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## UM News

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# Fulbright Program Experts to Visit UM Campus Sept. 5

August 31, 2017

**MISSOULA** – Two representatives from the Institute of International Education will visit the University of Montana on Tuesday, Sept. 5, to provide information on the Student Fulbright Program.

Fulbright Student Alumni Ambassador Ryan Bell will join Outreach Specialist Lee Rivers to hold informational meetings about the diverse opportunities the Fulbright program offers, which include fully funded grants for study, research or English teaching assistantships in more than 140 countries. Bell, who earned his M.F.A. in nonfiction writing from UM in 2014, received a coveted National Geographic Fulbright Award to Russia and Kazakhstan for the 2015-16 academic year.

A Fulbright U.S. Student Program Workshop, intended for all undergraduate and graduate students interested in the program, is slated for 3 p.m. in the Payne Family Native American Center Room 201. The workshop also is free and open to the public.

Other meetings designed for specific student populations will be held throughout the day as well, though those sessions also are open to students who are unable to attend the 3 p.m. meeting. The additional meetings will be

held at the following times and locations:

- **11 a.m., Davidson Honors College Room 119:** DHC students
- **1 p.m., Liberal Arts Building Room 207:** Modern and Classical Languages and Literatures students
- **2 p.m., LA Room 207:** Current Fulbright applicants
- **4:30 p.m., University Center Room 330:** Returning study abroad students

For more information, call Liz Ametsbichler, UM Fulbright Program adviser at 406-243 5001 or email [liz.ametsbichler@mso.umt.edu](mailto:liz.ametsbichler@mso.umt.edu). More information about the Student Fulbright Program is online at <https://eca.state.gov/fulbright>.

**Contact:** Liz Ametsbichler, UM Fulbright Program adviser, 406-243-5001, [liz.ametsbichler@mso.umt.edu](mailto:liz.ametsbichler@mso.umt.edu).



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# Music Legend's Son to Perform Concert at UM

August 31, 2017

**MISSOULA** – Acclaimed singer/songwriter A.J. Croce will perform his own songs as well as those of his father, the legendary Jim Croce, as he explores “Two Generations of American Music” at 8 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 2, at the University of Montana’s Dennison Theatre.

Tickets are on sale now and cost \$25 plus applicable fees. They are available online at <http://www.griztix.com>, by calling 406-243-4051 or 888-666-8262 during regular business hours, or at GrizTix outlets, including the Adams Center Box Office, Worden’s Market, Southgate Mall and MSO Hub.

Croce was only 2 years old when his father died in a tragic airplane crash in 1973, so he didn’t know his music firsthand.

“I came to love it in the same way everyone else did – listening to the albums,” he said. While he describes his father’s music as “part of me, part of my life,” until now, Croce had never really performed those songs live. As a piano player, his interests tended to favor the blues and jazz-rooted music of musicians like Ray Charles and Allen Toussaint.

As he started to learn his father's tunes, Croce had to do it "the old-fashioned way, by listening to the recordings" because there were no chord books of Jim Croce music. A.J., who was developing his own guitar playing prowess, was particularly impressed with the complexities of his father's compositions, especially in interplay between Jim Croce and his longtime collaborator, lead guitarist Maury Muehleisen, who also died in the plane crash.

A.J. Croce has kept himself busy this year with more than just the "Two Generations" concerts; he released his new soul-inspired album, "Just Like Medicine," on Aug. 11. Croce collaborated with legendary producer/songsmith Dan Penn on the release, which features contributions from the great Muscle Shoals bassist David Hood, blues guitar master Colin Linden and the renowned gospel singers the McCrary Sisters. The project marks the follow up to Croce's last album, the critically acclaimed "Twelve Tales," which was released on Nashville-based Compass Records.

For these special "Two Generations" performances, Croce will be backed by his longtime guitarist Michael Bizar, along with David Barard on bass, and either Nashville-based session ace Tony Morra or Gary Mallaber on drums. With these concerts, Croce wants to create an experience that "makes the audience and me happy."

Doors for the 8 p.m. concert will open at 7 p.m. For more information call UM Productions marketing coordinator Will Johnson at 541-633-0720 or email [marketing@umproductions.org](mailto:marketing@umproductions.org).

**Contact:** Will Johnson, marketing coordinator, UM Productions, 541-633-0720, [marketing@umproductions.org](mailto:marketing@umproductions.org).



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## UM News

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# UM's Political Science Honor Society Earns National Award

August 31, 2017

**MISSOULA** – The political science honor society at the University of Montana recently received a national award.

The Epsilon Mu chapter at UM received a Best Chapter Award for 2016-17 from Pi Sigma Alpha. It marks the second time in four years that the UM society has been recognized with a national award.

“Your chapter is a model for all others,” said Sean Twombly, executive director of the national Pi Sigma Alpha organization, in a letter to UM advisers announcing the award.

The award honors chapters that are particularly active and that exhibit high levels of energy and creativity in furthering honor society goals. Twenty-five chapters from universities with enrollments between 6,000 and 15,000 undergraduate students submitted reports to be considered for the award. Eight finalists were selected, and the UM chapter was one of four to receive the Best Chapter Award.

“The competition in this category was particularly strong this year,” Twombly said.

Pi Sigma Alpha serves as the honorary society for undergraduate and graduate students studying political science. The goal of the organization is to engender civic engagement and political participation more broadly by hosting public speaker forums, job opportunities and campuswide Milkshake Mondays with political trivia.

"Our students are the key to success for future policymaking, and Pi Sigma Alpha provides an opportunity for our students to excel," said Sara Rinfret, UM associate professor of political science and chapter adviser.

**Contact:** Sara Rinfret, associate professor, UM Department of Political Science, Pi Sigma Alpha adviser, [sara.rinfret@umontana.edu](mailto:sara.rinfret@umontana.edu).



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# UM President Issues Call to Action at Employee Convocation

August 30, 2017

**MISSOULA** – In celebration of her birthday and the 53rd anniversary of her starting as a freshman at the University of Montana, UM President Sheila Stearns encouraged strong action from the “We are Montana” crowd attending the Aug. 30 Employee Convocation.

Addressing a crowd of



staff and faculty

members in the University Center Ballroom, Stearns urged attendees to act as statewide ambassadors to promote UM, to assist with shaping the University's strategic vision, and to redouble efforts to help with student recruitment and retention.

She also led employees in a toast to celebrate three recent major accomplishments by UM: earning a record \$88 million in research funding, receiving a record \$84.5 million from donors and private support, and UM's recent reaccreditation by the Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities.

Faculty members earning promotions or tenure were acknowledged during the event, and Stearns also lauded the opening of UM's new Missoula College Building, located just across the Clark Fork River from the central campus. And she hinted that UM's freshmen enrollment should be flat or even slightly up after several downturn years.

She prompted employees to continually advocate for higher education and assist with UM's New Strategic Plan, titled "Creating Change Together." The main "strategic opportunities" of that plan are to engage students where they are, invest in people, partner with place, reinvent the heart of the curriculum, and foster knowledge creation and innovation. Stearns said she will create work teams this fall to push the plan and drive the strategic opportunities forward.

She said enrollment and budget issues remain the most pressing concerns. The president said the University now spends 85 percent of its budget on salaries, and that number should be in the lower-70-percent range to create a fiscally healthy organization.

Stearns said UM is undergoing an Academic Program and Administrative Services Prioritization process to analyze and evaluate each University program. APASP committee members may identify programs that need to be modified, reduced, or grown and developed. All units at the University are now working to provide materials to the APASP committee, and Stearns said more campus evaluators will be recruited to complete the project.

She said the search for a permanent UM president is ongoing and proceeding well. She spoke fondly for UM and the future.

"This is a place I came to love and continue to love," Stearns said. "Our first president said of the University 'It shall prosper.' I'm here to say it has, it shall and it will."

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**Contact:** Paula Short, , director of communications, UM Office of the President, 406-243-5806, [paula.short@umontana.edu](mailto:paula.short@umontana.edu).

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## UM News

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# Missoula College Earns Grant to Launch Veterans Studies Course

August 10, 2017

**MISSOULA** – Missoula College of the University of Montana has received a \$97,000 grant to develop the state’s first veterans studies course, which could launch as soon as next spring.

Approximately one in 10 Montanans has served in the armed forces, and they face unique challenges that often are not understood by many professionals in healthcare, social work, law, education, government, commerce and other industries. The grant, funded through the National Endowment for the Humanities and secured with the help of U.S. Sen. Jon Tester, will allow MC to design a class to help students understand the unique experiences of veterans and their families.

“Missoula College is thrilled to be identified as a recipient of this award from the NEH,” said Clint Reading, MC associate dean. “It will allow us to expand a much-needed area of study that will stimulate awareness of the veteran experience. In addition to the classroom study, the outreach component will be a wonderful way to explore the many positive contributions that our veterans provide to the community.”

The interdisciplinary course will explore the institutional, cultural and relational dimensions of the military/veteran

experience through collaboration with other UM departments, such as English, history, political science, social work, public and community health and psychology. Only a handful of institutions across the country offer similar courses or programs, and the MC class will be the first of its kind at a Montana university.

The course will encourage enrollment of non-veterans and veterans alike to enrich it with diverse perspectives, experiences and questions. This also will provide Montana student veterans with an opportunity to better comprehend their own experiences in the context of a broader systematic study.

Lt. Col. Elizabeth Barrs, a graduate student pursuing a doctorate in history at UM, submitted the original grant proposal and will take the lead in developing the course curriculum. A retired Army veteran, she helped launch a similar program at Eastern Kentucky University.

For more information, call Reading at 406-243-7801 or [clint.reading@umontana.edu](mailto:clint.reading@umontana.edu).

**Contact:** Clint Reading, associate dean, Missoula College of UM, 406-243-7801, [clint.reading@umontana.edu](mailto:clint.reading@umontana.edu).



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## UM News

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# UM to Screen Holocaust, Humor Documentary

August 30, 2017

**MISSOULA** – The University of Montana will hold a free showing of “The Last Laugh,” a documentary on using the Holocaust as a topic for humor, followed by a moderated discussion with director Ferne Pearlstein and holocaust survivor Renee Firestone, at 7 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 14, in the University Center Theater.

Are we allowed to make jokes about the Holocaust? This entertaining and thought-provoking film puts confronting the ultimate taboo in humor to the test. The film features comedy legends and critical thinkers such as Mel Brooks, Carl Reiner, Sarah Silverman, Gilbert Gottfried, Harry Shearer, Alan Zweibel and Susie Essman, as well as Holocaust survivors themselves, including Firestone, a 93-year-old Auschwitz survivor and heart and soul of “The Last Laugh.”

Together, they offer fresh insights into the Holocaust, our own psyches, 9/11, AIDS, racism and other subjects that may or may not be off-limits in a society that prizes freedom of speech.

Following the showing, Pearlstein and Firestone will participate in a moderated discussion disproving the idea that there is nothing left to say about the Holocaust, while opening a fresh avenue for approaching the epochal tragedy.

The unexpected results of the film and discussion will leave participants both laughing and appreciating the importance of humor even in the face of events that make them want to cry. Audience participation is encouraged to uncover the uncomfortable questions about how free speech can really be.

The showing is open to the public, and seats are available on a first-come, first-served basis. Doors will open at 6 p.m., and the film will begin at 7 p.m.

For more information call UM Productions Marketing Coordinator Will Johnson at 541-633-0720 or email [marketing@umproductions.org](mailto:marketing@umproductions.org).

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**Contact:** Will Johnson, marketing coordinator, UM Productions, 541-633-0720, [marketing@umproductions.org](mailto:marketing@umproductions.org).



