

The University of
Montana


STANDING OUT

The 2008 President's Report



MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

George W. Demetson



For the 2008 President's Report, we have much to present, given the intention to highlight the collaborative work with St. Patrick Hospital and Health Sciences Center and some people who have helped to make our programs noteworthy. In the final analysis, people, programs and place set The University of Montana apart, giving it an identity readily recognizable. Thus, it seems only natural for the annual report to parallel that observation.

The University began its collaboration with St. Patrick Hospital in the late 1980s, focusing initially upon the critical importance of the humanities to the quality of health care. The Institute of Medicine and Humanities, the first such endeavor, has not only withstood the test of time, but also has grown in scope and involvement, assuming responsibility for team management; for integrating the educational experiences of nursing students, clinical interns and pharmacy students; and for assisting with pre-med advising and other functions on campus. Over the intervening years, three additional institutes have emerged, each with a specialization corresponding to some of the most acute medical challenges in the world. The work done through these institutes will demonstrate the value of collaboration for translational research and other path-breaking developments. As some pundits have observed, we may have found an approach in Missoula that puts a premium on the absence of a medical school.

But, as everyone knows or should know by now, the personalities of the faculty lead to programs with truly transformative experiences for the students. Dan Pletscher has provided the leadership that has assured a world-class Wildlife Biology Program for the University. Place makes a difference, with the laboratory just outside the door, but people matter, as always. Denise Dowling, Martin Burke, Debra Magpie Earling, Colin Henderson, Teresa Beed, Bharath Sriraman, Janet Finn, Dan Reisenfeld, Stephen Kalm – the list continues in a representative way for the wonderful array of talented people who constitute The University of Montana. With so many outstanding people, we will need many more reports to cover them all adequately. These few examples will have to suffice for now.

I commend to you this annual report for 2008. Because of the contributions of wonderful people and the continued support of generous donors, The University of Montana has weathered many a previous storm and will manage the current financial one as well. Looking back provides ample warrant for the comment of Professor H.G. Merriam that “success may come through the overcoming of difficulties.”

George M. Dennison
President and Professor of History

For Dan Pletscher, a man with a penchant for the wilderness, it was not a hard decision to teach at a university surrounded by thousands of acres of just that.

“If you’re interested in wildlife and wild places, there is no better place in the lower 48,” says Pletscher, director of UM’s Wildlife Biology Program. “There’s no place I’d rather be than in Missoula and at The University of Montana.”

Pletscher, a past president of the Montana chapter of The Wildlife Society and the National Association of University Fisheries and Wildlife Programs, has been a professor at UM for 24 years and is one of the most respected names in wildlife biology education. He has written dozens of articles on wolves, cougars, moose and other animals and has extensively studied the ecosystems they inhabit. During his tenure at UM, he has built the University’s Wildlife Biology Program into one of the nation’s best.

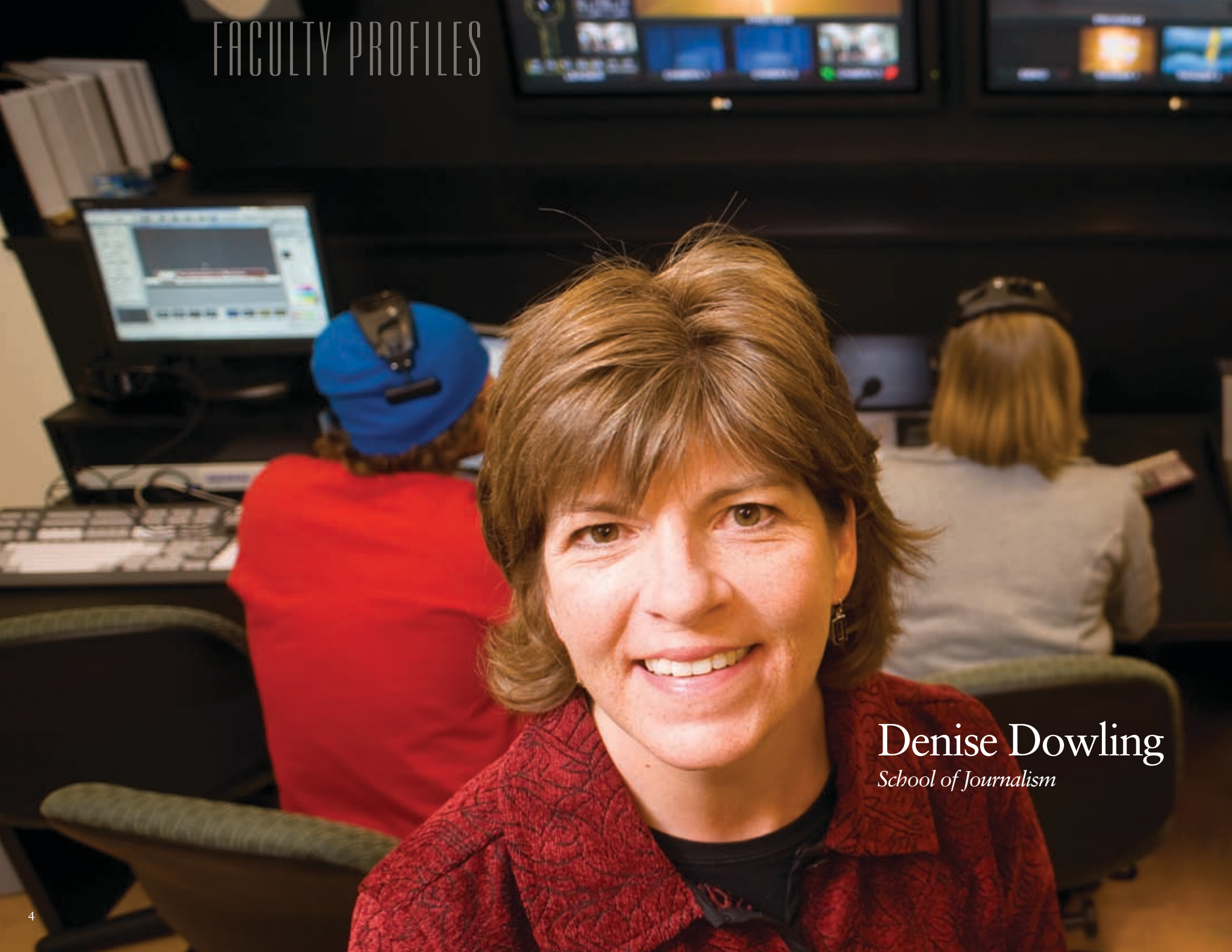
Pletscher says that the legacy of the Wildlife Biology Program and its ideal location close to some of the last wild places in the country make UM one of the premier universities for studying wild animals and conservation. He points to the prestige brought by past professors, many of whom were among wildlife biology’s biggest names – people such as Dick Taber, John Craighead and Les Pengelly. Today the program continues to attract top educators and researchers through its Craighead Endowed Professorship and Boone and Crockett Endowed Professorship. Outstanding faculty members often choose to come to UM over other universities because of its history and wealth of research opportunities that lie just a short walk from campus.

