October 2018 news releases

University of Montana–Missoula. Office of University Relations
October 2018 News

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UM to Host Folklore Dance Nov. 3

October 31, 2018

MISSOULA – It's time to get down for the annual Town and Gown Dance, hosted by the University of Montana and Missoula folklore societies, on Saturday, Nov. 3, in the University Center Ballroom.

The event is free and open to the public, but donations are accepted to help cover costs. A non-required beginner’s workshop will start at 7:30 p.m., and dancing runs from 8 to 11 p.m. The dress code is casual with comfortable shoes essential.
The dances, called contra dances, are Americanized versions of European country dances, all taught and called. The contra dances are fun and easy to learn, and no experience or partner is necessary, as participants dance with everyone.

“If you can smile and walk at the same time, you can contra dance,” said Vicki Watson, UM Folklore Society adviser.

Music will include old-time Appalachian mountain music and Irish jigs and reels from the band Skippin’ a Groove. Bev Young will call the dances.

More information is online at https://www.missoulafolk.org/ or by calling Watson at 406-243-5153 or emailing vicki.watson@umontana.edu.

For an example of contra dancing, visit http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qvHEnAKlaY&feature=related.

###

**Contact:** Vicki Watson, UM Folklore Society adviser, 406-243-5153, vicki.watson@umontana.edu.
MISSOULA – Stephen Kalm, dean of the College of Visual and Performing Arts since 2009, plans to rejoin the University of Montana teaching faculty full time at the end of this year.

“I'm really excited to have a studio again and also to perform more,” Kalm said. “I'm also one of the longest-serving deans on campus, so I felt now was my time.”

Provost Jon Harbor said an interim dean will be appointed before Kalm steps down.

Kalm, who holds a 2000 Doctorate in Musical Arts from the City University of New York, joined the UM faculty in 1994 to lead the opera program. He also served as chair of the Department of Music from 2002 to 2008, when he was named interim dean. He became the permanent
Kalm's professional journey has allowed him to perform around the world. He has sung with many of America's leading regional opera companies, including the Houston Grand Opera, Chautauqua Opera, Lake George Opera Festival, Minnesota Opera, Connecticut Opera, Cincinnati Opera and The Pennsylvania Opera Theatre.

Internationally, Kalm received critical acclaim for his solo's in Orff's "Carmina Burana" with the Filarmonica de Bogota and for his role of Franco Hartmann in Meredith Monk’s “Atlas” in Berlin, Paris and London. He recorded that work for ECM, as well as Ben Johnston’s “Five Fragments” for New World Records and the premiere recording of Harry Partch’s “Seventeen Lyrics of Li Po” for Tzadik Records. He has produced other commercial recordings as well.

He earned a New York Dance and Performance (Bessie) Award for his performance of Monk’s opera, “The Politics of Quiet.” He also has been a featured soloist at Carnegie Hall, the Next Wave Festival at BAM, the Lincoln Center Festival, the Knitting Factory, The European Cultural Capital Festival in Copenhagen and others.

In the Pacific Northwest, he has performed with the Billings, Bozeman, Butte, Glacier, Helena and Missoula symphony orchestras, as well as the String Orchestra of the Rockies and the Missoula Children’s Theatre. He sang for the Lewis and Clark Bicentennial celebration. In recent years, he sang in an acclaimed performance of “The Wayward” at Carnegie Hall.

“It has been rewarding to serve as dean of the CVPA during the past 10 and a half years, and I look upon this time as one of the most fulfilling experiences in my life,” Kalm said. “I leave this position at a time of growing enrollments throughout the college; outstanding research, performances and exhibitions by our faculty and students; and tremendous support for the arts throughout UM and the Missoula community.”

Contact: Paula Short, director of communications, UM Office of the President, 406-243-2311,
UM Faculty Members Invited to Apply for Asian Research Funding Opportunity

October 29, 2018

MISSOULA – The Maureen and Mike Mansfield Center at the University of Montana is once again offering UM faculty members support in Asian-related research through the Yamaguchi Opportunity Fund.

Each fall and spring semester, the generous support of Akira Yamaguchi allows the University to offer between $500 and $1,000 to faculty from any department or school for Asian studies research and curriculum development related to Asia. Past awards have been given to faculty from history and political science, communications, sociology and anthropology. Supported activities include research-related travel, scholarly publications, conference participation and essential research materials.

Preference is given to full-time, pre-tenure faculty members, although other faculty will be considered.

Interested faculty should submit a two-page proposal detailing the cost breakdown for and nature of their request, and also explain the impact the support will have on their research or teaching. The proposal must include a letter from a colleague in the field who is familiar with the applicant’s work and able to assess the merits of the research.
The application deadline is Monday, Nov. 26, and awards will be announced in early December. Applications can be submitted to Caitlin Sager, Mansfield Center administrative assistant, at caitlin.sager@mso.umt.edu.

The Maureen and Mike Mansfield Center at UM promotes better understanding of the people and cultures of modern 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.

For more information on the Yamaguchi Opportunity fund, visit the Mansfield Center’s website at http://www.umt.edu/mansfield/default.php.

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**Contact:** Caitlin Sager, UM Mansfield Center program coordinator, 406-243-2965, caitlin.sager@mso.umt.edu.
Missoula College Offers Free Cybersecurity Checkups

October 29, 2018

MISSOULA – Students and community members are invited to bring their tablets, notebook computers and smartphones to Missoula College of the University of Montana now through Thursday, Nov. 1, as part of Cybersecurity Awareness Week.

The event recognizes National Cybersecurity Awareness Month in October, which was created through a collaborative effort between government and industry. NCSAM reminds us that cybersecurity safety is the responsibility of all Americans and we all have the important role of protecting ourselves and others through safe and secure online behavior.

Missoula College cybersecurity students will conduct free security diagnostic checks of digital devices from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Monday, Oct. 29, through Wednesday, Oct. 31, in the foyer of Missoula College’s Riverfront Campus at 1205 E. Broadway St.

At 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 30, Missoula College will host the guest lecture “Cryptocurrency and Cybercrime,” by Lake Missoula Group security consultant Matt Durin. The lecture is free to the public and will take place in MC
Missoula College Offers Free Cybersecurity Checkups - UM News - University Of Montana

Room 235.

Durin is a UM graduate who specializes in digital forensics, programming, development and cybersecurity research and development. The lecture will focus on cryptojacking: the latest trend used by criminals to hijack computers, install cryptocurrency miners and use stolen information to set up wallets for illicit funds transfers on the darknet markets.

From 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 1, Missoula College will host the inaugural Cybersecurity Education Summit of Montana two-year colleges. This event will provide faculty members from two-year colleges across the state an opportunity to collaborate and share best educational practices for preparing the next generation of cybersecurity professionals.

The National Security Agency and the Department of Homeland Security has designated Missoula College as a Center for Academic Excellence in Cyber Defense.

For more information call Missoula College's Kevin Trevellyan at 858-775-4412 or email kevin.trevellyan@umconnect.umt.edu.

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Contact: Kevin Trevellyan, Missoula College marketing and communications, 858-775-4412, kevin.trevellyan@umconnect.umt.edu.
MISSOULA – The autumn rain let up just as Seth Bodnar was installed as the 19th president of the University of Montana on Friday, Oct. 25.

The short ceremony on the steps of UM’s Main Hall highlighted “Inauguration Weekend: A Celebration of Service.” Bodnar, who finished at the top of his
West Point class and became a Rhodes Scholar, was considered the nontraditional candidate for UM’s top office, with a military and corporate background. He started work as UM president in January and forged his own path with a modest inauguration based on service.

“This inauguration is not about one person,” Bodnar said. “We’re here today to signify and recognize the purpose of this institution and the collective work of those who serve — through education, through research activity and through engagement. And we are here to inspire in others a commitment to service their communities all over the world.”

Before he was sworn in, Bodnar received the blessing of Tony Incashola, a tribal elder with the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes. Bodnar acknowledged that UM is constructed on the original territories of Native people, and this history is “very much an active part of our present.”

Bodnar was administered the oath of office by Clay Christian, the Montana commissioner of higher education. Speaking to Bodnar, Christian said, “You were chosen to lead the University of Montana because of your vision and your demonstrated ability to guide others in setting and reaching mutual goals. We are delighted you are here and look forward to continuing to work with you.”

Bodnar was presented with UM’s Presidential Medallion, which is passed from president to president and worn at major University ceremonial events. He also was sworn in using a Bible from UM Archives and Special Collections. The 1851 Bible has a cover embossed with the name F.L. Worden, one of Missoula’s founders. Christian remarked how one of Worden’s direct descendants is now attending UM.

As the ceremony drew to a close, Bodnar mentioned how he and volunteers were leaving to participate in University United Food Friday, in which 8,000 nutritious meals would be packaged to benefit Missoula families in need.

“I hope you will join me,” he said. “Let’s get to work.”

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Contact: Paula Short, director of communications, UM Office of the President, 406-243-2311, paula.short@mso.umt.edu.
UM Big Sky Poll: Tester Leads Senate Race, Congressional Race Within Margin of Error

October 26, 2018

MISSOULA – The most recent University of Montana Big Sky Poll indicates Democratic U.S. Senate candidate Jon Tester has a 10-point lead on his Republican challenger, Matt Rosendale, but many still remain undecided. The poll also indicates Montana’s U.S. House race is too close to call.

The poll surveyed 607 registered voters Oct. 10-18. Of those, 533 were classified as likely voters. The survey asked likely voters who they would vote for if the Nov. 6 midterm election were held today.

Forty-nine percent indicated they would vote for Tester for U.S. Senate, while 39 percent chose Rosendale. Two percent indicated support for Libertarian candidate Rick Breckenridge, and 10 percent remain undecided. Of these undecided likely voters, 20 percent said they lean toward Rosendale, 10 percent lean toward Tester, and 6 percent lean toward Breckenridge. This represents significant tightening in the race since the Big Sky Poll’s August survey.
In the race for Montana’s lone U.S. House seat, 46 percent sided with Democratic candidate Kathleen Williams, while 45 percent would choose incumbent Republican candidate Greg Gianforte, which is within the poll’s margin of error.

Two percent indicated support for U.S. House Libertarian candidate Elinor Swanson, and 7 percent remain undecided. Of these undecided likely voters, 17 percent said they lean toward Williams, 3 percent lean toward Gianforte, and 2 percent lean toward Swanson.

“The races are tightening as we approach Election Day,” said UM Professor Sara Rinfret, co-director of the Big Sky Poll said. “Compared to our August telephone survey, undecided voters appear to be moving toward the challengers.”

The UM Big Sky Poll defines likely voters as those who said they were very likely or somewhat likely to vote in the November 2018 election. Survey results were weighted by geography and gender to more accurately reflect demographics of the registered voter population in Montana. Results reflect the responses of likely Montana voters only. The margin of error for likely voters is +/-4.33 at a 95 percent confidence level with the same weighting. Use of poll findings requires attribution to the UM Big Sky Poll.

The Big Sky Poll is directed by Rinfret, director of UM’s Master of Public Administration program, and UM marketing Associate Professor Justin Angle, 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 and Office of Research and Creative Scholarship. The UM Big Sky Poll will be conducted on an ongoing basis, with more results expected in spring 2019.

Full results from the poll can be found on the UM Big Sky Poll website at http://umt.edu/bigskypoll.

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**Table 1: If the Election Were Held Today, Who Would You Vote For?**

**U.S. Senate Candidates**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Sure about my vote</th>
<th>Might change my vote</th>
<th>Don’t know/Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Jon Tester</strong></td>
<td>48.9%</td>
<td>97%</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Matt Rosendale</strong></td>
<td>38.8%</td>
<td>94%</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Rick Breckenridge</strong></td>
<td>1.9%</td>
<td>70%</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Might change my vote</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>--------------------------</td>
<td>----------------------</td>
<td>-----</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Don't know/Unsure</td>
<td>-</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Undecided</td>
<td>10.4%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Which candidate are you leaning towards? | Rosendale: 21% | Tester: 10% | Breckenridge: 6% | Don’t know: 64% |

**Table 2: If the Election Were Held Today, Who Would You Vote For?**

**U.S. Senate Candidates by Demographic**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Female</th>
<th>Male</th>
<th>Urban</th>
<th>Rural</th>
<th>Dem.</th>
<th>Repub.</th>
<th>Indep.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jon Tester</td>
<td>54%</td>
<td>45%</td>
<td>58%</td>
<td>36%</td>
<td>99%</td>
<td>9%</td>
<td>49%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Matt Rosendale</td>
<td>33%</td>
<td>45%</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>51%</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>81%</td>
<td>33%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rick Breckenridge</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unsure</td>
<td>12%</td>
<td>8%</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>11%</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>9%</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Table 2 Cont’d., Education Level**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Some high-school</th>
<th>High school/GED</th>
<th>Some college</th>
<th>Associate Degree</th>
<th>Bachelor Degree</th>
<th>Post Bacc.</th>
<th>Other</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jon Tester</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>44%</td>
<td>42%</td>
<td>26%</td>
<td>53%</td>
<td>66%</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Matt Rosendale</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>46%</td>
<td>47%</td>
<td>54%</td>
<td>37%</td>
<td>24%</td>
<td>33%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rick Breckenridge</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unsure</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>9%</td>
<td>8%</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>9%</td>
<td>9%</td>
<td>67%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Table 2 Cont’d., Age**
### Table 3: If the Election Were Held Today, Who Would You Vote For?

#### U.S. House of Representatives

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Candidate</th>
<th>18-26</th>
<th>27-46</th>
<th>47-66</th>
<th>67 or older</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jon Tester</td>
<td>47%</td>
<td>57%</td>
<td>46%</td>
<td>48%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Matt Rosendale</td>
<td>47%</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>44%</td>
<td>38%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rick Breckenridge</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unsure</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>11%</td>
<td>9%</td>
<td>12%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Kathleen Williams

- Sure about my vote: 45.8%
- Might change my vote: 5%
- Don't know/Unsure: 1%

#### Greg Gianforte

- Sure about my vote: 45.3%
- Might change my vote: 7%
- Don't know/Unsure: 1%

#### Elinor Swanson

- Sure about my vote: 1.8%
- Might change my vote: 44%
- Don't know/Unsure: -

#### Undecided

- Which candidate are you leaning towards?: 7.1%
- Williams: 17%
- Gianforte: 3%
- Swanson: 2%
- Don’t know: 78%

### Table 4: If the Election Were Held Today, Who Would You Vote For?

#### U.S. House of Representatives by Demographic

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Female</th>
<th>Male</th>
<th>Urban</th>
<th>Rural</th>
<th>Dem.</th>
<th>Repub.</th>
<th>Indep.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

Table 4 Cont’d., Education Level

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Some high-school</th>
<th>High school/ GED</th>
<th>Some college</th>
<th>Associate Degree</th>
<th>Bachelor Degree</th>
<th>Post Bacc.</th>
<th>Other</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Kathleen Williams</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>44%</td>
<td>33%</td>
<td>22%</td>
<td>52%</td>
<td>62%</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Greg Gianforte</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>51%</td>
<td>54%</td>
<td>62%</td>
<td>41%</td>
<td>32%</td>
<td>67%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elinor Swanson</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unsure</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>13%</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>33%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 4 Cont’d., Age

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>18-26</th>
<th>27-46</th>
<th>47-66</th>
<th>67 or older</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Kathleen Williams</td>
<td>42%</td>
<td>53%</td>
<td>43%</td>
<td>45%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Greg Gianforte</td>
<td>53%</td>
<td>37%</td>
<td>49%</td>
<td>45%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elinor Swanson</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unsure</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>7%</td>
<td>8%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

This release is online at:

SR/cbs
State
102518poll

Contact: Sara Rinfret, director, UM Master in Public Administration Program, 406-243-4702, sara.rinfret@mso.umt.edu.
UM’s Rosalyn LaPier Wins National Book Awards

October 24, 2018

MISSOULA – University of Montana environmental studies Associate Professor Rosalyn LaPier won two national book awards from the Western History Association at its annual awards banquet Oct. 19 in San Antonio, Texas.

LaPier earned the John C. Ewers Book Award and the Donald Fixico Book Award for "Invisible Reality: Storytellers, Storytakers and the Supernatural World of the
UM’s Rosalyn LaPier Wins National Book Awards - UM News - University Of Montana

Blackfeet,” published by University of Nebraska Press.

