A family’s promise

Missoula churches host homeless families

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The first round of Montana Meth Project ads debuted in 2005, when I was roughly 10 years old. My fourth grade self was thoroughly unprepared for the campaign of images of poor children, drug-laced money, and a drug that I was entirely unfamiliar with. It was presented as a drug that no one was safe from, regardless of age, gender or race.

The project spread rapidly, campaigning regionally, and now nationally, for substance abuse prevention. They presented in schools, commissioned murals and generally trafficked in the idea that meth, a drug I was entirely unfamiliar with, suddenly filled my nightmares. It was present out teens screaming and robbing laundromats.

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There is a solution, though: decriminalize it. This isn’t a call for chest-beating, libertarian personal freedom rallying. It’s time that we admit defeat in the fight against meth. We certainly put in a good effort, but the time for new tactics is upon us, and has been for many years. The ineffectiveness of our attitude toward drug abuse should have become apparent as soon as people realized that organizations like MMP were simply copying 80s-era anti-drug scare tactics.

As reported in Mic last year, countries like Portugal have seen drug use decrease after decriminalization of all drugs in 2001. More importantly, drug-related deaths have sharply decreased, as well as the prevalence of HIV infection. Of course, this also came from a shift in not just the legality of drug use, but the country’s attitude toward it. It is treated not as a criminal matter, but as an issue of public health.

Portugal’s success aside, the fact of the matter is that it’s time to try something else. Montana’s meth problem is actively ruining lives and is in no way slowing down. The prevalence of meth across the state shows no sign of slowing. We have exhausted all options — the war on meth has been a complete and utter failure. Rather than letting our pride get in the way, we need to focus on rectifying the damage.

We have turned drug use into a criminality, when it should always have been about curbing addiction and reducing harm. Fixing our meth problem will not happen through scare tactics and door-busting trailer park meth labs. It will come from treating addiction like the thing that it is a health problem.
ASUM emergency fund used to keep student groups afloat

The Associated Students of the University of Montana were forced to dip into their emergency fund for the fiscal year 2017 budget because of a decrease in tuition and fees revenue this semester, caused by the drop in enrollment.

ASUM receives the majority of its funding from student fees amounting to roughly $41 per semester, which funds its agencies and student groups.

The ideal amount needed by ASUM for the next fiscal year was $1 million, however that figure was impossible to achieve with the University in its current deficit, ASUM President Cody Meixner said.

In reality, ASUM had $860,000 to work with. Short $34,000, the student government took the needed amount from their zero-base carry over account, which acts as an emergency fund, Meixner said.

“It acts as a reserve,” he said. “We don’t touch it very often.”

ASUM also dips into the fund on the rare occasion that a student group goes into debt.

ASUM recognizes about 200 student groups on campus. Every fiscal year those groups are given a total of $124,000, Meixner said.

At the end of every fiscal year, ASUM collects unused money from student groups that received funds that year, ASUM Business Manager Sarah Smith said. That money is deposited into the emergency account.

According to ASUM bylaws, a group that has a deficit at the end of the fiscal year is responsible for that deficit, Smith said.

At the end of fiscal year 2008, the men’s lacrosse team was over $44,000 in debt. Considered a “big” emergency, ASUM bailed them out. The lacrosse team has since been making payments of $2,000 on Feb. 1 and May 1 every year. After May, the team will have a little over $9,000 left to pay back, Meixner said.

In June 2014, the Montana Kaimin fell into a debt of $25,000. ASUM put a loan from its emergency fund into the Kaimin’s account. An agreement was made between the two groups that every February the Kaimin would pay ASUM almost $9,000. The loan will be settled in February 2017, Kaimin Business Manager Meg Dowaliby said.

“Our top priority is to pay off the loan,” she said. “We appreciate ASUM’s generosity.”

Without the emergency fund, publication of the Kaimin would have ceased.

“We were able to help them because of the money left unspent,” Smith said.
The Montana Department of Environmental Quality returned Tintina Resources’ first mine permit proposal with needed corrections on 60 pages. These corrections range from simple sentence restructures to additional permits needed and requests for more data, according to the First Deficiency Review for the mine permit posted on the DEQ’s website.