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# UM Lecture Series to Open with Nobel Prize Winner in Economics

August 30, 2017

**MISSOULA** – A world authority on the effects of economic inequality on health will usher in the 2017-18 President's Lecture Series at the University of Montana.

Princeton University Professor Emeritus Angus Deaton, winner of the 2015 Nobel Prize in economics, will present "Mortality and Morbidity in the United States" at 8 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 7, in the Dennison Theatre.

Deaton is the Dwight D. Eisenhower Professor of Economics and International Affairs Emeritus at Princeton University's Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs and the Economics Department. His wife, Anne Case, the Alexander Stewart 1886 Professor of Economics and Public Affairs at the same school, will participate in the Q&A following the lecture. She is an authority on development and



health economics, and the two have published several papers together.

Deaton also will lead the seminar “Global Poverty and Why It Is So Hard to Erase” from 3 to 4:30 p.m. the same day in Gallagher Business Building Room 123. The lecture and seminar both are free and open to the public.

After earning a doctorate in economics from Cambridge University in 1974, Deaton taught there for several years before becoming a professor of econometrics at the University of Bristol. In 1983, he took the position at Princeton University that he held until his retirement in 2016.

In 1978, Deaton became the first recipient of the Frisch Medal, an award given by the Econometric Society every two years to an applied paper published in *Econometrica*.

His 1980 paper in the *American Economic Review* on how demand for various consumption goods depends on prices and income has been hailed as one of the 20 most influential articles published in the journal in its first 100 years.

On the occasion of Deaton’s winning the Nobel Prize, the Royal Swedish Academy of Sweden declared that in the process of enhancing our understanding of the connections between poverty and consumption choices, he “has helped transform the fields of microeconomics, macroeconomics and development economics.”

In 2016, he was made a Knight Bachelor for his services to economics and international affairs.

These awards represent only a sampling of the numerous honors Deaton has received over the course of his career. He also has published a vast number of papers in major economics journals, including “The Great Escape: Health, Wealth and the Origins of Inequality” in 2013, “Health Inequality and Economic Development” in 2001, “The Analysis of Household Surveys: A Macroeconometric Approach to Development Policy” in 1997, “Understanding Consumption” in 1992 and “Economics and Consumer Behavior,” which he wrote along with John Muellbauer in 1980.

His current research focuses on the determining factors of health in rich and poor countries, as well as on the measurement of poverty and inequality in the United States, India and around the world.

The President’s Lecture Series at UM consists of seven talks throughout the academic year on vital topics by distinguished guest speakers. For more information on the series, visit <http://umt.edu/president/events/lectures/> or

call UM history Professor Richard Drake at 406-243-2981.

**Contact:** Richard Drake, UM history professor and lecture series organizer, 406-243-2981,  
[richard.drake@umontana.edu](mailto:richard.drake@umontana.edu).



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## UM News

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# Campus Recreation Offers New Hip Hop Dance Class

August 29, 2017

**MISSOULA** – Campus Recreation at the University of Montana will offer a new hip hop dance class this fall semester called DanceFX.

Taught by instructor Quentin Robinson, DanceFX is a progressive class in which students build on what they have learned each week.

“DanceFX UM is great for beginner- to immediate-level dancers looking for fun, upbeat classes,” Robinson said. “It is a great way to get a good workout and gain confidence, with opportunities to be featured in upcoming performances.”

The class will be held on Tuesdays from 6:30 to 8 p.m., Sept. 12 through Dec. 12. It costs \$45 for the semester and is open to Fitness and Recreation Center members or those who purchase guest passes. Robinson will lead a free demo class from 6:30 to 8 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 5, during Campus Recreation’s Free Fitness Week.

Robinson has been dancing for 19 years and is known as SpecialFX. He has performed and taught internationally

and his dancing has been featured on many platforms, including TEDx, VidCon, BET and more. Robinson also is a Marine Corps combat veteran who served in Afghanistan and Iraq. He is currently working on an international documentary about how dance can bridge cultural gaps.

Learn more about DanceFX and Campus Recreation's other fitness classes at <https://www.umt.edu/crec/Fitness/default.php>.

###

**Contact:** Andi Armstrong, assistant director of operations and marketing, UM Campus Recreation, 406-243-2806, [andrea.armstrong@umontana.edu](mailto:andrea.armstrong@umontana.edu).



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# 'Raised in the Saddle' Takes Audiences Back in Time for Trip Across Montana

August 29, 2017

**MISSOULA** – The Montana Repertory Theatre at the University of Montana will present “Raised in the Saddle,” a play by Missoula writer Jay Kettering, for its Fall Educational Outreach Tour.

Told in under 55 minutes, this comedy takes audiences across the Big Sky state via steam locomotive in 1919, following teenage cowgirl Alice Greenough as she encounters a who’s-who list of famous Montanans.

The Montana Rep will present a public performance of “Raised in the Saddle” at 7:30 p.m. Friday and Saturday, Sept. 8-9, in UM’s Masquer Theatre. Tickets cost \$11 for adults and \$6 for children. They are available from noon to 5 p.m. Tuesday through Friday at the





UMArts Box Office in UM's Performing Arts/Radio Television Center, or by calling 406-243-4581.

As the Montana Rep's 2017 Fall Educational Outreach Tour, "Raised in the Saddle" also will travel to nearly 50 Montana communities to perform for middle school and high school students during September, October and November. View a full schedule of the educational tour at [http://montanarep.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/05/edtour\\_2017\\_itinerary.pdf](http://montanarep.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/05/edtour_2017_itinerary.pdf).

###

**Contact:** Salina Chatlain, Montana Repertory Theatre, 406-243-6809, [salina.chatlain@umontana.edu](mailto:salina.chatlain@umontana.edu).



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# MontanaPBS to Screen New C.M. Russell Documentary

August 29, 2017

**MISSOULA** – MontanaPBS will screen a new documentary about Montana’s cowboy artist Charles M. Russell (1864-1926) in seven locations across Montana in September and October.

“C.M. Russell and the American West” is the first major film exploration of Russell’s life, art, writings and enduring legacy. The film tells Russell’s story through interviews with scholars, biographers and experts, along with archival photographs, film, actor-voiced writings and recollections of Russell by his wife, Nancy, friends and fellow cowboys.

The documentary will reintroduce Russell to a 21st-century audience and affirm his standing as a major American artist.

The film suggests that Montanans’ lasting affection for Russell comes from his ability to show Montanans what they remembered, or wanted to remember, about the land and the history they shared. In the documentary Russell biographer John Taliaferro said Russell was successful, and revered, because he was genuine.

“Charlie Russell lamented the loss of a West that has passed,” Taliaferro said, “but then went on to convince us and

convince himself that that West, that mythic West, had been quite real. And the way he was able to convince us really was because he was so authentic himself.”

The documentary will premiere in **Great Falls** at 6 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 9, in the Civic Center’s Mansfield Theater. A coalition of Great Falls businesses, individuals and the C.M. Russell Museum organized the premiere activities. Details of the activities, including a barbecue and benefit auction, are online at <https://cmrussell.org/raise-the-roof/>.

Following the premiere, free film screenings will be held in the following Montana cities

- **Helena** – 2 p.m., Sunday, Sept. 10, Helena Civic Center.
- **Bozeman** – 6 p.m., Saturday, Sept. 23, Emerson Crawford Theater.
- **Billings** – 6 p.m., Saturday, Sept. 30, Babcock Theatre.
- **Missoula** – 6 p.m. Friday, Oct. 6, Wilma Theatre.
- **Butte** – 2 p.m., Sunday, Oct., 8, Mother Lode Theatre.
- **Kalispell** – 6 p.m., Saturday, Oct. 14, Flathead Valley Community College Arts & Technology Building.

The statewide MontanaPBS broadcast of “C.M. Russell and the American West” will be presented in three parts at 8 p.m. Monday through Wednesday, Nov. 13-15.

Four well-known film and television actors lent their voice talent to the project: Academy Award-winner and University of Montana alumnus J.K. Simmons is the narrator; Montana resident Bill Pullman (“Sinners,” “Independence Day”) voices the writings and reminiscences of Russell; Kathy Baker (“The Right Stuff,” “Picket Fences”) is Nancy Cooper Russell; and popular supporting actor Dylan Baker (“The Good Wife,” “The Americans,” “Spiderman 2” and “Spiderman 3”) is the voice of Russell’s friend and protégé Joe De Yong.

Brian Dippie, a history professor at the University of Victoria in British Columbia and a noted Russell scholar, said Russell had an innate ability to turn his own nostalgia into a national nostalgia.

“It was an idea about loss, nostalgia, sentiment and a glowing vision of what it would have been like to be there when the world was young,” Dippie said. “Russell had the rare ability to project his realization of his youthful dreams, his fantasies, his realities, and make them the world’s.”

Key to Russell’s success was his wife, Nancy, who successfully promoted his art to well-heeled patrons across the country, making him the highest-paid artist in America at the time of his death in 1926. Russell wrote of his wife: “Without her, I would probably have never attempted to soar or reach any height, further than to make a few pictures for my friends and old acquaintances in the West. She is the business end and I am the creative. She lives for tomorrow and I live for yesterday.”

Co-producer and script writer Paul Zalis spent four years assembling a coalition of art and film historians, Russell biographers, curators, art museum personnel, collectors, cowboys and cowgirls, and ardent fans to tell the story.

Co-producer and director Gus Chambers of MontanaPBS searched photograph and film archives, filmed interviews, directed re-creations, captured Montana landscapes evocative of Russell’s art and edited the film.

Several partner institutions and private art collectors provided access to the best, and sometimes obscure, pieces of Russell's art. Two Montana museums, the C.M. Russell Museum in Great Falls and the Montana Historical Society, were central to the film's success. A complete list of partner institutions, scholars and financial donors is available at <http://www.montanapbs.org/CMRussellAmericanWest/>.

The six film screenings are sponsored by Thrivent Financial. For more information call 406-994-3437 or visit <http://www.montanapbs.org/CMRtour/>.

MontanaPBS is a statewide collaborative public television service of UM and Montana State University.

###

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William Marcus, documentary executive producer, 406-544-8618, [william.marcus@umontana.edu](mailto:william.marcus@umontana.edu).



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## UM News

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# Big Sky Brewing Unveils Griz Montana Lager to Give Back to UM

August 24, 2017

**MISSOULA** – To help celebrate the 125th anniversary of its founding next year, the University of Montana has licensed Big Sky Brewing Company, the state’s largest microbrewery, to create a new beer called Griz Montana Lager. The product hit shelves Aug. 22 and will be available through next spring.

Bjorn Nabozney, co-founder of Big Sky Brewing and a 1993 graduate of UM’s School of

Business Administration, described the beer, a Bohemian-style pilsner, as “crisp and refreshing, which works well





with a variety of foods or backyard barbecues.”

A portion of sales of the officially licensed UM product will benefit University student-focused wellness and Associated Students of UM transportation programs, as well as community outreach efforts.

“UM is a major asset to Missoula and the region, and we want to do everything we can to help the University succeed,” Nabozney said. “We thought this partnership was a wonderful way to market a new product and give back to a great institution at the same time.”

He wrote the original business plan for Big Sky Brewing in a UM finance class. Then he, Neal Leathers and Brad Robinson went on to launch Big Sky in 1995. The company now employs 40 workers and sells 43,000 barrels of beer a year in 24 states. Some of the company’s signature brands include Moose Drool, Summer Honey and Big Sky I.P.A.

The new brew features a grizzly bear designed by UM graphic designer Neal Wiegert. The initial run will be available across western Montana and select UM markets within Big Sky Brewing’s national territory. In addition to cans, kegs and wearable merchandise also will be available.

Erika Palmer, UM’s trademarks and licensing director, said the University works with a variety of vendors to creatively market UM-affiliated products. A portion of proceeds are passed on to the University as revenue.