“If you look at most wildlife programs around the country, they’re shrinking,” Pletscher says. “But if we at UM should excel at anything nationally or internationally, it’s wildlife biology.”

A portrait of Dan Pletscher, a middle-aged man with short, graying hair and blue eyes. He is wearing a pinkish-red button-down shirt with two chest pockets. The background is a blurred green, suggesting an outdoor setting with trees. The text "Dan Pletscher" is written in a white serif font, and "Wildlife Biology Program" is written below it in a smaller, italicized white serif font.

Dan Pletscher
Wildlife Biology Program

FACULTY PROFILES



Denise Dowling
School of Journalism



The journalism industry today doesn't look like it did when **Denise Dowling** was a student here 27 years ago. But neither does the UM School of Journalism.

"It was really bare bones compared to what we're offering students now," Dowling says. "But one thing that hasn't changed is the family kind of feeling that we have in the program."

Dowling began her journalism career while still a UM student, when she got a job running master control at Missoula's KPAX-TV station. After graduating, she worked in TV and radio for 20 years, winning several Emmy Awards and an Edward R. Murrow Award for producing. In the end, Montana called her back, and in 2000 she joined the professionally experienced, award-decorated faculty at her alma mater.

Dowling has since been named the country's most promising new journalism professor, has directed election coverage for Montana PBS and has been selected as a media trainer by the Society of Professional Journalists. Her students have led the University to rank in the top 10 nationally for Hearst Journalism Awards.

While Dowling sometimes misses the adrenaline rush of being on the frontline of the newsroom, she says her teaching is equally rewarding. "I can still help shape journalism through these young people I'm teaching," she says.

Her success is evident. The 2008 capstone documentary project that Dowling's students produced about incarcerated mothers was named Best of Festival at the Broadcast Education Association's Festival of Media Arts and won a bronze medal at the New York Festivals International Film & Video Awards.

"There's just nothing like that moment when you see the lights come on for a student," Dowling says. "That's the most personally gratifying thing for me." That investment in her students brings warm returns later. "It's hard to see them go, but exciting to see where they land."

FACULTY PROFILES



Martin Burke
School of Law



Nothing is sure in life except death and taxes, and UM law Professor **Martin Burke** would have it no other way. The tax part, at least.

Burke picks up his pen with wonder, not annoyance, at tax time. “It’s a marvelous window on our society,” he says. “You can learn a lot about who we are.”

In his own words, Burke teaches in “the wonderful world of federal tax law.” Step into his office and it’s clear that he’s in love with a subject most people find frightening and bewildering. “I recognized as a young lawyer that knowledge of tax was critical,” he says. “Whether you’re interested in history, politics or economics, tax is front and center.”

Burke has taught for 31 years at the UM School of Law – his alma mater and a school that has sent its moot court teams to the national championship rounds for 10 straight years. He has earned national respect in the academic world of taxation law. The innovative text he wrote with Michael Friel is one of the field’s leading casebooks, now in its eighth edition. He serves alongside the chief justices of Arizona and Utah and prominent jurists, academics, lawyers and other professionals on the national accrediting body for U.S. law schools.

Burke was named a Regents Professor in 2004 and stepped down from a five-year term as law school dean so that he could teach more. For 24 years, he also has directed the annual UM Tax Institute.

Burke says the intimacy of the law school keeps him at UM. “In terms of an impact, there’s much to be said about loyalty to an institution. I love our law school. I love our size. There’s something wonderful about teaching at a small school.”



Teresa Beed

School of Business Administration

Sometimes it takes a fluke to find one's calling. That's how **Teresa Beed** found her career when, as a UM graduate student, she was asked to teach a class one semester. At first she was nervous. But as the class progressed, she enjoyed it so much she decided to get a doctorate degree so she could teach college classes full time.

That was 30 years, numerous awards and thousands of students ago. "It clicked," she says. "It's a hard job, but it's a fun job. If you're a good teacher, you bring energy and knowledge to the classroom. Not just knowledge – that's boring."

Now the director of the Master of Accountancy Program at UM, Beed uses her skills as an educator and professional accountant to ensure her students are properly prepared for their careers. "The No. 1 goal in our graduate program is to get people ready for the profession," she says. Fortunately for her students, even in an economic downturn, businesses, governments and nonprofits all need help with their numbers. "There are always jobs for accountants," Beed says.

The Master of Accountancy Program that Beed helped create at UM now turns out students who pass the CPA exam at rates that far surpass the national average. Many are offered jobs before Thanksgiving of their final year by state and regional recruiters who recognize the program's excellence.

Over the years Beed has turned down several opportunities to go into administration. "I knew what I wanted, and it was to teach," she says. Now, Beed's ever-expanding network of connections helps keep her and her students abreast of developments in the field. "When you've been around as long as I have, your students are all over the country," she says. "They're everywhere."



Bharath Sriraman
Department of Mathematical Sciences



Born in Bangalore, India, to a father who was a captain in the merchant marine, **Bharath Sriraman** didn't take long in becoming a global citizen. By age 13 he had already sailed around the world.

At 17 Sriraman decided to become a sailor himself. He spent the next three years working on cargo ships that sailed to the Persian Gulf, the Red Sea, the Far East, the Caribbean, Western Europe and the Americas. Working with international crews helped solidify his fluency in eight languages and his conversational skills in a smattering of others.

Sriraman left his seafaring life to attend college in Fairbanks, Alaska, where he earned a bachelor's degree in mathematics in two and a half years. In 2002, Sriraman accepted a position in UM's Department of Mathematical Sciences, which is known for its high faculty-to-student ratio. Here, his teaching and research interests have taken flight.

