

OUR PLACE ON THE PLANET

THE UNIVERSITY OF MONTANA
PRESIDENT'S REPORT 2007



Dear Friends,

“Our Place on the Planet:” The title suggests at once the focus and diversity of the contents for this report. For some, it may also pose new institutional departures. However, I believe the title indicates continuation of rather than break from tradition. From its earliest beginnings, The University of Montana has responded to a global society that is becoming increasingly interdependent — physically, technologically and culturally. The response manifested itself in a variety of activities, from the welcoming reception of students attracted to the University; to efforts to send University students to other countries to enrich their education and develop new competencies; to collaborative research and educational programs that provided benefits directly and indirectly to the participating students, faculty, institutions and countries. Within this historical context, the accomplishments in this report are the culmination of earlier aspirations, even as they raise the level of and set the foundation for expectations of future generations.

Some of the accomplishments merit additional comment. The University until recently boasted only one Nobel Laureate among its alumni or faculty. One within a hundred years may not sound impressive, although I think it

merits recognition. Be that as it may, having two Laureates within just a bit over a century adds to the record immensely. Regents Professor Steve Running has served his entire career and conducted all of his work as a faculty member of The University of Montana. We will not know for years the power and impact of his influence on generations of students and colleagues who have had the advantage of working with him over those years.

As for the flow of students and scholars to and from the University and the collaborative activities, the University today ranks fifth among all public institutions in the country for the graduation of Rhodes scholars. And the University has a well-earned reputation for facilitating student, staff and faculty exchanges and building upon those relationships to develop research and collaboration. We have agreements with 76 institutions in 30 countries around the world, and we enroll students and have had visiting scholars from nearly every country of the world. Importantly, we do not maintain agreements without the interest and participation of students, staff and faculty on campus.

New initiatives indicate the trajectory we have in mind for the future. We have had groups of engaged or aspiring teachers and administrators from a number of countries seeking

insight about best practices in standards-based education. We will continue to explore how we can assist other countries to develop their educational systems. Also, we seek to extend the expertise of the faculty to assist professionals in other countries as they deal with the challenges of the 21st century, challenges that increasingly require global collaboration to affect and resolve — from climate change to resource conservation to dispute resolution to best business practices to nanotechnology to water management to wildlife management to ecotourism to health care to cultural studies and many more. We have joined the effort to teach and learn critical languages, beginning with Chinese and moving to Arabic, Persian, Korean, Hindi and others. Finally, we have accepted a greater involvement in educating the next generation of world leaders about the functioning of American government, economic and related systems, and civil society and social institutions. The agenda for the future reflects the past even as it seeks to anticipate the future.

I commend this report to you and look forward to your comments.

Sincerely,

George M. Dennison
B.A., '62, M.A., '63
President and Professor of History



Photo: Erik Stenbakken

Steve Running — Global Guru

UM Regents Professor of Ecology Steve Running has been described as an old tree-hugger who became a rocket scientist.

During his three decades at the University, the ecologist has used orbiting satellites to study the global environment. The Internet first arrived at UM so Running's lab, the Numerical Terradynamic Simulation Group, could contribute software for NASA projects. His department eventually wrote code for the primary instruments on the Terra and Aqua satellites — eyes in the sky that provide daily snapshots of deforestation, wildfires and a host of other land and ocean processes.

With these credentials, in 2004 Running was asked to be lead author of the North American ecology section of the latest Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change Report. International meetings with teams from the other 180 IPCC member nations followed, as well as three report drafts.

Imagine Running's surprise when the entire IPCC committee, along with former Vice President Al Gore of "An Inconvenient Truth" fame, earned the Nobel Peace Prize in October for collective efforts to reveal the extent of global warming.

Besides Running, the only other UM faculty member ever associated with the Nobel is Harold Urey (1893-1981), who received the 1934 Nobel Prize in Chemistry for discovering heavy hydrogen, also called deuterium.

"This is such an unimaginable honor, and I'm just stunned," Running says. "Nobody on the IPCC committee expected this award because a Nobel Peace Prize has never gone to a scientific committee before."

Not bad for an old tree-hugger.





Charlie Hood — Prague Exchange

When Dean Emeritus Charlie Hood lived in and around Prague, Czech Republic, after retiring from UM's School of Journalism, he couldn't help but notice the similarities between that country's Roma people and the Native Americans back in Montana.

Last year, with five of UM's brightest journalism students in tow, Hood traveled back to Prague to re-examine the situation.

Hood paired with Prague's Charles University to form reporting teams of one Czech student and one UM student to find and tell the stories of the Roma, an indigenous group that has been marginalized in modern Czech society. After three weeks in Europe, the Czech students came to Montana to report on Native Americans and the Montana State Prison with their UM counterparts.

