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### Excellence fund - the year of the challenge

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# UM news

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vannini/stc  
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IMMEDIATELY

## EXCELLENCE FUND - THE YEAR OF THE CHALLENGE

MISSOULA--

1979-80 promises to be a significant year in the annals of the University of Montana's Excellence fund campaign, which was initiated in 1978-79.

The Burlington Northern Foundation of Minneapolis, Minn., has challenged the Excellence Fund to raise \$25,000 more this year than in the '78-'79 drive.

Burlington Northern says that each new dollar raised for the Excellence Fund this year, either in increased contributions from past donors or in new-donor support, will be matched by BN -- up to \$25,000.

UM President Richard Bowers said that Burlington Northern has had a long association with UM. It has been involved for many years with the UM forestry school as an adviser to the school and as an employer of its graduates.

BN also helped to construct a \$30,000 winter research facility at the UM Yellow Bay Biological Station at Flathead Lake in the early 1970s.

Allan Vannini, UM's director of development, said that Burlington Northern is concerned about insuring UM's future quality, and is eager to help the Excellence Fund, which will be used to fund outreach efforts, faculty development, small equipment and other needs of the UM. The total goal of the fund is \$175,000.

The BN gift will be donated when the total of new or increased gifts reaches \$25,000. Vannini urged all alumni, parents and friends of the University who are considering a first time or increased gift to do so at the earliest possible opportunity. "The sooner we receive these gifts the sooner we'll receive Burlington Northern's check," Vannini said.

(over)

EXCELLENCE FUND--add one

For more information about the Excellence Fund or other UM fund-raising activities, contact Allan M. Vannini, University of Montana Foundation, Missoula, MT 59812