Sriraman's research takes him around the world. In Norway, he studies the complex combinatorial algebra within the weavings of the native Sami people. In Iran, he explores motivation among high school math students to improve teaching methods. He is currently in the process of establishing an international society on interdisciplinarity. In his seven years at UM, Sriraman has founded two academic journals, taught 29 different courses, published more than 200 articles and has been invited to give more than 100 lectures in 23 countries. But at the core of Sriraman's research is the belief that math is about much more than numbers.

"It's a lens through which you can see the world," he says. "It's about seeing with new eyes. The world is the same, but if your eyes change a little bit, what you perceive will be completely different."

Colin Henderson had just started teaching at UM when serendipity drew him into the world of bees. Henderson, a wildlife biologist by training with a research background in chemical ecology, had an office adjacent to that of Jerry Bromenshenk, whose bee research was already under way. The two got to talking, and the ideas started flowing. In 2003, the two professors founded a company called Bee Alert Technology Inc.

In the past six years, they have found massively overlooked potential for bees in a variety of tasks – as if their honey, wax and crop pollination weren't contribution enough. Take, for example, bees' 98 percent accuracy in detecting land mines when trained to associate the explosives with food. In initial tests, bees took a mere two hours to locate mines in a grid that would have taken weeks for a team of mine-sniffing dogs. This piqued the interest of the U.S. Department of Defense, which gave Bee Alert a \$4 million grant to continue its research.

Bee Alert Technology's resourcefulness with the insects doesn't end at the minefield. Microscopic hairs on bees' bodies collect particles in the air they fly through, making them perfect sampling tools for air pollution and biological weapons. When placed in a "smart hive," equipped with a variety of sensors and scanners that send information back to a lab, air tests can be conducted remotely. Henderson and Bromenshenk also study pathogens that may cause Colony Collapse Disorder, a mysterious affliction that has caused bees to disappear altogether.

When not conducting bee research, Henderson teaches classes in anatomy and physiology at UM's College of Technology, the fastest-growing entity in the Montana University System. Henderson says his research informs his teaching. "It rounds me out," he says. "It augments what I teach, and it motivates students."





Colin Henderson
College of Technology

Growing up in the middle of the hard-rock mining industry of Butte, **Janet Finn** couldn't have known how much she shared with children in a certain town in northern Chile. Chuquicamata was Butte's sister mining site, where Anaconda Copper Co. was digging for the same ores and where the lives and livelihoods of labor communities were determined by the company in the same way they were in Butte. It wasn't until years later, when she found herself in Chuquicamata making pasties and empanadas with women in mining families and conducting research for her dissertation, that she learned of the stark similarities of these parallel communities. The research led to her first book, "Tracing the Veins: Of Copper, Culture and Community from Butte to Chuquicamata."

Finn has now published five other books in English and Spanish, as well as numerous articles and book chapters. Her current research examines the roles of children and perceptions of childhood in Butte's mining heyday.

As the director of UM's Master of Social Work Program within a nationally renowned College of Health Professions and Biomedical Sciences, Finn uses an ethnographic, historical and social justice lens to approach modern social work. With about 25 students in each graduating class, the master's program is a perfect size, Finn says. "It's ideal because we're able to maintain a strong sense of community."

A strong emphasis on internships at more than 100 different sites in Western Montana – from hospitals to fair-trade shops – rounds out the students' classroom education. Finn says the program's discussion-based teaching atmosphere challenges and enriches students and faculty alike. In the end, she says, it's all about improving social programs for the people who need them most.



Janet Finn
School of Social Work



FACULTY PROFILES



As a child, Stephen Kalm could read music before he could read words. Kalm was only 7 when he showed up for the first audition of his career, at the San Francisco Boys Chorus. Once accepted, he simply started singing – he sang in concerts, symphonies and operas, and later in high school musicals.

Kalm entered the University of California, Berkeley, as a pre-law student, but he soon gravitated toward the musical side of campus. Following his passion, he finished his undergraduate study at the San Francisco Conservatory of Music. Kalm then left for New York City, where he financed his master’s degree at Queens College by working night shifts as an orderly in a hospital. (“I sometimes sang lullabies to the patients,” he says.)

In New York, Kalm’s career took off. Before long, he was singing in Bogota, Paris, London, Berlin and other world cities. After four years of teaching at Queens College, Kalm also discovered he had an affinity for instruction. In 1994, the world-class baritone applied for a position at UM. Fifteen years later, Kalm leads a team of nationally and internationally acclaimed faculty as the interim dean for the School of Fine Arts.

“It’s a great joy,” he says. “The students at the University are tremendously excited about making music and growing as artists.” Kalm values the closeness he has with them. “It’s very gratifying,” he says. “You become their mentor, confidant, sometimes their confessor, as well as their pedagogue.”

When he sings, Kalm’s goal is to communicate with an audience so directly that the lyrics bypass their brains and go straight to their hearts. He doesn’t take it lightly.

“An audience is entrusting their imaginations and hearts and minds to you,” he says. “I have a great responsibility to deliver them a dynamic live performance.”



Stephen Kalm
School of Fine Arts



Dan Reisenfeld

Department of Physics and Astronomy



High above Missoula and currently orbiting the earth is a little piece of UM in the shape of a Bundt cake. It's an instrument partially designed by UM physics Associate Professor **Dan Reisenfeld** that will map the edge of our solar system for the first time. The instrument is part of the payload of the Interstellar Boundary Explorer, or IBEX, a 5-foot wide spacecraft launched in October 2008. With the instruments now switched on and operational, IBEX has set to work charting the dimensions of our solar system's final frontier.

This is fitting for Reisenfeld, who in the third grade imagined himself Star Trek's Capt. Kirk and enlisted a number of his classmates to join his crew aboard the Starship Enterprise. Enthralled by planetariums early on, Reisenfeld remembers the moon landings and growing up in a time when space was just being discovered. It was catchy stuff. Reisenfeld received a bachelor's degree in physics from Yale and a doctorate in astronomy from Harvard.

Before long he was working at the Los Alamos National Laboratory, where he participated in the Genesis mission, whose purpose was to capture a sample of solar wind and return it to Earth for analysis. He also worked on the Cassini mission currently orbiting Saturn. (He still analyzes the ion composition of Saturn and its moons through an onboard plasma spectrometer.) Despite the hands-on nature of the work at Los Alamos, Reisenfeld wanted to teach. He accepted a position in UM's Department of Physics and Astronomy, where students and professors routinely collaborate on research.