"I heard a quote when I lived over there from a Romany woman," Hood says. "She said, 'A lot of the time when reporters come to see the Roma, they already have their minds made up about what they're going to find.' That stuck in my mind."

For the students, the experience was a taste of reporting on the largest scale.

Senior Zachary Franz, who is now a reporter at the Great Falls Tribune, took a bus across the country, found a translator and interviewed two Roma women who are suing the government because they claim they were sterilized without consent.

"I felt like a real foreign correspondent," he says. "Until I tried to order my next meal and had to point to something on the menu and hope it wasn't an internal organ."

The project culminated in a Web site and can be found at <http://www.umjschool.typepad.com/prague07/>.

Kelly Dixon — Digging The West

UM anthropologist Kelly Dixon has spent her career chasing the true American West.

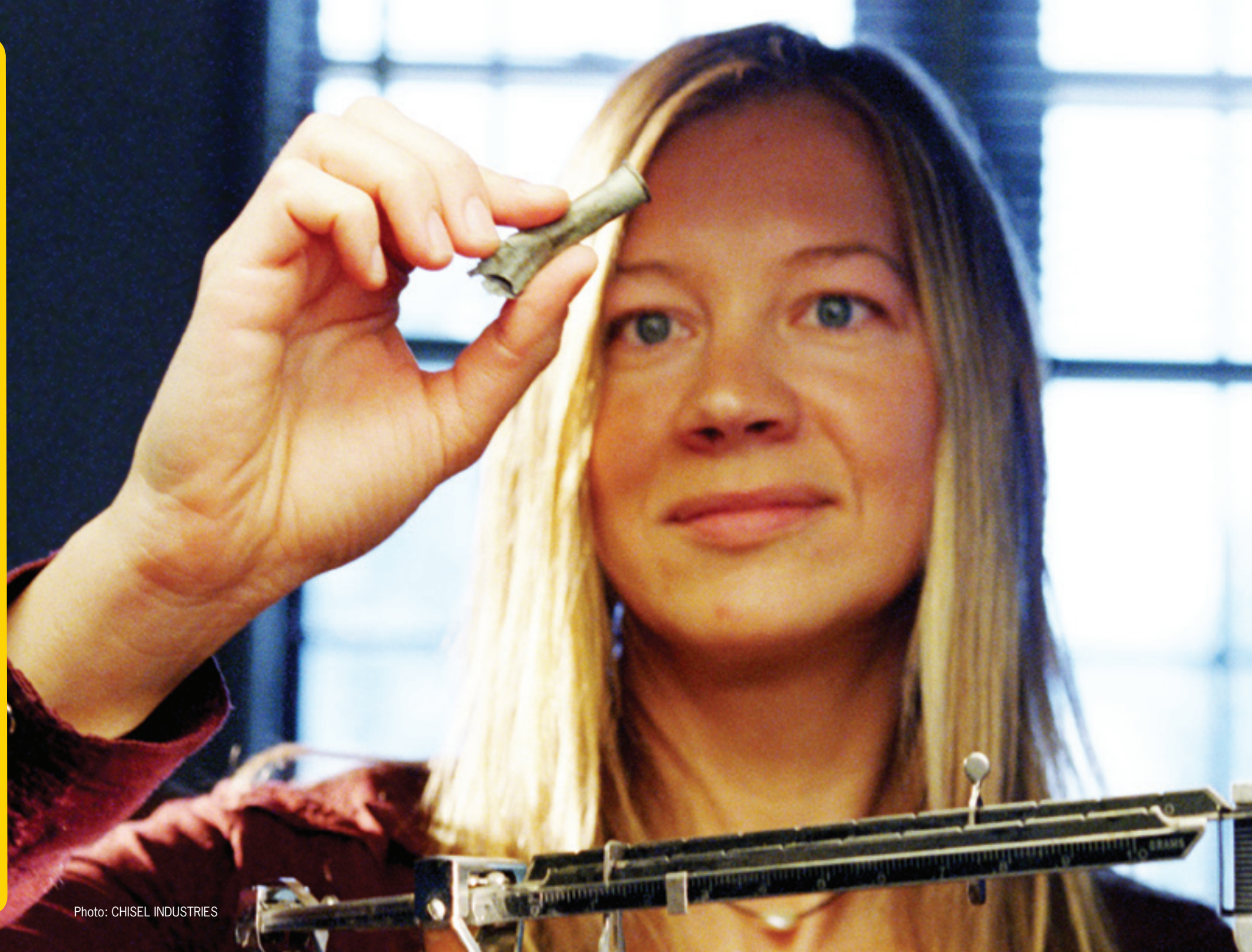
Her work in lost boomtowns and rugged landscapes has revealed a past that John Wayne's Hollywood wouldn't recognize. Excavations and hard forensic evidence constantly surprise her and defy conventional expectations.

