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## UM News

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# UM Humanities Institute Concludes Spring Lecture Series

April 30, 2018

**MISSOULA** – The Humanities Institute of the University of Montana will hold its last event for the Spring 2018 Faculty Lecture Series from 4 to 5 p.m. Wednesday, May 2, in the Dell Brown Room of Turner Hall.

Professor John Eglin from UM's Department of History will lecture on "James Boswell in Siena: A Presentation, with Digressions and Interruptions."

Eglin's research focuses on culture and politics in British society from the late 1600s until the end of the 1700s. He is editing Boswell's journal in Italy, France and Corsica for the Yale Editions of the Private Papers of James Boswell.

The event is free and open to the public, and light refreshments will be provided.

The Humanities Institute is dedicated to supporting humanities scholarship across all disciplines, departments and programs at UM. Led by faculty, the institute brings new and exciting research opportunities to both students and faculty, and it offers public lectures about the projects it supports.

For more information email Nathaniel Levtow, Humanities Institute director, at [humanities.institute@mso.umt.edu](mailto:humanities.institute@mso.umt.edu).

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**Contact:** Nathaniel Levtow, director, UM Humanities Institute, 406-505-0506, [humanities.institute@mso.umt.edu](mailto:humanities.institute@mso.umt.edu).



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## UM News

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# UM Civic Engagement Celebrates Outstanding Student Volunteers

April 27, 2018

**MISSOULA** – Eight University of Montana students were honored for their contributions to the Missoula community at the Student Achievement Recognition ceremony on April 24.

“Without volunteers, many agencies and nonprofits may not be able to function,” said Colleen Kane, associate director of UM Civic Engagement. “Our office hopes to bolster the spirit of volunteering through honoring these individuals. The students were nominated by the local nonprofit organizations with which they volunteer.”

The 2018 Outstanding Student Volunteer of the Year award went to Danielle Gornick who volunteers with CASA of Missoula. The award is given to a student who devotes a significant amount of time and energy to meeting community needs. The award serves to recognize the invaluable contributions of all volunteers.

“Danielle has been an outstanding advocate. She navigates complex cases with ease and grace and is incredibly engaged and dedicated to her role as a CASA, even with everything else she has going on in her life,” said Shawn Gray, volunteer coordinator for CASA of Missoula.



The other 2018 nominees and their service sites are Nate Clausen, Flagship; Stephanie Fisher, Missoula Urban Demonstration Project (MUD); Kyrstin Hoffstetter, MontPIRG; Jazzlyn Johnson, Missoula Food Bank; Freya Sargent, Great Bear Foundation; Bev Sitton, Student Advocacy Resource Center; and Kinsey Smith, Flagship.

###

**Contact:** Colleen Kane, associate director of community engagement and student programs, UM Civic Engagement, 406-243-5128, [colleen.kane@mso.umt.edu](mailto:colleen.kane@mso.umt.edu).



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# Montana Public Radio Selected for National Podcast Training

April 27, 2018

**MISSOULA** – National Public Radio has selected Montana Public Radio to be a part of its prestigious Story Lab incubator project for new programming this year.

MTPR submitted plans for its latest podcast, “Richest Hill: The Future History of America’s Biggest Superfund Site,” to the national network, along with more than 100 other applicants from across the country. NPR chose “Richest Hill” and nine other projects to participate in the Story Lab workshop at NPR headquarters in Washington, D.C., May 8-11.

During the workshop, the teams will attend training sessions and work on projects with help from mentors at NPR.

“We’re thrilled to be getting access to the training and support Story Lab offers,” said Eric Whitney, MTPR news director. “They’ve helped launch some great podcasts in the workshop’s first two years, and we’re looking forward to getting their help to make ‘Richest Hill’ the best set of stories we can produce.”

MTPR reporter Nora Saks will lead production of the new podcast, fresh from her success helping MTPR create the

podcast “Subsurface: Resisting Montana’s Underwater Invaders,” released last November. The five-episode podcast is online at <http://mtp.r.org/programs/subsurface-resisting-montanas-underwater-invaders>.

“This is going to be a big year for Butte,” Saks said. “With a new Superfund consent decree, the beginning of water treatment at the Berkeley Pit and dirt flying at the Parrot tailings site, there’s going to be a lot to keep track of, and we think a podcast will really help people understand what it all means and how people in Butte and across Montana will be affected.”

The MTPR podcast team hopes to work on its stories over the next six months and present the new podcast next fall. To provide input and learn more about the podcast, visit <http://mtp.r.org/post/richest-hill-new-podcast-coming-soon-mtp.r>.

Montana Public Radio brings news and hand-picked music to 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, 91.7 in Dillon and online at <http://mtp.r.org>.

###

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# UM Students Named 2018 Fulbright Scholars

April 26, 2018

**MISSOULA** – Three University of Montana students have been awarded Fulbright awards to research or teach English abroad. Jedd Sankar-Gorton, Dillon Sarb and Lucy Tompkins each earned the honor.

Sankar-Gorton, a graduate student from **Whitefish** pursuing a master's degree in geography, will use his Fulbright to conduct research in Slovenia. This research will focus on assessing and categorizing Slovenian models of mountain-based environmental education that the Slovenes incorporate into their public school system. He wants to better understand how they design and implement their programs and bring



these lessons back to Montana schools.

Sarb, from **Billings**, graduated from UM last December with a major from the German section of the Department of Modern and Classical Languages and Literatures, a second major in political science, and a minor in journalism. He received an English teaching assistantship to Germany and likely will be placed in the north, in Schleswig-Holstein. His work also will include promoting cross-cultural awareness.

Tompkins, from **Bozeman**, is a recent graduate of the UM School of Journalism with a major in journalism. With her Fulbright grant, she will study and report on the experiences of Syrian women who have become refugees in Berlin, Germany. This will involve conducting in-depth interviews with and photographing Syrian women. Her research project fills a gap in media coverage of the Syrian refugee issue.

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

To learn more about the Fulbright Program, visit <https://us.fulbrightonline.org/>.

Students interested in submitting a proposal can call UM Fulbright Program Adviser Liz Ametsbichler at 406-243-5001 or email [liz.ametsbichler@umontana.edu](mailto:liz.ametsbichler@umontana.edu). The upcoming fall deadline for UM campus submissions is Wednesday, Sept. 19.

###

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



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# UM Theatre & Dance Graduate Students Put Class Projects on Display

April 26, 2018

**MISSOULA** – Mark Andrews and Jennifer Jones, Master of Fine Arts candidates in the School of Theatre & Dance at the University of Montana, will present the culminating work for their current Graduate Design Seminar course as part of Missoula’s First Friday festivities on May 4.

The project, dubbed “Light Up Your Spring,” will have models out and about on Higgins Avenue from 7 to 9 p.m.

Andrews, who is a graduate student in lighting design, and Jones, who is a graduate student in costume design, have collaborated to create works that showcase both of their skills and emphases: illuminated costumes.

“The costumes are inspired by the essence of spring, uniting costuming and lighting to create lovely, wearable works,” Jones said. “They are representative of the spring we know and love in Montana, the rain showers of April and May, the rainbows that follow after and the flowers following further still.”

For more information about “Light Up Your Spring,” call Jones at 406-595-4751 or email [jennifer2.jones@umontana.edu](mailto:jennifer2.jones@umontana.edu). For more information about the School of Theatre & Dance, visit



<http://www.umt.edu/theatredance>.

###

**Contact:** Jennifer Jones, graduate student, UM School of Theatre & Dance, 406-595-4751,  
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# UM Students Represent Eritrea at National Model UN Conference

April 26, 2018

**MISSOULA** – Eleven University of Montana students and members of the Montana Model United Nations team attended the National Model UN conference in New York City in March, representing Eritrea and chairing the UN Environment Assembly.

The students represented the African country of Eritrea with the following committee appointments.



- Michael Toppen, junior in political science from **Great Falls**: General Assembly First Committee, Security and Disarmament
- Colin Milton, sophomore in political science from **Sandy, Utah**: General Assembly Second Committee, Economic and Financial
- Taylor Rost, junior in political science and Spanish from **Polson**: General Assembly Third Committee, Social and Humanitarian
- Connor Fitzpatrick, graduate student in political science from **Helena**: General Assembly Third Committee, Social and Humanitarian
- Anisa Ricci, senior in political science and women, gender and sexuality studies from **La Crescenta, California**: General Assembly Fifth Committee, Administrative and Budgeting
- Carly Chapdelaine, senior in political science and women, gender and sexuality studies from **Great Falls**: International Organization on Migration
- Cara Grewell, sophomore in political science from **Silesia**: UN Environment Assembly
- George “Kelley” Krumm, senior in history from **Anaconda**: Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons
- Vincent “Sonny” Capece, junior in political science from **Tallahassee, Florida**: Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons
- Bailey Durnell, junior in political science and women, gender and sexuality studies from **Great Falls**: Commission on the Status of Women
- Taylor Gregory, freshman in political science from **Lolo**: Commission on the Status of Women. Gregory also served as team president.

One student, Ricci, was chosen as chair for the UN Environment Assembly, a coveted position. Because team members serve as chairs and other staff members at UM’s MMUN High School Conference, they often are selected to serve as NMUN committee and conference staff. After the first day, Ricci chaired all UNEA sessions for the rest of the conference.

The UM team as a whole won an Honorable Mention Award for the realism of their representation, participation in

committee sessions and knowledge of parliamentary procedure.

“We’re delighted with this result,” said Karen Adams, political science chair. “The team ranked with major international schools such as Sciences Po Paris.”

To prepare for the conference, the team met with Solomon Gofie, a visiting professor of political science from the University of Addis Ababa in Ethiopia. Gofie is at UM this year on a Fulbright African Research Scholar fellowship. He answered questions about Eritrea and the Horn of Africa and offered advice on their papers and negotiating strategies.

In New York, the students visited the Eritrean mission to the UN and were briefed by Stephannie Afewerki, Eritrea’s United Nations Strategist for Peace, Security and the Security Council.

“No book or lecture can give you a true feel for how the United Nations functions, but the conference showed me how it all comes together,” Chapdelaine said. “The conference taught me how to be professional, diplomatic and an effective communicator.”

“This experience should be mandatory for students seeking the international relations field,” said Krumm, veteran NMUN team member. “You could read 100 books about the art of negotiation and dealing with people, but until you are actually with someone in person trying to negotiate a deal, you won’t understand.”

“It was a very special experience to represent Ethiopia and Eritrea in consecutive years and witness how each of the nation’s relationships with one another impacts their foreign affairs,” said Durnell, veteran vice president of the team.

Students pay about half of their expenses for the five-day conference. The rest is funded by contributions from MMUN alumni, the UM Provost and President Offices, Davidson Honors College, ASUM and the Department of Political Science.

For more information, email MMUN faculty adviser Eva Maggi at [eva.maggi@mso.umt.edu](mailto:eva.maggi@mso.umt.edu) or MMUN team president Gregory at [taylor1.gregory@umontana.edu](mailto:taylor1.gregory@umontana.edu).

###

**Contact:** Eva Maggi, Montana Model United Nations faculty adviser, 406-243-5202, [eva.maggi@mso.umt.edu](mailto:eva.maggi@mso.umt.edu); Taylor Gregory, MMUN team president, [taylor1.gregory@umontana.edu](mailto:taylor1.gregory@umontana.edu).

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# UM Foundation Kicks Off 'Root for the Arboretum' Campaign

April 26, 2018

**MISSOULA** – The University of Montana is known for its forestry program – but also for its trees. Since 1991, the UM campus has been the official State of Montana Arboretum, yet few people are aware of the resource. A new fundraising campaign seeks to fund an on-campus interpretive site to help educate and inspire the public about North American trees.

Dubbed “the Root,” the interpretive site will feature comprehensive signs about the arboretum, its trees and trees in general. The Root is located on the north side of Main Hall between the University Center and the Botany Building.

On Friday, April 27, which is Arbor Day, the Arboretum Committee and UM’s W.A. Franke College of Forestry and Conservation will kick off the “Root for the Arboretum”

campaign. They aim to raise \$15,000 and are challenging the public to help meet a matching campaign. Thanks to the generosity of an anonymous donor, all funds donated toward this project will be matched up to \$5,000. Donors will be recognized on the State of Montana Arboretum website at <http://www.umt.edu/arboretum/>.



The campaign kickoff includes the Arbor Day celebration from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Friday, April 27, at the Root. Festivities will include the dedication of the Oval Tree Plaque, a tree planting and tree dedication, music, root beer, door prizes and arboretum tours. For more information visit the State of Montana Arboretum website at <http://www.umt.edu/arboretum/> or the State of Montana Arboretum Facebook page at

<https://www.facebook.com/stateofmontanaarboretum/>.

Donations can be made online at <http://www.umt.edu/arboretum/> or by calling committee chair John Goodburn at 406-243-4295 or emailing [john.goodburn@umontana.edu](mailto:john.goodburn@umontana.edu). Donations may also be mailed to the University of Montana Foundation, Re: UM Arboretum, P.O. Box 7159, Missoula, MT 59807.

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**About the State of Montana Arboretum**

In 1991, the UM Campus was designated the State Arboretum by act of the Montana Legislature to “facilitate the scientific study and public exhibition of many species of trees and shrubs.” With 2,300 trees of over 100 different species, the arboretum is free, open year-round and accessible to all.

In addition to emphasizing Montana habitats, the arboretum showcases trees and shrubs of eight North American bioregions: Great Plains, Central Hardwoods, Northeastern and Southeastern Mixed Forests, Northern and Southern Rockies, and Pacific Coast and Boreal Forests. Additional arboretum features include Memorial Row, an alley of Ponderosa pines planted in 1919 to commemorate 32 UM students who died in war; a 1993 Montana Centennial planting of trees and shrubs representing each Montana county; the recently replanted double ring of maple and oak trees on the Oval, emulating the original 1899 planting; and Montana native plant gardens around the Botany Building.

Signature treasures of the arboretum include one-of-a-kind hybrid larch – a rare, natural cross of Western Larch and Alpine Larch; the largest red oak in Montana; and a trail of “fossil trees” such as ginkgo and katsura – species that survived the ice ages. A “Hanging Tree,” named for the short story by Montanan Dorothy Johnson, honors that writer and UM Journalism professor, and a small grove of lindens commemorates Missoula radio personality Kim Williams. Other notable species includes the bristlecone pine, the oldest North American tree species.

**Contact:** John Goodburn, chair, State of Montana Arboretum at UM, 406-243-4295,  
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# UM's Career Services Gathers Graduation Data with 'First Destination Survey'

April 25, 2018

**MISSOULA** – Career Services at the University of Montana, with the support of the Office of the Registrar and the Office of Alumni Relations, launched the “First Destination Survey” on April 24.

The survey, available through Handshake at <https://umt.joinhandshake.com/login>, is open to all students graduating in May 2018. The survey gathers information about students' post-graduation plans, how they are using their UM education, and what experiences and services enhance immediate post-graduation outcomes. Graduates who take the survey by June 30 will be entered into a drawing for several prizes, including an iPad, UM Alumni Association Lifetime Membership, Griz gear and more.

Handshake is a free online recruiting platform used by thousands of employers across the nation to recruit UM students and alumni for a wide variety of jobs and internships. All current UM students and alumni can sign up for Handshake by visiting <https://umt.joinhandshake.com/login>.

For more information or questions, call Mani Stubbs, UM Office of Career Services career counselor, at 406-243-6830 or email [manuel.stubbs@mso.umt.edu](mailto:manuel.stubbs@mso.umt.edu).

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# Montana Public Radio Music Show Archives Now Streaming Online

April 25, 2018

**MISSOULA** – Online archives for Montana Public Radio music shows such as “Freeforms,” “Pea Green Boat,” “Jazz Sessions,” “The Folk Show” and more now are available for Missoulians through Radio Free America at <http://www.radiofreeamerica.com/schedule/kufm-1>.

“For years, listeners have been asking for archives of our music programs,” MTPR program director Michael Marsolek said. “We’re so happy we’re now able to offer this fabulous new service.”

