

Fall 2016

College of
Humanities & Sciences
UNIVERSITY OF MONTANA

hs.umt.edu

Heart & Soul



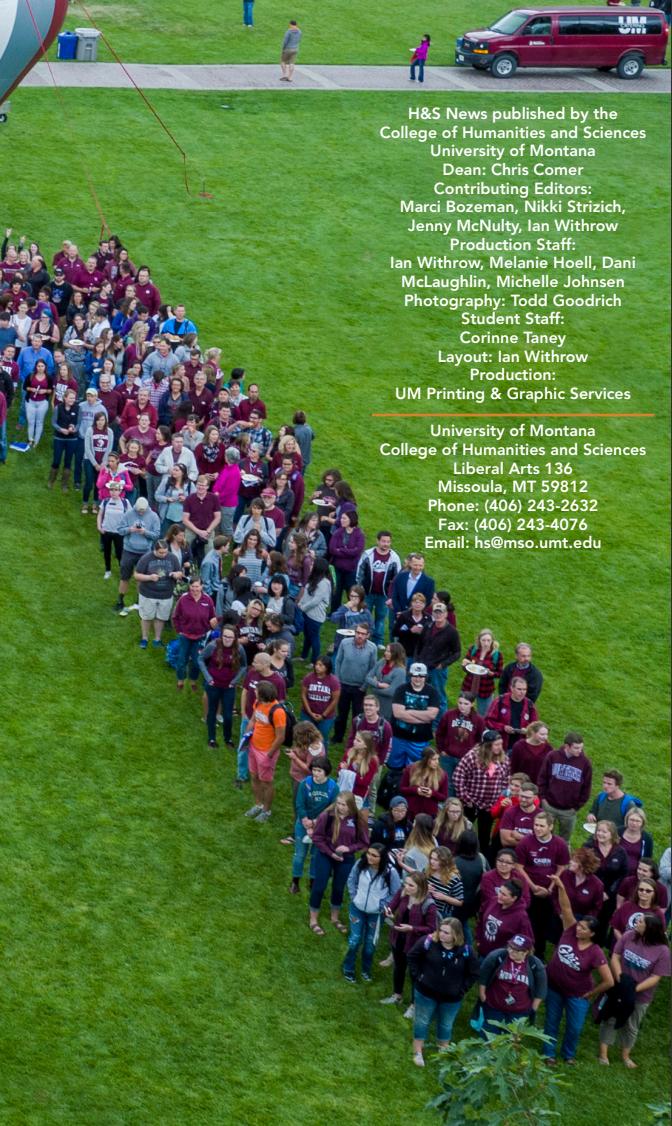


New students coming to UM

The Week of Welcome is a way of making new incoming students feel comfortable and at home. During this time, students participate in fall orientation, which includes information about class registration, residence halls, financial aid, and more. Services like the Move-in Crew help freshmen get settled into their new home away from home and a variety of different activities are put on in order to welcome incoming students to campus as well as their new community located in beautiful Missoula, Montana.



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Photos provided by Todd Goodrich



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Friends and Alumni of H&S:

The past few months have given us much to be grateful for at H&S.

The new Technology Corridor in the Liberal Arts Building has brought beautifully renovated space, innovation and technology to our students. Our recently proposed Humanities Institute has been approved by the Montana Board of Regents, and is already working to better support humanities research and teaching at UM. High-impact research by our ecology faculty was featured in the New York Times (article by Jim Robbins, Nov. 14). Our alumni and friends have hosted special H&S events in their respective cities of Chicago and Denver, working side-by-side with our College to increase our community engagement and connect with prospective students in local high schools.

There's more, of course, and in the following pages you will find further examples of our faculty and alumni receiving the highest of honors, the continued development of our infrastructure upgrades, and the collective generosity of our supporters providing students with opportunities for success. There is no question that our College is achieving great things, and doing so by providing a Liberal Arts education that emphasizes a complete and integrated knowledge of the humanities and sciences. As a member of our H&S community, we invite you to come along for the ride.

You can get involved with H&S in a number of ways, from assisting in student recruitment efforts in your community to providing financial support to a student conducting international research or studying abroad. Come back to campus and engage with students as one of our Returning and Community Scholars, or create a scholarship or fellowship in a department or program that is meaningful to you. Regardless of how you feel compelled to contribute, we encourage you to stay connected and keep us updated on your stories and experiences.