The John C. Ewers Book Award recognizes “the best published book” on the ethnohistory of North American Indians of Canada, Mexico or the U.S. The Donald Fixico Book Award recognizes “innovative work in the field of American Indian and Canadian First Nations History that centers Indigenous epistemologies and perspectives.”

Laurie Arnold, director of Native American studies at Gonzaga University and an award committee chair, said LaPier’s “Invisible Reality” is a “model of what meaningful collaboration between scholars and community members can be.”

Elaine Marie Nelson, executive director of the Western History Association, said LaPier earned the “distinction of becoming the first Native woman to receive a book award as a stand-alone author.”

LaPier became the first Native woman to receive a book award from the Western History Association for a book she co-wrote when she won the 2016 Robert G. Athearn Book Award for “City Indian: Native American Activism in Chicago, 1893-1934.” She co-authored the book with David R.M. Beck. LaPier is an enrolled member of the Blackfeet tribe and Métis.

“Invisible Reality” also was a finalist for the High Country Book Awards held Oct. 20 in Billings.

UM environmental studies alumna Monika Bilka also won best scholarly article of the year on Native American history at the conference. Her article focused on tribal treaty rights for the Klamath Tribe of Oregon.

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Contact: Susan Elliott, administrative assistant, UM Environmental Studies and Geography, 406-243-6273, susan.elliott@mso.umt.edu.
UM Students to Perform ‘Dance Up Close’ in November

October 22, 2018

MISSOULA – The University of Montana School of Theatre & Dance again will present its innovative and immersive dance concert “Dance Up Close” to audiences next month.

“Dance Up Close,” produced by UM dance Associate Professor Heidi Jones Eggert, will take place at 7:30 p.m. Thursday through Saturday, Nov. 1-3, as well as 2 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 3, in the Masquer Theatre in UM’s Performing Arts and Radio/TV Center.

General admission tickets cost $20, while senior and student tickets are $16. Admission for children 12 and younger is $10. Tickets are available by calling the UMArts Box Office at 406-243-4581 from noon to 5 p.m. Tuesday through Friday or ordering online at http://www.umt.edu/umarts/theatredance/.
A highlight of the UM Dance Program’s season, this annual black box theater showcases new, original work of emerging and established dance artists in an intimate setting and gives developing designers the opportunity to collaborate with those performers.

This year’s “Dance Up Close” will feature 10 new and diverse works choreographed by dance majors, including nine impressive junior projects – a requirement of the undergraduate dance curriculum.

“Dancing with the Dead” is a collaborative project devised by senior dance Bachelor of Fine Arts candidate Katie Conrad and English literature Professor Ashby Kinch. The piece focuses on re-imagining the medieval multimedia performance known as the “Danse Macabre,” or dance of death. Dancers, writers and actors have worked together to explore death, dying and loss in words and dance that express the desire to understand this moment of transformation in human experience.

Junior dance major Noelle Huser presents “Pigeon Post.” This piece explores human empathy and the way our brains are wired to communicate and evolve with technology. It serves as a post-apocalyptic warning of isolation in a wasteland of technology, where humanity evolves in cyborg-ian realms.

Rakel Tangvald, a junior dance major, performs in her own work alongside two other dancers in “Staging Perception.” A video designed by Tangvald plays in the background while the three live dancers express their internal drive, rhythm and artistry. This piece explores individual inherent “small dances” and how they might interact with the “small dances” of others.

A complete schedule of UM School of Theatre & Dance productions for the 2018-19 academic year is online at http://www.umt.edu/umarts/theatredance/Season/18-19-season.php.

For more information on “Dance Up Close,” call Eggert at 406-529-5401 or email heidi.eggert@umontana.edu.
UM Students to Perform ‘Dance Up Close’ in November - UM News - University Of Montana

Contact: Heidi Jones Eggert, associate professor of dance, UM School of Theatre & Dance, 406-529-5401, heidi.eggert@umontana.edu.
MISSOULA – The inaugural “Lecture at the Nexus” at the University of Montana will highlight the importance of science communication.

Award-winning environmental journalist Ben Goldfarb will launch the lecture series at 4 p.m. Monday, Nov. 5, in the Thompson Auditorium of UM’s Gilkey Executive Education Building. He will present “Beavers: Their Landscape, Our Future,” with a reception in the foyer outside the auditorium to follow at 5 p.m. Both events are free and open to the public.

Goldfarb’s UM visit is co-sponsored by the UM Office of the Provost and School of Journalism, with additional support from the National Wildlife Federation.

Earlier that day at noon, Goldfarb also will lead a Nexus Forum with a
UM faculty panel titled "Water Availability in a Changing Climate" in the Ainslie Networking Lounge, located in the lower level of the Gilkey Building. His fellow panelists will be Dr. Ashley Ballantyne of the Department of Ecosystem and Conservation Sciences, Dr. Elizabeth Metcalf of the Department of Society and Conservation, and Dr. Andrew Wilcox from the Department of Geosciences.


"We are excited that Ben is coming to speak at UM," said UM BRIDGES Program Coordinator Alisa Wade. "His work provides an excellent example of how science writing can be funny, relevant and inspire action."

The “Lecture at the Nexus” series is hosted by UM BRIDGES, an interdisciplinary graduate training program that prepares future leaders to advance societally relevant science at the nexus of water-energy-food systems. Water-energy-food systems are inherently interconnected, forming a nexus that is critical to societies, economies and ecologies around the globe. UM BRIDGES brings together researchers, students and practitioners from across the UM campus that seek to translate science to action in part through improved science communication.

Wade said the inaugural "Lecture at the Nexus" speaker will provide an example of engaging and entertaining science communication, focusing on the importance of beavers as landscape engineers with critical implications for water-energy-food systems across their range.

Visit http://bengoldfarb.com/ for more information on Goldfarb. Explore http://www.umt.edu/bridges/ for information on UM BRIDGES or find the group on Twitter at @WEFNexusUM.

###

**Contact:** Alisa Wade, UM conservation scientist, UM BRIDGES program coordinator, 406-529-9722, alisa.wade@umontana.edu.
Award-Winning Environmental Journalist to Lecture at UM
Volunteers Needed for Oct. 26 Inauguration Service Event at UM

October 19, 2018

MISSOULA – United Way of Missoula County and the University of Montana will host University United Food Friday on Oct. 26 – a one-of-a-kind community volunteer event in honor of UM President Seth Bodnar’s service-themed inauguration.

This team-building event is an opportunity to help feed thousands of hungry Missoulians and connect the campus and community.

“This is an exciting, lynchpin event during our inauguration weekend’s ‘Celebration of Service,’” Bodnar said. “We invite UM students, employees, community members and fellow citizens of Montana to participate and benefit our community.”

University United Food Friday will run from 1 to 4 p.m. in the University Center Ballroom. Volunteers are encouraged to show up at noon for check-in. Visit http://missoulaunitedway.org/ for more information or to register to help.

“We’re thrilled to partner with the University of Montana for University United Food Friday,” said Susan Hay Patrick,
Volunteers Needed for Oct. 26 Inauguration Service Event at UM - UM News - University Of Montana

United Way of Missoula County CEO. “Something this big takes all of us working together, and it’s exciting to partner with the University, the Missoula Food Bank, Wells Fargo and the Lambros Community Foundation, as well as other sponsors, to make this event happen.”

Two hundred volunteers are needed to package over 8,000 dried, nonperishable meals – 50,000 individual servings – for distribution to hungry children and families in the community.

Meals will be distributed to kids through the Missoula Food Bank’s EmPower Pack weekend nutrition program, providing healthy meals for students who experience chronic hunger while away from school. Each package serves a family of six or one child for the entirety of an extended school break.

In addition, all food will be included in the Can the Cats food drive competition with Montana State University, an annual competition to see which campus can collect the largest quantity of donated food.

For more on UM’s inauguration weekend, visit https://bit.ly/2JaLTnW. United Way of Missoula County brings people together to identify problems in the areas of education, financial stability and health, and craft creative, lasting solutions that change lives and build a stronger community for everyone.

###

Contact: Erin Wilkins, director of development and marketing, United Way of Missoula County, 406-549-6104, erin@missoulaunderway.org.
Volunteers Needed for Oct. 26 Inauguration Service Event at UM - UM News - University Of Montana
UM Curry Health Center Releases Well-Being Toolkit

October 19, 2018

MISSOULA – Curry Health Center Wellness, in collaboration with the Campus Wellness Coalition, has released a new resource for faculty and staff at the University of Montana to help promote well-being campuswide.

Based on the work done at Simon Fraser University in Canada exploring how learning environments and well-being can positively affect academic outcomes, the new Faculty Toolkit provides ways to create a culture of well-being in the classroom that can powerfully impact students.

The project is a response to feedback from students and information collected in the biennial National College Health Assessment survey.

“According to UM student data, more of our students are struggling in the areas of mental and emotional well-being. More students report feeling very sad, lonely, overwhelmed and extremely stressed,” said Julee Stearns, UM health promotion specialist. “At Curry Health Center Wellness, we are excited to be working to expand the traditional health education efforts into a more comprehensive systemic approach. By engaging instructors in promoting well-being in their classroom, we are able to expand the reach of health education across campus.”
The toolkit provides evidence-based recommendations and campus and Missoula-based resources to promote well-being in the classroom in areas including flexibility, positive classroom culture and responding to students in crisis.

“Supportive classroom environments allow students to rise to the challenge of their academic endeavors even when they encounter real-life struggles along the way,” Stearns said. “The Faculty Toolkit outlines simple yet powerful suggestions that support student well-being in the classroom.”

The toolkit is available online at http://www.umt.edu/toolkit. To learn about the Student Wellness Advocate program and Campus Wellness Coalition, visit http://www.umt.edu/swa.

For more information about the toolkit, call Stearns at 406-243-5336 or email julee.stearns@umontana.edu.

Contact: Julee Stearns, UM Curry Health Center health promotion specialist, 406-243-5336, julee.stearns@umontana.edu.

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news@umontana.edu
MISSOULA – Montana Attorney General Tim Fox will serve as the keynote speaker at the University of Montana’s first-ever Fall Commencement Saturday, Dec. 15. The new event will take place at 9 a.m. in the University Center Ballroom.

Fox is in his second term as attorney general of the State of Montana. He was first elected to the office in November 2012 and re-elected in November 2016. He is a three-time UM alumnus, with a degree in geology (1981), a law degree (1987) and, most recently, a Master in Public Administration (2018).

“As a native Montanan who is making a difference in Big Sky Country, Tim Fox is an excellent example of what a UM education can do for its students and for the state of Montana,” President Seth Bodnar said. “We are honored he will speak at the University’s first-
Montana Attorney General to Speak at First-Ever UM Fall Commencement - UM News - University Of Montana

ever Fall Commencement this December."

Fox was born in Hardin and is the youngest of five children. He is a graduate of Hardin High School. He has practiced law for more than 30 years in Montana, working both in private practice and for state agencies. Fox specializes in business, real estate, constitutional, environmental and commercial law. He started his law career as a law clerk to Associate Justice L.C. Gulbrandson of the Montana Supreme Court.

“I’m a firm believer that education sets the stage for future success, and I’m proud to hold three degrees from UM,” Fox said. “It will be my honor to share some of my experiences and words of advice during UM’s first Fall Commencement and help our newest Griz alumni launch the next chapter of their lives.”

Fox and his wife, Karen, have four children and six grandchildren.

UM’s Fall Commencement will be a smaller, more intimate and less formal event than the traditional Spring Commencement. It is an opportunity to celebrate students who are not able to attend the spring event.

The ceremony will include the reading of graduates’ names and the hooding of all doctoral candidates by their advisers. Additional information is online at https://www.umt.edu/registrar/Commencement/default.php.

###

Contact: Paula Short, director of communications, UM Office of the President, 406-243-5806, paula.short@umontana.edu.
UM Inauguration Weekend to Highlight Service Oct. 26-27

October 19, 2018

MISSOULA – University of Montana President Seth Bodnar will forgo a traditional inauguration ceremony honoring one person to instead commemorate the positive work of many individuals. Bodnar has elected to turn the community's attention to the many ways in which these individuals serve campus, the Missoula community and the world.

Bodnar, who is UM’s 19th president, highlighted the diverse and collective impact of the many members of the UM Family during his State of the University address. This year, “Inauguration Weekend: A Celebration of Service” will focus on these countless contributions with a variety of events on Friday and Saturday, Oct 26-27.

Friday, Oct. 26

- **Service Stories**, all day, University Center Atrium – An exhibit of service stories will highlight students, alumni and employees who embody UM’s service-oriented, community-minded and impact-focused culture.
- **Installation Ceremony**, 12:30 to 12:45 p.m., Main Hall – Bodnar will officially be installed as UM’s president in a short public ceremony on the front steps of Main Hall.
University United Food Friday, 1 to 4 p.m., University Center Ballroom – Campus and community members are invited to help pack nonperishable, nutritious meal items to build 50,000 meal packages to benefit Missoula families.

Saturday, Oct. 27

Griz for Kids Donation Drive, all day, Pedestrian Bridge/University Center Ballroom – UM student and Griz football player Chris Orwig created this toy drive 12 years ago to provide new toys for children in need during the holidays. Volunteers will collect new toys and donations to support children at 11 local nonprofits.

Pregame Brunch Celebration, 10:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., University Center Ballroom – The Family Weekend pregame brunch this year will celebrate many forms of service performed by our community. This event is by invitation only.

Griz Football Game, 2 p.m., Washington-Grizzly Stadium – Grizzly Athletics will host a Military Appreciation football game to honor those lost through active duty, veterans and families of those serving our country. ROTC at UM also will celebrate its centennial anniversary.

In addition, UM will launch its Community Giving Campaign on Tuesday, Oct. 23. The campaign runs through Friday, Nov. 30. Every year, hundreds of UM employees support the nonprofits of western Montana, and last year more than 400 employees donated over $106,000 to local charities. Employees are invited to make one-time donations during the campaign or to sign up for payroll deductions for the 2019 calendar year.

For an updated list of all activities, visit https://bit.ly/2AdqSWN.

Contact: Paula Short, director of communications, UM Office of the President, 406-243-2311, paula.short@mso.umt.edu.
First Shift to Offer Transitions into Health Care Careers

October 18, 2018

MISSOULA – The Western Montana Area Health Education Center at the University of Montana will host 1st Shift, a one-day pilot, entry-level health care career exposure program, next month for Flathead County residents.

The program, in collaboration with Flathead Valley Community College and several Kalispell agencies and health care facilities, will take place from 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Friday, Nov. 2, at FVCC.

Targeted toward nontraditional students, displaced workers, veterans and students in gap years in Flathead County, 1st Shift was developed after the WMT-AHEC Advisory Board determined that the greatest immediate need for Montana small western rural hospitals is recruitment of qualified individuals to fill entry-level hospital and clinical positions.

“Montana’s workforce and education systems continue to implement strategies to make worker training more affordable, accessible and aligned with the needs of our economy,” Gov. Steve Bullock said in last month’s Labor Day Report. “Businesses and workforce professionals should continue to encourage students to seek out in-demand fields needed in our economy. Education organizations should persist in increasing the efficiency and flexibility of
First Shift to Offer Transitions into Health Care Careers - UM News - University Of Montana

training, allowing adults already in the labor force to learn new skills while still working.”

The 1st Shift program will feature an entry-level health care employee panel with employer roundtables focusing on job shadows, apprenticeships, available training, job openings and educational financial assistance.

Online registration is open until Friday, Oct. 26, at http://www.wmtahec.org/, or interested applicants may pick up an application at Kalispell Job Service. Child care and lunch are provided. Call Martha Robertson, program coordinator, at 406-243-7946 with any questions.

The Western Montana Area Health Education Center continues to work on strategies to connect students to careers, professionals to communities and communities to better health. The 1st Shift program will serve as a model for other Montana counties struggling to recruit and retain a health care workforce.

###

**Contact:** Martha Robertson, UM Western Montana Area Health Education Center program coordinator, 406-243-4746, martha.robertson@mso.umt.edu.
MISSOULA – The University of Montana will celebrate its 13th annual diversity symposium, “DiverseU,” on Thursday and Friday, Nov. 1-2, on the third floor of the University Center.

