

Heart & Soul





Giving students a sense of PEAS

UM's Environmental Studies Program operates a 10-acre farm two miles from campus. The farm is known locally as the PEAS Farm, "PEAS" refers to the Environmental Studies department's Program in Ecological Agriculture and Society. This combination of traditional academics with hands-on work at an urban, organic farm produces tens of thousands of pounds of fruits and vegetables each season for low-income Missoulians. Students can work for credit on the farm, but their work earns them much more than credit hours. Students are involved in all phases of the farm, from greenhouse work in February to selling pumpkins in October. Most students report that the summer season at the Rattlesnake Farm is the most enriching experience they have ever had.



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H&S News published by the
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To our H&S Community:

The University of Montana is dedicated to providing the education that gives our students the greatest opportunity for a lifetime of success. We teach not *what* to think but *how*, putting our students at the forefront of what is possible and preparing them to have an immediate impact on our world. Our graduates don't find careers; they make them, and adapt their talents to a rapidly changing world. Our faculty strive to create a diverse and inclusive learning environment to better foster understanding and cultivate dynamic thought, and our dedicated staff members work tirelessly to help ensure that no dream or aspiration is beyond our reach.

This is the power of the University of Montana education: a transformative combination of rigorous coursework and hands-on professional development that expands the mind and enriches the spirit, culminating in a unique and powerful experience rooted in ethics, scholarship, innovation, and place.

For evidence of this, we look no further than H&S. In recent months we've welcomed a new wave of talented faculty to our College, highly respected scholars and educators who have enriched the academic culture of our campus. Less than a year into its existence, the Humanities Institute at UM is already providing financial support for humanistic scholarship, while faculty and student research across the College is gaining national attention for the University at an awe-inspiring rate. Alumni and friends of the College continue to bring new opportunities to our students and faculty through private funding, from cutting-edge technology and facility upgrades to student scholarships and faculty research support. You'll find these and additional examples in the following pages of this newsletter. They are success stories we plan to build upon, no matter the challenges that lie ahead.

Now more than ever, we want to stay connected. Visit our website www.hs.umt.edu for up-to-date information regarding College news and events. You can also like us on Facebook by visiting www.facebook.com/HandsNews, or contact us anytime at hs@mso.umt.edu. Feel free to stop in our office the next time you're on campus. We'd love to see you again.

On a final note, we'd like to directly address our graduating students:

Do not be tempted to do what is easy. Be empowered to pursue progress and challenge the status quo, and be as proud of what you've accomplished here as we are of you. We'll be watching with eager anticipation as you embark on new adventures beyond this campus and feel great confidence in your abilities to make this world a better place for us all. You have inspired us with your hard work and achievements. Words cannot express what a privilege it has been having you a part of our College these past few years. **No matter where your journey takes you, you will always have a home here at H&S.**


Christopher Comer
Dean

College of
**Humanities
& Sciences**
UNIVERSITY OF MONTANA


Jenny McNulty
Associate Dean

Dialogue & Evening of Thanks



Dialogue and Evening of Thanks photos provided by Will McKnight '19

The annual Evening of Thanks celebration recognizes members of The President's Club (donors of \$1,000+) to the College and new members of the College's Oscar J. Craig Heritage Society, visionary individuals who support the College through their estate plans.

ABOVE: Associate Dean Jenny McNulty (center) shares appreciation for student speakers, Tori Ansparger, Environmental Studies major and recipient of the Henry and Fannie Clift Kain and Daniel and Jessie McKay Scholarship (left), and Jed Syrenne, Neuroscience major and UM's 17th recipient of the Goldwater Scholarship.



ABOVE: Geosciences Emeritus Faculty member Don Hyndman and Shirley Hyndman enjoy hearing from students.



LEFT: Regents Professor Emeritus of History and Distinguished Mansfield Fellow Paul Lauren with UM Foundation Trustee Emeritus and long-time H&S friend Tom Boone

Now in its fifth year, the annual H&S Dialogue examined the complexities of Truth from a variety of angles—scientific, social and human. Investigating everything from the significance of evidence to the emergence of 'alternative facts,' the panel featured Communication Studies professor Betsy Wackernagel Bach, Division of Biological Sciences Regents professor Doug Emlen, and H&S alumnus and advisory board member Jim Murray, who also serves as a trial lawyer for Blank Rome, LLP (D.C. Office). Returning to the Dialogue was H&S alumnus and author Jeremy N. Smith, who once again acted as moderator for the panel's discussion.



This year the Russian major at UM is celebrating its 50th anniversary. To mark the occasion, the Russian program put on a two-day jubilee event, co-organized by UM faculty members Ona Renner-Fahey, Robert Greene, and Clint Walker. On Friday night, May 21st, over 60 guests attended the Opening Reception, featuring keynote speaker Tom Seifrid, chair and professor of Slavic at the University of Southern California (and UM alumnus, 1978). His talk was titled "Now and Then: What endures (in Russian culture)." The evening was also highlighted by student performances, sharing remembrances of former professors in the program, an awards presentation, and a champagne toast.



