



The University of  
**Montana**

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**DATE:** 28 August 2009  
**TO:** Board of Regents  
**FROM:** G. M. Dennison, President   
**RE:** Campus Report for the September 2009 Board of Regents' Meeting

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- **Sean M. Gibbons**, a 2008 graduate in Cellular and Molecular Biology, Microbiology, and French, received a Fulbright U.S. Student scholarship to conduct research at Uppsala University in Sweden.
- Research Assistant Professor and Native American Research Laboratory Director **Michael Ceballos** received a \$300,000 EARly concept Grant for Exploratory Research (EAGER) from the National Science Foundation to work on a biofuels technology aimed at making cellulosic ethanol production more efficient.
- The Montana Safe Schools Center and the Office of Public Safety a \$499,900 grant from the U.S. Department of Education to improve the University's emergency planning.
- **Victoria Clark** has been hired to head the Bitterroot College Program of The University of Montana for the next year. As interim director she will oversee the long-term planning for a permanent entity to deliver adult and higher education in the Bitterroot Valley.
- **Brandon Reintjes** is the new curator of The Montana Museum of Art and Culture. Originally from Bozeman, Reintjes recently completed a Master's of Art in Curatorial and Critical Studies at the University of Louisville in Kentucky.
- Montana Public Radio News Director **Sally Mauk** and Capital Bureau Chief **Emilie Ritter** received the Montana Broadcasters Association's Non-Commercial Program of the Year Award for their reporting from the 2008 national political conventions.
- **Klara Briknarova** in the Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry, **Lila Fishman** in the Division of Biological Sciences, and **Art Woods** in the Division of Biological Sciences received prestigious five-year Early Career Development Program grants from the National Science Foundation.
- The Corporation for National and Community Service awarded The University of Montana a place on the President's Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll for exemplary service efforts and service to America's communities.
- The University of Montana has signed a memorandum of understanding with Dubai-based American University in the Emirates, paving the way for future collaboration including student and faculty exchanges.
- The University of Montana signed an agreement with Addis Ababa University in Ethiopia establishing avenues for faculty research and exchanges, student exchanges, and joint conferences and publications.
- The Co-Teach Preschool Program received the Early Childhood Exemplar School designation for exemplary instruction from the Montana Behavioral Initiative.
- The Campus Corps program of Montana Campus Compact received a \$758,333 grant from the Corporation for National and Community Service.
- The National Association of College and University Foods Services awarded UM Executive Chef **Tom Siegel** first place for his recipe for Hutterite Chicken and Big Sky Mushroom Ragout in the NACUFS 2009 Best Local Foods Recipe competition.

- The Bernard Osher Foundation has awarded a \$1 million endowment to The University of Montana to help sustain the highly successful Osher Lifelong Learning Institute, one of only 123 Osher Lifelong Learning Institutes in the nation that receiving funding from the Bernard Osher Foundation.
- The Academic Planner application, a Web-based application that helps UM students map out the courses needed for their academic careers, won a 2009 Hugi Excellence Award in the Business Processes and Systems category of a competition run by the NorthWest Academic Computing Consortium. The application was written by UM's Information Technology department in close association with the Registrar's Office. The creators are IT programmers **Jon Adams**, **Tom Fite**, and **Tim Irmén**, as well as former UM Registrar **Dave Micus**.

GMD/kc