




The University of
Montana

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DATE: 24 October 2008
TO: Board of Regents
FROM: G. M. Dennison, President 
RE: Campus Report for the November 2008 Board of Regents' Meeting

- **Emily Darrell**, a graduate student in journalism, has received a Fulbright scholarship to Romania, where she will teach English as a foreign language.
- English Professor **Heather Bruce** is one of five educators nationwide to receive a \$10,000 Teacher Development Grant from the McCarthy Dressman Education Foundation. The grant is renewable for three years and will fund the Montana Writing Project's initiative "Implementing 'Indian Education for All.'"
- **Rob Gannon**, Director of Academic Budgets and Personnel, received a 2008 SunGard Higher Education Innovation Award for his role in the development of the MUS Dependent Premium Waiver Program. As part of the award, UM will receive \$3,000 from SunGard Higher Education to fund an endowment or scholarship on Gannon's behalf.
- Alumni Association Director **Bill Johnston** has been elected Treasurer of the Board of Trustees for the international Council for Advancement and Support of Education (CASE). Johnston serves as one of 30 elected CASE board members worldwide and one of four CASE board members who constitute the Executive Committee of the CASE Board.
- The Research and Training Center on Disability in Rural Communities (RTC:Rural) received a five-year, \$4.25 million grant from the U.S. Department of Education center to fund a sustainable plan for quality research and training to enhance state-of-the-art practices in rural disability and rehabilitation. RTC:Rural, part of The University of Montana Rural Institute, works to improve the ability of people with disabilities to live independently in rural America.
- College of Forestry and Conservation professors **Diana Six**, **Cory Cleveland**, and **Solomon Dobrowski** received a prestigious grant from the U.S. Department of Agriculture to create a fellowship program that will train graduate students in natural resource management. The Food and Agricultural Sciences National Needs Graduate and Postgraduate Fellowships Program grant will create a one-time fellowship program at UM for four students, two pursuing master's degrees and two pursuing doctorates.
- The new School of Public and Community Health Sciences recognized Public Health graduate student **John Felton** and Assistant Professor **Duncan Campbell** for their outstanding research in the discipline of public health. Felton and Campbell each received \$100 and presented his work to the school's students, faculty members, and public health professionals.
- Three outstanding alumni—**Jeff Hamilton** of Spokane, Wash., retired senior managing partner of the global consulting firm Accenture; **Judith Blakely Morgan** of La Jolla, Calif., a journalist best known for her award-winning travel columns; and **Garry South** of Santa Monica, Calif., one of the nation's top political strategists—received the University's 2008 Distinguished Alumni Award.
- The Department of Geosciences, with partner institutions in Germany and Ireland, has established UM's first transnational dual and joint degree programs. UM's first dual degree program is a Bachelor of Science in International Field Geosciences, offered collaboratively with the University of Potsdam in Germany. Students graduating from the program will receive two separate bachelor's degrees, one from UM and one from the University of Potsdam. The University's first joint degree program is also a Bachelor of Science in International Field Geosciences, offered in cooperation with

University College Cork in Ireland. Students graduating from the UM-University College Cork program will receive a single degree jointly administered and awarded by the two universities.

- For the first time in its 115-year history, The University of Montana has more than 14,000 enrolled students, setting records for both total headcount and full-time equivalents. UM has a total enrollment of 14,207 this fall semester, a jump of 349 from a year ago and 246 more than the previous all-time record set in fall 2006. Total enrollment at UM's mountain campus is 12,566, which is 240 more than a year ago. College of Technology enrollment stands at 1,641—109 higher than last fall semester.
- The African-American Studies Program celebrated forty years on campus this year. Created in 1968, the program, then called the Black Studies Program, was among the first African-American Studies programs in the nation.
- The Maureen and Mike Mansfield Center celebrated its twenty-fifth anniversary at The University of Montana this year. Founded to maintain the values of U.S. Senator Mike Mansfield and his beloved wife, Maureen, the center was launched in 1983 with an endowment from Congress to honor its longest-serving Senate majority leader.
- The University of Montana helped develop and implement collegeportraits.org, a new national Web site that allows students and their families to easily compare institutions of higher learning. The site will help ensure that students and their families have the information needed to make sound college decisions. In Montana, in addition to UM as a founding participant, Montana State University-Bozeman and MSU-Billings have joined the ranks. UM-Western and Montana Tech of UM will participate soon as well.

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