Russian professor brings home prestigious teaching award

Ona Renner-Fahey, an associate professor of Russian in the Modern and Classical Languages and Literatures Department, recently received the 2016 AATSEEL Excellence in Teaching (Post-Secondary) Award.

"MCLL is thrilled that Dr. Renner-Fahey is the recipient of such a prestigious national award," said Elizabeth Ametsbichler, who chairs the department. "Such recognition of her excellence in teaching is extremely well-deserved."

Known for her energy, passion and professionalism, Renner-Fahey teaches across all levels and curriculum of the Russian program and engages her first-year Russian students with the same dedication and attentiveness as those studying in her more advanced courses in Russian poetry.

Additionally, she has led multiple groups of UM students on international experiences to Moscow and St. Petersburg, and established and maintained a partnership between UM and the School of Russian and Asian Studies, which sends 15 to 20 students per year from colleges and universities all over the country to study Russian in Kyrgyzstan.

"Our language programs typically excel in their approach to teaching and supporting students," said Dean Christopher Comer, "so it is wonderful to see our Russian program, and Dr. Renner-Fahey in particular, get the recognition that they deserve."

Since Renner-Fahey arrived at UM, the Russian program has defied national trends, producing five Fulbright Scholars, a Boren Scholarship winner and multiple Critical Language Scholarship recipients. It also has seen its graduates accepted to top-tier graduate programs in Slavic, history, international relations, political science and medicine.

The Excellence in Teaching (Post-Secondary) Award is presented by the American Association of Teachers of Slavic and East European Languages, an organization that exists to advance the study and promote the teaching of Slavic and East European languages, literatures and cultures on all education levels. Renner-Fahey was honored for her award at the president's reception during the AATSEEL national convention in San Francisco earlier this year.

Geosciences at the forefront of coral research and discovery

Research on coral extinction and reef recovery has been popularized by the parallels with the reef collapse of today. Geosciences Professor George Stanley and graduate student Montana Hodges are leading research on coral recovery in the Early Jurassic, with field areas stretching across North America including Alaska, Nevada, and Sonora, Mexico. Their findings were published in the October 2015 issue of GSA Today in the cover article "North American coral recovery after the end-Triassic mass extinction New York Canyon, Nevada." Next year they will lead the 10th International Congress on the Jurassic and present further research.



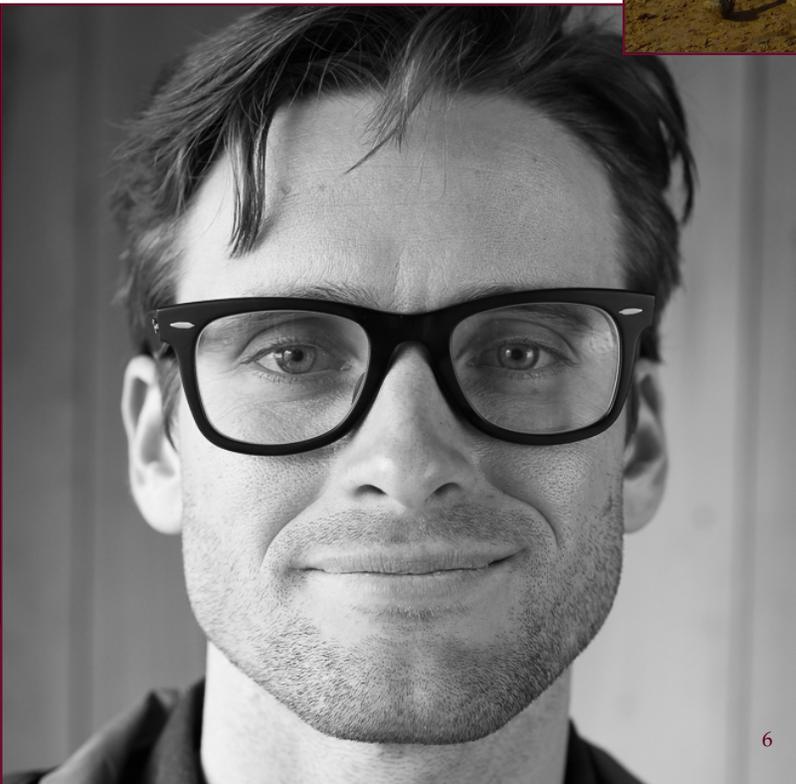
EVST professor receives international education award

This spring, EVST Professor Dan Spencer received UM's Distinguished Service to International Education Award. From the nomination letter: "Dr. Spencer is an outstanding educator with an infectious and ceaseless passion for learning, scholarship, and global exchange. He has made strong and numerous contributions to the creation and promotion of international studies whether in the classroom, on an overseas educational experience, or through cross-campus collaboration and program development."