MTPR already offers podcasts for non-music shows at <http://mtp.org/podcasts-mtp>, but the challenges of complying with music copyright laws had prevented MTPR from archiving music shows online until now.

“Radio Free America – a free, on-demand, program-archiving service – has allowed MTPR to provide Missoulians with another way to listen to their favorite local programs,” MTPR online editor Josh Burnham said.

Montana Public Radio’s locally produced music shows are available online for two weeks after they air. Listeners can catch entire shows in real-time from a radio or any device with online access.

Montana Public Radio airs 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; 91.7 in Dillon; and online at <http://mtp.org>.

For more information, call Montana Public Radio program director Michael Marsolek at 406-243-4096 or email [michael.marsolek@umontana.edu](mailto:michael.marsolek@umontana.edu).

###

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## UM News

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# UM Students Win Udall Scholarship, Honorable Mention

April 25, 2018

**MISSOULA** – Two University of Montana students recently received one of the highest national recognitions for college students. UM student Natalie Stockmann of **Burlington, Vermont**, won a Udall Scholarship, and Alice Boyer of Missoula won an Honorable Mention in the 2018 competition.

The Udall Scholarship provides up to \$7,000 for the Scholar's junior or senior year. UM still leads the nation in Udall Scholars, and this year's results bring its total to 42 Udall Scholars and 13 Honorable Mentions.

Fifty students from 42 colleges and universities were selected as 2018 Udall Scholars based on their commitment to careers in the environment, Native health care or tribal public policy; leadership potential; record of public service; and academic



achievement. The 16-member independent review committee also awarded 50 Honorable Mentions.

Stockmann, a junior, is majoring in environmental studies and resource conservation with minors in international development and Arabic studies. She graduated from Burlington High School in 2013.

In addition to her international programs in Nicaragua and in Morocco, the latter through a 2016 Critical Language Scholarship, Stockmann has been involved locally with organizations such as the Watershed Education Network, the UM Mount of Olives Arabic Language and Culture Club, and 1,000 New Gardens. She plans to study community-based natural resource conservation in the Arab world after graduating.

Boyer, a member of the Little Shell and Blackfeet tribes, is a junior majoring in philosophy and completing a Peace Corps Prep certificate. A 2014 graduate of Hellgate High School, she serves as the treasurer for UM's Kyiyo Native American Student Association, a Court Appointed Special Advocate and a YMCA crisis hotline volunteer, among other activities.

After graduating from UM next year, Boyer plans to join the Peace Corps and then attend law school, where she looks forward to continuing her work with underrepresented groups of people.

"America has an unmet need for lawyers and legislators who understand the needs of minority groups," Boyer said. "I appreciate the honor it is to be recognized as an Udall Scholar Honorable Mention."

The 2018 Udall Scholars will assemble Aug. 7-12 in Tucson, Arizona, to meet one another and program alumni, learn more



about the Udall legacy of public service and interact with community leaders in environmental fields, tribal health care and governance. Both Scholars and Honorable Mentions will gain access to the inspired, energetic and experienced Udall alumni network to share ideas and opportunities.

Established by Congress in 1992, the Udall Foundation is an independent federal agency that provides scholarships, fellowships and internships for college students intending to pursue careers related to the environment and American Indian students pursuing tribal public policy or health care careers. Since 1996, The Udall Foundation has awarded 1,574 scholarships totaling \$8,090,000. In 1998, the Foundation grew to include the U.S. Institute for Environmental Conflict Resolution, and it also operates the Parks in Focus program, connecting underserved youth to nature through photography.

For more info on the Udall Foundation, visit <https://www.udall.gov/AboutUs/AboutUs.aspx>. To learn more about the Udall Undergraduate Scholarship, visit <https://www.udall.gov/OurPrograms/Scholarship/Scholarship.aspx>.

###

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# Public Forum, Panel at UM to Discuss Health Care Disparities

April 24, 2018

**MISSOULA** – A panel of professionals representing health care administrators, providers and researchers will discuss their efforts to better understand and eliminate health disparities during a talk hosted by the University of Montana Social Science Research Laboratory.

The event, which is free and open to the public, will begin at 5:30 p.m. Monday, April 30, in the Gilkey Building Room Gex105, and an open forum will follow.

Panelists include Dr. Chelsea Bodnar, pediatrician and founder of Ohana Pediatrics; LeeAnn Bruised Head, executive director of the Missoula Urban Indian Health Center; Jason Spring, Kalispell Regional Healthcare chief strategic officer; Annjeanette Belcourt, assistant professor in UM's College of Health Professions and Biomedical Sciences; and Justin Denney, Washington State University associate professor.

During the open forum, all attendees are encouraged to identify potential researcher and practitioner collaborations.

For more information call the UM Social Science Research Laboratory at 406-243-5381 or email

[ssrl.support@mso.umt.edu](mailto:ssrl.support@mso.umt.edu).

###

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# UM Business Analytics Students to Present at Showcase

April 24, 2018

**MISSOULA** – The University of Montana graduating cohort of business analytics students will present their capstone projects from 5 to 7 p.m. Wednesday, April 25, on the top floor of Stockman Bank at 321 W. Broadway in Missoula.

Sixteen Master of Science in Business Analytics students will present at the UM Business Analytics Showcase on a wide variety of topics including:

- an analysis of car crashes in Missoula County.
- digital marketing practices among universities.
- relationships between opioid use and Medicaid claims.
- text-mining Twitter feeds to analyze social sentiments.
- machine-learning software.
- real-time data visualizations.
- revenue predictions of box-office hits.
- real estate predictions.

- UM enrollment predictions.

The MSBA students have spent the past year honing their cutting-edge skills in big data analysis. The showcase will feature their capstone projects to demonstrate how their skillsets can uncover incredible insights and have a positive impact in both government and business settings. The event is free and open to the public.

For more information call Jakki Mohr, co-director of the MSBA program and showcase organizer, at 406-243-2920 or email [jakki.mohr@umontana.edu](mailto:jakki.mohr@umontana.edu) or call Jenni Graff, economic development director for the Missoula Economic Partnership, at 406-531-6430 or email [jgraff@missoulapartnership.com](mailto:jgraff@missoulapartnership.com).

###

**Contact:** Jakki Mohr, co-director of UM's Master of Science in Business Analytics program and organizer of the Business Analytics Showcase, 406-243-2920, [jakki.mohr@umontana.edu](mailto:jakki.mohr@umontana.edu).



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# UM Students Protect Trees From Beavers in Montana's Newest State Park

April 23, 2018

**MISSOULA** – Students in the Ecosystem Science and Restoration program at the University of Montana invite the public to help protect planted trees from beaver damage at Milltown State Park from 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Saturday, April 28.

Volunteers will install protectors around tree saplings that are at risk of being chewed by beavers.

Beavers have been called nature's "ecosystem engineers" because their dam building and other activities add complexity and flood control to river ecosystems. These activities can be desirable to both people and the environment, but beaver activity also can inhibit restoration work if they destroy saplings before they become established.

In addition to installing protectors, volunteers will have opportunities to hike through Montana's newest state park. They also will learn about the history of degradation at Milltown and techniques for restoration of river ecosystems.

Students and members of the public are encouraged to volunteer. Space is limited to 20 people. Interested

participants should call Taylor Chenette at 415-272-4433 or email [taylor.chenette@umontana.edu](mailto:taylor.chenette@umontana.edu) by Friday, April 27.

Volunteers should prepare for a two-mile, semi-steep hike to the site and back, and bring water, work gloves, a mug and waterproof boots. Coffee will be provided by Black Coffee Roasting Company, and a hot lunch will be provided by Chipotle.

UM faculty and students have been working with Geum Environmental Consulting, a local consulting firm who has led vegetation restoration efforts at Milltown since 2010. The partnership has helped students apply skills they gain in the classroom in a practical way.

"The opportunity to apply my knowledge to improve restoration at Milltown has been extremely gratifying," UM student Dylan Branscum said

###

**Contact:** Cara Nelson, UM associate professor of restoration ecology, 406-243-6066, [cara.nelson@umontana.edu](mailto:cara.nelson@umontana.edu); Taylor Chenette, student coordinator, UM Ecosystem Science and Restoration Program, 415-272-4433, [taylor.chenette@umontana.edu](mailto:taylor.chenette@umontana.edu).



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# InnovateUM 2018 to Envision Missoula's Innovation Ecosystem

April 23, 2018

**MISSOULA** – Blurring the lines between the city, University and other sectors, this year's innovateUM will explore an emerging opportunity to imagine and nurture a vibrant innovation ecosystem along Missoula's stretch of the Clark Fork River.

On April 25, guest speakers from Finland's Espoo Innovation Garden, Aalto Design Factory and Startup Sauna, as well as Google, Stanford d.school and ClassPass will help facilitate community design labs and share bright lights from their communities that have successfully nurtured place-based, cross-sector innovation ecosystems.

Through interactive breakout sessions and facilitated design sprints, innovateUM's 230 attendees and 35 local, national and international speakers, facilitators and guest designers will collaborate in envisioning Missoula's own innovation corridor.

This year's innovateUM is a collaboration between the UM Office of Research and Creative Scholarship and its Broader Impacts Group (BIG), as well as the City of Missoula in partnership with Blackfoot and the Finlandia Foundation of Montana.



A leader in co-creating cross-sector collective impact and ecosystem building initiatives with communities, BIG harnesses UM's research and innovation to foster transformative change. Through its signature collective-impact efforts on the Flathead Reservation, in Missoula and the Bitterroot Valley, and through local and statewide programming, BIG engages over 200,000 Montanans annually. This community-based, co-created work is supported by an array of federal and private foundation grants in part to research, design and disseminate collective-impact approaches and emergent models.

"The Broader Impacts Group is honored to be convening our university and community with national and international innovators and design thinkers as we begin to imagine what it would look like to intentionally co-create Missoula's innovation ecosystem," said Holly Truitt, director of BIG and the spectrUM Discovery Area. "Our innovateUM community day on April 25 is the signature event to help innovators, change makers and thought leaders help the community and university work collectively."

"InnovateUM seizes the opportunity to work together to refine Missoula's vision for its future," Missoula Mayor John Engen said. "We don't have the luxury of drawing hard lines between community and university but, more than that, those lines don't serve us well where they do exist. Together, we can make lives better for all Missoulians, and a grand vision comes with an open conversation like this one."

"With the theme of 'innovation runs through it,' this year's innovateUM will bring our community together to envision the innovation corridor that's starting to form along our city's stretch of the river," said UM Vice President for Research and Creative Scholarship Scott Whittenburg. "We're identifying and connecting existing assets and emerging opportunities, with the goal of intentionally aligning efforts across sectors."

During a morning session focused on learning from existing innovation ecosystems locally, nationally and internationally, Espoo Innovation Garden's Sini Liu, director of community at Startup Sauna, and Maria Mikkonen, a researcher at Aalto Design Factory, will share experiences and findings from their community's cross-sector innovation model.

Engen and ClassPass CEO Fritz Lanman will hold a conversation about Missoula's own innovation soils and why ClassPass decide to call Missoula home. Through breakout sessions moderated by local innovators and thought leaders, including Tom Bensen (Arts Missoula), Joe Fanguy and Jason Williams (Blackfoot), Karen Knudsen (Clark Fork Coalition) and Reed Humphrey (UM Health and Medicine initiative and UM College of Health Professions and Biomedical Sciences), attendees will explore and co-design specific opportunities to foster innovation and alignment between sectors.

Over a working lunch co-hosted by the Finlandia Foundation of Montana, design facilitator Blake Wigdahl will lead a community design sprint that engages community members in co-imagining and co-designing Missoula's innovation ecosystem. Elysa Fenenbock, designer-in-residence at Google and an instructor at Stanford d.school, will lead a complementary, place-based design workshop called "You Are Here: Setting Your Personal Intentions in Building Missoula's Innovation Ecosystem."

Findings and recommendations that emerge from the day will feed into a guiding document that will inform UM and Missoula's long-range planning efforts. External evaluator Becky Carroll of Redwing Research will capture the day's outcomes and feedback from participants, stakeholders and external guests. Drawing on Carroll's research, the guiding document will be published online for community feedback in fall 2018.

InnovateUM's morning session will take place from 9 a.m. to noon at the DoubleTree (100 Madison St.). The afternoon will resume at 12:30 p.m. at the Public House (130 E. Broadway St.) and conclude at 3 p.m. The event is fully booked, but the organizers are managing a wait list. To learn more or to join the wait list, visit <http://www.umt.edu/big/innovateUM>.

###

**Contact:** Holly Truitt, director, UM Broader Impacts Group and spectrUM Discovery Area, 406-243-4828, [holly.truitt@umontana.edu](mailto:holly.truitt@umontana.edu).



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# Davidson Honors College at UM to Host Dinner and Dialogue Event

April 23, 2018

**MISSOULA** – The Davidson Honors College at the University of Montana will host its inaugural “Dinner and Dialogue” event on Thursday, May 3, to promote community building and lifelong learning.

This dynamic evening of exploration will include engaging dinner conversations led by an expert. Each table will host a unique topic of the leader’s expertise, including international trade negotiations, telemedicine, horror movies, wine, natural disasters and more.

A social hour begins at 5:30 p.m. in the Davidson Honors College Lounge, and dinner starts at 6:30 p.m. To learn more, visit <https://www.dhcdinneranddialogue.com/>.

Proceeds from the event support the Davidson Honors College Impact Fund, which benefits student research, career development and experiential learning.

This event is sold out, but to be placed on the waitlist, call Kaetlyn Cordingley, UM Davidson Honors College director of career development, at 406-243-2579 or email [kaetlyn.cordingley@umontana.edu](mailto:kaetlyn.cordingley@umontana.edu).

###

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# UM Students Win Critical Language Scholarships for Immersion Summer Study

April 19, 2018

**MISSOULA** – University of Montana students Margaret Grayson and Megan Murdoch won State Department Critical Language Scholarships in the 2018 national competition for immersive in-country summer language study. The scholarship provides full funding for the program, which runs from mid-June to mid-August and includes an orientation in Washington, D.C.

Grayson, is a senior at UM majoring in journalism. She is the daughter of Paul Grayson and graduated from Bayfield High School of Bayfield, Colorado, in 2014. Grayson wants to pursue a career in international



journalism. She will study in India.

“I see India as a massive emerging market for news reporting that will be increasingly important to the American and global public,” Grayson said. “Many stories and problems in India, the world’s largest democracy, echo those of the United States. There is so much we have to learn from each other, and as the world becomes increasingly globalized it’s important for us to have a better understanding of such a large segment of the world.”

For more details on Grayson’s award, see stories from the South and Southeast Asian Studies program online at <http://bit.ly/2qPlxPA> and <http://bit.ly/2JYvtio>.

Murdoch is earning majors in Central Southwest Asia Studies and forensic anthropology with a minor in Arabic. She graduated from Sheridan High School in Sheridan, Wyoming, in 2015 and plans to graduate from UM in 2020. Her parents are Robert and Severine Murdoch of Dubois, Wyoming.



Murdoch’s intensive Arabic language program this summer will be held in Meknes, Morocco. She is excited to further her modern standard Arabic and to learn the local Darija dialect while staying with a host family.

“I applied to CLS because it presents an incredible opportunity to gain fluency through formal classes and immersion,” she said. “My attraction to Arabic is driven by the dichotomy of its pervasiveness in the modern world juxtaposed with the general lack of knowledge and strong biases on all sides. I am interested in cutting through this barrier, bridging the divide and helping to facilitate greater cross-cultural understanding.”

Ethan Holmes, a UM student studying Russian, earned placement as an alternate for the program.

The Critical Language Scholarship Program is an intensive overseas language and cultural immersion program for American students enrolled at U.S. colleges and universities. The program includes intensive language instruction and structured cultural enrichment experiences designed to promote rapid language gains.