Tintina Resources submitted a mine permit proposal to the DEQ on Dec. 15, 2015. Their proposed mine, Black Butte Copper Mine, would be on Sheep Creek, the headwaters of the Smith River. The DEQ had 90 days to review the proposal for completeness. Tintina has as much time as they need to make corrections and collect more data before the DEQ gets a second round look at the proposal.

“The DEQ identified a lot of shortcomings but not as many as we did,” Montana Trout Unlimited Executive Director Bruce Farling said.

TU put together a panel of fisheries, geochemistry, hydrology and other mining area experts to review Tintina’s proposal during the 90-day review period. These findings were submitted to the DEQ to aid them in the review process, but DEQ didn’t use them as much as TU hoped.

TU is still worried about Tintina’s amount of data on fishery populations, groundwater recharge and arsenic levels. The DEQ addressed these aspects little or not at all in their deficiency report. The 90-day review period stresses the DEQ’s staff of six, especially because they are also reviewing other permits simultaneously, Farling said.

The DEQ did not flag fisheries as needing more data, which worries TU. Baseline data collection is the best way to mitigate future problems and allow the community to hold companies accountable, Farling said. Farling and other TU associates visited Tintina in White Sulphur Springs a couple times to take a site tour. Tintina is made up of nice people, but their Australian investors have a lot of money put into this project, Farling said.

“This is just a step in the process,” Tintina public relations director Nancy Schlepp said. “We would be worried if they (DEQ) hadn’t gone through it with a fine-tooth comb.”

Schlepp said Tintina is working to answer TU’s questions, but “this isn’t really a public process where the public can weigh in.”

Tintina’s tailings management is one of TU’s other concerns. Instead of storing mine refuse, or tailings, in water, Tintina plans to store theirs in cement to decrease the chance of spills.

Tailings data was not included in the official document because the company moved their tailings storage right before the proposal due date. The tailings were moved to decrease wetland impact. Tintina submitted these results late, and the DEQ will have more time to review them, Schlepp said.

Tintina directors said they don’t want to put a timestamp on the corrections because the company wants to do them right. Schlepp said their earliest resubmission could be late May or June.

“Hope we get to a point where they (TU) are comfortable with the process,” Schlepp said.

The DEQ could not be reached for comment.

University of Montana senior Colin Angland spends part of his summers on the Smith River at his grandparents’ cabin swimming, boating and enjoying the sun. His grandfather built the cabin with help from friends in 1969, and it has been a gathering place ever since.

Angland feels that the risk of mining mistakes is not worth putting the Smith in jeopardy. Even if the DEQ returns Tintina’s permit with full marks, Angland would remain skeptical.

So would his grandparents, who have witnessed the troubled history of Montana mining.
Fate of UM Productions

Johanna Bernhard
johanna.bernhard@umontana.edu

University of Montana Productions will not be funded by the Associated Students of the University of Montana next fiscal year, saving ASUM $19,000. ASUM has already withdrawn $34,000 from its emergency account to keep other student groups in business.

ASUM President Cody Meixner said it was a difficult decision, but he had to make it.

At the end of every fiscal year, ASUM takes back unused funds from student groups, however some agencies, like UMP, are able to keep the money they receive, Meixner said.

UMP has been around for over 40 years, bringing entertainment to UM and the Missoula community. As one of the largest student employers at UM, its focus is to provide students with learning opportunities and professional development in preparation for their future careers.

The group has sufficient funds to support itself for one year without negatively harming operations. However, this will deplete the funds, meaning it can't happen again as UMP will have nothing to fall back on, Meixner said.

ASUM Fund Accountant Marlene Hendrickson said the total amount of money UMP has will be determined June 30; the end of this fiscal year, but the current estimate is $150,000.

The proposed operating budget for UMP for fiscal year 2017 would have been $133,487, had they put in a budget this semester, Hendrickson said, meaning they can support themselves until fiscal year 2018.

