

Fall 2017

College of
Humanities & Sciences
UNIVERSITY OF MONTANA

hs.umt.edu

Heart & Soul





Hey there, Grizzly Bear!

The Hello Walk, a longstanding UM tradition, encourages walkers and bikers to greet one another as they pass along this stretch of sidewalk outside Turner Hall. The tradition showcases the diversity of linguistic knowledge in the UM student body, and serves as a launching point for student involvement in Homecoming week events. Once again, students and alumni chipped in to paint a colorful selection of suggested phrases to keep this Homecoming tradition going strong.



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The College of Humanities and Sciences, like all of UM, is in a time of transition as this fall semester comes to a close. UM's 18th president, Seth Bodnar, will arrive on campus in January, bringing a new era of leadership and revitalized ambition to our campus. Cindy Williams, who was recently named president and CEO of the UM Foundation, will work to guide the next chapter of the university's advancement efforts. Thanks to Vice President for Enrollment and Student Affairs Tom Crady and his staff, we are already seeing positive trends in our recruitment efforts, and so we have reasons to believe in a bright future for UM.

Of course, change is never easy. While many challenges persist, for the University and H&S, our ability to adapt has and will always be a fundamental aspect of our College. We remain dedicated to providing an education that emphasizes a complete and integrated knowledge of the humanities and sciences, and will continue to do so with the support of people like you.

Earlier this fall H&S commemorated the completion of the first two phases of Eck Hall, a newly renovated portion of the Liberal Arts Building that features a completely updated lecture hall, student lobbies and a fine new entrance that links the building to the Oval. We also launched a new Success in Science program at UM, developed to improve the transition and retention of first year science students, and implemented a new H&S Legacy Scholarship that is funded entirely by philanthropy and dedicated to providing financial support to the children and grandchildren of H&S alumni.

These are just a few examples of how our alumni and friends are reaching out to support H&S faculty and students. Whether volunteering as one of our Returning and Community Scholars or creating a fellowship in a department or program that is meaningful to you, there are many ways to contribute to the outstanding research and scholarship in our College. Your generosity, no matter the size or manner, makes a difference. Now is the opportunity to invest in our bright future.

If you would like more information about how you can support H&S, 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. Every time you give to H&S you are saying education matters.

We are H&S, the Heart & Soul of UM.

Christopher Comer
Dean

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

Jenny McNulty
Associate Dean

Seth Bodnar

UM's 18th President

Earlier this fall, Montana University System leaders announced that Seth Bodnar (pictured with wife, Dr. Chelsea Bodnar) accepted the offer to be the next president of the University of Montana.

"I am honored to accept the UM presidency," Bodnar said. "I'm thrilled to have the opportunity to work with a tremendous team across campus and throughout the community who are passionately committed to the University and its success."

A Rhodes and Truman scholar, Bodnar earned two master's degrees at Oxford University. He graduated first in his class at West Point and later taught classes as a faculty member at the military academy. He also completed a distinguished military career, serving in the 101st Airborne Division and the U.S. Army's First Special Forces Group.

Bodnar recently served as a senior executive at General Electric Co., where he was responsible for long-term strategy and business transformation at GE Transportation, a global company with over 10,000 employees and approximately \$5 billion in revenue.

In addition to the professional challenge and opportunity, Bodnar has a personal interest in UM and the Missoula area. His love for Montana bloomed while studying at Oxford, where he met fellow Rhodes Scholar and future wife, Chelsea Elander, a fifth-generation Montanan and native of Missoula. Chelsea is a pediatrician and a graduate of Hellgate High School, Montana State University-Bozeman, Oxford and Harvard Medical School. Chelsea and Seth have three children.



UM's future president Seth Bodnar greets H&S alumnus Dennis Eck at the Eck Hall dedication earlier this fall. "As a flagship research and liberal arts institution, the University of Montana is extremely well-positioned to provide exactly the type of integrative education model that students need to be successful, educated and engaged citizens throughout their lifetimes," Bodnar said in a recent interview. "I am incredibly excited to work with the faculty and the entire campus community in reinvigorating and reasserting this model."

2017 H&S Tailgate

On October 14, the College of Humanities and Sciences held its third annual Game Day Tailgate during the Homecoming Weekend. This year, H&S partnered with the School of Journalism to cook up burgers and serve beverages to friends, alumni, and faculty prior to the kickoff of the football game. If you are interested in attending or helping to sponsor the 2018 H&S Homecoming Tailgate, please contact Marci Bozeman at marci.bozeman@supportum.org.