CLS is part of a wider government initiative to expand the number of Americans studying and mastering foreign languages that are critical to national security and economic prosperity. CLS plays an important role in preparing students for the 21st century's globalized workforce and increasing national competitiveness.

The Critical Language Scholarship Program is a program of the U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs. It is supported in its implementation by American Councils for International Education.

For more information on the program, visit <http://www.clscholarship.org/>.

###

**Contact:** Laure Pengelly Drake, coordinator, UM Writing Center programs, external scholarships and advising, 406-243-6140, [laure.pengellydrake@umontana.edu](mailto:laure.pengellydrake@umontana.edu); Margaret Grayson, scholarship recipient, 970-317-3571, [margaret.grayson@umontana.edu](mailto:margaret.grayson@umontana.edu); Megan Murdoch, scholarship recipient, 307-763-1365, [meganmagali@hotmail.com](mailto:meganmagali@hotmail.com).



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# UM Student Club Presents Staged Reading to Combat Gun Violence

April 19, 2018

**MISSOULA** – The University Players student theater group at the University of Montana will present a staged reading of Lauren Gunderson’s “Natural Shocks” on Monday, April 23.

Gunderson is making the play available royalty-free for staged readings around the country to remember 19th anniversary of the Columbine shootings, as well as honor the sentiments of the April 20 National School Walkout.

The reading will be held at 7:30 p.m. Monday, April 23, in the Masquer Theatre of UM’s Performing Arts and Radio/Television Center. The production is open to the public and will not be ticketed. Donations will be accepted at the door, with all proceeds benefiting the Montana Coalition Against Domestic and Sexual Violence. A talkback will be held immediately following the 65-minute reading.

“‘Natural Shocks’ is a 65-minute, one-woman gale force of humor, morbidity, dark whimsy and an eventual truth that will make the audience confront their own perceptions of gun violence in America,” said Genevieve Barlow, a UM graduating senior in theatre and president of the University Players. “Based in part on ‘To be or not to be’ from ‘Hamlet,’ it is a funny, surprising, heart-warming and deeply reflective piece of theater.”

The event is being presented in conjunction with the University Players, Associated Students of UM Dance Club and ASUM Technology & Design Club – the three ASUM clubs sponsored by the School of Theatre & Dance.

Gunderson wanted to share the play with as many Americans as possible as a way to honor the victims of Columbine and to show solidarity with the survivors of Parkland.

“On [or near] April 20th, read [‘Natural Shocks], experience it, use it to raise money for Everytown or Mom’s Demand Action,” Gunderson wrote. “Use it to start conversations, to build networks of support, to gather people and give them some place to go to congregate and say ‘enough.’”

For more information about Monday’s Missoula reading, call Barlow at 206-422-6637 or email [genevieve.barlow@umontana.edu](mailto:genevieve.barlow@umontana.edu). For more information about the nationwide staged reading project, visit <https://www.naturalshocks.org/>.

###

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## UM News

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# Nobel Prize Winner in Chemistry to Close 2017-18 President's Lecture Series at UM

April 19, 2018

**MISSOULA** – One of the world's most-innovative organic chemists will deliver the final installment of the 2017-18 President's Lecture Series at the University of Montana.

Sir J. Fraser Stoddart will speak on "Mingling Art with Science" at 8 p.m. Monday, April 23, in the University Center Ballroom. The talk is the Lucile Speer Memorial Lecture.

He also will present the seminar "The Rise and Promise of the Mechanical Bond in Chemistry and Beyond" from 3 to 4:30 p.m. the same day in Gallagher Business Building Room 123. Both events are free and open to the public.

Stoddart received the 2016 Nobel Prize in Chemistry for his work in the design and production of molecular computers that are much



smaller and potentially more powerful than today's silicon-based machines. An eloquent spokesman for the values and methods of science, he has given more than 1,000 plenary and invited lectures all over the world. His lecture in Missoula will concern some unsuspected relationships between art and science.

After receiving his Ph.D. in 1966 from Edinburgh University, he held appointments at Queen's University, Sheffield University, UCLA, Birmingham University and the California NanoSystems Institute before being named to a chair at Northwestern University.

One of the most famous research scientists in the world, he was the first to successfully synthesize a mechanically interlocked molecule, known as a catenane, thereby helping to establish the field of mechanical-bond chemistry. Catenanes have a wide range of applications, including as components of drug-delivery systems, electronic sensors and motorized devices. He has been a pioneer in using molecular recognition and self-assembly processes for the fabrication of new electronic devices and NanoElectroMechanical Systems.

In addition to the Nobel Prize, Stoddart's work has been recognized with many awards, including the American Chemical Society's Cope Scholar Award, the Nagoya Gold Medal in Organic Chemistry, the Albert Einstein World Award of Science and the Royal Society's Davy Medal. He was one of 20 research scientists invited by the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences to participate in the Nobel Jubilee Symposium on "Frontiers of Molecular Sciences" in Stockholm in December 2001. He was appointed by Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II as a Knight Bachelor in her 2007 New Year's Honours List for his services to chemistry and molecular nanotechnology.

He received the Nobel Prize in Chemistry in 2016 for his work in the design and production of molecular machines and shared the prize that year with French chemist Jean-Pierre Sauvage and Dutch chemist Bernard Feringa.

Stoddart holds five honorary degrees, sits on the international advisory boards of numerous scientific journals, edits *Applied Nanoscience* and is a fellow of prestigious science societies in the United States, Germany, the United Kingdom and the Netherlands.

A measure of Stoddart's impact as a scientist can be gained from the record of his citation statistics. Of his more

than 1,000 publications, three of them have been cited over 1,000 times, 15 over 500, 27 over 300, 157 over 100 times and 335 of his publications have been cited over 50 times. In his 45-year career, more than 400 doctoral and postdoctoral students have passed through his laboratories and been inspired by his imagination and creativity.

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.

###

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## UM News

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# UM Launches Effort to Redesign Missoula College, Extended Learning Offerings

April 18, 2018

**MISSOULA** – University of Montana officials announced April 18 the launch of a new effort to redesign how the University delivers its two-year, digital and extended learning opportunities.

UM President Seth Bodnar said this redesign, which also will include workforce and community training, will allow the University to offer its curriculum in a more coordinated fashion. This was one of the draft recommendations he announced in his “University of Montana Strategy for Distinction” (<http://bit.ly/2H98dMA>), which he delivered to the campus on Tuesday.

The search for the next dean of Missoula College will commence after the redesign and resulting recommendations are completed. Bodnar said Roger Maclean, the dean of UM’s School of Extended and Lifelong Learning, will serve as interim MC dean starting May 1. Maclean also will lead the redesign effort with UM faculty, staff, student and community stakeholders.

“The time has come to recognize the potential of Missoula College to become one of UM’s most distinctive colleges,” Bodnar said. “We invite everyone to join this effort to create a collaborative, coordinated new model that

integrates Missoula College's two-year mission with extended learning opportunities in significant, innovative ways.”

Former Missoula College Dean Shannon O'Brien stepped down at the end of 2017. Since then, MC employees Clint Reading and Vida Wilkinson have served as interim dean and interim associate dean. Bodnar said their expertise will be critical to Maclean as he moves the redesign process forward.

###

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# UM School of Theatre & Dance to Present 'Dance New Works'

April 18, 2018

**MISSOULA** – The University of Montana School of Theatre & Dance will present the experimental and intimate dance concert “Dance New Works” to audiences in May. The production marks the season’s second performance in Theatre & Dance’s Studio Series. In the Studio Series, the focus is on the performers and the students’ original choreography.

Produced by UM dance Professor Nicole Bradley Browning, “Dance New Works” will be performed at 7:30 p.m. Thursday through Saturday, May 3-5, as well as at 2 p.m. Saturday, May 5, in the Open Space in UM’s Performing Arts and Radio/TV Center.

The production is general admission only, and tickets cost \$9. Tickets are available by calling the UMArts Box Office at 406-243-4581 between noon and 5 p.m. Tuesday through Friday, or online at



<http://www.umt.edu/theatredance>.

The final production of the School of Theatre & Dance's 2017-18 season, "Dance New Works" is an annual showcase in the Dance Program's intimate home venue, the Open Space, and celebrates emerging choreographers.



The concert features seven new works that range in content and style. Newly declared dance major Kyle Robinson provides a glimpse of young love within the hip-hop vernacular, while junior BFA dance major Katie Conrad bravely transforms the stage into a space dedicated to healing. Award-winning BFA dance major Logan Prichard charges the stage with a gritty, fierce and sensational new work laden with rich imagery; graduating dance minor Nancy Greger comments on her time as a UM student in her final work, "Commence." The diversity of work in "Dance New Works" provides the viewer with myriad dance aesthetics and experiences.

"Dance has the power to inform, inspire and impact the viewer," said Bradley Browning. "The student choreographers and dancers at UM are eager to share art that has the possibility of evoking emotion and provoking reflection."

For more information call Bradley Browning at 406-529-3331 or email [nicole.bradleybrowning@umontana.edu](mailto:nicole.bradleybrowning@umontana.edu).

###

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# M Trail on Mount Sentinel Closed April 18-19 for Repair Work

April 17, 2018

**MISSOULA** – The M Trail on Mount Sentinel will be closed in the afternoon on Wednesday, April 18, and the morning of Thursday, April 19, while the Montana Conservation Corps repairs a section of trail.

When the trail reopens in the afternoon on April 19, hikers will be asked to help carry gravel up the mountain. Hikers who don't want to carry gravel are asked to use the Ridge Trail, which will remain open during the repair work.

Gravel transport will continue Friday, April 20, with help from the students of Sussex School.

The work is part of ongoing upgrades to protect the M Trail, which is the most frequently used trailhead in Montana. All improvements are funded by grants and donations.

"A thousand people a day hike up the M Trail, and one of the results is constant mass erosion," said Marilyn Marler, UM natural areas manager. "These repairs are badly needed."

On April 7, more than 30 volunteers turned out to help transport log steps up the mountain, perform trail maintenance and repair the bench at the first switchback. Montana Conservation Corps workers will now use the log steps to build a new stair structure at switchback No. 8. The gravel hauled by volunteers will fill in the stair structure.

“The community response we’ve seen since putting out the call for volunteers has been really heartwarming,” Marler said. “Missoulians clearly love the M Trail and want to protect it for future generations.”

To make a tax-deductible donation to the Friends of the M Trail fund, visit <http://mtrail.org>.

###

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# UM to Celebrate Arbor Day April 27 with Tree Planting, Plaque Unveiling

April 18, 2018

**MISSOULA** – The State of Montana Arboretum on the University of Montana campus will celebrate Arbor Day with a slate of activities from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Friday, April 27.

Unless otherwise noted, all events will be centered at the new Arboretum Interpretive Site, aka the Root, on the north side of Main Hall between the University Center and the Botany Building.

Festivities include:

- **11 a.m.:**
  - Welcome & Arbor Day Proclamation by Montana Lt. Gov. Mike Cooney and UM President Seth Bodnar.



- Stories of Trees with Anne Garde of Montana Public Radio's "The Pea Green Boat."
- Tree planting with help from Missoula elementary students.
- **11:40 a.m.:** Oval Tree Project Donor Plaque unveiling with President Bodnar and the UM Alumni Association on the east end of UM Oval, in front of Main Hall.
- **Noon:** Festive music, root beer, treats and door prizes.
- **12:30 p.m.:** Tribute Trees Ceremony with introduction and remarks by Mayor John Engen and Tom DeLuca, dean of UM's W.A. Franke College of Forestry and Conservation.
- **1 p.m.:** Arboretum tour of campus tree diversity along with scavenger hunt and plant-your-own-seedling activities.

UM's Arbor Day festivities kick off a "Root for the Arboretum" campaign that seeks \$15,000 for fabrication, mounting and installation of interpretive signs about the Arboretum and trees in general. The six signs will complete the Root site.

Donations for the sign project can be made online at <http://www.umt.edu/arboretum/support> or by mailing checks to the UM Foundation, reference UM Arboretum, P.O. Box 7159, Missoula, MT 59807. Donations may also be made by calling committee chair John Goodburn at 406-243-4295 or emailing [john.goodburn@umontana.edu](mailto:john.goodburn@umontana.edu). Donors will be recognized on the State of Montana Arboretum website at <http://www.umt.edu/arboretum/>.

Learn more at <http://www.umt.edu/arboretum/> or on the State of Montana Arboretum Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/stateofmontanaarboretum/>.

###

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# Montana Public Radio Concludes 2018 Spring Pledge Week

April 16, 2018

**MISSOULA** – Montana Public Radio ended its annual spring fundraiser with nearly \$550,000 in listener pledges. Live music, listener challenges, hundreds of phone volunteers and special programs highlighted the week.

At midnight, the tally reached \$549,560, concluding a nine-day event that raised nearly 83 percent of the \$660,000 goal. There were a total of 3,968 listener pledges during the on-air fundraiser, which ran April 7-15.

“Thanks to all of our great listeners for making pledges and donations to Montana Public Radio,” said Ray Ekness, director of the University of Montana Broadcast Media Center. “While we didn’t get all the way to our goal, we know our listeners will continue to pledge their support – online and through the mail – over the next few weeks.”

The drive concluded with the popular “Pet Wars,” where dogs outnumbered cats 953 to 860. The pet competition also included many pledges for chickens, horses, goats, turkeys, hedgehogs and more.

Listeners donated thousands of gifts to entice listeners to donate to the station.



“We want to thank all of the folks who donated thank-you gifts and came in to answer the phones during our unique MTPR pledge drive,” Development Director Linda Talbott said.

“This week is our report card from our listeners,” said Michael Marsolek, MTPR programming director. “It’s a two-way conversation with our audience and a community event across the state.”

MTPR hopes to raise nearly \$1.8 million – 75 percent of the total operating budget – from listeners, sponsors and events during its fundraising year.

Montana Public Radio is a public service of UM and broadcasts on 89.1 Missoula (KUFM), 91.5 Missoula city (K218AI), 91.9 Hamilton (KUFN), 89.5 Polson (KPJH), 90.1 Kalispell, Whitefish, North Valley (KUKL), 90.5 Libby (KUFL), 91.7 Kalispell, city (K219BN), 101.3 Swan Lake (K267BJ), 91.3 Butte (KAPC), 91.7 Helena (KUHM), 91.7 Dillon (K219DN) and 89.9 Great Falls (KGPR).

Learn more at <http://mtp.r.org>.

###

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# UM Journalism Students, Projects Bring Home Excellence Awards

April 16, 2018

**MISSOULA** – Several students in the School of Journalism at the University of Montana are winners and finalists in the Society of Professional Journalists' Mark of Excellence Awards for large universities in Region 10.

Student reporting and production was honored in three group projects led by UM School of Journalism faculty.

- **“The Meth Effect”** won for online in-depth reporting. The project examined the Montana people and programs affected by an influx of cases caused by methamphetamine use in Montana. The project was led by School of Journalism faculty Jule Banville and Lee Banville. See the project at <http://www.metheffect.com/>.
- **“UM to Fukushima: Finding Home After Fallout”** won for Online News Reporting. This project examined the challenges the people of northeastern Japan faced as government support ended for people evacuated after the Great Northeast Earthquake and related nuclear plant meltdown. It was a part of the annual Montana Journalism Abroad undertaking and was led by faculty members Nadia White and Denise Dowling, with staff support from Cameron Bucheit and in-country support from photojournalist and UM journalism alumnus Keiji Fujimoto. See the project at <https://mtjourabroad.wixsite.com/umtofukushima>.
- **UM News** was a finalist for the Best All-Around Newscast. UM News is a weekly television and online news

production created by reporting and production teams of students. It is overseen by faculty members Kevin Tompkins and Ray Fanning.

Seven graduate students won individual awards or participated on winning teams. These include:

- **Nora Saks** in radio news, features and with “The Meth Effect” team.
- **Olga Kreimer** in nonfiction magazine article for a story on a proposed bottled water plant in the Flathead Valley. Her reporting was funded by the School of Journalism’s Crown Reporting Project.
- **Zachariah Bryan, Katy Spence** and **Jana Wiegand** as part of the “UM to Fukushima: Finding Home After Fallout” team.
- **Matt Blois, Beau Baker** and **Saks** as part of “The Meth Effect.”