For more information about how you can be involved, please email us at hs@mso.umt.edu. You can also visit our website www.hs.umt.edu for more information about College news and events, and like us on Facebook by visiting www.facebook.com/HandSNews. Thank you for your continued support of the College, and we look forward to hearing from you soon.

Christopher Comer
Dean

College of
Humanities & Sciences
UNIVERSITY OF MONTANA

Jenny McNulty
Associate Dean

Humanities Institute brings new research opportunities to UM

On September 14, the Montana Board of Regents fully approved the College's proposal for a new **University of Montana Humanities Institute**. Led by faculty and structured to benefit student and faculty research, the Institute will bring new research opportunities to students and faculty studying the humanities at UM.

"The creation of the Humanities Institute signals the University of Montana's historic commitment to scholarship in the humanities," said **Nathaniel Levton** (pictured right), associate professor of Religious Studies and the Institute's first director. "The Humanities Institute will be an important site and source of support for individual and collaborative research projects in the humanities at the University of Montana."

The mission of the Institute is to foster provocative thinking, innovative research, and sustained public discussion of the human experience in all its complexity. This mission encompasses the traditional liberal arts disciplines (History, Languages, Literature, Philosophy, and Religious Studies), as well as any humanistic work that takes place across disciplinary boundaries or develops new approaches to the field of study.

"Until now, UM has lacked a common space and visible forum for the development and presentation of interdisciplinary humanities research on campus," said Levton. "The Humanities Institute will promote faculty scholarship and offer the entire University community and public a way to connect with the ideas and initiatives generated every day in UM's many humanities departments and related programs in the arts and sciences."



In its first year of operation, the Institute will provide modest financial support to the scholarly work of those working to illuminate, explore, expand, and augment human self-understanding. Future plans include advancing public discussion of the humanities by sponsoring public lectures and panel discussions, promoting cross-disciplinary conversations in both formal and informal settings, and bringing renowned humanists from other institutions to collaborate and research with faculty in the humanities at UM. This dynamic addition to the humanities on campus will strengthen teaching and learning experiences, invigorate the university's research portfolio, and expand the impact of UM scholarship to better serve Montana and the world.

In addition to Levton's director position, the Institute is overseen by an Internal Advisory Board. Comprised entirely of humanities faculty, the Board includes Professor Ashby Kinch of the English Department, Associate Professor Benedicte Boisseron of the Modern and Classical Languages and Literatures Department (French, Francophone Studies), and newly appointed Regents Professor of History Anya Jabour. The Institute is funded entirely by grants and private donations.

For more information about the Humanities Institute, contact Nathaniel Levton at nathaniel.levton@umontana.edu

Introducing **Nikki Strizich**

Annual Giving and Special Events Coordinator

The College is pleased to introduce **Nikki Strizich** as the new Annual Giving and Special Events Coordinator for the H&S Advancement team. A native Montanan and graduate of the UM School of Business, Nikki comes to H&S from the Montana Community Development Corporation. She brings a positive and professional energy to the workplace, and has already proven herself an invaluable addition as we work to grow support for the College. It is a privilege to welcome Nikki Strizich as the newest member of the heart and soul of UM.





H & S TAILGATE

On October 1, the College of Humanities and Sciences held its second annual Game Day Tailgate during the Homecoming Weekend. Friends, alumni, faculty, students and staff all came together to take part in an afternoon of camaraderie and fun prior to the University of Montana vs. Southern Utah football game. If you are interested in participating in next year's tailgate, please contact Nikki Strizich at nikki.strizich@mso.umt.edu, or Marci Bozeman at marci.bozeman@mso.umt.edu.



H & S would like to give special thanks to Draught Works Brewery for their support of our second annual H&S Game Day Tailgate event! Voted 2014 Very Small Brewery and Very Small Brewing Company of the Year by the Great American Beer Festival, Draught Works has quickly become a valued and supportive member of the local Missoula community. For more information about Draught Works Brewery, please visit their website at www.draughtworksbrewery.com.

NOTES



Montana Model United Nations celebrates 50 years of MUN conferences at UM

This fall, the Montana Model United Nations (MMUN) celebrated 50 years of high school conferences at UM. Started by H&S alumni Donald and Louise Krumm in 1966, Model UN conferences give high school students the opportunity to "represent" countries on UN committees such as the General Assembly and Security Council. Each year, over 400 students assemble at UM to learn about other countries, debate international issues, and develop negotiation skills. The MMUN conference also introduces students to the UM campus, students, and faculty. For more information about MMUN, please visit their website at www.hs.umt.edu/mun.

