

THE MAGAZINE OF THE UNIVERSITY OF MONTANA | WINTER 2017

Montanan

THE TEACHING ISSUE

Lessons Learned
UM alumni excel at
molding young minds

Explore UM's
innovative approach
to teaching teachers

What Makes a Great Teacher?



WINTER 2017

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PUBLISHER

Mario Schulzke '02

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

John Heaney '02

DESIGNER

Eileen Chontos

PHOTO EDITOR

Todd Goodrich '88

EDITORIAL TEAM

Andrea Lewis
Breanna Roy '09
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CONTRIBUTING EDITOR

Allison Franz '07

INTERN

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ADVERTISING REPRESENTATIVE

Eric Elander '77
406-360-3321
elander@montana.com

EDITORIAL OFFICES

University Relations
214 Brantly Hall
University of Montana
Missoula, MT 59812-7642
406-243-2488

VOLUNTARY SUBSCRIPTION: \$15

WEBSITE: montanan.umt.edu

EMAIL: themontanan@umontana.edu

UM WEBSITE: www.umt.edu

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PHOTO BY TODD GOODRICH

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Anna Baldwin, Montana's Teacher of the Year in 2014, poses in her colorful classroom at Arlee High School. An English teacher at the small school on the Flathead Indian Reservation, Baldwin earned her master's and doctoral degrees in education at UM.

PHOTO BY TODD GOODRICH

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MONTANAN ONLINE:

Be sure to visit montanan.umt.edu for an extended Q&A with Tom Crady, UM's new enrollment guru; more photos; and exclusive online content.



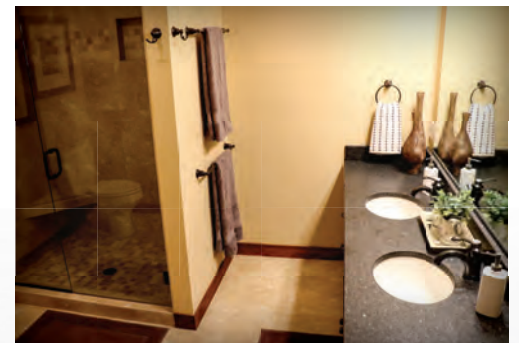
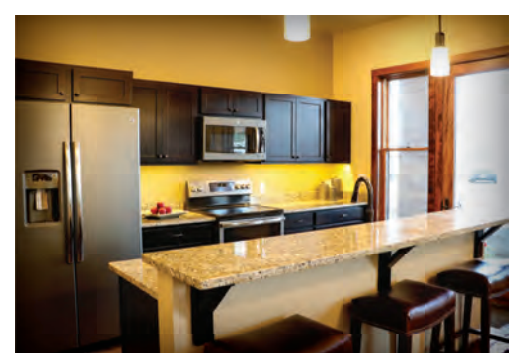
LIVE WORK PLAY

IN THE HEART OF MISSOULA

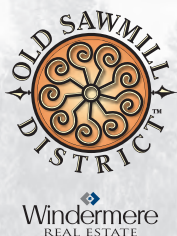
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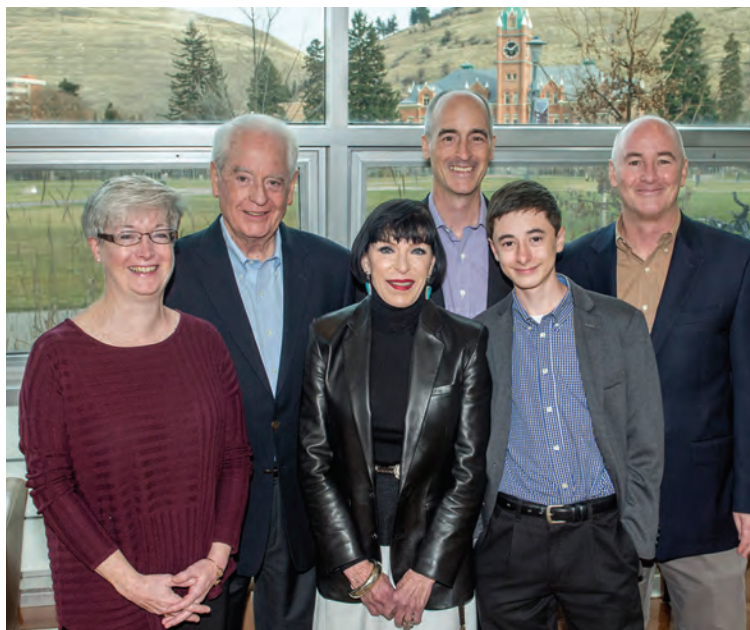


PHOTO BY TODD GOODRICH

For the past eight summers, a UM faculty member or alum has been invited to speak to a group of the Frankes' business partners during their annual Indigo Partners company retreat in Montana.

"As we became familiar with the educational opportunities, research and special programs at the University of Montana, it was clear to us the University is a hidden gem," Bill Franke says.

"It is our expectation that the College of Forestry and Conservation's work will help keep Montana the beautiful place that it is. And we are believers that the Global Leadership Initiative will train students to look beyond their own experiences and home geography to recognize that we live in a global economy."

Bill and Carolyn Franke and their family

The decision to invest in UM was a family endeavor involving Bill and Carolyn's five children: Dave, who oversees the family office, Franke and Company; Brian, a principal at Indigo Partners; Paige and Catherine, who are both educators; and Rebecca.

"Our family has been very fortunate in life," says Dave, noting that his father's education was a catalyst for the family's achievements. "To create that same opportunity for a student – to fuel a desire to create their own success – that's our ambition."

The Frankes' gift is focused on students and programs that emphasize environmental research and hands-on learning experiences. Eighteen million dollars of the gift will fuel education and research in the W.A. Franke College of Forestry and Conservation, providing competitive fellowship awards to faculty and graduate students, funding for undergraduates to learn about conservation through study abroad and service learning projects, and scholarships for both graduate and undergraduate students. It also will fund two faculty positions in forest conservation and watershed hydrology and support students doing internships related to their majors.

Six million dollars will fund scholarships for Franke Global Leadership Initiative students pursuing educational experiences outside of the classroom, including internships, service learning, study abroad, research and field experiences. Additionally, the gift will support critical staffing and operations to continue building the program. The Franke GLI is a four-year, 12-credit certificate program that provides students opportunities to explore society's most pressing questions by combining local and global practical experiences with classroom education.

"We have been very impressed by the UM students we have met," Carolyn Franke says. "I am confident that there are students and faculty at this University who will help improve lives."

The family has a strong history of philanthropy. They have long supported the Sojourner Center, a shelter for abused women and children in Phoenix; the United Way; education initiatives in India; and many other charities. The Frankes also have made donations to the law and business programs at Stanford University, where Bill received his bachelor's and law degrees, and to Northern Arizona University to establish the W.A. Franke College of Business.

Their gift to UM is in the form of an endowment, which will be fully funded in up to seven years, to ensure a continued impact on students and research in perpetuity.

THIS IS BIG

Largest single gift in UM history supports conservation, global leadership

On Nov. 18, the Montana University System Board of Regents approved the naming of the W.A. Franke College of Forestry and Conservation and the Franke Global Leadership Initiative in honor of Bill and Carolyn Franke and their family's transformative \$24 million gift to the University of Montana.

Directed toward UM's internationally recognized College of Forestry and Conservation and the Global Leadership Initiative, this is the largest single donation the University has ever received.

"We are both humbled and affirmed by the Frankes' thoughtful investment in UM," says former UM President Royce Engstrom. "The ongoing work of the College of Forestry and Conservation and Global Leadership Initiative will have a profound impact on our future."

The Franke family members are not UM alumni but have a deep appreciation for Montana. They believe strongly in the power of education, the importance of conservation and instilling a global perspective in today's students. During the past decade, the family has developed a strong relationship with UM.

Bill Franke is the managing partner and founder of Indigo Partners, a private equity firm focused on worldwide investments in air transportation, and former CEO of several public companies, including America West Airlines. During his early career in the timber industry, Bill drove Montana's Hi-Line and fell in love with Big Sky Country. He and his wife, Carolyn, divide time between Texas and Arizona but have owned a home near Bigfork since the 1990s, maintaining their connection to the beautiful forests, rivers and lakes of western Montana.

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THE PRESIDENT'S PERSPECTIVE

PHOTO BY TODD GOODRICH

GREETINGS FROM THE PRESIDENT'S OFFICE!

In January 1986, I was sitting in an office on the UM campus when I heard that the NASA space shuttle Challenger had exploded shortly after launch. Like all Americans, I was horrified. It was especially poignant because we all knew the flight was transporting Christa McAuliffe to teach millions of students worldwide from the heavens. And so she did, by example and by inspiration. As McAuliffe famously said before the flight, "I touch the future. I teach."

UM Interim President Sheila Stearns meets with members of the campus community during a coffee social in January.

Thirty-one years later, I am again sitting in an office on a wintry UM campus, thinking about the value of teaching our students and, indeed, the American Dream. My perspective about the value of teaching has only magnified over time. Now, as your interim UM president during this time of transition at my alma mater, I look forward to emphasizing our educational mission and the significant role teachers play in our society.

Our faculty are the beating heart of our mission. Professors who changed my life starting in 1964 are woven into my memory. Frau Gertrud Lackshewitz tutored me on German vocabulary. Philosopher Cynthia Schuster was fierce and demanding, but she became a mentor and ally. English instructor Larry Barsness read parts of my first English composition aloud to the class, with a touch of sarcasm. "I hope this writer will come see me in my office," he said. "She still writes like a high school kid, but she has potential." Historian K. Ross Toole inspired my master's degree research in academic freedom. Historian Robert Lindsay asked the toughest questions as I wrote my dissertation. These professors set high expectations and became beloved by their students.

Teachers and teaching changed my life. More significantly, they have changed the world in every century of human history. Cheers to our faculty and to all teachers – from preschool through graduate and professional schools. World-class teaching can be found throughout UM, as this issue of the Montanan highlights.

Lucky for me. Lucky for us.

We are the University of Montana!

Sheila Stearns, President

Notable & Quotable

► **UM's Creative Writing Program** celebrated **Bitterroot Salish tribal member, author and Professor Debra Maggie Earling** as its first Native American director since its founding in 1920. Earling, who teaches fiction at UM, has earned a Guggenheim Fellowship, and her novel "Perma Red" won the Western Writers Association Spur Award, WWA's Medicine Pipe Bearer Award for Best First Novel, a WILLA Literary Award and the American Book Award. She is the great-granddaughter of Paul Charlo, the last federally recognized chief of the Bitterroot Salish. "Missoula is a storied community, and the stories of the long-ago Salish who occupied this particular place remain here," Earling says. "This is Indian country and Bitterroot Salish traditional land. I am honored to be the first Native American director of one of the oldest writing programs in the country and privileged to welcome a new generation of storytellers."

► **Research is rocking at UM**, where for the second year in a row the University set a record for external funding. UM brought in **\$87 million** during the past fiscal year to support homegrown Montana research, entrepreneurship and statewide outreach, exceeding the previous year's record total of \$83 million. "We have a growing reputation as a research university with nationally and internationally renowned scientists," UM Vice President of Research and Creative Scholarship Scott Whittenburg says. "We couldn't be more excited about our current trajectory in funded research."

► **UM retirees can enjoy membership** in their own organization that focuses on programs and activities for former faculty, staff and administrators. In Spring 2011, a core group of UM retirees founded the **University of Montana Retirees' Association** to offer all retired faculty and staff opportunities to remain actively engaged with the University community. More than 200 retirees participate in activities such as biking, physical fitness groups, hikes, lectures and fine arts events. Visit <http://www.umt.edu/retirees/> for more information.

► **The Mansfield Library** recently completed a five-year project to digitize all pre-2007 UM theses and dissertations. As a result, the digital publication of all 10,700-plus UM graduate student theses, dissertations and professional papers published from 1899 to the present are now available in ScholarWorks (<http://scholarworks.umt.edu/etd/>), the open access repository service that showcases and preserves published and unpublished works by UM faculty, students and staff. This project helps the library preserve these research works for the future and makes them easily discoverable.



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A Change in Leadership

Stearns returns to lead campus as Engstrom steps down

Sheila Stearns was named interim president of UM on Dec. 1 after Montana Commissioner of Higher Education Clayton Christian announced Royce Engstrom would step down as president. A national search for the next UM president began immediately. Stearns assumed her role on Dec. 12 and will serve as interim president until the search is complete.

"On behalf of the Board of Regents and myself, I want to thank President Engstrom for his hard work and steadfast dedication to the University of Montana," Christian wrote in his email announcing the transition. "I speak for the Montana University System in extending deep gratitude to President and Mary Engstrom for their unwavering devotion these past six years to serving UM students, staff, faculty, all campus personnel, alumni and supporters, the greater UM community and the state of Montana."

"I offer my utmost respect to Royce and Mary Engstrom for their unfailing commitment to this University," Stearns says. "I consider both personal friends, and I wish them the very best in the future."

Stearns is no stranger to UM or higher education administration. A native of Glendive, she received three degrees from UM: a bachelor's in English and history in 1968, a master's in history in '69 and a doctorate in education administration and supervision in '83.

Stearns began her career in higher education administration at UM when she served as alumni director from 1983 to 1987, then as vice president for University Relations from 1987 to 1993. She was chancellor of UM-Western for the next six years, then president of Wayne State College in Nebraska from 1999 to 2003, and then Montana's longest-serving commissioner of higher education, holding the post from 2003 through 2012.

She is married to Hal Stearns, a retired Missoula public school teacher. Together they have two children and six grandchildren.

Engstrom came to UM in 2007 from the University of South Dakota to serve as provost and vice president for academic affairs. He was named president in 2010 after George Dennison's retirement. During Engstrom's tenure as president, UM brought in record-breaking research funding while also seeing three consecutive years of giving to UM that topped \$50 million. Shortly before his departure, UM received its largest single gift ever, a \$24 million donation from the W.A. Franke family.

It was Engstrom who made the decision to build the new Missoula College building on East Broadway and oversaw its progress from groundbreaking to near-completion. The \$32 million facility will open to students this fall. With Engstrom at the helm, UM hired more than a dozen new academic deans and program directors and filled more than a dozen Cabinet-level positions, many of which were vacated by retiring administrators. He also oversaw the creation of UM's unique Franke Global Leadership Initiative.



"I speak for the Montana University System in extending deep gratitude to President and Mary Engstrom for their unwavering devotion these past six years to serving UM students, staff, faculty, all campus personnel, alumni and supporters, the greater UM community and the state of Montana."

Royce Engstrom served as UM's president for just over six years.

The program is open to all incoming freshmen and includes special coursework that prepares students to address the world's most pressing problems through leadership, innovation and entrepreneurial thinking.

Engstrom led the University through a tumultuous time of scrutiny after the Department of Justice and the Department of Education launched investigations into the handling of reports of sexual assault by the University and the UM and Missoula police departments. Investigation findings resulted in extensive improvements at UM, including increased police officer training, mandatory education for employees and students, a rewritten Student Conduct Code and Student-Athlete Conduct Code, and the hiring of additional personnel within the UM Police Department. Today UM's training and education programs serve as a model for thousands of colleges and universities across the nation for preventing sexual violence and providing a safe and healthy learning environment.

UM's ongoing search for its new provost and vice president for academic affairs has been placed on hold pending the hiring of a new president. In the meantime, Interim Provost Beverly Edmond has agreed to extend the duration of her appointment to serve until the provost search is complete.

Shortly after announcing the change in leadership, Christian began assembling a committee to lead the search for the next president. The Montana University System also contracted with AGB Search, a national firm that conducts executive searches to fill leadership positions in higher education.

Jabour Earns Top Promotion

UM HISTORY PROFESSOR ANYA JABOUR was appointed the University's 11th Regents Professor during the Nov. 17 Board of Regents meeting in Missoula.

Regents Professor is the top rank awarded to faculty members in the Montana University System. Jabour's new title is Regents Professor of History.

"I am honored to be selected as UM's 11th Regents Professor," says Jabour. "I am grateful to my colleagues and students for supporting my nomination. This recognition is especially meaningful to me because the first Regents Professor, Paul Lauren, has been such an important mentor to me."

The title is bestowed on faculty members who demonstrate unusual excellence in instruction, scholarship and service, as well as distinctive impact through their work. The rank is awarded by the Board of Regents upon the recommendation of the University president.

Jabour, who specializes in U.S. women's history, has been a professor at UM for over 20 years. She's taught courses in the Department of History; the Women's, Gender and Sexuality Studies program; the Franke Global Leadership Initiative; and the MOLLI program.



UM Regents
Professor of History
Anya Jabour

PHOTO BY TODD GOODRICH

In addition to numerous articles and essays, she has written three books, "Marriage in the Early Republic," "Scarlett's Sisters" and "Topsy-Turvy." She also has edited two collections, "Major Problems in the History of American Families and Children" and "Family Values in the Old South."

She currently is working on a biography of educator and reformer Sophonisba Preston Breckinridge (1866-1948), for which she received a summer stipend from the National Endowment for the Humanities. She also serves as a historical consultant for the PBS Civil War-era miniseries "Mercy Street," which returned for its second season in late January.

UM Wildlife Biology Program Ranked No. 1 in U.S., Canada

For many years UM's Wildlife Biology Program has been heralded for its excellence. Now, that reputation has migrated across the continent.

The wildly successful program earned the top spot in a national analysis of places to study wildlife. UM's Wildlife Biology Program – which offers students unrivaled access to hands-on, outdoor learning opportunities – is the No. 1 program in the U.S. and Canada, according to Academic Analytics.



Kristina Gunderson,
a 2013 wildlife
biology graduate,
works in the field.

The ranking is based on faculty productivity. UM faculty members were compared to their peers in top programs in two countries based on publications, citations, research grants and notable awards.