UM’s undergraduate winners were:

- **Lucy Tompkins** in feature writing
- **Jackson Wagner** in sports writing.
- **Liam Keshishian** in sports
- **Meri DeMarois** TV feature reporting.
- **DJ Stewart** TV sports reporting.

Undergraduate finalists include:

- **Rick Rowan** in radio news.
- **Cal Reynolds** in general column writing.
- **Tailyr Irvine** in breaking news photography.
- **Hope Freier** in breaking news photography.
- **Kate Cier** in radio feature.
- **Rosie Costain** in radio feature.
- **Mederios Whitworth-Babb** in TV feature reporting.

The Mark of Excellence Awards honor the best in collegiate journalism. First-place regional winners advance to the national competition. With nearly 7,500 members, the Society of Professional Journalists is the nation’s most broad-based journalism organization, dedicated to encouraging the free practice of journalism and stimulating high standards of ethical behavior. Region 10 comprises Washington, Oregon, Idaho, Alaska and Montana.

###

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/ [UM Researcher: Evidence Mounts for Alzheimer's, Suicide Risks Among Children, Young Adults in Polluted Cities](#)

# UM Researcher: Evidence Mounts for Alzheimer's, Suicide Risks Among Children, Young Adults in Polluted Cities

April 13, 2018

**MISSOULA** – A University of Montana researcher and her collaborators have published a new study that reveals increased risks for Alzheimer's and suicide among children and young adults living in polluted megacities.

Dr. Lilian Calderón-Garcidueñas said her group studied 203

autopsies of Mexico City residents ranging in age from 11 months to 40 years.

Metropolitan Mexico City is home to 24 million people exposed daily to concentrations of fine particulate matter and ozone above U.S.



Environmental Protection Agency standards. The researchers tracked two abnormal proteins that indicate development of Alzheimer's, and they detected the early stages of the disease in babies less than a year old.

"Alzheimer's disease hallmarks start in childhood in polluted environments, and we must implement effective preventative measures early," said Calderón-Garcidueñas, a physician and Ph.D. toxicologist in UM's Department of Biomedical and Pharmaceutical Sciences. "It is useless to take reactive actions decades later."

The research was published in the Journal of Environmental Research and is online at <http://bit.ly/2veeDsC>.

The scientists found heightened levels of the two abnormal proteins – hyperphosphorylated tau and beta amyloid – in the brains of young urbanites with lifetime exposures to fine-particulate-matter pollution (PM<sub>2.5</sub>). They also tracked Apolipoprotein E (APOE 4), a well-known genetic risk factor for Alzheimer's, as well as lifetime cumulative exposure to unhealthy levels of PM<sub>2.5</sub> – particles which are at least 30 times smaller than the diameter of a human hair and frequently cause the haze over urban areas.

Findings indicate Alzheimer's starts in early childhood, and the disease progression relates to age, APOE 4 status and particulate exposure. Researchers found hallmarks of the disease among 99.5 percent of the subjects they examined in Mexico City. In addition, APOE 4 carriers have a higher risk of rapid progression of Alzheimer's and 4.92 higher odds of committing suicide versus APOE 3 carriers, controlling for age and particulate exposure.

Overall, the authors have documented an accelerated and early disease process for Alzheimer's in highly exposed Mexico City residents. They believe the detrimental effects are caused by tiny pollution particles that enter the brain through the nose, lungs and gastrointestinal tract, and these particles damage all barriers and travel everywhere in the body through the circulatory system.

The authors conclude that ambient air pollution is a key modifiable risk for millions of people across the globe, including millions of Americans who are exposed to harmful particulate pollution levels.

"Neuroprotection measures ought to start very early, including the prenatal period and childhood," Calderón-Garcidueñas said. "Defining pediatric environmental, nutritional, metabolic and genetic risk-factor interactions are key to preventing Alzheimer's disease."

Her research partners in the study are from the Universidad del Valle de México, the Instituto Nacional de Pediatría, Boise State University, Lake Erie College of Osteopathic Medicine, the National Autonomous University of Mexico, Médica Sur and the Universidad Autónoma de Piedras Negras. The work was conducted without grant funding.

###

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# Public Invited to Celebrate Native Culture at 50th Annual Kyiyo Powwow at UM

April 13, 2018

**MISSOULA** – Some of the best Native American dancers and drum groups in North America will gather at the University of Montana on Friday and Saturday, April 20-21, for the 50th Annual Kyiyo Celebration in the UM Adams Center.

Hosted by the Kyiyo Native American Student Association, the event is one of the oldest student-run powwows in the country and allows the Native American community to share its culture with the UM campus, Missoula and beyond through traditional dance and song. The theme this year is “Honoring Our Past, Inspiring Our Future.”

The first Grand Entry event will be held at 7 p.m. Friday, April 20. Saturday Grand Entry times are at noon and 7 p.m.

Longtime Honorary Master of Ceremonies Chief Earl Old Person will lead the celebration, along with other community members. Midnite Express Singers from Minnesota are this year’s host drum. Outgoing Royalty for the 2018 Kyiyo are Hokian Win McCloud, Miss Kyiyo; Rhiannon EagleSpeaker, Junior Miss Kyiyo; and Nihani Siis Stiffarm, Lil’ Miss Kyiyo.

General admission passes cost \$5, and weekend passes are \$12. One session will be offered Friday, and two sessions will be offered Saturday. Seniors age 65 and older and children age 6 and younger are admitted free. Dancer registration costs \$5, and drum registration for 10 passes costs \$50. Tickets and passes can be purchased at the door, online at <http://www.griztix.com>, at all GrizTix locations or by calling 406-243-4051.

“This year’s club has been working nonstop to bring together a celebration worthy of this remarkable anniversary,” said Danielle Vazquez, president of the Kyiyo Native American Student Association. “The club will be hosting the return of the handgame and basketball tournaments, and UM’s Native American Studies department has planned the return of the youth conference.”

The Kyiyo Native American Student Association at UM predates 1960, and was formally recognized as an official UM club during the 1968-69 school year. The name Kyiyo (kiááyo), means “bear” in Blackfoot and was chosen because of its ease in pronunciation and its reference to UM’s grizzly bear mascot. The formation of the club began in 1968 when a number of Native and non-native students began meeting. Founding Kyiyo student organization members were Lorraine Edmo, Rodney Miller, Kenneth Ryan, Lloyd Coon, Harold Gray, Chris Roberts and Rex Swoboda.

The current student club members recognize they would not be where they are today without those first intrepid students, and are proud to serve as a link between the Native American community and UM. Club members believe Native culture and history in Montana are important parts of the state’s identity and ones that should continue to be celebrated by future generations.

Striving to follow in the footsteps of activism and advocacy that the first club walked, the 2017-18 club has championed many Native issues in the UM and Missoula communities. The celebration will include the family team dance and an art exhibit to honor Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women, plus a hand drum contest in memory of those lost to suicide.

The Kyiyo Native American Student Association plays an integral role in promoting the cultural traditions and customs of all Native Americans. Through extracurricular activities offered throughout the year, Kyiyo engages UM employees and students in the cultural identities of Native Americans to support cultural diversity. Kyiyo is open to all Native American and non-native students, as well as any community members. The club is a chartered member of the Associated Students of UM.

Cost of hosting the powwow have risen substantially in recent years. To counteract these costs, the club actively fundraises year-round. Top fundraisers include Indian taco sales and Kyiyo’s own line of “Native Griz” athletic apparel.

For more information on powwow events, visit <http://cas.umt.edu/kyiyo>, email the club at [kyiyo@umontana.edu](mailto:kyiyo@umontana.edu) or visit the Kyiyo Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/kyiyopowwow/>.

###

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# UM College of Business to Honor, Host Conversation with Outstanding Alumni

April 13, 2018

**MISSOULA** – The University of Montana College of Business will recognize two alumni for outstanding career achievements during its spring Business Advisory Council Meeting.

John Burke, who earned an accounting degree from UM in 1982, and Mark Burnham, who graduated with a finance degree in 1984, will engage in an on-stage conversation about their careers at 3:15 p.m. Friday, April 20, in Gallagher Business Building Room 106. The event is free and open to the public.

Burke is the chief financial officer of Kampgrounds of America, a franchise system of more than 500 RV campgrounds throughout North America. Burnham is a shareholder and director with Hawthorn Construction Group and Hawthorn Senior Living, which owns and operates 60 communities in the U.S. and Canada, as well as the managing principal of OZ Cap, an advisory firm.

“One of the greatest strengths of our college is our alumni,” said College of Business Dean Chris Shook. “Graduates like John Burke and Mark Burnham are why we say that. They have had truly stellar careers, consistently give back to their communities and remain proud Grizzlies in all they do. Our outstanding alumni awards are one way we can acknowledge their success and their dedication.”

The college has named outstanding alumni since 1990 and has celebrated many graduates, including IBM executive Mary Olson, former D.A. Davidson chair Ian Davidson and KPMG audit partner Kayreen Handley.



Burke has more than 30 years of experience in public accounting and private industry including regulated utility operations, electric generation, coal mining, oil and gas exploration and marketing, telecommunications and outdoor hospitality.

His career began with Helena accounting firm Galusha, Higgins and Galusha. After four years of taxes and audits, he returned to his home town of Butte to join the Montana Power Co. Following 13 years with Montana Power, he transitioned to telecommunications with TouchAmerica as vice president and controller and then to KOA in 2004.

Burke works with the management team of KOA’s company-operated properties, evaluating capital investments, property acquisitions and divestitures, and all aspects of finance, treasury and accounting. He also devotes time to the franchise system, sharing the disciplines of finance, treasury and accounting within individual operations.

Burke’s connection to UM runs deep, as his UM-alumni parents, Jack and Nancy, met on a blind date in the late 1940s at the annual Griz-Cat game, then held in Butte. Burke also immediately passed the CPA exam when he graduated from the College of Business in 1982.

He served as a member of the Business Advisory Council in the UM College of Business from 1999 to 2002 and has been a member of the MSU-Billings College of Business Advisory Board since 2006. He volunteered with the Billings Catholic Schools Foundation Board from 2007 to 2010. As a lifetime Montanan and lover of the outdoors, Burke spends his free time golfing, playing tennis and pickleball, boating and skiing with his wife, Stella, and their three adult children.

Burnham began his career in 1985 as a loan review officer at Norwest Bank in Billings. Over the next 16 years, he gained experience in all aspects of banking while working for Norwest (now

Wells Fargo) and First Bank Systems (now U.S. Bank) in Montana, Minnesota and Colorado.

In 2000, he joined Holiday Retirement Corp., the largest owner, operator and builder in the senior housing industry, based in Salem, Oregon. He served as director of finance until Holiday was sold to a private equity firm. In 2009, Burnham joined the former principals of Holiday as director of finance at Hawthorn Retirement Group, a senior housing company based in Vancouver, Washington. This company became Hawthorn Senior Living and Hawthorn Construction Group in 2017. It owns and operates 60 communities in the U.S. and Canada. Burnham currently serves as a shareholder and director of these two entities, as well as the managing principal of OZ Cap, an advisory firm.



Burnham has more than a dozen family members who are alumni or associates of UM, including his siblings and wife, Cheryl. He and his family have generously supported UM by giving to enhance faculty teaching and research, student initiatives and leadership roles. Burnham remains highly engaged with the institution, including serving on the UM Foundation board of trustees.

Burnham also is involved with his local community of Salem, Oregon, in a number of ways. He served on the board of the Boys and Girls Club and Foundation for 15 years and is a regional advisory board member for the Oregon Community Foundation. In his free time, he enjoys playing tennis and golf, as well as kayaking, traveling with Cheryl and spending time with their three grown children.

For more information about the College of Business or this event, email [officeofthedean@mso.umt.edu](mailto:officeofthedean@mso.umt.edu).

###

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# UM President Announces Preliminary 'Strategy for Distinction' Plan

April 17, 2018

**MISSOULA** – The University of Montana released the draft of a proposed plan on April 17 that has major implications for the future of UM.

Titled "University of Montana Strategy for Distinction," the preliminary document outlines ideas for creating a sustainable budget while setting the University on a path for future success and a return to growth.

The plan offers everything from a refreshed institutional mission statement to key strategies. It also suggests programs for reorganization, discontinuance and potential faculty member reductions.

"I believe this proposed plan offers a bold reimagining of the University of Montana," UM President Seth Bodnar said. "This report represents a planning approach that has spanned two years. It began with our strategic vision, encompassed our academic prioritization process and now includes the work of our University Planning Committee.

"In all of this work, we have asked a critical question: How can we most effectively meet the needs of our students?"



The draft plan is online at <http://bit.ly/2H98dMA>. A video message Bodnar prepared for students is online at <http://bit.ly/2H9ZG08>. Updates will be posted on the President's Office website at <http://www.umt.edu/president/>.

"While as a campus community we have exciting future work ahead, we also must make difficult decisions," Bodnar said. "We cannot continue to do everything we do now and do it well. This means better aligning, focusing and prioritizing what we can do best, and curtailing or discontinuing what we cannot. Even as we face these transitions, we will remain focused on our students, providing them with clear learning pathways to graduation and the support they need."

The draft plan calls for a reinvigoration of UM's core education, and one key strategy would be emphasizing the University's liberal arts education with something called the Innovative UM Core. This term would be used to describe to prospective students how a well-rounded curriculum from a flagship university like UM does more than train them for their first job. It trains them to succeed across multiple disciplines, helps them to learn and grow over the course of their careers and prepares them for jobs that may not even exist yet.

The plan suggests grouping UM into six communities of interdisciplinary excellence: artistic expression and communication; science and technology; business and entrepreneurship; environment and sustainability; health and human development; and justice, policy and public service.

The plan includes 14 preliminary recommendations. Four of those address updating UM's administrative structure, such as combining Student Affairs with the Office for Student Success. Ten recommendations would affect UM's colleges and professional schools. An example is replacing 23 department heads in UM's College of Humanities and Sciences with 10 division/department heads. Also included are recommendations for estimated full-time-equivalent employee reductions.

Other preliminary recommendations include developing a holistic approach to student support and success, embracing UM's connection to the surrounding region and developing robust place-based learning experiences that emphasize Montana's natural setting and communities.

The suggested new UM mission statement follows:

"The University of Montana's mission is to provide a high-quality and accessible education at a world-class research university. We shape global citizens who are creative and agile learners prepared to build and sustain communities. As Montana's flagship university, we lead conversations that question and expand the frontiers of knowledge to tackle the world's most complex challenges."

UM officials stress that development of this preliminary plan will continue in the coming weeks and months. Suggestions are welcome online at <http://bit.ly/2qDAofK>.

###

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# UM ROTC to Conduct Training Exercises April 13-14

April 12, 2018

**MISSOULA** – The University of Montana ROTC program will conduct training exercises Friday and Saturday, April 13-14, on the UM campus, around Mount Sentinel and in the Pattee Canyon and Deer Creek areas.

The annual field exercises usually take place at UM's Lubrecht Experimental Forest, but heavy snow there necessitated moving the training to campus. Operations will be based out of Schreiber Gym.

On Friday, helicopters will land in the West Riverbowl Field area between 9 and 11 a.m. ROTC candidates participating in the exercises will carry mock weapons with orange tips on and around campus on Friday and Saturday. They will conduct patrolling exercises on Mount Sentinel, though the mountain will remain open for public use.