Take, for instance, the digs she did with colleagues at a Donner Party campsite in California. According to western legend, settlers trapped there on a snowy pass in 1846 were forced to eat one another. But when Dixon and her cohorts located an old fire hearth, they found 16,000 tiny bone fragments and were only able to identify some of those as animals, including remains from horses, cows, deer and a dog. They were covered with cut marks, revealing a story of starving people trying to access every last bit of nutrition. Is the cannibalism a myth or does other evidence wait to be found among other bones in the collection? Dixon's doctoral work in Virginia City, Nev., also unearthed an elegant black-owned saloon that served the best cuts of meat in town. DNA found on a pipe belonged to a woman. Surely Hollywood needs some new material.

Closer to home, Dixon and colleagues helped find the possible hilltop grave of Lolo, a mountain man for whom a nearby Montana town and pass are named. They also unearthed old garden terraces near Plains — believed to be created by Chinese railroad workers — as well as the frontier mining ghost town of Coloma. Dixon and her fellows have involved UM students on each project.

In Coloma, they found multi-room homes with ample evidence of women and families. She calls it the anti-Wild West town.

Dixon's work inspired an award-winning UM television commercial. In it she says, "Through the evidence we uncover, we are able to piece together the mysteries of long ago. Discovery is the journey; enlightenment is the reward."



Hilary Martens — Global Scholar

For a native Missoulian who's never lived anywhere else, UM senior Hilary Martens has a lot of worldly experience.

During her freshman year of college, she traveled to Guatemala with the environmental studies department. Upon returning to Missoula, Martens launched a campaign to raise funds for school libraries there.

As her science and math studies at UM progressed, Martens began working on NASA's Cassini Mission to Saturn. The project took her to England in 2005 and has connected her with hundreds of international scientists working to decode the mysterious planet's secrets.

Now she has become just the second UM student ever to receive the Marshall Scholarship — a fully funded fellowship for two years of graduate study at British universities.

Martens plans to spend her first year of postgraduate work at University College London pursuing a master's in space science. For her second year, she's considering the solar system physics program at the University of Aberystwyth, Wales, or

perhaps the geosciences program at the University of Edinburgh.

As she prepares to cross the pond, Martens is confident that her experiences at UM have prepared her for the challenges ahead.

"First of all, the professors at UM have been so encouraging and supportive and inspiring to me," she says. "When I see the passion that professors have for what they do, that inspires me to be excited about what I am studying."

The University's broad range of courses also has played a key role in Martens' intellectual development. She graduated with degrees in both physics and music and a math minor. She's taken courses in everything from environmental studies to nonprofit administration, humanities and ethics.

"All these different classes have helped shape me as a person and reach my full potential," she says. Martens also credits the Davidson Honors College with helping her excel during her time at UM.

"The Honors College has shown me the way and the possibilities that are out there," she says.



The World Comes To UM



Photo: CHISEL INDUSTRIES



Revealing A Poet's Lost Work

Jim McKusick, dean of the Davidson Honors College, used a computer-based analysis called stylometrics to solve a literary mystery.

Evaluating keywords in an anonymous 1821 English translation of the German classic "Faust," McKusick and his colleagues proved it was authored by Samuel Taylor Coleridge — one of the greatest writers and thinkers of the 19th century. Coleridge is best known for "The Rime of the Ancient Mariner."

McKusick co-edited "Faustus: From the German of Goethe Translated by Samuel Taylor Coleridge," published in November by Oxford University Press.

UM Wins Top Marketing Awards

A series of five television ads featuring UM faculty were judged the best commercials of any college or university in the nation. The 2006 ads garnered a Gold award in the Admissions Marketing Report Advertising Awards Competition, as well as one of 16 Best of Show awards. They also earned a Grand Gold Award from the Council for Advancement and Support of Education's District VIII competition.

Also in the AMR competition, the Silver Cloud Tour, a train tour that carried UM representatives across the state in fall 2006 to recruit students, won a Gold award for public relations. UM's 2005 President's Report and Research View newsletter received Silver awards.



Reporting Environmental Racism

Twenty years after a landmark 1987 report revealed the inequitable distribution of hazardous waste facilities in poor and minority neighborhoods, UM environmental studies Assistant Professor Robin Saha helped update it.

Saha wrote a key chapter, "A Current Appraisal of Toxic Waste and Race in the United States," in the new report, titled "Toxic Waste and Race at Twenty, 1987-2007: Grassroots Struggles to Dismantle Environmental Racism in the United States."

Saha and a colleague gathered data on more than 400 U.S. hazardous waste facilities and the people who live near them.

UM-Italian Exchange Agreements

UM signed agreements with two Italian universities to promote student, staff and faculty exchanges.

UM facilitated the exchange agreements with the University of Brescia and the Catholic University of Northern Italy, where Montana students and employees now have the opportunity to study, work, teach and research.