UMP Director Jaycie Johns is most concerned for the long-term future of the agency. This year UMP has had less shows in the Adams Center than previous years.

During the four years Johns has worked at UMP, the amount of shows they produce at the Adams Center has “trickled down” to almost none, with just three this semester.

In 2012, if there was a concert at the Adams Center, it was always on good faith that UMP would be involved, Johns said.

“If a concert was happening, UM Productions was producing the shows,” she said.

In the fall of 2015, relations between UMP and the Adams Center broke down due to a disagreement over unpaid fees.

UMP claimed Brad Murphy, director of the Adams Center, broke a non-binding memorandum of understanding by producing shows without UMP and using their equipment without paying for it.

“He’s riding on the reputation we built, not him, and leaving us out,” Johns said.

Murphy declined to comment on Johns’ statement. He said he is “all about students” and wants to provide opportunities for them.

From 2009 to 2012 the Adams Center and UMP produced eight shows together, Murphy said.

Since Murphy became director in June 2012, that number has risen.

This year there have been 14 shows, five of which were produced by UMP.

The Adams Center has increased its inventory two to three times and has a larger role bringing in and producing more shows, Murphy said.

“We all have to be forward thinking and looking to bring more events to Missoula,” he said. “Sometimes it works well to have [UMP] in shows and other times it’s better for the Adams Center to take the role.”

The collaboration with UMP depends on the cost of the show, Murphy said. If the cost is high and UMP doesn’t want to take the financial risk, they don’t participate.

UMP is a good asset to the University, she said, as it gives students the experience they need before working in the music industry, something that isn’t offered around the country. The task of keeping UMP in business falls to the University’s administration. Although they say they see value in UMP, which has been around for over 45 years, they have done nothing to ensure its involvement in the shows at the Adams Center, Johns said.

Meixner is working with UMP to resolve the situation before the end of the semester, Johns said, when they both will leave their positions.

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Assistant Professor, Department of Communicative Sciences & Disorders
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12:20 p.m., UC Theater

April 15, 2016
University Center, 3rd Floor

Oral Sessions: 9:00 - 11:00 a.m.
1:40 - 4:00 p.m.

Poster Sessions: 11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
3:00 - 4:00 p.m.

Visual and Performing Arts Sessions: 4:00 - 5:00 p.m.

Global Leadership Initiative Session: 9:20 a.m. - 12:20 p.m.
1:40 - 3:00 p.m.

View the detailed schedule at www.umt.edu/ugresearch
A family's promise

Missoula churches host homeless families

The slide into homelessness is steep and fast. Dark walls in the form of past-due bills, empty refrigerators and eviction notices start to close in on all sides. When Big Sky Waterpark shut down at the end of the summer in 2015, Amanda Reep planned to keep her three children fed by splitting her days between the Columbia Falls Dairy Queen and The Wave’s child care center in Whitefish. Amanda’s husband, Chinook, had violated his probation and was in jail.

On Sept. 7, three days after starting at The Wave, she was fired. Three months later, her kids were split between Montana and North Dakota, and Amanda was sleeping in her blue Dodge minivan.

Family Promise of Missoula’s program provided the perfect setup for Reep to get her feet on the ground and her kids under one roof — for a week at a time, that is.

“To get in the program, I had to have kids. I was so excited to get them back,” she said. After a phone call from director Carole Meyers telling Reep she had been accepted, she packed up the van and hit the road, picking up her oldest daughter, Lynae, in Columbia Falls and then heading to North Dakota for her babies, Ariella and Chinook-Weston.

The 90-day program’s goal is to get families struggling with homelessness into stable housing and employment. Families stay for a few nights at a time in a network of churches throughout Missoula and get a shower, hot meals and assistance with transportation to and from work. With a success rate of more than 76 percent nationally, the program prides itself on its extensive volunteer network.