###

**Contact:** Jeremy Dose, master sergeant, UM ROTC, 785-717-8807, .



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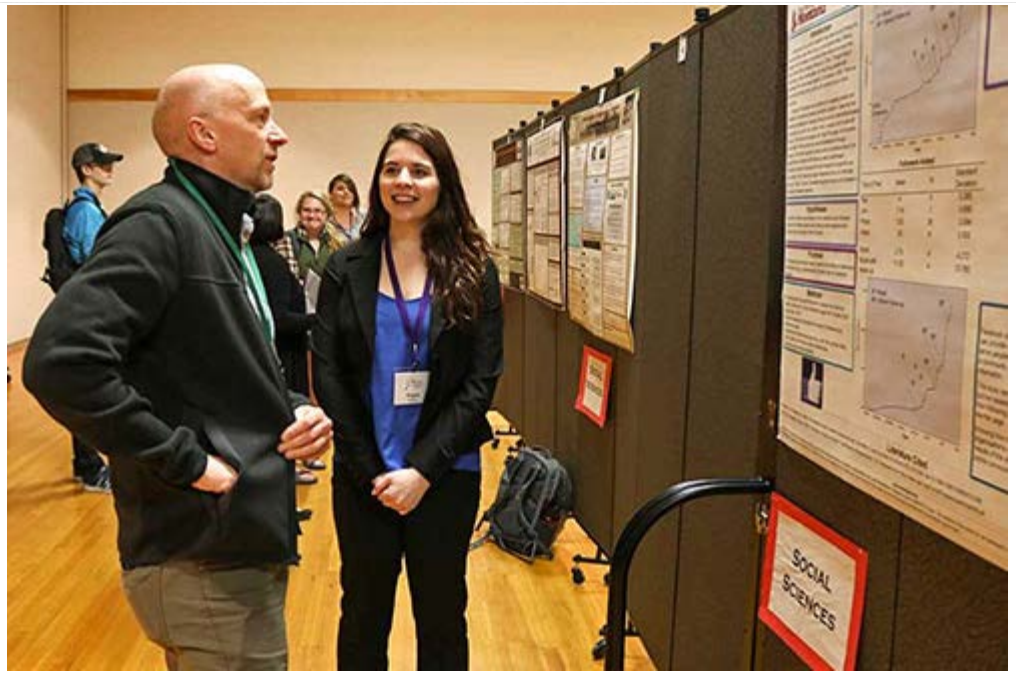
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# UM Students, People with Disabilities Partner for Healthy Community Living Project

April 12, 2018

**MISSOULA** – The Healthy Community Living project at the University of Montana is developing multimedia health promotion programs to support people with disabilities in reaching personal health goals.

Ten UM students helped create an online multimedia curriculum for the project that will help people with disabilities gain life



skills and learn how to set and reach healthy life goals. The students come from a wide range of disciplines, including media arts, psychology,

community health sciences and law, and they have developed work plans, provided research support, shared innovative ideas, conducted interviews and collected photos to use in the curricula.

“I’ve learned a lot since working here that applies to this project and other projects,” said Arynne Payne, an undergraduate psychology minor. “It’s really opened my eyes to disability and what that means for different people and the different challenges they face – and the really awesome ways those challenges are met.”

UM collaborates on the project with the Association of Programs for Rural Independent Living to support dozens of developmental partners in rural and urban areas throughout the U.S. at each stage of the process. The project currently is working with partners in Arizona, Alabama, Minnesota and New Jersey.

Once complete, the programs will be widely disseminated to a variety of community-based programs, such as aging and disability research centers, as well as health promotion researchers nationwide.

The Healthy Community Living project is a part of the UM Rural Institute. The Rural Institute engages in research, provides education and interdisciplinary training, and models services that improve the lives of people with disabilities in rural communities, including their families and those who support and partner with them.

To read more about the project, visit <http://rtc.ruralinstitute.umt.edu/hcl-student-involvement/> or to become involved, visit <http://healthycommunityliving.com/>.

###

**Contact:** Tannis Hargrove, project director/research associate, UM Rural Institute, 406-243-5719, [tannis.hargrove@umontana.edu](mailto:tannis.hargrove@umontana.edu); Justice Ender, communications associate for Healthy Community Living project, UM Rural Institute, 406-243-4135, [justice1.ender@umontana.edu](mailto:justice1.ender@umontana.edu).



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# UM Psychology Postdoctoral Student Wins \$15,000 Scholarship Award

April 12, 2018

**MISSOULA** – Hillary Gleason, a graduate student in clinical psychology at the University of Montana, is one of 100 doctoral students in the U.S. and Canada recently selected to receive a \$15,000 Scholar Award from the P.E.O. Sisterhood.

Gleason earned her undergraduate degree at Clark University in Worcester, Massachusetts. She is originally from Winchendon, Massachusetts.

“I am humbled to be supported by such a prestigious organization of strong and compassionate women,” Gleason said. “This award will help me to pursue further scholarship on mental health disparities among marginalized groups.”

Gleason is the second UM student to recently win a P.E.O. Scholar Award. Kathryn Oost, also a Ph.D. student in clinical psychology, received the scholarship in 2017.

“With only 100 scholarships given across the U.S., we’re exceptionally proud to have two P.E.O. awardees from our



program within the past two years,” said Bryan Cochran, UM psychology professor and director of clinical training.

The P.E.O. Scholar Awards were established in 1991 to provide substantial merit-based awards for women of the United States and Canada who are pursuing a doctoral-level degree at an accredited college or university. Scholar Awards recipients are chosen for their high level of academic achievement and their potential for having a positive impact on society.

The P.E.O. Sisterhood is a philanthropic educational organization dedicated to supporting higher education for women. There are about 6,000 local chapters in the United States and Canada with nearly 250,000 active members.

###

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# UM School of Law Hosts Indian Law Week April 16-20

April 11, 2018

**MISSOULA** – The Alexander Blewett School of Law at the University of Montana, in conjunction with the Native American Law Students Association, will host Indian Law Week Monday-Friday, April 16-20, at UM. This year’s conference is titled “Tribal Treaties Today: Rights, Culture and Sovereignty in Modern Society.”

The conference is open to the public and no registration is required. All events are free except for Thursday evening’s awards ceremony and silent auction.

A schedule follows.

### Monday, April 16

- **Noon-1 p.m.:** “Contemporary Treaty Hunting Rights” with John Harrison, staff attorney, Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes. Law Building Room 101.

This event is co-sponsored by the Public Land & Resources Law Review and the Environmental Law Group.

- **5:30-8 p.m.:** “Hostiles” film screening. Law Building Room 101.

## **Tuesday, April 17**

- **Noon-1 p.m.:** “A Promise of Health and General Welfare” with Gyda Swaney and Cherith Smith. Law Building Room 101.

Swaney is an associate professor in UM’s Department of Psychology and director of the Indians Into Psychology (InPsych) program, and member of the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes. Smith is assistant director of experiential education of the Skaggs School of Pharmacy at UM.

This event is co-sponsored by the Rural Advocacy League.

## **Wednesday, April 18**

- **Noon-1 p.m.:** “Empowerment Through Education” with Dr. George Price, Shelly Fyant, Joyce Silverthorne and Dr. Kathryn Shanley. Law Building Room 101.

Price is lecturer in UM’s Department of Native American Studies and African-American Studies. Fyant is an Arlee District Council member with the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes. Silverthorne is the former director of the Office of Indian Education. Shanley is a UM professor and special assistant to the provost on Native American and Indigenous education.

This event is sponsored by the ACLU of Montana.

## **Thursday, April 19**

- **5-7 p.m.:** “Blackfeet Beaver and Other Opportunities in Natural Resources Management and Sovereignty” with Dr. Rosalyn LaPier, Dylan DesRosier, Dona Rutherford and Kim Paul. Law Building Room 201.

LaPier is an associate professor of Environmental Studies at UM. DesRosier is the Blackfeet Reservation land protection specialist for the Nature Conservancy. Rutherford is the director of the Blackfeet Fish and Wildlife Department. Paul is the climate change coordinator in the Blackfeet Environmental Office.

This event is co-sponsored by the National Wildlife Federation and the 2018 International Wildlife Film Festival.

- **7-10 p.m.:** “An Evening with NALSA” awards ceremony and silent auction. Law Building, second floor atrium. Tickets cost \$10 at the door.

## **Friday, April 20**

- **10 a.m.-2 p.m.:** “Who is an ‘Indian?’ Disenrollment and Membership” with David Wilkins, Shelly Hulse Wilkins, Angela Russell, Robert Hall, Hunter Genia and facilitated by Maylinn Smith. Law Building Room 219.

Wilkins is a professor of American Indian Studies at the University of Minnesota. Hulse Wilkins is a partner at Wilkins Forum. Russell is a former chief judge of the Crow Nation. Hall is a language teacher. Genia is a

council member of the Saginaw, Swan Cree and Black River Band of Chippewa. Smith is the co-director of the Margery Hunter Brown Indian Law Clinic.

This event is co-sponsored by UM's Department of Native American Studies and the Women's, Gender and Sexuality Studies department.

Continuing legal education credits for the conference are pending.

Additional conference sponsors include the Student Bar Association, Missoula Urban Indian Health Center and the Indian Law Section of the Montana Bar.

###

**Contact:** Lillian Alvernaz, conference organizer and student, UM Alexander Blewett School of Law, 406-230-0413, [lillianalvernaz@gmail.com](mailto:lillianalvernaz@gmail.com).



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## UM News

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# Mansfield Center Seeks Participants for Basketball Exchange in El Salvador

April 11, 2018

**MISSOULA** – The Maureen and Mike Mansfield Center at the University of Montana is accepting applications for 20 Montana professionals and students to serve as citizen ambassadors to El Salvador in a U.S. Department of State youth sports diplomacy program.

The program uses basketball to bridge cultures, and it includes an all-expenses-paid, eight-day exchange in El Salvador this July, as well as the opportunity to work with youth and adult sports mentors from El Salvador, Guatemala and Honduras in Montana in April 2019.

Those interested in applying should call Kelsey Stamm Jimenez, the Mansfield Center program manager, at 406-243-2838 by Sunday, April 15.

Funded by the Sports Diplomacy Division of the Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs of the U.S. Department of State, the Mansfield Center project uses sports to support at-risk youth in Central America. The team from Montana will draw from its expertise to share ways that sports play a role in youth development at the grassroots level, while promoting technical proficiency among coaches, administrators and officials. The program will help build

the teamwork and self-discipline in youth that often lead to success in other aspects of their lives.

“Given the complex issues facing Salvadoran youth today, sports provide an ideal vehicle through which to find confidence and success,” said Stamm Jimenez. “This program helps youth develop important leadership skills and an understanding of the importance of academic success in determining routes to economic security and inclusion. Our program reaches both youth as well as the adults who provide mentorship, using basketball as a medium to develop life skills.”

The Montana team will experience both professional and cultural activities during its El Salvador exchange. While working with a local nonprofit organization that supports at-risk youth, the delegation also will learn about the culture and history of El Salvador by traveling to the capital city of San Salvador and historic city of Santa Ana in the western region of the country.

The U.S. Department of State Sports Diplomacy Division was created to increase dialogue and cultural understanding between people around the world through sports. Sports Diplomacy has involved tens of thousands of people from more than 100 countries in sports exchanges.

The El Salvador exchange is the first of four sports exchanges in this project for Latin America under the International Sports Programming Initiative cooperative agreement. In May 2019, the Mansfield Center will offer a soccer exchange in Peru that focuses on girls’ empowerment and indigenous culture, with external partners implementing the other two exchanges to support Mexico and Columbia. Those projects are currently open for bid by 501(c)(3) nonprofit organizations through a competitive proposal process closing April 30.

The Mansfield Center is an established partner in Sports Diplomacy programming, having created similar exchanges in China and Laos.

“We are grateful to the U.S. Department of State for the opportunity to partner on these programs to help further the Mansfield Center’s mandate to engage people from across our state in global connections,” said Deena Mansour, Mansfield Center associate director.

UM’s Mansfield Center promotes better understanding of international relations and ethics in public affairs in the spirit of Sen. Mike Mansfield (1993-2001) and his wife and life partner, Maureen Hayes Mansfield. The center houses programs that promote global ties, leadership and ethics in public affairs – the core interests and hallmarks of Sen. Mansfield’s career.

For background information on the program, visit <http://www.umt.edu/mansfield/internationalprograms/sports-diplomacy/default.php>.

###

**Contact:** Kelsey Stamm Jimenez, program manager, UM Maureen and Mike Mansfield Center, 406-243-2838, [kelsey.stamm@umontana.edu](mailto:kelsey.stamm@umontana.edu).



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# UM Offers New Timeline on African Americans, Montana Justice System

April 10, 2018

**MISSOULA** – The history of African-American Montanans’ relationship to state law and the criminal justice system is now available in an easily accessible form thanks to the work of a graduate of the University of Montana’s African-American Studies program.

With funding made possible in part by UM’s Montana Justice Initiative, Julia Sherman spent much of fall 2017 and early 2018 researching the history of black Montanans and their involvement with the state’s legal and judicial systems. The resulting timeline begins in 1864 and follows events through 2018.

The timeline is online <http://hs.umt.edu/aas/timeline.php>.

Featuring archival photos, interpretive commentary and hundreds of individuals and events, the timeline is designed to assist students, teachers and the general public in learning the fascinating history of African Americans in Montana.

Highlights of the timeline include:



- **1864:** whites-only restrictions for jury service and school board elections instituted.
- **1867:** African-American men vote in Helena for the first time.
- **1883:** A seven-year, interracial protest effort results in the successful overturning of segregation laws in the Montana territory and the passage of a bill prohibiting racial segregation in Montana's schools.
- **1909:** The Muffly Law outlawing racially mixed marriages becomes law despite opposition by black-run newspapers like The Montana Plaindealer and the Afro-American Protective League.
- **1921:** KKK in Montana peaks at 5,100 members.
- **1942:** A battalion of black soldier miners are forced out of the Butte mines.
- **1953:** Muffly Law overturned.
- **1964:** U.S. Sen. Mike Mansfield helps pass the U.S. Civil Rights Act.
- **1972:** Montana Constitution includes anti-discrimination rights for all.

The timeline also includes informative discussions of lynching, racial and gender dynamics at the Deer Lodge penitentiary, the racial attitudes of longtime warden Frank Conley, the influence of Booker T. Washington in Montana, and black-run newspapers.

Sherman worked in consultation with UM African-American Studies Director Tobin Miller Shearer and Montana Historical Society's Kate Hampton to develop the timeline.

The research and development of this timeline was made possible with generous support from the African-American Studies Program, the Demers/Price Family Endowment for Montana History and the Montana Justice Initiative.

###

**Contact:** Tobin Miller Shearer, UM associate professor of history, director of African-American Studies, 406-662-8227, .

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# UM Celebrates Campus Sustainability Efforts, Bikes During Earth Week 2018

April 10, 2018

**MISSOULA** – Missoula and the University of Montana do a lot with Earth Day, though it looks different each year with evolving partnerships, opportunities and focal issues.

This year, UM sustainability partners are celebrating Earth Week and Bike Week simultaneously April 16-20 with a number of events on campus.

“One of the qualities I appreciate most about sustainability efforts in Missoula and at UM is that they always involve lots of partners and perspectives,” said Eva Rocke, UM sustainability coordinator. “Earth Day events in and around Missoula represent this diversity, too. There’s always something for everyone.”

She said the University has a long history of environmental advocacy by its students, faculty and staff. A schedule of events follows. More information on these events and other events around the Missoula community can be found at <http://bit.ly/2HoUlcw> and <http://www.umt.edu/sustainability/>.

UM will host an exhibit titled “A Walk Through Time: From Stardust to Us” on the Oval from March for Science Day

on Saturday, April 14, to Earth Day on Sunday, April 22. More information is online at <http://bit.ly/2q8cmt0>. Scientists are encouraged to visit the exhibit to share their research stories with visitors to the exhibit from 3 to 5 p.m. April 14 and from noon to 3 p.m. Wednesday, April 18.

### **Earth Week Events Schedule:**

**Monday, April 16** – Join the ASUM sustainable transportation ambassadors to kick off a weeklong celebration of all things bike. The ambassadors will be on the Oval with many of campus and community partners to give out raffle tickets, lube bike chains, play games, give away helmets and bike lights, and celebrate active commuting.