UM has similar agreements with universities around the globe that President Dennison says are increasingly important in a rapidly globalizing world. The involvement of UM's World Trade Center in the pacts also creates marketing potential for Montana products.



Tackling The Bee Mystery

Disappearing honeybees became a major concern in 2007, as a mysterious ailment called Colony Collapse Disorder decimated hives and threatened food production. UM entomologist Jerry Bromenshenk was at the center of the resulting media buzz, which included an appearance on the “CBS Evening News.”

Bromenshenk — who previously made headlines for training bees to sniff out land mines — heads a team of researchers seeking the cause of CCD. Likely suspects include some combination of pesticides and other chemicals, nutritional deficits, drought and the stress of traveling for commercial crop pollination.

Anchor Returns To Give Lecture

Network news anchor Meg Oliver returned to her alma mater to give the annual Dean Stone Lecture, titled “The Battle For Your Attention: Everyone Wants It, But Is It Worth Your Time?” A 1993 graduate of the School of Journalism, Oliver anchors the overnight CBS news program, “Up To The Minute.”

She began her career working part time at Missoula’s KECI-TV while a student in the broadcast media program. Rising through the ranks of reporting and anchoring positions across the country, she was named “Up To The Minute” anchor in 2006.



Photo: ANDREW MARKS



Support For Virginia Tech

When tragedy struck at Virginia Tech University, UM swung into action to support those affected by the senseless shootings. President Dennison sent out a memo urging UM students and employees to gather on the Oval to remember the victims.

Main Hall’s bells tolled for five minutes “in honor and commemoration of the victims and as our expression of deep sympathy for those who have lost loved ones,” Dennison wrote.

The UM community also sent Virginia Tech a banner and letters containing heartfelt messages of support.

Writer Awarded A Guggenheim

Associate Professor Debra Magpie Earling was named a 2007 Guggenheim Fellow for distinguished achievement and exceptional promise.

Earling, who teaches creative writing and Native American studies, is the author of the acclaimed 2002 novel “Perma Red.” She used the Guggenheim Award to work on a second novel, based on the life of a medicine-warrior woman.

Earling is a member of the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes of the Flathead Indian Reservation. Guggenheim Fellowships worth approximately \$40,000 each were awarded to 189 of almost 2,800 applicants.

UM Makes Climate Commitment

Earth Week events kicked off with President Dennison’s announcement of UM’s participation in the American College and University Presidents Climate Commitment.

As part of its Climate Commitment, UM is addressing global warming by reducing greenhouse gas emissions on campus. Students, staff and faculty pledged their support to the commitment at a later event, where they also received information and ideas for reducing their carbon footprint.

Since its creation in 2006, more than 500 schools have signed on to the American College and University Presidents Climate Commitment.



Hot Off The Reborn UM Press

The UM Press continued its revival with the release of a book of humorous essays, "Last Tango in Melrose, Montana," by Dan Vichorek.

In the book, the UM graduate writes about the places, farmers, ranchers and way of life in Big Sky Country. Royalties from "Last Tango" are funding a UM journalism scholarship in Vichorek's name.

The UM Press published its first book in 1955, but the venture foundered and disappeared in the 1970s. In 2004 the book press was reborn under the auspices of the University's Printing and Graphic Services.

Griz Lacrosse National Champs

For Griz lacrosse the third time was the charm. The men's team captured the B-division national championship in the Men's Collegiate Lacrosse Association, after near misses the previous two years. Montana beat No. 1 seed St. John's University with a dominant second half.

Griz lacrosse, which celebrated its 10th season representing UM in 2007, competed in the Pacific Northwest Collegiate Lacrosse League.

The team has become a perennial powerhouse, remaining undefeated in its division since 2004, and with the championship win, moved up to Division A.

Photo: Will Moss



Bio Prof Wins National Awards

Professor Carol Brewer accepted the 2007 American Institute of Biological Sciences Education Award for her outstanding efforts in biology education. AIBS noted Brewer's efforts to improve scientific literacy and reach diverse audiences. The institute also singled out her work heading the educational initiatives of the National Ecological Observatory Network.

In August, Brewer accepted another national honor, the 2007 Eugene P. Odum Award presented by the Ecological Society of America. The award recognizes her ability to relate basic ecological principles to human affairs.

Student Named Truman Scholar

Andy Erickson, an environmental studies major from Missoula, was selected as a 2007 Truman Scholar.

One of only 65 Truman Scholars chosen from a field of 585 applicants, Erickson received an award of \$30,000 for graduate studies, as well as leadership training and internship opportunities in federal government.

The Truman Scholarship Foundation, established by Congress in 1975, awards scholarships to students who demonstrate outstanding potential for public service and are committed to making a difference through careers in government, nonprofit or advocacy sectors or education.