"You sort of lose the forest for the trees," he says. "I needed to be reminded of why I do what I do, and there's nothing like interacting with students to remind you how cool this stuff is."

Not long after Debra Magpie Earling discovered her calling as a writer in James Welch's classroom at the University of Washington, a fire destroyed the 800-page manuscript of her first book. Undeterred, she gathered its pieces in her memory, sat down and wrote the novel again. "It was probably the best thing that ever happened to me," she says. The second writing of "Perma Red" won her 10 awards and national acclaim.

Earling, a member of the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes, became the first public defender in the Flathead Reservation's tribal court system at age 18. She later studied economics at UW, with plans to attend law school afterward. "I had no idea that you could make a living as a writer," she says. After her class with Welch, a renowned American Indian writer, Earling took a serious interest in the craft. "Through telling stories, you have a big voice in the world, and it's not easily silenced," she says.

Earling applied for graduate school at Cornell to study creative writing. She had found her niche. Years later in 2007, Earling's writing earned her a Guggenheim Fellowship, which gave her the time and peace to go further with her writing. "It was a great stamp of approval that I won an award not just because I'm Indian," she says.

Earling says she feels called to write the stories of extraordinary Indian women. She is working on a novel about the life of Sacajawea and the stories are flying from her pen. "It's one of the most exciting things I've worked on in my whole life," she says. "It's like a fever dream."

As a professor in UM's Creative Writing Program, one of the top in the nation, Earling invests that same passion in her students "to try to see what they are seeing through their eyes."





Debra Magpie Earling
Creative Writing Program

INSTITUTES

Montana may not have the population or the money to support a medical school, but that doesn't mean it can't foster cutting-edge medical research. The University of Montana is pairing its physical and intellectual infrastructure with top health care professionals to conduct some of the most advanced clinical research in the country.

Missoula has long been a place of confluence, and in 1987 UM first joined hands with St. Patrick Hospital and Health Sciences Center to create the Institute of Medicine and Humanities. Through this first collaboration, the University began to share its rich liberal arts tradition with the community's health care system.

When UM President George Dennison convinced Dr. Carlos Duran, a leading cardiologist, to come to Missoula in 1995 to found the International Heart Institute, the University-hospital relationship diversified. Two more institutes have since opened their doors – the Montana Cancer Institute and the Montana Neuroscience Institute – and UM has become a first-class medical research facility for regional health professionals.

“For the University, it creates the kind of setting that faculty and students want to be in, because they can be a part of research that means something,” Dennison says. “For the doctors, they have access to a research center. These institutes are doing outstanding work.”





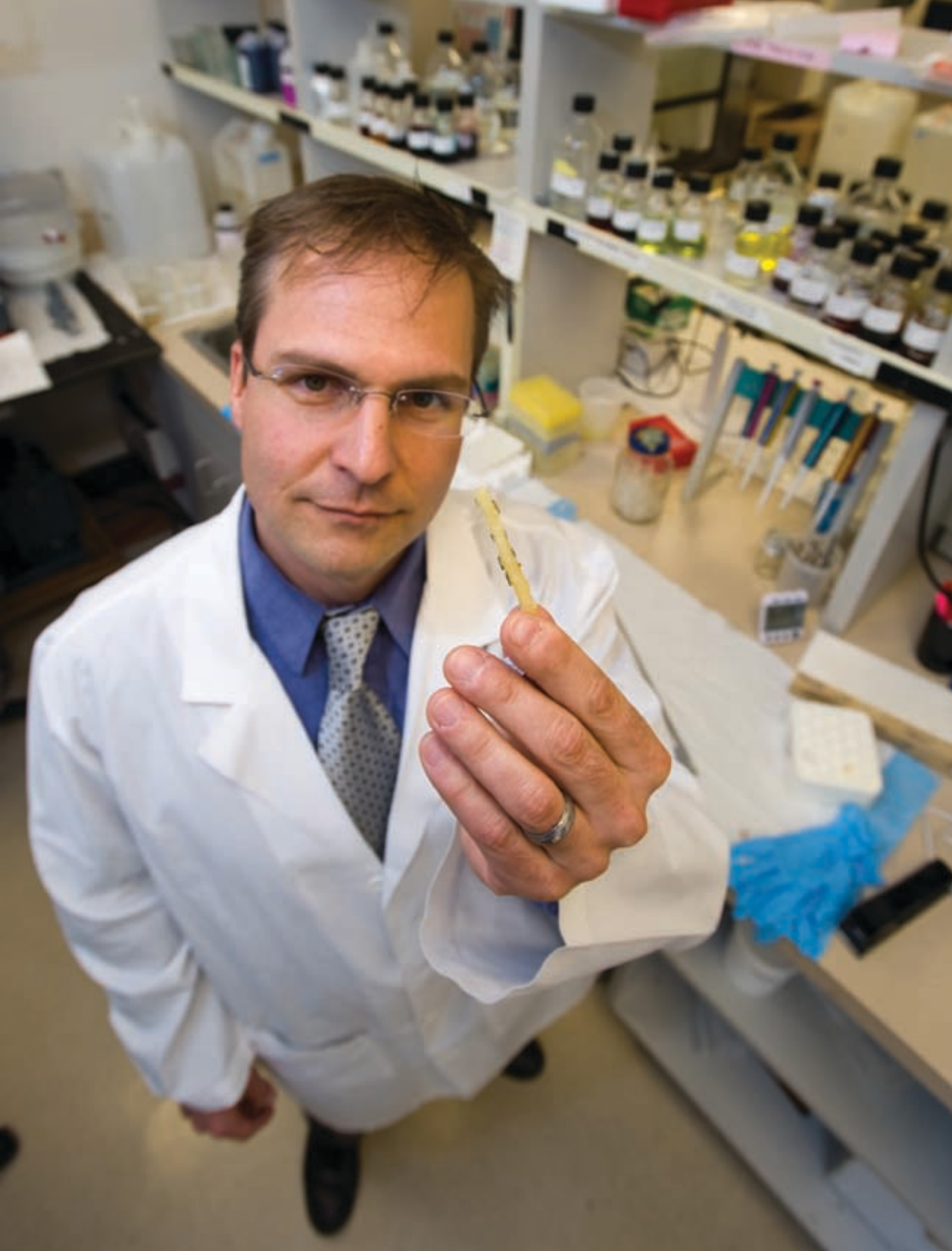
Institute of Medicine and Humanities

After years of college, medical school and residency, physicians are well-versed in the human body, its ailments and its underlying science. But for all they learn about humans, doctors seldom study the *humanities* – a fact that Missoula cardiologist Dr. John Stone, St. Patrick Hospital CEO Larry White and former UM President James Koch lamented in 1987. The trio created the Institute of Medicine and Humanities to apply the values and perspective of the humanities to timely medical issues and to bridge the gap between a liberal arts university and Missoula’s medical community.

