



DATE: April 29, 2015

TO: Montana Board of Regents

FROM: Royce C. Engstrom, President *Royce C. Engstrom*

RE: Campus Report for the May 2015 BOR Meeting

Student News

- UM Sophomore **Rachel Dickson** recently earned a prestigious **Goldwater Scholarship**, the top national award for undergraduate research in science, math and engineering. Dickson is UM's 16th Goldwater Scholar. The Barry Goldwater Excellence in Education Foundation trustees awarded 260 scholars this year. Dickson is a sophomore from Missoula majoring in biology and environmental studies. She plans a career researching and teaching in sustainable agriculture and biodiversity. Her special research focus is on native pollinators. Dickson began studying honeybees and mapping their pollination patterns during her time at Big Sky High School. Her decision to attend UM was influenced by the opportunity to continue working with the mentors she established while in high school. Dickson will use the scholarship to investigate which aspects of floral bloom increase incentive for pollination efforts and subsequently increase the strength of pollinators and floral communities. The Goldwater Scholarship was designed to foster and encourage outstanding students to pursue careers in the fields of mathematics, science and engineering.
- UM Junior **Hope Radford** recently won a second \$5,000 **Udall Scholarship**, which will support her studies for the 2015-16 academic year. Her award marks the 38th time a UM student has earned this prestigious scholarship. Udall Scholars are selected on the basis of commitment to careers in the environment or, for Native Americans applicants, commitment to careers in tribal public policy or health issues. Scholars also must show leadership potential and academic achievement. The independent review committee awarded 50 scholars. Hope also recently became a **Newman Civic Fellow** for her work as a change-agent, focusing on issues related to climate change, social justice and sustainable food production. The Newman Civic Fellows Award is given to college student leaders who have demonstrated an investment in finding solutions for challenges facing communities across the country. Since her freshman year at UM, Radford has stood out as an Eco Rep, coordinating environmental events, processes and systems, and educational programming for UM residence halls. She co-chairs the Food Systems Working Group and is actively involved with Students for Real Food, UM Climate Action Now, the ASUM Sustainability Committee and 1,000 New Gardens. Radford currently is studying abroad in Argentina.

- UM Psychology Graduate Student **Nick Livingston** recently earned a prestigious \$1,000 Diversity Research Grant from the American Psychological Association (APA). Livingston is a doctoral student in clinical psychology. He earned the APA grant for his proposed research, which seeks to examine the effects of daily micro-aggressions, negative affect, and stigma-based substance use among lesbian, gay and bisexual individuals in the Missoula community. Though the APA awards Basic Psychological Research Grants to between five and 10 individuals per year from across the United States, this is the first year in which the APA has offered a diversity-specific grant, making Livingston its first recipient.
- UM College of Forestry and Conservation student **Stephen Jenkins** and recent forestry graduate **Jena Trejo**, were first runners-up in the Barrett Foundation Business Concept Challenge. The challenge, sponsored by the National Forest Foundation and supported by donor Craig Barrett, recognizes business ideas that solve natural resource challenges in America's national forests. Jenkins and Trejo developed a business plan to convert logging slash and other wood waste into methanol and liquid carbon dioxide through a mobile gasification unit. They will process low-value woody biomass from forest thinning and lumber mill operations with equipment small enough to bring to processing sites, eliminating the costly transport issues that currently limit biomass production. Jenkins and Trejo received a \$25,000 prize.
- A team of three UM School of Law students, **Katelyn Hepburn, Lindsey West** and **Hannah Cail**, competed in the final round at the Jeffrey G. Miller Pace National Environmental Law Moot Court Competition in February. It is the largest interschool moot court competition of any kind under one roof, regularly drawing in excess of 200 competitors from diverse law schools across the country. The event attracts 200 attorneys who serve as judges for the three days of oral arguments. Sixty-two teams faced off in this year's competition. The event tests skills in appellate-brief writing and oral advocacy, involving issues drawn from real cases, and providing first-hand experience in environmental litigation. Competitors research and analyze current and challenging legal environmental issues, write persuasive arguments advocating how the issues should be resolved, argue the issues orally and have their performances evaluated and critiqued by practicing attorneys.

