



DAVIDSON

HONORS COLLEGE

UNIVERSITY OF MONTANA



LETTER FROM

Dean Nichols

Welcome to the University of Montana's Davidson Honors College!

Let me begin with our mission:

Set in the awesome natural beauty of western Montana, we are a vibrant, inclusive intellectual community providing transformative educational opportunities and are dedicated to strengthening our positive impacts on the world.

Indeed, honors at UM provides curious learners of all kinds with opportunities to face challenges, build support systems, and become part of a community that will help them make the most of their undergraduate education. Whether you're pursuing music or medicine, business or biology, astronomy or anthropology, wildlife or writing, at the DHC, you'll be warmly welcomed, challenged, and supported as you explore, reflect, and pursue your goals. You will also be well-positioned to bring your personal, academic, and professional aspirations to life.

Your honors experience will be elevated and enlivened through highly personalized experiences in and outside of the classroom. As a student in the DHC, you'll have access to honors-designated general education, interdisciplinary and major-specific classes, taught in intimate, highly engaging ways by teacher-scholars, and filled with other talented, motivated students. Our advising and career development support team will help you connect to distinctive internship, study abroad, service, research, field-based, and leadership development programs that will further enrich your education.

Some of the special people and programs that will be part of your DHC experience are featured in this publication. But the information contained herein just scratches the surface. The opportunities available to you here abound and include early morning Friday hikes, a fall float trip, trick-or-treating for the hungry in our community, tea times, book clubs, and living and learning in Knowles Hall. You will also have opportunities to make friends at our spaghetti suppers, trivia and open mic nights, join student organizations like our Honors Student Association, Ambassadors, Student Advisory Council and Roots Music ensemble, and celebrate milestones with your peers and DHC team. No matter what ways you choose to engage with your honors education, you'll have opportunities to think deeply, work (and play) hard, build deep connections, have fun, and make meaning at the confluence of rivers, valleys and mountain ranges in beautiful western Montana.

Come visit us soon, meet our team, get your questions answered, and picture yourself in this special place, in honors, at the University of Montana. We look forward to welcoming you to the Davidson Honors College family.

Sincerely,

Tim Nichols

Dean and Professor
Davidson Honors College



THE DHC *Difference*

World-Class Education: At the DHC, we are deeply invested in you as a whole person. You'll experience the quality and intimacy of a classic well-rounded education in the context of a major research university. The energy of our honors classes will push you outside your intellectual comfort zone and challenge and inspire you to dig deep, learn and grow.

Renowned and Beloved Teachers, Mentors, Scholars: UM honors faculty are the best. DHC students work in their laboratories, join them for discussions on great literature and philosophy, share early morning hikes and are featured in their music and theater productions. Our instructors are experts in their academic fields and master teachers who become lifelong mentors and difference-makers in the lives of our students.

Unrivaled Personal and Professional Development Opportunities: The dynamic DHC classroom is only the beginning. We'll help you build your collegiate experience and achieve your full potential through internships and study abroad experiences, the National Student Exchange program, service learning, and a host of student organizations and leadership development opportunities.

Community of Learners: Located at the heart of campus in a warm and welcoming facility, the DHC is a vibrant hub and home for classes, offices, conference and study rooms, a cozy lounge and an outdoor learning space. As part of the DHC family, you will be surrounded by other talented motivated people – students, faculty, staff and friends – who will lift you up and help make UM your home. Our Living and Learning Community provides enhanced opportunities for students living on campus to further engage with the DHC.

Holistic Student Support: As a student in the DHC, you'll have a dedicated honors advisor and support from a broader team of academic and student success professionals who will help you discover, explore and embrace opportunities that will maximize your DHC experience.

Springboard to Success: DHC graduates are placed into competitive graduate and professional schools, land impressive jobs upon completing their undergraduate degrees and go on to careers and lives of impact in business, science, industry, government and public service, to name a few. They are leaders locally and globally.



GRIZZLIES UP CLOSE

Meet Beatrix

Beatrix Frissell was a 4.0 GPA Political Science and Environmental Science dual degree student from Polson, Montana. She aspires to work with lawmakers and to ensure the concerns of minorities and other institutionally oppressed groups are at the center of global environmental policy.

Beatrix is a Truman and Marshall Scholar. In addition to being an honors student, Bea received a Global Leadership Initiative certificate. She was a Mansfield Center student advisory board member, worked with the SEA Change Initiative, and as a Demmer Scholar and Baucus Climate Scholar in Washington, DC. She was a competitive runner with the Grizzly cross-country team, served on the Student Athlete Advisory Council (SAAC), and was a two-time winner of the UM President's Award.