UM Makes National Honor Roll

UM was named to the President's Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll. The distinction honors students, faculty and staff for helping to build a culture of service and civic engagement. UM was recognized by President George W. Bush "for extraordinary and exemplary contributions to meeting critical local and national needs through community service and service-learning."

The honor roll is a project of the Corporation for National and Community Service, whose mission is to improve lives, strengthen communities and advance civic engagement through service and volunteering.



J-school Moves Into New Home

The School of Journalism dedicated Don Anderson Hall, a five-story, 57,000-square-foot building that now houses the print, photo and broadcast programs under one roof for the first time in more than 30 years. The building's namesake is best known for liberating Montana papers from the corporate stranglehold of the Anaconda Copper Mining Company.

Don Anderson Hall was a priority of the University's historic \$100 million campaign, "Invest in Discovery." The \$14 million building was primarily funded by about 200 donors, including Anderson's daughter and son-in-law, Sue and John Talbot.

New J-school Dean Takes Reins

After spearheading fundraising efforts for Don Anderson Hall, retiring journalism Dean Jerry Brown handed over the building's keys to a new dean, Peggy Kuhr.

A 1973 UM alumna, Kuhr most recently was the University of Kansas Knight Chair on the Press, Leadership and Community for the William Allen White School of Journalism and Mass Communications.

Before arriving at Kansas in 2002, Kuhr held editing positions at the Spokesman-Review in Spokane, Wash., from 1986 to 2002. She is the UM School of Journalism's first female dean.



Education Dean Now Official

"Interim" was dropped from Roberta "Bobbie" Evans' title at the UM School of Education when its search for a new dean ended with her.

Evans, who had served as the education school's interim dean for nearly a year, was chosen from among three candidates interviewed for the position.

She definitely had the right experience for the job, since she had already served as UM's education school dean from 2001 to 2003. She then chose to work as a professor of educational leadership from 2003 to 2006.

Expansion Houses Pharmacy

The new Skaggs Building addition provided another 42,000 square feet for the rapidly growing College of Health Professions and Biomedical Sciences. The \$14 million expansion houses the Department of Biomedical and Pharmaceutical Sciences.

UM's pharmacy school is ranked No. 7 among U.S. pharmacy programs in total research dollars awarded by the National Institutes of Health.

Funding for the Skaggs Building expansion came from the ALSAM Foundation and the building's namesake, L.S. "Sam" Skaggs, and his family, as well as the Jack Poe family, NIH and sales of revenue bonds.

Dennison Lauded For Leadership

President George Dennison received a Montana Excellence in Leadership Award, presented by the Montana Interagency Committee for Change by Women. The award honors those who promote the full participation of women in government.

In presenting the award during a ceremony at the state capitol in Helena, Lt. Gov. John Bohlinger noted compelling evidence for Dennison's success in promoting women: When Dennison took the helm at UM in 1990, only 20.5 percent of the faculty were women; today almost 38 percent of UM faculty members are female.



Biological Station Reels In Grant

UM's Flathead Lake Biological Station landed a major grant to study Pacific Rim ecosystems. The station was awarded a three-year, \$4.6 million grant from the Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation.

The grant supports the Salmonid Rivers Observatory Network, a long-term project that studies the biological diversity and productivity of pristine salmon and trout river ecosystems in British Columbia, Alaska and Kamchatka in the Russian Far East. The project's goal is to better understand the complex web of water and life that makes up healthy river systems.

Commercials Sweep Awards

Griz Country's borders expanded when two UM television spots swept awards at the National Association of Collegiate Marketing Administrators conference.

"Griz Country" — a spot capturing the fervor around Grizzly football — won the television commercial category in UM's division. Second place in that category also went to the University for the "Legacy" commercial, featuring a young boy awestruck in UM's Hall of Champions.

The advertising campaign, which also featured UM faculty members, was led by UM Executive Vice President Jim Foley and produced by Chisel Industries, a Montana-based company.



Photo: Erik Stenbakken

Lab Lands \$10 Million Grant

UM biomedical research got a big shot in the arm from a five-year, \$10.6 million grant for the University's Center for Environmental Health Sciences.

Founded in 2000, the center works to advance knowledge of environmental impacts on human health. Its 16 faculty members and six faculty affiliates study everything from arsenic exposure to diseases caused by Libby asbestos. The National Institutes of Health grant represents continued funding for CEHS, which is a Center for Biomedical Research Excellence housed in UM's College of Health Professions and Biomedical Sciences.

Prof Receives Excellence Award

UM Professor Reed Humphrey was the first physical therapist to be recognized by the American Association of Cardiovascular and Pulmonary Rehabilitation with its Award of Excellence, the highest award conferred by the association.

The award has been given each year since 1986 to recognize outstanding contributions to the field of cardiopulmonary rehabilitation.