Film Studies adjunct brings opportunity to refugee filmmakers

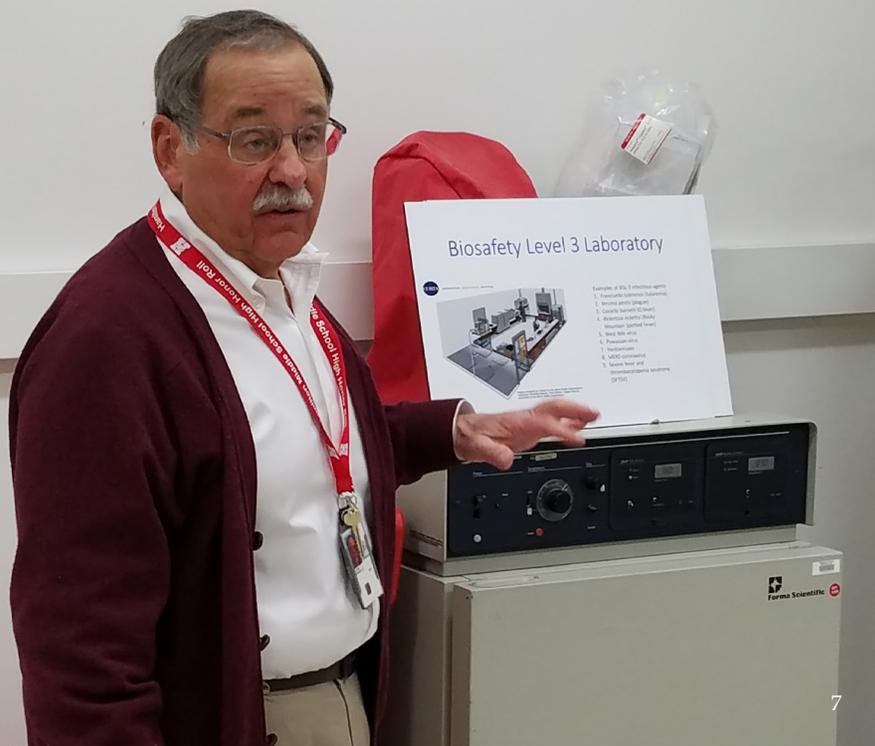
Film Studies Adjunct Instructor, Bryan Bello, won the inaugural pitch competition for the Tribeca Film Institute's IF/Then Pitch competition during the recent 14th annual Big Sky Documentary Film Festival in Missoula, Montana. His project plans to create a series of short documentaries through workshops that will teach refugees media production skills so they can direct their own stories. The refugees will own copyright to and receive all proceeds from their films. A team made up of undergraduate and graduate students at UM will then weave four of the refugee-directed shorts into a larger narrative supplemented with their own observational footage. The film will premiere in 2018 at the Tribeca Film Festival in NYC.



H&S

goes viral

During their annual spring meeting, the H&S Advisory Board took time to tour the Rocky Mountain Laboratories (RML), a state-of-the-art biomedical research facility nestled between the Bitterroot and Sapphire Mountains in Hamilton, Montana. Offering unparalleled research opportunities to UM students, the RML provides unique access to world-renowned scientists pioneering discoveries that could one day lead to a cure for some of the world's most formidable infectious diseases. The H&S Advisory Board tour was planned and organized by board member Marshall Bloom (pictured below-left), who also serves as Associate Director for Scientific Management Division of Intramural Research and Chief at the Biology of Vector-borne Viruses Section Laboratory of Virology, Rocky Mountain Laboratories National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases National Institutes of Health. Advisory board member Bob Stromberg, Political Science '68, and Dean Chris Comer (opposite page-above) on tour of RML Virology Laboratory. RML Chief of Microscopy Beth Fischer (pictured below-right) describes the The Electron Microscopy (EM) Unit.



New H&S Advisory Board Members



Jenn McColly '98



Communication Studies



Jenn is Vice President of Employee Experience for Concur, an SAP company, in Bellevue, WA. Jenn was a student-athlete on UM's inaugural women's soccer team, was an active member of Kappa Alpha

Theta and Pan-Hellenic and All Greek Councils, and participated in a number of student academic and service programs throughout her college career. Jenn and her husband Kevin, a '98 SoBA graduate, along with their two sons, enjoy every opportunity to come to Montana and support the Griz.

Tim Descamps



Friend of UM



Tim is a long-time friend of the University of Montana and College of Humanities and Sciences. A graduate of Northeastern University, Tim lives in Missoula and is Executive Director of the

International Heart Institute of Montana Foundation, a research and education organization created through a partnership between St. Patrick Hospital and Health Sciences Center and The University of Montana. Tim is active in the Missoula community and, along with his wife Lauren, a '95 Communications Studies graduate and former H&S Advisory Board member, has served in a number of volunteer capacities at the University of Montana.