**Tuesday, April 17** – ASUM transportation ambassadors will provide coffee and breakfast to those walking, biking or taking public transit to campus. Starting at 7:30 a.m. stations will be located on Maurice Avenue to the south of campus and by the Adams Center to the north.

**Wednesday, April 18** – UM Dining’s sustainability program will host a welcome party for its newest team members, six Welsh Harlequin ducks. Starting at 11 a.m. at the South Avenue Garden, UM Farm to College snacks and fun family friendly activities will be available. Attendees may even get to name a duck! UM transportation ambassadors will lead a group bike ride to the garden at 10:45 a.m. Meet at the Griz Statue if you want to join.

**Thursday, April 19** – Celebrate UM’s many sustainability advocates and changemakers. The annual campus sustainability awards lunch will take place at noon in the Davidson Honors College lounge with the addition of UM Dining’s first-ever sustainability scholarship awards. “The funds for the scholarships were raised entirely through individuals who purchased Dollar Coffee Club memberships,” said Trevor Lowell, UM Dining director of sustainability. “For a \$3 membership fee, participants get \$1 drip coffee or tea all semester long when they use their reusable mug. The program has helped reduce waste across campus and has raised over \$3,000 for student scholarships.” RSVP to [eva.rocke@umontana.edu](mailto:eva.rocke@umontana.edu) or [trevor.lowell@mso.umt.edu](mailto:trevor.lowell@mso.umt.edu) if you plan to attend.

Interested in becoming more of a green thumb but don’t have the tools you need? The Missoula Urban Demonstration Project will host a workshop and tool demonstration from 4 to 5 p.m. in the Lommasson Garden. Learn about MUD’s extensive tool library and how to become a MUD member. There will be opportunities to try out several garden tools.

**Friday, April 20** – Join the Environmental Studies department, Office of Sustainability and Davidson Honors College in the DHC lounge at 4:30 p.m. for refreshments. Those groups are co-hosting the faculty/staff reception in honor of Earth Week.

###

**Contact:** Eva Rocke, UM sustainability coordinator, UM Earth Week events, 406-243-4323, [eva.rocke@umontana.edu](mailto:eva.rocke@umontana.edu); Trevor Lowell, UM Dining Sustainability director, UM Dining events, 406-243-4042, [trevor.lowell@mso.umt.edu](mailto:trevor.lowell@mso.umt.edu).



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# UM Adds Color 3-D Printer for Researchers

April 10, 2018

**MISSOULA** – The chemistry department at the University of Montana has added a new 3-D color printer. The device will help campus researchers visualize molecules, crystals and other structures used in their work.

Chemistry Assistant Professor Orion Berryman directs UM's Small Molecule X-ray Diffraction Facility. He said full-color 3-D printers still are fairly expensive, and this might be the only one in western Montana.

Such printers allow users to create objects of nearly any shape, and now the University can produce items in more than one color.



“This provides us with new capabilities not currently available at the University,” Berryman said. “Now we can produce fully colored models that will enhance tactile learning and improved teaching concepts that require an intimate understanding of three-dimensional structure.”

He said the printer cost about \$30,000. Funding came from the National Science Foundation, Student Instructional Equipment Funds and the UM Research Administration office.

The printer will be a service of UM’s X-ray diffraction facility. Berryman said researchers will send the facility structures, and they will analyze the structure with an NSF-funded small-molecule single-crystal X-ray diffractometer, which UM installed in 2014. Once the structure is “solved,” the printer can produce a 3-D color model.

“As far as I know, this is a service not available at any other X-ray diffraction facility,” he said. “What’s great is that our students will get hands-on experience with the printer. Ultimately, we will develop a charge-back system where interested people across UM could also use the color 3-D printer for research, teaching and outreach.”

He said the printer also will be used in outreach activities for spectrUM, UM’s hands-on science learning center, which engages over 20,000 annually at its Missoula locations and statewide mobile programming.

###

**Contact:** Orion Berryman, UM chemistry assistant professor, Small Molecule X-ray Diffraction Facility director, 406-243-4022, [orion.berryman@umontana.edu](mailto:orion.berryman@umontana.edu).



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## UM News

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# UM to Host 16th Annual Central and Southwest Asia Conference

April 10, 2018

**MISSOULA** – Faculty, students and researchers from around the world will gather to participate in the 16th annual Central and Southwest Asia Conference at the University of Montana on Wednesday through Friday, April 18-20.

The conference will feature several panels and presentations that address international issues, including the centrality of Central Asia, Israel's achievements, the Russian Orthodox Church in Vladimir Putin's Russia, the Syrian conflict, Donald Trump's foreign policy agenda and more.

In addition to international experts from across the globe, numerous scholars from UM departments such as history, modern and classical languages, anthropology and the Defense Critical Language and Culture Program, also will participate.

All events will be held in the University Center Theater and are free and open to the public. The schedule follows.

**Wednesday, April 18**

- **10:30 a.m.-noon** – Lecture presentation: “Identity, Religion and Nationalism in Medieval Europe: The Invention of the ‘Negative Muslim Other’ in the 11th Century ‘Chanson de Roland,’” presented by Michel Valentin, research scholar at Existential Psychoanalytic Institute and Society.
- **Noon-1:30 p.m.** – Outstanding Students Panel Presentation, featuring UM students Kelsie Murphy, Chris Hanson and Carson Blake. Central and Southwest Asian Studies Center co-director Ardi Kia will serve as chair and discussant.
- **1-2:30 p.m.** – Lecture Presentation: “The Centrality of Central Asia,” presented by Ardi Kia.
- **2:30-4:30 p.m.** – Shanghai International Studies University Panel Presentations, presented by four students and chaired by Zhen Cao of the UM Department of Modern and Classical Languages and Literatures.
- **7-8:30 p.m.** – Keynote Presentation: “Israel at 70: Great Achievements While Facing Regional Challenges, An Israeli Perspective,” presented by Ravit Baer, Israel deputy consul general to the Pacific Northwest. Robert Seidenschwarz, chairman of the Montana World Affairs Council, will serve as chair and discussant, and UM President Seth Bodnar will provide opening remarks.

#### Thursday, April 19

- **1-2 p.m.** – Lecture Presentation: “Handmaiden of the State? The Russian Orthodox Church in Putin's Russia,” presented by Robert Greene, UM history department chair. Michael Mayer, UM history professor, will serve as chair and discussant.
- **2:15-4:30 p.m.** – Shanghai International Studies University Panel Presentation, presented by Yu Jianhua, Institute of International Relations deputy director, Shanghai Academy of Social Sciences; Li Yi, professor and director of Arab World Studies Office of Middle East Studies Institute, Shanghai International Studies University; and Yao Quan, doctoral candidate at Middle East Studies Institute, Shanghai International Studies University. Cao will chair this panel.
- **7-8:30 p.m.** – Keynote Presentation: “The Syrian Conflict: An Emerging New Regional Order and Challenges it Presents for the Current U.S. Administration,” presented by Amr Al-Azm, professor of Middle East history and anthropology at Shawnee State University.

#### Friday, April 20

- **1-2:30 p.m.** – Panel Presentation: “Iran, Afghanistan and Pakistan in Trump’s Foreign Policy Agenda,” presented by Owen Sirrs, UM professor of culture and regional studies, Defense Critical Language and Culture Program; Michael Mayer, UM history professor; and Mehrdad Kia, director of the UM Central and Southwest Asian Studies Center.
- **2:30-4 p.m.** – Lecture Presentation: “What Part Do You Play: America, Imperialism and Cybernetics,” presented by UM student scholar Curtis Schiwal.

The conference is sponsored by the UM Central and Southwest Asian Studies Center, Montana World Affairs

Council, UM Department of History, the Defense Critical Language & Culture Program at the Maureen and Mike Mansfield Center, and Shanghai International Studies University.

For more information on the Central and Southwest Asia Conference, call Mehrdad Kia at 406-396-1143 or email [mehrdad.kia@mso.umt.edu](mailto:mehrdad.kia@mso.umt.edu).

###

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## UM News

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# UM to Host Conference on Strengthening Veteran Families

April 09, 2018

**MISSOULA** – The Neural Injury Center at the University of Montana will host a free public conference on strengthening veteran families from 8:30 a.m. to noon Saturday, April 14.

“Meeting in the Middle: Tools for Strengthening Veteran Families” will take place in the Bitterroot Conference Room at the Doubletree Hotel at 100 Madison St. in Missoula.

Those interested in attending should RSVP to 406-243-4017. The event max seating is 110 people.

The schedule follows:

- **8:30 to 8:40 a.m.** – “Welcome,” Cindi Laukes, UM Neural Injury Center chief operating officer.

Laukes works with veterans and athletes on brain injury research and a clinical team in the UM Neural Injury Center. She currently is a sub-investigator on a clinical trial of a medication for post-traumatic stress disorder in military veterans. She also is a translational research navigator for the Institute of Translational Health Sciences at

the University of Washington.

- **8:40 to 9:30 a.m.** – “Unique Challenges for Veterans and Families,” Jera Stewart, Missoula Veteran Affairs Community Based Outpatient Clinic neuropsychologist and behavioral health supervisor.

Stewart has worked as behavioral health director for the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes in Montana, research director for the Rocky Mountain Tribal Leaders Council, neuropsychologist at the VA Southern Nevada Health Care System in Las Vegas and integrated behavioral health consultant for the U.S. Army at Schofield Barracks in Hawaii.

- **9:30 to 10:10 a.m.** – “New Research on Cognitive Fatigue and TBI,” Thomas Rau, VirtualMind and Wintermute Biomedical chief scientific officer and neuroscientist.

Rau specializes in traumatic brain injury and stroke, and he worked on developing biomarkers for TBI diagnosis as an associate research professor at UM. He started two private research companies, VitruualMind and Wintermute Biomedical. VirtualMind designs new cognitive assessments for TBI and cognitive rehabilitation programs in virtual reality for PTSD and TBI recovery.

- **10:10 to 10:30 a.m.** – Break with light refreshments
- **10:30 to 11:15 a.m.** – “Healing the Moral Wounds of War (A Dialogue),” Natalee Charlton, Missoula Vet Center readjustment counselor; Roy Savage, Heroes Therapeutic Outreach Program manager.

Charlton has worked as a licensed clinical social worker for 18 years. She works at the Missoula Vet Center with the military population on PTSD treatment and therapy for the moral impact of war zone deployment.

Savage served from 1989 to 1993 as an operations specialist and ship’s rescue swimmer in the U.S. Navy on three tours of duty. He advocates for veteran issues, helps veterans seek services and serves as a community leader while majoring in community health at UM. Savage started Mindful Warriors and helped implement the Heroes Outreach Program.

- **11:15 a.m. to noon** – “Military Couples and Families: A Path Toward Resiliency (A Dialogue),” Meaghan Lee-Moriarity, Missoula Vet Center director; Shawn Grove, UM VETS Office director.

Lee-Moriarity has worked with veterans in Massachusetts, children experiencing early childhood trauma and veterans with PTSD and substance abuse issues. She now works at the Missoula Vet Center with trauma-impacted combat veterans and their families as the team marriage and family therapist.

Grove worked as a social worker for the state of West Virginia and as a Persian linguist in the U.S. Army, and he served in Iraq for one year. He now helps his fellow veterans and family members use VA education benefits. Grove is a member of the Montana National Guard and the director of the UM VETS Office.

For more information on the conference, call Laukes at 406-243-4017 or email [cindi.laukes@mso.umt.edu](mailto:cindi.laukes@mso.umt.edu).

###

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## UM News

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# Take a Walk Through Time on the UM Campus

April 06, 2018

**MISSOULA** – Imagine taking a walk in which every step takes you back in time a million years. The University of Montana is the new steward of the exhibit “A Walk Through Time: From Stardust to Us,” and people can walk back through time as they walk around the UM Oval.

The exhibit consists of 90 colorful panels that depict points in time of the 4.6-billion-year evolution of life on Earth. The last billion years will be displayed around the UM Oval from March for Science Day on Saturday, April 14, to Earth Day on Sunday, April 22. The display will start by The Payne Family Native American Center.

The “Walk Through Time” exhibit was imagined by physicist Sidney Liebes, who wanted to inspire people with the magnificent story of life on Earth and provide a cautionary tale of how human actions today threaten Earth’s diversity and stability. Liebes completed the project for Earth Day 1997 after retiring from Hewlett-Packard Labs, and the exhibit was funded by Hewlett-Packard and gifted to the Foundation for Global Community.

The “Walk Through Time” is online at [http://www.globalcommunity.org/wtt/walk\\_menu/](http://www.globalcommunity.org/wtt/walk_menu/).

“A Walk Through Time” book by Liebes and two co-authors is available in the UM library. There also is a walking audio book app called the Deep Time Walk at <http://www.deeptimewalk.org/kit/app/>.

The exhibit at UM is one of only three in the world. Jill Davies of Sustainable Living Systems in the Bitterroot heard about the exhibit and that it was available to move on to a new home. Davies contacted Vicki Watson, retired professor of environmental studies at UM, and arranged for the exhibit to be gifted to UM.

More Earth Day events are listed on the UM Conservation Calendar at <http://hs.umt.edu/evst/calendars/conservation-calendar.php>.

For more information, email Watson at [vicki.watson@umontana.edu](mailto:vicki.watson@umontana.edu).

###

**Contact:** Vicki Watson, retired professor, UM Environmental Studies, 406-243-5153, [vicki.watson@umontana.edu](mailto:vicki.watson@umontana.edu).



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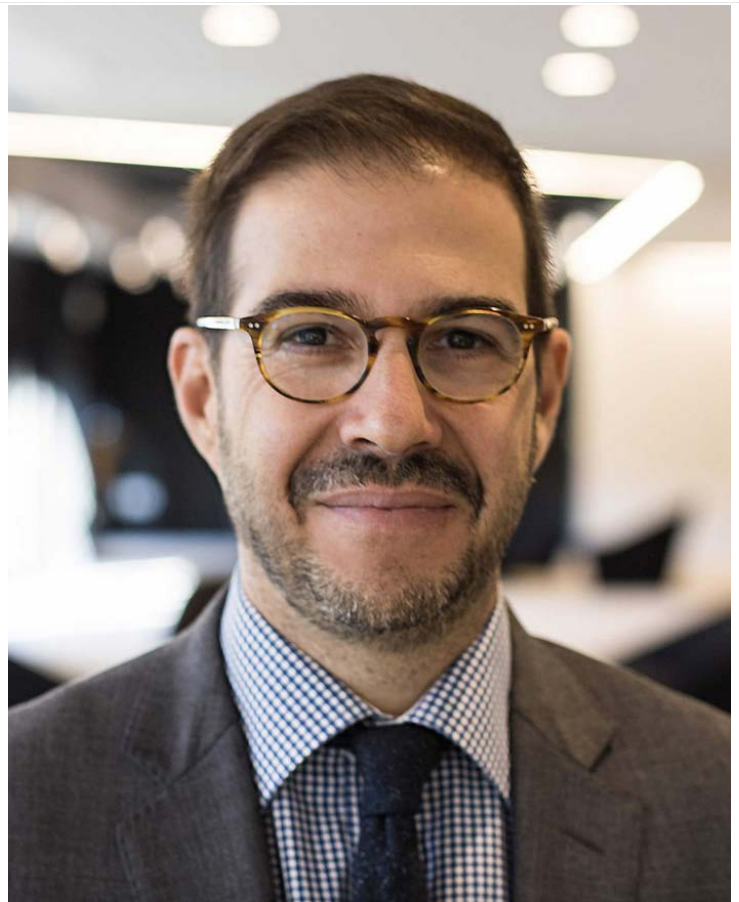
# Award-winning Investigative Reporter to Deliver Annual Dean Stone Lecture at UM

April 06, 2018

**MISSOULA** – The University of Montana School of Journalism will welcome The New Yorker magazine writer Adam Entous as its annual Dean Stone lecturer.

Entous will discuss “Investigative Journalism in the Age of Trump” at 7 p.m. Thursday, April 19, in the University Center Ballroom. His presentation is free and open to the public.