"Our faculty members excel as scientists and educators," says Chad Bishop, UM Wildlife Biology Program director. "Our people are more productive scientists overall than others at peer institutions, even when some of those peer institutions are generating more grant dollars for research. That speaks volumes to me about the quality of work performed by our faculty."

The Wildlife Biology Program is an interdisciplinary group of faculty from the W.A. Franke College of Forestry and Conservation, the Division of Biological Sciences within the College of Humanities & Sciences, and the Montana Cooperative Wildlife Research Unit. The program

also has been recognized as one of three Programs of National Distinction at UM.

"I've talked to a number of people who have been on this campus for years," Bishop says, "and they believe this may be the first time a UM program has been ranked No. 1 by such a distinguished organization."

Academic Analytics is a provider of high-quality, custom business intelligence data and solutions for research universities in the United States and the United Kingdom. The Academic Analytics Database includes information on more than 270,000 faculty members associated with more than 9,000 doctorate programs and 10,000 departments at more than 385 universities in the United States and abroad. These data are structured to enable comparisons at a discipline-by-discipline level, as well as overall university performance.

PHOTO COURTESY OF UM W.A. FRANKE COLLEGE OF FORESTRY AND CONSERVATION

**THE
BOTTOM
LINE:**

\$200K:

Pledge from the Rapier Family Foundation toward Missoula College's Culinary Arts Program

800:

Applications submitted for 10 spots in UM's Family Medicine Residency of Western Montana

37:

Famed jersey number Malta native Tucker Schye will wear for Griz football next season



Five UM graduates recently were part of a team of artists

that won an Emmy Award for their work on the documentary film "Valley Uprising." The film tells the story of Yosemite National Park's counterculture rock-climbing revolution that spanned three generations and still influences the sport today. The team received the Emmy for Outstanding Graphic Design and Art Direction during the News and Documentary Awards this past fall in New York City. Lead Motion Designer and Art Director Barry Thompson pulled together the team of digital artists that included Sari Jones, Greg Twigg, Eric Bucy and Wesley Meeks. All five are graduates of UM's School of Media Arts, where Twigg also is an associate professor. The film's directors urged the team to "make the viewers' hands sweat and make them feel vertigo from the extreme heights," which was challenging because the era of climbing history that the film chronicles was not well-documented on video. Instead, the design team relied heavily on photography, bringing still imagery to life by immersing the audience in historic photographs and "flying" through the images. The result is more than an hour of stunning footage that takes viewers up Yosemite's steep vertical walls and places them alongside climbers. Watch a trailer of the film at <https://youtu.be/o86TpaSBcWw>.

UM alumni Greg Twigg, Sari Jones, Barry Thompson, Eric Bucy and Wesley Meeks, from left, with the Emmy they recently won

UM Alumna Lands Prestigious Marshall Scholarship

Rebecca Boslough, a 2014 UM graduate in resource conservation, won the prestigious Marshall Scholarship in November. The award offers graduate study opportunities at British universities to about 30 young Americans each year who will serve as cultural ambassadors and academic leaders in their chosen field of study.

Boslough intends to pursue a Master of Science degree in climate change and environmental policy at the University of Leeds, followed by a Master of Science degree in environmental and forest management at the University of Aberdeen.



"I can't believe I'm headed off to the U.K. in the fall," Boslough says. "This is an incredible opportunity – not only to study in top programs in environmental policy and forest sciences but also to engage with students, professors, scientists and policymakers in the U.K. about the challenges facing forest ecosystems and the communities that depend on them."

Boslough will engage with an international network of researchers at the Priestley International Climate Centre in Leeds on the importance of forest management to climate adaptation and mitigation.

Named in honor of former U.S. Secretary of State George Marshall, the scholarship was conceived to "commemorate the humane ideals of the Marshall Plan" and to "express the continuing gratitude of the British people to their American counterparts."

The selection process is managed by the regional Consulates General in Atlanta, Boston, Chicago, Houston, Los Angeles, New York City and San Francisco, as well as in Washington, D.C., by the British Embassy. Boslough interviewed in the San Francisco Consulate. The scholarship covers university fees, cost of living expenses, books, a thesis grant, research and daily travel grants, fares to and from the United States and, where applicable, a contribution toward the support of a dependent spouse.

"I've received so much support while at UM, during postgrad and throughout this application process," Boslough says. "My adviser, Laure Pengelly Drake, has been phenomenal, not only helping me to put together an authentic application, but to develop a clearer vision for my future."

Boslough is a 2010 graduate of Capital High School in Helena. She is the daughter of Elaine Samuel of Helena and James Boslough of Loveland, Colorado.

13: UM's spot on TopManagementDegrees.com's ranking of the top 50 most affordable Master of Business Administration programs

\$20M: Five-year grant received by UM and its partners from the National Institutes of Health to address health disparities facing Native American communities in Montana and Alaska

2: Zero-emission, fast-charging electric buses recently added to UM's fleet

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- \$100** – fleece zip-up.

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PHOTO BY TODD GOODRICH

Monte Heads to the NBA

Since the early 1990s, Monte has been the Montana Grizzlies' No. 1 fan, motorcycle riding and back-flipping his way into the heart of Griz Nation like no other mascot in the country.

If you recall, the Monte from 2002 to '05 starred in the National Basketball Association as the Chicago Bulls' beloved Benny the Bull for 12 years. Now a new Monte has turned pro, this time shedding the brown Griz fur to don the silver fur of Clutch, the Houston Rockets' bear.

"I want to thank everyone in Missoula and the state of Montana for showing me so much love over the years," says Monte, whose real identity remains a mystery. "I've had a blast working with everyone at the University, all the athletes and especially the fans. They are what make all the hard work bear-able."

Monte wants people to know that it's not all fun and games. It's an opportunity for a unique career.

"I grew up doing gymnastics and being an athlete before honing my skills at UM in front of Griz Nation," says Monte. "I never knew it could lead to a full-time career in professional sports. I hope there are future Montes out there who set their sights high as well."

Study: Grizzly Athletics Scores Big for Missoula Economy

What would it mean for the Missoula economy if Grizzly Athletics at UM never existed?

That question is answered in a recent report titled "The Economic Contribution of Grizzly Intercollegiate Athletics," which was prepared by UM's Bureau of Business and Economic Research. The full report is online at <http://www.bber.umt.edu>.

The study finds that the operation of Grizzly Athletics provides a significant economic boost to Missoula, resulting in a more prosperous local economy.

Using data from 2013 to 2015, study authors reveal that UM athletics recently earned \$22.9 million in annual revenue, with 79 paid employees and hundreds of student-athletes who receive support for tuition and living expenses. This activity reverberates across the Missoula economy, helping Grizzly Athletics produce:

- 1,384 permanent jobs spread across a wide spectrum of industries.
- \$120.8 million in gross sales annually for Missoula-area businesses and other providers of goods and services.
- \$52.8 million in annual earning, including wages, benefits and earnings of the self-employed.
- A Missoula population increase of 1,334 people.
- About \$2.5 million spending in Missoula by out-of-area attendees for each home football game.
- \$5.5 million spent on housing, food and other living expenses by 343 varsity athletes at UM.

"For the first time we are able to deliver this comprehensive assessment of what Grizzly Athletics means to the Missoula economy," said Patrick Barkey, BBER director and study co-author. "In terms of permanent jobs, income and business sales, this report clearly shows how the Missoula community reaps considerable economic gain."



UM JUNIOR ERIKA ACKERLUND topped the podium at the 2016 Women's Collegiate Triathlon National Championship in New Orleans this past November. Nearly 60 women participated in the event, consisting of a 400-meter swim, a 20-kilometer bike ride and a 5-kilometer run. Ackerlund, a Helena native, posted a winning time of 1 hour, 1 minute, 27 seconds. "My coach and I had talked over ways to win the race," she says, "but I was still shocked to actually cross the finish line first. It was my first time to ever break the tape at a race, and it is cool to be a part of the history of triathlon becoming an NCAA women's sport."

ACKERLUND PHOTO BY JULIE VERLINDEN, USA TRIATHLON

WANTED: YOUR OPINIONS

The Montanan welcomes letters to the editor. Please sign and include your graduating year or years of attendance, home address, and phone number or e-mail address.

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themontanan@umontana.edu.

Because of space limitations, we are not able to include all letters sent to us. Letters may be edited for length or clarity. While universities are places of discussion where people do not always agree, letters deemed potentially libelous or that malign a person or group will not be published. Opinions expressed in the Montanan do not necessarily reflect those of the University of Montana.

The Montanan would like to thank the following readers for recently donating to the magazine:

William and Nancy Ellison,
Joan Sipherd, Donald Ferron, Gayle Fuetsch, Raina Hollenbaugh, Jim Pierce, Douglas Grimm and Carol Fleharty.

'Odyssey of the Stars' Honors Jazz Artist Lance Boyd

UM'S COLLEGE OF VISUAL AND PERFORMING ARTS IS PROUD TO HONOR LANCE BOYD DURING ITS 17TH ANNUAL SCHOLARSHIP EVENT, "ODYSSEY OF THE STARS – A CELEBRATION OF ARTISTIC JOURNEYS."

The 2017 performance begins at 7:30 p.m. Saturday, March 4, in the George and Jane Dennison Theatre. "Odyssey of the Stars" pays tribute to UM performing and visual arts alumni and tells the story of their artistic journeys. While honoring Boyd, the event also showcases UM students and faculty members from the Schools of Art, Media Arts, Music, and Theatre & Dance.

Boyd, UM professor emeritus and former professor of music for 43 years, is an accomplished music educator, trombonist and jazz ambassador. A graduate of the University of Minnesota, he earned his Bachelor of Music Education degree, as well as his Master of Fine Arts degree, in trombone performance. While attending the University of Minnesota, Boyd studied with Larry Weinman and Steven Zellmer, who were the bass trombonist and principal trombonist, respectively, of the Minneapolis Symphony. Boyd then came to Montana as a UM graduate student and teaching assistant.

Boyd is largely responsible for putting jazz on the map in western Montana. In 1970, he took over the nascent jazz band at UM and laid the groundwork for the jazz program, which currently consists of four big bands, seven combos and a jazz degree with courses in improvisation, arranging, pedagogy and history. His creation, the Buddy DeFranco Jazz Festival, brings some of the greatest jazz musicians in the world to UM and provides tremendous entertainment to fans in Missoula, the state and beyond.

In addition, top UM Jazz Band students are given the chance to perform with these musicians – truly an opportunity of a lifetime. The festival brings nationally prominent clinicians to campus to work with high school jazz bands from around the region. Over the years, Boyd toured his jazz ensembles throughout Montana and the Northwest, bringing UM outreach to schools and communities.

Boyd served on a variety of University and department committees. He was highly regarded by administrators, faculty, staff and within the Missoula community. In 1998, he was awarded the Distinguished Faculty Member Award from UM's School of Fine Arts. In 2007, he was recognized with a Cultural Achievement Award from the Missoula Cultural Council for "outstanding contributions to the quality of life in Missoula," and in 2009 was named to the Missoula Blues and Jazz Society Hall of Fame.

Boyd inspired countless students throughout his service to UM. His low brass and jazz students have gone on to receive scholarships and teaching appointments at the most prestigious graduate programs and conservatories in the country, and hundreds of his students have professional careers as both performers and music educators. His legacy as a teacher and mentor will live on for generations, as his former students are teaching in universities, colleges and public schools around the United States.

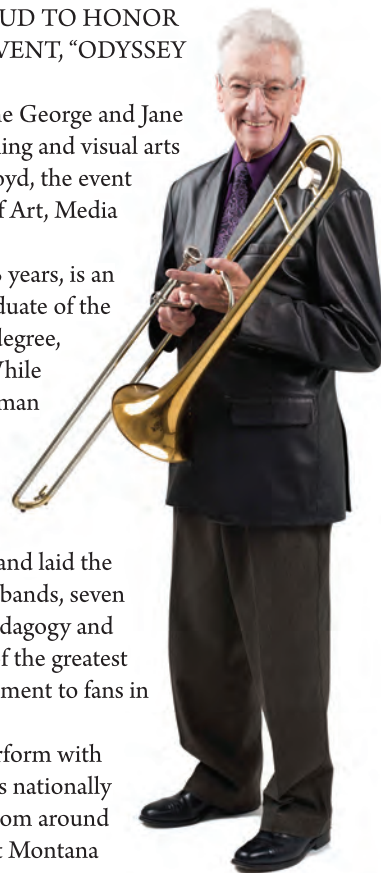


PHOTO BY ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR MATT HAMON, UM SCHOOL OF ART



WHERE'S YOUR GRIZ BEEN?

TONY LAUGHLIN M.ED. '89, and his son, Dan, a graduate of Montana State University, pose for a photo at the Western Wall in Jerusalem this past March. "I figured that if three major religions can pretty much coexist in Jerusalem, so can Cat and Griz fans," says **PATRICK LAUGHLIN M.A. '07**, the photographer and Dan's twin, who also earned an undergraduate degree at MSU. "We all thought it was funny and ironic, so we had to take the photo."

Congratulations, Laughlins! You have won a \$50 gift card for The Bookstore at UM.

Do you have a photo of yourself wearing Griz gear in an amazing place or while on an incredible adventure? If so, send it along with a brief description to themontanan@umontana.edu. Winners will see their photo published in the Montanan and will receive a \$50 gift card to The Bookstore at UM. To be considered, photos must be in focus with the UM or Griz logo clearly visible.

FACETIME:**TOM CRADY, UM VICE PRESIDENT FOR ENROLLMENT MANAGEMENT AND STUDENT AFFAIRS**

Tom Crady likes to fix things. A motorcycle enthusiast since the age of 14, he often takes apart engines to discover how they work. Throughout his career he also has examined and improved the inner workings of private colleges – enrollment and student affairs – for 35 years. Originally lured to Montana by the outdoors, Crady took a job at UM this past spring as vice president for enrollment management and student affairs. Staring straight in the face of enrollment decline, Crady brings new ideas, changes and an optimistic outlook to campus.



What drew you to UM? How did you end up here? Honestly, I wasn't looking for a job.

They called me out of the blue and said, "Would you be interested in applying for the job?" I fly-fish out here every year, and I have for 20 years with a group of friends from Grinnell and Dartmouth, and so I'm like, "Wow, it's Montana. Why not at least look at it?" What I noticed immediately was that there were some pretty big enrollment challenges with one of the cheapest costs in the United States. I couldn't figure out what was going on. And so, when I came out to look, I thought that there were some things that I could do to make a difference. So we've been sprinting since I arrived.

Speaking of that, what are the biggest challenges you've faced since you've been here? Well, enrollment obviously is down.

That is by far the biggest challenge that we face. So I quickly made some changes. We hired two additional staff members in the evaluations office, plus an administrative assistant. We created a new application and sent it out in paper form to nearly 40,000 people. We joined the Raise.me college program. And Raise.me is a micro-scholarship program that allows students beginning in ninth grade to get scholarships for grades. It's just the right thing to do. As a first-generation college student, this would have benefited me greatly. The other thing I did was cancel all the holds on campus, which was very important because students would come in before they even enrolled, and they would have seven to 10 holds on their registration. I just got rid of it.

When do you expect the enrollment situation to turn back around? Well, we'd

like to come out of the spiral this summer. And, as we begin to count enrollment for the fall, we'd like to stabilize enrollment and then hopefully increase the incoming class by 3 percent. And that is a low bar, let me tell you.

So people expect you to come in and fix things. How much pressure do you feel?

(Laughs) You know, I don't feel the pressure the way people think I feel the pressure. I'm doing the things that I think are right to try to get us to turn around and do it that way. You can't turn five years' enrollment decline around in a single year. We've got to try to do the best we can. But honestly, I don't feel a lot of pressure about it. It kind of sounds strange, but I don't. Ask me about a week before we release the numbers – I'll let you know.

You mentioned being a first-generation college student. Can you describe that?

Nobody in my family ever went to college before I did. And I was from Detroit. Interestingly enough, my dad and grandfather were both self-taught engineers. So I was the first one to go to college from my family. Not really a big deal, but a lot of students face that situation.

Do you think that has influenced your perspective?

Totally. Especially barriers that hit students. I mean, that's why the holds are like, "Oh my gosh, I've got to get rid of these." Because I put myself in that situation, and if you run into five holds, you're probably going to leave right off the bat. So I said, "Let's try to figure out how to make it more inviting." Actually try to incentivize it rather than make it negative – that if you get rid of your holds

early, then you can register another semester in advance. So that was helpful.

How will UM's presidential transition affect what you're trying to do? Good point. Well, we're not going to change any strategies because we're looking for a new president.

We're going to continue moving forward and moving forward quickly. So, I don't really have time to wait for anybody to say, "Hey, you should do this," or "you should do that." We're just doing it.

Why did you agree to accept this challenge in the first place?

I think there's a real opportunity here. And I think it's a really good, affordable school, and it's a great institution. It's got a great faculty, and I've always been a person who has liked to try to fix things. And that's been just part of my personality, but there's a lot that could be done that would benefit students here in a really positive way if we get it under control. So it's really for that reason primarily.

What would you consider a success for enrollment changes next fall? That we see solid growth in our applications. That we don't drop any further in admissions in the first-year class. So from my point of view, getting the long-term strategies into place

that make a difference and will be there for years to come. And I think we can do that. I'm

To read an extended interview with Crady, go to montanan.umn.edu.

pretty excited. We're getting there. We're moving quickly. We have a lot of work to do. We'll see how the year goes. But right now, I'm feeling pretty good about it.

–Interview by Courtney Brockman '17

Here's a look at 10 new books from authors with University of Montana connections.