H&S students



Originally from North Carolina, Danny Smith moved to Missoula in 2015 to attend the Anthropology graduate program with a focus in socio-cultural and museum studies. Since entering the program, he has been heavily involved with the Historical Museum at Fort Missoula as a volunteer, intern and fellow. His work will ultimately culminate with a thesis and traveling display that will be used by the museum to teach the history and relevance of Fort Missoula's Alien Detention Center. The specific focus of this project will be the World War II era internment and loyalty hearings that were administered to Japanese men as they were deemed potentially dangerous following the attacks at Pearl Harbor in 1941.

Danny Smith

Master of Arts: Anthropology

He also assisted in the planning and installation of the "Missoula Mercantile" exhibit currently in the Anthropology department celebrating the significance and history of the building to Missoula prior to its demolition.

How have you enjoyed your time at UM?

After taking a hiatus from school following my undergraduate experience, I was beyond thrilled to jump back into academia. With the assistance and direction of my advisor, professors and mentors, I have been given opportunities that, a few years ago, seemed improbable. During summer 2016, for example, I assisted in the development and implementation of the university's first "Archaeology Summer Camp for Kids" that demonstrated basic anthropological and archaeological concepts to youth groups. This year will be its second year as the program was widely successful in its first trial and has gained attention statewide.

Plans for the future?

After graduation this May, I will participate in the Smithsonian Institute's Summer Internship in Museum Anthropology program to research traditional Japanese

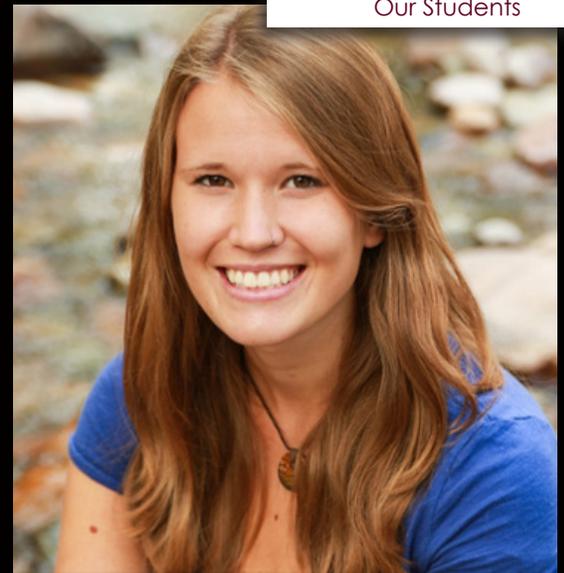
looking to the future

practices that were integrated into the lived experiences of Japanese Americans during internment-era World War II. Down the road, I'll seek a career in the museum field including anthropological research, exhibit design and outreach programs. I believe one of the most important contributions becomes that of a museum's purpose to serve the interests of a surrounding community through engagement, cohesion and exhibition. Using anthropological concepts may serve as a fundamental tool to reach such connectivity.

What will you miss most about your experiences in Anthropology at UM?

My favorite aspect of the Anthropology program has been the core group of fellow students I have connected to. I would like to extend my gratitude to the Historical Museum at Fort Missoula and Anthropology department, including fellow students who I have relied on heavily and professors/mentors who have been outstanding and resourceful. I'll always be grateful for these people and the experiences the students and faculty in this program have helped create.

University of Montana President Sheila Stearns and H&S Dean Chris Comer inform student Rachel Dickson during one of her classes that she's received a 2017 Udall Scholarship.



Biology, Environmental Studies Major Becomes UM's 41st Udall Scholar

H&S student Rachel Dickson recently won a 2017 Udall Scholarship, which will provide up to \$7,000 to support her studies for the next academic year. Dickson is the University's 41st Udall Scholar, and UM continues to lead the nation in winning these prestigious awards.

Udall Scholars are selected on the basis of commitment to careers in the environment or, for Native Americans, commitment to careers in tribal public policy or health care. Scholars also must show leadership potential and academic achievement.

Dickson, a junior from Missoula, is pursuing a double-major in environmental studies and biology with a concentration in organismal biology and ecology. She is the daughter of Mary and Dave Dickson of Missoula and graduated from Big Sky High School in 2013. Dickson, who also earned a Goldwater Scholarship in 2015, plans to earn a doctorate and teach and research in the field of ecology.





Courtney Little Axe

- 👤 **Major:** Anthropology
- 👤 **Minor:** Native American Studies
- 👤 **Certificate:** Forensic Studies

Courtney Little Axe is a member of the Absentee Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma and the Northern Cheyenne Tribe from Lame Deer, Montana. The senior is graduating with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Anthropology, with one focus in Forensic Anthropology and another in Cultural and Ethnic Diversity, in addition to a minor in Native American Studies and a Certificate in Forensic Studies. She currently serves as an intern at the Anthropological Curation Facility, and holds multiple leadership positions in student groups. This includes serving as co-president for the Montana Anthropology Student Association, co-chair of the Native American Student Advisory Council, and vice president of Public Outreach for the American Indian Business Leaders (UM Chapter). This summer, she will be a part of the Peabody Essex Museum Native American Fellowship program in Salem, Massachusetts as the Research and Exhibitions Fellow. Her future educational endeavors include pursuing either a Masters of Arts degree in Anthropology, or attending law school.