Beatrix describes herself as 'ambitious and disciplined' with a passion for the outdoors and inclusivity. At the DHC, she says she learned the value of community, and that no one truly achieves success alone.

Beatrix is proudest of her senior capstone team's work identifying barriers to marginalized communities at UM, and the event they put on to connect UM students with outdoor groups in the Missoula community.

"I chose the University of Montana because I love Missoula and I knew I could make a home for myself here after meeting so many like-minded people on my campus visit.

I stayed because I found all of that and more in the DHC, connecting with people over a shared love for Montana, public service, and all the little things, like Dean Nichols' dog, Luna."

- BEATRIX FRISSELL



Kyle Wonders

Wildlife biology major and climate change studies minor from Southern California, UVA Advocate, UIC Ambassador, peer mentor, and Schwabke leader. Worked with the Clark Fork Education Network.



Isabelle Hammond

First fiddler in UM's Roots Music ensemble. Spent her summer at St. Patrick's Hospital. Development Studies Club President, works at St. Patrick's Hospital.



Daazhrai Alexander

Creative writer and Japanese language speaker who grew up north of the Arctic Circle in Alaska, conducted research on indigenous and acknowledgment.



Junior Burks

Environmental science and sustainability major, landed a prestigious research fellowship in the Biosphere in Arizona.

A VIBRANT

Like our mascot, we exhibit boldness and always moving forward, secure in our

Like the Grizzly, and



Judah Garcia

'Saw boss' for the Forestry Club and Coaster's Ball, researcher with National Center for Landscape Fire Analysis.



Sam Galindo

Avid outdoorsperson, aspiring neuroscience researcher, singer with UM's chamber choir.



Rosie Steerk

Scottish Tennis Star, aspiring finance and economics professional, provided club treasurer, intramural sports endorsement.



Mary Catlett

Marathon-running, musical physicist who has conducted research with NASA. Her favorite job? tutoring math.



Tanner

Flanked Lake Biological Station.

highly-motivated major, Internship-

Sophia Boughey Communicative sciences and disorders major works for the DHC and UM's Mansfield Center, enjoys Friday nights.



Wyatt Plout Studied neurotransmitters, biomarkers, and more at Brown University's Brain Science Institute, leads UM's neuroscience club, ASUM Senator and Great Hockey team leader.



Delia Schmidt Earned a Fulbright to the UK to study climate change, traveled to Greece with honors, interned with the Montana Sierra Club during the 2023 state legislature.



Sarah Hibbard Actor, director, pre-school teacher and theatre educator, DHC mentor, and Western Regional Honors Council Student Representative.



COMMUNITY

and bravery in our lives and in our studies,
r strengths and limitless in our courage.

we are unstoppable.

Kevin Northey Helenan studying management, information systems with a passion for politics, DHC Ambassador



Dylan Cherullo Economics and mathematics major, small business consultant, fitness enthusiast, studied abroad and made friends from all over the world.



Jeremah Marine Corps veteran studying wildlife biology and non-profit administration, conducts research at UMS



Katia Chavez Student Advisory Council member studying wildlife biology and Spanish, tutors for local refugees, researches spotted owls.



PROGRAMS OF *Distinction*

WAYS OF KNOWING

This is the DHC's mind-blowing seminar-style foundational academic experience. Students read a wide range of ancient and contemporary literature and philosophy, discuss and write about big issues and ideas, and are challenged to reflect on what it means to be human.

CAREER DEVELOPMENT

The DHC boasts one of the only honors-specific career development programs in the country, providing support for students' professional development, including jobs and internships, goal setting, resume writing, practice interviews and more.

QUEST

Another model program, this powerful collaboration between the DHC and community partners assembles teams of students who work collaboratively to research complex, real-world challenges. Past topics have included affordable housing, zero-waste, addiction, communication strategies and decarbonizing the built environment. Winning teams earn scholarships and internships.

GRIZ READ

The Griz Read is a common intellectual experience that brings together students, faculty and community in conversation with authors about an important contemporary text. Recent selections include award-winning books including Cheryl Strayed's "Wild," Tommy Orange's "There There," and Montana author Bryce Andrews' "Down from the Mountain: The Life and Death of a Grizzly Bear." Other previous titles include 'The Displaced' edited by Viet Thanh Nguyen and Maria Reva's 'Good Citizens Need Not Fear.' The 2023 Griz Read is Robin Wall Kimmerer's 'Braiding Sweetgrass.'

UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH AND CREATIVE SCHOLARSHIP

DHC students embrace the excitement of discovery by developing and executing an original piece of scholarly or creative work that relates to their academic and professional goals. Students present their work on campus (and often at regional, national or international meetings); they publish on UM's ScholarWorks platform, and even in refereed journals. Projects span the breadth of students' interests ranging from neuroscience to nano-technology, from wildlife biology to women's and gender studies, from pharmacy to philosophy and from math to music.

EXTERNAL SCHOLARSHIPS AND FELLOWSHIPS

With full-time professional staff support, DHC students continue UM's strong legacy of winners of national and international awards including Rhodes, Marshall, Fulbright, Goldwater, Udall scholarships and more.

CLIMATE CHANGE STUDIES

The DHC is home to one of the country's first interdisciplinary academic programs aimed squarely at understanding and providing solutions to environmental, economic, social and political challenges related to climate change.

UNIVERSITY SCHOLAR DISTINCTION

Students who complete the requirements for graduation from the Davidson Honors College are named University Scholars, UM's highest academic distinction. They are presented with the DHC medallion, inscribed with the University's motto, "lux et veritas" or "light and truth" at a special ceremony on the eve of Commencement.

ALUMNI *Spotlight*

HILARY MARTENS

BS Physics, BA Music, 2008

- Associate Professor of Geophysics
- Earned degrees from UM, University of Cambridge, University College London, and California Institute of Technology
- International expert on the shape and evolution of the Earth, tracking water and drought from space, ocean tides, and earthquakes
- Violinist and music composer
- Goldwater and Marshall scholarship recipient
- Glamour magazine's College Woman of the Year
- National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship and CAREER award



DEVIN HUNT

BS Microbiology, Biochemistry minor, 2021

- Future physician-scientist
- Earned a 100th percentile score on the MCAT
- Research Fellow at the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (2021-2022)
- MD-PhD student at The Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine
- Musician, swimmer, third-generation Grizzly
- National Institutes of Health Intramural Research Training Award Recipient (2021)
- Recipient of the College of American Pathologists Distinguished Medical Student Award (2023)



SEAN MORRISON

BA Economics and English, French minor, 2009

- Tax attorney
- Advocate for pro-bono representation
- Cum laude graduate of Harvard Law School
- Former Senate staffer and tax policy advisor
- DHC External Advisory Council member
- UM Alumni Association Vice Chair
- Argued cases before the 9th Circuit Court of Appeals and Montana Supreme Court



A LITTLE BIT MORE



UM named the top university in Montana by U.S. News and World Report in 2019.



900 talented, motivated students from all over the state, nation and world.



Missoula is the arts and cultural capital of Montana.



Five mountain ranges converge at Missoula.



The famed Clark Fork River borders campus and flows through Missoula. A river really does run through it.



Local ski hill just 25 minutes from campus.



Monte, UM's mascot, was named the nation's best collegiate mascot.



More than 200 student clubs and organizations at UM.



DHC students earn some \$500,000 in scholarships and tuition waivers each year.



Over 100 honors student projects are presented at UM's annual Conference of Undergraduate Research.



Study abroad opportunities abound with partner universities; faculty-led opportunities take honors students around the world.



UM students have earned more than 110 Fulbright Scholarships, 40 Udall Scholarships and 25 Rhodes Scholarships.



ALUMNI

Kermit & Kathleen

SCHWANKE INSTITUTE

Experience Summer and Honors Education in Montana

Join a summer honors program for high school students and recent high school graduates to experience college life at the University of Montana's Davidson Honors College. Learn from honors faculty from award-winning UM programs, build connections with other curious students, and explore honors education at UM. Choose between two environmentally themed courses and receive University of Montana college credits upon successful completion of the program.

The Schwanke Honors Institute Includes:

- A choice between two environmentally themed courses taught by University of Montana honors faculty
- On-campus housing with fellow pre-college students and university resident assistants
- Engaging morning class sessions and afternoons spent exploring Missoula and the surrounding area on engaging field trips
- Extended visits to exciting field sites and iconic western Montana landscapes

To learn more, visit umt.edu/honors-college or contact the Schwanke Honors Institute at dhc@umontana.edu or call 406-243-2537.



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LEARN MORE OR APPLY TODAY