“The humanities, in the broad sense, offer tools that can help care providers do their jobs better,” says IMH Director Dr. Peggy Schlesinger. One of these tools is collaboration. Schlesinger says that medical practitioners are too often isolated in their specialties, working independently instead of as a team.

“We all live in our own silos, and it’s difficult to make connections,” she says. To amend this, Schlesinger teaches a seminar for students from Montana State University’s nursing program, UM’s Skaggs School of Pharmacy and the University of Washington medical school. The students learn to approach clinical problems as a team to improve overall patient care. “The patient’s needs are pre-eminent,” Schlesinger says. “That’s the most important focus for all of us.”

It’s just one of many activities for IMH, which also sponsors the Global Health Lecture Series, two doctor-taught classes at UM and clinical rotations for UW medical students, but Schlesinger feels it’s important. “We have a unique opportunity to promote collaboration among health professionals, beginning with their clinical training,” she says. “Promoting collaborative care will make medicine a kinder, gentler profession.”



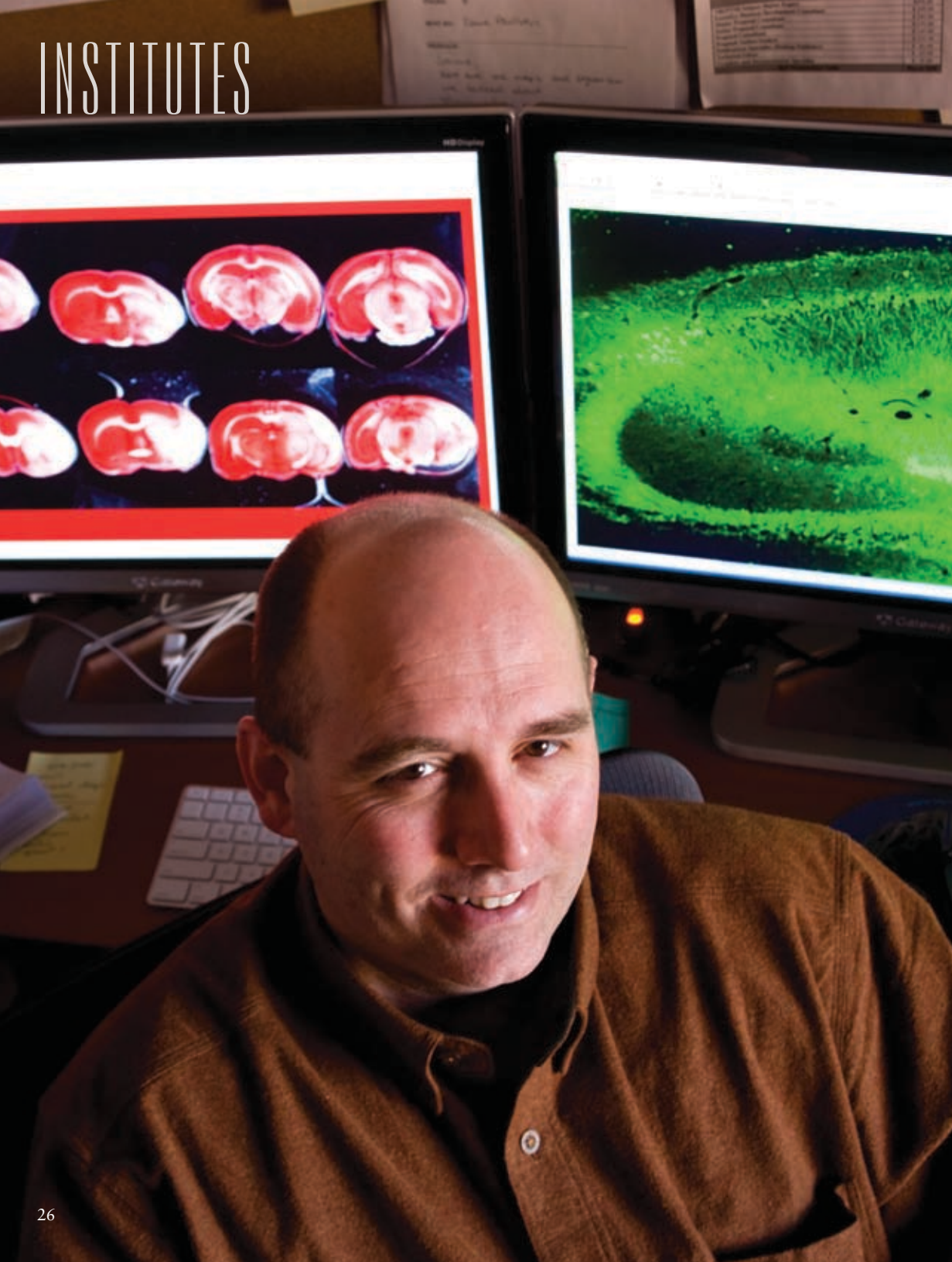
International Heart Institute of Montana

Just as the nature of war is changing in the 21st century, so, too, is the practice of battlefield medicine. Blood loss from extremity wounds is now the leading cause of preventable death in U.S. military operations. Wartime surgeons, taught to value life over limb, often are forced to amputate when they can't repair vascular damage on the battlefield. The U.S. Department of Defense wants a better solution, and they've given the International Heart Institute of Montana \$2 million to test one.

IHI, a collaboration between UM and St. Patrick Hospital, may have the answer. Doctors and researchers have developed a patented method of treating a section of a cow's artery, stripping it of its cells and freeze-drying it. Just add saline, whether in a modern surgical suite or in a battlefield combat hospital, and the artery can be grafted into a human body to repair vascular damage.

"It's a biological matrix in which native cells can grow and repopulate," says Dr. Stephen Tahta, principal investigator for IHI's research. "This graft has the potential to stay open longer than anything we currently have."