How has your time at UM impacted you, both in and out of the classroom?

Being a part of the Anthropology program allowed me to contribute to strengthening the bridge between Anthropology and Native American communities. As an Indigenous student, I was able to apply my cultural background and knowledge to my education. Connecting my Indigenous perspective to the Anthropological perspective has not only been beneficial to me, as a person, but also as a student.

Any specific examples?

My favorite aspect of the program was the understanding that each of my professors had, and the willingness to work with me when I encountered obstacles during my journey. This was one of the most vital contributions to my success.

What's next on the agenda?

After I graduate, I will be a part of a Native American fellowship program at the Peabody Essex Museum as the Research and Exhibitions Fellow in Salem, Massachusetts. When the fellowship is over, I will return to Missoula to focus on learning my language and to prepare myself to further my education in graduate school. I also plan to continue working on a project for the University of Montana Anthropological Curation Facility, while I take a year off from school.

My overall career goal is to aid in repatriation of culturally significant artifacts and remains to tribes. I would also like to help build a museum on my reservation in order to preserve our artifacts, because I believe that they are a significant component in telling our story and keeping our culture alive.



The Montana Anthropological Curation Facility (UMACF) houses collections of prehistoric and historic artifacts from archaeological sites across Montana accessioned for curation and use in teaching and/or research at the University of Montana. For more information, contact the UMACF Curator C. Riley Auge at cynthiariley.auge@mso.umt.edu.

Michaela Shifley

Doctoral Candidate: Cultural Heritage and Applied Anthropology

Michaela Shifley is in the first year of the Cultural Heritage and Applied Anthropology doctoral program at UM, and her hope is to someday land a job as a museum professional. Since her arrival in the fall, she has worked closely with Anthropology faculty members, and had the opportunity to intern at the Anthropological Curation Facility, where she has researched best conservation care practices for items within the collection. The relationships she has built along the way have led to a summer internship at the Smithsonian Museum of Natural History, where she will be one of twelve people in the nation to take part in the Summer Institute in Museum Anthropology. Driven by a passion for museum curation, she considers her doctoral pursuit to be the 'grown up' expression of her childhood fascination with the past.

Why did you decide to pursue a doctoral degree in Anthropology?

My hope is that I will be able to help solve real-world problems for local communities, and most importantly act as an advocate for descendant communities' rights when it comes to their representations in the museum world. I feel that it is vitally important for someone who has had the opportunity to get a higher education to give back to their communities in some way or another; we are the future, and we need to lead the way in setting positive, inspirational examples for younger people.

Our Students



Now that you are one year in, what can you say about the program thus far?

One of my favorite aspects of this program so far has been the Anthropology faculty and how supportive they have been of all the students that they not only teach, but also mentor. I have had a great time working in the Anthropological Curation Facility as well; it's gratifying to know that you are contributing to something that will help preserve cultural heritage for other generations. Once I graduate, I'm hoping that I'll be able to work as a museum curator somewhere, and contribute to the world's continued preservation of heritage.

Winning Undergraduate Submission:



Julia Sherman

 **Communication Studies**

Essay:

L.A. Rebellion: Setting the Stage for New Black Cinema

2017 Richard Drake Writing Award Recipients

The Best Humanities Essays in H&S

Patrick O'Connor

 **History**

Essay:

Tobacco's Reconstruction: Federal Fiscal Policy and the Transformation of an American Industry, 1862-1868.

Winning Graduate Submission:





Stephanie Pushaw

 **Master of Fine Arts:**
Creative Writing

“One of the most important things the writer can do is observe and report: become fully aware of his or her environment, and then identify the elements of it that make that environment beautiful, or dangerous, or vital to know about—and then convey this to the public in an interesting, hopefully readable way.”

- Stephanie Pushaw

Stephanie Pushaw came to Missoula after finishing an undergraduate degree in Creative Writing at the University of Southern California, where she studied fiction with T.C. Boyle, Aimee Bender and Trinie Dalton. After college, she worked for several years in education and film development and served as Assistant Online Editor for *The Believer* before heading to the University of Montana to study fiction in the MFA program. She is a current Truman Capote Fellow in the MFA program and has been developing her fiction over the past two years with the help of professors Bernard Cooper, Catherine Lacey, Deirdre McNamer, Kevin Canty, and Debra Earling.

Stephanie’s essays, criticism, fiction and poetry have recently appeared in *The Los Angeles Review of Books*, *Fractal* and *Slippery Elm*. She was the winner of *DIAGRAM*’s 2015 Essay Contest for her piece “Crickets: A love song in six parts,” which was later nominated for a Pushcart Prize by judge and editor Ander Monson. Recently, “Stormwrangler III,” a short story written under the guidance of UM professors, was named a finalist in *Narrative*’s 2016 Winter Story Contest.