H&S alum recipient of MacArthur Fellowship "genius grant"

Daryl Baldwin (M.A., 1999) has been named one of the 2016 MacArthur Fellows for his work in reviving the linguistic, cultural, and intellectual heritage of the Miami (Myamia) nation. Baldwin, who is the director of the Myaamia Center at Miami University and a leader in Native American Language and cultural revitalization, was among 23 people selected this year from a variety of fields by the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation. Also referred to as "genius grants," MacArthur Fellowships are awarded to individuals that show exceptional creativity, have a track record of significant achievement, and manifest promise for future important advances. Baldwin graduated in 1999 from UM with a M.A. degree in Native American linguistics.



UM celebrates Elouise Cobell Day with Sunrise Ceremony in PFNAC

On November 5, the University of Montana celebrated the first annual **Elouise Cobell Day** with a sunrise ceremony in the Payne Family Native American Center (PFNAC), which houses the Elouise Cobell Land and Culture Institute. **Elouise Cobell** was a Blackfeet Tribal community leader and an advocate for Native American self-determination and financial independence. She used her expertise in accounting to champion a lawsuit that resulted in a historic settlement, restoring tribal homelands to her beloved Blackfeet Nation and many other tribes. On Nov. 16, Cobell was posthumously named a recipient of the Presidential Medal of Freedom by President Barack Obama.





Anya Jabour

UM's new Regents Professor of History

University of Montana History Professor Anya Jabour (pictured left) is UM's 11th Regents Professor. The approval was made by the Montana Board of Regents during its Nov. 17-18 meeting in Missoula. Jabour's new title will be Regents Professor of History.

Regents Professor is the top rank awarded to faculty members in the Montana University System. Established in 1991, the Regents Professor title is given to faculty members that demonstrate unusual excellence in instruction, scholarship and service, as well as distinctive impact through their work. The rank is awarded by the Board of Regents upon the recommendation of the University president.

"This is truly a case of a scholar and teacher generating a distinctive impact locally and nationally," said College of Humanities and Sciences Dean Christopher Comer. "Anya is a scholar admired by colleagues, a dedicated teacher, and a tireless advocate within our community for the voice of women to be heard, both in the present and from the past."

Jabour, who specializes in U.S. women's history, has been a professor at UM for over twenty years, having taught a

variety of courses in the History Department, the Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies Program, the Global Leadership Initiative, and the MOLLI Program. In addition to numerous articles and essays, she has authored three books, *Marriage in the Early Republic*, *Scarlett's Sisters*, and *Topsy-Turvy*, and has edited a collection on Major Problems in the History of American Families and Children and another on Family Values in the Old South.

She is currently working on a biography of educator and reformer Sophonisba Preston Breckinridge (1866-1948), for which she received a summer stipend from the National Endowment for the Humanities. She also serves as a historical consultant for the PBS Civil War-era miniseries, "Mercy Street," which returns for its second season in late January 2017.

Jabour has previously received the 2001 Helen and Winston Cox Award for Excellence in Teaching, the 2014 Paul Lauren Undergraduate Research Faculty Mentor Award, and the 2014 George M. Dennison Presidential Award for Distinguished Accomplishment, and in 2013 was named the University of Montana's Distinguished Scholar.

H&S student wins EPA Graduate Fellowship

H&S student Ranalda Tsosie (pictured below) is one of 50 students nationwide to receive a "Science to Achieve Results" Graduate Fellowship from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

A member of the Navajo Nation, she was awarded from the funding opportunity for sustainable and healthy communities for tribes and American Indians, Alaskan Natives and Pacific Islanders. Her research focuses on developing a filter for the removal of contaminating metals, such as uranium and arsenic, from wells on the Navajo reservation in Arizona.

"It's opportunities like the EPA STAR Fellowship that provide a foundation for STEM graduate students like myself and foster up-and-coming scientists to address the Nation's environmental concerns," said Tsosie a doctoral student in interdisciplinary studies with a research emphasis on chemistry, environmental studies and geosciences.

UM offers other opportunities for Native American graduate students, such as Native American Student Scholarships and the Alfred P. Sloan Indigenous Graduate Partnership.

"There are numerous funding sources for Native American students across all disciplines," Tsosie said. "I encourage every student to take the time to develop an outstanding personal statement and apply for these opportunities and others that are available."