“Big Sky Brewing is a major success story for the University of Montana and our state,” UM Chief Marketing Officer Mario Schulzke said. “Through this collaboration, our alumni here and across the country can celebrate the University’s anniversary and support our students by enjoying a cold can of Griz Montana Lager.”

More information about Big Sky Brewing is online at <http://bigskybrew.com>. More about UM Trademarks and Licensing is available at <http://www.umt.edu/licensing/>.

**A promotional video about the new lager is available here:** [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EhS\\_quyi-VQ](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EhS_quyi-VQ)

**Contact:** Erika Palmer, UM trademarks and licensing director, 406-243-2317, [erika.palmer@mso.umt.edu](mailto:erika.palmer@mso.umt.edu).



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## UM News

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# Program Seeks Community Friends for International Students and Scholars

August 22, 2017

**MISSOULA** – The Missoula International Friendship Program is seeking volunteer families, couples and single people to become Community Friends to international students and scholars who are studying at the University of Montana this fall.

The Community Friends program provides a structured opportunity for international students and scholars to meet local residents and share leisure and family activities once a month for the first two semesters of their University experience. This is not a home stay and Community Friends have no financial obligations for the students or scholars. Many international students want to get to know Americans on a more personal level and are eager to share their culture. MIFP provides support and activities for Community Friends and their students/scholars.

Applications and more information are available at <http://www.mifp.org>. Completed applications must be received by Monday, Aug. 28, to be available for matching this fall. For more information email [iss@umontana.edu](mailto:iss@umontana.edu).

###

**Contact:** UM Global Engagement Office, 406-243-5580, [iss@umontana.edu](mailto:iss@umontana.edu).



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# UM Freshmen Launch Campus Life in the Wilderness

August 23, 2017

**MISSOULA** – When students arrive at the University of Montana for the Freshman Wilderness Experience, they are greeted by a leader yelling, “Get ready for an adventure you will remember the rest of your lives!”

This year marks the fourth – and largest – year for the FWE program. More than 160 freshmen and student mentors will embark on a wilderness adventure to kick off their undergraduate experience at UM.

The students convened with a check-in and orientation at Schreiber Gym. They then met one another and broke into small groups for



their backcountry experience. They talked with their student mentors about food, gear and route logistics. Then it was packing and orienting themselves with the UM campus.

Students leave for the backcountry Wednesday, Aug. 23, and will return at 4 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 26.

Students participating in the experience, sponsored by UM's Wilderness Institute and Campus Recreation's Outdoor Program, spend four days and three nights exploring various wilderness areas around the state. Thirteen groups of 10 freshmen, each led by two trained student leaders, will backpack and canoe while performing group and community-oriented tasks, as well as completing service projects.

"Being able to arrive on campus one day not knowing anyone, and then return four days later having bonded with strangers in a wilderness setting was an amazing way to integrate into the school community," said Zoe Leake, a former FWE participant, who returned to the program as a student leader. "It gave me confidence to recognize faces during orientation, and the trip itself instills a confidence as well, because you're completing physically strenuous tasks that challenge your body and your mind."

One of the highlights of the FWE is the growing involvement of student alumni in the program. Each year former FWE students return as organizing staff members and guides for the trips. The goal of Campus Recreation and the Wilderness Institute is to make this a program run by students, for students. In this way the FWE program supports the University's continuing efforts to increase retention by fostering peer networks and establishing a sense of engagement with the UM campus, Missoula and the surrounding wilderness areas.

FWE is open to all incoming freshmen at UM, regardless if they have been on a multiday wilderness trip or have ever been camping before. For more information, visit <http://www.umt.edu/freshman-wilderness-experience/> or email [elizabeth.fricke@mso.umt.edu](mailto:elizabeth.fricke@mso.umt.edu), [stephen.thompson@mso.umt.edu](mailto:stephen.thompson@mso.umt.edu) or [natalie.dawson@umontana.edu](mailto:natalie.dawson@umontana.edu).

###

**Contact:** Elizabeth Fricke, Campus Recreation Outdoor Programs senior assistant director, 406-243-5172, [elizabeth.fricke@mso.umt.edu](mailto:elizabeth.fricke@mso.umt.edu); Steve Thompson, Campus Recreation director, 406-243-5269, [stephen.thompson@mso.umt.edu](mailto:stephen.thompson@mso.umt.edu); Natalie Dawson, Wilderness Institute director, 406-552-5550, [natalie.dawson@umontana.edu](mailto:natalie.dawson@umontana.edu).

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## UM News

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# Alumnus Propels Liberal Arts Building Renovation with New Gift

August 23, 2017

**MISSOULA** – University of Montana alumnus Dennis Eck and his wife, Gretchen, have committed another \$2.2 million to fund renovations to the University’s Liberal Arts Building.

The couple already has made several generous gifts over the past three years, bringing their total contribution to the project to \$8.3 million. In recognition of their generosity, the University has proposed naming the southern wing of the building the Dennis and Gretchen Eck Hall, pending approval by the Montana University System Board of





## Regents.

“More students study in the Liberal Arts Building than in any other building on campus,” said UM President Sheila Stearns. “Thanks to the Ecks’ extraordinary generosity, thousands of students will be able to learn in a modern, technologically enhanced setting.”

The Liberal Arts Building was constructed in 1953. When visiting campus several years ago, Dennis Eck was surprised to see that not much had changed in the facility since he was a student in the mid-1960s. Determined to make a difference, he began funding upgrades. A comprehensive master plan was developed. Classrooms were overhauled and outfitted with modular furniture and advanced technology like interactive whiteboards. Exterior windows were expanded to let in more natural light.



Seeing the impact of their generosity on UM’s students and faculty, the Ecks committed additional funds to renovate the basement-level auditorium, one of the largest classrooms on campus, and to add a building entrance directly off of the Oval to enhance functionality. Construction on these areas began in spring 2017 and will be completed this fall.

Their newest gift will support necessary infrastructure upgrades – namely to the building’s electrical system – as well as renovations to restrooms and 11 classrooms. These improvements will make it possible for the University to install a new fire sprinkler system and to replace the Academic Hall roof.

“This modernization of the Liberal Arts Building, without tearing the building down, serves as a proof of concept for upgrading the University’s facilities without changing the characteristic beauty of campus,” said Dennis Eck. “Gretchen and I are proud to have our name associated with a project that will impact students every day and hope to inspire other donors and the state to support higher education.”

Today, the majority of UM’s general education courses – the foundation of any UM degree – are taught in the Liberal Arts Building. Students and faculty alike are enthusiastic about their enhanced learning environment.

“It is truly crucial to the student experience to have a learning environment that is conducive to productivity and nurtures creativity,” said Braden Fitzgerald, president of the Associated Students of UM. “These upgraded facilities provide just that opportunity.”

The proposed Dennis and Gretchen Eck Hall will encompass the Oval-facing section of the building, the spine of the “E.” This section contains mostly classrooms, with some student services.

Per Board of Regents policy 1004.1, naming a campus facility or academic program requires regent approval. The Board of Regents will review and vote on the naming proposal during their Sept. 13-14 meeting at Montana Tech in Butte.

The public and campus community are invited to comment on the naming proposal, either at a public hearing at 2 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 31, in University Center Rooms 332-333 or by emailing [prestalk@umontana.edu](mailto:prestalk@umontana.edu). Individuals also may comment by calling the Office of the Commissioner of Higher Education at 406-444-6570. More information about the public hearing can be found at <http://www.umt.edu/events>, <http://mus.edu/che/default.asp> or by calling the UM Office of the President at 406-243-2311.

Dennis Eck has held executive leadership positions with The Vons Companies, Cole Myer and Ulta Salon Cosmetics & Fragrance. Today, he sits on the board of Ulta Beauty and is the principal of DKE Retail Studies. Originally from Wolf Point, he is a 1968 graduate of the University's history and political science departments. Gretchen Eck hails from Butte and also attended UM. After living around the globe, the couple now makes their home in Las Vegas and Southern California.

###

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## UM News

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# UM Names Interim VP for Administration and Finance

August 23, 2017

**MISSOULA** – The University of Montana has turned to a familiar face, Rosi Keller, to serve as interim vice president for administration and finance. Keller will begin her duties Thursday, Aug. 31.

A UM alumna, Keller worked 32 years at the University before retiring in 2015. She spent more than half her career as associate vice president for administration and finance. Before that, she directed UM Business Services for nine years. She also has experience working with UM's master plan, Internal Audit and Human Resource Services.

Keller will replace Mike Reid, who served in the administration and finance vice president role since 2013. Reid has accepted a similar position at Sierra Nevada College.

UM President Sheila Stearns said Keller has helped with UM special projects since retiring and has collaborated with Reid in an ongoing fashion.

“Because we are in the midst of the presidential search, it is important to reserve the opportunity to fill this position on a permanent basis for the next president,” Stearns said. “We applied similar thinking in asking interim Provost

Beverly Edmond to extend her service to UM. As with Provost Edmond, we are fortunate to have a highly skilled executive to serve temporarily and continue to move the institution forward.”

President Stearns and Provost Edmond have elected to not pursue the permanent positions, and Keller will do likewise.

“I’m grateful for Rosi’s willingness to serve UM during this time of transition,” Stearns said.

UM’s vice president for administration and finance provides leadership for Business Services, Facilities Services, Human Resource Services, UM Police, the Adams Center, Institutional Research, and Fiscal Affairs and Budget.

###

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# UM to Host Student Employment Fair Sept. 7

August 21, 2017

**MISSOULA** – The Office of Career Services at the University of Montana will host the Student Employment Fair from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 7, in the University Center Ballroom.

The fair is open to all organizations or departments on and off campus that need college students for part-time, internship or volunteer positions. Employers can register online at

<http://www.umt.edu/career/CareerFairs/SJF/Employer%20Information/default.php>

Registered employers will receive a career fair booth, lunch and free parking. Career Services will have students on hand to help employers with their fair materials and assist with setup. Last year 70 employers and over 400 students attended the fair.

For more information, call Alexandria Harris, student employment coordinator, at 406-243-2239 or email [studentjobs@umontana.edu](mailto:studentjobs@umontana.edu).

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**Contact:** Alexandria Harris, student employment coordinator, UM Office of Career Services, 406-243-2239, [studentjobs@umontana.edu](mailto:studentjobs@umontana.edu).



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# UM Program Receives Donation for Women's Entrepreneurship

August 18, 2017

**MISSOULA** – The Pursue Your Passion program at the University of Montana has expanded with facilitators and fellowships, thanks to a generous \$5,000 donation from PDT Inc. (Paradise Dental Technologies) of Missoula and additional funds from individual donors.

Part of the UM-based Blackstone LaunchPad, Pursue Your Passion is a student program for women and men designed to increase women's participation in start-up competitions and entrepreneurship. Through PDT's donation, this year's program will expand from one to two monthly meetings and will be led by external professionals who can catalyze participants' growth throughout the school year and beyond.

"We are incredibly excited about the community support for this program," said Morgan Slemberger, marketing and operations assistant for BLP-UM. "Linda Miller at Paradise Dental Technologies is an incredible example of a female CEO giving back to help other women get their start. In addition to her support, our first call for individual donations for fellowships resulted in pledges within minutes from both men and women. We are thrilled to be able to expand this year's program with so many amazing Montanans behind it."

As an additional program enhancement, BLP-UM is raising money for fellowships for two or possibly more participants at the end of their program year. The fellowships will include a stipend, space and additional consultative support for those students to continue work on their passion or business idea throughout the next school year.

Participating students also can now earn credit toward their UM degree, depending on their chosen course of study and departmental approval.

