

June 2020

UM has **added software engineering** to a robust lineup of new data and technology programs.

The University **updated its fall schedule** – starting earlier and ending before Thanksgiving – as part of its pandemic response.

Researchers in UM's Center for Translational Medicine have been awarded \$2.5 million in funding to identify and advance a **COVID-19 vaccine candidate**.

After a national search, UM has hired **Dr. Alan Townsend as the next dean** of the W.A. Franke College of Forestry and Conservation. Townsend will start his new duties Oct. 1.

In a sign of the times, **UM presented an honorary doctorate virtually** for the first time. The online honor went to William Yellow Robe Jr., a noted playwright, author, poet and educator.

UM officials have created a **University Design Team** to chart the institution's future trajectory.

A recent UM journalism graduate from China, Jiakai Lou, was named the overall **national multimedia champion** of the annual Hearst Journalism Awards Program.

UM planted 2,020 trees on its Bandy Ranch to commemorate this year's graduates.

UM geosciences Assistant Professor Hilary Martens will lead a **\$2.4 million project** to study how the Earth's shape changes as mountain watersheds store and release water.

UM led an effort to **assist the Fort Belknap Indian Reservation** with personal protective equipment.

The University plans to **renovate its popular M Trail** on the edge of campus.

UM has created a new undergraduate degree program: **Environmental Science and Sustainability**.

The University **lights up historic Main Hall** and the M to honor area high school graduates.

Institute for Tourism and Recreation Research lands part of \$40 million **National Park Service contract** to study visitor use and social issues.

In a first for UM, graduate student Kathleen Cotter of Helena earned a **highly competitive fellowship** in neurodevelopmental and speech-language pathology.