Highest Honors



H&S faculty take home prestigious book award

A new book written by Environmental Studies Associate Professor Rosalyn La Pier and History Professor David Beck (pictured above) is the recipient of the 2016 Athearn Book Award. The book, *City Indian*, tells the story of how Chicago became the epicenter of a new movement in American Indian activism during the Progressive Era, from the 1893 World's Columbian Exposition to the 1934 Century of Progress Fair. The Athearn Book Award is presented by the Western History Association, and is given out biennially for a distinguished body of writing on the history of the American West. For more information about *City Indian*, please visit the book's website at <https://cityindian.wordpress.com/>.

Other Regents Professors in H&S

Ragan M. Callaway, Regents Professor of Ecology, *Division of Biological Sciences* (2014)

Fred W. Allendorf, Regents Professor Emeritus of Biology, *Division of Biological Sciences* (2004)

William W. Woessner, Regents Professor Emeritus of Hydrogeology, *Department of Geosciences* (2004)

William Kittredge, Regents Professor Emeritus of English, *Department of English* (1994)

Albert Borgmann, Regents Professor Emeritus of Philosophy, *Department of Philosophy* (1996)

Paul G. Lauren, Regents Professor Emeritus of History, *Department of History* (1991)

Building for the Future





Looking ahead...

This architecture rendering provides a glimpse at the possible upgrades coming to the H&S Liberal Arts Building this winter, thanks to the generous support of Dennis and Gretchen Eck (story on following page). The LA Building is home to the Communication Studies, Economics, English, History, Modern & Classical Languages and Literatures, Philosophy, and Political Science Departments, as well as the African American Studies, Liberal Studies, and Women's, Gender & Sexuality Studies programs. Over 1200 students take classes in the LA Building each year.

Building for



Dennis and Gretchen Eck

On September 30, H&S celebrated the grand opening of six newly remodeled classrooms in the Liberal Arts Building, and announced the next stage of renovations to the facility.

In the past two years, private investors **Dennis and Gretchen Eck** have generously contributed nearly \$4 million toward the renovations to UM's Liberal Arts Building. Their most recent \$2.6 million pledge will help initiate future phases of the remodel.

"I was walking across campus one day, stepped into the building and went back in time 50 years," said Dennis Eck, former interim CEO and current director at Ulta Salon, Cosmetics and Fragrance, Inc. "Nothing had been modernized. And I decided to do something about it – something that could serve as a proof of concept for upgrading the University's facilities without changing its characteristic beauty."

Thanks to the Ecks' ongoing support, the College has created a technology corridor comprised of six classrooms with enhanced technology to promote flexible learning environments. These classrooms reopened to students and faculty this semester, providing access to advanced audio/visual resources such as a dual-purpose whiteboard "skyfold" wall, Polycom units, an 80-inch monitor and wireless input systems to help facilitate lectures. Additionally, their support has provided for the development of an official master plan to guide the college's facility upgrades.

Dennis and Gretchen's gifts also have ensured further renovations, which will launch in December. The next stage will include enhancing technology in the building's 120-seat auditorium, creating a new central entrance, and designing much-needed student gathering spaces.

"We are grateful for generous visionaries like Dennis and Gretchen Eck, who recognize the value of an education that builds a broad foundation across disciplines," said UM President Royce Engstrom. "The improvements being made to the Liberal Arts Building will be integral to equipping our students with the tools to succeed in the global 21st century."

H&S fulfills approximately 80 percent of all general education requirements for the University, making the Liberal Arts Building one of the University's most highly trafficked spaces. The Ecks and the College have envisioned a facility that brings digital technology to faculty and students' fingertips and allows them to access scholars and educational resources around the world.