Pursue Your Passion runs for two semesters and consists of monthly accountability meetings, guest speakers, the John Ruffatto Business Startup Challenge, carefully curated mentor pairings, networking events and more. Previous participants have [started businesses](#), achieved goals toward building a passionate life or received a job/internship out of a mentor connection.

Applications are now open for UM students online at <http://www.umt.edu/passion/> until Sept. 10.

BLP-UM is a campus program designed to introduce entrepreneurship as a viable career path and develop entrepreneurial skills and mindsets through individualized coaching, ideation and venture creation support. Learn more at <https://www.umt.edu/launchpad/>.

For more information on the Pursue Your Passion program, call Slemberger at 406-243-5723 or email [morgan.slemberger@mso.umt.edu](mailto:morgan.slemberger@mso.umt.edu).

###

**Contact:** Morgan Slemberger, innovation and entrepreneurship marketing and operations manager, Blackstone LaunchPad at UM, 406-243-5723, [morgan.slemberger@mso.umt.edu](mailto:morgan.slemberger@mso.umt.edu).



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# UM Bear Hugs Program Replaces Outside Ingredients with Local Food

August 17, 2017

**MISSOULA** – As part of the University of Montana commitment to supporting local food and business services, UM Dining’s Bear Hugs program is finding ways to incorporate more local products into its care packages.

Started nearly 14 years ago, the Bear Hugs Program brings joy to students, parents and the UM community by letting customers send a student, co-worker or professor a care package. Each care package is carefully designed for an occasion, ranging from birthdays and holidays to a stressful finals week.

Yellowstone Snack Mix and Kracklin’ Kamut are examples of local products now being included.

“We really looked at everything we’re currently offering and replacing everything we can with a local product,” said Victoria Bigelow, project coordinator of Bear Hugs at UM Dining. “What we can’t get local we’re looking to do organic or fair-trade.”

As part of its menu change, the Bear Hugs Program will feature two new hugs: the “Huckleberry Hug,” which includes fudge and chocolate grizzly bears with huckleberries harvested in **Kalispell**, and the “Last Best Hug,”



which includes a variety of snacks procured from Missoula, **Bozeman** and the on-campus bakery.

“All of our snacks are Montana-made and delicious,” said Bigelow, citing a list of locally bought ingredients that included tortilla chips and salsa from Casa Pablos, Kettle Corn from Korn Utopia, GEOs Coffee from Treeline Coffee, chewy granola from Chuck and James, and chocolate from Posh Chocolat, among many more.

The Bear Hugs Program has long been a staple of UM Dining’s commitment to building stronger relationships with students and families and to build campus identification and the “home-away-from-home” feeling for its students. Two of the most popular Bear Hugs, the Hug from Home and the Birthday Bash, often are gifted by families whose sons and daughters are spending their first semester away from home. Other popular hugs include the UM Farm to College Rise and Shine Hug, Study Hug, Movie Night Hug, Healthy Hug, Heartwarming Hug and Get Well Hug.

“It absolutely makes my job worth it to be on the phone with parents who are just overjoyed to send a surprise birthday cake to their student,” Bigelow said. “I also am really thankful for the opportunity to work and partner with local businesses in Montana to include their locally crafted products in Bear Hugs packages.”

Bigelow said she wants to provide sustainable offerings from local shops to bring the highest quality snacks and treats to campus.

For more information, call Victoria Bigelow at 406-243-5650 or email [victoria.bigelow@mso.umt.edu](mailto:victoria.bigelow@mso.umt.edu). To place orders, visit the Bear Hug section of the UM Dining website at <https://www.umbearhugs.com/>.

**Contact:** Victoria Bigelow, UM Dining Bear Hugs project coordinator, 406-243-5650, [victoria.bigelow@mso.umt.edu](mailto:victoria.bigelow@mso.umt.edu).



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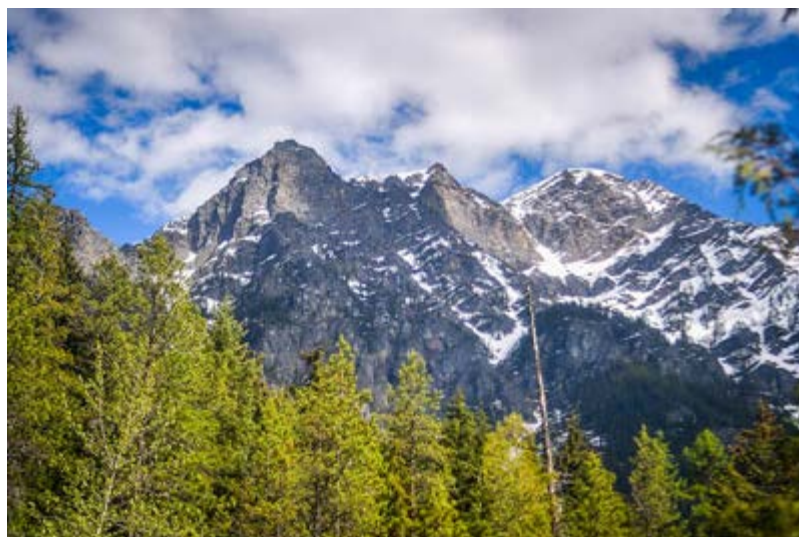
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# UM Joins Northwest Climate Science Center University Consortium

August 16, 2017

**MISSOULA** – The University of Montana has passed a rigorous scientific review to become an official university partner of the U.S. Department of the Interior’s Northwest Climate Science Center, hosted by the University of Washington.

The Northwest Climate Science Center held an open competition for new partners and selected UM, along with Boise State University, Washington State University and Western Washington University. The partners collaborate with one another, as well as federal, state and tribal entities responsible for managing and



protecting the land, water and natural resources of the Northwest, to develop actionable climate science.

“We’re very pleased to be part of this center,” said Tom DeLuca, dean of the W.A. Franke College of Forestry and Conservation and UM’s member of the consortium. “Our college leverages global and regional climate information for specific sectors – from local and regional partnerships with food producers to global modeling efforts. This is a great opportunity for us to help stakeholders adapt climate products to their needs through the center.”

The Northwest CSC is one of eight regional climate science centers dedicated to delivering science that helps wildlife, water, land and people adapt to a changing climate. The national network also includes two new five-year host agreements to the Southeast Climate Science Center, based in North Carolina, and the Alaska Climate Science Center, based in Anchorage.

The CSCs are deeply rooted in federal-university partnerships. Each CSC is hosted by a public university, composed of a multi-institution consortium and managed by the U.S. Geological Survey’s National Climate Change and Wildlife Science Center. These partnerships ensure access to a broad range of scientific expertise, produce high-quality science and share funds, resources and facilities. University involvement also introduces students to the idea of “co-producing” science, in which scientists and decisionmakers work closely together to ensure scientific research and products are usable and directly address real-world problems.

“We are excited to bring to the Northwest CSC the Climate Impacts Group’s model for co-producing decision-relevant science that can help sustain our region’s prized natural and cultural resources in an uncertain future,” said Amy Snover, director of the group from the University of Washington. “Our new Northwest CSC consortium will focus on helping our region better understand the changes that lie ahead and develop sound resource management strategies in light of those changes.”

Over the past seven years, the previous university consortium established a robust partner network across the region and helped to define and refine the scope and goals of the Northwest CSC.

“We look forward to collaborating across the region to build on the CSC’s strong foundation,” Snover said.

While this announcement marks the beginning of a transition period for the center, its core mission – to provide services to regional resource managers in the form of climate adaptation science, syntheses, tools development, outreach efforts and training – remains the same. A stakeholder advisory committee will continue to provide crucial input and guidance.

The center’s annual Climate Boot Camp, which provides an opportunity for students and early career professionals to improve their climate science knowledge and skills, also will remain a priority.

More information about the Northwest CSC is online at <https://www.nwclimatescience.org/>.

###

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# UM Professor Publishes Compilation in Honor of Pioneering Mathematician

August 17, 2017

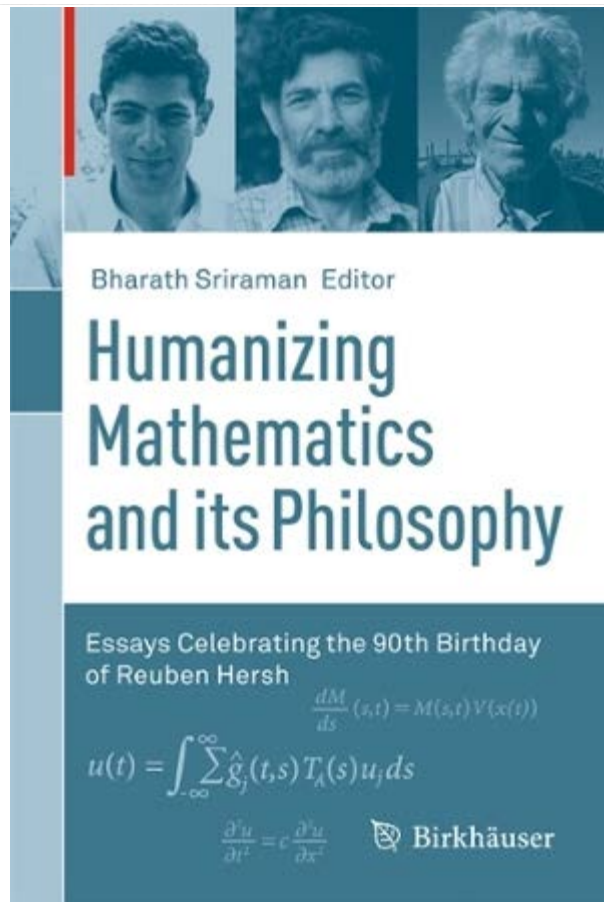
**MISSOULA** – A University of Montana professor has published a new compilation of essays celebrating Reuben Hersh, the pioneering mathematician best known for advocating the humanist philosophy of mathematics.

Bharath Sriraman, professor of mathematical sciences at UM, curated and edited “Humanizing Mathematics and its Philosophy: Essays Celebrating the 90th Birthday of Reuben Hersh.” The Festschrift (a collection of writings published in honor of a scholar and presented during their lifetime) contains colorful and eclectic essays from well-known mathematicians, logicians and linguists that offer a glimpse into Hersh’s mind and his lasting influence on the mathematical community. The book’s first chapter features an interview Sriraman conducted with Hersh about his childhood, education and the evolution of his mathematical philosophy.

“Reuben is a very unusual, and fascinating, human being,” Sriraman said. “He has influenced two generations of mathematicians – many applied mathematicians and many philosophers – to develop a new philosophy of mathematics called the humanistic philosophy. I wanted to capture this through the eyes of those keenly affected by him and his work.”

The book, published by Springer Publishing imprint Birkhauser Basel, will be available for purchase on Friday, Sept. 1, at <http://www.springer.com/us/book/9783319612300>. For more information, call Sriraman at 406-243-6714 or email [bharath.sriraman@umontana.edu](mailto:bharath.sriraman@umontana.edu).

**Contact:** Bharath Sriraman, UM mathematical sciences professor, 406-243-6714, [bharath.sriraman@umontana.edu](mailto:bharath.sriraman@umontana.edu).



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# Student Survey Places UM Among Princeton Review's 'Best' Colleges

August 16, 2017

**MISSOULA** – The University of Montana recently was named to the Princeton Review's 2018 list of top four-year colleges and universities in North America.

"The Best 382 Colleges: 2018 Edition" was released in August. The rankings in the 2018 edition are based on surveys of 137,000 students at the 382 colleges that appear in the book. The survey asks students 80 questions about their school's academics, administration, life at their college, their fellow students and themselves.

UM also was listed among Princeton Review's "Best Western" colleges and "Green Colleges."