Entous recently joined The New Yorker magazine as a staff writer, covering intelligence, national security and foreign affairs. He was the recipient of a 2018 special Polk Award for stories at The Washington Post that led to the ouster of National Security Adviser Michael Flynn and the appointment of a special



prosecutor to investigate Russia's role in the 2016 election and possible collusion between the Trump campaign and Russia. The Post series has also been named as a finalist for a Goldsmith Prize for investigative reporting.

In 2017, Entous was a finalist for a Pulitzer Prize in feature writing for a story about an American diplomat wrongly accused of spying. Previously, he worked at The Wall Street Journal, where he covered the Pentagon, the intelligence community and foreign policy. His articles at The Journal received back-to-back National Press Club awards for diplomatic reporting.

Before joining The Journal, Entous served as a senior correspondent for Reuters in Jerusalem, and covered the White House and Congress. He lives in Washington, D.C.

Each spring the UM School of Journalism honors its founder, Dean Arthur Stone, and current journalism students with a two-night celebration featuring a guest lecturer followed by an awards banquet. The annual Dean Stone Awards and Scholarship Banquet held for journalism students will be at 5 p.m. Friday, April 20, at Missoula College. Thanks to many generous endowments and contributions from donors, the school is able to offer its students more than \$150,000 in scholarships and awards each year.

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

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

###

**Contact:** Larry Abramson, dean, UM School of Journalism, [406-243-4001](tel:406-243-4001).



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# Poet Don Mee Choi to Give Lecture, Reading

April 05, 2018

**MISSOULA** – The University of Montana Creative Writing program will host visiting writer Don Mee Choi at noon Friday, April 13, to give a lecture titled “Translation is a mode=Translation is an anti-neocolonial mode” in the Dell Brown Room of Turner Hall. She also will give a reading of her poetry that evening at 7 p.m., also in Turner Hall.

Both events are free and open to the public, sponsored by the UM Creative Writing program President’s Writers-in-Residence Series.



Choi was born in Seoul and came to the U.S. via Hong Kong. She is the author of “Hardly War,” “The Morning News is Exciting,” a chapbook titled “Petite

Manifesto” and a Wave pamphlet titled “Freely Frayed.” She has received a Whiting Award, a Lannan Literary Fellowship and a Lucien Stryk Translation Prize.

Her translations of contemporary Korean female poets include the collections “Anxiety of Words,” “Mommy Must Be a Fountain of Feathers,” “All the Garbage of the World, Unite!” “Sorrowtoothpaste Mirrorcream,” “Poor Love Machine” and the forthcoming “Autobiography of Death.”

Choi currently is co-translating with Joyelle McSweeney Yi Sang’s short stories and co-editing with Joshua Beckman a book of Yi Sang’s poetry and prose, forthcoming from Wave Books.

For more information call Karin Schalm, Creative Writing program coordinator, at 406-243-5267, email [karin.schalm@umontana.edu](mailto:karin.schalm@umontana.edu) or visit <http://hs.umt.edu/creativewriting/>.

###

**Contact:** Karin Schalm, UM Creative Writing program coordinator, 406-243-5267, [karin.schalm@umontana.edu](mailto:karin.schalm@umontana.edu).



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# UM Outdoor Gear Sale Slated for April 11

April 05, 2018

**MISSOULA** – The University of Montana Outdoor Program will host its biannual Used Outdoor Gear Sale from noon to 5 p.m. Wednesday, April 11, in the University Center Atrium.

Anyone in the Missoula community can buy or sell used outdoor equipment, including bikes, boating equipment, climbing gear, camping gear, clothing and more.

Those interested in selling gear can drop off their items between 7 and 11 a.m. in the UC Atrium and receive a cash payout for sold items between 6 and 7:30 p.m. the same day. Unsold items also will be available for pickup. The UM Outdoor Program will collect 20 percent of the selling price to benefit new programs and equipment.

The UM Outdoor Program also seeks volunteers to help with the event. Flexible shifts and roles are available throughout the day, and those who work at least three hours gain access to a special preview sale.

For more information call 406-243-5172 or visit <http://www.umt.edu/outdoor>. To volunteer call 406-243-5172 or email [crecop@mso.umt.edu](mailto:crecop@mso.umt.edu).

###

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



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# UM's Statewide Startup Competition Selects Student Competitors

April 05, 2018

**MISSOULA** – The John Ruffatto Business Startup Challenge at the University of Montana will award \$50,000 in cash prizes to college students throughout the state during its competition on Friday, April 13.

Montana's aspiring entrepreneurs include 12 teams of students. The annual competition, hosted by UM's College of Business and the Blackstone LaunchPad, received 27 applications from student teams to compete for more than \$50,000 in prize money.

The selected teams will pitch their business to a panel of around 50 judges in hopes of receiving a portion of the prize money, which is a combination of donations from businesses, organizations and individuals committed to the future of entrepreneurship in Montana.

In its 29th year, the John Ruffatto Business Startup Challenge draws students starting ventures from a "pizza farm" to union labor management software. Finalists represent both UM and Montana State University, with majors that include microbiology, computer science, marketing, finance, creative writing, geography, environmental studies and mechanical engineering.



“Our selection team was amazed at the high-quality entries we had this year,” said Paul Gladen, director of the Blackstone LaunchPad at UM and leader of the competition’s organizing team. “Selecting finalists proved difficult because the competition was so steep. This reflects the quality of education students are getting in Montana, as well as this generation’s eagerness to start something that can make an impact.”

A list of the 2018 competitors follows.

- **Crispr Communications** – A PR and marketing firm for scientists.
- **Evergreen Game & Hobby LLC** – A Montana-based company that will provide an expansive inventory of board and video gaming, comic and hobby supplies to customers in its targeted market.
- **Freats** – A business matching potentially wasted food with hungry people.
- **Games Inc LLC** – A company that provides the most engaging and dynamic social card game in tabletop gaming.
- **Ice Viper Hockey** – A high stability street hockey puck that turns asphalt into ice.
- **LegalGen** – A smart document builder for lawyers.
- **Mirthful Farm** – A business set to flip the model of a conventional farm-to-table restaurant by putting the tables on the farm.
- **Montana Outdoor Experiences Inc.** – A business that provides a free, easy-to-use online outdoor education and recreation events calendar. It is equipped with marketing tools for businesses and organizations to advertise and promote outdoor events and easy access for recreationists.
- **Morphose Exercise Systems LLC** – A system for physical therapists seeking to increase patient compliance that offers a 360-degree view of home exercises with built-in accountability features accessible from any computer, tablet or smartphone.
- **Storysquares App** – A digital storyboarding app that gives step-by-step instruction to help K-12 students write stories and reports with confidence.
- **Wage Sheets** – A “software as a service” cloud platform and accounting software add-on that gives union contractors and their employees clarity and peace of mind during the hiring and payroll process.
- **Vaytricks** – A business that helps content makers – audio producers, video producers, artists and designers – do better work faster by providing effective, flexible applications meant for the next generation of creators.

Of these diverse competitors, four finalists are selected during the day to compete for the top prizes at the evening’s public event, including the \$15,000 first-place cash prize. Notable previous JRBSC winners include Chilton Skis, the restaurant Five on Black and GeoFli.

The public event begins at 5 p.m. in the Gallagher Business Building, with doors opening at 4:30 p.m. A reception with a complimentary food and a cash bar will follow in the Harold and Priscilla Gilkey Building. Tickets for the event are free for students and cost \$10 for the general public. They are available online at <http://bit.ly/2DKfksC>.

###

**Contact:** Paul Gladen, UM Blackstone LaunchPad director and competition organizer, 406-396-3534, [paul.gladen@umontana.edu](mailto:paul.gladen@umontana.edu).



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# UM to Present Green Day's 'American Idiot' Rock Musical

April 04, 2018

**MISSOULA** – The University of Montana School of Theatre & Dance will present the award-winning rock musical “American Idiot” to audiences in April.

Performances will be held at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday through Saturday, April 18-21 and April 25-28. Performances also will be held at 2 p.m. Sunday, April 22, and Sunday, April 29. All performances will be held in the Montana Theatre in UM's Performing Arts and Radio/Television Center.

Inspired by the 2004 Green Day album, the play will be directed and choreographed by UM theatre Assistant Professor Pamyla Stiehl, with local musician Josh Farmer serving as music director.

General admission tickets cost \$20, while senior and student tickets cost \$16. Admission for children 12 and under is \$10. Tickets are available by calling the UMArts Box Office at 406-243-4581 between noon and 5 p.m. Tuesday through Friday, or online at <http://www.umt.edu/theatredance>.

Pop-punk masters Green Day burst onto the theatrical stage early this decade with an adaptation of their seminal

Grammy award-winning album of the same name. The rock opera's action centers on three restless and disaffected young men who rebel – sometimes with disastrous consequences – against stifling suburban life.

Politically charged and full of the emotions of young adulthood, The New York Times said the play was “thrillingly raucous and gorgeously wrought.”

“I am thrilled to have gotten the opportunity to bring such a unique musical to life on the UM stage, given my love of Green Day and appreciation of musical theater's edgier side,” Stiehl said. “Collaborating with Josh Farmer has been an absolute joy, as has working with a wonderfully talented student cast. Every performer is 100 percent committed to Green Day's sound and content, performing it with truth, guts and an impressive amount of stamina.”

UM student and MFA acting candidate Danielle Sather, who will play the role of St. Jimmy as a portion of her final creative project, said, “American Idiot' presents stories embodying common struggles that contemporary, American youth face – struggles recycled through generations.”

For more information, call Stiehl at 303-709-8720 or email her at [pamyla.stiehl@umontana.edu](mailto:pamyla.stiehl@umontana.edu). A complete schedule of UM School of Theatre & Dance productions for the academic year is available at <http://bit.ly/2GbxAgm>.

Audience discretion is advised. “American Idiot” contains adult themes and language, atmospheric effects, gunshots, rock-concert-level volume and strobe lights.

###

**Contact:** Pam Stiehl, assistant professor, UM School of Theatre & Dance, 303-709-8720, [pamyla.stiehl@umontana.edu](mailto:pamyla.stiehl@umontana.edu).



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# UM Invites Community to Participate in Rock Creek Restoration April 7

April 04, 2018

**MISSOULA** – University of Montana students in the Ecosystem Science & Restoration Program and the Five Valleys Land Trust nonprofit will host a volunteer event for community members of all ages at the confluence of Rock Creek and the Clark Fork River from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, April 7.

Volunteers will plant native shrubs, such as willows and cottonwoods, as well as pull invasive weeds such as spotted knapweed and common mullein.

Five Valleys Land Trust purchased the Rock Creek Confluence Property in 2012 and immediately began restoring the area. For the past six years, UM students have partnered with the nonprofit to restore the property for recreation and wildlife values.

Jenny Tollefson, stewardship manager at Five Valleys Land Trust said the collaboration has been the key to success at the property.

“Thanks to our six-year partnership with the University of Montana and the dedication of so many community

volunteers, we have made great progress in habitat restoration at the Rock Creek Confluence Property,” Tollefson said.

Rock Creek is a popular waterway for local and destination anglers. The blue-ribbon stream is critical habitat for Montana’s native bull trout and westslope cutthroat trout, as well as nonnative brook, rainbow and brown trout. Deer, elk, birds and other wildlife also use the stream corridor.

Family participation is encouraged. Kid-friendly activities will include a treasure hunt, coloring pages and face painting. Lunch will be provided for volunteers.

Volunteers should RSVP to Tollefson by calling 406-549-0755 or emailing [jenny@fvlt.org](mailto:jenny@fvlt.org).

To get to the site, drive east on Interstate Highway 90 from Missoula for 22 miles to Exit 126. Turn right onto Rock Creek Road and follow signs to the site.

###

**Contact:** Cara Nelson, UM associate professor of restoration ecology, 406-243-6066, [cara.nelson@umontana.edu](mailto:cara.nelson@umontana.edu).



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# Montana Public Radio Spring Pledge Drive Kicks Off April 7

April 03, 2018

**MISSOULA** – Get ready for nine days of music, eclectic thank-you gifts and celebrations during Montana Public Radio’s annual Spring Pledge Drive.

The drive begins at 5 p.m. Saturday, April 7, and concludes after the popular Pet Wars at midnight Sunday, April 15. MTPR’s fundraising goal is \$660,000 for the week.

“This is a great week to celebrate public radio and all our wonderful supporters who sustain this service,” said Anne Hosler, MTPR membership manager. “We love this week because we get to have fun and do great work at the same time. We’re so thankful for our supporters and volunteers that make this amazing week possible so we all can enjoy MTPR all year.”

Some of the interesting listener-donated thank-you gifts available include a horse visit and riding lesson, sailboat trip for four on Flathead Lake, Aikido classes, farm-fresh eggs and more. This unique tradition is a hallmark of MTPR’s spring pledge week.



Listeners can expect special music programs, including founding host Michael Marsolek's return to "Musician's Spotlight" to host a special interview with acclaimed musicians Lyle Lovett and Robert Earl Keen, live music sessions with University of Montana piano faculty and students, and a live jazz session with the Jim Driscoll Trio.

"It's an interesting time for Montana Public Radio," said Ray Ekness, director of the UM Broadcast Media Center that houses MTPR. "There are a lot of question marks about our federal and state funding, but we're lucky our listeners have always been there with the majority of our support each year."

Listener contributions make up 75 percent of MTPR's funding for the year.

"It's critical that our supporters step up and keep our in-depth news, our legislative coverage, our hand-picked music and our unique children's programming on the air," Ekness said. "We know our listeners are passionate about investing in their public radio station and will be again this year."

Listeners can call in during the pledge week at 800-325-1565, donate or volunteer to answer phones online at <http://mtpr.org>, or mail pledges to MTPR, 32 Campus Drive, Missoula, MT, 59812.

The pledge drive and MTPR are made possible by the involvement of thousands of people making their voices heard for public broadcasting in Montana.

MTPR airs 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, 91.7 in Dillon and online at <http://www.mtpr.org>.

###

**Contact:** Anne Hosler, MTPR membership manager, 406-243-4214, [anne.hosler@umontana.edu](mailto:anne.hosler@umontana.edu); Linda Talbott, MTPR development director, 406-243-4215, [linda.talbott@umontana.edu](mailto:linda.talbott@umontana.edu).



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# Montanans Display Support for Upcoming 6-Mill Levy Initiative

April 03, 2018

**MISSOULA** – Seventy-two percent of Montanans would vote for continuing the 6-Mill Levy that supports the Montana University System if the election were held today, according to results from the latest University of Montana Big Sky Poll.

The poll measured Montanans' opinions on whether or not to continue an existing 6-mill property tax levy, which has supported the university system since 1948 and will expire in January 2019 without voter approval. In 2008, according to information from the Montana Secretary of State's office, 56.8 percent voted in favor of the initiative. In the UM Big Sky Poll, 72 percent of respondents answered in favor of the 6-Mill Levy.

The question posed to the respondents was: "The November 2018 ballot will include a question from the Montana Legislature. It will ask Montanans if they want to continue an existing 6-mill property tax levy that has supported the university system since 1948. Without voter approval, it will expire in January 2019. If the election were today, would you vote for or against continuing the 6-mill levy that supports the Montana University System?"

"We will ask Montanans again this fall about their support with the ballot language that was just adopted by the

state,” said Sara Rinfret, director of UM’s Master of Public Administration program and the UM Big Sky Poll. “The time the poll was conducted, the language had not been adopted. This poll provides a lens into Montanans’ perspectives.”

The full results are below and listed on the UM Big Sky Poll website at <http://umt.edu/bigskypoll>:

| Scale              | Percentage (%) |
|--------------------|----------------|
| Vote For           | 72%            |
| Lean For           | 2 %            |
| Undecided          | 4%             |
| Lean Against       | 1%             |
| Vote Against       | 18%            |
| Don't Know/Refused | 3%             |

The poll was conducted via telephone between Feb.1 and 19 with 603 randomly selected Montana registered voters. The poll has a margin of error of +/-4 percentage points at the 95 percent confidence level. Use of poll findings requires attribution to UM’s Big Sky Poll.