Clocking in for more than 50 hours every week to keep her three kids fed, Reep hopes to be out of the program and into her own house with her husband, Chinook, in the next few months, but with his release date not for another eight weeks, the family’s future is yet to be determined.
Below: Chinook and his stepdaughter Lynae tell each other jokes as Amanda catches some much needed shuteye in the family room during Sunday service at Sovereign Hope Church on Feb. 28. Chinook stepped into his role as a father figure before he and Amanda began dating. “He was an accidental babysitter,” Amanda said. “I’d come home to them on the floor coloring together, and he’d say they were doing homework!”

Above: Lynae loads her baby sister Ariella into the family’s minivan before leaving the Family Promise Day Center on March 29. Though the program puts them up in different churches, the van serves as their closest thing to home, holding clothes, carseats, cribs and everything else essential.

Left: Three folding beds await the Reep family in a back room at First Presbyterian Church on Feb. 28 — their bedroom for the week.
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KIOSK

SUDOKU
Edition by Margie E. Burke
 Difficulty: Medium

HOW TO SOLVE:
Each row must contain the numbers 1 to 9; each column must contain the numbers 1 to 9; and each set of 3 by 3 boxes must contain the numbers 1 to 9.

Answer to Last Week’s Sudoku

ACROSS
1 Fight site
5 Jack, for one
9 Metric measure
14 It comes to mind
15 Cousin of a bassoon
16 Farewell, in
17 It’s breaking, at times
18 Stroke of luck
19 Repeating series
20 Two cents worth
21 Not at all suspicious
23 Babar, e.g.
25 Spouse’s family
29 "___ we there yet?"
30 Mississippi ___
32 ___ constrictor
33 Like this clue
36 Scoundrel
37 Grooming tool
38 Minority opinion
40 Point
42 Counter current
43 Lord’s Prayer start
45 Gorge
46 Kind of patch
47 Sub finder
49 Break a commandment
50 Audition
52 Precedent setter
56 PBS series
58 Half a score
59 Grace word
62 When repeated, Cult Jam singer
63 May be a comcob one
64 Like "The X-Files"
65 Briefly unknown?
66 Be itinerant
67 Kind of room

DOWN
1 Dentist’s direction
2 Best
3 Time for resolutions
4 Beetle juice?
5 Army attack helicopter
6 Be plentiful
7 Nature’s alarm clock
8 Bad impression?
9 Manuscript gap
10 Tennyson poem
11 Behavioral quirk
12 Aquarius denizen
13 Parisian street
21 2001 film, "___ Old Broads"
22 Tailor. at times
24 Far from poetic
26 Shameful act
27 Lennon love song

The Weekly Crossword by Margie E. Burke

Answer to Last Week’s Crossword:

STAGE DIPPE JAMB
CORAL OBOE EMIR
EDEMA MILL STONE
NONENTITY ASKEW
TSAR INSPIRE
 презент
LETTUCE WITWIT
PROPER NOUN TIDE
ROBOT CAN BELLE
OTIS H BARDEN
PESTLE LOG
HAMSTER RAFT
KARAT MISERABLE
ICESHEETS RADIOS
THAT BALE MIDST
HYPE BRED POESY

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President/Vice President

Sam Forstag & Elizabeth Engebretson

President
Name: Sam Forstag
Year and Major: Junior, Philosophy and Political Science
Hometown: Columbus, Ohio and Portland, Oregon

Vice President
Name: Elizabeth Engebretson
Year and Major: Junior, Political Science
Hometown: Billings, MT

What group(s) of students do you feel you can most effectively represent?

Forstag: I represent every UM student wanting to take an active role in making our University the best it can be by drawing strength from its students. I was drawn to Missoula by the outdoor opportunities for skiing, climbing, hiking, rafting, etc., and I stayed because of the incredible community I found here. I represent all students who want to preserve these natural amenities, and I’ll work to represent those who want to build a community strong enough to tackle issues from sustainability to sexual assault. My experience working with difficult issues on campus will help me represent those students effectively, and the goals that Elizabeth and I have set out will help us do so inclusively.