"Once the surveys have been completed and the responses stored in our database, we tally the results," Princeton Review said of its processes to rank the schools. "The methodology and the math we use is quite simple. Each college is given a score (similar to a GPA) for its students' answers to each multiple-choice question. These scores enable us to compare student opinion from college to college and to tally the ranking lists."

"While the university maintains a fantastic liberal arts program, students especially laud the wildlife biology, forestry,

physical therapy and forensic anthropology departments," the publication said of UM. "Moreover, undergrads at Montana are highly complimentary of their teachers who are generally 'helpful, engaging and accessible.' One thrilled student claims that the professors are 'amazing!'"

The review of UM also expands on student life at UM, directly quoting students' experiences.

"Fortunately, for the most part, everyone is 'accepting, friendly and very involved in college and community life,'" one student wrote in the Princeton Review survey.

Annually published since 1992, the annual Princeton Review ranking includes detailed profiles of each school and ratings in a variety of areas, such as academics, campus life and tuition and aid.

For Princeton Review's full profile of UM, including a financial aid ranking and tuition breakdown, visit <https://www.princetonreview.com/schools/1023574/college/university-montana>.

###

**Contact:** Tom Crady, UM vice president for enrollment management and student affairs, 406-243-5225, [thomas.cradyc@umontana.edu](mailto:thomas.cradyc@umontana.edu).



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## UM News

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# Donors Support UM in Record-Breaking Numbers

August 16, 2017

**MISSOULA** – Donors stepped up to support the University of Montana in a big way this year, topping \$50 million for the fourth year in a row. At the close of fiscal year 2017, private support totaled \$84.5 million. The University’s [largest-ever gift](#), from Bill and Carolyn Franke and their family, helped propel this record-breaking fundraising year.

“We are grateful for alumni and friends who recognize and champion the University’s impact on students, Montana and the world,” said Mary Olson, chair of the UM Foundation board of trustees.

Gifts came from individuals, foundations and corporations. Donors designated gifts to a variety of areas, including scholarships, faculty, programs, research and campus facilities.

Support for students has ensured more privately funded scholarships than ever before. Last fall, the foundation received a \$4 million gift from [The Haynes Foundation](#) to continue the legacy of Jack and Isabel Haynes and provide scholarships to deserving Montana students. This spring, The ALSAM Foundation gave \$1.25 million to support educational opportunities for Native American pharmacy students. These are just two of the hundreds of gifts, large and small, that were directed toward scholarships and fellowships. In academic year 2017-18, the

Foundation is expected to distribute around 2,700 scholarships.

This year, private support for faculty was especially meaningful. Donors doubled the number of named chairs on campus – establishing one each in [forest conservation](#), [watershed hydrology](#), and [history](#), and [two in education](#) – for a total of five new chairs. Privately funded, named chairs are one of the University's most prestigious honors. Donor support allows the University to recruit and retain nationally acclaimed faculty by using the gift to augment the faculty member's salary. The gift may also provide funds for professional development and research activities.

[A gift from UM alumni Ian and Nancy Davidson](#) created a new way to engage honors students: the Teaching, Research and Mentoring Fellows Program. The program brings postdoctoral fellows (recent graduates of Ph.D. programs) to campus for two years to teach honors seminars and involve students in hands-on research. The first [two fellows](#) arrive on campus this fall.

Other faculty positions supported by donors this year include the ATG Faculty Fellowship in Management Information Systems, the Knick Family Faculty Fellowship, the T. Anthony Pollner Distinguished Professorship in Journalism and the Dr. David M. Emmons Visiting Scholar in Irish Studies. Faculty fellowships augment existing faculty lines, while the Pollner Professor and Emmons Scholar funds bring experts to campus for limited-term appointments.

Gifts for key campus facilities also made an impact, including a \$5 million gift from the Alice Lee Lund Charitable Trust to build a state-of-the-art public auditorium at the Phyllis J. Washington College of Education and Human Sciences, \$2.4 million from Dennis and Gretchen Eck for Liberal Arts Building renovations, and continued support from donors for the Missoula College building, the Larry and Dee Dee Gianchetta Student Success Center at the business school, and the Washington-Grizzly Champions Center.

The UM Foundation is a separate, nonprofit organization that raises and manages funds to support the University's faculty, students, programs and facilities. The organization follows standards established by the Council for Advancement and Support of Education when reporting its fundraising figures. The independently audited financial statements for fiscal year 2017, which ran from July 1, 2016, to June 30, 2017, will be available at [SupportUM.org](#) later this fall.

###

**Contact:** Kate Stober, UM Foundation, 406-243-2627, [kate.stober@mso.umt.edu](mailto:kate.stober@mso.umt.edu); Rachel Brumfield, UM Foundation, 406-243-5691, [rachel.brumfield@mso.umt.edu](mailto:rachel.brumfield@mso.umt.edu).

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## UM News

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# UM to Host Surplus Sale, Auction

August 15, 2017

**MISSOULA** – The University of Montana will host a large surplus sale and sealed-bid auction Friday and Saturday, Aug. 18-19.

The event will run from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Friday and from 8 a.m. to noon Saturday in the Physical Plant Compound located across the street from Washington-Grizzly Stadium.

Available items include small watercraft, table saws, power equipment, commercial lawnmowers, more than 4,000 vinyl records, a piano, science equipment, commercial kitchen equipment, oak and metal desks, electronics, shelves and much more.

Attendees are asked to park outside the fenced compound. Cash and credit cards will be accepted.

Images for many sale items are online at <http://bit.ly/2fJIEdi>.

###

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# Deep Roots: Native Plant Garden Thrives 50 Years at UM

August 15, 2017





**MISSOULA** – At a university deeply rooted in tradition, one garden has grabbed the attention of students, educators and visitors for 50 years: the Montana Native Botanic Garden at the University of Montana.

“We’re one of the first native gardens in the West and maybe the first,” said Kelly Chadwick, University Center gardens manager and native plant garden volunteer. “It was ahead of its time.”

During a decade when expansive lawns of Kentucky bluegrass dominated landscaping, UM botanist and horticulturist Klaus Lackschewitz and botany chair Sherman Preece envisioned a different environment for their students: a garden with only native species to serve as a hands-on teaching tool.

In 1967, the two started planting the gardens that surround UM’s Natural Sciences annex and greenhouse with the vision of representing all of Montana and its various ecosystems. Today, several dedicated volunteer gardeners maintain that original vision.

“If you look at Montana, I mean, it’s diverse in its landscape,” volunteer coordinator Alice Okon said. “You’ve got plains, you’ve got mountains, you have prairies. You’ve got wetlands. All of that is represented with our interpretation of it at this garden.”

After Lackschewitz retired from UM in 1976, non-native species crept into the flowerbeds and began to take over. It wasn’t until 1989 that members of the Clark Fork Chapter of the Montana Native Plant Society decided to rescue the garden.

Two women who had spent time with Lackschewitz gathering native species from the alpine areas across Montana – Jean Parker and Jean Pfeiffer – led the effort. They spent their Wednesdays at the garden, a day that continues to be a preferred gardening day among the loyal volunteers.

Lackschewitz’ neighbor, Chinwon Reinhardt, who also has fond memories of learning about plants from the botanist, has spent decades at the garden.



“I was recruited,” Reinhardt said, “and I was a willing recruit. I wasn’t a good recruit,” she added with a laugh.

“They all being friends and respecting him so much, cared about the garden and had that same interest and love and I think that’s created the heart of this garden,” Chadwick said.

Today, more than 23 gardeners ensure over 300 species of native flora blossom and thrive in the areas designated as their habitat.

“Even before I was involved, I always admired these gardens and was interested in them,” Chadwick said, “and then I met the people. The volunteers are such intelligent, reliable, caring and interesting people. So the people have locked me in.”

In addition to Chadwick, Okon and Reinhardt, the list of longest serving volunteers includes Pfeiffer; Peter Stickney, a retired U.S. Forest Service postfire forest succession research ecologist; Lois Puckett, a volunteer since 1991; and Sheila Morrison, author of “The Magic of Montana Native Plants: A Gardeners Guide to Growing over 150 Species from Seed.”

“It’s really fun,” Morrison said. “The best people I know are my plant people.”



While volunteers have joined in the past decade, Chadwick said she hopes the next half-century brings new energy to the garden.

“Our group is aging,” Chadwick said. “I was the kid, and I’m not the kid anymore. We would love to bring in younger people who could develop a passion by learning from these amazing mentors who have knowledge that no one has.”

The Native Plant Society is exploring new projects and ways to increase the educational opportunities that the garden provides.

For more information call Chadwick at 406-243-5082 or email [kchadwick@mso.umt.edu](mailto:kchadwick@mso.umt.edu).

###

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# UM: Smooth Sailing With Latest Accreditation Review

August 14, 2017

**MISSOULA** – The University of Montana has been accredited by the Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities since 1932. The commission recently gave UM high marks during the culmination of its latest seven-year review by renewing the University’s accreditation with no recommendations.

“It’s unusual to have accreditation reaffirmed with no recommendations,” said Nathan Lindsay, the UM associate provost for dynamic learning who spearheaded accreditation efforts.



“The many people who worked on this report have been delighted with the positive feedback we received.”

Not only did UM get a positive review, it also participated in a unique

demonstration project focused on connecting student learning to mission fulfillment. Lindsay said the project likely will influence the template for such reviews going forward among the more than 160 NWCCU member institutions in the Northwest region.

UM was one of four institutions to complete the demonstration project. The others were the University of Oregon, the University of Puget Sound and Columbia Basin College. Lindsay led the overall demonstration project this past year and consulted with the other three institutions.

“It takes a collective effort to earn accreditation at a major university,” UM President Sheila Stearns said. “There were multiple authors here at UM, with participation from many offices, faculty members and staff members. It takes a village to analyze and respond to all the data that were presented. We couldn’t be more proud of the collective team effort it took to achieve this positive result.”

NWCCU originally reviewed institutions every 10 years, but this period was shortened to seven years with three reporting periods in recent times. Accreditation requires reports at the end of years one, three and seven. UM’s year-one report next year will focus on its new strategic vision.

In a July 2017 letter, the commission lauded Lindsay and former UM President Royce Engstrom for ensuring that UM “engaged in an intensive, deliberative evaluation process aimed at identifying meaningful and valuable means of focusing on the assessment of student learning outcomes in a complex, multifaceted research university.”

NWCCU reviewers commended UM for integrating student-learning outcomes into mission fulfillment and boosting its planning and assessment processes. The commission also hailed efforts to develop and culture of learning and assessment, building upon the efforts of faculty members who were early adopters of new processes.

“Further, the commission applauds the University for developing a culture of transparency and effective communication as individuals shared assessment results and information across campus,” the letter from NWCCU commission President Sandra Elman said.



To view the demonstration project's seven-year report, visit <http://bit.ly/2fttzLN>. To see the NWCCU letter reaffirming accreditation, visit <http://bit.ly/2vnnKDs>. For more about UM accreditation in general, visit <http://bit.ly/2uGT5Pu>.

###

**Contact:** Nathan Lindsay, UM associate provost for dynamic learning, 406-243-4689, [nathan.lindsay@mso.umt.edu](mailto:nathan.lindsay@mso.umt.edu).



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# UM to Give Students 'Griz Welcome' with Events Aug. 25-Sept. 9

August 14, 2017

**MISSOULA** – The University of Montana and the Missoula community will welcome students arriving for fall semester with a full slate of “Griz Welcome” events from Friday, Aug. 25 to Saturday, Sept. 9.

“We are fired up for the start the academic year,” said UM President Sheila Stearns. “Our new students bring us their hopes and quite literally, their futures. Continuing students bring back their energy and ideas for changing the world. We are ready for them!”