Dick Cheney shot me in the face*

*And other tales of men in pain,
by Timothy O'Leary

DICK CHENEY SHOT ME IN THE FACE (AND OTHER TALES OF MEN IN PAIN)

By Timothy O'Leary

Unsolicited Press, 2017, 252 pages, **\$16.99**

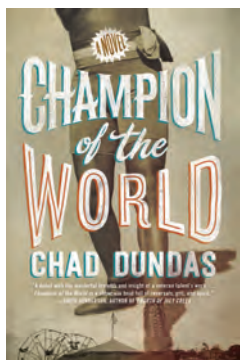
You've heard about the hunting incident where former Vice President Dick Cheney shot a man in the face. But what if that wasn't the only time it happened? In the title story of this irreverent, humorous and heartfelt collection from UM business graduate Timothy O'Leary, we meet Henry, who gets shot in the face by Cheney. It's not anger that overcomes Henry, but a sense of guilt for not warning the next victim. The story earned O'Leary, a former advertising executive who later earned his M.F.A., a finalist nod for the Mark Twain Award for Humor Writing.

CHAMPION OF THE WORLD

By Chad Dundas

Putnam/Penguin Random House, 2016, 474 pages, **\$27**

Sportswriter, journalist and Missoula native Chad Dundas' years of covering mixed martial arts and other ring sports for national news outlets laid a foundation for this historical novel about a wrestler struggling to make good in the tough arena of the American sport in 1921. Professional wrestling of that day was a serious, hard-nosed sport, and Dundas' character Pepper Van Dean and his wife, Moira, work at navigating its world. Dundas earned an M.F.A. in creative writing at UM and a bachelor's degree in journalism.



STORIES FROM AFIELD:

ADVENTURES WITH WILD THINGS IN WILD PLACES

By Bruce L. Smith

University of Nebraska Press, 2016, 194 pages, **\$18.95**

Bruce L. Smith's 30-year career as a wildlife manager and scientist brought him experiences with wildlife and wilderness that are the stuff of great storytelling. The stories in Smith's new collection tell the tales of nearly walking off a cliff while packing out an elk during a snowstorm, finally learning respect for lightning by being engulfed in an electrical charge on a high ridge, and surviving a helicopter crash only to realize he was stuck high on a mountain. Smith earned undergraduate and master's degrees in wildlife biology at UM.



MONTANA'S PIONEER NATURALIST:

MORTON J. ELROD

By George M. Dennison

University of Oklahoma Press, 2016, 280 pages, **\$26.95**

History credits Morton J. Elrod not only as instrumental in establishing the Department of Biology at UM, the Flathead Lake Biological Station, Glacier National Park and the National Bison Range but also as the naturalist and scientist who profoundly influenced the scholarly study of nature and brought it into the academic mainstream. Elrod moved to Missoula and joined UM's faculty in 1897, four years after the school's founding. Late former UM president and historian George Dennison spent countless hours in UM's Archives & Special Collections researching Elrod's papers.

SALVAGE

By Thomas Aslin

Lost Horse Press, 2016, 64 pages, **\$18**

Poet Thomas Aslin earned his M.F.A. in creative writing at UM, where he studied with Richard Hugo, William Kittredge and Madeline DeFrees. This is his second full-length collection of poems. Looking through the lenses of family, loss and landscape, he focuses on the rolling Palouse country on Washington's far eastern edge. Readers will come away with images of untended white lilacs sprawling along a fence and roadside crosses adorned with plastic flowers.



COYOTE AMERICA:

A NATURAL AND SUPERNATURAL HISTORY

By Dan Flores

Basic Books, 2016, 271 pages, **\$27.50**

Dan Flores' deep natural history of the coyote tells a story 5 million years long. Coyotes and humans have been at war ever since people started ranching and herding animals on the plains. The coyote continues to win. Flores explores both the enmity and the closeness between humans and coyotes, convincing his readers that the coyote isn't just a very successful dog – it is us. Historian Flores is the A.B. Hammond Professor Emeritus at UM.



HOPPING AHEAD OF CLIMATE CHANGE:

SNOWSHOE HARES, SCIENCE, AND SURVIVAL

By Sneed B. Collard III

Bucking Horse Books, distributed by Mountain Press Publishing Co., 2016, 64 pages, **\$18**

Prolific award-winning Missoula writer Sneed B. Collard III brings environmental science and climate change to young people ages 10 to 16 with this look at how the changing climate in Montana and the region

affects the lives of snowshoe hares. Grounding his story in the work of UM wildlife biologist L. Scott Mills, Collard explains that early snow melt catches hares still clad in seasonal white against a brown background. Will they adapt with time?

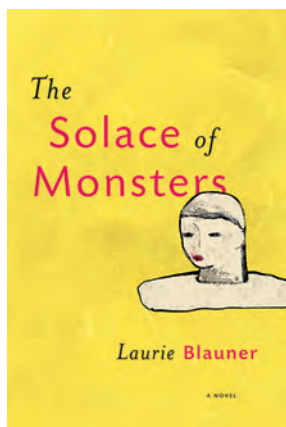


THE SOLACE OF MONSTERS

By Laurie Blaurer

Leapfrog Press, 2016, 188 pages, **\$15.95**

One reviewer called this new novel “its own weird and wonderful creation,” an apt description of a story about a daughter – stitched together from body pieces of her former self and others – created by a grieving scientist father. Laurie Blaurer uses the Frankenstein-like metaphor to look closely at creation, the consequences of ethical and emotional decisions, “natural” life and death. She earned an M.F.A. in creative writing at UM and is the author of three previous novels and seven books of poetry.

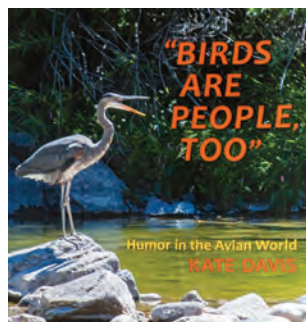


BIRDS ARE PEOPLE, TOO: HUMOR IN THE AVIAN WORLD

By Kate Davis

Mountain Press Publishing Co., 2016, 124 pages, **\$18**

Since she earned her zoology degree at UM, Kate Davis has built her reputation as a raptor specialist through her nonprofit Raptors of the Rockies. Those who know her also appreciate her sense of humor. Here, she applies it to birds in her photographs. For instance, with a photo of a robin: “Albert was just not a morning person, and by the time he got up, all the worms were gone.”



MORTAL FALL

By Christine Carbo

Atria Books, 2016, 403 pages, **\$16**

In her new crime and suspense novel, Christine Carbo uses her intimate knowledge of the terrain, animals and people of Glacier National Park as the setting for a story that unravels the death of a highly regarded wildlife biologist. Paul “Wolfie” Sedgewick’s fall from the cliffs above Going-to-the-Sun Road is suspicious from the start. Could it involve his controversial wolverine studies? Carbo earned a master’s degree in English and linguistics at UM.

If you are a UM alum with a recent book release, don't forget about your alma mater. To be considered for Bookshelf, you must send a copy of the book, along with any press materials and contact information, to: Montanan, University Relations, 214 Brantly Hall, Missoula, MT 59812. Submission of materials does not guarantee that your work will be featured.

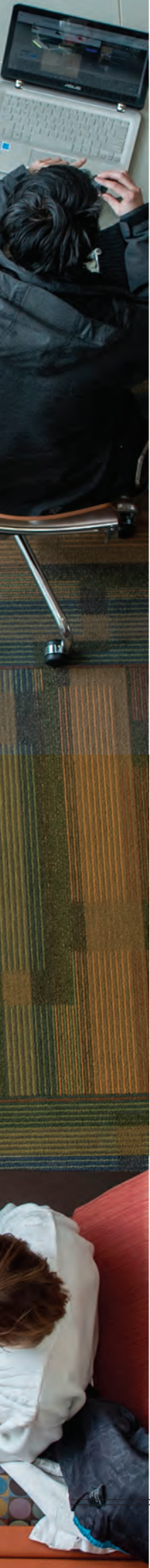
Ginny Merriam is a 1986 graduate of UM's School of Journalism.



SHAPING THE FUTURE

Roberta Evans, dean of UM's Phyllis J. Washington College of Education & Human Sciences, stands in the atrium of the college's Education Center. "I'm fortunate to work with passionate and brilliant people, and our students are outstanding," she says.

UM takes innovative approaches to prepare the teachers of tomorrow



BY ERIKA FREDRICKSON
PHOTOS BY TODD GOODRICH

Early in her teaching career, Roberta Evans coached high school speech and debate at Robert McQueen High School in Reno, Nevada, where she met a senior with exceptional talent for humorous interpretation.

“But he was a walking disaster,” says Evans, now dean of the Phyllis J. Washington College of Education & Human Sciences at the University of Montana. “He had papers jammed into a folder, and he appeared to me to be disorganized. I warned him that until that material is typed and presented in a folio, he was not boarding the bus to compete.”

As the team prepared to leave for the next meet, she noticed the boy was missing and asked his best friend where he was.

“He won’t want me to tell you this,” the friend told her, “but he’s living in a car with his uncle under the Wells Avenue overpass.”

“And that,” says Evans, “was a powerful epiphany regarding the true meaning of being a teacher. I realized the 10 billion biases I brought to work with me every single day.”

The lesson Evans learned that day is one she has carried with her to UM: Being a teacher is not just about pushing kids to meet standards, it’s about understanding how to empower individuals – all of whom are navigating the world in vastly different ways.

That view is essential to the college, but particularly vital for UM students pursuing careers in teaching prekindergarten through 12th grade. The profession has faced complicated issues, especially in the past decade. Teacher shortages due to low pay and poor working conditions, Evans says, are compounded by the failures of national reforms, with their narrow focus on testing mandates, and budget cuts in the arts, social studies, science and physical education.

Meanwhile, a grim and false national narrative ignores tremendously successful projects and partnerships happening in schools everywhere, especially Montana.

“The national narrative surrounding teachers has not been good for a long time,” says Adrea Lawrence, an associate professor and chair of UM’s Department of Teaching and Learning. “It’s done as much as anything to undermine the profession. But when I talk to my students and get to hear about their clinical work in different schools, it’s thrilling.”

UM’s clinical component allows students to spend more time in classrooms than many other education programs. In fact, Lawrence says, UM’s offerings for pre-K-12 education are much broader than a year ago, and include a new gifted program, robotics, an expansion of the International

Baccalaureate program, and grant-funded projects in STEM and the arts, among other new certifications.

It’s clear the leaders of UM’s education program are part of a national movement to strengthen curriculum and provide students with the best training to teach.

“I’m fortunate to work with passionate and brilliant people, and our students are outstanding,” Evans says. “The vision here is created by fabulous superstars in every content area across the college.”

The partnerships with UM and Missoula schools and the cutting-edge work done by professors are leading the way in preparing students not just to face the future, but to shape it in the best ways possible.

Teaching Superpowers

When Martin Horejsi first started teaching at UM in 2007, wireless technology on campus was thin. The Montana Digital Academy was just transitioning to a full-on virtual classroom, and professors experimented with online teaching programs. During the next few years, however, as social media and smartphone use exploded, new students arrived with increasing experience and expectations. UM needed to keep pace.

For Horejsi, who specializes in technology and education, it is an interesting problem to solve, one that extends beyond campus and into classrooms everywhere. How do you transform the layout using the latest technological tools? How do you take the technology students already use and efficiently incorporate it into their education?

“We’re trying to figure out how to maximize the potential of these powerful tools and still address new questions about security, privacy and compliance with federal regulations,” Horejsi says.

An associate professor in the Department of Teaching and Learning, Horejsi teaches technology courses and instructional design. He talks about the future of education with great excitement. The possibilities of interconnecting devices, for instance, could change how students collect data in a science lab.

One of Horejsi’s students is working with Missoula’s Hellgate Elementary on an iPad project. Initially, the school had turned off Siri, the digital assistant, so it wouldn’t distract students. As part of the project, Siri was switched back on to

study the ways in which information at their fingertips could, in fact, streamline learning.

"If I'm working on a science project and I need to add up a column of numbers, I could say, 'Hey, Siri, what is 10 plus 3 plus 9 plus 14 plus 82 plus 64, all divided by 3? And, boom!'" Horejsi says. "It tells me. What you wind up with is a much greater flow, the ability to have the students stay on the primary task. This isn't math class. They just need the answer to move forward."

Horejsi has seen the way digital technology in education failed early on, particularly when teachers tried to create digital classrooms with the same principles as face-to-face spaces.

"When you do that, you lose what digital does best and maximize what it does worst," he says.

His goal is to teach his students to be teachers who understand the latest technology and can be innovative with it, but at the same time be critical and understand when it's appropriate to use.

"Sometimes a pen and the back of an envelope are all you need to come up with an idea," Horejsi says. "And when that's no longer effective, you transition to another tool. Our students should come to the classroom fairly clear on that distinction, but also arrive with a powerful set of skills that gives them teaching superpowers to challenge themselves and empower their students."

No 'Sage on the Stage'

Scientists have learned a great deal about early childhood development from a study done in Romania after an 1989 overthrow of the country's repressive regime. At that point, almost 170,000 orphans languished in institutions, suffering mostly from lack of adult interaction and affection.

A recent analysis of the 13-year study gives programs like UM's Early Childhood Education newfound urgency.

"Those of us in the field have always realized and believed that the early years are extremely, extremely important," says Julie Bullard, a professor in UM's Department of Teaching and Learning. "But I think more recently the rest of the world is catching up in that belief."

UM offers an undergraduate major, minor and two online master's programs in early childhood education, which spans birth to age 8. In one master's class, students create "semi-extreme" makeovers of their classrooms and are taught to treat their spaces with a social anthropologist's eye. They observe how it functions and pinpoint what teachers and children value before planning the classroom.

One of Bullard's students, for example, used her coursework to design and open a brand-new early childhood facility in Missoula.

"In early education we're thinking of the whole child – social, emotional, physical, as well as academic," Bullard says. "So we want

them to be in wonderful environments where they will get everything they need to develop to their full capacity."

In a brainstorming session, Bullard and her colleagues came up with the idea of having student-teachers wear GoPro cameras to document their progress, with the lens turned toward the kids in the classroom.

In November, Bullard presented the idea at a national education conference in Los Angeles, and she and colleague Kate Brayko plan to write an article about the approach.

"We really value the teacher facilitating learning and not being the sage on the stage," Bullard says. "With the GoPro, the focus is on the learner rather than the teacher. The students can review the clips and see how the kids responded. It's a great self-reflection tool."

Students in early childhood education are taught to address real problems in the classroom, but the issues are much bigger. Studies show that infants and toddlers do best with caregivers who have a degree in the field, but wages are so low that qualified workers are difficult to retain.

"It's becoming a crisis, and people end up leaving their children in situations they don't feel good about," Bullard says.

Some state-level efforts are in the works to address this issue, and UM leads the charge. This semester, for instance, students in the advanced early childhood master's program can take a class on public policy and advocacy.

"I'm really excited to see what kind of projects come out of that," Bullard says. "It seems perfectly timed with the Legislature in session. One of the goals is that students come out of the program as advocates for early childhood education in the state and in the nation."

A Push for STEM

At Frenchtown Elementary, Brandon Wood is teaching his third-graders to make laptops out of pizza boxes. Not functional laptops, of course, but pretty believable replicas with a motherboard, battery, fan, keyboard and cords.

"That's been something the kids have been really excited about and taken to the next level," he says. "They can open it up and show their parents what's inside."

Wood is a graduate of UM's education program, where he learned about teaching robotics in a science methods course taught by Professor Lisa Blank. At Frenchtown, he started a robotics program with a team from the school's gifted and talented program, but the enthusiasm from all students encouraged him to form one specifically for girls and yet another in the after-school program.

All three are competing in this year's First Lego League, a competition that includes a robot mission and research project.

"Sometimes a pen and the back of an envelope are all you need to come up with an idea. And when that's no longer effective, you transition to another tool."



Raelynn Cameron, a master's student in early education, wears a GoPro camera while she works with Henry Hamilton, age 4, at her in-home family child care center in East Missoula.

“One team is working on how to alleviate pet boredom when you leave them for the day,” Wood says. “Another team is trying to alleviate animal crossing accidents.”

Robotics and computational thinking are highly valued skills in today’s job market. At UM, Blank is pushing to make computational thinking and associated skills – coding and programming – a central component for UM students looking to teach in the science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) fields. Currently, she collaborates with colleagues David Erickson, Yolanda Reimer and Tom Gallagher to offer a computer science teaching endorsement, which alleviates bottleneck issues such as a lack of teachers trained in programming.

To further help, Reimer and Blank recently received a National Science Foundation grant to develop a programming curriculum aimed at high schoolers. Blank also secured UM as the “Project Lead the Way” affiliate for Montana, which provides K-12 STEM curriculum pathways in computer science, engineering and biomedical science.

Another big push in STEM education is engaging young girls who often are implicitly and explicitly discouraged from science and math. In response to that longtime trend, Blank and UM colleagues Martha Robertson and Jessie Herbert implemented a middle school STEM career conference with the help of Washington Foundation funding.

Professor Lisa Blank shows off some of the technology available to students, such as 3-D printers, inside the FabLab at the Phyllis J. Washington Education Center.



“One of the goals with the conference is to bring in female role models because they make a significant difference in whether girls persist in STEM careers,” Blank says.

Similarly, STEM careers haven’t always been accessible to tribal communities. With NSF funding, Blank is working with spectrUM Discovery Area and SciNation to help build a mobile makerspace – an area for technological creation and tinkering – on the Flathead Indian Reservation, which will stay with the community after the grant expires. The makerspace will incorporate design thinking, spatial visualization, material science, laser cutting and 3-D printing, among other technology.

UM’s partnership with public schools and commitment to fostering STEM-capable teachers like Brandon Wood mean Montana students won’t be left behind, no matter what the future brings.