DiverseU provides a forum for honest dialogue to explore the complexities of human experience, promote understanding and create community through the practice of civil discourse. Throughout the day, students, faculty, staff, alumni and community members will discuss, present, perform and exhibit art.

More than 40 sessions will take place during the two-day symposium, including the keynote presentation, “There is Life After Hate” by Christian Picciolini, from 6 to 8 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 1, in the University Center Ballroom. Picciolini is a reformed violent extremist, Emmy Award-winning director and producer, published author, TEDx speaker and global peace advocate.

UM also has collaborated with the U.S. Department of Justice Community Relations Service to provide a Hate Crimes Forum, a pre-event scheduled for 6 to 9 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 30, in the University Center Ballroom.

All DiverseU events are free and open to the public. UM students and employees are encouraged to attend, and no pre-registration is required.
For more information and a full schedule, visit http://www.umt.edu/diverseu/.

###

**Contact:** Hailey Michelson, UM University Center program manager, 406-243-5776, hailey.michelson@umontana.edu.
UM Poll: Only 22 Percent of Montanans Can Name State’s Highest Point

October 17, 2018

MISSOULA – The University of Montana’s Big Sky Poll asked respondents, “Can you tell me the name of the highest natural point in Montana?” Twenty-two percent of respondents answered correctly – Granite Peak. Located in the Beartooth Mountains in south-central Montana, Granite Peak stands at 12,799 feet tall.

Table 1: Aggregate Responses

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Answer</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Granite Peak</td>
<td>21.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beartooth Mountains</td>
<td>2.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>12.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Don’t Know</td>
<td>62.8%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Granite Peak ranks 10th-highest on the list of high points in U.S. states, yet is considered one of the most difficult to summit. Other popular answers from survey respondents included Trapper Peak, the highest point in the Bitterroot Mountains (10,157 feet) and “Somewhere in Glacier National Park,” where the highest peak is Mount Cleveland (10,479 feet).

In the Spring 2018 UM Big Sky Poll, respondents were asked, “Can you tell me the words displayed on the ribbon of the Montana state seal?” According to that poll, 30 percent of Montanans responded correctly with “Oro y Plata,” which is Spanish for “gold and silver.”

“These types of questions are asked in order to gauge Montanans’ knowledge of our state’s history, geography and traditions,” said Dr. Sara Rinfret, an associate professor and director of UM’s Master of Public Administration Program. “We like to include a fun question among the more serious questions about Montanans’ opinions of politicians and ballot initiatives.”

The Big Sky Poll collects and reports information about Montanans’ perceptions of local, state and federal issues. The poll is directed by Rinfret and Dr. Justin Angle, associate professor of marketing and the Warren and Betsy Wilcox Faculty Fellow in UM’s College of Business.

The poll telephone survey was conducted Aug. 13-31 with 618 registered Montana voters. The margin of error is +/-4 at a 95 percent confidence level. Survey results were weighted by geography and gender to more accurately reflect demographics of the registered voter population in Montana.

For more information about the Big Sky Poll, visit http://www.umt.edu/bigskypoll/default.php.

###

**Contact:** Sara Rinfret, director, UM Master in Public Administration Program, 406-243-4702, sara.rinfret@mso.umt.edu.
UM Poll: Only 22 Percent of Montanans Can Name State’s Highest Point - UM News - University Of Montana
UM Tops in Montana According to World University Rankings

October 17, 2018

MISSOULA – The University of Montana is the highest-ranked institution of higher learning in the state, according to the 2019 World University Rankings.

Founded in 2004, The Times Higher Education World University Rankings provide a definitive list of the world’s best universities.
Institutions are evaluated for teaching, research, international outlook, reputation and more.

The organization ranked UM among the best 401 to 500 universities in the world. In addition, UM's education curriculum was ranked even higher in the 251-300 range. The next-highest ranked university in Montana was in the 501-600 range.

“This ranking demonstrates that the University of Montana compares favorably with institutions of higher learning around the globe,” UM President Seth Bodnar said. “You can get a world-class education right here in the spectacular heart of the Rocky Mountains of Montana.

“We offer an incredible Big Sky Experience for our students that produces the leaders of tomorrow.”

The World University Rankings in-house data team now ranks 2,150 institutions worldwide, with 1 million datapoints analyzed across 2,600 institutions in 93 countries. In 2016, the global reach of the rankings was nearly 700 million.


This is the second time in as many months that UM was ranked tops in Montana. In September, U.S. News & World Report named UM the best university in Big Sky Country. Read more at http://bit.ly/2x31uA7.

To apply today, visit http://admissions.umt.edu/.

###

**Contact:** Cathy Cole, UM vice president for enrollment and strategic communications, 406-243-4012, cathy.cole@mso.umt.edu.
UM Tops in Montana According to World University Rankings - UM News - University Of Montana
MISSOULA – A new study authored by the Bureau of Business and Economic Research at the University of Montana examines the impacts of changing timber harvest levels, worker productivity and wood product markets on employment and income in Montana’s forest industry.

The study authors are Todd Morgan, director of the Forest Industry Research program at BBER; Paul Polzin, emeritus director of BBER; and retired U.S. Forest Service economist Michael Niccolucci.

Employment and income of workers in Montana’s forest industry have declined since the 1990s, with a very
pronounced drop during the Great Recession and little recovery since. Likewise, timber harvest volumes, lumber production and sales from the wood products industry in Montana have gone down. Meanwhile labor productivity – output per worker – has generally increased among Montana’s larger sawmills and panel producers.

Using data collected by BBER since the early 1980s, as well as publicly available data from the U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis and Random Lengths, BBER researchers found that the main driver of forest industry employment and income in Montana since the 1980s has been timber harvest levels or log supply. Labor productivity and wood product market conditions have been less influential.

"Using linear regression techniques, we found that timber harvest and lumber production per employee were both statistically significant predictors of forest industry employment," Morgan said, "but timber harvest was over four times more important than worker productivity. Only timber harvest was a significant predictor of labor income in the models we tested."

The authors found that even though labor productivity in the state’s sawmill industry had increased since the 1980s, it had several prolonged periods of flat or negative growth. The regression models indicate that total employment and labor income actually increase with increasing productivity. In other words, given the other factors of log supply and market conditions, rising worker productivity contributes to rising forest industry employment, not lower employment in Montana.

The study concludes that with additional timber, mills in Montana could not only increase wood product sales, but also increase employment, add workers and increase hours per employee, which would increase labor income.

"With active forest management and a viable wood products industry, Montana has the ability to manage its forests, help reduce wildfire risk to communities, improve habitat for a variety of species, and contribute to the state and local economies," Morgan said. "Increasing timber harvest levels can lead to more of these social, economic and ecological benefits."

Established in 1948, BBER is the main research unit of UM’s College of Business. Its researchers engage in a wide range of applied research projects that address different aspects of the state economy, including survey research, economic analysis, health care research, forecasting, wood products research and energy research.

The BBER Forest Industry Research Program has provided analysis of the forest products industry throughout the West for more than 35 years. For more information visit http://www.bber.umt.edu/fir/.

###

**Contact:** Todd Morgan, director of Forest Industry Research, UM Bureau of Business and Economic Research, 406-243-6716, todd.morgan@business.umt.edu.

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MISSOULA – Speakers from across the state will highlight their research during the Montana Research Roadshow, which visits the University of Montana at 5 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 24, in the University Center Theater.

The roadshow began at Great Falls, ends in Libby and visits 25 towns along the Hi-Line and throughout south central, eastern and western Montana. Researchers present 10-minute stories from each of Montana’s public universities.

Two UM chemistry professors and a Missoula College faculty member will bring their research to the roadshow. The topics for Missoula’s stop include:

- “Engineering Tiny Holes: Developing Molecules that Move Anions into Cells,” Orion Berryman, UM Department of Chemistry.
- “Clarifying the Chemistry of Wildfire Smoke,” Lu Hu, UM Department of Chemistry.
- “Fix it or Face it! Ecological Restoration in Butte, America,” Robert Pal, Montana Tech.
“Geochemistry and Life: From Supervolcanoes to Silver Bow Creek,” Alysia Cox, Montana Tech.
“A Hidden Layer of the Genetic Code and Neurological Disease,” Lynn George, Montana State University-Billings.
“Saving Fluvial Arctic Grayling One Class at a Time,” Robert Thomas, UM-Western.
“Wildfire, Drought and Residential Risk Perceptions in the Rocky Mountains,” Christopher Craig, MSU-Billings.

“Montana’s universities innovate. They address problems and questions important to every corner of the state,” said Montana Commissioner of Higher Education Clayton Christian. “We are very happy that folks from around Montana will hear a sample of the brilliant work being done by our faculty and students.”

For a full list of Research Roadshow times, locations and speakers, visit https://mus.edu/roadshow/.

To view a livestream on Facebook for each event, visit https://www.facebook.com/MontanaUniversitySystem.

###

Contact: Kelly Webster, chief of staff, UM Office of the President, 406-243-2470, kelly.webster@umontana.edu; Joseph Thiel, director of academic policy and research, Montana University System, 406-449-9134, jthiel@umontana.edu.
MISSOULA – The University of Montana’s Alexander Blewett III School of Law recently was ranked 11th in the nation for best value by PreLaw Magazine.

The list of 25 Best Value Law Schools appeared in the magazine’s fall 2018 edition, which is online at http://bit.ly/2NItPCg.

The ranking recognizes
schools where graduates have excellent chances of passing the bar and getting a job without taking on excessive debt. Schools are selected using a formula that incorporates the bar pass rate, employment rate, tuition, cost of living and average indebtedness upon graduation.

“It’s gratifying to see this recognition of the outstanding quality and value of the legal education we provide,” UM law Dean Paul Kirgis said. “Our students study in an amazing location at a reasonable price, and then go on to exciting, fulfilling careers.”

UM was the only law school in the Pacific Northwest to make the Best Value Law Schools list. The nearest neighbor was the University of Utah, which landed at No. 15 on the list.

For more than 100 years, the UM law school has educated lawyers and prepared them to serve society. In 1914, the School of Law became a member of the Association of American Law Schools and in 1923 received accreditation from the American Bar Association.

In 2011, the School of Law celebrated 100 years of education and service. It accepts up to 84 new law students every year. For more information visit http://www.umt.edu/law/default.php.

###

**Contact:** Sara Kryder, director of communications and events, UM Alexander Blewett III School of Law, 406-243-5730, sara.kryder@umontana.edu; Paul Kirgis, UM law school dean, 406-243-5291, paul.kirgis@mso.umt.edu.
Mansfield Family to Honor Legacy at UM

October 12, 2018

MISSOULA – Members of the Mansfield family will visit the University of Montana to honor the legacy of the late Maureen and Mike Mansfield on Friday, Oct. 19.

Hosted by UM’s Maureen and Mike Mansfield Center and the Maureen and Mike Mansfield Library, family members will share their memories of the senator and his wife before a new plaque is dedicated to the couple.

The plaque, sponsored by Special Forces Association 28, features Ambassador Mansfield’s military career, as well as his political career. The dedication is free and open to the public and will take place at 4:45 p.m. at the Mansfield statue in the area between the University Center and the library.

Prior to his long-standing service as a U.S. representative, senator and ambassador, Mansfield also served in the U.S. Armed Forces. At 14, Mansfield lied about his age and enlisted in the U.S. Navy during World War I. Though he eventually was discharged from the Navy when his age was discovered, Mansfield joined the U.S. Army and then the U.S. Marines after WWI. He was honorably discharged in 1922.

Special Forces Association 28 is the Montana Chapter, supporting members and veterans of the Special Forces, as well as their families, and working to educate the general public about the Special Forces and its history.
UM's Mansfield Center 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. For more information visit http://www.umt.edu/mansfield/.

Contact: Caitlin Sager, program manager, UM Maureen and Mike Mansfield Center, 406-243-2965, caitlin.sager@mso.umt.edu.
UM Study: Small Montana Tourism Communities Struggle with Housing

October 12, 2018

MISSOULA – Residents of Gardiner struggle with their fame as a gateway community to the world’s first national park, Yellowstone. This struggle, highlighted in a before-and-after study of infrastructure development conducted by the University of Montana’s Institute for Tourism and Recreation Research, revolves around housing.

ITRR’s study assessed quality of life and image perceptions of Gardiner by residents, as well as support and attachment to their community before and after changes within it.

The study took place after “The Gardiner Gateway Project,” a partnership between local, state and federal agencies to restore and enhance the original year-round entrance to Yellowstone National Park and Gardiner. The project focused on sustainable infrastructure, tourism and economic development, including pedestrian-friendly zones, a historic downtown district, a welcome center with public restrooms and information, and improved signage.

“It’s not often that a before-and-after study is conducted for a community, so this was an excellent opportunity to see if resident attitudes changed,” ITRR Director Norma Nickerson said. “And attitudes toward some aspects of their community certainly did change.”
Over a five-year span, some quality-of-life attributes improved, while others decreased, but many residents cited the same issues.

“Looking at the data and the comments written by the residents, it appeared that the cost of housing, availability of housing and the increase in short-term rental of housing became a bigger concern to nearly everyone in this small community,” Nickerson said. “And, honestly, I really wasn’t expecting such strong emotions on this issue, but it was evident in the data.”

Fifty-six percent of Gardiner residents said availability of housing was extremely important in 2013. Importance grew to 70 percent in 2018, but resident satisfaction with housing in Gardiner went down 12 percent. Housing availability had the lowest score of all quality-of-life indicators for residents and had significantly decreased in five years.

Jeff Guengerich, Gardiner Chamber of Commerce president, wasn't as surprised.

"We've been feeling the pinch on housing for a number of years now," he said. "Many of our businesses have had a hard time hiring and retaining employees due to the housing shortage, not to mention a lack of affordable housing."

In the study, Gardiner residents were quick to point out short-term rentals as a likely contributor to the housing concern. As short-term vacation rentals have risen in popularity throughout many cities, towns in Montana are no exception.

“For several years, Whitefish has experienced increasing housing prices, which have made it harder for the people who work in Whitefish to be able to live in Whitefish,” said Rhonda Fitzgerald, a small inn owner. “The problem stems from the sales of homes that are then converted from residential into short-term rentals, which decreases the available housing inventory, increases the cost of housing and, in turn, sends local employees hunting for housing outside of our community.”

Although housing was a main concern for participants in the ITRR Gardiner study, residents heralded some changes in the town as good. Residents’ satisfaction with Gardiner’s economy went up significantly from 2013 to 2018. Sixty-one percent of residents agreed that the resort tax has benefited Gardiner, 45 percent thought the new Yellowstone entrance made Gardiner a better community and 47 percent liked the recent infrastructure changes within Gardiner. While image perception on 10 quality-of-life attributes did not change, residents’ image of ample sidewalks and well-maintained roads increased significantly in 2018.

Although the number of residents who thought the future of Gardiner looks promising significantly dropped between 2013 and 2018, many responded they would be sorry to leave and would still rather live in Gardiner than elsewhere.

According to Guengerich, the housing shortage has helped community members come together to problem-solve the issue.

“Businesses and private residents have met regularly to explore out-of-the-box solutions,” he said. “There are a lot of layers to the issue, and there’s no quick-and-easy remedy, but it’s encouraging to see that much of our
community is committed to digging in and tackling the housing problem."

ITRR conducted the studies in June 2013 and 2018 as a door-to-door survey of all Gardiner residents, achieving a 60-percent response rate for residents in both years with nearly identical demographics.

The full study is available at [https://scholarworks.umt.edu/itrr_pubs/374/](https://scholarworks.umt.edu/itrr_pubs/374/). All information and reports published by ITRR are online at [http://www.itrr.umt.edu](http://www.itrr.umt.edu).