Stearns invites students and their parents to join her for a social event in the stadium from 7 to 8:30 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 27, to kick off the first week of school. UM’s campfire convocation tradition officially begins the academic year on Wednesday, Aug. 30. Additionally, students can watch movies on the Oval and participate in outdoor recreation opportunities as they familiarize themselves with campus and all of its offerings. A full schedule follows.

### Friday, Aug. 25

- **Game Room Night** – 6-10 p.m., University Center Game Room. A chance to enjoy some friendly competition



over billiards, ping-pong, gaming consoles and board games.

### **Saturday, Aug. 26**

- **Speed Friending** – 7-9 p.m., UC Ballroom. Participants will get two minutes to talk to each person with a few discussion points to lead the way.

### **Sunday, Aug. 27**

- **Rafting Trip** – 8 a.m.-4 p.m., Alibon Gorge. A thrilling raft trip on class III whitewater west of Missoula. Students may register by calling UM Campus Recreation at 406-243-5171.
- **President's Stadium Social** – 7-8:30 p.m., Adams Center Hall of Champions and Washington-Grizzly Stadium. Students will tour the Hall of Champions and use the players' tunnel to access the stadium field and meet President Sheila Stearns. This event features cold treats, Monte the mascot, the UM Marching Band, music and more.

### **Monday, Aug. 28**

- **Bear Fair** –7-9 p.m., University Center. Students can cruise the UC to get connected with programs, clubs and people.

### **Tuesday, Aug. 29**

- **Silent Disco** – 8 p.m.-midnight, UM Oval. Dancers wear headphones with colored lights to indicate to other dancers which channel they're tuned into.

### **Wednesday, Aug. 30**

- **Rafting Trip** – 8 a.m.-4 p.m., Alibon Gorge. A thrilling raft trip on class III whitewater west of Missoula. Students may register by calling UM Campus Recreation at 406-243-5171.
- **Environmental Ethics in and Outside the Classroom** – 10:30 a.m.-noon, UM Campus Recreation Center. Participants should wear comfortable shoes and bring water for a thought-provoking learning experience with UM Professor Christopher Preston.
- **Campfire Convocation** – 8-10 p.m., UM Oval. Campus and community members and the UM Marching Band will welcome UM's newest cohort of students to the academic year. Treats are served around campfires, fire season permitting.

### **Thursday, Aug. 31**

- **Classes Begin**
- **University Center Art Gallery Opening Reception** – 4-6 p.m., UC Gallery. Enjoy appetizers during the unveiling of UM student artist Anne Yoncha's exhibit "Tell Me There's a Mathematical Equation for Being Alive."
- **Residence Hall Floor Meetings** – 5-9 p.m., various residence halls. Students living on campus will meet with their Resident Assistant and fellow floor members.
- **Movie on the Oval: "The Incredibles"** – 9-11 p.m., UM Oval. Free popcorn and soda will be served as

students make themselves comfortable on the lawn for a big-screen viewing experience.

### Friday, Sept. 1

- **Grocery Bingo** – 7-9 p.m., University Center Ballroom. This social event centered around bingo comes with the chance to win groceries.

### Saturday, Sept. 2

- **Hike the M with an Adviser** – 10 a.m.-noon, M trailhead. Take a trip to the iconic M on Mount Sentinel with someone who can answer all your college questions.
- **Griz Football Game** – 1 p.m., Washington-Grizzly Stadium. Join Griz Nation as the Griz take on Valparaiso in their first home game of the season. Student tickets and guest passes are available at 7 a.m. each Monday before home games online at <http://www.gogriz.com/studenttickets>.

### Sunday, Sept. 3

- **Free Fitness Week Begins** – Campus Recreation Center. All dues-paid students can access the fitness and recreation center with their Griz Card year-round, but during Free Fitness Week, all classes and activities are free, too.
- **Campfire, Games on the Oval** – 4-7 p.m., UM Oval. A variety of yard games will be available for students, and – fire season permitting – students also can relax by a campfire and make s'mores.

### Monday, Sept. 4

- **Labor Day** – No classes, offices closed.
- **Shakespeare in the Parks: "Macbeth"** – 5:30-8 p.m., UM Oval. Classic theatre performed by professional touring actors.

### Tuesday, Sept. 5

- **Free Freshmen Golf** – All day, University Golf Course. New students can play a round or hit a bucket of golf balls at UM's fantastic course at the base of Mount Sentinel. Beginners welcome.
- **Shakespeare in the Parks: "You Never Can Tell"** – 5:30-8 p.m., UM Oval. Classic theatre performed by professional touring actors.

### Wednesday, Sept. 6

- **Open Play on the Oval** – Noon-3 p.m., UM Oval. Join a fun pick-up game of soccer, football or volleyball.

### Thursday, Sept. 7

- **Student Employment Fair** – 9 a.m.-4 p.m., University Center Ballroom. Employers representing opportunities on- and off-campus will accept resumes and offer job information.
- **Rainbow Welcome** – 4-7 p.m., UM Oval. The UM Allies and LGBTQ community members host an ice cream

social with special guest Missoula Mayor John Engen, campus administrators and more.

- **Movie on the Oval: "Fantastic Beasts and Where to Find Them"** – 9-11 p.m., UM Oval. Free popcorn and soda will be served as students make themselves comfortable on the lawn for a big-screen viewing experience.

### Friday, Sept. 8

- **WelcomeFest** – 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m., UM Oval. A chance for everyone on campus to enjoy music, free food and games while getting to know more about campus organizations and departments.
- **Glow Fest** – 7-10 p.m., Fort Missoula Bella Vista Pavilion. Missoula Parks and Recreation invites students to check out the new regional park at Fort Missoula with food vendors, music, custom-built glowing games and giveaways.

### Saturday, Sept. 9

- **Service Saturday** – 9 a.m.-noon, UM Dining Lommasson Garden. Students can connect with nature while meeting new people and improve campus food gardens.
- **Research Adventure with Erick Greene** – Time TBA, Hellgate Osprey nest. Join UM Professor Erick Greene to learn about the local osprey population and the nest with a worldwide audience. Email [michelson@mso.umt.edu](mailto:michelson@mso.umt.edu) for more information.
- **Out of the Darkness Missoula Walk** – Noon-3 p.m., McCormick Park. Join the Missoula community to raise awareness and funds for the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention. To register visit <https://afsp.donordrive.com/event/missoula>.
- **Trivia Night** – 7-9 p.m., University Center Ballroom. Students are invited to showcase their random knowledge bases during this social event with great prizes.

For and up-to-date schedule of events, visit <https://www.umt.edu/residencelife/rh/GrizWelcome/default.php>, or more information call Hailey Michelson, program adviser, UM Student Involvement Network, at 406-243-5776 or email [hailey.michelson@umontana.edu](mailto:hailey.michelson@umontana.edu).

###

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# UM Classes Begin Aug. 31; Firefighters Receive Extension

August 09, 2017

**MISSOULA** – Classes at the University of Montana begin Thursday, Aug. 31. However, UM and the Montana University System will extend important deadlines for students who are fighting wildfires.

The extension gives student firefighters extra time – until Tuesday, Sept. 5 – to meet registration, financial aid, housing and other deadlines. To take advantage of the extended deadlines and reserve space in courses for which they are registered, UM students who are fighting fires must call 406-243-6599 by Wednesday, Aug. 30.

The recorded message at that number instructs students to provide the following information: their name, student identification number, the name of the agency employing them, and whether they are scheduled to move into UM housing.

The extension applies to all students working in the firefighting effort, including those providing support services for fire crews, as well as National Guard members and other military personnel.

For more information call the UM Registrar's Office at 406-243-5600.

###

**Contact:** Joseph Hickman, UM Registrar, 406-243-5600, .



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## UM News

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# UM School Psychology Program Earns Full Accreditation

August 09, 2017

**MISSOULA** – The Specialist in School Psychology program at the University of Montana obtained full approval from the National Association of School Psychologists through 2024 and also earned national recognition from the Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation. The program has had continuous accreditation from NASP since 1994.

Anisa Goforth, director for UM’s school psychology graduate training programs, said UM’s specialist program is the only one in the state that prepares school psychologists.

“We are very proud to have obtained re-approval from NASP,” Goforth said. “There is a significant shortage of school psychologists in Montana, and we have been continuously working to ensure that we prepare school psychologists who are trained in scientifically supported practices in assessment, treatment and consultation for children and families. We are especially proud that for the past several years all of our alumni have obtained school psychologist positions immediately upon graduation, and over 60 percent stay in Montana.”

Approval by NASP’s Program Accreditation Board is based upon meeting rigorous requirements of the Standards of

Graduate Preparation of School Psychologists and preparing competent professionals who serve the mental health and educational interests of all children and youth. It also is part of the larger accreditation body, CAEP, which evaluates educator preparation programs.

School psychologists are experts in mental health, learning and behavior for children. They work closely with families, teachers and other school professionals to create safe, healthy and supportive learning environments that strengthen connections between home, school and the community.

Miki Anderson, a third-year graduate student who will begin her final internship year with the Butte School District, said approval of UM's program is crucial to her future employment.

"Having the SSP program re-accredited means that I can have that much more confidence that I am being trained in school psychology methods and practice domains that the National Association of School Psychologists deems best practice," Anderson said. "It also means that this program and its faculty are dedicated to providing us with the best skills and knowledge that the field has to offer. The fact that the UM School Psychology program went through this re-accreditation process shows its dedication to students, and is something I looked for in the program before accepting the offer to attend."

The School Psychology Program, housed in UM's Department of Psychology, has three full-time faculty: 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 the American Psychological Association since 1965.

To learn more about UM's School Psychology Program, visit <http://hs.umt.edu/psychology/school-psychology/>. To learn more about the NASP approval process, visit <http://www.nasponline.org/standards-and-certification/graduate-program-approval>.

###

**Contact:** Anisa Goforth, director, UM school psychology graduate training programs, 406-243-2917, [anisa.goforth@umontana.edu](mailto:anisa.goforth@umontana.edu).



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# Montana Public Radio Show Debuts New Season, New Host

August 09, 2017

**MISSOULA** – The new host of Montana Public Radio’s literary program can’t get her head out of the books. Luckily for Sarah Aronson, who was named host of “The Write Question” this summer, it’s what she loves to do.

“I’m thrilled to read new works,” Aronson said. “And I love that I get to have thoughtful conversations with the authors.”

The new season of “The Write Question” debuts on Thursday, Aug. 17, featuring author Kevin Canty. The show will air on the Montana Public Radio network Thursday nights at 7 p.m.

A talented writer in her own right, Aronson graduated this spring from the University of Montana with a master’s degree in creative writing. For the show, she has had to dive into radio interviewing, recording techniques and editing audio software.



“Sound waves are such a fun art form to tinker with,” she said.

“The Write Question” is entering its 10th year of production.

Created by Cherie Newman, who recently retired, the program has featured hundreds of authors from around the western states on MTPR, Yellowstone Public Radio, Spokane Public Radio and stations in Colorado and California.

“We are thrilled to continue our longtime commitment to celebrate the written word on the radio,” said Michael Marsolek, MTPR program director. “I am excited to have Sarah and her talent and enthusiasm working as our new literary liaison. It is a wonderful luxury and important to our mission to have an in-depth conversation with authors from the American West each week in prime time.”

Along with Canty, “The Write Question” will feature Idaho-based poet and novelist Alexandra Teague, Wyoming-based artist and memoirist Neltje, as well as Oregon-born poet and literary translator Michael McGriff in the coming weeks.

“I’m excited to feature up-and-coming talent alongside the gold standard – household names the literary west is known for,” Aronson said.