While at the University of Montana, Stephanie was the recipient of the Bertha Morton Scholarship for outstanding work by graduate students, based on the merit of her story collection, *Paradise City*, an interconnected network of short stories set in Southern California. She was also awarded an ASUM grant to study fiction at the Tin House Summer Writing Workshop in Oregon – one of the most prestigious workshops in the country.

She also worked as a fiction editor for *Cutbank*, the nationally recognized literary journal of UM’s MFA program, to help select and edit stories meriting publication. All this, while working as an assistant reader to Julie Stevenson, award-winning literary agent.

After graduation, Stephanie will travel to Queensland, Australia for two months and then return to Missoula, where she will continue working remotely as assistant online editor for *The Believer* and finish polishing her short story collection, which will soon be ready for submission to agents and publications.

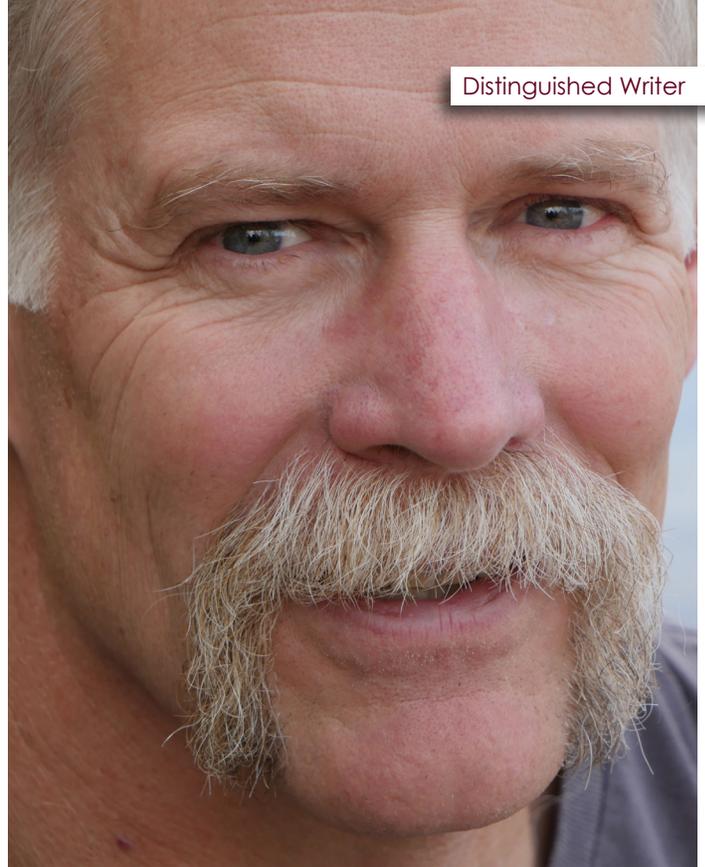
From "THE SCORE"

By

Stephanie Pushaw

"When they play tennis she lets him win. Not all the time; not so bluntly that he feels babied. She'll let him get up two-oh, slicing her forehand so it slaps the net and falls back flat, choking up on her backhand—*Damn it, Karl*—as the blood pools in sour clumps around her knuckles. Then she magically finds her footing, gets her game back for one, or two if she's feeling reckless. But once they're even she stops, begins again the fumbling and the flimsy strokes, the squint against the remorseless sun. She calls for water breaks and prolonged stretches, throbbing knuckles warm against her oiled brown shin, arcing up slowly in her fluted white skirt. Beyond them the lunchers smuggle pills with their iced tea, or call for sweaty vodkas at noon. Beyond them a golden retriever roams the terraced hillside, waiting for errant balls to thwack into his gasping soil. They play until the sunset purples the terracotta court, lengthening their shadows into giants. She keeps deodorant in the glove compartment, which she applies in quick swipes while he's slowly lowering himself into the driver's seat, and shuts back in before he's twisted the ignition."

Distinguished Writer



H&S alum, awarding-winning author returns as 2017 Distinguished Kittredge Writer

H&S alum and award-winning author Pete Fromm will serve as the University of Montana's Distinguished Kittredge Writer for fall 2017. Fromm is teaching a graduate fiction workshop and a special topics course for graduate students and upper level undergraduates.

Fromm's latest book is the memoir *The Names of the Stars* (St.Martins, 2016). He is a five-time winner of the Pacific Northwest Booksellers Award for his novels *If Not For This*, *As Cool as I Am*, and *How All This Started*, his story collection *Dry Rain*, and the memoir *Indian Creek Chronicles*. *As Cool as I Am* was also made into a film in 2013, and starred Claire Danes, James Marsden, and Sarah Bolger.

Fromm is also the author of four other story collections and has published over two hundred stories in magazines. He serves on the faculty of Oregon's Pacific University's Low-Residency MFA Program and lives in Montana. He graduated from the University of Montana in 1981 with a degree in Wildlife Biology.