“I tell the kids at some point they’re going to be old enough to make educated decisions on this,” Wood says. “Even if they don’t go into

robotics, they’ll have to vote on these things and think ethically and deeply about what we’re doing with these robots.”

‘You Helping Me, Me Helping You’

Universal Design often is associated with architecture – a set of principles, such as flatter surfaces or wider doorways – that make a landscape accessible to everyone.

In the classroom, Universal Design Learning refers to teaching approaches that consider the individual and create an inclusive environment for everyone. Scott Hohnstein, an instructor in the Department of Teaching and Learning, teaches courses on exceptionalities and classroom management using UDL. Exceptionalities refer to the diverse array of abilities in the classroom. The largest group in this category is those with learning disabilities, but the term also covers gifted learners.

In the past, special education, like accessibility design for buildings, has been used as an approach because the “normal” or traditional ways don’t work. But with UDL, Hohnstein and his colleagues try to upend that misconception.

“I think of exceptionalities as an inclusive definition and not so much special education versus general education,” Hohnstein says. “How can ideas in special education inform education, in general, and how can we look at it more holistically and create an all-encompassing classroom?”


At the core of Hohnstein’s exceptionalities class is the investigation into why there is such a disproportionate number of students from ethnic minority groups placed in special education. His background working with diverse populations in Columbus, Ohio, and Taiwan opened his eyes to some of the prejudices people, and often teachers, bring to the table.

“In my classes, I’m trying to take a multicultural educational approach and encourage students to constantly think about how they can expand their sociocultural awareness, and in doing so, be very aware of our prejudicial thinking,” he says.

Hohnstein debunks the outdated theories that genetics or cultural inferiority are the driving forces behind the makeup of special education classrooms. Instead, he teaches them to consider factors of poverty and oppression, as well as cultural diversity. He teaches his students to represent information and engage their own class in multiple ways and create multiple means of expression by thinking about kids’ varying backgrounds.

“A student wouldn’t just have to write a paper,” Hohnstein says. “They might create a comic strip or a poem or a rap. It’s a way of differentiating the instruction.”

Like other teachers in the education college, Hohnstein embraces how technology can help further Universal Design Learning. That includes in his own classroom where, along with face-to-face learners, a few students from Flathead Valley and Blackfeet community colleges take his course via iPad robots. Distance is inevitable, Hohnstein says, whether it’s physical or in the way we learn.

“We can still maintain that core of what I think teaching has always been, which is creating a connection,” he says. “I believe that’s at the core of learning – it’s you helping me and me helping you.” 



Erika Fredrickson is the arts editor at the Missoula Independent. She graduated from UM’s Creative Writing Program in 1999 and received a master’s degree in environmental studies in 2009.



What Makes a Great Teacher?

We sought out some of UM's best and brightest to shed light on the topic

BY JOHN HEANEY

PHOTOS BY TODD GOODRICH



UM Regents Professor of Marketing Jakki Mohr sits in her office on the third floor of the Gallagher Business Building. Mohr has taught at UM since 1997.

CHRIS WRIGHT KNOWS FIRSTHAND THAT JAKKI MOHR IS AN INCREDIBLE TEACHER.

Mohr, a Regents Professor of Marketing in UM's School of Business Administration, is world-renowned for her "deep specialization in a very narrow field," as she puts it, regarding technology in marketing. In her 33 years as an educator, she's impacted thousands of students who've taken her classes at UM and across the globe – from Missoula to Finland to Uruguay.

Wright, however, isn't one of those thousands. The funny thing is, he didn't even take a class from her.

"Nope," Mohr says. "I never had him in class."

But that doesn't keep Wright from heaping praise on Mohr.

"She is one of the most passionate people I know," says Wright, a 2002 University of Montana marketing graduate. "She is a genuinely curious person – always searching for new information – and when faced with a challenge, she attacks it head on."

If one of the hallmarks of teaching is having a significant influence on people, relationships like this are proof that Mohr scores off the charts.

"This whole idea of creating a meaningful connection, it's what we all want in life," Mohr says. "I think students are hungry for that. They want somebody who knows them. Who sees them. That's what I try to do."

Cultivating Relationships

Wright, a product marketing manager at Google, where he's worked for 13 years, was introduced to Mohr through a friend a couple of years after he graduated. Mohr loves to have younger alumni in the field speak in her classes, and Wright definitely fit the bill.

"I seek out speakers who are intellectually curious, who share that same desire as me to look at things from different angles or play devil's advocate," Mohr says from the beautiful disaster that is her office on the third floor of the Gallagher Business Building. "Chris has that style. He's very irreverent and humorous. I mean, he's from Butte."

Wright speaks in Mohr's class about once a year. He's also presented to her classes in Uruguay, too, where she is on the faculty at ORT University in Montevideo. In fact, a few years ago, Mohr and Wright coordinated a tour of the Google campus in Silicon Valley for about 30 Uruguayan students and faculty members.

In working for Google, Wright provides a timely, pertinent perspective on issues Mohr feels her students should be exposed to.

"That speaks to my teaching philosophy," Mohr says. "Relevance and critical thinking are the underpinning."

Mohr teaches in what she calls a "flipped" classroom, where the students are in charge of creating the environment. At the beginning of her course, she'll give the students, for example, a list of 15 topics to

possibly cover: artificial intelligence, drones, virtual reality, etc. Then she puts the challenge on the students to analyze data and come up with a list of the five most important topics, and why.

"And then I go with that," Mohr says. "It's all based on how they analyze the data. Marketing increasingly is based on how we get data to determine strategy, so I try to weave that into all my classes."

Wright says that Mohr subscribes to the notion that each class is unique and may require a different approach.

"That is pretty awesome coming from someone who has been an educator for such a long period of time," he says. "Jakki is continually reinventing herself and her classes, and she always works on ways to impact students' lives."

"I've found that if you treat them like adults, they act like adults," Mohr says. "They rise to the occasion. I think they're

We asked faculty members for their input on what it takes to be great in the classroom. Answers appear wherever you see this book.



What inspires you to teach? The students in my classes who stump me with their questions, dazzle me with their insight and amaze me with their research. Every day I get to work with them is a good day.

– **Tobin Miller Shearer**,
Associate Professor, History;
African-American Studies Director



What are the two most important characteristics great teachers possess?

Passion and commitment to the students and subject. I think it's important to remember that teaching/learning is a dialogue rather than a monologue. Most of what I've learned about teaching has come from students and their passion for, and interest in, the written word and how it relates to and affects their lives.

– **Robert Stubblefield**, Lecturer,
Department of English



not expected enough to manage their own experience, and in my classes, it's their job. It prepares them for the real world."

If there's a lasting lesson outside the curriculum Mohr wants her students to learn, it's this: Be responsible.

"If you say you are going to do something, do what you say you're going to do," she says. "And don't do it half-assed. That's so important to me. Own what you're doing."



What is the most important characteristic both great teachers and great students possess? Curiosity.

That desire to know more is the best trait we can take into and out of our classrooms. It means we keep asking questions, keep revising ideas and keep reimagining the world around us. It also means that we're open to learning about our place and ourselves in the context of our disciplines and each other – so what can I learn not only about what I'm studying, but about myself in the process?

– Julie Biando Edwards,
Associate Professor, Ethnic Studies
Librarian & Diversity Coordinator,
Mansfield Library

Leading by Example

Some of the best teachers out there don't need a classroom. For Griz men's basketball head coach Travis DeCuire, his laboratory is Dahlberg Arena.

"For me, with basketball or with any sport or any coach, you are teaching all the time," says DeCuire, who's in his third year coaching the Griz. "On the court you're teaching concepts, how to work with others. Then off the court, you teach time management and social consciousness."

DeCuire, who graduated from UM in 1994, was a stellar point guard for the Griz. He set the school record for assists with 435. After graduating, he worked as a youth counselor in the Seattle area, then took a job as an assistant hoops coach at Mercer Island High School – his alma mater – for his old coach, the legendary Ed Pepple.

DeCuire moved up the ranks, learning from some of the best coaches in the nation. He worked for Blaine Taylor – his coach at UM – at Old Dominion, and another former Griz coach, Mike Montgomery, at Cal.

His coaching style is a blend of the three, but at the core of it all is teaching.

"What separates coaches like them is they are willing to teach," DeCuire says. "A lot of coaches win a lot of games because they have the best talent. My influences are great

coaches because they've had success at places that traditionally don't have the best players. Blaine has the highest winning percentage at (UM and ODU) because of his ability to teach – to take an average basketball player and turn him into an overachiever. He could take an average talent-wise team and win a championship. Mike has done the same thing, and Ed did that for a long time."

DeCuire knows that things in the classroom and on the court aren't the same as they were 25 years ago. There has been an evolution, and if it's embraced, success is imminent.

"It used to be where if you had 15 guys on a team or 30 students in a classroom, they had to adjust to that teacher's approach," DeCuire says. "In the classroom, I think it's still that way sometimes, but the way we've evolved as a society now, you have to adjust to the personality, the characteristics and the socioeconomic background of the student or player. If you're willing to do that, if you're willing to get to know your students, you can get more out of them."

"Then they become faucets more than drains."

DeCuire's philosophy has had immediate success at UM, as he recently became the second-fastest coach to reach 50 wins. The fastest? DeCuire's mentor, Blaine Taylor.

"I try to teach my players to compete

between these lines, but we demand they compete just as hard for the best grades possible. I honestly feel if they learn to compete in the classroom and they learn to compete on the floor, then they'll be able to compete in every aspect of their lives. If you do that, you'll be the best father you can be, the best brother, the best husband, or whatever roles you take on in life, you are going to try your hardest to be the best you can be because that's what you've been forced to do here.

"There's just so many things we communicate about in competition that carry over to later portions of your life. To me, this is as important as anything you're going to learn from a book."



What is the most important characteristic a great student possesses? A willingness to listen to others. This is so important in the fields of public administration and political science. We often are taught that politics create an us-versus-them mentality, but if students are willing to listen to all sides, then solutions can be formulated to tackle contemporary problems today and tomorrow.

– Sara Rinfret, Assistant Professor, Political Science

Travis DeCuire, a former star for the Montana Grizzlies, is in his third year coaching at his alma mater.



UM history Professor Harry Fritz has taught at UM for 50 years.

The Art of Humor

The last time I sat face-to-face with Professor Harry Fritz was 20 years ago.

An awkward freshman sitting in Fritz's tiny office in the Liberal Arts Building, I nervously watched him take a second look at the blue book exam I recently bombed. It was the first midterm in Montana History – admittedly, an aggressive class choice for a newbie – and the first test I had taken in college.

The big, red F I earned had me second-guessing my abilities as a student. Would I be better off in the military? I mean, I went to most classes, thought I took decent notes and skimmed the readings. What else could I have possibly done?

Fritz looked at a couple of pages and graciously bumped my grade to a D-minus.

He told me not to contact a recruiter just yet. He said he grades on improvement, and there were two more exams. But he also told me this isn't high school. Come to ALL classes. Take GREAT notes. Complete ALL the readings.

So I did. And lo and behold, I got an A on the next midterm, an A on the final and an A in the class.

Fast-forward two decades, again face-to-face with Professor Fritz, and I relate this anecdote. I can hear him chuckle while I talk. Foolishly thinking he'd respond with great awe or praise or offer some other feel-good words, I ask him his thoughts on my story.



Who is your favorite teacher?

I'd have to say my mom, Jean Colton, above all. I grew up in a military family that was constantly moving across the country and the globe. She researched every new assignment with such joy and curiosity that it made every move seem like a grand adventure. Looking back, I know how hard those transitions actually were, but she met the challenges by provoking me and my siblings to learn everything we could – and to share it.

– **Dennis Swibold**, Professor, School of Journalism

"I'm wondering what the hell was the problem with the first exam?" he asks in his booming voice.

Fritz, a UM alum himself, is teaching that same course this spring. It's his 50th year teaching on campus, and as he says, "undoubtedly my last."

The first class he taught was American History. It was 1967. Since then, he's taught a remarkable number of students. In fact, you'd be hard pressed to find a UM student who didn't take a class from him.

"Well, I had roughly 800 students per year for 50 years," he says with a smile.

Ultimately, Fritz says the job of a historian is to discover and disseminate knowledge.

"I discover knowledge by reading books," he says, "and I disseminate it by teaching as many students as I can."

Fritz also says part of his job is to spark an interest in history within his students. He lit a fire under Keith Edgerton.

Edgerton, who affectionately calls Fritz "Big H," is the chair of the history department at Montana State University-Billings. While many students only know Fritz from his lecture courses, Edgerton got to know him on a different level in smaller class settings and as his master's adviser.

"Big H has that manner about him where, when he walks into a room, he's the center of attention," says Edgerton, who earned his B.A. in '83 and his M.A. in '85, both from UM. "He commands your attention. He has all of this knowledge and is very well-read. He's passionate about what he teaches."


Fritz greatly influenced Edgerton's style of teaching, especially when it comes to spicing up a lecture with dashes of humor.

"He taught me that humor is an essential ingredient in human interaction," Edgerton says. "When you're in a class like American History, it can be dry. But if you weave in something funny, that's the way to do it. It's not one big joke, mind you. You're serious, but teaching can work well when lightheartedness is interjected."

He says Fritz is famous for this, and some of the jokes can be rather crude. This art is not lost while Fritz chats with me.

"So in the 50 years you've been on campus," I ask, "what's the biggest change you see in students?"

"People don't read books anymore, don't read magazines, don't read newspapers," Fritz says. "I mean the biggest difference between then and now is this (he mimics looking at a smartphone).

"The smartphone," he booms, "has become the leading hand-held operating device in the world, recently replacing the penis." 



John Heaney is the editor-in-chief of the *Montanan*. An Anaconda native, John graduated from UM in 2002 and took the helm of the *Montanan* in 2010. In between, he worked for the *Missoulian*, the *Spokesman-Review*, the *Coeur d'Alene Press* and the *Anaconda Leader*.

alumni profile

THE TEACHING ISSUE
OF THE MONTANAN IS PLEASED TO PRESENT THREE FEATURES, EACH SPOTLIGHTING AN AWARD-WINNING EDUCATOR WHO HONED THEIR SKILLS AS A STUDENT AT UM.



If You Can Read This, Thank a Teacher

From Arlee to Arizona
and beyond, UM-trained
teachers educate, inspire
and make a difference

BY CHAD DUNDAS PHOTOS BY TODD GOODRICH AND MARTHA LOCHERT



Kelly Elder, the 2017 Montana Teacher of the Year, teaches a social studies lesson at C.R. Anderson Middle School in Helena.

Someone to Remember

KELLY ELDER C.R. ANDERSON MIDDLE SCHOOL, HELENA, MONTANA

Kelly Elder doesn't remember a single one of his middle school teachers. That's significant, because Elder can give a fairly photographic recounting of the other educators who influenced his life – and there are many – from elementary school through his graduate studies at the University of Montana. It's also ironic, since the 2017 Montana Teacher of the Year currently teaches sixth-grade social studies at C.R. Anderson Middle School in Helena.

Like Elder (and the rest of us) at that age, the students in his classroom are experiencing such rapid physical and emotional growth that the journey from childhood to adolescence may ultimately crowd everything else out of their memories. On the other hand, Elder says, that extraordinary development is one reason the middle school years are so vital for young learners.

"I try every day to give it my best, but chances are quite good they're going to remember little or nothing about this part of their educational lives," he says, a rueful humor in his voice. "At the same time, there is no better time to give these students a good foundation for academic success. If we can help instill in them confidence, independence, organization and work ethic, those skills are just critically important."

Despite its challenges, Elder is perfectly suited to teach this age group. There's an easy warmth to him, a natural enthusiasm for whatever he's discussing that he balances with a genuine interest in whatever the other person has to say. It's plain to see how kids of any age would gravitate to him and consider him an adult they trust.

Elder came to C.R. Anderson after spending nearly a decade teaching high school in Lewistown, Montana. The much smaller Fergus High was a great situation for him, Elder says – a terrific institution backed by a supportive, involved community – but as he got older, the five-hour drive separating him from family and friends in Helena started to be too much. Ultimately, the decision to trade high school for middle school was about being closer to his childhood home.

Elder's family had moved from California to Montana's capital city in 1976, when he was in second grade. He went on to graduate from Capital High School and then earned a bachelor's degree in economics and a master's in political science, both from UM.

At first, Elder says he planned to use his college years to travel. He thought he would spend a year or two in Missoula and then sign up for a national student exchange program, transfer to some faraway locale and ultimately graduate from an out-of-state school. However, after spending some time at UM, he discovered he didn't need to do that.

"I was a Montana student who really wanted to get out and see the world," he says, "but when I look back on it, the thing that sticks out in my mind about the University was the incredible international flavor on campus. I had opportunities to hear from people from all around our globe about their perspectives, their lives and their experiences. I got a very culturally enriching experience, and I stayed right in Montana to do it."

In what would become a blueprint for the rest of his life, Elder got heavily involved at UM. He spent time as a resident assistant in the dorms and volunteered for the UM Advocates program in a number of capacities: working in the president's office, for alumni relations and with new student services.

For graduate school he was awarded a James Madison Fellowship, which required him to complete his final six credits at Georgetown University in Washington, D.C., but otherwise allowed him to attend any university in the country free of charge. In a telling move, Elder chose UM.

It was while working as an Advocate that he says he discovered his love for teaching. He'd always been a social person and now decided to translate those skills into trying to help others.

These days, Elder's résumé and schedule remain fairly dizzying. He is one of just 90 National Board Certified Teachers in Montana, and he's also serving as the state's Teacher of the Year.

In addition to his full-time duties in the classroom, he's the leader of C.R. Anderson's mountain biking club and is the associate director for the Montana Association of Student Councils. He also directed a student group running a holiday toy drive for Toys for Tots, a fundraiser

for the Montana Make-A-Wish Foundation, and a push to help students facing intense challenges during the holiday season.