The UM Big Sky Poll collects and reports information about Montanans’ perceptions of local, state and federal issues. The poll is directed by Rinfret and Justin Angle, UM associate professor of marketing, in conjunction with seven graduate seminar students from UM’s MPA and Business Analytics programs.

The survey was commissioned with support from UM’s Social Science Research Laboratory. The UM Big Sky Poll will be offered on an ongoing basis with its next iteration planned for fall 2018.

###

**Contact:** Sara Rinfret, director of UM’s Master of Public Administration program, 406-243-4702, [sara.rinfret@umontana.edu](mailto:sara.rinfret@umontana.edu).

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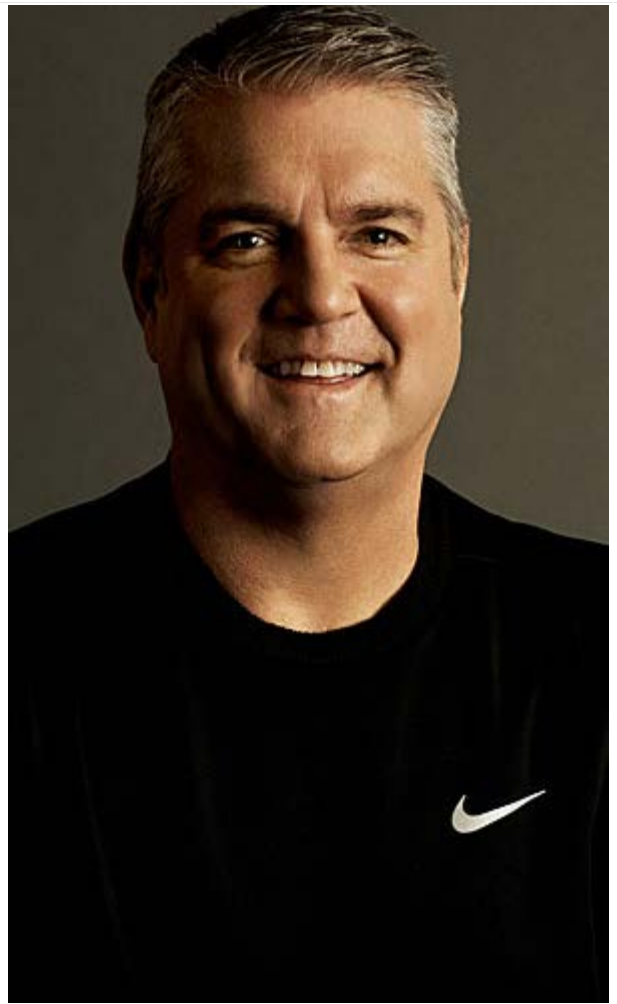
# UM Commencement to Feature NIKE Chief Operating Officer

April 03, 2018

**MISSOULA** – The 2018 Spring Commencement ceremonies at the University of Montana on Saturday, May 12, will feature words of wisdom from speaker Eric Sprunk, the chief operating officer for NIKE Inc.

Sprunk, a 1986 UM graduate in business finance and accounting, leads NIKE's manufacturing, sourcing, IT, and supply planning and procurement. He maintains the company's robust and innovative supply chain.

Sprunk spent seven years at PriceWaterhouseCoopers before joining NIKE in 1993, working in a variety of senior financial, commercial, product and global-management roles. He became one of the youngest people to hold the position of NIKE vice president, and the chief operating officer position was created



especially for him.

Sprunk said his UM education played a critical role in his career success, and he and his wife, Blair, have contributed generously to his alma mater in time and resources. The Sprunk family has deep ties to Missoula and UM, including his late mother, Rachel, who was an advocate for the performing arts; and his son, Cooper, who graduated from the College of Business last year and played on the Grizzly football team.

“We are thrilled to have Eric speak during our Commencement ceremonies,” UM President Seth Bodnar said. “He has incredible ties to the University, he has a world of experience to pass along, and he offers a prime example to our new graduates of what their UM education can do for them.”

Sprunk will speak at two main graduation ceremonies in the Adams Center.

A ceremony for the University’s professional schools will start at 9:30 a.m. The professional schools are the College of Visual and Performing Arts, the Phyllis J. Washington College of Education and Human Sciences, the College of Business, the W.A. Franke College of Forestry & Conservation, the School of Journalism, and the College of Health Professions and Biomedical Sciences.

A ceremony for Missoula College and the College of Humanities and Sciences will kick off at 2:30 p.m.

Both ceremonies are free and open to the public, though students may be asked to RSVP with an approximate number of family members and guests expected to attend.

Unlike in recent years, all degrees will be conferred during the main ceremonies instead of at smaller departmental ceremonies. Graduates will have their names read, have their images projected on the screen at the Adams Center and then shake hands with UM President Seth Bodnar and their respective deans.

Many departments will hold individual, informal ceremonies and receptions to provide the opportunity for students to celebrate with their classmates. These events are scheduled for both Friday and Saturday, May 11-12. Please consult the Commencement website at <http://bit.ly/2lwnbNN> for full details.

The Commencement website also has information about caps and gowns, parking, diplomas and other frequently asked questions. For more information call the UM Registrar's Office at 406-243-5600.

###

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# UM Curry Health Center Achieves AAAHC Accreditation

April 03, 2018

**MISSOULA** – Curry Health Center at the University of Montana has achieved accreditation by the Accreditation Association for Ambulatory Health Care. Accreditation distinguishes the student health center from many other outpatient facilities by providing the highest quality of care to its patients as determined by an independent, external process of evaluation.

Status as an accredited organization means Curry Health Center has met nationally recognized standards for the provision of quality health care set by AAAHC. More than 6,000 ambulatory health care organizations across the United States are accredited by AAAHC. Not all ambulatory health care organizations seek accreditation, and not all that undergo the rigorous on-site survey process are granted accreditation.

“We believe our patients deserve the best,” said Rick Curtis, Curry Health Center’s director. “When you see our certificate of accreditation, you will know that AAAHC, an independent, not-for-profit organization, has closely examined our facility and procedures. It means we as an organization care enough about our patients to strive for the highest level of care possible.”

Ambulatory health care organizations seeking AAAHC accreditation undergo an extensive self-assessment and on-site survey by AAAHC expert surveyors – physicians, nurses and administrators who are actively involved in ambulatory health care. The survey is consultative and educational, presenting best practices to help an organization improve its care and services.

“Going through the process challenged us to find better ways to serve our patients, and it is a constant reminder that our responsibility is to strive to continuously improve the quality of care we provide,” Curtis said.

Curry Health Center provides quality, affordable, accessible health care for UM students. The center promotes a healthy campus by providing on-campus medical, dental, counseling and wellness services and is open weekdays from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. The medical clinic provides services on Saturdays during the school year from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

AAAHC, founded in 1979, is the leader in ambulatory health care accreditation with more than 6,000 organizations accredited nationwide. AAAHC accredits a variety of organizations including, ambulatory surgery centers, office-based surgery centers, endoscopy centers, student health centers, military health care clinics, and large medical and dental practices.

AAAHC serves as an advocate for the provision of high-quality health care through the development of nationally recognized standards and through its survey and accreditation programs. AAAHC accreditation is recognized as a symbol of quality by third-party payers, medical organizations, liability insurance companies, state and federal agencies and the public.

###

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# UM Names Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost

April 02, 2018

**MISSOULA** – University of Montana President Seth Bodnar announced April 2 that Dr. Jon Harbor will serve as the new executive vice president for academic affairs and provost.

“Recruiting our new executive vice president and provost was a top priority, and we initiated the national search even before I officially arrived on campus,” Bodnar said. “Dr. Harbor’s leadership and experience are going to be vital as we continue to shape and strengthen every element that composes a UM education. I have great confidence in his ability to help move UM toward its full potential.”

Harbor currently serves as associate vice provost for teaching and learning and as executive director of digital education at Purdue University. As a professor in Purdue’s Department of



Earth, Atmospheric and Planetary Sciences, he brings extensive research and teaching experience.

He also has a wealth of leadership experience, including service as an associate vice president for research, dean of a College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, founding and interim director of Purdue's Global Sustainability Institute, and founding co-director of the Learning Research Center.

"I'm honored to join the University of Montana, particularly at this pivotal moment in the institution's history," Harbor said. "Higher education has never been more relevant or essential than it is today. UM excels in learning opportunities and research that are well-matched to the needs of students, the demands for educated citizens and a talented workforce, and the needs of Montana, the nation and the world. My wife, Amy, and I look forward to making our home in Missoula."

Harbor will begin his full-time duties at UM on Aug. 1. In the meantime, he will visit campus during the coming months of transition, engaging with the University Planning Committee and assisting with the reorganizational alignment of Student Affairs and Academic Affairs announced by UM last month.

Bodnar thanked Interim Provost Beverly Edmond; law school Dean Paul Kirgis, who will serve as acting provost until Aug. 1; and the search committee led by Chris Comer, dean of the College of Humanities and Sciences; for their efforts conducting the strong nationwide search that led to Harbor's selection.

###

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# UM Dance Program Selected to Perform at Kennedy Center

April 02, 2018

**MISSOULA** – The University of Montana Dance Program bolstered its standing as one of the nation’s most decorated institutions with another stellar showing at the recent American College Dance Association (ACDA) Northwest Regional Conference.

In addition to having both UM dance pieces selected for the conference’s gala concert, the adjudicators chose one of those performances – Master of Fine Arts acting candidate Tsiambwom Akuchu’s stunning solo “Every^Man (Alright)” – to represent the entire region at the esteemed John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts in Washington, D.C., on June 7-9.

The regional conference attracted over 500 students,

artists and educators from throughout the Northwest, offering college dance programs the opportunity to showcase 43 original works and receive constructive feedback from nationally and internationally renowned adjudicators.

“This is the second consecutive year the UM Dance Program has had both of its pieces selected for the event’s gala concert,” said Nicole Bradley Browning, a UM dance professor. “UM’s recognition is notable in light of the presence of much larger institutions such as the University of Utah, University of Oregon, Brigham Young University and University of Colorado Boulder, which hosted the conference.”

One adjudicator compared ACDA to a modern dance version of basketball’s March Madness, and Bradley Browning said, “UM’s overall strong showing, and especially with its Kennedy Center selection, amounts to a Final Four appearance by a program with a reputation for overshadowing bigger schools.”

Akuchu’s solo received raves from the adjudicators, who wrote: “‘Every^Man (Alright)’ is an evocative and stirring piece, representative of the African-American experience from slavery to the present. The work is deeply embodied, solid in its canonical foundation, eminently relevant and critically necessary; an injection of survival.”

Akuchu’s performance stood alone as the only one to receive a standing ovation.

The UM Dance Program is no stranger to performing in ACDA’s National Festival hosted by the Kennedy Center. In 2012, “MEAT,” an original work by Icelandic choreographer Steinunn Ketilsdóttir and UM dance alumnus and Missoula native Brian Gerke, featured 11 dancers who were enthusiastically received at the Kennedy Center that May.





In 2010, the National College Dance Festival featured UM's performance of "Prey," a piece created by internationally acclaimed choreographer Bebe Miller.

The adjudicators at the regional conference also recognized UM's second piece, "On Jasper's Farm," with placement in the event's gala concert. Also choreographed by Gerke and featuring eight student performers, the piece was described by adjudicator Onye Ozuzu as a strong vision that, as it unfolded, reminded her of watching "a child at their own funeral."

"Our dance students are committed to the practice of making meaningful, relevant and empowering works of art," said Bradley Browning, who is the ACDA Northwest Region director. "ACDA affords students an unmatched opportunity to discover how their choreography and performance translates to diverse audiences."

"This year, our program received the ultimate honor when Akuchu was offered an official invitation to perform at the Kennedy Center in June. We stand affirmed, knowing that our Dance Program continues to cultivate a space for our students create important and valued work."

The UM Dance Program is one of the few programs in the Northwest offering undergraduate degrees specializing in choreography/performance and dance education. The program also offers a dance minor, as well as a diverse array of dance classes open to students of all abilities, backgrounds and levels of curiosity.

###

**Contact:** Nicole Bradley Browning, professor, UM School of Theatre & Dance, 406-529-3331, [nicole.bradleybrowning@umontana.edu](mailto:nicole.bradleybrowning@umontana.edu).



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# Mansfield Center Hosts Former Climate Change Adviser to Discuss Future of Paris Agreement

April 02, 2018

**MISSOULA** – Andrew Light, former senior adviser and India counselor to the U.S. Special Envoy on Climate Change and staff climate adviser to Secretary of State John Kerry, will visit the University of Montana to discuss “Creating, Preserving and Defending the Paris Agreement on Climate Change” at 7 p.m. Thursday, April 12, in Gallagher Business Building Room 123. The event is free and open to the public.

In December 2015, over 190 countries convened in Paris for the 21st meeting of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, where they succeeded in creating a new and ambitious international climate agreement. Many have heralded the outcome as a groundbreaking achievement for international diplomacy and global climate action. Others have argued that the climate commitments in it are ultimately too weak to achieve the agreement’s lofty aspirations.

The Paris Agreement is now undergoing an unexpected early stress test with the announcement of the intended withdrawal of the United States.

Light's discussion will look at what the future holds for global climate cooperation in the face of this serious challenge, including indications of how different communities are prepared to defend the agreement and continue coordinated action on this increasingly urgent problem.

Light is University Professor of Philosophy, Public Policy, and Atmospheric Sciences at George Mason University and a Distinguished Senior Fellow in the Climate Program at the World Resources Institute in Washington, D.C.

From 2013 to 2016 he served in the Obama administration as senior adviser and India counselor to the U.S. Special Envoy on Climate Change, as well as staff climate adviser to Secretary of State Kerry in the Office of Policy Planning in the U.S. Department of State.

Since leaving government service, he has been a frequent commentator on U.S. and international climate policy in dozens of media outlets, including The New York Times, Politico, Vox, Axios, The Guardian, Mother Jones, NPR, Marketplace, CNN, CBS, ABC and Fox Business. He is the author of over 100 articles and book chapters and has authored, co-authored and edited 19 books, including "Environmental Values" and the forthcoming "Ethics in the Anthropocene."

This event is co-sponsored by the Mansfield Center's Ethics and Public Affairs Program, the Project on American Democracy and Citizenship, and UM's Climate Change Studies program.

The Ethics and Public Affairs Program conducts research and educational activities focusing on the relationship of values to institutions and public affairs. The Maureen and Mike Mansfield Center at UM promotes better understanding of Asia, U.S. relations with Asia and ethics in public affairs in the spirit of Sen. Mike Mansfield (1903-2001) and his wife and life partner, Maureen Hayes Mansfield. The center houses programs that focus on the peoples and cultures of modern Asia and ethics in public affairs – the core interests and hallmarks of Sen. Mansfield's career.

More information is available at <http://www.umt.edu/mansfield>.

###

**Contact:** Caitlin Sager, UM Mansfield Center program coordinator, 406-243-2965, [caitlin.sager@mso.umt.edu](mailto:caitlin.sager@mso.umt.edu).

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# Culinary Institute Students to Host Annual Capstone Dinner April 21

April 02, 2018

**MISSOULA** – Big Sky Culinary Institute’s Class of 2018 will host a five-course cultural exploration of traditional Spanish cuisine and wine at the new Missoula College building on Saturday, April 21.

The annual Capstone Dinner is a fundraiser that benefits students in the Culinary Arts and Food Service Management programs at Missoula College. It will feature an elegant dining experience as well as silent auction featuring items from local artisans and businesses.

The event will begin 5 p.m. A five-course seated dinner with wine and cider pairings will follow. Tickets to the



dinner cost \$200 per person.

To make a donation or to request more information, email Jessica Hanaghan at [jessica.hanaghan@umontana.edu](mailto:jessica.hanaghan@umontana.edu) or call 406-544-1066. More information is available on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/bigskyculinaryinstitute>.

###

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