The student becomes the teacher

Hilary R. Martens

 **UM Graduate:** Physics/Music ('08)

 **Assistant Professor:** Geosciences

After graduating from the California Institute of Technology (Caltech) in 2016 with a PhD in Geophysics, Hilary Martens joined the faculty at UM as an assistant professor of geophysics in the Department of Geosciences. She is a UM alum, graduating with High Honors in both Music and Physics in 2008. Her current research involves investigations into Earth deformation caused by surface mass loading. Since the Earth is not a perfectly rigid body, the shape of the Earth distorts under the weight of heavy surface loads, such as the oceans and atmosphere. Martens uses GPS recordings and computational models to map time and space variations in the surface deformation. Discrepancies between the observations and predictions help to elucidate complicated features of the mass loads and constrain properties of Earth's interior structure.

What does it mean for you to be a part of the Geosciences Department at UM?

I am thrilled to be back home in Missoula and again part of the vibrant UM campus community. Being part of the Geosciences Department at UM means a great deal to me. I am humbled to have been selected to represent UM and the Geosciences Department as a member of the faculty, and also excited for the opportunity to inspire, motivate, and support the current and future generations of UM students. During my years as an undergraduate student, I greatly admired my UM professors, so I sometimes have to pinch myself to realize that I now have the honor and privilege of being a professor, too.

Do you have any current research projects you'd like to share?

In addition to my work on Earth deformation and surface mass loading, I am starting a new research project to monitor and study earthquake activity in western Montana. Despite being located far from a tectonic-plate boundary, local micro-earthquakes are common throughout western Montana, concentrated primarily along a north-south trending band known as the Intermountain Seismic Belt. Furthermore, a damaging M7.3 earthquake occurred near Yellowstone National Park in 1959, and several M6+ events have occurred during the past century. I am acquiring ten state-of-the-art broadband seismic stations to supplement the existing Montana Regional Seismic Network (MRSN). Using multiple deployments, the new portable stations will target different regions and scientific questions through time. In partnership with the Montana Bureau of Mines and Geology, UM students and I will map local fault structure, locate individual earthquakes, analyze the stress state of the crust, and assess seismic hazard.

Also, in a NASA-funded research project set to begin this summer, I will be working with a team of UM undergraduate and graduate students to study the effects of atmospheric, oceanic, and hydrologic loading on GPS time series recorded in Japan, Cascadia, and Alaska. Each of the target locations hosts an active subduction zone, where two tectonic plates are colliding and one is being pushed beneath the other. By modeling and removing load-derived signals from the GPS time series, the students and I aim to suppress noise levels in the data and therefore enhance the ability to resolve subtle tectonic processes occurring along the plate interfaces. Since subduction zones generate the most

powerful and damaging earthquakes on Earth, our goal is to develop new and robust strategies to improve estimates of regional seismic hazard.

What do you find most rewarding about working with the students at UM?

Although not without its challenges, I have had a wonderful time working with UM students both in and out of the classroom this year. The most rewarding aspects of my teaching experience so far have been providing support to students as they encounter new and difficult material, learning from the unique and creative ways that students approach complicated problems, and witnessing the self-confidence boost that students experience when they successfully rise to academic challenges and realize their potential. I particularly love seeing the students experience “light-bulb” moments when they achieve a deeper level of understanding. Having studied at UM myself, I can relate to my students in a special way and can personally attest to the power and value of a UM education. I want my students to have every opportunity in the world, just as UM opened a myriad of doors for me as a student not so long ago.

What has it been like experiencing UM as both a student and faculty? Have you found one more fulfilling than the other?

It has definitely been a bit surreal to be back at UM as a faculty member. I love seeing familiar faces around campus, including people who supported me through my undergraduate years and are now welcoming me back as a colleague.

As a UM student, I benefited greatly from the exceptional quality of undergraduate teaching offered at UM as well as the many opportunities for undergraduate research, civic and global engagement, creative arts, professional mentorship, and personal growth. Now, I hope to create opportunities for students of my own.

Not only did I attend UM as an undergraduate, but I also grew up in Missoula, so the UM community has always been an important part of my life. As a child, I looked up to our Lady Griz athletes, student musicians, and campus community, and aspired to one day be a Grizzly myself. My family and I used to tailgate at the Grizzly football games when the end zones were still grass fields and Otto was the mascot. So, joining the UM faculty, and coming full circle in my academic career, has been fulfilling and meaningful to me in more ways than one.

“I want my students to have every opportunity in the world, just as UM opened a myriad of doors for me as a student not so long ago.”



PICTURED: Martens at Avalanche Lake (opposite page) and St. Mary's Lake (above) in Glacier National Park in summer 2016. Martens poses with her sister (right) at a campground in Glacier Park in 1996, shortly before she started the 6th grade at Washington Middle School in Missoula. Martens' sister Emily also graduated from UM with a degree in Pharmacy and now works at North Ridge Pharmacy in Victor, MT.