It all adds up to a busy schedule that Elder admits sometimes leaves little time for anything else. Still, he contends he can unplug and find time away when he needs to recharge. As for hobbies, as if he needs them, he dabbles in photography and is learning Spanish.

"I have so many friends that, when they leave their jobs for the night, they're done," he says, "but when you're a teacher it's far more complicated than that. There is no start time and no end time, but I think the intrinsic rewards more than make up for that."

In the summer, Elder works for the U.S. Forest Service on the Helena National Forest. He began his career there while he was in college, working as a firefighter on a hotshot crew. In the past few years, he's moved off the fire line and begun work as an aircraft dispatcher,

controlling the comings and goings of fixed- and rotor-winged aircraft in the backcountry during fire season.

Perhaps the extracurricular activity that is closest to Elder's heart, however, is organizing trips for the students at C.R. Anderson. In the past, he's chaperoned students to places like Costa Rica, Guatemala, Japan, and Washington, D.C. They've snorkeled in "shark alley," gotten up close and personal with monkeys, spiders and snakes in the rainforest, and attended the inauguration of a

new American president. In April, Elder will lead a group of kids on their next expedition to Belize.

With these trips, Elder gives a new generation of students the opportunity he once craved as a younger person. He provides the chance to get out and see the world – to experience life and culture outside the borders of their home state and sometimes on the opposite side of the ocean.

"What's beautiful is when you can inspire students to push out of their comfort zones

and try something new," Elder explains.

"There's nothing better. When you see that success, wow, it's so fun. At the sixth-grade level I've got all these eager young people, and my job is to share with these Montana kids – heck, I'm a Montana kid – and get them excited to learn about other parts of the world and to see what's out there."

If he's lucky, perhaps one of those trips will give his students an experience they might, just maybe, remember for the rest of their lives.



Anna Baldwin, Montana's Teacher of the Year in 2014, teaches English at Arlee High School on the Flathead Indian Reservation.

‘Metaphors Be with You’

ANNA BALDWIN ARLEE HIGH SCHOOL, ARLEE, MONTANA

I don't have, like, a great story," says Anna Baldwin, as she begins explaining how a kid who grew up in Virginia never wanting to be a teacher became one of the most accomplished and influential educators in Montana.

Of course, she's just being humble. The story of Baldwin's career so far is actually pretty remarkable – doubly so, since it feels like she's just getting started.

As she tells her "not-great story," Baldwin is sitting in her classroom at Arlee High School, 30 miles north of Missoula on the Flathead Indian Reservation. She has taught English and history here for the past 14 years, and the room's eclectic décor speaks to that journey.

Album covers from her own collection line the walls near the ceiling: Prince, Guns n' Roses, The Clash, Violent Femmes. The flag of the Flathead Nation hangs in one corner. There are posters of Martin Luther King Jr., Nelson Mandela and quotes from Socrates and Mahatma Gandhi. There also is one attributed to The Borg – the cyborg villains from "Star Trek: The Next Generation" – and a picture of Jedi Grandmaster Yoda with a caption that reads: "Metaphors be with you."

Across the table from Baldwin, on a shelf next to her desk, is a framed photograph of her with former President Barack Obama. The picture was taken at the White House in May 2014, after Baldwin was named Montana Teacher of the Year.

So, not a great story?

Yeah, right.

Teacher of the Year is the highest honor available to educators in Montana public schools. The application process is notoriously exhaustive but also rewarding – forcing teachers to evaluate everything from overall teaching methods to individual lesson plans. The Montana Professional Teaching Association says the eventual winner "personifies the best in the teaching profession ... serve[s] as an ambassador for public education, and attend[s] numerous national events along with the other state teachers of the year."

They also get to meet the president.

"Going to the White House was probably one of the most exciting moments of my life," Baldwin says, "but in the larger scope of what we were doing that year, it was just one snippet of a much larger experience. I was thrust into a position where I had to really know myself and what I stood for as a teacher."

Before coming to Arlee, Baldwin spent four years teaching a bit farther north on Highway 93 at Two Eagle River School, the tribal alternative high school in Pablo. She also has taught English in Nicaragua and the Pacific Islands and as an adjunct at UM.

In 2011, she was recognized as the Arlee School Staff Member of the Year and won the Distinguished Educator Award from the Montana Association of Teachers of English Language Arts. In 2012, she earned national recognition from the Southern Poverty Law Center for Excellence in Culturally Responsive Teaching.

Now, in addition to her full-time schedule in Arlee, she teaches an online Native American studies class she designed for the Montana Digital Academy. She's

also a Teaching Ambassador Fellow for the Department of Education, acting as a liaison between policymakers in Washington, D.C., and teachers on the ground to ensure everyone stays up to date on education policies and their ramifications.

A week before she sits down to tell her own story, Baldwin facilitated a roundtable in Polson for teachers and administrators from four Montana reservation districts. The next day, she flew to San Jose, California, to accompany Secretary of Education John King on some school visits she organized.

"Honestly, it kind of never stops," says Jerry Baldwin, Anna's husband, a ceramic artist who studied fine art at UM. "She'll come home and we'll have dinner, and the next thing you know it'll be 10 o'clock and she's still working and hasn't even changed out of her work clothes. Next thing, I'll find her asleep in a chair in front of her laptop."

Anna Baldwin admits it's all made for a busy and different life than she once imagined for herself. Early on she had no interest in teaching.

"I can remember distinctly in high school sitting in back of the room, listening to my classmates say really mean and rude things about the teacher," she says. "I thought, 'I would never be a teacher, that sounds awful.'"

She started to change her mind while working toward an undergraduate degree in

English literature at Georgetown University. For three years she volunteered with the D.C. Schools Project, serving as a tutor in an English-as-a-second-language classroom at Bell Multicultural High School. Baldwin enjoyed it so much she began to consider teaching as a career.

After moving west in 1995, she earned a pair of UM graduate degrees – a master's in English teaching and a doctorate of education in curriculum and instruction. Now she lives within walking distance from Arlee High, where total enrollment is around 130 students and the student body is 70 percent Native American.

On this day, Baldwin leads a

dozen students in a lesson about Harper Lee's iconic novel "To Kill a Mockingbird." The students sit in groups of three or four at circular tables, with their matching, school-issued laptops open in front of them.

Baldwin is energetic and friendly, accessible to the students but also a taskmaster, cruising around the room in a pair of red leopard-print clogs. Near the end of the period, each group presents a short skit from a scene in the book.

They stand in front of a makeshift green screen made from several enormous pieces of paper taped to the wall. Baldwin films them with her iPad, using an app that allows her to superimpose the students on digital

backgrounds – a schoolroom and a house that both look like they've been plucked out of the South during the Great Depression. In this way, she is literally able to put the students in the book they are reading.

It's a good lesson. It gets the kids out of their seats and forces them to engage with Lee's writing in a way they might not get from their own reading. It's fun and has just enough technological bells and whistles to keep a room full of teenagers focused on the task at hand.

"She's a really good teacher," says Tyler Adams, a senior wearing western jeans and a saucer-sized belt buckle proclaiming him a high school rodeo champion. "She really knows what she's talking about. She's really helpful."

Adams says he'll graduate early this year and will enroll at Missoula College, where he'll study heavy machinery. Despite the fact Baldwin may not think her journey from Virginia to Montana makes for a great story, he and the rest of her students seem pretty glad it ended with her here.

While unexpected, Baldwin seems happy with that outcome, too.

"I just feel like the best part about working with young people is getting to know them and watching them grow," she says. "I often say these are great kids, and they're going to be great adults. I can't wait to talk to them when they're 23 or 25 or 30."

The World is Your Stage

ART ALMQUIST TUCSON MAGNET HIGH SCHOOL, TUCSON, ARIZONA

When Art Almquist arrived at Tucson Magnet High School during the fall of 1996, the theater program was in dire need of resurrection.

Almquist had been contacted about the school's opening for a drama teacher the previous semester, while he was still in Missoula finishing up graduate school at UM. It took several months before he could officially accept the position and make the 1,300-mile move south.



Art Almquist teaches a drama class at Tucson Magnet High School in Tucson, Arizona.

When he got there, he discovered the department he was about to take over had fallen on hard times.

"The program was really in disarray," Almquist says. "The theater was a mess. The curtains were torn. There was no technical booth. So I just went into fundraising overdrive – and the more people started hearing about the program, the more kids started coming."

Fast-forward two decades and Almquist's drama program at Tucson Magnet is one of the premier high school theater troupes in Arizona, if not the nation. His stage productions are regarded among the crown jewels of Tucson's huge public arts and sciences high school, which boasts a 32-acre campus and enrollment of around 3,300.

Almquist now is one of three drama teachers in the thriving program. He estimates around 130 students each year take his beginning acting classes. Of those, roughly 80 continue on into intermediate drama, and by the time they are upperclassmen, 40 to 50 take part in the advanced-level acting, film acting and musical theater classes.

At the moment, the school just wrapped its fall production of "Too Fast," a play by contemporary Scottish playwright Douglas Maxwell. Like most of Almquist's productions, it played to packed houses. Almquist says it's not unusual for people to come from all over the state to attend, gladly paying the \$10 admission fee because they know the quality will be on par with a professional production they might pay five times as much to see.

The program's stunning success has brought Almquist national recognition. In 2013, he was named People Magazine's Readers' Choice Teacher of the Year after winning a nationwide online vote in a landslide. This year, he also garnered the Reba R. Robertson Award, an honor given annually by the Children's Theater Foundation of America to one of the nation's top high school drama teachers.

So, what's his secret?

"The biggest thing is getting the kids to believe in themselves," Almquist says. "That sounds a little cheesy, but it really is about that. To get up on stage and create anything that has any meaning you have to be willing to be vulnerable. You have to be willing to take that risk."

Much of the work still draws on the fundamentals Almquist learned while earning an M.F.A. in acting and an M.A. in performance theory and criticism at UM. He came to Montana in 1992 after studying theater, education and English at Vassar College in Poughkeepsie, New York, and spending a few years teaching at a small boarding school in Connecticut.

As an Arizona native, Almquist says he fell in love with Missoula and the UM theater program after visiting the campus. As a student, he learned the building blocks of storytelling and honed his craft as an actor, improv comedian and director.

"The quality of the education was just fantastic, and I loved the people I worked with," Almquist says. "It wasn't just about acting, it

was about becoming a better person and getting to the depth of the material you were working with. I learned how art is influenced by culture and society and the responsibility we have as artists. The experience was without peer."

It didn't hurt that while studying at UM, Art met Amy Lehmann, M.F.A. '95, while she was finishing her own graduate degree in directing. The two took classes together and ultimately fell in love while traveling the state with the comedy troupe they started together. They were married soon after moving to Tucson, where Lehmann now directs local theater productions (sometimes starring her husband) and trains attorneys to use acting and improvisational skills in the courtroom.

After relocating to Arizona, one of the first students Almquist welcomed to his resurgent drama program was Julian Martinez. Martinez attended Tucson Magnet from 1996 to 2000, and, after years of working as a professional actor, in 2016 joined the faculty as the school's newest drama teacher.

When he thinks back on his own school days, Martinez admits he wouldn't be where he is today without Almquist.


"My original impressions of him were, not only was he a very approachable teacher, but he was someone I could use as a role model," Martinez says. "Without having him as a person to emulate and look up to, I think I probably would've gone a different

direction – and probably not too good of a direction – when I was in high school."

Martinez says Almquist has attained legend status among theater instructors in Arizona, but you'd never know it from his down-to-earth demeanor. Going from student to peer has been amazing for Martinez, though he admits being the rookie drama teacher at Tucson Magnet comes with enormously big shoes to fill.

For Almquist, having Martinez on staff provides the opportunity to reflect on his career to this point. More pragmatically, it also offers Tucson Magnet the chance to double its lineup of stellar theater events from two shows each year to four, as Martinez gets his feet wet directing productions of his own.

That means more parts available for students and more opportunities for the community to see the work being done in the drama department at Tucson Magnet. Almquist says that ties back to one of the most important lessons he learned while at UM.

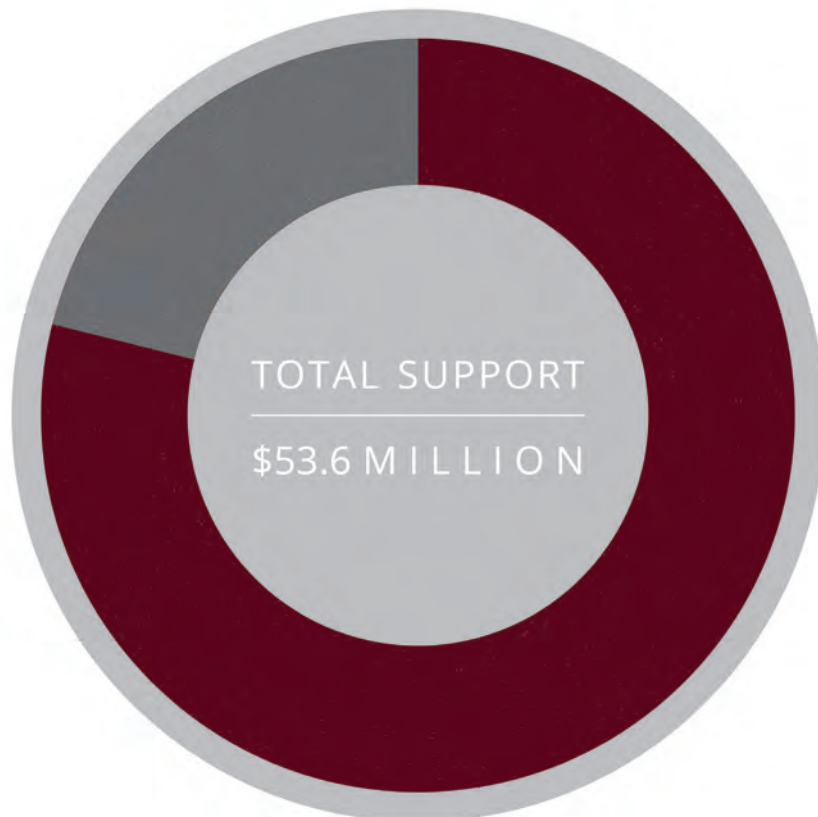
"Every kid has a story that is unique and interesting," he says. "Every kid has a story worthy of being told." 



Chad Dundas holds a B.A. in journalism and M.F.A. in creative writing, both from UM. His first novel, "Champion of the World," was published by GP Putnam's Sons in July 2016. He works as a fiction writer and freelance journalist and lives with his wife and children in Missoula.



FISCAL YEAR 2016 IMPACT REPORT

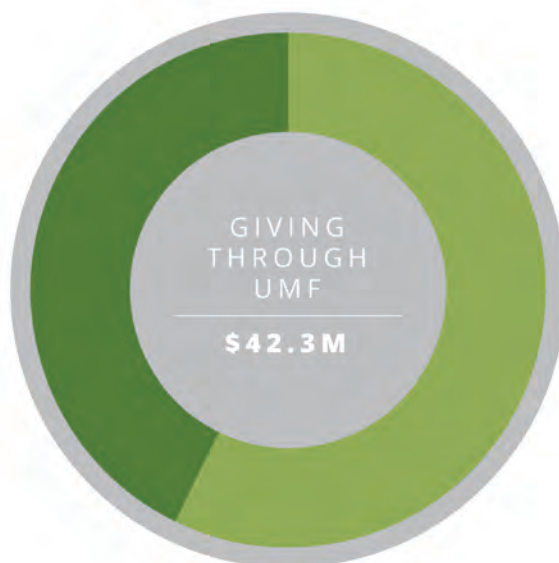


- GIVING THROUGH THE UM FOUNDATION // **\$42.3M**
- GIVING THROUGH PRIVATE GRANTS TO UM // **\$11.3M**

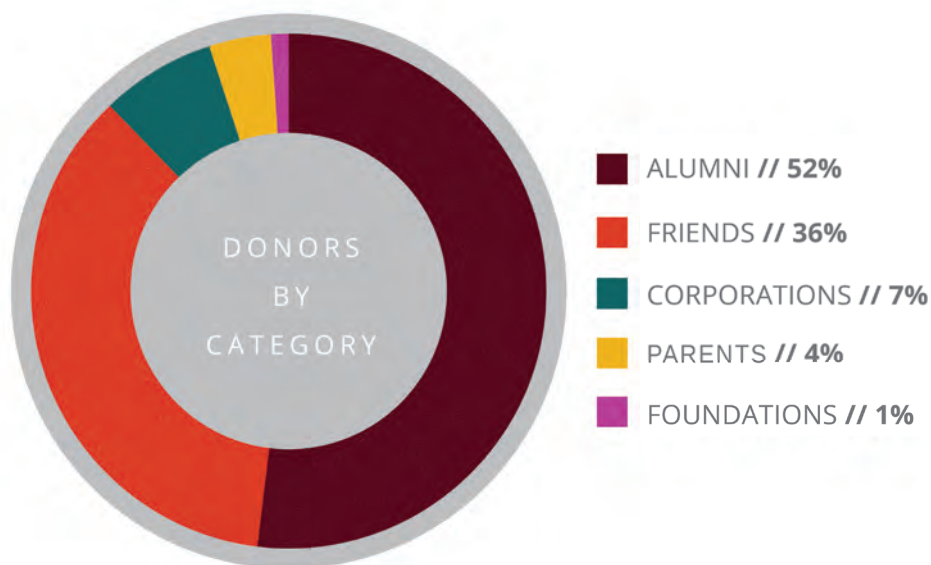
13,971 gave **\$53.6**
DONORS **MILLION**

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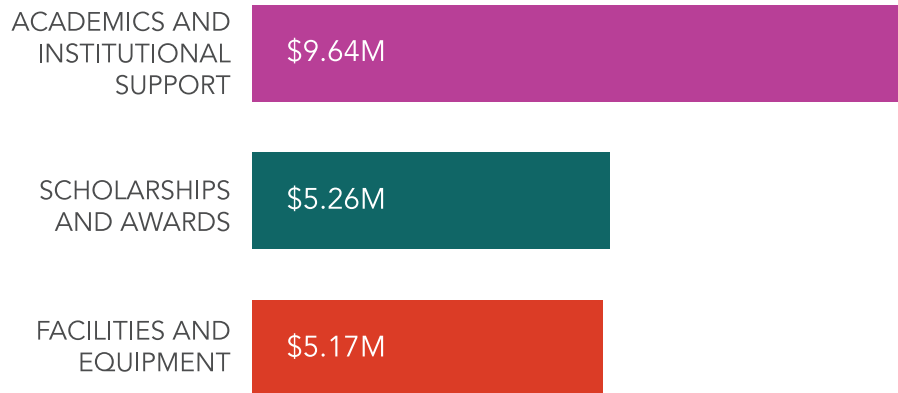
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MILLION

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MILLION

FISCAL YEAR END
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*Endowment [defined]: Gifts that are invested in perpetuity in order to produce income, which is then used to support a designated fund.