The vascular graft is sterile, freeze-dried and can be stored at room temperature – perfect qualities for a mobile military. So far the graft has been successfully implanted in sheep. Tahta hopes the FDA will approve the product for human testing in a year. UM faculty and students have been involved in this research since it began in 1999. If and when the vascular graft hits the market as a commercial product, the profits will be divided among the University, the hospital and the institute.



Montana Neuroscience Institute

The UM researchers working with the Montana Neuroscience Institute are not the type of people one would expect to be pushing methamphetamine. But these respectable-looking scientists are saying that a clinical use for this devastating street drug may have been overlooked.

“What people don’t understand is that this is an FDA-approved drug; it’s not just made by criminals in secret labs,” says Dave Poulsen, an associate professor of pharmacy at UM and director of translational research at MNI. Poulsen’s lab studies the positive effects low doses of methamphetamine have on rat brains after a stroke. While still at least a year away from clinical trials in humans, in animal models meth seems to decrease the inflammation, neural overstimulation and cell death that damage the brain after a stroke.

“We’ve figured out a way to stop this cascade of events,” Poulsen says.

Neuroscientists working in the field of neuroprotection have long been looking for a way to do that. So far, dozens of treatments have been tested, and none has been successful. But methamphetamine holds a good deal of promise in Poulsen’s studies to date.

Neuroprotection is just one area of research for MNI, another UM-St. Patrick Hospital collaboration, founded in 1998. Others include gene-based treatments for deafness and epilepsy, developing an imaging agent to diagnose Lou Gehrig’s disease and studying how lead can affect a child’s learning ability.

“We’re trying to take discoveries from the bench to the hospital, and from the hospital to the community,” says Richard Bridges, chair of UM’s Department of Biomedical and Pharmaceutical Sciences. “The institute is a very important middleman in that process.”



Montana Cancer Institute

There's a paradigm shift taking place in the pharmaceutical industry. Part of it relates to the treatment of cancer. And part of it is happening right here in Montana.

The emerging field of pharmacogenomics studies how genetic makeup determines a patient's response to medication. Pharmaceutical companies once relied on a one-size-fits-all approach to developing drugs, based on the physiology of an average patient. But scientists have found that different genes make for radically different responses to drugs. That variation can be fatal, particularly with highly toxic medications such as cancer treatments.

Genetic data for most ethnic groups is plentiful – sample populations in the metropolises around medical schools are usually large enough to study – but some groups, such as Native Americans, have been overlooked.

Enter the groundbreaking research of the Montana Cancer Institute, a collaboration between UM and St. Patrick Hospital. MCI is working with the Salish and Kootenai tribes of the Flathead Indian Reservation to determine how the Native American genetic response to cancer drugs differs from other populations. Blood samples are taken at reservation clinics and genetically analyzed by professors and students at UM.

“Very little research has been done on Native American populations because they live in rural areas away from medical schools,” says Dr. Patrick Beatty, president of the institute.

Beatty says that access to UM's Skaggs School of Pharmacy will help MCI garner the necessary data to treat cancer more efficiently in Native American populations. “This School of Pharmacy is far and away the best health institute in the state,” he says. “It's one of the best schools in the country.”



HIGHLIGHTS



The Montana Grizzlies storm through the tunnel and onto the field wearing copper and gold jerseys for the first time since their National Championship victory in 1995. The team beat the Montana State University Bobcats 35-3 in front of a record crowd at Washington-Grizzly Stadium and went on to take second place in the nation after falling to the Richmond Spiders in Chattanooga, Tenn.

The football season was just one of the 2008 highlights for UM. With award-winning programs, faculty and students, and visits from presidential candidates, rock legends and a justice of the Supreme Court, there was plenty to cheer about in Missoula this year.



UM Among the Best

The University of Montana once again made the “Best 368 Colleges” – Princeton Review’s annual list of the best institutions in the nation. Only about 15 percent of four-year colleges in the United States make the cut. In the 2009 report, UM students commend the University’s small class sizes, internship and work opportunities, proximity to outdoor recreation and vibrant culture of music and the arts.



Clinton Stumps for Hillary

Former President Bill Clinton stopped by UM in May to stump for **Hillary Clinton’s** presidential bid before Montana’s Democratic Party primaries in June. Speaking before 1,100 people in the Adams Center’s West Auxiliary Gymnasium, Bill compared Hillary’s campaign odds to the fourth-quarter comeback of the Montana Grizzlies in their 1995 national championship football win.



Obama Visits Campus

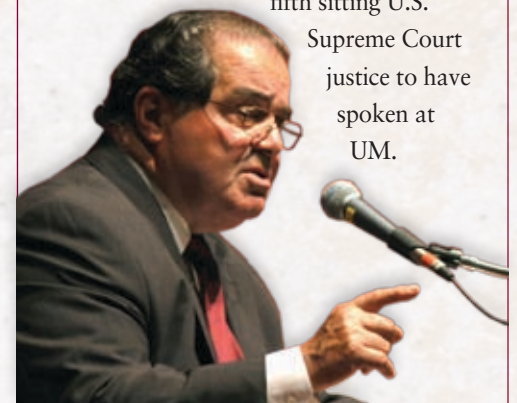
President **Barack Obama** paid a visit to campus last spring in the run-up to the Democratic primaries. On April 5, more than 8,000 people – some of whom had waited overnight – stood in a line that stretched halfway across campus to attend his rally in the Adams Center, which filled to capacity. The overflow crowd watched his speech live on GrizVision in Washington-Grizzly Stadium. “It is good to be in Missoula,” Obama said as he took the stage to thunderous applause.



Justice Scalia Speaks at UM

U.S. Supreme Court Associate Justice **Antonin Scalia** packed the house at UM’s University Theatre in September for his lecture on the interpretation of the Constitution. The speech was the 10th installment in UM’s prestigious Judge William B. Jones and Judge Edward A. Tamm Judicial Lecture Series. Scalia joins **Sandra Day O’Connor, Clarence Thomas, John Roberts** and **Stephen Breyer** as the fifth sitting U.S.

Supreme Court justice to have spoken at UM.