Humanities Institute brings research support, New Faculty Lecture Series to UM

In its first full semester in operation, the Humanities Institute is already having an impact on humanistic research at UM. This spring, it launched a New Faculty Lecture Series that highlighted the research of new faculty members in the humanities at UM. The series included public lectures on topics ranging from cultural trauma in Chinese Central Asia, to the nature of language acquisition by children, to new views on the foundations of modern Western political thought. Featured lecturers included History and Political Science assistant professor Eric Schluessel (“When the World Fell Apart: Translations of Trauma in Turn-of-the-Century Chinese Central Asia”), Modern and Classical Languages and Literatures assistant professor Pablo Requena (“How Children Detect Patterns in Language”), and History assistant professor Claire Arcenas (“Why Do Americans Love John Locke?”).

Additionally, the Institute provided a series of financial awards to faculty conducting humanist research projects at UM. These awards included:

2016-2017 Baldrige Book Subvention Grant:

- Prof. Jody Pavilack: *Mining for the Nation: The Politics of Chile's Coal Communities (Spanish edition)*

Humanities Institute Faculty Research Grants:

- Asst. Prof. Claire Arcenas, *Why John Locke's Mistakes Mattered: How Experience Came to Trump Theory in American Politics, 1787-1832*
- Prof. John Douglas, *Discovering Ancient Maya Political Changes in the Belize Valley through Ceramic Sourcing*
- Prof. John Eglin, *James Boswell's Tour in Italy, Corsica, and France*
- Prof. Linda Frey, *The French Revolution and International Law: A New Paradigm*
- Assoc. Prof. Christopher Preston, *The Resurgence of the Wild in the Anthropocene*
- Prof. Tobin Shearer, *Devout Demonstrators: Sacred Actions in Social Protest Movements*
- Asst. Profs. Brian Dowdle and Eric T. Schluessel, *Montana Workshop in Sinosphere Literature*

New Faculty in H&S

Since Fall 2016, H&S has added the following faculty members:

- 🐾 Michihiro Ama, *Modern and Classical Languages and Literatures*
- 🐾 Claire Arcenas, *History*
- 🐾 Jedediah Brodie, *John J. Craighead Chair of Wildlife Biology, Division of Biological Sciences*
- 🐾 Brandon Cooper, *Division of Biological Sciences*
- 🐾 Lu Hu, *Chemistry*
- 🐾 Nathan Insel, *Psychology*
- 🐾 Hilary Martens, *Geosciences*
- 🐾 Eric Schluessel, *History/Political Science*
- 🐾 Ekaterina Smirnova, *Mathematical Sciences*

The Institute's future plans include hosting events that will advance public understanding and discussion of humanities scholarship on campus, and bringing renowned humanists from other institutions to speak and collaborate with UM faculty and students. For more information, please contact the Institute at humanities.institute@mso.umt.edu.

2017 H&S Teaching Awards

The Helen and Winston Cox Educational Excellence Award



Sara Rinfret
 🐾 **Assistant Professor:**
 Political Science

“Dr. Rinfret has had, and continues to have, a profound impact on my development as a student, a member of the public workforce, and as a person. I cannot begin to thank her for everything she has done for me, and I cannot think of anyone more deserving of this recognition than Dr. Rinfret.”



Matt Roscoe
 🐾 **Assistant Professor:**
 Mathematical Sciences

“I have had many wonderful professors at the University of Montana, but not one fits this award more appropriately than Professor Matt Roscoe. He is one of the easiest people to work with and I have gleaned so much from him that continues to drive me as a MCPS educator today.”

The William Reynolds Award for Excellence in Teaching across the Curriculum



Kathy Kuipers
 🐾 **Professor:** Sociology

“Professor Kuipers has and continues to have a profound impact on me as a student, teacher, and scholar. I am immensely grateful for having had the opportunities to learn from her and work with her so closely.”

The David B. Friend Memorial Award for Excellence in Teaching at the Introductory Level



Kevin McManigal
 🐾 **Lecturer:** Geography

“Students gravitate toward him to chat about climbing and hiking and traveling, but there is a lot of life advice being dispensed as well. He really wants everyone to find a passion and dive into ways to make the world a better place.”

H&S Teaching Award photos provided by Will McKnight '19

Distinguished Service to International Education Award

Daniel Spencer
 Professor, Department of Environmental Studies Program

Distinguished Teaching Award

Ona Renner-Fahey
 Associate Professor, Department of MCLL

Most Inspirational Teacher of the Year Award

Meradeth Snow
 Assistant Professor, Department of Anthropology

Nancy Borgmann Diversity Award

Tobin Miller Shearer
 Associate Professor, Department of History

Outstanding Faculty Advising Award

Soazig Le Bihan
 Associate Professor, Department of Philosophy

Outstanding Staff Award—Excellence In Job Performance

Jaylene Naylor
 Physics and Astronomy



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C/O College of Humanities and Sciences
PO Box 7159
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*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.

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