Engebretson: I think I represent all students on campus. It is my job to voice all student concerns, regardless of what group they belong to. Although I personally belong to veterans, non-traditional students, political science students, and students that are active on campus. I want all groups to feel as though they can bring their issues and passions to me with the confidence that I will equally represent them.

What are you hoping to accomplish if elected?

Forstag: As President, I’ll prioritize environmental sustainability as something integral to our vision for UM by continuing my work on bringing large-scale renewable energy to campus and holding our administration accountable for the commitments made in our Climate Action Plan. I will advocate for the 80% of students whose vote to divest UM dollars from fossil fuels has gone unheeded, and I’ll continue working with programs that address sustainability as a cultural issue.

Engebretson: If Sam and I are elected President and Vice President of ASUM we will work hard to protect and grow sustainability, continue and further transparency and strength leadership on campus and grow student involvement. Our first priority, substantiality, we will adopt a large scale renewable energy project, work towards carbon neutrality, and divest from fossil fuels. Our second priority is to increase transparency and student involvement. We will establish a more simplified and publicized system to access ASUM and open complaint lines to hear all student concerns, publish a monthly report on ASUM that is accessible by all students on campus, and make the ASUM budget publicly available. Our third priority is to promote strong leadership on campus by taking full advantage of the ASUM’S Presidents new position in the cabinet, ensuring UM’S administration better reflects the community they represent, and promoting strong female leadership through the Women’s leadershi initiative. Sam and I are fully committed to continuing ASUM’S legacy and fighting for students.

Antonio Morsette & Isaac La’a

President
Name: Antonio Morsette
Year and Major: 4, Environmental Studies and Art
Hometown: Rocky Boy, Montana

Vice President
Name: Isaac La’a
Year and Major: Sophomore, Education in Mathematics, minor in Computer Science
Hometown: N’n’kuli, Hawai’i

What group(s) of students do you feel you can most effectively represent?

We feel as though we effectively represent students such as but not limited to, Native Americans, Mexican Americans, students who identify as LGBTQ+, international students, honors students, students in the arts and sciences, nontraditional students, students with disabilities, transfer students, and other marginalized students who do not effectively get their voices heard.

How will your role with ASUM help you to serve UM students, specifically those you feel you can represent most?

Our time on ASUM Senate has given us many opportunities to represent, serve, and empower the student body and we are both very thankful for it. We believe that executive positions are the next necessary step to bolster our efforts to honorably represent and serve typically marginalized groups of students and bring diversity and equality to the forefront of the UM campus community. Additionally, as students in the Humanities and Sciences, we want to protect UM’s identity as public research institution and act as a bridge between the administration and the our diverse student body. We don’t want to just act as liaisons, but to truly unify the shared governance on our campus in these hard times, in order to overcome these struggles together as one united voice.

What are you hoping to accomplish if elected?

We have outlined four main areas of focus — based on student response — for our campaign: Diversity, Campus Safety, Sustainability, and Fiscal Responsibility.

As previously mentioned, diversity and uniqueness are currently overlooked areas of focus at UM, and we want to bring the celebration of difference and equality into the spotlight by creating student group coalitions and collaborating with groups across campus to host monthly forums and other events. We would like to create a more accessible bridge between the four branches of government on our campus (Faculty, Staff, Student, and Administration) that focus on these issues as well as others.

We would like to see Campus Safety Programs and services such as the mandatory bystander intervention trainings, PETSA, Beer Goggles, and GrizWalk expanded, remodeled, and reorganized to be more accessible, interesting, and useful for our students. We know that most students typically don’t view these mandatory exercises as fun or really as anything besides an extra requirement, and we want to change that mentality and create a campus intent on becoming a safer, healthier place for all people. We also want to see some of our older buildings made more accessible to people with disabilities, and improve the emergency lines on campus.

The University of Montana has the potential to be a national leader on the topic of sustainabil- ity, but we just aren’t capitalizing on it. While the other teams are also looking at this issue, we are confident that we are extremely qualified and inspired to make our campus more sustainable by expanding recycling programs, creating student-group coalitions to combat environmental dangers, re-prioritizing the distribution of resources, and keeping the sprinklers from spraying our sidewalks for six hours a day each summer.