H&S would like to give special thanks to Draught Works Brewery for their continued support of our annual H&S Game Day Tailgate event! For more information about Draught Works Brewery, please visit their website at www.draughtworksbrewery.com.

NOTES



UM Treated to Night with Literary Royalty

Earlier this fall, bestselling horror author Stephen King and his son Owen King held an event in Missoula as part of the tour promoting their latest novel, "Sleeping Beauties," which they coauthored. The event took place in front of a sold-out crowd at the George and Jane Dennison Theatre, and was put on by the local Missoula bookstore, Shakespeare & Co. Although the Kings announced in advance they would not be holding a book signing after the event, every member of the audience went home with a copy of "Sleeping Beauties," 400 of which were presigned by Stephen and Owen.

Geosciences Researchers Receive NASA EPSCoR Grant

Researchers in the Geosciences Department at the University of Montana received a \$750,000 NASA Experimental Program to Stimulate Competitive Research (EPSCoR) grant to develop and apply remote sensing technologies, provide insight into the resiliency of Montana's agricultural system to drought, and to understand the impact of agricultural activity on water security and other users. Geoscientist Marco Maneta and co-PIs Brian Chaffin (UM), John Kimball (UM), Kelsey Jensco (UM), Bruce Maxwell (MSU), and Stephanie Ewing from (MSU) will team up with hydrologists at the Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation to carry out this research. This research will help Montana develop new state-of-the-art technology to tackle the water challenges faced by farmers across the country.



UM Alumna Wins Prestigious Literary Prize

H&S alumna Dana Fitz Gale recently received a prestigious literary award for her novel-in-progress. Gale, who earned her MFA in creative writing in 2013 and currently teaches in UM's Department of Communicative Sciences & Disorders, won the 2017 Ellen Levine Prize for "Able," a novel she's writing about a famous space monkey, the legacy of the Cold War and the hardships of small, Midwestern town. The award, which includes a \$7,500 grant, honors writers who have already published at least one book of fiction. The Hudson Review nominated her for the accolade.



H&S Launches New “Success In Science” Program



At the beginning of fall semester, H&S launched a new program to improve the transition and retention of first year science students at UM.

Indeed, the first year is a critical time for most students. National studies have shown that students change majors from science to non-science fields primarily due to the intensity of first year courses. Among all public US institutions, the average freshman retention rate is 64%. At UM we are determined to do better.

Working with our first year science instructors, academic advisors and educational learning experts, we created the Success in Science program to better enable our new science students to succeed. Specifically, the program is designed for University of Montana freshman students who are (1) attending UM full-time; (2) majoring in one of the natural sciences such as Biology, Neuroscience, Chemistry, Computer Science, Geosciences, Mathematics, or Physics & Astronomy; and (3) living on campus in the residence halls.

Among other things, students in this year’s pilot program had the opportunity to move into residence halls before other on-campus students; meet other science students, instructors and advisors; learn about efficient learning strategies and study techniques; acquire study skills and best practices for test preparation and test taking; receive supplemental instruction on mathematics for scientists; polish critical reading and writing skills for the sciences; and learn about career and training opportunities in the sciences.

They also toured UM science facilities; received a full credit upon their completion of the program; participated in outdoor activities; took part in evening lectures and events; and participated in academic and recreational activities at the Flathead Lake Biological Station.

For more information about the new “Success In Science” program, please contact H&S Associate Dean Jenny McNulty at McNulty@mso.umt.edu.



Raising the Roof to Expand Mental Health Training and Services

An understated brick building on Mansfield Avenue was built in 1984 to serve as a primary training center for doctoral students in the College of Humanities and Sciences' clinical psychology program. Since its creation, the Clinical Psychology Center (CPC) has continued to provide both training opportunities for students and mental health services to the region, with faculty and students delivering over 20,000 hours of psychotherapy, evaluation and assessment services to clients. The CPC is particularly valuable to clients with limited financial resources, as the Center charges for services on a sliding fee scale (often as low as \$7).

Now more than 30 years after its construction, the CPC is struggling to meet demand, both from the community and from growing academic programs. A newly-accredited school psychology Ph.D. program and school specialist program have significantly increased the number of student clinicians and potential to provide services. We are accomplishing so much, but we could do so much more for our community and University with expanded facilities.

UM alumnus, Missoula business leader and Chairman of PayneWest Insurance Terry Payne recognized the College's opportunity to better serve the mental health needs of our region and stepped forward in 2016 to support an architectural study to expand and enhance the Center. The design plan will substantially renovate the first floor and add a second floor - more than doubling the current assessment and therapy space and significantly increasing training and treatment opportunities, particularly for child and adolescent clients. Flexible rooms will be available for clinical supervision, research, offices for postdoctoral fellows, and individual and group therapy. A new design will greatly improve the flow of the building while maintaining client confidentiality.