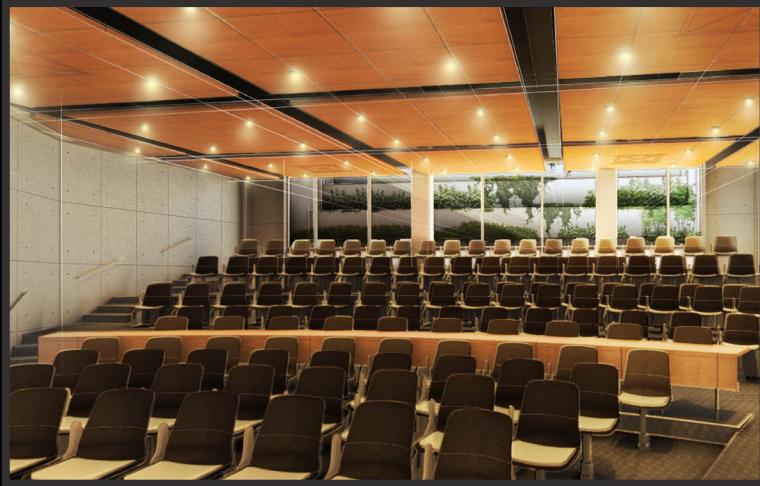
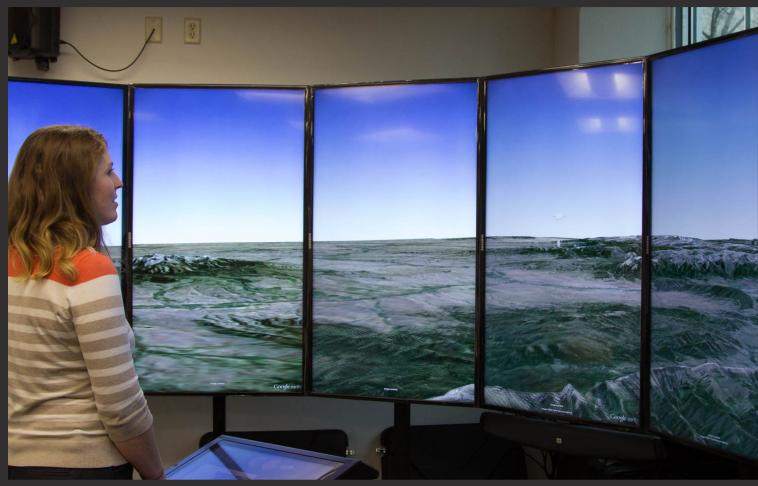
The next phase of facility renovations depends on important infrastructure updates to the heating, ventilation, air conditioning systems, plumbing and electrical systems, as well as roof repairs and asbestos abatement.

As a priority for the University in the next legislative session, this project promises to demonstrate the momentum of private support when coupled with state resources.

the Future

Making an Impact

Pictured: Montana Governor Steve Bullock, Dennis and Gretchen Eck, H&S Dean Christopher Comer, and UM President Royce C. Engstrom take time for a photo in front of the new 80-inch monitor (opposite page); new third-floor classroom with skywall elevated (below - upper left); Dennis and Gretchen Eck stand with honorary plaque in the Tess O. Thompson classroom (below - upper right); student experiences new Liquid Galaxy geographical mapping technology (below - mid-left); Architectural renderings of proposed garden-level lecture hall (below - mid-right); new second-floor classroom with flexible classroom design (below - bottom left); Architectural renderings of new second floor student lounge area (below - bottom right).



Chicago



On the road with H&S

October 25:

D r. Deborah A. Bekken '85, Mr. Mark G. Bohr '82, and Mr. Douglas F. Marsh '82 graciously hosted a reception and special exhibition tour of "China's First Emperor and his Terracotta Warriors" at The Field Museum in Chicago, IL. This special event included alumni, UM parents, friends and prospective students. A brief program included Dean Christopher Comer and Nathaniel Levton, associate professor of Religious Studies and Director of UM's new Humanities Institute.

Interested in hosting an event in your city?

We're always on the lookout for new and exciting ways to spread the word about all the exciting opportunities and achievements going on at H&S! If you would like to host an H&S event in your city, please contact Annual Giving and Special Events Coordinator Nikki Strizich at nikki.strizich@mso.umt.edu. We look forward to hearing from you!





Denver

November 1:

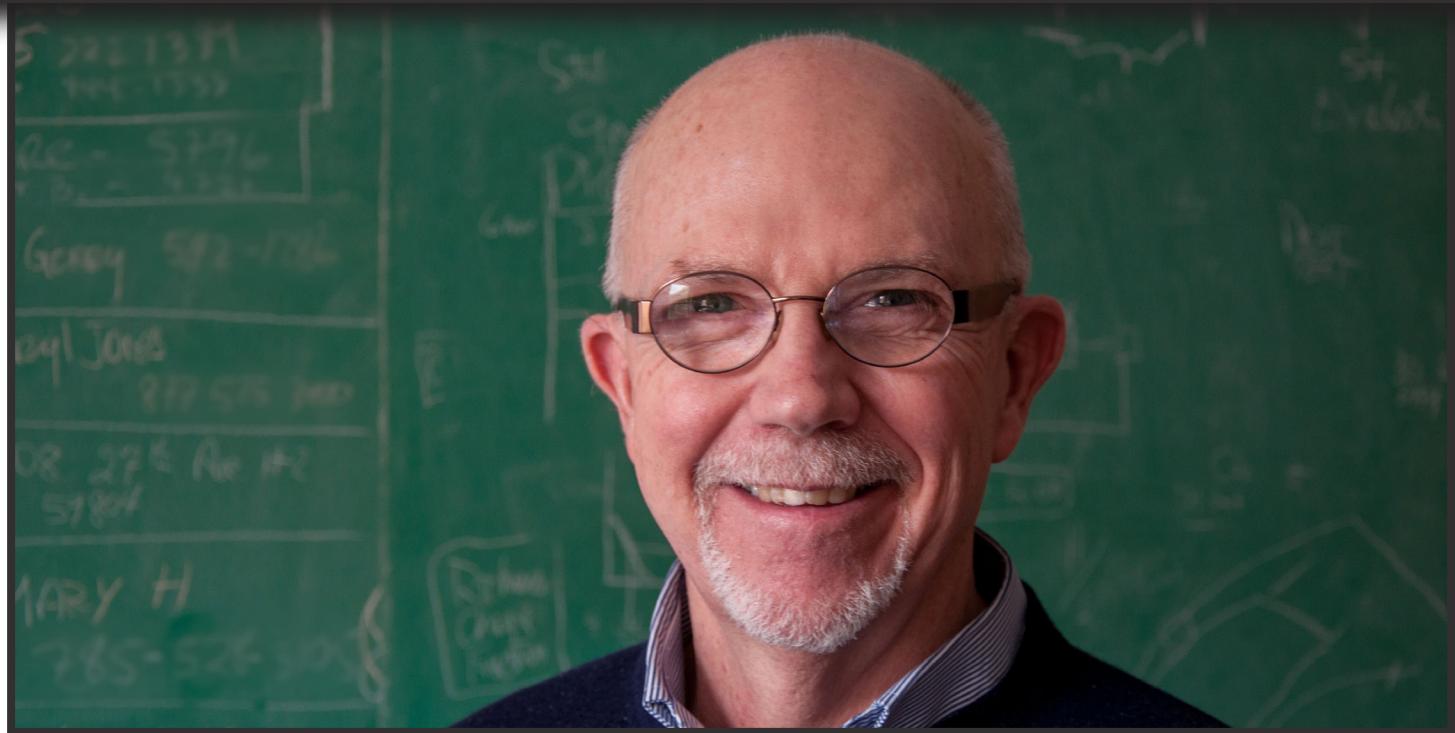
Organized and hosted by Mr. Joe DeDominic '86 (President and COO, Anschutz Exploration), H&S spent an evening with the NHL Colorado Avalanche in Denver, CO. Held in the Anschutz Corporate Suite in the Pepsi Center, attendees were treated to light snacks and drinks as they watched the Avalanche take the ice against the Nashville Predators, and received H&S news and updates from Dean Comer.

Pictured: (Top L-R) Anna Phelps, Scott and Sandy Elvington;

(Bottom L-R) Joe DeDominic, Anita Powers, Dean Christopher Comer, and Barb Allen



Our 2015-2016 Distinguished Alumni



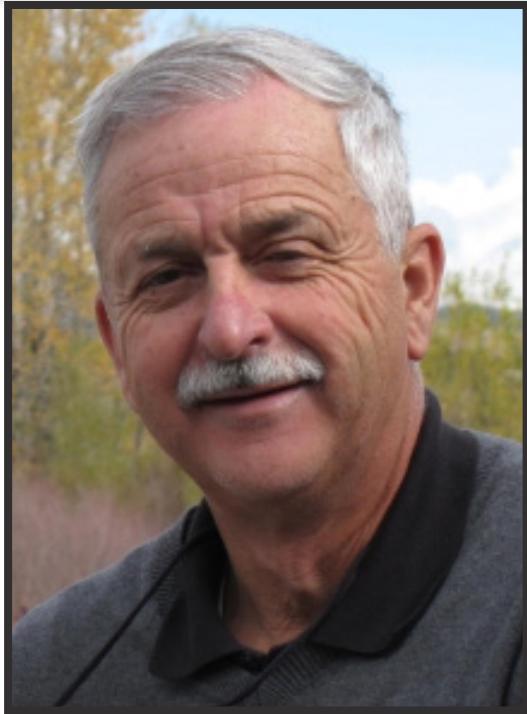
Tom W. Seekins, '74 **Psychology**

Tom W. Seekins, a professor of psychology and director of the Research and Training Center on Disability in Rural Communities at the University of Montana, is one of the leading social scientists in the country working to improve the lives of people with disabilities.