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**Table 1: Quality of Life Attributes that Changed Significantly from 2013 to 2018**

Scale: 1 = not at all important to 5 = extremely important; Scale: 1 = not at all satisfied to 5 = extremely satisfied

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>How <strong>IMPORTANT</strong> are the following characteristics to you?</th>
<th>Mean</th>
<th>Significant*</th>
<th>Direction</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Importance of the preservation of natural areas</td>
<td>4.60</td>
<td>4.75</td>
<td>.026*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Importance of the availability of housing</td>
<td>4.24</td>
<td>4.56</td>
<td>.001*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Importance of the flow of traffic in Gardiner</td>
<td>3.99</td>
<td>4.19</td>
<td>.029*</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>How <strong>SATISFIED</strong> are you with the following characteristics of Gardiner?</th>
<th>Mean</th>
<th>Significant*</th>
<th>Direction</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Satisfaction with the preservation of natural areas</td>
<td>3.89</td>
<td>3.68</td>
<td>.027*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Satisfaction with the feeling of belonging in my community</td>
<td>3.80</td>
<td>3.56</td>
<td>.031*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Satisfaction with the peace and quiet</td>
<td>3.57</td>
<td>3.30</td>
<td>.011*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Satisfaction with the beauty of my community</td>
<td>3.45</td>
<td>3.68</td>
<td>.028*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Satisfaction with the understanding different cultures</td>
<td>3.26</td>
<td>3.06</td>
<td>.041*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Satisfaction with Gardiner's economy</td>
<td>3.24</td>
<td>3.42</td>
<td>.057*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Satisfaction with the stores with local/regional foods</td>
<td>3.20</td>
<td>3.44</td>
<td>.013*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Satisfaction with the controlling of urban sprawl</td>
<td>3.16</td>
<td>2.90</td>
<td>.027*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Satisfaction with visitors who respect my way of life</td>
<td>3.16</td>
<td>2.70</td>
<td>.000*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Satisfaction with restaurants with local/regional foods</td>
<td>3.09</td>
<td>3.28</td>
<td>.051*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Satisfaction with the flow of traffic in Gardiner</td>
<td>2.90</td>
<td>2.58</td>
<td>.004*</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Satisfaction with the use of a bed tax for promoting Gardiner   | 2.73 | 3.04 | .010* | +
Satisfaction with the quality of roads   | 2.44 | 2.72 | .015* | +
Satisfaction with public transportation to and from Gardiner   | 2.25 | 2.60 | .003* | +
Satisfaction with the availability of housing   | 1.94 | 1.59 | .001* | -

**Contact:** Norma Nickerson, director, UM Institute for Tourism and Recreation Research, 406-243-2328, norma.nickerson@umontana.edu.
UM Big Sky Poll: Montanans Split on Immigration

October 11, 2018

MISSOULA – Fifty-three percent of Montanans think an increasing number of people of many different races, ethnic groups and nationalities in the United States makes the country a better place to live, according to results from the University of Montana’s Big Sky Poll.

Nine percent of voters answered that this would make it a worse place to live, and 38 percent stated it does not matter either way.

However, Montanans are more divided on legal immigration. Fifty-two percent of Montanans believe it should be easier to legally immigrate to the United States, while 48 percent stated it should be more difficult. Fifty-seven percent of women in the sample believe it should be easier to legally immigrate to the United States, and less than half of the men in the sample (49 percent) believe it should be easier.

The UM Big Sky Poll was conducted via telephone Aug. 13-31, with 618 randomly selected registered voters in the state of Montana. The poll has a margin of error of +/- 4 percentage points at a 95 percent confidence level. Use of poll findings requires attribution to the UM Big Sky Poll.
The poll collects and reports information about Montanans’ perceptions of local, state and federal issues. The Big Sky Poll is led by Sara Rinfret, director of UM’s Master in Public Administration Program, and Justin Angle, UM associate professor of marketing, in conjunction with eight 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 conducted on an ongoing basis, with its next iteration in Spring 2019.

Full results from the poll can found on the UM Big Sky Poll website at [http://umt.edu/bigskypoll](http://umt.edu/bigskypoll).

Table 1: Do you think having an increasing number of people of many different races, ethnic groups and nationalities in the United States makes this country a better place to live, a worse place to live or doesn’t make much difference either way?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Better place to live</th>
<th>Worse place to live</th>
<th>Doesn’t make much difference either way</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Better place to live</td>
<td>53%</td>
<td>9%</td>
<td>38%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Worse place to live</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Doesn’t make much difference either way</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 2: Education level and view on increasing number of people of many different races, ethnic groups and nationalities in the United States

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Some High School</th>
<th>High School/GED</th>
<th>Some college</th>
<th>Associate degree</th>
<th>Bachelor’s degree</th>
<th>Post-Baccalaureate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Better place to live</td>
<td>33%</td>
<td>32%</td>
<td>50%</td>
<td>49%</td>
<td>59%</td>
<td>75%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Worse place to live</td>
<td>44%</td>
<td>16%</td>
<td>13%</td>
<td>8%</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Doesn’t make much difference either way</td>
<td>22%</td>
<td>52%</td>
<td>37%</td>
<td>43%</td>
<td>36%</td>
<td>23%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Table 3: Party identification and view on increasing number of people of many different races, ethnic groups and nationalities in the United States

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Democrat</th>
<th>Independent</th>
<th>Republican</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Better place to live</td>
<td>86%</td>
<td>49%</td>
<td>26%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Worse place to live</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>19%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Doesn’t make much difference either way</td>
<td>14%</td>
<td>41%</td>
<td>55%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Table 4: Gender and view on increasing number of people of many different races, ethnic groups and nationalities in the United States

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Woman (Female)</th>
<th>Man (Male)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Better place to live</td>
<td>60%</td>
<td>48%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Worse place to live</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Doesn’t make a difference either way</td>
<td>34%</td>
<td>42%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Table 5: Age and view on increasing number of people of many different races, ethnic groups and nationalities in the United States

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>18-26</th>
<th>27-46</th>
<th>47-66</th>
<th>67 or Older</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Better place to live</td>
<td>61%</td>
<td>56%</td>
<td>53%</td>
<td>51%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Worse place to live</td>
<td>56%</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>13%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Doesn’t make a</td>
<td>39%</td>
<td>42%</td>
<td>37%</td>
<td>37%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Table 6: In general, do you think it should be harder or easier for individuals to legally immigrate to the United States?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Harder</th>
<th>Easier</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Harder</td>
<td>48%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Easier</td>
<td>52%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 7: Education level and view on the difficulty legally immigrating to the United States

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Education Level</th>
<th>Harder</th>
<th>Easier</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Some High School</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>High School/GED</td>
<td>63%</td>
<td>37%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Some college</td>
<td>47%</td>
<td>53%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Associate degree</td>
<td>55%</td>
<td>45%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bachelor’s degree</td>
<td>38%</td>
<td>62%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Post-Baccalaureate</td>
<td>32%</td>
<td>68%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 8: Party identification and view on the difficulty legally immigrating to the United States

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Party Identification</th>
<th>Democrat</th>
<th>Independent</th>
<th>Republican</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Harder</td>
<td>18%</td>
<td>48%</td>
<td>76%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Easier</td>
<td>82%</td>
<td>52%</td>
<td>24%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Table 9: Gender and view on the difficulty legally immigrating to the United States

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Woman (Female)</th>
<th>Man (Male)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Harder</td>
<td>43%</td>
<td>51%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Easier</td>
<td>57%</td>
<td>49%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 10: Age and view on the difficulty legally immigrating to the United States

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>18-26</th>
<th>27-46</th>
<th>47-66</th>
<th>67 or Older</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Harder</td>
<td>24%</td>
<td>38%</td>
<td>52%</td>
<td>53%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Easier</td>
<td>76%</td>
<td>62%</td>
<td>48%</td>
<td>47%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Contact: Sara Rinfret, director, UM Master in Public Administration Program, 406-243-4702, sara.rinfret@mso.umt.edu.
UM Campus Recreation Offers Halloween Festivities

October 11, 2018

MISSOULA – From pumpkin bowling to costume contests, Campus Recreation at the University of Montana will offer a variety of Halloween-themed events this month.

The Halloween fun will kick off with "Neon Night," three black-light group fitness classes on Thursday, Oct. 25, in Fitness and Recreation Center Room 3; a free POUND class from 5:15 to 6 p.m.; a barre workout (punch card required) from 6:45 to 7:45 p.m.; and Griz Glow Yoga from 7:45 to 9 p.m., with yoga mats, glow-in-the-dark body paint and glow jewelry provided.

The fee for Griz Glow Yoga is $5 for members and $13 for nonmembers. Sign up on the Campus Recreation online registration portal at https://bit.ly/2yrbXpK or at the FRC front desk. Participants are encouraged to wear white or neon attire or costumes.

On Wednesday, Oct. 31, the campus community is invited to free Halloween Costume Laser Tag sponsored by Campus Recreation Intramural Sports, the Student involvement Network and the Montana National Guard. Walk-up open play is from 11 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. on the Oval, and a tournament runs from 3:30 to 6:30 p.m. Instructions on
how to register a team on IM Leagues are online at http://www.umt.edu/crec/Intramurals/registration.php.

The event also features a costume contest, photo booth, music, sweets, treats and cider.

The Grizzly Pool will host a haunted Halloween Rec Swim from 7:30 to 9 p.m. on Oct. 31. This event, open to the public, features activities for all ages, including a skeleton jump, greased pumpkin race, a bobbing for not-apples and pumpkin bowling.

Also Oct. 31, the Outdoor Program invites students and Campus Rec members to a free Halloween costume contest and climbing fun at the FRC rock climbing wall from 6 to 10 p.m., with the costume contest at 8 p.m. Prizes will be awarded to participants with the best costumes.

For more information call Andi Armstrong at 406-243-2806 or email andrea.armstrong@mso.umt.edu.

Contact: Andi Armstrong, assistant director of operations and marketing, UM Campus Recreation, 406-243-2806, andrea.armstrong@mso.umt.edu.
Online Public Health Program at UM Receives National Accolades

October 11, 2018

MISSOULA – The online Master in Public Health program at the University of Montana recently has earned multiple national rankings for its value.

The 42-credit MPH program helps students learn about the five core disciplines of public health: social and behavioral science, biostatistics, environmental health, epidemiology and health services administration.

The online MPH program also allows UM’s School of Public and Community Health Sciences to take a leading role in providing workforce/professional development opportunities for local and state health department employees throughout the region.

“We are thrilled to have our School of Public and Community Health Sciences recognized as one of the top online Master in Public Health programs in the country,” said Tony Ward, UM public health professor and school chair. “This is directly related to the quality of our staff and faculty and their commitment to teaching and supporting our students.”
Some rankings the MPH program at UM recently received include:


Contact: Tony Ward, professor and chair, UM School of Public and Community Health Sciences, 406-243-4092, tony.ward@umontana.edu.
MISSOULA – The U.S. Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration has awarded a three-year, $365,000 Mental Health Awareness Training grant to a University of Montana team.

Consisting of social work Assistant Professor Ashley Trautman and staff at the National Native Children’s Trauma Center, the UM group will use the funding to train campus and community members in Mental Health First Aid and Youth Mental Health First Aid.

The evidence-based, eight-hour curricula teach participants how to support adults and adolescents who are experiencing mental health issues and crises, including problems related to substance abuse and suicide.

“Year after year, the suicide rate in Montana is among the highest in the nation,” Trautman said, “and the suicide rate in Missoula is no exception. We know that early identification and treatment of mental health issues can prevent more severe problems down the road.”

Following an introductory planning period, UM will offer two trainings per month in Missoula through fall 2021.
Trainings are appropriate for non-clinical staff at public and private agencies, school staff, businesses, faith groups, social organizations and the general community. The UM team will partner with various departments and administrative units on campus, as well as key agencies in the wider Missoula community, to train students, staff and the general public and ensure people referred for treatment receive the help they need.

“Just as we learn CPR in order to be able to support someone having a physical health emergency, all of us should learn the basics of how to support someone having a mental health problem or emergency,” said Maegan Rides At The Door, NNCTC director. “Knowing what to do when someone is struggling could make the difference between life and death.”

For more information about the trainings or to request one, call Trautman at 406-243-6935 or email ashley.trautman@mso.umt.edu.

For more information about MHFA and YMFHA curriculum, visit https://www.mentalhealthfirstaid.org/.

Contact: Mark Lane, associate director, UM National Native Children’s Trauma Center, 406-243-5378, mark.lane@mso.umt.edu.
UM Master of Public Administration Program Ranked Again For Online Excellence

October 09, 2018

MISSOULA – The University of Montana's noteworthy Master of Public Administration Program has earned another high national ranking.

For the second year in a row, AffordableCollegesOnline.org (ACO) recognized the MPA program for offering one of the best online master's in public administration programs in the country.

“In our seventh annual survey of online learning programs across the nation, we wanted to honor the colleges and universities that are providing innovative ways for students to complete a degree,” said Dan Schuessler, CEO and founder of AffordableCollegesOnline.org. “These schools are going above and beyond the industry standard to help make online education programs more accessible and affordable.”

The UM program curriculum is designed to advance public and nonprofit sector professionals in their current or
future careers.

“Our curriculum is cutting-edge because MPA faculty are committed to pushing our students to apply theory to practice by using new technologies in a variety of modalities – online, in-person and even robots,” said Sara Rinfret, director of the UM program.

UM allows students to complete their degree online or in person. The program enables students to customize their degree by specializing in nonprofit administration or a joint degree in law.

This is the second accolade for UM’s program this month. OnlineMasters.com ranked UM’s MPA program No. 15 out of 50 in a review of schools across the nation, noting its quality and individualized attention for student success.

For more information about the program, visit https://www.umt.edu/law/mpa/default.php.

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**Contact:** Sara Rinfret, director, UM Master of Public Administration Program, 406-243-4702, sara.rinfret@umontana.edu.
MISSOULA – The Max S. Baucus Institute has received an endowed gift of $1 million from the Dennis and Phyllis Washington Foundation that enables 10 University of Montana students to intern in congressional and policy-related offices in Washington, D.C., every summer.

Two other gifts to the
Baucus Institute from Lee Freeman and Tony James also will provide start-up funding to grow the institute programs focused on public service.

These gifts are the first announced since UM publicly launched Campaign Montana, the most ambitious fundraising campaign in the University's history.

This past summer, five UM students comprised the first cohort of Baucus Leaders to intern in Washington, D.C. The interns were placed in the offices of Sen. Steve Daines, Sen. Jon Tester and Rep. Greg Gianforte, as well as the offices of the Senate Finance Committee and the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

With the gift from the Dennis and Phyllis Washington Foundation, the Baucus Leaders program now will double the number of UM students interning in the nation’s capital every summer. Placements will include the offices of Sen. Kirsten Gillibrand, Sen. Charles Grassley, Sen. Mitch McConnell, Sen. Chuck Schumer and the U.S. Department of Transportation.

“We’re so grateful that this support from the Washington Foundation will build student leaders who want to follow in Ambassador Baucus’ footsteps of engaging in meaningful work to benefit society,” said Paul Kirgis, dean of UM’s Alexander Blewett III School of Law.

“The Baucus Leaders program directly aligns with our goal to open doors for young people to help them to realize their dreams,” said Mike Halligan, executive director of the Dennis and Phyllis Washington Foundation. “The opportunity to work with public officials at the national level on issues of critical importance to the country, while at the same time gaining an understanding of the importance of public service, cannot be overstated.”

Noah Hill, one of this past summer’s Baucus Leaders, is from Kalispell and majoring in microbiology. He spent the summer in Gianforte’s office.

“The Baucus Leaders program opened up a completely new range of opportunities for me,” he said “I didn’t realize
what existed in the world of public service, in the world of politics, in the world of policymaking. The experience really confirmed for me what I need to be doing with my professional career.”

The Baucus Institute builds on the bipartisan, consensus-building public service that Ambassador Baucus exemplified during his career.

“Of all the things I’ve done since I’ve left public service, there is nothing that compares with this,” Baucus said in explaining his passion for the program. “During these times of increased partisanship, it is even more important for our youth to become interested in public service. They are our future, and if they get involved in public service early, they are going to lead a better life, and the rest of us are going to lead a better life.”

As the Baucus Institute launches these new programs, it will host its inaugural lecture series with Maureen Dowd and Carl Hulse speaking about “Journalism in the Age of Trump” from 7:30 to 9 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 10, in UM's Dennison Theatre.

Campaign Montana is a comprehensive, seven-year fundraising campaign and aims to inspire $400 million in philanthropic giving by the end of 2020. Donors will help achieve UM President Seth Bodnar’s vision of a university that puts student success at the forefront, driving excellence and innovation in teaching, research and learning.