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Linguist and cultural preservationist

DARYL BALDWIN '96, M.A. '99, Oxford, Ohio, earned a 2016 MacArthur Foundation fellowship, commonly known as a "genius grant," to help further his work to restore the linguistic, cultural and intellectual heritage of the Myaamia (Miami) Nation to its present-day descendants. He and 22 other Fellows will receive \$625,000 in grants for their exceptional creativity and potential future contributions to their fields.

Daryl, who earned a bachelor's degree in wildlife biology and master's degree in English from UM, is a member of the Miami Tribe of Oklahoma. Starting in 1991, he used historical documentation and other resources to teach himself and his family the Myaamia language, which lost its last known native speaker in the 1960s. He now is the director of the Myaamia Center at Miami University in Ohio, which supports research on the reclamation and preservation of the Myaamia language, as well as other aspects of the tribal nation's culture, including harvesting and ethnobotany practices and its traditional lunar calendar. The center, which Daryl helped start in 2001, also assists in the development of tribal education and uses technology to make learning materials widely available to the Myaamia people, whose 5,000 descendants are now scattered across the country after their forced removal from their homeland in the Great Lakes region in the 19th century.

"Our language and culture are central to our identity as Myaamia people," Daryl says. "Our work to revitalize these important aspects of our being over the past two decades has had a significant impact on our ability to recover important cultural knowledge and strengthen communal bonds."

Daryl, who still is sorting out options and logistics on exactly how he will use the no-strings-attached "genius grant," says he was surprised when the MacArthur Foundation called with the news.

"It's a very surreal experience, especially because I had no idea it was coming," he says. "My first reaction was, 'Is this a joke?' Afterward, it started to sink in, and I felt very humbled that others would think so much of our work and efforts to revitalize our language. It's hard to put my reaction into words."

Baldwin holds a pakitahaakani, a traditional Myaamia lacrosse stick.

1950s

CHARLIE ZADARA '51, M.Ed. '62, and his wife, **NANCY** Ed.D. '98, Missoula, sit on the bench Charlie's children dedicated to him in honor of his 96th birthday in July. A native Montanan who mainly grew up in Missoula, he served as a pilot in World War II and then returned to UM to earn his bachelor's degree in education. A decade later, while teaching full-time and helping raise five children, he earned his master's degree in education at UM. "He has



always been an ardent supporter of all things UM and has been a donor on various causes throughout the years," writes his daughter, Barbara.

BILL "DOC" REYNOLDS '52, Missoula, and his wife, Joanne, celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary in October. The couple has lived in Missoula since 1963, when Bill established his internal medicine practice. The couple has three children and five grandchildren. **KEITH PETERSON** '56, Phoenix, who founded The Sports Medicine Clinic in 1962, recently was inducted into the Bishop Blanchet High School Sports Hall of Fame in Seattle. This award reflects Keith's 34 years of volunteer work for the school, plus his role in establishing a placement system for athletic trainers, physical therapists and other medical support for all sporting



Keep Us Posted. Send your news to the University of Montana Alumni Association, Brantly Hall, Missoula, MT 59812. Go to www.grizalum.com and click on "Submit a Class Note," email alumni@umontana.edu, or call 1-877-UM-ALUMS (877-862-5867). Material in this issue reached our office by Nov. 16, 2016.

Note: The year immediately following an alum's name indicates either an undergraduate degree year or attendance at UM. Graduate degrees from UM are indicated by initials.

Whenever you change your mailing address, please contact the alumni office. Thank you.

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MAY 11-13, 2017

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We invite the classes of **1967, 1957 and 1947** to return to campus to renew friendships and reminisce.

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We look forward to helping you celebrate your landmark **50th, 60th and 70th** years, sharing your memories of the past and to creating new memories of your time on our beautiful campus.

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Mark your calendar for these 2017 ALUMNI EVENTS!

JANUARY

- 7-17 Alumni Travel: Baja & the Riviera
- 9-18 Alumni Travel: Discover Patagonia Bringing the U to You Lecture Series Great Falls
- 31 Pre-play social in Butte for Montana Rep's "Barefoot in the Park"

FEBRUARY

- 3-4 100th Foresters' Ball and Reunion
- 7 Pre-play social in Billings for Montana Rep's "Barefoot in the Park"
- 7, 14, 21, 28 Community Lecture Series (six consecutive Tuesdays evenings)
- 16 Charter Day Celebration
Bringing the U to You Lecture Series Great Falls
- 26 Alumni gathering, Palm Desert, Calif.

MARCH

- 7, 14 Community Lecture Series
- 8-19 Alumni Travel: Tanzania Migration Safari
- 18-26 Alumni Travel: Discover Costa Rica

APRIL

- 7-23 Alumni Travel: Outrageous Outback
- 20 Alumni gathering in Billings
- 21-22 UMAA Board of Directors meeting, Billings

MAY

- 3 Griz Gradfest, Library Mall
- 11-13 Montana Treasures Reunion at Commencement
- 15-24 Alumni Travel: Salute to Spain

JUNE

- 3-12 Alumni Travel: Southern Culture & Civil War

JULY

- 27 Flathead alumni gathering in Big Fork

AUGUST

- 12-23 Alumni Travel: Regal Routes of Northern Europe

SEPTEMBER

- 30-Oct. 10 Alumni Travel: Coastlines & Capitals of Canada & New England

OCTOBER

- 8-14 Homecoming
- 13 Distinguished Alumni Awards
- 27- Nov. 7 Alumni Travel: Adriatic Rhapsody

NOVEMBER

- 18 117th Brawl of the Wild, Bozeman; Griz/Cat watch parties, nationwide



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events. Keith's sons **CHRIS** '87 and Jon are physicians in family practice and sports medicine. His son Erik retired from PepsiCo and now owns a deli in Portland, Ore., and daughter **JULIE** '90 lives in Missoula. The family all enjoy their Seeley Lake cabin.

1960s

FRED OLNESS '66, Olympia, Wash., and his wife, Judy, spent 10 days on a cultural exchange in Cuba in October. During the exchange, they met with people in a variety of settings, including a sugar mill, senior center, schools and a basket factory. While visiting Cienfuegos, they enjoyed a performance by the Cantores de Cienfuegos choir, whose members had previously performed at UM. "As we often heard on our trip, this is a country 'frozen in time,'" Fred writes. "The cars from the '50s, the poverty, socialism and the friendly, hospitable people made the trip very interesting and worthwhile. We were among the first from the U.S., and as conditions improve, I'm sure this country will become a more popular destination for tourism and commerce."

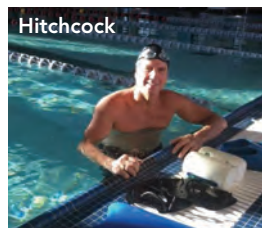
1970s

JOSEPH F. SHEVLIN '70, '74, Helena, retired from Junkermier, Clark, Campanella, Stevens P.C. after a 42-year career in public accounting. Joe was active in the Montana Society of Certified Public Accountants and received its George D. Anderson Distinguished Service Award in 2002. He and his wife, Cherie, strongly believe in supporting higher education and have established permanent endowments at UM

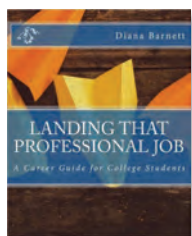


and other institutions in Montana. They're pictured here with their nine grandchildren sporting Grizzly attire.

ROB HITCHCOCK '71, Simi Valley, Calif., retired after a career with Farmers Insurance and now enjoys a more relaxed pace of community work, as well as coaching and swimming with the Simi Valley Manta Ray Masters Swim Club.

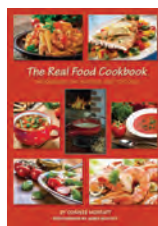


DIANA BARNETT '72, M.Ed. '90, Grand Junction, Colo., self-published a book, "Landing That Professional Job: A Career Guide for College Students," based on her work as a career counselor at Colorado Mesa University. The book was featured in the Business Times and is available on Amazon.



CONNIE DALEY DUNCAN MOFFATT '74, Grand Junction, Colo., published "The Real Food

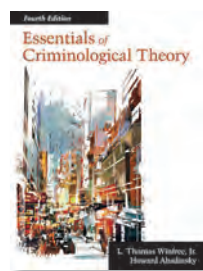
Cookbook: The Organic and Natural Way to Cook," which provides simple and easy ways to prepare nutritious dishes every day. "While organic, natural and free-range foods may sometimes be more expensive, whole foods are more satisfying than processed foods that often contain nutritionally empty calories," Connee writes. "Thus, you can often get by with purchasing less." The book is available on Amazon.



DANIEL 'DANA' MORTON '76, Cotopaxi, Colo., recently retired in Denver after a career spanning nearly four decades in the office products industry. Dana credits his UM political science and history degree, as well as the unique communication and organizational skills developed in UM's Round River Experiment Program, for his ability to be a key player in a rapidly developing global distribution and services industry.

TOM WINFREE Ph.D. '76, Los Lunas, N.M., published his 16th book, "Essentials of

Criminological Theory," in 2016. Tom retired in 2014 after a teaching and research career that spanned four decades. He is an emeritus professor of criminal justice at New Mexico State University in Las Cruces. Tom continues to research and write about youth gangs and delinquency from an international perspective and writes textbooks on a wide range of criminal justice and criminology topics.



1980s

BILL CRASPER '80, Cheyenne, Wyo., is the president of the National Association of State Foresters. Wyoming's state forester since 2003, Bill has decades of experience with wildfire issues, community forestry, forest stewardship and other issues important to America's trees and forests. His priority for his yearlong term as president is to promote ways state foresters can work with all entities to improve forest management across federal, state and private lands.

JAYNE R. PIAZZA '80, Missoula, published "Fish Line Rhymes (one read and you'll be hooked!)," a collection of "fishy" reimagined nursery rhymes paired with glitzy



Bill Yenne, third from left, receives the Air Force Association's Gill Robb Wilson Award for the "most outstanding contribution in the field of arts and letters." He is accompanied by, left to right, Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. David Goldfein, Secretary of the Air Force Deborah Lee James and AFA Chairman Scott Van Cleef.

The U.S. Air Force chose best-selling author **BILL YENNE** '71, San Francisco, to receive the 2016 Gill Robb Wilson Award, the service's highest honor recognizing the "most outstanding contribution in the field of arts and letters." Bill is described as an author "whose works have shaped how thousands of Americans understand and appreciate air power." Established in 1948, previous recipients of the Gill Robb Wilson Award include Joseph and Stewart Alsop, Walter Lippman, Bob Considine, Rowland Evans Jr. and Robert D. Novak, Ted Koppel, Tom Clancy, Tom Brokaw and Gary Sinise.

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illustrations. An award-winning artist, Jayne has exhibited professionally for more than 30 years. Her work has been featured on album covers, on reality TV, in numerous one-person shows and exhibits across the country, and in several private and corporate collections.

DR. TIMOTHY BROWNE '81, Missoula, published his first novel in September. "Maya Hope" is a medical thriller that tells the story of an orthopedic surgeon searching for answers to his friend's murder in Guatemala. Timothy leaned on his experiences as an orthopedic surgeon in Missoula and as a medical missionary in Central and South America, Ukraine, Asia and Sierra Leone while writing "Maya Hope." He lives in western Montana with his wife, **JULIE** '81, who, along with their three sons, served with him in the mission field.

RON GILLET '81, Chandler, Ariz., was honored by Hugh O'Brian Youth Leadership-Arizona for his 30 years of service to the organization, which provides leadership training, service-learning and motivation-building programs for youth.



MARK DUNTEMANN '82, Chicago, was named a True Professional of Arboriculture by the International Society of Arboriculture in September. The program honors arborists and tree care professionals for their positive impact on the industry in and around their communities. As owner of Natural Path Urban Forestry Consultants, he develops tree risk-management policies for clients and has been an expert witness in more than 40 tree-related injury and fatality cases. He's also passionate about protecting trans-generational trees and historic species.

LISA L. HUNTER '83, Cincinnati, is a professor of otolaryngology at the University of Cincinnati and is the scientific director of audiology at Cincinnati Children's Hospital. She teaches in the Doctor of Audiology

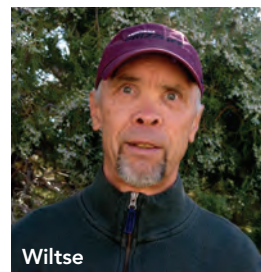
KELLY ROSENLEAF '82, Missoula, celebrated her 20th anniversary as the executive director of Child Care Resources, a Missoula nonprofit that helps parents find and pay for child care and offers professional development and support for the child care workforce. During Kelly's tenure, Child Care Resources' Best Beginnings Child Care Scholarship program has grown to fund \$3.5 million in scholarships annually, serving 750 families per month in the greater Missoula area. In addition, HOPA Mountain recently awarded Kelly its Citizen Leadership Award for her work to improve early childhood education throughout her tenure as executive director of CCR. HOPA Mountain invests in rural and tribal citizen leaders in the Northern Rockies who are working to improve education, ecological health and economic development in their hometowns.



program and researches technology that allows newborns to be diagnosed with hearing loss more accurately.

ERIC WILTSE M.A. '83, Laramie, Wyo., retired after teaching journalism for 26 years at the University of Wyoming. "Attending graduate school at the University of Montana

was huge for my career," Eric writes. "Professors Richard Hugo and William Kittredge helped me develop as a writer, while my work-study job as a sports feature writer gave me a start in journalism."



A.J. KING '85, Kalispell, is president of Three Rivers Bank and was re-elected to the Independent Community Bankers of America Federal Delegate Board. In addition to helping shape and advocate for ICBA's national policy positions and programs, King's duties include being a liaison between independent community bankers in Montana and ICBA staff and leadership



in Washington, D.C. He also works to recruit new members to ICBA.

BRUCE SPENCER '87, Helena, was installed as the president of the State Bar of Montana in September. Bruce, whose practice emphasizes governmental relations, creditors' rights and commercial, automotive, insurance and health care law, was first elected to the State Bar's board of trustees in 2007.

MICHAEL AARON J.D. '88, Tucson, Ariz., was appointed as chair of the Executive Council of the Family Law Section for the State Bar of Arizona. He also is the president of the Arizona Chapter of Family and Conciliation Courts and was named to the board of directors for the Pima County Bar Association. He's married to **ELIZABETH E. ROGERS** J.D. '88.

MARK B. HAMILTON M.F.A. '89, Dunedin, Fla., published his chapbook, "100 Miles of Heat," which features poetry based on his 1,000-mile journey rowing down the Ohio River, the first leg in traveling the entire Lewis and Clark Trail as the explorers did, by paddle and pack mule. "100 Miles of Heat" is a selection of poems from a book-length manuscript



GWEN MARSHALL '87, Oilmont, served 23 years in the U.S. Army as a specialist in nuclear, biological, chemical and radiological technology. She was stationed in numerous locations across the U.S., Panama, Korea, Western Sahara, Iraq and Kuwait, eventually attaining the rank of lieutenant colonel. While serving in the military, Gwen co-wrote and self-published two books: one with her parents, "Step-by-Step Guide to Restoring Spring Wagons," and another with her grandmother, "Homesteading on the Dry Fork of the Marias River." She drove her restored three-seat stagecoach, led by her Percheron horses, in the 2016 UM Homecoming Parade.

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LETTER FROM THE INTERIM DIRECTOR

A LOOK AHEAD

Hello to all my fellow alumni! I'm thrilled to join such a wonderful circle of new and old friends who rally around the University of Montana, supporting the ideals of excellence in higher education.

It is such an honor to join the Alumni Relations and Alumni Association team. Bill Johnston, our former alumni director who retired in September, built a solid foundation of friendships and working relationships with so many of you. I look forward to

continuing the tradition of strong engagement with all of our alumni.

I'm also excited to return to my home state. I was born and raised on a cattle ranch in the Big Hole Valley. After attending grades one through eight at a one-room country school, I graduated from Anaconda Senior High School. I enrolled at UM, completing my bachelor's degree in sociology with an emphasis in criminology, before enjoying a successful career in business, leading teams and organizations in the U.S. and Canada.

I feel strong gratitude to UM for the excellent education I received here. From critical and creative thinking to formulating and standing behind my convictions, my UM education established a pattern of leadership that has motivated me to drive innovative change and growth. I will forever be proud to say I am an alumna of UM.

