sustainable solutions. She’s currently studying abroad in Argentina, and hopes to use her Spanish with her journalism career. Stone is the daughter of Andrew and Deborah Stone of Salt Lake City, and she graduated from West High School.

The 2016 Udall Scholars will assemble Aug. 9-14 in Tucson, Arizona, to meet one another and program alumni, learn more about the Udall legacy of public service, and interact with community leaders in environmental fields, tribal health care and governance.

For more information on the Udall Foundation and related programs, visit http://www.udall.gov/.

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MISSOULA – Students in the Ecological Restoration Program at the University of Montana will present results of their yearlong field learning experiences from 2 to 6 p.m. Friday, May 6, in the Canyon Room of the DoubleTree Hotel, located at 100 Madison St. in Missoula. The event is free and open to the public.

More than 20 students collaborated with community partners to develop a restoration project and host a volunteer restoration event.

The schedule of presentations is:

- **2:10 p.m.:** Welcome and Opening Remarks from Alexis Gibson, UM field learning coordinator.
- **2:40-2:55 p.m.:** Wallace Creek Watershed Restoration Plan. Presenter: Martin Belden and Troy Lechman.
Public Invited to Student Presentations on Restoration Field Learning Experiences - UM News - University Of Montana

Sponsors: Michelle Hutchins and Travis Ross, Missoula Valley Water Quality District.


- **3:25-3:40 p.m.**: Break


- **3:50-4 p.m.**: Ecological Assessment of Lolo Beach Conservation Park. Presenters: Gavan Borgias, Nicolas Matallana and Liangheng Lin. Sponsor: Kali Becher, Missoula County Parks and Trails, CAPS.

- **4-4:10 p.m.**: Restoring Habitat in the Swan Valley with Ecologically Important Native Species. Presenters: Sean Hasselstrom, Samuel Schnell and Clare Vergobbi. Sponsor: Beau Larkin, MPG Ranch.


- **4:40-6 p.m.**: Celebration in the Finn and Porter Lounge.

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