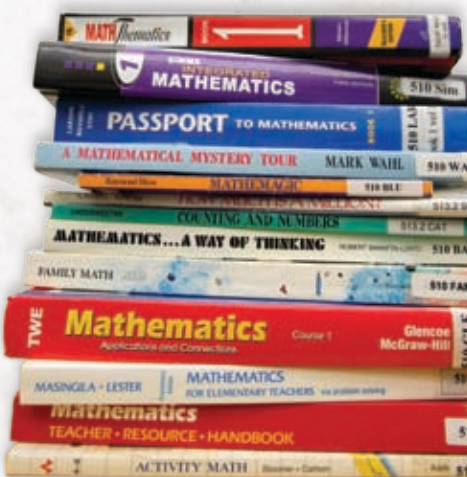
UM Posts Record Enrollment

Student numbers at UM were the highest they have been in the University's 115-year history. Total enrollment for fall 2008 was 14,207, a jump of 349 from the previous year. The number of full-time equivalent students – students taking at least 15 undergraduate credits or 12 graduate credits – also reached a new high of 12,296. "Quite clearly, the faculty, staff and recruiters have succeeded in their efforts to let young people know of the value we have to offer," **President Dennison** says.



Education School Among Nation's Top 10

UM was one of only 10 education schools in the nation to meet all standards of a two-year study for preparation of elementary teachers in mathematics, the National Council on Teacher Quality announced in June. The NCTQ report surveyed 77 education schools in 49 states. In addition to placing UM among the top 10 schools, the report also ranks a textbook co-written by UM Professors Rick Billstein and Johnny Lott second in quality of content among the 12 most frequently assigned by faculty members. The book received the study's highest rating for algebra content of all the evaluated texts.



Largest Donation Given to UM for Education Center

In May the Dennis and Phyllis Washington Foundation contributed \$10 million – the largest single donation in UM history – toward the building of the Phyllis J. Washington Education Center. Construction of the 27,000-square-foot education center began in September. As the first of its kind in the nation, the state-of-the-art center will house unique programs and 21st-century technology to train a new generation of teachers.



Main Campus Grows with Two New Centers

Groundbreaking ceremonies for two new centers were held on campus this year. In April, leaders from all Montana American Indian tribes attended the groundbreaking of the Native American Center. This 19,900-square-foot center will be the first of its kind on a U.S. university campus and will house all UM's Native American studies programming and related activities.

Construction also was launched for the Gilkey Center for Leadership, Entrepreneurship and Executive Education. The vision for the Gilkey Center was developed with UM alumni **Harold and Priscilla Gilkey**, who wish to inspire and educate business leaders of tomorrow.



Washington-Grizzly Stadium Expanded

The latest expansion of Washington-Grizzly Stadium wrapped up just as the 2008 football season began. The stadium's east side addition provided 2,000 extra seats, raising the capacity to more than 25,000 for the Grizzlies' 22nd consecutive winning season. The top-tier Canyon Club offers plush, glassed-in seating, while 250 fans enjoy exclusive access to the scenic views of the outdoor Hellgate Terrace. Additional upgrades such as new speakers, restrooms and landscaping have made for "an almost brand-new-looking stadium," says UM Athletics Director **Jim O'Day**.



UM, Vietnam Sign Exchange Agreement

UM secured its latest international partnership this year when **President Dennison** signed a student and faculty exchange agreement with Vietnam. The agreement marks UM's 86th international collaboration. UM currently hosts 500 international students from 73 countries. Vietnamese Ambassador to the United States **Le Cong Phung** signed the agreement on behalf of his country. He said Vietnam has 7,000 students studying in the United States, a number the country would like to see increase to 10,000.



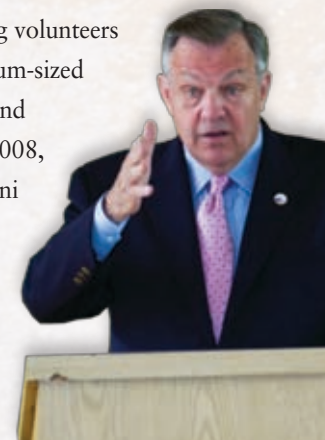
Top Gun Dennison

President Dennison put a check next to one item on his bucket list in August when he flew at 97 percent of the speed of sound aboard a Navy Blue Angels jet. During the 45-minute flight from Fairchild Air Force Base near Spokane, Wash., Dennison flew upside down and endured almost seven G-forces – all without losing his lunch. He says he would definitely fly again if given the chance. "No one should turn down such an opportunity," Dennison says.



Peace Corps Honors UM During May Visit

Ron Tschetter, the Washington, D.C.-based director of the Peace Corps, visited UM in May to honor the University for being a top producer of Peace Corps volunteers. Tschetter presented a plaque to UM to hang in the Office of Career Services. Since the Peace Corps was established by President John F. Kennedy in 1961, more than 700 UM graduates have served as volunteers. UM now ranks No. 10 for producing volunteers among medium-sized universities and colleges. In 2008, 23 UM alumni served in the Peace Corps.





Garon Smith, Montana Professor of the Year

Garon Smith, one of UM's most popular educators, was named 2008 Montana Professor of the Year by two national organizations that promote teaching excellence – the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching and the Council for Advancement and Support of Education. Smith is a professor of chemistry and entuses his college students and Montana kids of all ages by donning the wizard's cape and cap of his alternate persona, "G. Wiz," and instructing them with fiery tricks and humorous incantations.



photo by Erik Stenbakken

Jakki Mohr, First Female Regents Professor

The Montana Board of Regents awarded UM marketing Professor **Jakki Mohr** with the university system's highest honor in November – the rank of Regents Professor. Mohr, who joined the UM School of Business Administration in 1997, received the award and a standing ovation in the University Center Ballroom. She has received a number of state and national teaching awards and is the author of the groundbreaking textbook, "Marketing of High-Technology Products and Innovations."



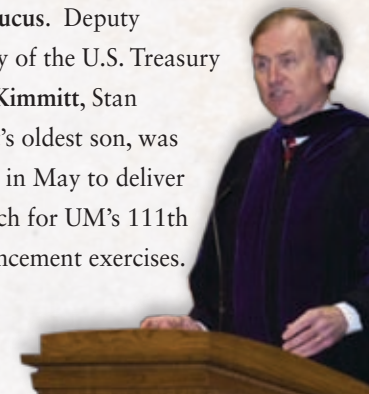
UM Makes President's Community Service Honor Roll

The Corporation for National and Community Service named UM to the 2008 President's Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll, the highest federal recognition a school can achieve for its commitment to service learning and civic engagement. In congratulating the honored schools, U.S. Secretary of Education **Margaret Spellings** said, "Americans rely on our higher education system to prepare students for citizenship and the work force. We look to institutions like these ... to shape the civic, democratic and economic future of our country."



