

University of Montana Western

September 2013 Campus Report to the Board of Regents

English professor **Alan Weltzien** has worked hard to keep the work of Montana authors such as Norman Maclean and Thomas Savage in the public spotlight. Weltzien's *The Norman Maclean Reader*, a guide to the author of *A River Runs Through It*, introduced several unpublished Maclean pieces. Weltzien was also instrumental in the reissue of Savage's first novel, *The Pass*, and the upcoming 2011 reissue of Savage's second novel, *Lona Hanson*. Both novels follow the lives of ranchers who experience the harsh ruggedness of the Montana land and life. Weltzien's most recent publications include his work as the editor of *The Literary Art and Activism of Rick Bass*, *Coming into McPhee Country: John McPhee and the Art of Literary Nonfiction*, and *The Norman Maclean Reader*.

Four **University of Montana Western business majors** recently earned second place in a national case-study business competition in Orlando. The competition was part of the International Assembly for Collegiate Business Education (IACBE) Annual Conference and featured teams from undergraduate and graduate colleges across the country. (Our Business Department is accredited through IACBE.) Our team consisted of J.C. Isakson, a business administration major from Augusta, Mont.; Anthony Matosich, a business administration major from Carlin, Nev.; Chelan Taylor, a business administration major from Friday Harbor, Wash.; and Linda Sieverkropp, a business administration major from Ephrata, Wash. Business professor Fredrick Chilson was the team's faculty advisor.

The **Montana Western Education Department** inducted 31 new members into the Mu Phi Chapter of Kappa Delta Pi, the International Honor Society in Education. Kappa Delta Pi was founded in 1911 by William Chandler Bagley, one of America's most famous educators. Bagley taught on the Dillon campus in the early years of his career, also serving as the vice president and director of training at Montana Western (then called Montana State Normal School). During his tenure, he brought national recognition to the institution's education program.

Alumni News

Alumnus **Jeff Choate** was hired as the University of Florida special teams' coordinator and outside linebackers coach beginning in April 2013. Choate earned a Bachelor of Science in Secondary Education, Social Science Broadfield from Montana Western in 1993. He also played linebacker and defensive end for the Bulldog football team in addition to assisting as a linebacker coach while he was an undergraduate at UMW.

Alumnus **Gerald Gray** now chairs the Little Shell Tribal Council. Originally from Rocky Boy, Gray became the vice president and was then elected chairman in 2012 of the all-volunteer tribal council. Gray earned a bachelor's degree in elementary education at Western Montana College and started his professional career working for several years in public schools, following in the steps of his parents who were both educators. Gray says he owes much to his time on the Montana Western campus.