Though I hadn't lived in the state for several years, my connection to UM has not faded. For the past nine years, I have been a trustee on the UM Foundation board of directors, serving as a member of the Governance Committee and as treasurer and chair of the strategic planning process. I also serve on the Advisory Board for the College of Humanities and Sciences. And, while not alumni themselves, my husband, Paul, and two grown sons, Chad and Matthew, are big fans of the University as well.

I would like to take this opportunity to extend a special thank you to all of our alumni who support the University in some way, whether it's through membership in the Alumni Association, volunteerism, donating to scholarship funds or simply boasting about the wonderful education and experiences you enjoyed at UM. As we strive to move forward with increased innovative offerings for alumni to enjoy, please know we are always looking for your feedback, suggestions and advice! Go Griz!

Sincerely,

Karen Kracher Dykstra '78

Interim Director, Alumni Relations

Interim President and CEO, UM Alumni Association



titled "OYO," which was a semifinalist for the 2015 Washington Prize.

1990s

STEVE SIMON '90, Redmond, Wash., was selected as the fiscal year 2016 Dell-Microsoft Team

Extra Mile Award Winner for his efforts to drive the Dell Office 365 program. "Dell would not have seen the success achieved with Office 365 without all of your hard work, never-ending dedication, tenacity, attention to detail, creative problem-solving, clear communication and partnership," the award announcement stated.

STEVE MYERS '93, Longmont, Colo., is the founder of the Great Plains Trail Alliance, which aims to establish a

cross-country trail through the Great Plains region, akin to the Appalachian, Continental Divide and Pacific Crest national trails. The organization currently is working on connecting existing trails to form a through-hiking route that would start in Canada's Grasslands National Park, run through Montana, North Dakota, South Dakota, Nebraska, Colorado and New Mexico, before ending in Guadalupe National Park in Texas. Once completed,

the trail will pass through three national parks, three national monuments, 10 national forests/grasslands, five state high points and 15 state parks. "The Great Plains is simply underrated," Myers told the Longmont Times-Call. "(The region) is surprising in its diversity. There are mountains, hills, bluffs, canyons, ancient volcanoes, buttes, rivers, forests, badlands, open spaces, prairies and deserts."

ROB GANNON '94, M.P.A. '08, Seattle, was selected as general manager of King County Metro Transit, the nation's 10th largest transit service, after serving as its interim GM for more than a year. He previously oversaw budget and labor relations at UM.

PAUL CALLAHAN M.S. '95, Denver, was promoted to the principal level of leadership for Burns & McDonnell. Representing less than 3.5 percent of the firm's population, principals are selected for outstanding performance, future leadership potential and technical excellence. As regional manager of the firm's Environmental



Studies and Permitting Group in Denver, Paul leads a team focused on environmental compliance and permitting for complex energy, transportation, mining and water development projects throughout the western U.S.

KATHLEEN ORES WALSH '97, Bloomington, Ill., was named Country Financial's national auto director. She is responsible for developing and executing a strategy that encourages the company's long-term growth and profitability in personal auto. Kathleen also is a member of the American Academy of Actuaries and a Fellow of the Casualty Actuarial Society.

WILLIAM BROCKMEYER '99, New York City, joined PBJS New York as creative director. PBJS is an experiential agency



Last summer, **JAIME ADAMS '99**, Bulverde, Texas, hiked 240 miles of the John Muir Trail in Northern California, summiting Mount Whitney on Aug. 18. During the hike, which raised more than \$5,600 for the Angels All Around You Military Ministry, Jaime traversed seven mountain passes, resulting in a total elevation gain of 46,700 feet.

Downtown Missoula: Connects Us All

Downtown Missoula: Positive Changes for Future Grizzlies

If you haven't been to Downtown Missoula in many years, you will find it looking vastly different than it did twenty years ago. In another five years, it will change even more. Over \$564 million dollars of investment is coming to Downtown Missoula with projects such as the 488-bed East Front Street Student Housing project, a new Missoula Public Library, the Riverfront Triangle mixed-use development project, and the six-story Stockman Bank building. With this brings more folks living, working, and visiting Downtown. In turn, Downtown Missoula will continue to prosper and grow.

As Downtown Missoula sees positive changes, the Downtown Missoula Partnership (DMP) – comprised of the Missoula Downtown Association, the Business Improvement District, and the Missoula Downtown Foundation – will continue to dedicate itself to promoting, supporting, and enhancing the vitality of Downtown Missoula. Through this mission, alongside the investments happening in Downtown, the DMP strives every day to create a place for current and future Grizzlies to enjoy.

SUPPORT DOWNTOWN!

The Missoula Downtown Foundation (MDF) is working to keep memories alive for current UM students, future generations of UM graduates, and those who return to Missoula to visit. Projects such as replacing the Caras Park canopy, updating the Downtown holiday décor infrastructure, and other major goals for Downtown are seeking funding. Please consider making a tax-deductible gift of any amount to the MDF by visiting www.missouladowntown.com/MDF or contact the DMP office at 406-543-4238 for more information.

"Save these Dates" in 2017

Create Memories with these Downtown Events:

- ⇒ **7th Annual Winter Brewfest (February 24)**
- ⇒ **3rd Annual Texas Hold 'Em Poker Tournament**
(Missoula Downtown Foundation fundraiser; March 5)
- ⇒ **25th Annual Garden City Brewfest (May 6)**
- ⇒ **32nd Annual Out to Lunch Series**
(Wednesdays, 11am-2pm; June, July, & August)
- ⇒ **17th Annual Downtown ToNight Series**
(Thursdays, 5:30-8:30pm; June, July, & August)
- ⇒ **12th Annual River City Roots Festival (August 25-26)**



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Brockmeyer

within the Publicis Groupe that works with some of the world's top brands, such as Microsoft, PayPal, eBay and Citi. William, who earned a bachelor of fine arts degree in painting from UM, creates experiences that bring brands to life with unique, live-event engagement. He has worked with a diverse range of clients, including Johnnie Walker, Pepsi, Showtime, Godiva and Marc Jacobs.

VINCE KONG '99, Jacksonville, Fla., is a digital editor for public radio station WJCT. Before joining the NPR affiliate, he worked for print media outlets across the country.



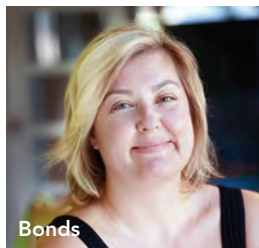
Kong

2000s

SERA BONDS '01, Austin, Texas, is the founder and CEO of Circle of Health International, an international humanitarian aid organization that provides quality maternal, reproductive and newborn health care in crisis settings. In September, Circle of Health International and its India-based partner, Ayzh, received a \$100,000 grant from the United Nations Foundation for their innovative achievements. In 2016, the

Char Gatlin was named Region III Patriot of the Year by the Military Order of the Purple Heart. '03, M.A., M.P.A. '14

organizations partnered to bring menstrual health and hygiene training and health kits to refugees in Greece, as well as provide emergency clinical training



Bonds

to Syrian midwives and distribute clean birth kits and menstrual hygiene kits to support midwives and mothers.

JACKIE BEYER '03, Fortine, and her husband, Mike, host the Organic Gardener Podcast, which offers tips and techniques for cultivating homegrown organic produce. With listeners across the U.S. and the world, the podcast has more than 210,000 total downloads.

CHAR GATLIN '03, M.A., M.P.A. '14, Missoula, was named the Region III Patriot of the Year by the Military Order of the Purple Heart at its 84th annual convention. Char, who enlisted in the Army in 1998, was wounded by an explosion while deployed to Iraq in 2006. He is the current chief of staff for the Department of Montana Military Order of the Purple Heart and also is active in the greater Montana community. He currently serves on the congressional Montana Veterans Advisory Committee and on the boards of the Foundation Community Health and the Consumer Advisory

Board for the Chronic Effects of Neurotrauma Consortium. He also serves as a consultant for the Neural Injury Center at UM.

MATT ANDERSON '03, M.S.W. '08, Greensboro, N.C., was promoted to vice president of strategic advancement at the Children's Home Society of North Carolina. Matt has been with CHS since 2011, and his work has resulted in innovative partnerships with state agencies that assist older youths at risk of aging out of the foster care system without a permanent family.

"From Place to Place," a documentary he produced, tells the story of life after foster care for youth who have aged out and highlights the importance of family. It won the National Association of Social Workers 2012 Media Award.

SETH BOID '03, M.B.A. '09, Missoula, is a senior consultant at Advanced Technology Group and has been with ATG since the company opened its Missoula office in 2011. Seth holds numerous technology certifications in the quote-to-cash and salesforce sectors and enjoys mentoring and training new consultants.



Boid

RICK ENEAS '05, Missoula, and **STEVEN JOHNSON** '05, Helena, received 2016 Outstanding Young CPA Awards from the Montana Society of Certified Public Accountants. Rick is the controller for the Montana & Idaho Community Development Corporation and volunteers in the Missoula community through his church, United Way, Family Promise and the Missoula Downtown Association. Steven is a CPA for Anderson ZurMuehlen and is involved in the Helena community through Farm in the Dell, Montana Business Assistance Connection and his church. **STEPHANIE GRIPNE** Ph.D. '05, Denver, is the founder of the Impact Finance Center, an organization dedicated to catalyzing

investments that produce enduring value for the investor, society and the environment. Forbes recently published an article on Stephanie titled "Is This Wildlife Conservation PhD The Steve Jobs Of Impact Investing?" citing the IFC's innovative approach to finding and educating asset holders looking to make impact-oriented investments.



Gripne



FRENCH PHOTO: JEN DELONG

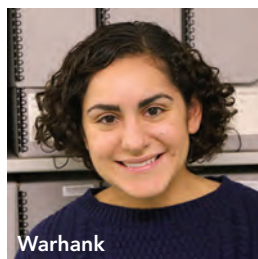
JOY FRENCH '06, Missoula, is the founder and artistic director of Bare Bait Dance Company in Missoula. The company puts on choreography showcases, full evening-length shows and other performances celebrating original contemporary dance. Joy, who the Missoulian named one of its "20 Under 40" for 2016, also is an adjunct assistant professor of dance at UM.



MAX MAUCH '05, Great Falls, is certified by the American Association of Clinical Chemistry as a Point of Care Testing Specialist. He is a point of care coordinator and medical laboratory scientist at Benefis Health System. He and his wife, **GARRI** '05, a phlebotomist at Benefis, have two children, 5-year-old Olivia and 3-year-old Gavin. **SARAH J. MORATH** J.D. '07, Houston, published "From Farm to Fork: Perspectives on Growing Sustainable Food Systems in the Twenty-First Century," which addresses the importance of creating food

Anneliese Warhank was awarded \$4,500 to assist funding the Montana Brewery Oral History Project. '07

systems that are sustainable by bringing together experts in law, economics, nutrition and social sciences, as well as farmers and advocates. "From Farm to Fork" shares their perspectives on some of the most pressing issues related to sustainable food systems and offers solutions to make these systems healthy, sustainable and equitable. Sarah currently is a clinical associate professor at the University of Houston Law Center. **ANNELIESE WARHANK** '07, Helena, is an archivist and oral historian for the Montana Historical Society. Last fall, Humanities Montana awarded her a \$4,500 grant to assist funding the Montana Brewery Oral History Project, capturing



the history of Montana's modern brewing industry since the 1980s.

SCOTT HOWARD M.A. '08, Nokesville, Va., published his first novel at the end of July. "Three Days and Two Knights: An Amusing Arthurian Adventure" is a comedic fantasy-adventure



NEW LIFETIME MEMBERS

The following alumni and friends made a commitment to the future of the UM Alumni Association by becoming lifetime members. The Alumni Association thanks them for their support. You can join them by calling 877-862-5867 or by visiting www.grizalum.com. This list includes all new lifetime members through Nov. 18, 2016.

KEITH BEARTUSK '71 and **DEBBY BEARTUSK**, Billings
ERIN BILLINGS M.A. '95 and **JAY DRISCOLL** '95, Washington, D.C.
MICHAEL DORSHORST '11, Missoula
LAUREL FIELDS '89 and **DONALD FIELDS** '16, Missoula
BRIAN FISH '09, San Francisco
CHAR GATLIN '03, M.A., M.P.A. '14, and **ARIANA DEL NEGRO**, Missoula
WILL (FREDERICK) KELLOGG '11, Washington, D.C.
CLAUDIA MARTIN '80, Kalispell
TYSON PARMAN '10, Missoula
GREGORY POHLE '94, Billings
CHRISTINA RODRIGUEZ-SMITH '04, M.A. '06, Rio Rancho, NM
BERNADEANE ROTH '96, Pharm.D. '02, Sheridan, WY
CHARLES SHORT J.D. '02, Nespelem, WA
JEFFEREY WRIGHT '99 and **SAMANTHA WRIGHT** '01, M.A. '06, Burbank, CA

story set in Scotland at the end of King Arthur's reign. Scott also teaches high school English and was nominated for the 2014 Agnes Meyer Teacher of the Year award.

DAN BINGHAM '09, M.S. '11, Portland, Ore., is the founder of Rogue Biological Consultants, a conservation-based consulting company that uses genetic technology to help state, federal, tribal and energy-producing institutions better conserve fisheries resources. The agency also collaborates

fish and amphibians in the Northwest.

LAUREN RUSSELL '09, Portland, Ore., is an associate attorney at the law firm of Dunn Carney LLP, with a focus on civil litigation, including employment and land-use matters.



2010s

NICK GAZZARA '10, Missoula, is a financial adviser for Merrill Lynch who specializes in helping local families and businesses with comprehensive, customized planning to reach their financial goals. **SONIA FLAMM** '11, Missoula, engages with medium- to enterprise-



with researchers in UM's Division of Biological Sciences to use genetic tools to address conservation issues facing



ALUMNI EVENTS 2017

- | | |
|-----------------|--|
| JANUARY | 31 Pre-play social for Montana Rep's "Barefoot in the Park," Butte Community Lecture Series, Missoula |
| FEBRUARY | 7, 14, 21, 28 Community Lecture Series, Missoula
16 Charter Day Celebration and Awards Ceremony
Bringing the U to You Lecture Series, Great Falls
26 Alumni gathering, Palm Desert, Calif. |
| MARCH | 2 Bringing the U to You Lecture Series, Great Falls
7, 14 Community Lecture Series, Missoula
8-19 Alumni Travel: Tanzania Migration Safari
18-26 Alumni Travel: Discover Costa Rica with Adventure Life |
| APRIL | 7-23 Alumni Travel: Outrageous Outback
20 Alumni gathering, Billings
21-22 UMAA Board of Directors meeting, Billings |
| MAY | 3 Griz Gradfest, 4-6 p.m., Missoula
11-13 Montana Treasures Reunion at Commencement
15-24 Alumni Travel: Salute to Spain |

For more details, call the Office of Alumni Relations at 1-877-UM-ALUMS or visit www.grizalum.com.

sized organizations worldwide as a project manager, business analyst and implementation consultant for Advanced Technology Group. Sonia, who lived in Nepal as a child, also is passionate about health and fitness, with a specific love for bodybuilding and weight training.

MITCH COLYER '14, Missoula, is a staff consultant for Advanced Technology Group, a quote-to-cash consultancy in Missoula. Mitch helps companies that are looking to move their billing

and revenue operations to the cloud. Mitch enjoys fly-fishing in the spring and summer and backpacking and hunting in the fall.



St. John

DUSTY ST. JOHN '15, Missoula, is a project manager for enterprise cloud billing implementation at Advanced Technology Group. His experience includes project management and implementations, network management, and product and feature testing. He is PMP-certified and an active member of the Project Management Institute Montana chapter.



DYLAN GOMES '14, Boise, Idaho, had a first-authorship paper published in the Sept. 15 edition of the prestigious journal *Science*. "Bats perceptually weight prey cues across sensory systems when hunting in noise" details Dylan and his colleagues' research on how fringe-lipped bats turn to echolocation to detect movement in their prey when noise pollution interferes with their ability to hear mating calls and other telltale sounds. Several national news media organizations, including The Los Angeles Times and *Science Daily*, published articles on the findings. After graduating from UM with a degree in ecology and organismal biology, Dylan spent a year researching bats during an internship at the Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute in Panama. He then received a Fulbright grant to study bats for another year at the Max Planck Institute for Ornithology in Germany. Dylan recently returned from Namibia after researching baboons for the Zoological Society of London. "As I do not have a graduate degree, this paper will be published in *Science* with a first-author who has 'only' an undergraduate degree from the University of Montana," Dylan wrote ahead of the paper's publication. "My hope in sharing the news of my success as a recent alum is useful to promote the University of Montana and the amazing Division of Biological Sciences."

In Memoriam

We extend sympathy to the families of the following alumni, faculty and friends. Names without class or degree years include UM alumni, employees and friends. To be included in "In Memoriam," the UM Office of Alumni Relations requires a newspaper obituary or a letter of notification from the immediate family.

Material for In Memoriam reached our office by Nov. 21, 2016.