Lastly, this year’s budget crisis was a disaster that we feel should never be allowed to happen again. Students now have a much greater stake than ever, as academics have been targeted for the first time in several years of cuts, and we want to be the ones representing the student body in front of the administration on this issue. We want to put informed student voices in the foreground when it comes to fiscal decisions that will impact the entire campus. This year, we had a short comment period for the response to the budget cuts, but that just was not enough to represent the student voice, nor did it impact sufficient changes in our minds. We want to collaborate with students, faculty, and staff to address the administration in more productive manners, and create a safer, less dramatically slashed budget for future years.
What group(s) of students do you feel you can most effectively represent?

Smith: As an Economics and Political Science double major, I care greatly about the humanities—amongst many others on campus. I am in a fraternity, a member of ASUM Senate, Club Sports, and care deeply about improving technological needs of all students. It is important to receive information and then disseminate it to the best of your ability; something Taylor McDermott and I have been able to hone this year.

McDermott: I’ve been involved all over campus at one point or another. Although I am currently a business student, I started in the humanities and minored in Spanish until last semester. I’m a member of ASUM Senate and Greek Life, and have also participated in different groups like the University Women’s Choir, the Women’s Resource Center, and Circus Club. I believe in the importance of all groups of students because of my diverse background. While I certainly know some groups better than others because I am more deeply entrenched in them, I don’t feel segregated from anyone on campus. To me, the most important part of being an ASUM Senator is remembering those students you don’t necessarily interact with meaningfully every day, and I believe that I have taken the time to be knowledgeable about a wide array of issues and topics on campus, and have the ability to thoughtfully consider how decisions will impact different groups.

What are you hoping to accomplish if elected? Explain the changes you’re going to make.

I believe that I am an extremely strong candidate for the Business Manager position, as my time on Senate has given me extensive insight into the workings of our financial processes and ASUM as a whole. I want to be the financial voice of ASUM in these extremely hard times for UM, as I know we will need to make extremely difficult decisions over the next fiscal year. Our agencies are in danger, and everyone from ASUM Child Care to the Kaimin are in need of more resources, and without fee increases we may be unable to fund everything as it has been these past few years. I would like to be the Business Manager when ASUM is making decisions that will alter the future of these organizations. ASUM needs strong, organized, and confident leaders at the head of the organization this next year, and I feel like I am the strongest candidate to lead, moderate, and direct these discussions.

Additionally, I would like to create more conversations with the Administration to ensure the financial security of our university as a whole, and I currently have a strong relationship with several administrators that I feel will be extremely beneficial tools from the position of Business Manager. I would like to develop, organize, and maintain discussions with the UM Administration on important student issues and how they relate to ASUM in an open forum (or equivalent) setting to ensure the stability and progress of our University.

As a side project, I am heavily involved in the UM General Education Committee, and I would like to continue my efforts to revitalize and simplify the General Education Requirements on our campus over the next few years. From the position of Business Manager, I would have an even more effective voice on the changes we want made to our curriculum, and my diligence and determination will pave their way if I am elected.

What group(s) of students do you feel you can most effectively represent?

I can effectively represent out-of-state students as I moved here from Virginia. I am a parent so I understand the needs of non-traditional students here at the University. I will also be able to represent graduate students, who are currently underrepresented within ASUM.

What are you hoping to accomplish if elected?

I intend to have a continuous open and honest dialogue with ASUM’s agencies and student groups. It is incredibly important to know each agency and student group’s intentions and needs in order to help them find the best avenues for achieving their goals. I also intend to be readily available to all students, regardless of affiliation or status.
**ASUM 2016-2017 SENATE CANDIDATES**

**CANDIDATE ANSWERS HAVE NOT BEEN ALTERED**

**Name:** Seth Barnes-Smith  
**Year and Major:** First Year Grad Student, Modern Language and Literature  
**Hometown:** Great Falls, Montana

What group(s) of students do you feel you can most effectively represent?  
Students from working-class families, students with a global multilingual perspective, student/work abroad students, students from rural families, married students

How will your role with ASUM help you to serve UM students, specifically those you feel you can represent most?  
I can act as an advocate for those students and work to learn how to better serve students from backgrounds different from my own.