The campaign is managed by the UM Foundation, an independent, nonprofit organization that inspires philanthropic support to enhance excellence and opportunity at UM.

Visit https://www.campaignmontana.org/ to learn more.

###

Special Note:

- Shane St. Onge from Kalispell recently graduated with a master’s in public administration and is a first-year UM law student. He interned with the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.
- Marianna Yearboro is from the San Francisco Bay area, majors in political science and interned in the office of U.S. Sen. Jon Tester.
- Katie Wilkins from Helena is in UM’s Master of Public Administration program and interned with the Senate Finance Committee.
- Makkie Haller from Whitefish majors in political science and interned in the office of U.S. Sen. Steve Daines.

Contact: Heather Rue, UM Foundation vice president of marketing and communications, 406-243-4609, heather.rue@supportum.org; Sam Panarella, Max S. Baucus Institute director, 406-243-6623, samuel.panarella@umontana.edu; Kate Stober, UM Foundation director of communications, 480-744-2705, kate.stober@supportum.org.
Washington Foundation Gift Creates Path to Public Service for UM Students - UM News - University Of Montana
MISSOULA – The Montana Museum of Art & Culture at the University of Montana soon will present an exhibition of Native American art spanning across several generations and diverse cultures, from mid-20th century to the present.

“Between Wisdom & Knowledge: Contemporary Native American Art” will run from Oct. 18 to Feb. 16, exploring themes of dislocation – geographical, cultural and
artistic – and the diverse and compelling strategies Native artists have used in pursuit of self-realization.

Scholar Gail Tremblay describes it as “an American Indian sensitivity to nature and to cultural constructions visible to an outsider examining U.S. urban culture for its contradictions.”

Works on view in the display will include several generous loans from Montana artists and collectors, as well as recent acquisitions to the MMAC Permanent Collection – most of which have never been publicly exhibited.

Featuring a wide range of media and styles, the exhibition dwells on the competing values of knowledge and wisdom – two paradigms of progress pitted against each other within the doctrine of Manifest Destiny.

Early works on display explore Native costume and pageantry and tribal relationships within the landscape. These concerns recede as artists of later generations turn to consider social, political and cultural transformations and their impacts on indigenous communities.

Recent work in the exhibition sheds light on concerns such as poverty and environmental devastation.

“I am interested in beliefs – past and present, personal and universal – that affect the way we think (or not), the way
we treat ourselves, each other and the environment," said Jeneese Hilton, a member of the Blackfeet tribe whose paintings will be displayed.

In a related vein, dense iconography in works from Corwin Clairmont’s “Lewis and Clark” series traces the impact the settlement of the frontier and subsequent mineral extraction have had on his homeland, the Flathead Reservation.

The vulnerability of cultural legacies plays a central role in other artists’ creative output. Jason Clark’s imaginative prints examine the importance of oral tradition in maintaining the continuity of Creek/Algonquin heritage with the continuing advance of industry and technology. Anthony Yazzie, who recently earned his Bachelor of Fine Arts from the UM School of Art, deploys images of white and Native bodies upon patterns from Navajo material culture to investigate matters of ethnicity in daily life and work.

The exhibition will open with a reception from 5 to 7 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 18, in the UM Performing Arts and Radio/Television Center lobby. Food and refreshments will be served.

A program for the exhibition will take place from 5:15 to 6:15 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 6, and is free and open to the public. Clark will present a gallery talk in the Paxson Gallery.

MMAC’s gallery hours run from noon to 3 p.m. Tuesday, Wednesday and Saturday and from noon to 6 p.m. Thursday and Friday, and it is closed Sundays, Mondays and UM holidays. The museum is open to the public with a suggested $5 donation. Docent tours are available, although advance notice is recommended.

For more information call 406-243-2019 or visit http://www.umt.edu/montanamuseum/.

###

Contact: Barbara Koostra, Suzanne and Bruce Crocker director, UM Montana Museum of Art & Culture, 406-243-2020, barbara.koostra@mso.umt.edu; Jeremy Canwell, MMAC curator of art, 406-243-2019, jeremy.canwell@mso.umt.edu.
UM Big Sky Poll Rates Job Performance of Elected Officials

October 08, 2018

MISSOULA – The University of Montana’s Big Sky recent Poll of 618 registered voters reports Montanans have mixed views of the job performances of their elected officials. The poll was conducted in August.

Montanans were asked how they would rate the job performances of President Donald Trump, U.S. Sen. Jon Tester, U.S. Sen. Steve Daines, U.S. Rep. Greg Gianforte and Montana Gov. Steve Bullock. Participants were asked to rank them as excellent, good, fair or poor.

- Twenty-nine percent of registered voters think Tester is doing an excellent job in office, while 27 percent think he is doing a poor job in office. This is in comparison to 20 percent responding excellent and 41 percent responding poor during the Spring 2018 Poll.

- Ten percent believe Daines is doing an excellent job, and 27 percent believe he is doing a poor job. This is in comparison to 8 percent who said he was doing an excellent job and 26 percent who said he was doing a poor job during the Spring 2018 Poll.
Fourty-three percent of respondents believe Gianforte is doing a poor job in office. This is in an increase from the 36.8 percent stating he was doing a poor job during the Spring 2018 Poll.

Forty-two percent of voters rated Gov. Steve Bullock as doing good job in office. This is up from the from the Spring 2018 Poll, where 32 percent said they believe he was doing a good job.

When asked to rate Trump’s job performance, 41 percent of respondents said they believed he is doing a poor job and 20 percent said he is doing an excellent job. Forty-seven percent of registered voters in Montana’s top-five populated cities rated Trump’s job performance as poor, compared to 38 percent of rural voters.

Forty-eight percent of self-identified Republicans found President Trump to be excellent at his job, and 89 percent of self-identified Democrats rated his job performance as poor. Montanans’ job performance ratings of Trump have changed little since the Spring 2018 poll.

The August 2018 survey also asked likely voters who they would vote for if the mid-term election were held today.

Fifty-six percent of likely voters indicated they would vote for incumbent Democratic candidate Jon Tester for U.S. Senate, 32 percent would choose Republican candidate Matt Rosendale and 9 percent remain undecided.

In the race for Montana’s lone seat in the U.S. House of Representatives, 52 percent of likely voters sided with Democratic candidate Kathleen Williams, while 38 percent would choose incumbent Republican candidate Greg Gianforte, and 8 percent remain undecided.

"Some might consider these results outliers compared to private polling groups to date, however, as we teach our students, we are capturing registered voters’ perceptions at a moment in time," said UM Professor Sara Rinfret, co-director of the Big Sky Poll. "Our survey is also the first in this election cycle to be conducted via phone calls versus online panels. It's interesting to see how different polling methodologies are coming up with different results."

She said the UM Big Sky Poll will poll the two statewide congressional races again in mid-October and release results before the Nov. 6 election.

The UM Big Sky Poll telephone survey was conducted Aug.13-31 with 618 registered Montana voters. The margin of error is +/- 4 percent at a 95 percent confidence level. Survey results were weighted by geography and gender to more accurately reflect demographics of the registered voter population in Montana. U.S. Congressional races reflect the responses of just Montana voters. The margin of error is +/-4.5 percent at a 95 percent confidence level with the same weighting.

Use of poll findings requires attribution to the UM Big Sky Poll. The poll collects and reports information about Montanans’ perceptions of local, state and federal issues. The Big Sky Poll is led by Rinfret and Justin Angle, UM associate professor of marketing, in conjunction with eight seminar students in UM’s Master of Public Administration and Master of Science in Business Analytics programs.

The survey was commissioned with support from UM’s Social Science Research Laboratory and the Office of Research and Creative Scholarship. The UM Big Sky Poll will be conducted on an ongoing basis, with more results to be released before the November 2018 election and its next full iteration in spring 2019.
Full results from the poll can be found on the UM Big Sky Poll website at [http://umt.edu/bigskypoll](http://umt.edu/bigskypoll).

###

**Table 1: Elected Official’s Approval Ratings**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Tester</th>
<th>Daines</th>
<th>Gianforte</th>
<th>Bullock</th>
<th>Trump</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Excellent Job</td>
<td>29%</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>8%</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>23%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Good Job</td>
<td>26%</td>
<td>27%</td>
<td>26%</td>
<td>42%</td>
<td>21%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fair Job</td>
<td>18%</td>
<td>36%</td>
<td>23%</td>
<td>26%</td>
<td>13%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poor Job</td>
<td>27%</td>
<td>27%</td>
<td>43%</td>
<td>17%</td>
<td>43%</td>
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**Table 2: President Trump Approval Ratings by Demographic**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
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<th>Urban</th>
<th>Rural</th>
<th>Dem.</th>
<th>Repub.</th>
<th>Indep.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Excellent Job</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>22%</td>
<td>26%</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>48%</td>
<td>18%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Good Job</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>23%</td>
<td>19%</td>
<td>24%</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>37%</td>
<td>24%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fair Job</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>12%</td>
<td>13%</td>
<td>12%</td>
<td>9%</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>17%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poor Job</td>
<td>51%</td>
<td>36%</td>
<td>47%</td>
<td>38%</td>
<td>89%</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>41%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Table 2 Cont’d., Education Level**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<th>Associate Degree</th>
<th>Bachelor Degree</th>
<th>Post Bacc.</th>
<th>Other</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Excellent Job</td>
<td>82%</td>
<td>33%</td>
<td>27%</td>
<td>29%</td>
<td>14%</td>
<td>11%</td>
<td>32%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Good Job</td>
<td>9%</td>
<td>21%</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>21%</td>
<td>18%</td>
<td>37%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fair Job</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>8%</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poor Job</td>
<td>9%</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>36%</td>
<td>41%</td>
<td>52%</td>
<td>61%</td>
<td>21%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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**Table 2 Cont’d., Age**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<th>27-46</th>
<th>47-66</th>
<th>67 or older</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Excellent Job</strong></td>
<td>8%</td>
<td>21%</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>21%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Good Job</strong></td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>21%</td>
<td>21%</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Fair Job</strong></td>
<td>36%</td>
<td>16%</td>
<td>13%</td>
<td>8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Poor Job</strong></td>
<td>36%</td>
<td>43%</td>
<td>36%</td>
<td>51%</td>
</tr>
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</table>

**Table 3: Sen. Tester Approval Ratings by Demographic**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Female</th>
<th>Male</th>
<th>Urban</th>
<th>Rural</th>
<th>Dem.</th>
<th>Repub.</th>
<th>Indep.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Excellent Job</strong></td>
<td>34%</td>
<td>23%</td>
<td>29%</td>
<td>29%</td>
<td>59%</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>26%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Good Job</strong></td>
<td>29%</td>
<td>24%</td>
<td>31%</td>
<td>18%</td>
<td>37%</td>
<td>9%</td>
<td>27%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Fair Job</strong></td>
<td>17%</td>
<td>19%</td>
<td>13%</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>31%</td>
<td>23%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Poor Job</strong></td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>34%</td>
<td>27%</td>
<td>28%</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>56%</td>
<td>24%</td>
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**Table 3 Cont’d., Education Level**

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<thead>
<tr>
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<th>High school/GED</th>
<th>Some college</th>
<th>Associate Degree</th>
<th>Bachelor Degree</th>
<th>Post Bacc.</th>
<th>Other</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Excellent Job</strong></td>
<td>9%</td>
<td>17%</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>27%</td>
<td>33%</td>
<td>42%</td>
<td>32%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Good Job</strong></td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>24%</td>
<td>22%</td>
<td>27%</td>
<td>28%</td>
<td>35%</td>
<td>11%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Fair Job</strong></td>
<td>9%</td>
<td>22%</td>
<td>21%</td>
<td>16%</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>16%</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
### Table 3 Cont’d., Age

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>18-26</th>
<th>27-46</th>
<th>47-66</th>
<th>67 or older</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Excellent Job</td>
<td>37%</td>
<td>28%</td>
<td>22%</td>
<td>35%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Good Job</td>
<td>26%</td>
<td>24%</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>28%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fair Job</td>
<td>26%</td>
<td>24%</td>
<td>18%</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poor Job</td>
<td>11%</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>35%</td>
<td>23%</td>
</tr>
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</table>

### Table 4: Sen. Daines Approval Ratings by Demographic

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Female</th>
<th>Male</th>
<th>Urban</th>
<th>Rural</th>
<th>Dem.</th>
<th>Repub.</th>
<th>Indep.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Excellent Job</td>
<td>8%</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>12%</td>
<td>7%</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Good Job</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>23%</td>
<td>34%</td>
<td>11%</td>
<td>41%</td>
<td>31%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fair Job</td>
<td>39%</td>
<td>34%</td>
<td>36%</td>
<td>36%</td>
<td>37%</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>37%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poor Job</td>
<td>28%</td>
<td>26%</td>
<td>29%</td>
<td>23%</td>
<td>52%</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>24%</td>
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### Table 4 Cont’d., Education Level

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<th>Associate Degree</th>
<th>Bachelor Degree</th>
<th>Post Bacc.</th>
<th>Other</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Excellent Job</td>
<td>56%</td>
<td>12%</td>
<td>11%</td>
<td>14%</td>
<td>7%</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>18%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Good Job</td>
<td>11%</td>
<td>33%</td>
<td>29%</td>
<td>18%</td>
<td>29%</td>
<td>27%</td>
<td>18%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fair Job</td>
<td>33%</td>
<td>34%</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>42%</td>
<td>35%</td>
<td>29%</td>
<td>53%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Table 4 Cont’d., Age

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
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<th>27-46</th>
<th>47-66</th>
<th>67 or older</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Excellent Job</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>13%</td>
<td>11%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Good Job</td>
<td>11%</td>
<td>27%</td>
<td>26%</td>
<td>30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fair Job</td>
<td>63%</td>
<td>45%</td>
<td>33%</td>
<td>31%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poor Job</td>
<td>21%</td>
<td>24%</td>
<td>28%</td>
<td>28%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Table 5: Rep. Gianforte Approval Ratings by Demographic

<table>
<thead>
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<th>Female</th>
<th>Male</th>
<th>Urban</th>
<th>Rural</th>
<th>Dem.</th>
<th>Repub.</th>
<th>Indep.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Excellent Job</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>9%</td>
<td>8%</td>
<td>9%</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>17%</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Good Job</td>
<td>23%</td>
<td>29%</td>
<td>23%</td>
<td>32%</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>52%</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fair Job</td>
<td>23%</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>17%</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>27%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poor Job</td>
<td>49%</td>
<td>37%</td>
<td>45%</td>
<td>39%</td>
<td>79%</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>44%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Table 5 Cont’d., Education Level

<table>
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<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Some high-school</th>
<th>High school/GED</th>
<th>Some college</th>
<th>Associate Degree</th>
<th>Bachelor Degree</th>
<th>Post Bacc.</th>
<th>Other</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Excellent Job</td>
<td>36%</td>
<td>9%</td>
<td>8%</td>
<td>9%</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>19%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Good Job</td>
<td>27%</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>34%</td>
<td>34%</td>
<td>26%</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>44%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fair Job</td>
<td>27%</td>
<td>31%</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>18%</td>
<td>26%</td>
<td>6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poor Job</td>
<td>9%</td>
<td>34%</td>
<td>38%</td>
<td>32%</td>
<td>51%</td>
<td>56%</td>
<td>31%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Table 5 Cont’d., Age
### Table 6: Gov. Bullock Approval Ratings by Demographic

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Female</th>
<th>Male</th>
<th>Urban</th>
<th>Rural</th>
<th>Dem.</th>
<th>Repub.</th>
<th>Indep.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Excellent Job</td>
<td>16%</td>
<td>13%</td>
<td>16%</td>
<td>14%</td>
<td>31%</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>13%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Good Job</td>
<td>46%</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>41%</td>
<td>45%</td>
<td>59%</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>46%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fair Job</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>27%</td>
<td>26%</td>
<td>26%</td>
<td>9%</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>28%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poor Job</td>
<td>14%</td>
<td>19%</td>
<td>17%</td>
<td>16%</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>33%</td>
<td>14%</td>
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### Table 6 Cont’d., Education Level

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<th>High school/GED</th>
<th>Some college</th>
<th>Associate Degree</th>
<th>Bachelor Degree</th>
<th>Post Bacc.</th>
<th>Other</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Excellent Job</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>11%</td>
<td>16%</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Good Job</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>34%</td>
<td>39%</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>49%</td>
<td>47%</td>
<td>44%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fair Job</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>36%</td>
<td>21%</td>
<td>38%</td>
<td>23%</td>
<td>21%</td>
<td>38%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poor Job</td>
<td>60%</td>
<td>19%</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>16%</td>
<td>13%</td>
<td>7%</td>
<td>13%</td>
</tr>
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</table>

### Table 6 Cont’d., Age

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
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<th>27-46</th>
<th>47-66</th>
<th>67 or older</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Excellent Job</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Good Job</td>
<td>Fair Job</td>
<td>Poor Job</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>----------------</td>
<td>----------</td>
<td>----------</td>
<td>----------</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>32%</td>
<td>8%</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>48%</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>13%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Table 7: If the Election Were Held Today for U.S. Senate, Which Candidate Would You Vote For?**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Candidate</th>
<th>Vote Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jon Tester</td>
<td>56%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Matt Rosendale</td>
<td>32%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rick Breckenridge</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Undecided</td>
<td>9%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Table 8: If the Election Were Held Today for U.S. House of Representatives, Which Candidate Would You Vote For?**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Candidate</th>
<th>Vote Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Kathleen Williams</td>
<td>51%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Greg Gianforte</td>
<td>38%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elinor Swanson</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Undecided</td>
<td>8%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Table 9: If the Election Were Held Today, Who Would You Vote For?**

**U.S. Senate Candidates by Demographic**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Candidate</th>
<th>Female</th>
<th>Male</th>
<th>Urban</th>
<th>Rural</th>
<th>Dem.</th>
<th>Repub.</th>
<th>Indep.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jon Tester</td>
<td>71%</td>
<td>53%</td>
<td>65%</td>
<td>58%</td>
<td>99%</td>
<td>7%</td>
<td>64%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Matt Rosendale</td>
<td>28%</td>
<td>43%</td>
<td>33%</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>90%</td>
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**Table 9 Cont'd., Education Level**

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<td>Matt Rosendale</td>
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### Jon Tester

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### Table 9 Cont'd., Age

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### Table 10: If the Election Were Held Today, Who Would You Vote For?

