



**Office of the President**  
The University of Montana  
Missoula, MT 59812-3324

Office: (406) 243-2311  
Fax: (406) 243-2797

**DATE:** January 18, 2013  
**TO:** Board of Regents  
**FROM:** Royce C. Engstrom, President *Royce C Engstrom*  
**RE:** Campus Report for the March 2013 Board of Regents Meeting

---

- On November 14, **Missoula College University of Montana** officially “unveiled” its new name (changed from the College of Technology), during a reception that included remarks from Mayor Engen, President Engstrom, and students from Missoula College.
- City of Missoula and University of Montana leaders launched a new **Community Quality of Life Initiative** on December 10, pledging to work together to enhance student housing options and improve neighborhood relations.
- After nationwide searches, the University has filled several critical administrative posts.
  - In late fall, **Scott Whittenburg** accepted the position as the University’s Vice President for Research and Creative Scholarship. He was previously vice president for research and economic development at the University of New Orleans. He began his duties at UM on January 2.
  - **Peggy Kuhr**, former Journalism School Dean and the Interim Vice President for Integrated Communications since mid-2012, has accepted the position permanently as of January 15. Joining Peggy in the department is **Mario Schulzke**, Assistant Vice President for Marketing. He was formerly Senior Director of digital strategy for the Los Angeles-based advertising firm WDCW and began his duties at UM on January 2.
  - **Michael Reid**, the Vice President for Finance and Administration at Angelo State University in Texas, joins UM in the same role. He begins his duties in April.
  - Finally, Matthew Riley, currently a director of IT at Stanford University, will be UM’s new **Chief Information Officer**, starting in April.
- **The Dennis and Phyllis Washington Foundation** awarded \$730,000 to The University of Montana and Missoula County Public Schools to fund the first year of a three-year, \$1.6 million proposal entitled **SHAPE P-20**, or “Schools and Higher Education Advancing Public Education Across the P-20 Spectrum.” The aim of SHAPE P-20 is for all students to be able to graduate from high school with the knowledge and skills required to thrive in the 21st century.
- November 16 marked the official launch of a new **Biomechanics Laboratory in the Phyllis J. Washington College of Education and Human Services**. The lab, part of the

Department of Health and Human Performance, will investigate the science of human movement.

- The **Federal Depository Library Program** recognized the **Maureen and Mike Mansfield Library** for its outstanding service and commitment as a regional federal deposit library. Mansfield Library was presented a plaque and a letter at the 2012 Depository Library Council Meeting and Conference in Washington, D.C.
- Leaders of the **Legal Atlas** initiative, a partnership between the University's Maureen and Mike Mansfield Center and a Missoula private startup venture, traveled to The Hague this November to accept the 2012 Innovating Justice Award and €50,000 to further develop the project.
- The University launched a four-minute radio program called "**Cores of Discovery**," airing Fridays on Montana Public Radio. "Cores of Discovery" aims to educate the general public about ongoing scientific research being conducted at the University and how this research can benefit lives.
- UM's annual **Community Lecture Series**, now in its 15<sup>th</sup> year, will begin on February 19. This year's series is titled "Russia on the Oval" and will feature lectures by UM faculty.

## **FACULTY ACHIEVEMENTS**

- The University of Montana glaciologist **Joel Harper** published research findings in the November 8 issue of *Nature*. Harper led a team of researchers from the University of Wyoming, University of Colorado-Boulder and the Université de Liege in Belgium to study the meltwater path on the Greenland ice sheet from 2007 to 2009.
- **Beverly Ann Chin**, director of The University of Montana English Teaching Program, is the recipient of the 2012 Distinguished Service Award from the National Council of Teachers of English. The award recognizes a person who exhibits valuable service to the profession, scholarly or academic distinction, excellence in teaching, and distinctive use of the language.
- The American Association for the Advancement of Science has appointed **Charles Thompson** as a 2013 AAAS Fellow. The prestigious fellowship recognizes an individual's contributions to science and technology. Thompson, who teaches in UM's Department of Biomedical and Pharmaceutical Sciences, was one of 12 Fellows appointed in the pharmaceutical sciences section, and he is the fifth UM faculty member ever to receive the honor. Thompson's research primarily focuses on advancing the understanding of how certain classes of insecticides are detrimental to human health.

## **STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS**

- In October, UM student and **United States Marine Corps Cpl. Jonas Rides At The Door** named the newest Defender of Freedom Fellow by U.S. Sen. Max Baucus. The fellowship offers professional experience in the U.S. Senate for Montana veterans.

- Two students recently were selected to intern with a Member of the Scottish Parliament. **Larissa Monckton**, a UM senior from Rocheport, Mo., studying political science and communications, and **Haley Rondeau**, a senior from Black Diamond, Wash., majoring in political science and minoring in international development studies and anthropology, began their four-month internships in Scotland on January 7.
- A **UM School of Law** team advanced to the final round during the American Bar Association-sponsored Law School Regional Negotiation Competition in Eugene, Oregon.
- Journalism student **Jessica Murri** won first place in the radio competition of the William Randolph Hearst College Journalism Awards Program. Murri's first-place finish qualifies her for the national championship, which will take place in San Francisco this June.
- **Entertainment Management students** are teaming up with **Eric Clapton's 2013 Crossroads Guitar Festival** once again. UM students have been charged with spearheading the online communications for the festival, slated for April 12-13 in New York City.
- Students with **The University of Montana Opera Theater** recently were honored by the National Opera Association. Two of their scenes were selected to compete in Portland, Ore., in the national finals of the Collegiate Opera Scenes Competition in early January, and a UM team was judged to have performed the best undergraduate scene in the nation.