**Name:** Stephanie Kolb  
**Year and Major:** Junior, Communication Studies  
**Hometown:** Laurel, Montana

What group(s) of students do you feel you can most effectively represent?  
The Greek community, communication students, freshmen and lower classmen, honors students, and smaller student groups such as Up ‘til dawn.

How will your role with ASUM help you to serve UM students, specifically those you feel you can represent most?  
Being a part of the ASUM Senate will give me the ability to be fully involved in the University of Montana campus. Stemming from my background in the Greek community and the Davidson Honors college, I will be able to express the needs and desires of the students that may feel underserved.

**Name:** Kaden Harrison  
**Year and Major:** Freshman, Pre-Engineering, Physics, Forestry  
**Hometown:** Santa Clarita, California

What group(s) of students do you feel you can most effectively represent?  
Throughout my entire life I have gone between living in Montana and California, this experience has given me insight on being both an in-state and out-of-state student. During my time here on campus I have had the pleasure of getting to know a wide range of students, seeing their various interests and concerns. I feel that these opportunities have given me the experience to understand and represent the students of the University of Montana.

How will your role with ASUM help you to serve UM students, specifically those you feel you can represent most?  
As an ASUM, I was able to vocalize the sentiments and experiences of students of the University. Between living in the dorms, being in various student groups, and speaking to students around the campus I could relay their concerns and questions back to my fellow Senators. By doing this we had engaging and productive conversations, thinking of ways to better advocate for the students we represent.

**Name:** Bailey Durnell  
**Year and Major:** Freshman, Political Science/Native American Studies

What group(s) of students do you feel you can most effectively represent?  
I believe that I can represent a broad spectrum of students because I am involved in aspects of campus life, as well as aspects of college life off campus. I know I will represent the Greek system and Panhellenic community. I am an ally of the LGBTQ+ community and am able to represent appropriately within those respects. I feel that I will represent students who balance a broad spectrum of activities, involvements and interests, who work and volunteer their time as well as balance school and demands within their majors and departments.

How will your role with ASUM help you to serve UM students, specifically those you feel you can represent most?  
I am a strong voice for what I am passionate for. When in comes to the LGBTQ+ community on campus, I will be a strong ally voice. I will be a strong voice for the Greek Community. In the past, I have worked heavily in combating discrimination in all its forms and I will continue to be a strong voice against it. I fully intend on broadening my interests within the next few years of college and am confident that I will be just as strong of a voice for the interests I will develop as the ones I already have.

**Name:** Stephen Pelletier  
**Year and Major:** Freshman, Biology, Secondary Education  
**Hometown:** Pocatello, Idaho

What group(s) of students do you feel you can most effectively represent?  
As a whole. I want to be more connected with the campus, and receive input from the students so I can directly express their concerns to the Senate that is there to represent them.

How will your role with ASUM help you to serve UM students, specifically those you feel you can represent most?  
As a senator I plan on serving in the Student Political Action Committee and the Marketing and Outreaching Committee. I have a passion for making sure students have their voices heard and are informed members of this community.

**Name:** Garret Morrill  
**Year and Major:** First year MBA Graduate Student  
**Hometown:** Great Falls, Montana

What group(s) of students do you feel you can most effectively represent?  
Having obtained my bachelor's degree in Biology from this university as a full-time student and now as an MBA graduate student, I believe I best represent the interests of the average full-time young-adult undergraduate students.

How will your role with ASUM help you to serve UM students, specifically those you feel you can represent most?  
As Senator I would be sure to review legislative proposals in depth, voice my concerns clearly and concisely to my fellow representatives, and ultimately create and guide new proposals that benefit our campus community through the process.
What group(s) of students do you feel you can most effectively represent?
Younger students who are concerned with sustainability and are involved in academics and recreational activities.