#### U.S. House of Representatives by Demographic

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Female</th>
<th>Male</th>
<th>Urban</th>
<th>Rural</th>
<th>Dem.</th>
<th>Repub.</th>
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### Table 10 Cont’d., Education Level

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<td>48%</td>
<td>39%</td>
<td>38%</td>
<td>21%</td>
<td>67%</td>
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<tr>
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<td>4%</td>
<td>7%</td>
<td>2%</td>
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### Table 10 Cont’d., Age

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>18-26</th>
<th>27-46</th>
<th>47-66</th>
<th>67 or older</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Kathleen Williams</td>
<td>55%</td>
<td>54%</td>
<td>48%</td>
<td>63%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Greg Gianforte</td>
<td>27%</td>
<td>41%</td>
<td>48%</td>
<td>36%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elinor Swanson</td>
<td>18%</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Contact:** Sara Rinfret, director, UM Master in Public Administration Program, 406-243-4702, sara.rinfret@mso.umt.edu.
MISSOULA – The Max S. Baucus Institute at the University of Montana will hold its inaugural speaker lecture at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 10, at the Dennison Theatre. The event is free and open to the public.


The goal of the Baucus Institute’s newest program is to bring global thought leaders to Montana for public discussions about issues of critical importance to the future of our country, including economic development, foreign and domestic policy, public service and politics.
“The Baucus Institute Speaker Series provides an incredible opportunity for Montanans to engage with the country’s leading thinkers on issues of real import to our state,” said Sam Panarella, director of the Baucus Institute and professor of law at the Blewett School of Law. “We are very excited to have Maureen Dowd and Carl Hulse kick off the speaker series, and we look forward to welcoming many more great speakers to Missoula in the years to come.”

The Max S. Baucus Institute trains people for ethical, accountable and collaborative public service, and connects people across geographic, cultural and ideological divides. The work of the institute is an extension of the important bipartisan, consensus-building public service Ambassador Baucus exemplified during his long and distinguished career in public service. The Baucus Institute is housed at the Alexander Blewett III School of Law at UM.

For more information visit www.baucusinstitute.org.

###

**Contact:** Sara Kryder, director of communications & events, Alexander Blewett III School of Law at UM, 406-243-5730, sara.kryder@umontana.edu.
Report: All Areas of Montana Benefit from $3.24 Billion in Nonresident Travel Spending

October 08, 2018

MISSOULA – Nonresident travelers spent $3.24 billion throughout Montana in the most recent data period, according to an annual report published by the University of Montana’s Institute for Tourism and Recreation Research. This is an increase of 2.6 percent.
from the previous year’s spending estimate.

Analysis of each of Montana’s six travel regions and 14 counties with the highest nonresident spending show that visitation and spending is widespread throughout the state and that all regions benefit. The institute calculates spending using an average of 2016 and 2017 nonresident data.

Glacier Country in northwest Montana received over $1.07 billion in spending by nonresident travelers – 33 percent of all spending in the state. This spending supported a total of $1.32 billion of economic activity and more than 17,500 jobs, along with over $461 million in associated labor income.

In south-central Montana’s Yellowstone Country, travel spending by nonresidents totaled over $917 million, which was 29 percent of the state total. This spending supports about $1.16 billion of economic activity. Likewise, over 15,200 jobs and nearly $410 million in labor income can be attributed to this spending.

The remaining 38 percent of travel spending – $1.24 billion – occurs throughout the rest of the state, contributing to jobs, income and economic activity in each region. Fourteen percent ($454 million) of traveler
spending took place in southwest Montana, 11 percent ($364 million) in southeast Montana, 10 percent ($327 million) in the north central area of the state, and 3 percent ($99 million) in northeastern Montana’s Missouri River Country.

Gallatin County received almost $660 million in nonresident spending, followed by Flathead County ($530 million), Missoula County ($295 million) and Yellowstone County at $255 million. This spending contributes to jobs and other economic activity at the local county level, as well as rippling throughout the state.

The full report, including estimates of the economic contribution of nonresident travelers in the other four Montana travel regions, along with county-level estimates, is available on the ITRR website at http://scholarworks.umt.edu/itrr_pubs/373/.

All information and reports published by ITRR are available online at http://www.itrr.umt.edu.

###

**Contact:** Jeremy Sage, economist and associate director, UM Institute for Tourism and Recreation Research, 406-243-5552, jeremy.sage@umontana.edu; Kara Grau, ITRR assistant director of economic analysis, 406-243-5107, kara.grau@umontana.edu; Norma Nickerson, ITRR director, 406-243-2328, norma.nickerson@umontana.edu.
Report: All Areas of Montana Benefit from $3.24 Billion in Nonresident Travel Spending - UM News - University Of Montana
Helena Mayor, Liberian Refugee to Speak at UM Oct. 17

October 08, 2018

MISSOULA – Helena Mayor Wilmot Collins will present a lecture titled “Global Migration” at the University of Montana at 6:30 p.m., Wednesday, Oct. 17, in Gallagher Business Building Room 106. Missoula Mayor John Engen will provide introductory remarks at the free and public event.

Collins is a former refugee who fled his native Liberia in 1994. He moved to Helena, became a U.S. citizen, served in the U.S. Navy Reserves and became a child protection specialist with the Montana Department of Health and Human Services. He is also an adjunct professor at Helena College. In 2017, he was elected mayor of Helena.

The lecture is co-sponsored by the following UM programs and departments: Global Public Health, African-American Studies, International Development Studies, Political Science, the Franke Global Leadership Initiative and the Global Engagement Office.

###

Contact: Peter Koehn, UM political science professor, 406-243-5294, peter.koehn@mso.umt.edu.
Helena Mayor, Liberian Refugee to Speak at UM Oct. 17 - UM News - University Of Montana

University of Montana
32 Campus Drive
Missoula, MT 59812
Phone: (406) 243-2522
news@umontana.edu
UM Adds E-Cigarettes to Tobacco-Free Policy

October 05, 2018

MISSOULA – The University of Montana has added e-cigarettes to its Tobacco Free UM Policy. The policy change reflects the University’s commitment to a tobacco-free campus and providing a safe and healthy environment for its employees, students and visitors.

“When we first passed the tobacco-free campus policy, we didn’t include e-cigarettes because we didn’t have enough research on how they impacted health,” said Linda Green, wellness director at UM’s Curry Health Center. “Now we know more about the potential health risks of solvents and flavorings in vaping liquids. Diacetyl, a chemical linked to serious lung disease, is used as a flavoring.”

According to UM’s most recent National College Health Assessment, the percentage of UM students who reported daily e-cigarette use doubled in the past two years from 1.1 to 2.2 percent. Similarly, students who reported using e-cigarettes at least once in the past month more than doubled over the past two years from 3.7 to 7.6 percent.

Green said UM is committed to creating a healthier, more-accessible environment for employees, students and visitors, supporting quitters and reducing the number of new smokers. The surgeon general has stated that there is
no safe level of secondhand smoke.

“The tobacco policy not only protects everyone’s right to breathe clean air, it also creates an environment in which smokers are more likely to try to quit and succeed in doing so,” said Kaila Warren, senior community health specialist in the Tobacco Prevention Program at the Missoula City-County Health Department.

The policy update supports the objectives of the Tobacco Free policy and works to reduce exposure to secondhand smoke on campus.

“The other real health concern with vaping pens and e-cigs is the fact that there have been numerous explosions from the lithium-ion batteries, resulting in many injuries and one death,” Green said.

As a part of celebrating seven years as a tobacco-free campus, Tobacco Free Missoula County and Curry Health Center Wellness will sponsor giveaways at the Saturday, Oct. 6 Homecoming football game at UM.

“Tobacco Free Missoula County and Curry Health Center Wellness invite the public to celebrate being Montana Strong, as well as Tobacco Free,” Green said.

“Incorporating e-cigarettes into the policy is a step in the right direction when it comes to prevention,” Warren said. “Air that is free of both smoke and e-cigarette aerosol should be the goal and standard for public health.”

For more information call Jessica Vizzutti with the Curry Health Center at 406-243-6958 or email jessica.vizzutti@umontana.edu.

###

Contact: Jessica Vizzutti, Curry Health Center media specialist, 406-243-6958, jessica.vizzutti@umontana.edu.
UM Paleontology Center to Celebrate National Fossil Day

October 05, 2018

MISSOULA – The University of Montana Paleontology Center will host its National Fossil Day Celebration on Wednesday, Oct. 17. The center will host an open house for the public from 5 to 8 p.m. in UM's Clapp Building.

The center will mark the day with a free event from 5 to 8 p.m. in the Charles H. Clapp Building on the southeast corner of campus. Attendees are asked to enter through the building’s breezeway.

Activities include fossil identifications, tours of the displays and research collections, and a chance to hear about paleontological research going on at the center.

“We hope you can join us to celebrate the wonderful world of paleontology at this year’s annual open house,” said Kallie Moore, the Paleontology Center collections manager. “Do you have fossils or rocks in need of identification? Please bring them to the event, and we would love to take a look.”

The UMPC collections represent the ancient heritage of Montana and western North America. There are more than 50,000 vertebrate, invertebrate and plant specimens in the research collection, which was started in 1898.
For more information call Moore at 406-243-5406, email kallie.moore@mso.umt.edu or visit http://hs.umt.edu/paleo/.

Contact: Kallie Moore, UM Paleontology Center collections manager, 406-243-5406, kallie.moore@mso.umt.edu.
UM News

‘Pianissimo!’ Brings Action-Packed Multi-Piano Performance to UM Stage for 11th Year

October 05, 2018

MISSOULA – The University of Montana School of Music will present the 11th annual “Pianissimo!” concerts at 7:30 p.m. Friday and Saturday, Oct. 12-13, in the Music Recital Hall.

“This year, all the big, multiple piano pieces are new to our audiences. Our theme is ‘Pianissimo! Goes to the Orchestra,’” said Christopher Hahn, event organizer and UM faculty member.

The selections in the program are based on music from the orchestral literature and will feature various combinations of instruments and players.

Among the 25 performers are some of Missoula’s most well-known and distinguished pianists, including UM faculty members Hahn and Steven Hesla, as well as Barbara Blegen, Nancy Cooper, community members Dorothy Beck-
Returning this year is “Poco Pianissimo!” – a smaller version of the big show for younger audience members. This concert will take place at 3 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 13, in the Music Recital Hall.

“We felt a need to provide a condensed version of the larger program for youth, so we put together a program without an intermission that’s full of high-energy, fun pieces,” Hahn said.

Tickets can be purchased online at http://www.griztix.com, at the UMArts Box Office in the Performing Arts and Radio/Television Center or by calling 406-243-4581.

An exciting addition to this year’s “Pianissimo!” concerts is the arrival of a brand new Steinway & Sons concert grand piano. The instrument was donated by Howard and Judith Jelinek and was selected by Hahn and Hesla.

“We are so excited to have this wonderful gift donated to the University of Montana School of Music,” Hahn said. “It will thrill and delight audiences for decades to come.”

“Pianissimo!” is a benefit concert for the UM Keyboard Society, which has won a national recognition award for its activities and programs. Funds raised help piano students attend conferences, fund performance travel, sponsor events and bring in guest artists for the “Celebrate Piano” series. Proceeds also help with maintenance and care for pianos at UM to provide instruments that continue to attract the best students to the University’s music program.

For more information on “Pianissimo!” or any of the five concerts in the “Celebrate Piano” series, call Hahn at 406-243-6490.

###

Contact: Christopher Hahn, faculty member, UM School of Music, 406-243-6490, christopher.hahn@mso.umt.edu.
‘Pianissimo!’ Brings Action-Packed Multi-Piano Performance to UM Stage for 11th Year - UM News - University Of Montana
MISSOULA – Montana Public Radio will do the listening during its fall pledge drive, which begins at 6 a.m. Wednesday, Oct. 10, and runs through 2 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 14.

MTPR will ask listeners to share feedback and support the local programs and news coverage aired daily across the state. It hopes to raise $260,000 during the week.

“Pledge week is a great time when we work with our most important partner – our listeners – to raise the money needed to keep this amazing service on the air,” said MTPR membership manager Anne Hosler. “We have so much fun visiting with our supporters when they call in to make their pledges, plus we get to enjoy the time spent with hundreds of volunteers who make this week possible – all while producing live radio with special guests. It’s a fun week!”

Listeners can expect special music programs, including two live sessions. Pianists from the University of Montana and the community will play in MTPR’s studios between 10 and 11 a.m. Wednesday. In addition, the Basement Boys – featuring Ed Stalling, Jim Driscoll, David Horgan, Pete Hand and Jeff Stickney – will perform a live jazz
Montana Public Radio Asks for Listener Support During Fall Pledge Drive - UM News - University Of Montana

concert from MTPR's Studio B at 2 p.m. Sunday to celebrate the end of fundraiser, as well as the retirement of Joe Korona, who is leaving MTPR at the end of October after nearly 39 years on the air.

“We’re proud to have listeners who understand the importance of supporting balanced and trusted Montana news coverage, as well as the wide variety of hand-picked music programs,” said Ray Ekness, director of the UM Broadcast Media Center and MTPR general manager. “The pledge week is full of excitement and fun for us all. But the local and national programs are expensive to produce, so we’re asking our listeners to help us reach our goal and keep MTPR on the air for another year.”

Listener contributions are vital and make up 75 percent of MTPR's annual income.

“We know our listeners are passionate about Montana news and programs, but it takes their financial support to make those programs a reality," Ekness said.

During fundraising week, listeners can pledge by phone at 406-243-6400, donate online at http://mtpr.org or mail in pledges to MTPR at 32 Campus Drive, Missoula, Montana, 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,” Hosler said.

Montana Public Radio is a service of UM. MTPR FM broadcast stations include 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).

###

Contact: Anne Hosler, MTPR membership manager, 406-243-4214, anne.hosler@umontana.edu.
Asia Caluori’s four years at the University of Montana were busy ones. A management information systems major, she served as a peer adviser, Mansfield Center intern and member of the MIS Association.