Humphrey came to UM in summer 2006 as professor and chair of the School of Physical Therapy and Rehabilitation Science in the University's College of Health Professions and Biomedical Sciences.

Culinary Grad Wins Competition

Carol Chandler, a 2006 graduate of UM's College of Technology, won the national American Culinary Federation competition. She was named National Student Culinary Champion and awarded \$15,000.

Chandler, who previously won the Western Regional competition held in Idaho, competed against winners of three other regions for the national award. All four competitors were directed to prepare the same menu. Judging was based on how each interpreted the cooking techniques and recipes and on their personal cooking styles and presentations.



Tying The Knot Griz Style

UM kicked off the 2007 Grizzly football season by hosting the first national “College Colors Day” wedding for two diehard Griz fans.

Dressed in maroon and silver, UM alumni Kristine Kennedy and Stephan “Dico” Dicomitis were married Aug. 31 in Washington-Grizzly Stadium as the UM Marching Band played “Up With Montana.” UM mascot Monte was the ringbearer, and cheerleaders were on hand for the ceremony. The reception was a tailgate.

The official College Colors Day Wedding was sponsored by the Collegiate Licensing Company.

UM Welcomes New Provost

Royce Engstrom began his duties as UM's new provost and vice president for academic affairs in August after a nationwide search.

Engstrom came to UM from the University of South Dakota, where he held the same position and taught in the Department of Chemistry.

Engstrom earned a bachelor's degree in chemistry from the University of Nebraska at Omaha and a doctorate in analytical chemistry from the University of Wisconsin-Madison. In 2005 he completed Harvard University's course in institutional executive management.



First Craighead Chair Named

In August, UM hired Joel Berger, a renowned wildlife and conservation biologist, as the first John J. Craighead Endowed Professor in Wildlife Biology. Berger comes to UM after a career with the University of Nevada and the Wildlife Conservation Society.

John Craighead worked at UM for 25 years, leading the Montana Wildlife Research Unit and doing groundbreaking research on grizzly bears. He also helped pioneer the use of radio collars to study wildlife. In November, UM filled its Boone and Crockett Chair with the hiring of Paul Krausman, an accomplished educator and scientist who studies elk and other large mammals.

Expressionist Paintings At UM

An anonymous art collector loaned two important paintings to the Montana Museum of Art & Culture at UM, which made them available for public viewing in the President's Office.

Egon Schiele's “Seated Female Semi-Nude, Green Blouse,” displayed in summer, is considered a masterpiece of early 20th-century European Expressionist art. “Untitled 1” brought the vivid colors of Abstract Expressionist master Willem de Kooning to Main Hall during winter.

The Mansfield Library also hosted an anonymous art loan — a modernist sculpture by Jean Arp titled “Colonne de Rêve” or “Dream Column.”

New Speech Pathology Degree

UM announced its new Department of Communicative Sciences and Disorders, part of the School of Education. The speech therapy program offers an undergraduate degree in communicative disorders and a master's in speech pathology.

UM had a speech pathology program in the late 1980s, but it was cut because of funding problems. Since then, Montana has experienced a severe shortage of qualified speech therapists, which schools are required by law to provide to students in need. Without early intervention, speech and language disorders can follow people throughout their lives.



Only Rock 'N' Roll, But We Like It

UM Productions presented two rock legends — Elton John and James Taylor — in sold-out fall concerts in the Adams Center.

Elton John performed many of his greatest hits Sept. 28, including “Rocket Man,” “Tiny Dancer,” “Candle in the Wind” and “Bennie and the Jets.” The crowd was so enthusiastic that the performer scheduled an encore performance in April.

James Taylor had Montana on his mind Oct. 27, when his famously smooth voice filled the arena with favorites such as “Sweet Baby James” and “Something in the Way She Moves.”

UM Ranked Among The Best

Only about 15 percent of four-year U.S. schools are listed in the Princeton Review’s “Best 366 Colleges,” and UM made the grade. The rankings in the 2008 edition were based on Princeton Review’s survey of 120,000 students. Student comments featured in the review said UM students are friendly and love Missoula, students are happy, everyone loves the Grizzlies, there is great off-campus food and the athletic facilities are great.

UM also earned a spot on Princeton Review’s lists of Best Western Colleges and Colleges With a Conscience. In addition, UM was ranked among the 100 best colleges in the nation by the 2007 Annual College Guide, published by Washington Monthly magazine.



Supreme Court Justice At UM

Chief Justice John G. Roberts Jr. was the fourth member of the U.S. Supreme Court to speak at UM when he gave the annual Judge William B. Jones and Judge Edward A. Tamm Judicial Lecture. The Sept. 13 speech was part of a series presented by the School of Law.