Lead gift fundraising is underway for the project with an anticipated groundbreaking in 2020. To learn more about the project and how you can be involved, please contact the College's development team at marci.bozeman@supportum.edu | 406.243.2646.



President's Club Making a Difference

The President's Club is a community of generous donors who make annual gifts of \$1,000 or more to the University. What began in 1988 as a small group of 300 supporters, today includes thousands of alumni and friends who are committed to supporting the institution's mission and actively shaping the University of Montana's future.

President's Club members support diverse areas and activities on campus and play a critical role in furthering the University's educational opportunities.

The University of Montana is grateful to have a base of committed supporters who provide leadership in their giving and we thank them through membership in this recognition society.

From

Dream

to

Reality





Several years ago, Dennis Eck stepped into the halls of the Liberal Arts Building and saw an opportunity to make a difference. “As you walked in, you felt like you were walking back in time,” Eck said. “Nothing had changed. Floors. Walls. Lights. They probably still had the same chalkboards as when I was there.” Since that time, Dennis and his wife Gretchen have committed over \$8 million to the building, financing a multi-phased renovation project that brought advanced technology, flexible learning environments, and comfortable study spaces to H&S. It also provided a stunning new entrance to the building, ensuring the south wing will forever reside under the dedicated title of “Eck Hall.”

"I had a lot of good things happen to me, and I was able to have the money to be able to give something back."
- Dennis Eck



In October, UM commemorated the completion of the second phase of renovations to the Liberal Arts Building and celebrated the Board of Regents' fall approval of the naming of Dennis and Gretchen Eck Academic Hall, known informally as Eck Hall. The UM community was honored to have donors Dennis and Gretchen Eck in attendance to mark the occasion and tour the newly renovated wing that bears their name.

In closing remarks at the dedication, Dean Comer called attention to an interpretation of a Talmud quote that states "the world is founded on study, service and acts of loving kindness... We should all know this renovation came about because of the love inside the Eck family."

Those in attendance included Commissioner of Higher Education Clay Christian; interim UM president Sheila Stearns; incoming president Seth Bodnar, representatives of the UM Foundation; H&S Advisory Board members; and H&S faculty, staff, and students.

During the celebration, Dennis Eck said he hopes the process UM used to modernize the building is one it can replicate elsewhere on campus. Eck was closely involved in the

planning stages of the remodel, which includes a small seating area on the ground floor and a larger student lounge area overlooking the lobby, and he wants other donors to know UM is careful with gifts.

"There was a distinct attempt not to waste anything," Eck said. "That message needs to get out, that people will really take care of your money."

The result, he said, is high quality and one he's proud of, and he has challenged others to join in the effort as well. It is his belief that thousands of people could help make Missoula a better place if they gave back.

"I had a lot of good things happen to me, and I was able to have the money to be able to give something back," said Eck. "[But] it's not just money. It's anything that you can pass along that has value."

As for the Liberal Arts Building, more renovations are on the horizon, including further upgrades to classrooms and technology. If you are interested in finding out more about Eck Hall, or would like to know how you can help, please contact Marci Bozeman at 406.243.2646 or by emailing marci.bozeman@supportum.org.

Dean Comer makes his opening remarks at the Eck Hall dedication ceremony in October in the new south entrance of the Liberal Arts Building.



Dennis takes the time to speak with UM students in the new student lounge on the second floor of the building. The space now offers plenty of seating and natural light.



Pictured from left-to-right: Commissioner of Higher Education Clay Christian; soon-to-be UM president Seth Bodnar; Dr. Chelsea Bodnar; Dean Chris Comer; H&S alumnus Mr. Dennis Eck; and current interim president Sheila Stearns.



History receives bright future at UM

Thanks to the generosity of an anonymous donor, the University of Montana has its first endowed research chair in the humanities. Richard Drake, who has been a history professor at UM since 1982, has been named UM's first Lucile Speer Research Chair in Politics and History.

Honoring Lucile Speer, a longtime librarian at UM (1928-1968) and delegate to the Montana Constitutional Convention (1972), the position recognizes a faculty member who has a distinguished record of research and scholarly activity.

"It is a great honor for me to be the inaugural holder of the Lucile Speer Research Chair in Politics and History," said Drake. "I never met Lucile, but I have developed enormous respect for what I have learned about her splendid qualities of mind and character. Her devotion to UM and commitment to the common good inspired all who knew her. As the inaugural chair holder, I hope to acquit myself in a spirit worthy of her memory."