She was one of thousands of College of Business students who made use of the Gianchetta Student Success Center – a central office that provides advising, career development, graduate programs, internships and scholarship services for students.

As a senior, Caluori was encouraged by her business college mentors to compete for the Deborah McWhinney Emerging Leaders Fellowship Award. She received one of two competitive awards offered that year. The award ensured Caluori could relocate to San Francisco for a summer internship at KPMG, a financial services firm.

Receiving the fellowship made Caluori “want to conquer the world.” She is starting right here in Missoula.

When she returned from San Francisco last August, she landed a position at Advanced Technology Group, a Missoula firm recently acquired by Cognizant, a leading global provider of digital transformation services.
Across UM, philanthropy fuels student opportunity, research and learning. Donors think big about how their gifts can change lives. Collectively, their support shapes UM’s future in bold ways.

Today, UM announces the most ambitious fundraising campaign in the University’s history: Campaign Montana – Think Big. Be Bold.

This comprehensive, seven-year fundraising campaign aims to inspire $400 million in philanthropic giving by the end of 2020. Donors will help achieve UM President Seth Bodnar’s vision of a UM that puts student success at the forefront, driving excellence and innovation in teaching, research and learning.

Donors already have gifted and pledged $325 million for Campaign Montana. Gifts received since July 1, 2013, have been counted toward the campaign goal.

“Our ambitious goal reflects the passion our alumni and friends have for UM, our students and Montana,” Bodnar said.

Students, faculty and programs at every college and school on campus will benefit from private support. Priorities include scholarships, career development and advising, endowed faculty positions, interdisciplinary programs like the Neural Injury Center, and facility upgrades like the newly renovated Dennis and Gretchen Eck Hall.

“Now is the time for big thoughts and bold actions from our collective community,” said Bodnar. “UM is at an important juncture as we build upon our tremendous strengths and pursue new and promising directions.”

UM alumni Mark and Cheryl Burnham are serving as co-chairs of the Campaign Montana public phase. Mark graduated from the College of Business with a degree in accounting and finance, while Cheryl is a graduate of UM’s Skaggs School of Pharmacy. Between them they have more than a dozen family members who are alums or associates of UM.

“History has shown that UM is a place where donors can make an incredible difference,” Cheryl Burnham said.

“The impact we’ve seen in the last five years alone is remarkable,” adds Mark Burnham. “The opportunity to support students and elevate the lives of Montanans is what has inspired us to personally invest in UM.”

Since 2013, donors have created 15 new endowed faculty positions, helped renovate or construct five facilities, and given $100 million for scholarships and other student support. During its five-year quiet phase, the campaign has inspired donations to all colleges and schools – as well as Grizzly Athletics, the Flathead Lake Biological Station and other programs – elevating giving to record levels. Last fiscal year alone, private support totaled $64 million, and the University of Montana Foundation distributed $41.7 million to campus for programs, scholarships and facilities.

UM’s last fundraising campaign, Invest in Discovery, raised $131 million. That and previous campaigns helped fuel scholarships, grow distinctive programs like Wildlife Biology, build the library’s collection and construct facilities, including the Davidson Honors College Building, the Gallagher Business Building, The Payne Family Native American Center, the Phyllis J. Washington Education Center and the Law Building.
The campaign is managed by the University of Montana Foundation, an independent, nonprofit organization that inspires philanthropic support to enhance excellence and opportunity at UM.

Visit https://www.campaignmontana.org/ to learn more.

Contact: Kate Stober, UM Foundation director of communications, 480-744-2705, kate.stober@supportum.org; Heather Rue, UM Foundation vice president for marketing and communications, 406-243-4609, heather.rue@supportum.org.
MISSOULA – Children and their families are invited to visit a special exhibit, Black (W)hole, through Oct. 13 at the spectrUM Discovery Area, located at 812 Toole Ave. in Missoula.

Black (W)hole is an educational astronomy experience that uses real data about gravitational waves and black holes. The exhibit is sponsored by the Montana Space Grant Consortium, spectrUM and the eXtreme Gravity Institute.

“Black holes are amazing, and it is fantastic for spectrUM be able to share contemporary research about a subject that is prevalent in pop culture and science fiction,” said Nick Wethington, spectrUM’s resident maker and president of the Western Montana Astronomical Association.

Visitors can explore the exhibit until Saturday, Oct. 13, during spectrUM’s public hours from 11 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Wednesday through Friday or from 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Saturday. The exhibit is free with museum admission. School groups from Missoula, the Flathead Reservation and the Bitterroot Valley will visit spectrUM as part of free field trips.
The spectrUM Discovery Area is the University of Montana's hands-on science center, serving more than 200,000 Montanans annually through in-museum and statewide mobile programming. SpectrUM is part of UM’s Broader Impacts Group, which harnesses the University’s research and creative scholarship to foster social mobility and a vibrant, homegrown workforce for Montana.

BIG and spectrUM are supported by an array of local and national funding sources, including the National Science Foundation, Montana NSF EPSCoR, NASA, the U.S. Department of Education, the Institute of Museum and Library Services, the O.P. & W.E. Edwards Foundation, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, the Jane S. Heman Foundation and the Martin Family Foundation.

To learn more about spectrUM Discovery Area and its programming, visit http://spectrum.umt.edu/ or call 406-728-STEM (7836). For more information or to book a school visit, call Jessie Herbert-Meny, spectrUM associate director, at 406-243-4828.

###

**Contact:** Jessie Herbert-Meny, associate director, spectrUM Discovery Area, 406-243-4828, jessie.herbert@umontana.edu.
MISSOULA – Author Cheryl Strayed – whose hiking memoir "Wild" became a No. 1 New York Times best-seller and an Oscar-nominated movie – will speak at the University of Montana on Monday, Oct. 15, as part of the 2018-19 President’s Lecture Series.

Strayed will present a lecture titled "A Wild Life" at 7:30 p.m. in the Dennison Theatre. The event is free and open to the public.

"Wild: From Lost to Found on the Pacific Crest Trail" was chosen by Oprah Winfrey as her first selection for Oprah’s Book Club 2.0. The movie adaptation stars Reese Witherspoon as Cheryl and Laura Dern as Cheryl's mother, Bobbi.

In addition, Strayed co-hosts the WBUR podcast "Dear Sugar Radio," which originated with her popular "Dear Sugar" advice column on The Rumpus website. Strayed holds a Master of Fine Arts in fiction writing from Syracuse University and a bachelor’s degree from the University of Minnesota. She lives in Portland, Oregon.

"Wild" is this year’s Griz Read title for new UM students. All members of the campus community, especially first-year students, are encouraged to read the book and participate in Griz Read events. First-year students also may compete in an essay contest.

The President’s Lecture Series at UM consists of several talks throughout the academic year on vital topics by distinguished guest speakers. For more information visit http://umt.edu/president/events/lectures/, call UM political science Professor Robert Saldin at 406-243-5202 or email robert.saldin@umontana.edu.

###

Contact: Robert Saldin, UM political science professor and President’s Lecture Series organizer, 406-243-5202, robert.saldin@umontana.edu.
MISSOULA – The Maureen and Mike Mansfield Center at the University of Montana is honored to bring the National Committee on U.S.-China Relations’ 12th annual “CHINA Town Hall: Local Connections, National Reflections” to Missoula on Tuesday, Oct. 9.

The program begins at 4 p.m. in Davidson Honors College Room 119. It is free and open to the public.

The Town Hall will open with a live national webcast broadcast to venues across the U.S., including Missoula, featuring former secretary of state and national security adviser Condoleezza Rice on the current state of U.S.-China relations.

After the national webcast, I. Allen Barber II, president of the Denver-Hainan Corporation and China trade adviser to the Western Governors’ Association, will be on-site at UM to discuss the U.S.-China tariff war and its impact on Montana businesses.

China remains the United States’ largest trading partner, but months of escalating tariffs are starting to be felt in
industries across both countries. The U.S. placed the original tariffs on Chinese imports in July in response to what the Trump administration calls unfair trade policies that favor China. China accused the U.S. of launching the largest trade war in history and has met the new tariffs in kind.

Currently the two countries have imposed tariffs on hundreds of billions of goods, from food and consumer products to chemical and manufacturing products. As the tariffs escalate and economic negotiations between the two countries continue, more companies are asking questions about what the current tariffs mean for them.

CHINA Town Hall is a national conversation on China taking place at more than 100 venues throughout the United States and in Greater China. The National Committee on U.S.-China Relations is the leading national, nonpartisan public affairs organization devoted exclusively to building constructive and durable relationships between the United States and China.

Rice is currently the Denning Professor in Global Business and the Economy at the Stanford Graduate School of Business. From January 2005 to 2009, Rice served as the 66th Secretary of State of the United States – the second woman and first African-American woman to hold the post. She also served as President George W. Bush’s assistant to the president for national security affairs (national security adviser) from January 2001 to 2005 – the first woman to hold the position.

Barber began working with Chinese executives and officials in 1987, assisting with the development of Hainan Island. He founded Denver-Hainan Corporation to assist State Owned Enterprise executives to find U.S technology and partners to modernize their companies.

Barber works closely with the National League of Cities, Western Governors’ Association, National Governors’ Association, law firms, companies and others in the areas of energy, medical, IT, internet of things, intelligent manufacturing, water pollution mitigation and other technologies benefiting both the U.S. and China.

UM’s Mansfield Center 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.

This event is co-sponsored by the Maureen and Mike Mansfield Center and The National Committee on U.S.-China Relations. More information is available at http://www.umt.edu/mansfield/events/asiaforum.php.

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Contact: Caitlin Sager, program manager, UM Maureen and Mike Mansfield Center, 406-243-2965, caitlin.sager@mso.umt.edu.
UM Earns $10M Contract to Develop Universal Flu Vaccine

October 03, 2018

MISSOULA – The National Institutes of Health have awarded a $10 million contract to the University of Montana to develop a new universal flu vaccine.

The five-year award went to Dr. Jay Evans, director of UM’s Center for Translational Medicine and a research professor in
UM Earns $10M Contract to Develop Universal Flu Vaccine - UM News - University Of Montana

the Division of Biological Sciences. The contract is titled “Development of TRAC-478: A Synthetic Dual TLR Adjuvant Combination System.”

“Influenza virus infection is a serious public health problem that causes severe illness and death in high-risk populations,” Evans said. “Although vaccination remains the most effective way to prevent this disease, mismatch between vaccine strains and circulating strains can lead to a sharp drop in vaccine effectiveness.

“In addition, new pandemics emerge at irregular intervals, causing upward of several million deaths – posing very real global threats,” he said. “Thus, a critical unmet need is the next generation of vaccines capable of inducing broadly protective immune responses against the influenza virus.”

Other UM researchers included on the award are Hélène Bazin-Lee and David Burkhart, both in the Department of Biomedical and Pharmaceutical Sciences. The project also includes investigators from the University of California, San Diego; the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai; and Inimmune Corp., a corporate development partner.

Inimmune is a biotech company located at the University’s business incubator, MonTEC. Efforts at Inimmune will be led by Dr. Kendal Ryter, the company’s vice president of manufacturing and development.

Evans said the team of vaccine researchers in UM’s Center for Translational Medicine have spent more than 10 years working on the discovery and development of new vaccine adjuvants – components added to a vaccine to improve the immune response.

One such discovery, a synthetic dual-TLR adjuvant combination system called TRAC-478, shows great promise to improve both seasonal and pandemic flu vaccines and could be broadly applicable to other vaccines as well.

The research team that earned the contract moved from GSK Vaccines in Hamilton to UM in early 2016 and is continuing its research efforts in the newly formed Center for Translational Medicine.
“We have an amazing and very talented team of researchers at UM who have spent most of their careers working on vaccine discovery and development,” Evans said, “so this award is confirmation that we are on the right path and demonstrates a very bright future for the team at UM.”

“Translational research is a new growth area for the University,” said Scott Whittenburg, UM vice president for research and creative scholarship at UM. “We have a number of faculty working on projects that ultimately can be placed into clinical trials and produce positive health outcomes. The new Center for Translational Medicine has helped coalesce many of these faculty into a collaborative environment that provides the background and support necessary to take these projects to the next level.”

The center is a research center that connects colleges and departments to assist faculty, staff and students in the translation of research ideas from “the bench to bedside.”

“There is remarkable research ongoing at UM that could transform the lives of countless people,” Evans said. “The center will foster and develop an interactive and dynamic research community at UM focused on advancing these technologies to help people and communities in Montana and throughout the world.”

Founded in 2016, Inimmune focuses on the discovery and development of new immunomodulatory therapeutics for treatment of allergic diseases, infectious disease and cancer.

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Contact: Scott Whittenburg, UM vice president of research and creative scholarship, 406-243-6670, scott.whittenburg@umontana.edu.
UM Poll: Montanans Support Continuing 6-Mill Levy

October 02, 2018

MISSOULA – Seventy-one percent of likely voters in Montana report they would vote to reapprove the 6-Mill Levy if the election were held at the time of polling. Eight percent of voters said they were undecided.

Using the ballot language approved by the Montana State Legislature, the Big Sky Poll at the University of Montana measured Montanans’ opinions on whether or not to continue an existing 6-mill property tax levy, which has funded the university system since 1948 and will expire in January 2019 without voter reapproval.

According to the Montana Secretary of State’s office, 56.8 percent voted in favor of the referendum in 2008, the last time it was on the ballot. The February 2018 Big Sky Poll found that 72 percent of respondents said that they would vote for to continue the 6-Mill levy.

However, 46 percent of Montanans are “not at all familiar” with the 6-Mill Levy, while 7 percent are “extremely familiar” with the referendum. Sixty-eight percent of respondents who live in the five largest cities in Montana report higher levels of familiarity with the referendum than rural residents.
Ninety percent of self-identified Democrats would vote for the referendum, compared to 54 percent of Republicans. Support for the referendum also corresponds with level of education. Respondents with higher levels of education stated that they would vote to continue the 6-Mill Levy at a higher rate.

The 6-Mill Levy must be reapproved every 10 years. It costs the owner of a $200,000 home about $24 per year and provides about $20 million in funding for higher education in Montana. When survey respondents were provided with this information, 69 percent of voters said that they would vote to continue the 6-Mill Levy.

The Big Sky Poll was conducted via telephone Aug. 13-31, with 466 randomly selected likely voters in the state of Montana. The poll has a margin of error of +/- 4.5 percentage points at a 95 percent confidence level. Use of poll findings requires attribution to the UM Big Sky Poll.

The poll collects and reports information about Montanans' perceptions of local, state and federal issues. The Big Sky Poll is led by Sara Rinfret, director of UM's Master in Public Administration Program, and Justin Angle, UM associate professor of marketing, in conjunction with eight seminar students from UM's MPA and business analytics programs.

The survey was commissioned with support from the UM Social Science Research Laboratory. The UM Big Sky Poll will be conducted on an ongoing basis, with its next iteration in Spring 2019.

Full results from the poll can be found on the UM Big Sky Poll website at http://umt.edu/bigsypoll.

###

Full Results:

Table 1: The Nov. 5, 2018, ballot will include a referendum created by the Montana Legislature on the 6-Mill Levy that supports the Montana University System. How familiar are you with this referendum?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Familiarity</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Extremely Familiar</td>
<td>7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Moderately Familiar</td>
<td>19%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Somewhat Familiar</td>
<td>28%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not At All Familiar</td>
<td>46%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 2: If the election were held today, would you vote for or against continuing the 6-Mill Levy? How sure
are you about your vote?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Vote For 71%</th>
<th>Sure about my vote</th>
<th>81%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Might change my vote</td>
<td>19%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vote Against 21%</td>
<td></td>
<td>Sure about my vote</td>
<td>65%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Might change my vote</td>
<td>35%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Undecided 8%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 3: Education level and support for 6-Mill Levy

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Education Level</th>
<th>Vote For (%)</th>
<th>Vote Against (%)</th>
<th>Undecided (%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Some High School</td>
<td>13%</td>
<td>75%</td>
<td>13%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>High School/GED</td>
<td>57%</td>
<td>38%</td>
<td>6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Some college</td>
<td>68%</td>
<td>23%</td>
<td>9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Associate degree</td>
<td>71%</td>
<td>24%</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bachelor's degree</td>
<td>78%</td>
<td>13%</td>
<td>9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Post-Baccalaureate</td>
<td>81%</td>
<td>13%</td>
<td>6%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 4: Party identification and support for 6-Mill Levy

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Party Identification</th>
<th>Republican (%)</th>
<th>Democrat (%)</th>
<th>Independent (%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Vote For</td>
<td>52%</td>
<td>92%</td>
<td>70%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vote Against</td>
<td>37%</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>21%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Undecided</td>
<td>11%</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>9%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Table 5: Respondents were informed that the referendum would continue a statewide property tax that funds the Montana University System and costs the owner of a $200,000 house about $24 a year. With this information, would you vote for or against continuing the 6-mill levy?