Speaking before an overflow audience in the University Theatre, Roberts looked to Norman Maclean’s book “Young Men and Fire” for inspiration, comparing smokejumpers and lawyers. Both, he said, draw on “training, skill, instinct, stamina and a little bit of luck.”

International Degree Offered

UM was awarded a \$408,000 grant from the U.S. Department of Education to establish a bachelor’s degree program in international field geoscience.

The degree will be issued jointly by UM, the University of Potsdam in Germany and University College Cork in Ireland. Students will take classes and do fieldwork at all three universities before graduating.

The grant will allow 24 UM students to study geosciences in Germany and Ireland during the next four years, while 12 German and 12 Irish students will come to Montana to study.

Scientists’ Early-Career Grants

The National Science Foundation gave UM an early Christmas present in December with the announcement that two of its promising young scientists had earned Early Career Development Program grants.

The prestigious five-year awards went to Creagh Breuner and Vanessa Ezenwa, both assistant professors in the Wildlife Biology Program and Division of Biological Sciences. Breuner will receive \$800,000, and Ezenwa will get \$715,000. The awards will help them establish long-term research programs. Breuner studies environmental stressors and hormonal responses using sparrows. Ezenwa studies variation in parasite infection in wild African gazelles.



UM Athletes Win President's Cup

The University was awarded the 2006-07 Sterling Savings Bank Big Sky Conference President's Cup, an award that honors the institution with the most successful student-athletes in the classroom and on the field.

Team grade-point averages, graduation rates, number of all-conference performers with a GPA above 3.0 and regular-season standings for all sports help determine the conference winner.

Montana finished with a cumulative GPA of 3.11. Thirty All-Conference athletes earned at least a 3.0. UM women's tennis and women's cross country teams tied for the best GPA at 3.39.

Kimmitt Family Leaves Legacy

The high-powered Kimmitt family came to UM to honor their father, the late Joseph Stanley Kimmitt, a Montanan who served as secretary of the Senate.

Deputy Secretary Robert Kimmitt and Deputy Assistant Secretary Mark Kimmitt were joined by siblings Mary Laxton, Jay Kimmitt and Judy Rainey. Announcing the J. Stanley Kimmitt Public Service Lecture and Internship, the family spoke to students and presented a panel discussion.

Kimmitt attended UM and took a class from Sen. Mike Mansfield, under whom he eventually served as secretary of the majority.



Law School's 10-Year Streak

For an unprecedented 10th year in a row, a UM School of Law team advanced to the final rounds of the National Moot Court Competition in New York City.

The UM team of Erica Grinde, Sabrina Hansen and Angela Wetzsteon advanced to finals after finishing second in the Northwest regional competition. The Northwest region includes teams from law schools in Montana, Washington, Oregon and Idaho.

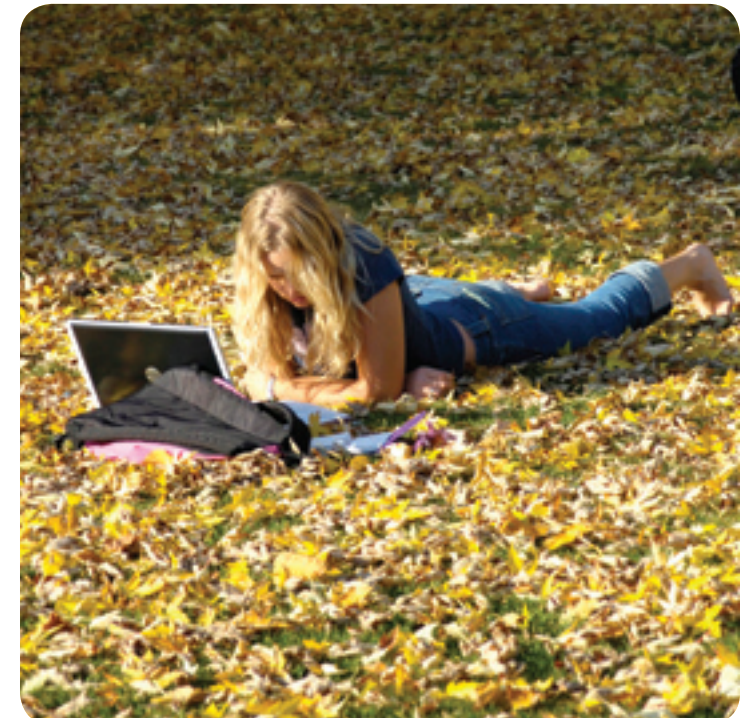
Montana's 10-year streak of advancing to the national finals is by far the longest of any law school in the country.

Wildlife Student Snags \$80,000

A doctoral student who works to save endangered bighorn sheep in California's Sierra Nevada received an \$80,000 scholarship from the 2007 Canon National Parks Science Scholars Program.