A handful of the new season’s authors also will arrive in late September for the Montana Book Festival, where audiences can hear them read and discuss their work in person.

Montana Public Radio broadcasts across much of western and central Montana at 89.1 and 91.5 in Missoula, 91.9 in Hamilton, 89.5 in Polson, 90.1 in Kalispell, Whitefish and North Valley, 90.5 in Libby, 91.7 in Kalispell, 101.3 in Swan Lake, 91.3 in Butte, 91.7 in Helena, 89.9 in Great Falls and 91.7 in Dillon.

Listen online at <http://www.mtpr.org>.

###

**Contact:** Michael Marsolek, MTPR program director, 406-243-4096, [michael.marsolek@umontana.edu](mailto:michael.marsolek@umontana.edu); Sarah Aronson, "The Write Question" host, 406-243-4931, [thewritequestion@mtpr.org](mailto:thewritequestion@mtpr.org).



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# UM Alumni Earn Fulbright Funding for Teaching Abroad

August 07, 2017

**MISSOULA** – Three University of Montana alumni are finalists for Fulbright U.S. Student Program Awards to fund their teaching abroad.

Julie Ammons, Ian Strahn and Sam Hines are eligible for Fulbright English Teaching Assistant Program grants.

Ammons, from Missoula, received a bachelor's degree in biology in 2010 and a bachelor's in Russian and history in December 2016. She will teach English in Russia.

Strahn, from **Bozeman**, graduated this spring with a double major in German and political science. He will teach in Germany.

Hines, from **Chicago**, earned his bachelor's in English teaching in December 2015. He will teach in India.

Two other UM graduates will travel abroad through different processes.

Eric Bush, from Missoula, graduated this past spring from UM with a double major in German and political science. He will travel to a town in Lower Austria to teach English through a fellowship managed by Fulbright Austria.

Conor Hogan, a 2016 graduate of UM, received a degree in English and Spanish and minors in Latin America studies and international development. Another candidate-at-large, he will work as an English teaching assistant in Mexico, as well as work with a rugby team.

“Being awarded a Fulbright to teach English in another country is a wonderful opportunity for UM graduates to immerse themselves in another culture,” said Liz Ametsbichler, UM student adviser for the Fulbright Program. “It’s exciting for our students, many of them native Montanans, to expand their horizons and exchange ideas and friendships with people across the globe. It’s a life-changing experience.”

To become Fulbright scholars, each of the finalists must officially accept the awards.

The Fulbright Program is the flagship international educational exchange program sponsored by the U.S. government to increase mutual understanding between the people of the United States and the people of other countries.

Recipients of Fulbright grants are selected for academic or professional achievement, as well as demonstrated leadership potential in their fields. The program operates in more than 160 countries worldwide.

The UM campus deadline for 2018-19 proposals for Fulbright Scholarships is Sept. 14. Call Ametsbichler for more information at 406-243-5001 or email [liz.ametsbichler@mso.umt.edu](mailto:liz.ametsbichler@mso.umt.edu).

For more information on Fulbright grants, visit <https://eca.state.gov/fulbright>.

###

**Contact:** Liz Ametsbichler, UM Student Fulbright Program adviser, 406-243-5001, [liz.ametsbichler@mso.umt.edu](mailto:liz.ametsbichler@mso.umt.edu).



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# Bitterroot College UM to Hold 'Great Eclipse Caper' Event Aug. 21

August 04, 2017

**HAMILTON** – As Hamilton experiences 95 percent totality during the Monday, Aug. 21, solar eclipse, the public can view it during the “Great Eclipse Caper” at Bitterroot College of the University of Montana.

The event will take place from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. on the front lawn of Bitterroot College, located at 103 S. Ninth St. in Hamilton, with the eclipse peak occurring at 11:31 a.m.

Thomas Engelmann, who holds a doctorate in physics from Carnegie Mellon University, will serve as the on-site expert to answer questions and provide several brief info sessions during the morning of the event.

During the event, Bitterroot College will have multiple telescopes on the front lawn for observing the eclipse, as well as eclipse glasses and other eclipse-viewing paraphernalia. Information handouts will explain the eclipse and eclipse safety, and eclipse activities for young and old alike will be led by Bitterroot College faculty. Eclipse-themed food, beverages and music will add to the merriment.

The eclipse also will be livestreamed on the Bitterroot College Facebook page from one of the telescopes during the



event at <http://bit.ly/2vpkOsr>.

Bitterroot College UM is one of two official NASA Eclipse Viewing locations in Montana, and the only one sponsored by a unit of the Montana University System.

The event is free and all are welcome, although registration via the Bitterroot College website is encouraged to reserve enough eclipse glasses for everyone.

For more information on the event, call Victoria Clark, Bitterroot College director, at 406-375-0100. To register visit <http://umt.edu/bc>.

###

**Contact:** Victoria Clark, director, Bitterroot College UM, 406-375-0100, [victoria.clark@umontana.edu](mailto:victoria.clark@umontana.edu).



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# UM Researchers to Study Genome Role in Survival of Plants, Animals

August 04, 2017

**MISSOULA** – Understanding how wild animals and plants survive in changing environments is the focus of a new collaboration between researchers at the University of Montana and the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

The network of researchers that are part of UNVEIL – Using Natural Variation to Education, Innovate and Lead – aims to advance understanding of how organisms cope with environmental challenges and how complex traits arise from variation in genomes.

Network members will collaborate on three core research projects that use newly developed genomic technologies to understand the genetic basis of traits that influence the survival of wildlife and plants in changing environments.

“Such general insights have major implications that extend beyond conservation to the fields of agriculture and medicine,” said UM wildlife biology Assistant Professor Zac Cheviron, principal investigator for the project. “We will also bring together an interdisciplinary group of philosophers, geneticists, wildlife biologists and natural resource managers to develop guidelines for when and how genomic interventions should be used.”

To help ensure the research advances have real-world utility, research scientists will work closely with other stakeholders to develop guidelines to apply the genomic information to conservation.

The UNVEIL network also will provide an ideal environment for postdoctoral and student training in cutting-edge science and the ethical complexities of using genomic insights in conservation.

The UM co-investigators on the project are biology associate professors Jeffrey Good and Lila Fishman, wildlife biology Professor Scott Mills and Associate Professor of Ethics Dane Scott. The UM team will collaborate with co-investigators at the University of Nebraska – Lincoln, who include Jay Storz, Kristi Montooth and Colin Meiklejohn.

The \$4 million UNVEIL project is funded by the National Science Foundation's Established Program to Stimulate Competitive Research as part of its Research Infrastructure Improvement Track-2 investment strategy. The program intends to build national research strength by initiating research collaborations across institutions.

For more information call Cheviron at 406-244-4496 or email [zac.cheviron@mso.umt.edu](mailto:zac.cheviron@mso.umt.edu).

###

**Contact:** Zachary Cheviron, UM Division of Biological Sciences assistant professor, 406-244-4496, [zac.cheviron@mso.umt.edu](mailto:zac.cheviron@mso.umt.edu).



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/ [UM Postdoc Fellow Takes Advantage of Cold Snap to Study Natural Selection in Lizards](#)

# UM Postdoc Fellow Takes Advantage of Cold Snap to Study Natural Selection in Lizards

August 04, 2017

**MISSOULA** – Research by University of Montana postdoctoral fellow Shane Campbell-Staton appears in the latest issue of the journal *Science*.

Campbell-Staton, a National Science Foundation Postdoctoral Fellow, was the lead author of a report titled “Winter storms drives rapid phenotypic, regulatory and genomic shifts in the green anole lizard.” His research focused on the effects of natural selection in green anole lizards after an extreme cold weather event in the southeastern United States during the winter of 2013-14.

The study was unique, Campbell-Staton said, because the unpredictable nature of extreme weather events makes it difficult to study natural selection responses to such events.

“Unless you happen to have data before such an event and can get data directly after, it can be very difficult to test hypotheses about their impacts,” Campbell-Staton said. “Our study is unique in that we had data before and after this extreme weather event, and we were able to measure selection at three levels: whole animal function, gene expression and genetic variation. These data give us a very detailed look at how extreme events affect populations in the wild.”

The study found significant increases in cold tolerance at the species’ southern limit. Gene expression in southern survivors shifted toward patterns characteristic of northern populations.

“We conclude that extreme winter events can rapidly produce strong shifts in natural populations at multiple biological levels,” he said. “The fact that we saw such a strong shift in the southern population, in their function, gene expression and allele frequencies, within the course of a single calendar year was quite surprising.”

Campbell-Staton said the research raises larger questions about the long-term consequences of extreme weather events for these populations.

“When most people think about climate change, they think about the gradual warming our planet is undergoing,” Campbell-Staton said. “However another major symptom of modern climate change is the increase in frequency and magnitude of extreme weather events like cold snaps, heat waves, droughts, etc. Although brief in nature, these types of events can have profound effects on natural populations for many generations.

“We know that selection occurs at a cost: death,” he said. “It’s possible that the individuals that died as a result of this cold snap may have had the genetic and physiological tools to survive a drought or a heat wave, and now those lineages are lost. We still have a lot to learn about how predicted patterns of extreme weather will impact biodiversity.”

Find the article online at <http://science.sciencemag.org/content/357/6350/495>.

###

**Contact:** Shane Campbell-Staton, National Science Foundation Postdoctoral Fellow, UM Division of Biological Sciences, 406-243-5122, [shane.campbellstaton@gmail.com](mailto:shane.campbellstaton@gmail.com).

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/ [UM Geosciences Department Receives Grant to Develop Remote Sensing Technologies](#)

# UM Geosciences Department Receives Grant to Develop Remote Sensing Technologies

August 02, 2017

**MISSOULA** – Researchers in the geosciences department at the University of Montana received a \$750,000 NASA EPSCoR grant to develop and apply remote sensing technologies to study hydrology on Montana’s agricultural lands. The research will provide insight into the state agricultural system’s resiliency to drought while studying the impact of agricultural activity on the hydrologic cycle, water security and other users.

UM geoscientists Marco Maneta, Brian Chaffin and John Kimball, Kelsey Jencso as well as Bruce Maxwell and Stephanie

Ewing of Montana State University, will team up with hydrologists at the Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation to carry out the research. They will integrate NASA technologies and advanced computer



models to understand and anticipate how farmers allocate resource – such as land, water and fertilizer – to accommodate new or reduced access to water, and to understand how their decisions impact river flows and water users downstream. This research will help Montana develop new state-of-the-art technology to tackle the water challenges faced by farmers across the country.

“This will help us understand how farmers use water and land when confronted with water shortages, policy interventions or shifts in agricultural markets,” said Maneta, the study’s principal investigator. “It will also allow us to simulate the impact of a range of climate and agricultural market scenarios on agricultural water use and revenues in Montana, and to inform water policy that promotes agricultural adaptation and resiliency. Understanding imbalances in the water supply and demand systems is a key component of addressing the vulnerability of Montana’s farming system.”

For more information on the research project, call Aaron Deskins in UM’s Department of Geosciences at 406-243-5853 or email [aaron.deskins@umontana.edu](mailto:aaron.deskins@umontana.edu).

###

**Contact:** Aaron Deskins, UM Department of Geosciences, 406-243-5853, [aaron.deskins@umontana.edu](mailto:aaron.deskins@umontana.edu); Marco Maneta, UM geosciences researcher, 406-552-7500, [marco.maneta@umontana.edu](mailto:marco.maneta@umontana.edu).

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## UM News

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# A Lasting Tribute: Gift Supports Two UM Academic Chairs

August 04, 2017

**MISSOULA** – Thanks to a recent gift, academic chairs honoring two exceptional regional educators – Maryfrances Shreeve '57, M.Ed. '63, and her son, William C. Shreeve '54, M.Ed. '58 – have been established at the University of Montana's Phyllis J. Washington College of Education and Human Sciences.