How will your role with ASUM help you to serve UM students, specifically those you feel you can represent most?
I feel that by participating in ASUM I can represent students on issues they care about. As a senator I would work to push topics that concern students.

What group(s) of students do you feel you can most effectively represent?
Veterans, non-traditional and ASUM Sport Club members.

How will your role with ASUM help you to serve UM students, specifically those you feel you can represent most?
I want to improve the education and extracurricular activity experience for all students, and especially the aforementioned groups, by listening and trying to further understand their wishes and concerns and making a strong effort to represent them.

What group(s) of students do you feel you can most effectively represent?
I believe I can most effectively represent students of color, self-supporting students, and students from low income families, students from out of state, and students studying Spanish/foreign languages.

How will your role with ASUM help you to serve UM students, specifically those you feel you can represent most?
I believe that being a part of ASUM will give me the opportunity to enact a University wide discussion about social justice issues as well as bridge the gap between BSU and ASUM campus.

What group(s) of students do you feel you can most effectively represent?
I firmly believe that my role with ASUM will benefit those who I strive to represent. I plan to be an active resource through which individual students, student groups, and community members as well as others can voice their comments, questions, and concerns about the University. As well as being a resource, I will attempt to promote diversity and acceptance on campus through advocating for various people and groups in my capacity as a senator.

What groups of students do you feel you can most effectively represent?
I think that I can represent a diverse group of students from the experiences that I have and am fully open to learning about and representing other groups more effectively. As an intern for the Women’s Resource Center I believe that I can be an advocate for women if elected to ASUM. I am also an ally of the LGBTQQIP2SA+ community and believe that through working closely with the community I can help represent them. As a person of color, I am aware of some of the issues surrounding diversity on campus and can work to create change for all minority groups. I am also a member of the Greek system and will be able to represent this community in a positive manner.

How will your role help you to serve UM students, specifically those you feel you can represent most?
ASUM is the most effective conduit for students to make their voices heard. Especially during a time when the University is in the midst of dire financial straits, ASUM’s Senators and Executives have worked tirelessly to preserve the quality services and education that UM offers students. I will maintain that line of communication. I intend to create a sustainable future for ASUM. I will work to ensure the solvency of the entire organization, and preserve our Childcare service. I will use my budgeting experience and what I’ve learned as a finance major to help engineer a strong and stable financial future for ASUM and the student groups that it funds.

ASUM 2016 Ballot Referendums

ASUM:
“The Associated Students of the University of Montana (ASUM) currently has a $61.35 Activity Fee it uses to fund its staff, operations, agencies, and student group activities. Some of the services supported by this fee are:
- Funding for almost 200 student groups with a total membership of more than 44% of the UM student body
- Affordable, high-quality child care that allows student parents to remain in school
- UM’s only transportation system via the UDash bus fleet and bike rentals
- UM Productions, a student-run productions agency that brings shows like Macklemore and Death Cab for Cutie to UM
- Tenant/landlord dispute resolution and reliable renter information through the Off-Campus Renter Center
- Student/faculty dispute resolution through mediation by the Student Resolution Officer
- Short-term loans to students in addition to research, travel, and professional development scholarships
- Political advocacy for students in the Montana State Legislature with a student lobbyist
- Affordable and comprehensive Legal Services to students, including everything from consultation to representation
- Sustainability grants that have funded almost 50 student-led energy efficiency projects through the KRELF fund
- The independent and student-run Montana Kaimin Newspaper and KBGA College Radio Station
These and other ASUM services are being more heavily utilized than ever before. ASUM proposes a $9.65 increase that is needed to maintain current services and directly attend to the immediate needs of UM students. Without this increase, ASUM will have to shut down at least one of its student-run agencies.

KBGA:
“KBGA College radio is a student funded service which has been experiencing cuts to vital operational funds due to low student enrollment. It currently uses its student fee to provide the students of the University of Montana with fresh programming, educational resources, recording studios, live music, news, and culture.
KBGA proposes a $1 dollar fee increase to maintain its current equipment, operations, and high quality programming.”