Faculty, Staff and Administration News

- The Organization of American Historians recently presented UM History Associate Professor **Kyle Volk** with their 2015 Merle Curti Award, which recognizes the best books published in American intellectual history and American social history. Professor Volk received the Merle Curti Award in Intellectual History for his book "Moral Minorities and the Making of American Democracy".
- UM Associate Professor **Amy Glaspey** was selected as part of an elite group to participate in the Council of Academic Programs in Communication Sciences and Disorders 2015 Leadership Academy. Glaspey will join 19 other participants from around the country. The academy will be led by Jeffrey Buller, dean of Florida Atlantic University's Wilkes Honors College. CAPCSD has initiated the 2015 Leadership Academy to help individuals considering academic leadership positions, or who are newly engaged in academic leadership, develop their knowledge and skills in the area of leadership.

- UM Pharmacy Associate Professor **Sherrill Brown** has been selected by Kappa Epsilon Fraternity as the 2015 recipient of the Career Achievement Award. She has been a dedicated member of Kappa Epsilon Fraternity for more than 10 years, serving on Grand Council as vice president of communications, acting as Grand Council liaison for several collegiate chapters and serving as co-adviser for the Delta Chapter. Brown has been an associate professor of pharmacy practice at UM's Skaggs School of Pharmacy since 2004. Brown also oversees the provision of drug information to health care professionals in Montana and across the U.S. as the director of the UM Drug Information Service. She also teaches drug literature evaluation in the pharmacy curriculum, precepts students in the Drug Information Advanced Pharmacy Practice Experience and advises students in the pre-pharmacy program. Sherrill is co-director of the Drug Information/Academia Residency program at UM, as well as a preceptor for the UM PGY1 Pharmacy Residency program. Kappa Epsilon, founded in 1921 in Iowa City, Iowa, is a national professional pharmacy fraternity that was originally established to unite female pharmacy students across the United States.
- The College Sports Information Directors of America recently announced they will honor longtime University of Montana Associate Athletic Director for Communications **Dave Guffey** with a Lifetime Achievement Award. The award is given to individuals who have served at least 25 years in the sports information profession, and who are retiring or leaving the profession. Guffey plans to retire from UM in June after serving Grizzly Athletics for nearly 37 years. Guffey is a resource for all things associated with Grizzlies athletics. He promoted, witnessed and reported on Montana's Division I-AA and Football Championship Subdivision championships in 1995 and 2001, and six more FCS football title games, 14 men's basketball postseason appearances since 1985, and numerous Big Sky Conference championships by the Grizzlies' 15-sport program.
- U.S. Department of Homeland Security Secretary Jeh Johnson re-appointed **President Royce C. Engstrom** to the Homeland Security Academic Advisory Council for another two-year term. This council, composed of prominent university presidents and academic leaders, is charged with advising the secretary and senior leadership at the department on several key issues. Former secretary Janet Napolitano first appointed Engstrom to the newly created council in 2012. The council underscores the department's commitment to working with the academic community. In his role, Engstrom provides advice and recommendations on issues related to student and recent graduate recruitment; international students; academic research; campus and community resiliency, security and preparedness; and faculty exchanges.

Other UM News

- Eminent UM historian **David Emmons** conducted groundbreaking research on the history of the Irish experience in Montana. Now thanks to a private gift, his work will be honored and continued far into the future. **UM alumni Sam and Julie Baldridge** of Whitefish have established a visiting professorship in Emmons' name. Each year, a Dr. David Emmons Visiting Scholar in Irish Studies will come to campus to teach various courses on Irish and Irish-American history. The University's **Irish Studies Program** is the largest such program west of the Mississippi. Scholarship and coursework focus on

the role of Irish language and Gaelic heritage in Ireland's history, as well as the Irish-American diaspora in the American West.