The named chairs, the Maryfrances Shreeve Chair in Teaching Excellence and the William C. Shreeve Chair in Educational Administration, are the first for the college and are among the academy's highest honors.

"There are no words to adequately describe our deep appreciation for these gifts," said Roberta Evans, dean of the college. "It is incredibly generous and highly



visionary of this special donor to honor these two individuals this way.”

Evans calls the support transformative, noting that those who educate teachers and principals decisively impact generations of children, adolescents and education professionals.

The Maryfrances Shreeve Chair in Teaching Excellence will support a distinguished professor in the college’s Department of Teaching and Learning. UM’s faculty in this department educate the next generation of dedicated and exceptional teachers who will emulate Maryfrances in Montana classrooms and across the nation.

The William C. Shreeve Chair in Educational Administration in the Department of Educational Leadership will support a distinguished professor committed to translating theory into practice for future school leaders. The department is known for combining innovative, technologically savvy approaches with a commitment to one-on-one personal mentoring. Such engagement is exactly the type of activity that Bill Shreeve strongly supported.

Both chairs will provide leadership for their respective departments, expanding UM’s impact as an international leader in educational theory, research and practice.

Maryfrances Shreeve was a much-loved master teacher who served the children and the state of Montana for more than 37 years. She never met a child – no matter how gifted, poor, wealthy, talented or ordinary – who did not deserve every possible opportunity.

The daughter of Montana pioneers, she was born in 1907 in **Deer Lodge** and grew up on a ranch near Gold Creek. She worked in the fields, helping with haying, harvesting and milking. After receiving a teaching certificate from Dillon Normal School (University of Montana Western), she accepted her first position in little Snowshoe, Montana, near Avon. Thus began a nearly 40-year career serving the state’s children.

She spent her career with students throughout western Montana – towns like Snowshoe, **Clinton**, **Superior**,



**Thompson Falls** and **Missoula** – and retired in 1972 as a master teacher from the **Butte** Public School system. Hundreds of pupils became strong, capable and confident individuals under her caring tutelage.

Her only break from the profession came during the 1930s, when employment was minimally available for women whose husbands already were employed. She continued to teach even while earning both bachelor's and master's degrees at UM in the 1950s and early '60s.

In 1992, her children honored her with a UM teaching award in her name, the Maryfrances Shreeve Teaching Excellence Award. The award is given annually to outstanding, committed elementary school teachers across Montana.

William C. Shreeve, who was born in Missoula and graduated high school in **Thompson Falls**, followed in his mother's footsteps to become an exceptional educator. He received both his B.A. and M.Ed. from UM, then started his professional life in Johnston, Colorado. There he was a respected and successful high school teacher, coach and principal who coached the high school basketball team to win the Colorado state championship in 1958.

He earned an Ed.D. at the University of Northern Colorado and joined Eastern Washington University in 1967 as a professor of education. He was dedicated to training quality principals and school administration professionals for K-12 school systems, instituting many national award-winning programs during his tenure. Recognized for his leadership and vision, he was elected by his peers to serve as the chair of the university's Department of Education in 1972. He held this position until he retired in 1996.

Bill and college sweetheart Joanne Guilbault Shreeve '55 married the month after she graduated from UM. Together they raised five children.

In 2005, he was honored by his family and friends with an award in his name, the William C. Shreeve Educational Administration Scholarship. The award is given annually to UM graduate students in the Educational Leadership master's program.

The University plans to announce the inaugural recipients of the chairs this fall.

###

**Contact:** Kate Stober, UM Foundation, 406-243-2627, [kate.stober@mso.umt.edu](mailto:kate.stober@mso.umt.edu); Peter Knox, communications and outreach manager, Phyllis J. Washington College of Education and Human Sciences, 406-243-4911, [peter.knox@mso.umt.edu](mailto:peter.knox@mso.umt.edu).

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## UM News

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# UM Research Center Studies Effects of Military Noise on Sage Grouse

August 02, 2017

**MISSOULA** – During an important chapter in the conservation of greater sage grouse, the University of Montana’s Center for Integrated Research on the Environment has been tasked with studying the effects of aircraft noise on the species.

The noise study aims to determine if the military activity has any impact on this iconic bird on the Department of Defense’s Mountain Home Air Force Base in Idaho. If so, the CIRE team will help the military conserve the species by providing them tools to avoid potential impacts while balancing Air Force mission goals.



The greater sage grouse, which is not listed as endangered, is an umbrella species, sharing a sagebrush habitat with more than 350 other kinds of wildlife, including elk, mule deer, wild sheep, pronghorn and golden eagles. Projects to enhance the sage grouse population often benefit these species as well. Sage grouse rely heavily on sagebrush for their forage, cover, nesting habitat and ultimate survival.

The greater sage grouse habitat covers 11 states: California, Colorado, Montana, Nevada, North Dakota, South Dakota, Oregon, Utah, Washington, Wyoming and Idaho. About 45 percent of the grouse's summer habitat is on state and private lands, which often include the wetter meadows and riparian habitats essential for young chicks. Drier federal lands provide roughly half of the sage grouse's winter habitat, where the birds mate and nest. The Bureau of Land Management and the U.S. Forest Service manage most of this habitat, as well as other federal agencies such as the Department of Defense. As of September 2014, the DOD manages 11.4 million acres that cover some of the sage grouse's habitat.



CIRE's team will focus on the noise impacts from low-flying military aircraft on the nesting success of the sage grouse. Extreme noise from low flight and/or sonic booms in areas such as Mountain Home Air Force Base may affect wildlife by damaging hearing, increasing stress and the risk of predation, changing behavior

patterns like avoiding suitable habitats and disturbing reproduction. Although the effects of aircraft noise on other species have been researched, this is the first time researchers have studied the effects on sage grouse.

"Given that sage grouse is a species of conservation concern throughout their current range, we think investigating

all sources of human-related disturbance on these populations is important,” said Devin Landry, project manager of the study. “We are excited to be part of this bigger effort.”

This project has the potential to serve an important role in informing the U.S. Air Force as it drafts its natural resource management program according to a congressional mandate. Landry hopes the research will help produce a noise management program for other military bases sitting on sage grouse habitats throughout the West.

Last year, the CIRE team developed a work plan, and completed fieldwork mid-March to mid-April, including a site survey and count of the breeding sites – called leks – determining which were occupied and which were not.

“Lekking is a big part of the sage grouse mating system, and a lek doesn’t move much over space,” said Vicky Dreitz, a UM associate professor of wildlife biology, director of the Avian Science Center at UM and the co-principal investigator of the project.

In previous years, Idaho Fish and Game has worked with Mountain Home Air Force Base to track where sage grouse lek, and the BLM also has many properties where sage grouse are monitored. They plan to share their database with the CIRE team, and Dreitz said the collaboration has provided them some of the preliminary information for their research.

During the first year of the study, the CIRE team has done in-depth analyses to learn more details about the project, such as how many nests need to be monitored. Although sage grouse productivity changes over time, sometimes it is due to other factors, such as dry seasons or increased predation.

“For a one-year project or even short-term study, it is going to be hard to determine if it is military activity, but through our collaborations we hope to help narrow down our understanding,” Dreitz said.

The CIRE team plans to tag breeding females with GPS units and combine the sage grouse location data with information on how noise from military jets dissipates across the landscape, with potential funding from the military.

Dreitz said CIRE is an invaluable connection between researchers at the University and state and federal management agencies during a time when access to funding sources is crucial.

The Mountain Home Air Force Base sage grouse study is one of CIRE’s various natural resource projects, which identify and conserve threatened species to restore and maintain the landscape within military-owned lands.

“The work that CIRE does is meant to assist the military in their efforts to conserve and protect the natural resources that make our nation so valuable,” Landry said. “We are excited to work together to make the U.S. military leaders in conservation efforts across the country.”

For more information on the project, call Mona Nazeri, CIRE media information specialist, at 406-243-2617 or email [mona.nazeri@mso.umt.edu](mailto:mona.nazeri@mso.umt.edu).

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## UM News

[UM](#) / [News](#) / [2017](#) / [August](#) / Homecoming Parade Applications Now Available Online

# Homecoming Parade Applications Now Available Online

August 02, 2017

**MISSOULA** – Applications are now available for entry into this year’s University of Montana Homecoming Parade, to take place at 10 a.m. Saturday, Oct. 14, in downtown Missoula. This year’s Homecoming theme is “Reflections: Honoring the Past, Shaping the Future.”

Applications are available online at <http://www.grizalum.com> or by calling 406-243-5211 or toll-free at 1-877-862-5867. Applications also may be picked up in person at the Missoula Chamber of Commerce, 825 E. Front St., or at the Office of Alumni Relations and Alumni Association, Brantly Hall 115, University of Montana.

Applications must be received by Friday, Sept. 22, to be eligible for the \$40 early bird fee. Applications received after Sept. 22 will require a \$50 registration fee, and the final deadline to submit entries is 5 p.m. Friday, Sept. 29.

For more information call the UM Office of Alumni Relations at 406-243-5211 or email [alumni@umontana.edu](mailto:alumni@umontana.edu).

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## UM News

[UM](#) / [News](#) / [2017](#) / [August](#) / [BBER Report Indicates Positive Trends in Montana's Manufacturing Sector](#)

# BBER Report Indicates Positive Trends in Montana's Manufacturing Sector

August 01, 2017

**MISSOULA** – The number of jobs that the manufacturing sector provides in Montana has increased at a rate more than double the national rate, according to a new report by the University of Montana Bureau of Business and Economic Research. The annual report was commissioned by the Montana Manufacturing Extension Center at Montana State University. BBER has conducted the study for the MMEC since 2001.

“Manufacturing operations in Montana do not fit the traditional stereotype,” said Paul Polzin, BBER emeritus director. “These are not a bunch of large facilities, but are a diverse group of smaller-scale operations.”

According to the 2017 State of Montana Manufacturing Report, manufacturing employment increased 18.3 percent the past seven years to 19,400 jobs.

The report suggests a generally positive trend in its overview of manufacturing in the state. According to the report:

- Manufacturing accounts for 27.6 percent of Montana's gross product, up from 25.8 percent in 1997. Montana ranks 32nd in the country according to that figure.



- Company earnings in manufacturing increased 14.1 percent since 2010.
- Manufacturing workers earned an average of \$47,227 in 2015, which is 17.5 percent higher than the average Montana worker's wages.
- The employment multiplier for Montana manufacturing is just over three and a half, meaning that for every new manufacturing job another two and a half jobs are created in industries and services that support manufacturing.
- There were 3,344 manufacturing establishments operating in Montana in 2015. The largest category among those was miscellaneous manufacturing, with 691 establishments. The next largest categories were fabricated metal manufacturing at 493 and food products at 370.
- Most Montana manufacturers are small businesses: 85 percent have fewer than 20 employees.
- The two highest earning Montana manufacturing industries in 2015 were associated with coal and crude oil processing (17.9 percent of total earnings) and wood products processing (15.1 percent).
- The production of alcoholic beverages is a rapidly growing industry in Montana. Distilleries, wineries and breweries employed 711 people in 2015, up from 267 in 2011.

Established in 1948, BBER is the main research unit of UM's School of Business Administration. It informs Montanans about the economic climate in which they live and work. In addition to conducting its Economic Outlook Seminars across the state each year, BBER researchers engage in a wide range of applied research projects that address different aspects of the state economy, including survey research, economic analysis, health care research, forecasting, wood products research and energy research. It has published the Montana Business Quarterly since 1949.

For more information or to subscribe to the Montana Business Quarterly, visit BBER at <http://www.bber.umt.edu/> or call 406-243-5113.

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