Stan Kimmitt Remembered

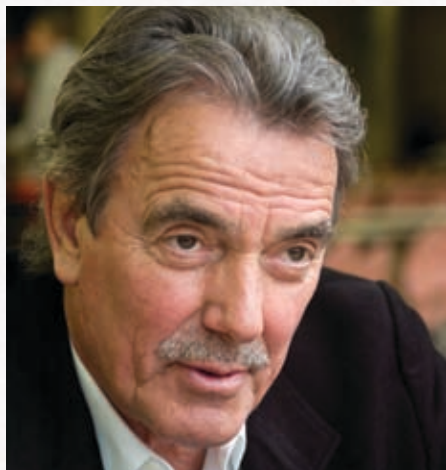
Joseph Stanley Kimmitt, former U.S. Senate secretary, aide to U.S. Sen. Mike Mansfield, and a Lewistown native and UM alumnus, was remembered this year on campus and in Washington, D.C. UM's inaugural J. Stanley Kimmitt Memorial Lecture on Public Service was presented in April by **Bob Kerrey**, prominent statesman, war hero and university president. The first J. Stanley Kimmitt Public Service Internship recipient, **Lucas Hamilton** of Havre, spent the summer working in Washington for U.S. Sen. **Max Baucus**. Deputy Secretary of the U.S. Treasury **Robert Kimmitt**, Stan Kimmitt's oldest son, was on hand in May to deliver the speech for UM's 111th Commencement exercises.





UM Commercials Rake in Awards

UM continued its award-winning advertising campaign this year with two more commercials produced by Montana-based Chisel Industries. One new ad, featuring anthropology Assistant Professor **Kelly Dixon**, won Best of Show in the electronic media category at the 2007 Montana ADDY Awards Competition in Great Falls. In total, Chisel Industries won six ADDY awards for the UM campaign at the February awards ceremony. Another new UM commercial features footage of a flyover of Missoula and the University campus.



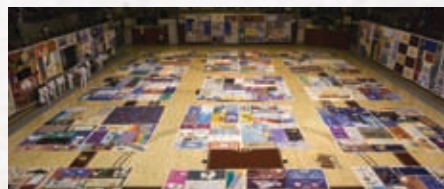
Braeden Comes Back

UM alumnus and daytime television star **Eric Braeden** came back to his alma mater last spring after an almost 50-year absence. Known for playing Victor Newman on the daytime drama series “The Young and the Restless,” as well as his role as John Jacob Astor in the Academy Award-winning movie “Titanic,” Braeden attended UM in the early 1960s and worked nights at the Bonner mill. He was back on campus in April to screen his aptly titled latest film, “The Man Who Came Back.”



AIDS Quilt Displayed During Homecoming

UM Homecoming 2008 had a special guest this year – a 101-section portion of the NAMES Project AIDS Memorial Quilt, commemorating those who have died of AIDS. Established in 1987, the memorial quilt comprises more than 40,000 panels in all and is the largest community art project in the world. The section of the quilt on display in the Adams Center was the largest exhibit of the quilt ever in Montana and included many panels honoring Montanans who have died of AIDS.



Rocket Man Returns

Elton John didn’t get enough of Missoula after his performance at UM in fall 2007. So he and his band were back for an encore performance in the Adams Center on April 11. A sold-out crowd of 8,000 fans cheered as the legendary singer, pianist and songwriter belted out his hits, including “Rocket Man,” “Yellow Brick Road” and “Candle in the Wind.” “Everyone at the University is thrilled that Elton John has chosen to play in Missoula a second time,” said UM Executive Vice President **James Foley**.



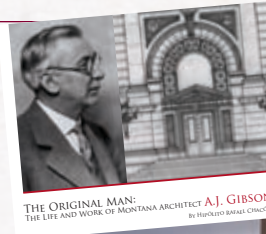
UM's Got Wheels

The National Wildlife Federation named UM the winner of a transportation award for its innovative and effective transit system as part of NWF's "Chill Out: Campus Solutions to Global Warming" competition. UM was one of eight schools honored from a nationwide pool of entries. The federation's "Chill Out" awards honor U.S. schools that are ahead of their time in addressing global warming and are highly creative in doing so. Associated Students of UM manages the University's Office of Transportation.



Radio/TV Students Sweep Documentary Awards

A UM School of Journalism documentary was named the best student-produced long-form program in the nation this year by the Society of Professional Journalists and the Broadcast Education Association. The radio-television students won the awards for "Beyond the Myths: Growing up in Montana." The documentary profiles the lives of six teenagers across the state as they grapple with racism, motherhood and mental health. It was produced by 17 seniors in a class taught by Associate Professor **Denise Dowling** and Adjunct Professor **Gita Saedi Kiely**.



UM Professor Writes First Biography of A.J. Gibson

The UM Press has published the first complete biography of Missoula County's best-known architect, Albert John Gibson. Written by UM art history and art criticism Professor **Hipólito Rafael Chacón**, "The Original Man: The Life and Work of Montana Architect A.J. Gibson" details the life and vision of the man who designed the first five buildings on UM's campus, the Daly Mansion near Hamilton and the Ravalli County and Missoula County courthouses. The book brings to light previously unpublished documents, drawings and photographs from the architect's life.

PBS Producer Wins Northwest Emmy

Gus Chambers, a television producer for the Broadcast Media Center at UM and Montana PBS, received an Emmy Award this year from the Northwest Chapter of the National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences. Chambers was recognized for Individual Accomplishment in Audio for his historical documentary "Hidden Fire: The Great Butte Explosion" at a June ceremony in Seattle. In the documentary, Chambers used scale models and small explosives to re-create the sounds of a series of devastating explosions in Butte's warehouse district in 1895.



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*2008 positions





This report was produced by the University Relations office, with writer **Jacob Baynham**, photographer **Todd Goodrich**, production manager **Cary Shimek** and editors **Brianne Burrowes**, **Brenda Day**, **Rita Munzenrider**, **Jennifer Sauer**, **Patia Stephens** and **Ashley Zuelke**. Design and layout by **Neal Wiegert** of UM Printing & Graphic Services, which printed this report. *Printed on recycled paper*





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