The community-based research methods that Seekins helped develop have led to nationally implemented social programs such as Living Well with a Disability and Vocational Rehabilitation and Independent Living. He has published more than 120 journal articles and book chapters that have helped shape the science of disability and community living, and has influenced major research programs to reflect the voice of rural Americans with disabilities, including the National Institute on Disability and Rehabilitation Research in the U.S. Department of Education, and Developmental Disabilities at the Centers for Disease Control.

Seekins has served as executive director of Family Outreach, a program serving families with developmentally disabled and at-risk children in central Montana, and as president of both the American Association on Health and Disabilities and the National Association of Rehabilitation Research and Training Centers. He has mentored nearly 50 students in his time at UM, and secured more than \$30 million in grant funds to conduct research and develop programs for health promotion, self-employment, economic development, community participation, housing transportation, civic leadership and American Indian disability issues. Seekins has also received the 2011 Distinguished Alumni Achievement Award from the Department of Applied Behavioral Science at the University of Kansas, the Allan Myers Award from the American Public Health Association, and the Earl Walden Award for outstanding achievement in rural advocacy from the Association of Programs for Rural Independent Living.

hed Alumni...



Darrel Choate, '65 (B.A), '67 (M.A) Mathematical Sciences

As a member of the Boeing Company's Technical Fellowship program, **Darrel Choate** has been recognized among the top 1 percent of Boeing engineers who demonstrate technical leadership across the industry and who make a significant difference in U.S. and global engineering excellence.

During Ronald Reagan's administration, Choate was instrumental in coordinating Boeing's efforts in the Strategic Defense Initiative, also known as Star Wars, for which he performed sensitive trade studies and analysis that influenced the current U.S. ballistic missile defense architecture. He also served as the systems engineering manager for the development of Sea Launch, a program in cooperation with Russian, Ukrainian and Norwegian companies to launch commercial satellites from one of the world's largest self-propelled, semisubmersible platforms. The system is in full operation and has launched more than 30 satellites, including some that provide XM Radio.

Choate began his career in the aerospace industry with the Aerospace Corporation and continued with the Kaman Science Corporation, eventually retiring from Boeing. He authored many papers and talks, though most of his work remains highly classified.

2016-2017 H&S Advisory Board

The H&S Advisory Board is an external support group comprised of alumni and friends of the College. Board members act as ambassadors for the College helping acquaint alumni, prospective students and the larger community with our mission and activities; offering guidance on strategic initiatives; and helping the College identify and secure financial support for students, faculty, programs and facilities.

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Lake Geneva, WI

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2015-2016 College of Humanities and Sciences

President's Club Honor Roll

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The individuals, corporations, foundations and organizations listed above provided support of \$1,000 or more to the College of Humanities and Sciences July 1, 2015 – June 30, 2016. Every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of this list. Please alert the College's Development office to any errors or omissions (406.243.2568). For more information about how you can be a part of the H&S President's Club, contact H&S Senior Director of Development Marci Bozeman at 406.243.2646 or by email at marci.bozeman@mso.umt.edu.





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Or send a check to:

**University of Montana Foundation
C/O College of Humanities and Sciences
PO Box 7159
Missoula, MT 59807**

*Please add a note on the reference line of your check if you would like to
donate to a particular scholarship or program within the college.*

If you have any questions about donations, please contact:

Marci Bozeman at marci.bozeman@mso.umt.edu,
Nikki Strizich at nikki.strizich@mso.umt.edu,
or by calling 406.243.2646

We are happy to provide you with information about our giving programs including
the Dean's Opportunity Fund, annual gifts, the President's Club, creating a scholarship or endowment,
or including the College of Humanities and Sciences in your will or estate plans.

Coming to Campus?

The College and the University of Montana have various events, lectures, programs and classes going on throughout the year.
Please contact us if you would like to visit the College, get a tour of the new buildings on campus,
attend a class, meet the Dean, or chat about your experience at the University of Montana.