Heather Johnson, a wildlife biology major from Bellevue, Wash., was one of only four winners selected from a pool of 150 applicants.

Johnson is employed by the Sierra Nevada Bighorn Sheep Recovery Program in the California Department of Fish and Game, where she works to preserve a bighorn sheep subspecies that is distinct from the Rocky Mountain bighorn found in Montana.



UM Campaign — A World of Success

The University of Montana is bigger than its Missoula campus — the institution lives and breathes in countless locations.

The impact of the ideas proliferating from this campus and around the world is exactly what UM's "Invest in Discovery" campaign was all about. When people focus their support and resources toward creating a university for the 21st century, lives are changed in Montana and across the globe.

"When we launched this effort a bit more than five years ago," President George Dennison says, "we did not anticipate the scope and fervor of the response it generated. The amazing success of 'Invest in Discovery — Connecting People, Programs and Place' marks another historic first for Montana: the most successful fundraising campaign ever attempted in the state.

"More important, generosity and support of some 29,000 donors have positioned The University of Montana as a 'University for the 21st century,' just as we proposed," he says. "With the \$131 million in direct response to



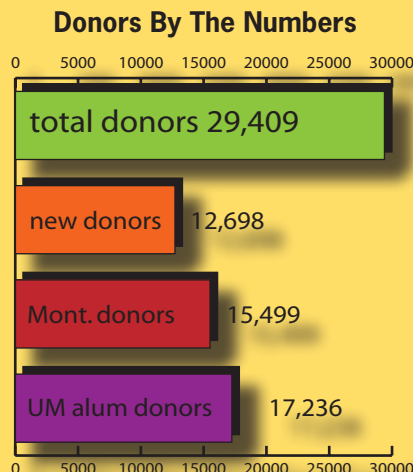
Photo: SAPHIRE DIAMANT-RINK

UM's study-abroad Vienna Experience choir benefits from private support.

requests, and an additional \$41 million from other sources over the same period (but not in direct response to campaign solicitations), we can move into the future with pride and optimism.

"I especially want to thank the members of the UM Foundation Board of Trustees, the Campaign Steering Committee, the foundation staff, University people and the hundreds of volunteers who helped to make all of this possible."

National Campaign Chair Deborah Doyle McWhinney says, "There is no question that the investment by alumni and friends



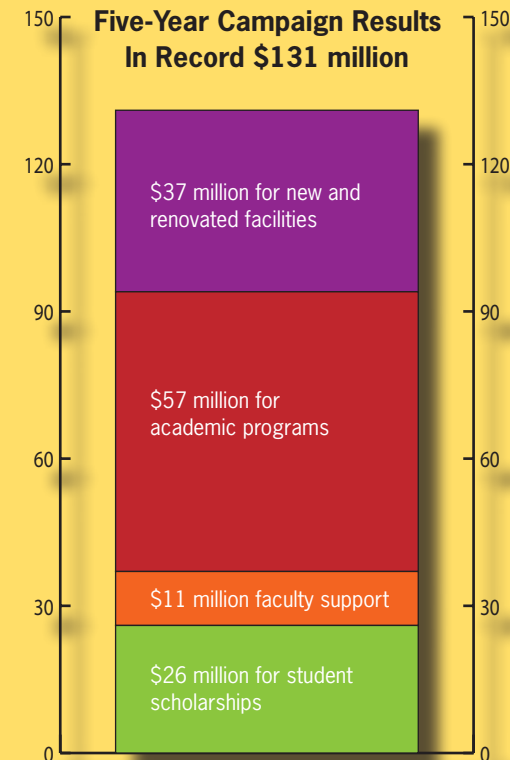
is paying off and in ways that can be felt throughout campus, the state and beyond. More affordable education — through scholarships, excellent programs and new and improved learning facilities — will all go to help UM stay at the top of its game."

Laura Brehm, UM Foundation president and CEO, responded to the huge outpouring of new donors and reinvesting donors with, "I think people really understand and believe that supporting UM isn't just an investment in higher education, it's an investment in Montana. It's a great day at The University of Montana, and I'm excited about the possibilities going forward."



Donors are making the Phyllis J. Washington Education Center possible.

The future is here, and UM has a front-row seat for witnessing student and faculty potential generating progress for all — at home and abroad.



The role of private support remains vital to ensuring a strong and competitive University. Investment opportunities include:

- The Endowed Chair in Cardiovascular Sciences.
- The Native American Center.
- The Presidential Leadership Scholarships, UM's most prestigious undergraduate awards.
- The Phyllis J. Washington Education Center.
- The Montana Museum of Art & Culture.
- The Montana University System Honors Scholarships, awarded to outstanding students from Montana high schools.
- The Gilkey Center for Executive Education.
- The Law School Building renovation and addition.
- The T. Anthony Pollner Distinguished Professor in Journalism.
- The alumni center.



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