<p>| | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Vote For</td>
<td>69%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vote Against</td>
<td>23%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Undecided</td>
<td>7%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Contact: Sara Rinfret, director, UM Master in Public Administration Program, 406-243-4702, sara.rinfret@mso.umt.edu.
FLATHEAD LAKE – In previous years, the arrival of the fall season signaled an end to the summer hustle and bustle at the University of Montana’s Flathead Lake Biological Station.

It was a time when excitement ebbed with the receding lake level.
and activities went the way of the freshly fallen leaves. These days, however, nothing could be further from the truth. Thanks to the continued development of the Flathead Lake Aquatic Research and Education program, autumn at Yellow Bay is now more energetic and vibrant than ever before.

The FLARE program is a significant part of a reinvigorated effort at FLBS to integrate cutting-edge research with local K-12 education. It exists in large part because of the generous support of Gretchen and Edward Hefferman and aims to get kids excited about science by connecting them with Flathead Lake and their local environment.

Operating under the guidance of the station's Education Liaison Monica Elser and Education Coordinator Holly Church, the program now is entering its first academic year in full operation. But you wouldn’t know simply by looking at the numbers.

Since the start of September, the program has brought in hundreds of K-12 students through class field trips to FLBS.

“It’s very energizing to see students and teachers engage in activities that demonstrate the importance of the Flathead Lake ecosystem to the region and the exciting science going on here,” Elser said. “It’s great to watch students learning to appreciate what an important resource that we have here.”

Hosting field trips isn’t the only thing the program is designed to do. It also provides professional development workshops for K-12 teachers and plays a role in many community events.

An example of the latter, FLARE recently participated in the 2018 Lake Honoring Ceremony, an event co-sponsored by the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes and Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks. For its part, FLARE provided five educational stations at the biological station, where students received an all-access pass to FLBS research and learned innovative ways to study and care for Flathead Lake.

Katrina Venters, an English teacher at Polson High School, attended the Lake Honoring Ceremony with a fellow
English teacher and a majority of Polson High School's junior class. Their attendance was in part motivated by a new curriculum at Polson called the One School, One Book Project. The goal of the project is to have students of all levels read the same book and then venture outside of the classroom for an interdisciplinary understanding of its themes and concepts. This fall, the students are reading "Wind from an Enemy Sky" by D'Arcy McNickle.

“One of the themes we’re working on in the novel is the idea of restoration,” Venters said. “And one of the ways we approached teaching this was to look at current restoration efforts taking place in the Flathead Valley. We want kids to understand that there’s overlap between disciplines. In terms of something that’s really going to stick with the kids, this is a much more powerful experience than sitting in a classroom."

FLARE also sends FLBS speakers and scientists into schools and classrooms. Shortly after the Lake Honoring Ceremony, Polson High School invited FLBS Lake Ecologist Shawn Devlin to a school assembly, where he took part in a panel discussion alongside officials from Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks and the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes.

The discussion focused on the restoration and preservation of local wildlife and ecology, and was held before the entire school body. When it was over, the assembly broke out into smaller groups, giving students the chance to ask questions of the speakers and engage at a more candid level.

“Our students were talking to an expert, and that’s kind of cool,” Venters said. “When Shawn spoke during the breakout sessions, the kids asked good questions and appeared really interested in what he had to say. That’s a different experience than reading an article. Even if it’s a really good article, you can’t ask it questions when you’re finished reading it."

Whether bringing experts into the classroom or taking students to conduct research out in the field, FLARE delivers engaging activities and other resources that support hands-on investigations of aquatic ecosystems and organisms. It can be adapted to fit any K-12 class subject or level, and all materials provided to students in the program are created by the FLARE education team in conjunction with biological station scientists. The FLARE program also is designed to meet Montana state science standards.

“The program provides ways for teachers to easily engage their students in activities that go beyond the classroom and can relate to something that’s important to them,” Elser said. “The ultimate goal for any of our projects is to give teachers and students hands-on scientific experiences. We work to provide activities teachers can implement in their classroom, things they can do with their kids that they may not have thought about before.”

As the seasonal change continues, the momentum behind the FLARE program doesn’t look to be fading anytime soon. Additional field trips and school visits are scheduled well into October, and the program is hosting a K-12 teacher workshop sponsored by Flathead Community of Resource Educators and the Glacier National Park Conservancy.

It isn’t too late for schools still hoping to schedule a field trip or class visit. Those interested in registering or looking for more information can do so by visiting the FLARE website at https://flbs.umt.edu/newflbs/outreach/k-12-education/.

With so many K-12 opportunities on the horizon, it seems the traditional wind-down FLBS has historically
experienced will have to wait for the snow.

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**Contact:** Tom Bansak, assistant director, UM Flathead Lake Biological Station, 406-982-3301 ext. 229, tom.bansak@flbs.umt.edu; Ian Withrow, FLBS media/information specialist, Flathead Lake Biological Station, ian.withrow@flbs.umt.edu.
Health Professions Career Fair and Expo Set for Oct. 12 at Missoula College

October 02, 2018

MISSOULA – The Office of Career Services at the University of Montana is partnering with Missoula College and Western Montana Area Health Education Center to host the Health Professions Career Fair and Expo at Missoula College from 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. on Friday, Oct. 12.

The event is open to all organizations recruiting Missoula College students and alumni for nursing, radiologic technology, respiratory care, medical assisting, surgical technology, medical information technology and other entry-level health care positions.

In addition, high school students from around the region will be attending the event in the afternoon to learn about Missoula College and health care careers. Employers will have the opportunity to teach these students about their organizations and potential career pathways in health care.

Registered employers will receive a career fair booth, lunch and free parking. The University of Montana’s Office of Career Services will have students on hand to help employers with their fair materials and assist with setup.
Employers can register online by signing into Handshake at https://umt.joinhandshake.com/login.

For more information call Laurie Fisher, director of UM Career Services, at 406-243-6989 or email laurie.fisher@mso.umt.edu.

Contact: Laurie Fisher, director, UM Office of Career Services, 406-243-6989, laurie.fisher@mso.umt.edu.
Montana Digital Academy’s EdReady Montana Wins Award for Improving Math Readiness in Students

October 02, 2018

MISSOULA – EdReady Montana, a student math readiness initiative developed and implemented by Montana Digital Academy, is one of five 2018 recipients of the Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education Outstanding Work Award.

Since 2004, WICHE has presented the award to colleges, universities and organizations who implement exceptionally creative, technology based solutions to contemporary challenges in higher education.

MTDA, located at the University of Montana’s Phyllis J. Washington College of Education and Human Sciences, is Montana’s statewide K-12 online education program. Created by the Legislature in 2010, the academy provides online courses to thousands of students each year through their local public schools.
In 2013, with assistance from Roberta Evans, then-dean of the College of Education, MTDA received significant financial support from the Dennis and Phyllis Washington Foundation to launch the EdReady Montana project. Beginning in early 2014 any student in the state has had the opportunity to use the math assessment and readiness tool to identify and overcome their mathematics challenges through the program’s uniquely personalized curriculum.

Since MTDA began offering EdReady Montana, nearly 100,000 students of all ages – from elementary and middle school through college and adults – have been provided an account. During this time, 487 unique organizations (public, private and tribal colleges and universities, elementary, middle and high schools) have used EdReady Montana to help students overcome their mathematics challenges.

MTDA Executive Director Robert Currie noted the impact the program is having on incoming college students by creating a smoother, positive path to their mathematics course placement saving them time, money and frustration.

“Here at UM and on other two and four year campuses across the state, hundreds of students have used EdReady to save time and money,” Currie said. “Using the tool to sharpen and refresh their mathematics skills they are able to enroll directly into college level mathematics courses and avoid being placed in a remedial math class.”

The pervasive use of the tool across the state bodes well for preparing future Montana college students. according to program manager Ryan Schrenk.

“While we continue to monitor and research the impact of the significant use of EdReady by elementary, middle and high school students, we feel it undoubtedly will have a positive effect on their math preparation for each new level they encounter,” Schrenk said.

“EdReady Montana can serve as a national model for how to scale this personalized instruction to a state implementation that encompasses K-12, adult education, and higher education to address a systemic educational issue,” the award announcement from WICHE read.

The EdReady Montana team from UM will be recognized along with the other awardees Colorado State University, Embry Riddle Aeronautical University Worldwide, Colorado Technical University and Open SUNY at the WICHE annual meeting held October 23-25, in Portland Oregon.

###

Contact: Adrea Lawrence, interim dean, UM Phyllis J. Washington College of Education and Human Sciences, 406-243-5054, adrea.lawrence@mso.umt.edu; Robert Currie, executive director, Montana Digital Academy, 406-541-4944, robert.currie@mso.umt.edu.
Montana Digital Academy’s EdReady Montana Wins Award for Improving Math Readiness in Students - UM News - University Of Montana
Montana Rep’s ‘Buckle Up’ Production Takes Audience on the Road

October 02, 2018

MISSOULA – The Montana Repertory Theatre at the University of Montana is proud to present “Buckle Up,” the first production of its new Plays on Tap series. Plays on Tap is a recurring series of short, site-based plays for small audiences performed in unexpected locations throughout Missoula.

For “Buckle Up,” the Rep commissioned five nationally renowned playwrights – Emily Feldman, Idris Goodwin, Claire Kiechel, Sam Myers and Mara Nelson-Greenberg – to each write a play that takes place in a car that will be parked around the downtown area.

Audience members arrive at a centrally located box office, pick up a map and follow the directions to their first vehicle. As they move from car to car, the audience will experience an amazing live theatrical event, encountering five unique stories written by some of the best playwrights in the country.

Midway through, the entire audience will meet up at a Missoula bar for drinks and conversation before heading back out to find the next backseat.
Montana Rep’s ‘Buckle Up’ Production Takes Audience on the Road - UM News - University Of Montana

Casts for “Buckle Up” feature actors from the Missoula community, as well as students from UM’s School of Theatre & Dance. All five plays are directed by the Rep’s new artistic director, Michael Legg.

Performances are Friday through Sunday, Oct. 19-21, with evening shows each night and matinees Saturday and Sunday, Oct. 20-21. Tickets cost $20.

For exact show times and more ticket information, visit the UMArts box office online at [http://bit.ly/2Qig7Ye](http://bit.ly/2Qig7Ye) or call 406-243-4581.

Contact: Salina Chatlain, Montana Repertory Theatre, 406-243-6809, salina.chatlain@umontana.edu.
UM Public Health Program Receives $1.2M Science Education Grant

October 01, 2018

MISSOULA – The University of Montana recently received a five-year, $1.2 million Science Education Partnership Award from the National Institute of General Medical Sciences of the National Institutes of Health.

The grant was awarded to UM's School of Public and Community Health Sciences within the College of Health Professions and Biomedical Sciences.

The award will fund the Clean Air and Healthy Homes Program, providing educational opportunities for over 5,000 students from middle schools and high schools located within rural and underserved areas of Montana, Idaho and Alaska.

This new project will boost citizen science, science communication, student mentoring and teacher professional development. UM researchers and educators will develop inquiry-based science lessons that prepare students to conduct their own research projects focused on particulate matter air pollution and its effect on cardiovascular and population health.
In collaboration with the International Heart Institute of Montana, the UM Health and Medicine initiative, and the UM Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry, students will explore careers in the biomedical sciences through job shadowing experiences. Participating teachers will receive professional development, curricula and air-sampling equipment to guide environmental health science education and research.

“We look forward to continue working with local and regional students and teachers, facilitating their understanding of the process of doing science while researching air pollution issues of concern to our region, such as the impact of forest fire smoke on health,” said Dr. Tony Ward, principal investigator of the program.

For more information, visit http://health.umt.edu/publichealth/faculty/core-faculty.php?s=Ward, call Ward at 406-243-4092 or email tony.ward@umontana.edu.

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**Note:** Content reported in this release was supported by the National Institute of General Medical Sciences of the NIH under grant number R25GM129849. This content is solely the responsibility of the authors and does not necessarily represent the official NIH views.

**Contact:** Tony Ward, UM professor of public health, 406-243-4092, tony.ward@umontana.edu.
UM Researchers Publish Discoveries on Antibiotic Resistance

October 01, 2018

MISSOULA – University of Montana researchers recently published their new insights into how pathogenic bacteria resist antibiotic treatment in Proceedings of the Natural Academy of Sciences.

"Antibiotic resistance is a major problem," said Patrick Secor, assistant professor in UM’s Division of Biological Sciences and lead researcher on the paper. "However, it is often the case that if you take bacteria that survive antibiotic treatment from someone’s infected lungs and treat those same bacteria with antibiotics in the lab, the bacteria die. We wanted to understand why."

Secor and researchers at UM and the University of Washington discovered that polymers present in airway mucus physically push on bacterial cells.

“We found that bacteria living in high concentrations of polymers get a little stressed"
out," said Lia Michaels, a researcher at UM and co-author of the paper. "Basically, the polymer-rich environment activates stress responses in the bacteria, causing them to tolerate higher levels of antibiotics."

"I like to compare it to the stress our bodies undergo when we exercise," Secor said. "Exercising today allows you to run a little further or lift a little more weight later on. This is analogous to the stress responses turned on in bacteria living in airway mucus – exposure to stress today allows the bacteria to survive the stress of antibiotic exposure later on."

The researchers discovered that stress responses induced by mucus polymers pressing on the bacteria were a result of mild DNA damage in the bacterial cells.

"One thing that this DNA damage did was slow bacterial growth," said Laura Jennings, UM research assistant professor and co-author of the paper. "Because most antibiotics work best on rapidly dividing cells, these slow-growing bacteria were more difficult to kill with antibiotics."

The researchers speculate that the mechanisms by which polymers turn on bacterial stress responses could be targeted therapeutically to treat long-term bacterial infections.

"Our hope is that we could come up with new ways to treat bacterial infections or increase the efficacy of antibiotic treatment," Secor said.

The paper, "Entropically-driven aggregation of bacteria by host polymers promotes antibiotic tolerance in Pseudomonas aeruginosa," is online at http://www.pnas.org/content/early/2018/09/27/1806005115.

###

Contact: Patrick Secor, assistant professor, UM Division of Biological Sciences, 406-243-2614, patrick.secor@mso.umt.edu.
UM Master of Public Administration Program Earns National Ranking

October 01, 2018

MISSOULA – The University of Montana’s Master of Public Administration program recently received national accolades. OnlineMasters.com ranked UM’s MPA program No. 15 out of 50 in a review of schools across the nation, noting its quality and individualized attention for student success.

Onlinemasters.com conducted 80 hours of research analyzing every online MPA program to identify the top 50. In addition to being ranked 15th, UM’s program was also named the “Most Focused Program” and the review noted that “students receive a great deal of personal attention.” Read the full ranking at https://www.onlinemasters.com/best-degree-programs/mpa/.

“We are honored to be recognized as one of the best in the nation,” said Sara Rinfret, director of the program. “Our MPA faculty are dedicated to providing pre-career and mid-career professionals with tangible skills for our students to advance in their public and nonprofit careers. We are fortunate to work with the best and brightest students in the state and region.”

The core curriculum of the MPA program focuses on public budgeting, policy analysis, applied research methods,
human resource management, and the structure and behavior of organizations.

UM offers students the ability to complete their MPA online or in person, providing flexibility for working professionals. The program also allows students to customize their degree by specializing in nonprofit administration or a joint degree in law.

For more information about the UM’s MPA program, visit https://www.umt.edu/law/mpa/default.php.

Contact: Sara Rinfret, director, UM Masters of Public Administration program, 406-243-4702, sara.rinfret@umontana.edu.