Drake is a dedicated scholar and educator, and highly respected in his field. After earlier graduate work in American history, he earned his Ph.D. in 1976 at UCLA

as a Europeanist with a specialty in Italian history. He then taught at UCLA, UC Irvine, Wellesley College, and Princeton University prior to joining the history department at UM. His curriculum includes courses on Italy, European Cultural and Intellectual history, Contemporary Europe, the Great Historians, and Terrorism in the Modern World.

"This extraordinary gift allows us to recruit, retain and reward top scholars," said UM President Sheila Stearns. "The Speer Chair will enhance the University's already stellar reputation in history and political science."

In total, Drake has published five books, more than two dozen articles, and ninety book reviews. His first four books dealt with the history of modern Italy, and two of them have been translated into Italian. He continues to be an active scholar in that field.

Returning to his earlier interest in U.S. history, Drake has added American foreign policy as a research field. In 2013, he published *The Education of an Anti-Imperialist: Robert La Follette and U.S. Expansion*. He follows Senator La Follette's growth as a critic of America's wars and the political and economic forces responsible for them.

Denounced in the American press as the most dangerous man in the country, La Follette believed that financial imperialism and its necessary instrument, militarism, would be the death of the United States as a democratic republic.

“This book addresses big themes: republic or empire, progressive politics, freedom and censorship in wartime, and congressional and executive foreign policymaking powers,” said historian Susan Brewer of Drake’s work. It is “a vivid portrait of Robert La Follette that shows why he was such a thorn in the side of those who sought to conduct ‘business as usual.’”

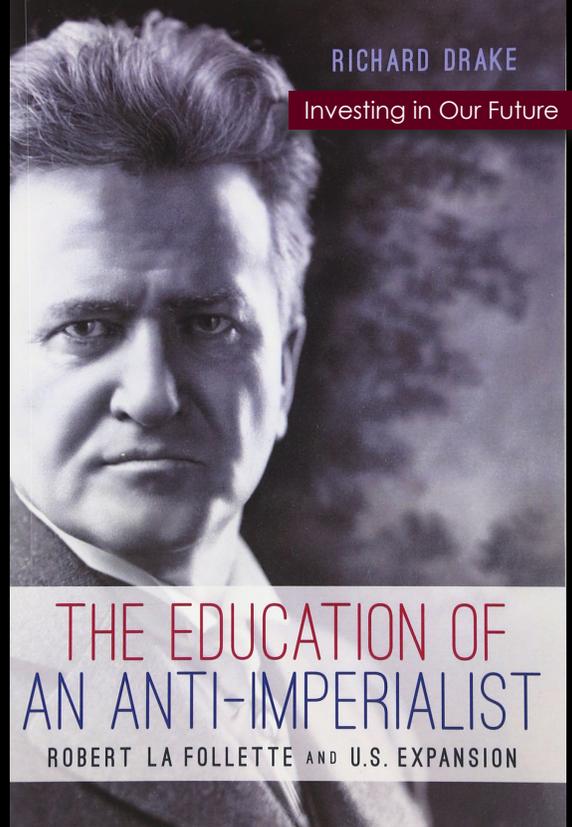
Drake’s next book is forthcoming in 2018 from Cornell University Press. It deals with the still controversial career of Charles Austin Beard, the master historian of American imperialism.

Drake also coordinates UM’s President’s Lecture Series, a job he has done for 31 years.

Asked in a recent interview about his many commitments at UM, Drake said that he has three main jobs here: “The lecture series, the teaching and the research, but I think of all of them as being intertwined. Each one strengthens the other two, so for me it’s sort of an organic existence. I think all three of them are enriching to me personally and, I hope, to the school.”

It is this mindset that makes Drake the perfect selection to serve as the inaugural Speer Chair. Unwavering in his commitment to scholarship and education, he challenges his students not only to identify the big issues in life, but also to arrive at their own understanding of what should be done about them.

“An education is more than job training,” he said. “An education is training for life.”



“Richard Drake’s superb biography of Robert La Follette is a fresh, fascinating, and highly readable account of a great figure in American history. But it is also an important, indeed stimulating, analysis that can instruct our era how this popular U.S. Progressive senator from Wisconsin repeatedly and courageously stood up against his era’s reactionary and avidly pro-war politicians.”