- UM has been named the **No. 6 medium-sized university for producing Peace Corps** volunteers, making a big jump up from its 2014 ranking at No. 12. Currently, 27 UM alumni serve with the Peace Corps worldwide. 2015 also marks the 11th year the University has placed in the top 25 on the medium-sized volunteer-producing colleges and universities list. Alumni from more than 3,000 colleges and universities nationwide have served in the Peace Corps since the agency's founding in 1961, including 832 alumni from UM. UM is the first public university in the country to partner with the Peace Corps to offer the Peace Corps Preparatory Program.
- **UM Dining Services** received a \$10,000 "Growth Through Agriculture" grant from the Montana Agriculture Development Council. The funds will support the expansion of the on-campus edible garden space. The current UM Dining Garden is just steps from the main dining hall on the mountain campus and is going into its fifth production year. The garden consistently has produced around 2,000 pounds of produce at a market value of approximately \$11,000. All produce grown in the garden is served on campus to students and campus guests. The garden provides opportunities for student engagement with urban agriculture and the Montana food system. The new funding will allow UM Dining to triple the size of its food production space on the mountain campus and will allow for greater academic partnership and student engagement opportunities. The Montana Department of Agriculture's Growth Through Agriculture program offers investments for new and innovative agriculture marketing ideas or agribusiness developments.
- The **SpectrUM Discovery Area** and its partners have been awarded an Environmental Protection Agency Environmental Education Grant of nearly \$170,000 to implement a field- and data-based groundwater education program in western Montana. The project is led by Beth Covitt, SpectrUM's head of Science Education Research & Evaluation, in collaboration with Bill Woessner and Deb Fassnacht. Woessner is a University of Montana Regents Professor Emeritus of hydrogeology, and Fassnacht is executive director of the Watershed Education Network. The Montana Groundwater Academy will engage high school students in firsthand field- and data-based groundwater science, equipping them with the knowledge and skills to make informed decisions about real-world water issues. Supporting partners on the project include Mountain Water Company, Missoula Valley Water Quality District, Missoula Parks and Recreation and Newfields Companies, LLC. The Missoula Parks and Recreation board has approved the program's field site in Greenough Park. Partner scientists and educators include the Bitter Root Research Conservation and Development Area, the Clark Fork Coalition, Salish Kootenai College and the Watershed Education Network. The groundwater education field site in Greenough Park will comprise a network of about a dozen monitoring wells, three stream stage gauges and a climate station, which will be installed with funds contributed by Mountain Water Company.
- UM's **Wilderness Institute** recently received a prestigious award for its role in producing "Untrammeled," a film celebrating the 50th anniversary of the Wilderness Act. Wilderness Institute Director **Natalie Dawson** accepted the Regional Forester's Wilderness Champion Partners Award from the U.S. Forest Service during a ceremony

March 17. The award recognizes Forest Service partners who have demonstrated a vision and passion for the National Wilderness Preservation System. The Wilderness Institute and numerous partners worked with the Northern Region of the Forest Service to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the signing of the Wilderness Act. This partnership produced "*Untrammeled*," a 27-minute broadcast-quality film. The film features youths experiencing wilderness and celebrating the incredible legacy and responsibility of passing stewardship from generation to generation. "*Untrammeled*" premiered before a packed house at UM in April 2014 and has been selected for broadcast at national film festivals.

- The National Rural Health Association presented a 2015 Rural Health Award to the Rural Behavior Health Primary Care Collaborative, a program of the **Western Montana Area Health Education Center at UM**. The Primary Care Collaborative is a partnership between the Western Montana AHEC and critical access hospitals in five isolated Montana communities. The innovative program places pre-licensed, post-doctorate psychologists and pre-licensed social workers in Libby, Glasgow, Deer Lodge, Plains and Kalispell to provide mental health care services. University faculty members provide supervision until they become licensed. One of five regional Area Health Education Centers in Montana, the Western Montana AHEC is a grant-funded, not-for-profit organization committed to making quality health care and health science education more accessible to rural Montanans. It is located in UM's College of Health Professions and Biomedical Sciences.
- **The Payne Family Native American Center** at UM recently received the highest award for sustainable building from the Montana Chapter of the U.S. Green Building Council. The building received an Honor Award in the Montana Sustainable Building Award Commercial Category. The design of the Payne Family Native American Center preserved existing site trees while the construction used logs from a Superfund cleanup site. Excavated rocks from the site were used for retaining walls. The flooring and cabinets are made from recovered wood and the building uses extensive daylight. Performance data shows the building saves 55 percent energy over comparable conventional buildings. The Payne Family Native American Center was designed by Glenn and Glenn Architects. A&E Architects, P.C. worked as the architect of record and interior design with general contractor Jackson Contractor Group. Engineers included Associate Construction Engineering, Beaudette Consulting Engineers and WGM Group. Landscape Architecture Studio did the landscaping for the building, which uses plant species native to Montana. Kath Williams and Associates served as the LEED consultant while Flow Engineers, LLC, was the commissioning agent. The Sustainable Building Awards celebrate the best buildings in sustainable design and construction throughout Montana. The competition drew participation from the architectural, engineering and construction professionals from across the state. Winning projects represent the highest standards in sustainability, innovation, building performance and overall integration.