1930s

Ruth Margaret Christiani Brown Forbis '39, *Cardiff By The Sea, CA*
Eunice Fleming Sherman '39, *Salem, OR*

1940s

Heath "Bo" Bottomly '41, *Winchester, CA*
Betty Lenor Johnson Massey Moore '41, *Litchfield Park, AZ*
Julia "Beryl" Hester Toms '42, *Hoyt Lakes, MN*
Betty Powell Leaphart Dratz '43, '44, *Missoula*
Ruth Ann "Rudy" Sackett Johnson '46, *Helena*
Thomas Daniel "Tom" Byrne '47, *Wenatchee, WA*
Miriam Elaine Evans Price '48, *Kent, WA*
Joseph Wayne "Joe" Clark '49, *Billings*
Donald David "Don" Rebal '49, *Great Falls*

1950s

William John "Bud" Carvey '50, *San Bruno, CA*
Artha Lee Moe Deras '50, *Great Falls*
Milo R. Janecek J.D. '50, *Missoula*
Gregory Kershul '50, *Seaside, OR*
Robert E. "Bob" LeProwse '50, *Columbia Falls*
Dennis Sperry Mollander '50, *Great Falls*
Harold Gene Stanton '50, *L.L.B. '53, Hardin*
Mary Francis Sweeney Brower '51, *M.A. '52, Roundup*
John Russell Cloud '51, *Great Falls*
Donald F. "Don" Forbes '51, *Bozeman*
Philip C. Hayden '51, *Middleton, MA*
William G. Herbolsheimer '51, *Doulestown, PA*
Jeremy G. "Jerry" Thane J.D. '51, *Missoula*
Robert Clayton "Bob" Ziegler Sr. '51, *Spanish Fork, UT*
Alan Bower Coates '52, *Kalispell*
Elizabeth E. Booth Johnston '52, *Taylorsville, KY*
Marilyn Jean Schuch Reid '52, *Pasco, WA*

Frank M. Rosa '52, *Seattle, WA*
Louis Neal "Lou" Elmore '53, *M.A. '81, Polson*
Lee Norman Vonkuster '54, *M.Ed. '67, Ed.D. '71, Canton, GA*
Alice Joy Stack Clark '55, *Billings*
Francis "Frank" E. Dunning '55, *Billings*
John Gabriel Frankino '55, *M.S. '59, Helena*
David Harold "Dave" Larkin '55, *Buffalo, WY*
Joseph Charles "Joe" Latka '55, *West Richland, WA*
Bill "Billie" Lee Miles '55, *Hamilton*
Charles Guthrie Ray '55, *Monroe Township, NJ*
Nancy Jane Robertson Armstrong '57, *Great Falls*
Nick P. Lazanas '57, *Great Falls*
Reldon Dale Schlappy '57, *American Fork, UT*
William James "Bill" Weatherly '57, *Butte*
Gerald Marsden "Gerry" Ashmore '58, *Missoula*
Phillip Leroy "Phill" Buffington '58, *Tucson, AZ*
Edward Curtis "Ed" Fossen '58, *Billings*
Charles William "Chuck" McKelvie '58, *Anderson, CA*
Jerry V. Schreuder '58, *Boise, ID*
Kurtis Ardel "Kurt" Ueland '58, *Antelope*
Leon G. Billings '59, *Bethany Beach, DE*
Stanford Lee "Stan" Brown '59, *Spokane, WA*
James Glenn "Jim" Harbolt '59, *Beaverton, OR*
Kathryn Louise "Katie Lou" Johnson '59, *Plains*
Charles B. "Chuck" Tribe '59, *Missoula*

1960s

Thomas Henry "Tom" Agamenoni '60, *Great Falls*
Paul Lerner '60, *Missoula*
Stanley Willard "Stan" Tiffany '60, *Great Falls*
Ronald J. "Ron" Fenex M.Ed. '62, *Billings*
Terry Neal Lindquist, M.Ed. '62, *Seattle*

Norman Sherrill "Norm" Smith M.S. '62, Tucson, AZ
 Rodney J. "Rod" Carrier '63, J.D. '67, Tumwater, WA
 Barbara Helen "Butch" Chapple Christensen '60, Billings
 John Catlin Coffee '64, Missoula
 Nina Lyn Myhre Harrison '64, Helena
 Lowell "Ray" Honey Jr. '64, Dillon
 Dennis Edwin Kansala '64, J.D. '67, San Antonio, TX
 David Blair Allison '65, Eugene, OR
 Jerome "Jerry" McGahan '65, M.S. '66, Arlee
 Laurens A. "Larry" Hansen '66, Highwood
 John L. Hickman '66, Hamilton
 Keith Douglas "George" Seim, Missoula
 William Ashlock "Bill" Brown Jr. '67, Sacramento, CA
 Edward Curtis "Ed" Fossen '67, Puyallup, WA
 Kay Ellen Dorr M.A. '67, Glasgow
 Robert "Wayne" Harsha '67, Columbus
 Gene Richard Speelman '67, Kalispell
 Carol Joyce Boyd '68, Missoula
 Lois Marie Scalf Gates '68, Stevensville
 Harold W. "Pete" Peterson '68, Missoula
 James R. "Jim" Phillips '68, M.Ed. '72
 Susan Jane "Susie" Holstrom Quande '68, Missoula
 James D. "Jim" Searles '68, Great Falls
 Georgianna Hall Kavanagh Taylor '68, Hamilton
 William R. "Bill" Tronson Jr. '68, Billings
 William Moulton "Bill" Velde '68, M.A. '69, Missoula
 Bruce Michael Bambach M.F.A. '69, San Francisco, CA

1970s

James W. "Jim" Ballard '70, Wright, WY
 Dorothy Maxine Beck Burgess '70, Hamilton
 Virgil James Cork M.Ed. '70, Missoula
 Elizabeth "Lee" Moore Hackney '70, Beaumont, CA
 Thomas John "Tom" Peterson '70, Hamilton
 Warren Howard "Butch" Leslie '71, Arlee
 Raymond E. "Ray" Stachnik '71, Northbrook, IL
 Paul Smith Willis M.Ed. '71, Kalispell
 Ronald Cleve "Ron" Cogburn '72, Missoula
 Richard Guy "Rick" Robinson '72, Great Falls
 Donald Karl "Don" Zahn '72, Fort Atkinson, WI
 Neva L. Armour Johnston '73, White Sulphur Springs
 Kathryn Ann "Kay" Karlberg '73, Missoula
 Karen E. Rosok Becker '74, Oakdale, MN
 Fergus C. Mitchell Jr. M.A. '74, Great Falls
 Margaret Carol "Maggie" Pogachar Doll '74, Havre
 James Patrick "Pat" Penrod M.Ed. '74, Aiken, SC
 Karl Bruce Rogge '74, Miles City
 William Harry "Bill" Wiles '74, M.Acct. '88, Missoula
 Burnell E. Brown '75, Chicago, IL
 Eduardo Cordero '75, Hamilton, ON
 Jack E. Lovell '75, Huson
 Gregg J. Luginbuhl '75, Bluffton, OH
 Phyllis M. Burns Petritus '75, Fort Myers, FL
 Donald B. "Don" Baker '76, Lewistown
 John W. Balsam '76, M.B.A. '81
 Thomas "Allan" Heard M.S. '76, Lexington, KY
 Luanne Lynn Moore Bauman '78, Corvallis
 Paul C. Oblander '78, Seattle

1980s

Daniel R. Lange '81, Pendleton, OR
 Janet Teresa Simkins '81, Bozeman
 Christine Mary Elgen Fogerty '82, Missoula
 Lorilee Anne Evans-Lynn '83, Missoula
 Marilyn LaVere Carr Mallary '83, Guntersville, AL
 Norman Kurt Dollhopf M.S. '84, Neenah, WI
 Mark Homer Doty '84, Missoula
 Ronald Gene LaDue '84, Browning
 William P. "Boy Boy" LaMere '84, Great Falls
 Gregory Walker "Greg" Isaacson '85, Orlando, FL
 Michael Charles "Mike" Fellows '86, '88, Missoula
 David Andrew "Dave" Frisnegger '86, Tucson, AZ
 Gregory Matt "Greg" "Lertz" Leritz '86, Belt
 Ty John Milne '86, Glendive
 Robert Mortimer "Bob" Bassett '88, Butte
 Thomas "Shane" Del Grosso Jr. '88, Huron, SD
 Pamela Ann "Pam" Hillery M.S. '88, Havre
 Brian Keith Losett M.B.A. '88, Bozeman
 Roxann Kay "Rocky" Maedche '88, Missoula
 Michael Thomas "Mike" Rogers '88, '94, Spring Lake, MI
 Jennifer Lynn Skousen Doyle '89, Redlands, CA
 Susan Lee "Sue" Boydston Eyer '89, Missoula
 Scott W. Riggs '89, Missoula

1990s

Lloyd Eugene Barron '90, Conrad
 David Francis Tarmina '90, Townsend
 Barry Christian Frank '91, Boise, ID
 Clifford "Dale" Maki '93, Darby
 Zachary Justin "Zach" Babat '94, Silver Star
 John J. Craighead Hon.D. '94, Missoula
 Betty Jo Maughan Vance Miller M.A. '94, Tooele, UT
 Pamela Kay "Pam" Geboe Doney '97, Hays
 William Joseph "Bill" Hamilton, '99, Lolo
 Brian Thomas Hands '99, Butte
 Gary Walter Thomson '99, Northville, MI

2000s

Glenda Lee Bevis J.D. '01, Lewistown
 Kenneth Allen "Ken" Shatto '02, Missoula
 Duel Hans Vegoren '03, Hamilton
 Abigail Marie "Abby" Zent '04, Helena
 Justin Orion Taylor "Bucket" Cummins '05, Missoula
 Kristine Anne "Kris" Lantz Miller Ed.D. '05, Missoula
 Sandra Lynn "Sandy" Willcox '05, Missoula

2010s

Marcella Margaret "Marci" Ulrich Krohn M.Ed. '11, Billings
 Lea Nicole Christiansen '14, Missoula
 Rhianna Leigh Dilworth '16, Kalispell
 Andre Joseph "Dre" Walker '16, Missoula

Betty Lou Thompson Aadsen, Kalispell
 Ruth Elizabeth Brownback Adams, Wheat Ridge, CO
 Jean Wessinger Anderson, Missoula
 Jewell Patricia McBride Anderson, Helena
 Patricia Ann Leistiko Anderson, Spokane, WA

Jack N. Armstrong, Carson City, NV
 Arvid "Allan" Aronson, Kalispell
 Caleb Baukol, Ketchum, ID
 Robert R. "Bob" Brock, Portland, OR
 Elenita M. Roulet Brown, Stevensville
 Louis Edwin "Lou" "Bucky" Buckmaster, Fallon, NV
 Helen "Marie" Ferguson Gebhardt Cash, Lynnwood, WA
 Grace Marie Seibert Cline, Frenchtown
 Margaret Smith Craighead, Missoula
 Thomas A. Dailey, Billings
 Verla Jean Bausch Dailey, Missoula
 Ellen "Joan" Lambert D'Antuono, Great Falls
 Charles Henry "Chuck" Davis, Dillon
 W. Lucille Sol Davis, Missoula
 Robert L. "Bob" Deschamps Jr., Sun City West, AZ
 Laura J. Kelly Disney, Naples, ID
 David Alan Doran, Great Falls
 Nita Mae Hebbert Ferguson, Red Lodge
 Anna Grace Ford Frisnegger, Tucson, AZ
 Roy Walter Gustafson, Mesa, AZ
 Leroy Leyton "Lee" Hafner, Billings
 Addell "Ann" Sanders Hagen, Missoula
 Ina McCann Hearst, Missoula
 David B. "Dave" Heine, Billings
 Norma "Diane" Rockwell McCue Hollinger, Missoula
 Ralph Leonard "Bud" Holmlund, Hamilton
 Elizabeth Mae "Bette" Hood Holmes, Missoula
 Mary Elizabeth "Betty" Sieler Hoyt, Hood River, OR
 Beverly "Bev" Nylund Huchala, Seattle
 Marian L. Watson Janke, Billings
 Dale A. Karkanen, Missoula
 Virginia Augusta Harward Layman, Billings
 John Richard Mallory, Stockton, CA
 Edith True Marbut, Missoula
 Forrest E. Mars Jr., Big Horn, WY
 Eugene J. Matelich, Missoula
 Patricia Anne Chaffee McChesney, Castle Rock, WA
 Dennis Brian McEachran, Spokane, WA
 Kay Louise McPherson, Missoula
 Mark Melotz, Arlee
 William R. "Bill" Miles Jr., Helena
 Candius Elizebeth Miller, Missoula
 Doris B. Hehn Mudd, Great Falls
 Mary M. Swearingen Mulligan, Denver
 Rod Oelke, Missoula
 Virginia T. "Jin" Tovey Patton, Sheridan, WY
 Dorothy Murray Rahders, Missoula
 Rudolph H. "Zip" Rhoades Jr., Baltimore
 Michele M. Crovitz Robison, Great Falls
 Thomas "Jake" Ross, Big Arm
 Frances Laura Feronato Ruffatto, Missoula
 Joan Marie Gustafson Smith, Whitefish
 Franklin Sogandares-Bernal, Adamsville, TX
 Benjamin Charles "Ben" Steele, Billings
 Robert John "Bob" Tester, Spangle, WA
 Shan Michelle Mercer Toussaint, Florence
 Medora Bierwagon Towe, Missoula
 Lynn'e Arlene Fairbank Tyacke, Missoula
 Monica Ann Harris Weisul, Missoula
 Barbara Evelyn Wright, Waikoloa, HI

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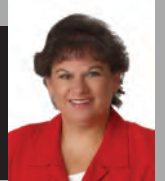
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Billings Gazette

When he is not nursing plants at Pink Grizzly Shane is writing and playing country music. His brand new CD **Through the Fire** is getting rave reviews for the gritty song-writing and superb musicianship it exhibits. True to his Montana roots, Shane and his wife Kelly live under the majestic mountains in the Bitterroot Valley.



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George M. Dennison 1935-2017

George M. Dennison, the longest-serving president of the University of Montana and one of the most impactful educators in the history of the state, died Jan. 3 due to complications from non-Hodgkin lymphoma. He was 81.

George was born Aug. 11, 1935, in Buffalo Hart, Illinois, to Earl and Irene Dennison. He was the second-oldest of six brothers, and the family moved to Montana in 1936. George grew up in the Kila area and graduated from Flathead County High School in 1953. He served in the U.S. Navy from 1953 to 1957.

George married Kalispell native Jane Schroeder in 1954, and their 62-year union produced two sons: Robert, a retired teacher and coach in Tecumseh, Kansas, now working in information technology; and Rick, the former offensive coordinator for the Denver Broncos.

George first dabbled in higher education at Custer County Community College in Miles City, where he earned an associate of arts degree in 1960. He then began a lengthy relationship with UM in Missoula, where he earned a B.A. in history with highest honors in 1962 and a history master's degree in 1963. He earned his Ph.D. in history from the University of Washington in 1967.

George launched his career as a historian and college educator from 1967 to 1969 at the University of Arkansas and UW. He then worked 18 years at Colorado State University in positions ranging from assistant professor to associate academic vice president and director of admissions and records. He burnished his administrative credentials from 1987 to 1990 as provost and vice president for academic affairs at Western Michigan University. He was inaugurated as the 16th UM president on Aug. 15, 1990. He would lead his alma mater for two decades.

His tenure was a time of sustained growth and accomplishment for UM. Student enrollment increased nearly 50 percent, from 10,055 in 1990 to nearly 15,000 in 2009. Always an advocate for Native American inclusivity, he worked to grow Native enrollment from 239 to 569. He also built a culture of philanthropy across campus and among alumni and friends, increasing UM's endowment from \$17.3 million to \$120 million. He completed two fundraising campaigns

for buildings, scholarships and other campus needs. The second, the "Invest in Discovery" campaign from 2002 to 2007, at the time was the most successful fundraising campaign ever launched by a Montana nonprofit. In addition, George started Partnering for Student Success, an initiative to increase retention and graduation rates by better preparing and supporting students. He also led the effort to create the Montana Campus Compact, a statewide coalition to further campus-based public service, founded the Montana Commission on Community Service, and was a charter signer of the American Colleges and University Presidents Climate Commitment.

Some jokingly accused George of having an "edifice complex" for all the new construction on campus during his tenure. UM added 1.3 million square feet, which equates to 20 percent more total usable space. Building projects completed include the Davidson Honors College, the Gallagher Business Building, Pantzer Hall, the Todd Building, the Fitness and Recreation Center, Don Anderson Hall, the Phyllis J. Washington Education Center, The Payne Family Native American Center, three expansions of Washington-Grizzly Stadium and several renovations of existing buildings. In May 2012, the University Theatre was renamed the George and Jane Dennison Theatre in recognition of their many contributions to UM.

In 1999, George was awarded the Leadership Award from the Council for Advancement and Support of Education. He was the Montana Ambassadors Educator of the Year in 2005 and earned the Montana Excellence in Leadership Award in 2007. Universities in Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan presented him honorary doctorates, and he earned the Governor's Humanities Award in 2009. UM presented him with a Distinguished Alumni Award in 2013. Additionally, George served on the board of directors at the International Heart Institute and the board of directors at the Montana Historical Society. Blackfeet Chief Earl Old Person gave George the name "Fast Buffalo Horse" for his service to Native students.

His extensive curriculum vitae mentions scores of presentations, research reports, publications and special administrative assignments. He is the author of two books: "The Dorr War: Republicanism on Trial, 1831-1861," which was runner-up for the Frederick Jackson Turner Award in 1976, and "Montana's Pioneer Naturalist: Morton J. Elrod," which was published in September 2016 by the University of Oklahoma Press.

He was known for his unique lifestyle: running 4 miles before sunrise, arriving first on campus to work long days and eating his lone daily meal in the evening. He would drink massive amounts of coffee and snack during meetings. He didn't believe in driving slowly, and he was passionate about Grizzly Athletics and golf.

After retiring, George worked for UM's O'Connor Center for the Rocky Mountain West. He also returned to his roots as a historian, researching and working on a history of UM.

In a farewell message he penned in this magazine in 2010, he wrote, "I have enjoyed every moment of the time I have had the privilege to serve as president of my alma mater."

George is survived by his wife, Jane, two sons and daughters-in-law: Robert and Diann and Rick and Shannon, seven grandchildren and one great-grandson. A celebration of George's life will be held in May. For those wishing to make a contribution in George's honor, the family suggests the UM Foundation to support renovations for the George and Jane Dennison Theatre or a donation to a charitable organization. **M**

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