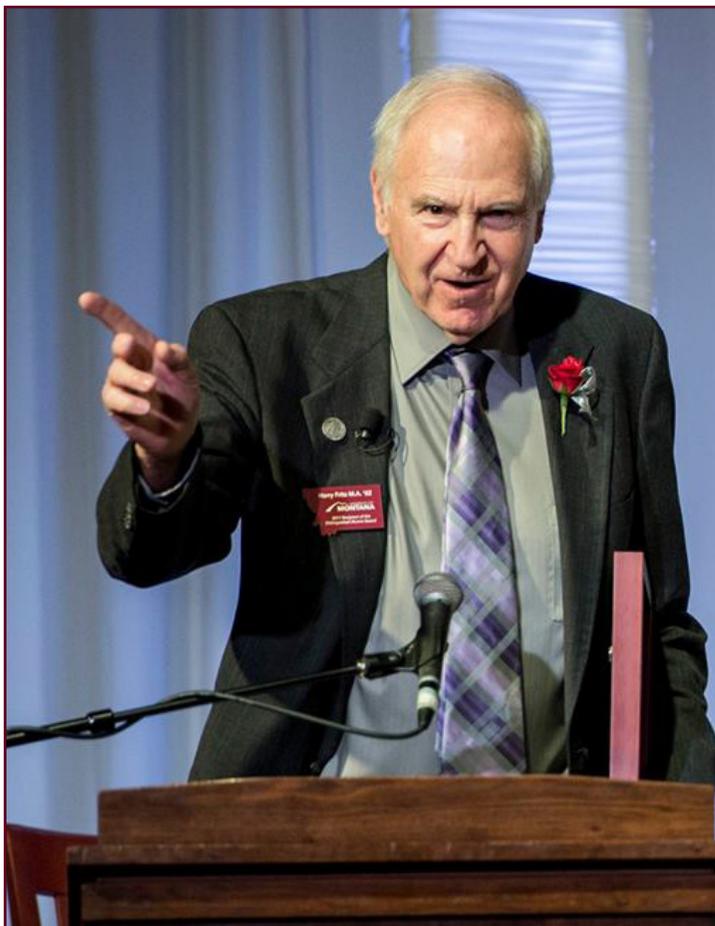
– Walter LaFeber, Cornell University

More About Lucile Speer

Lucile Speer was actively and passionately involved in her community and state. A member of the League of Women Voters of Montana and the Missoula Democratic Club, she worked on Eugene McCarthy’s campaign in 1968 and, at 73, was the oldest delegate at the 1972 Montana Constitutional Convention. The convention rewrote Montana’s constitution, which hadn’t changed since 1889.

On campus, Speer served as president of the University Teachers Union, and was a member of the Faculty Senate and the Chairman of the Archives Committee. She was also a friend and advisor to many students and faculty, who appreciated both her sharp take on politics and the fresh corn on the cob she shared from her abundant garden near campus. In 1977, she received an Honorary Doctorate of Humane Letters from UM.

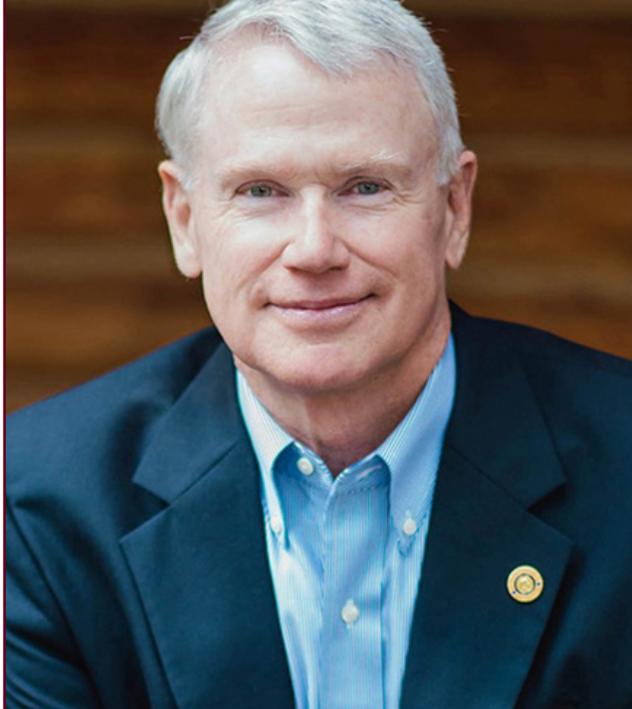
2017 Distinguished Alumni



Pictured - Back row: Harry Fritz '62, M.A. History; Ramakrishna Nemani '87, Ph.D. Forestry; James "Scott" Wheeler '69, B.A. History; William Finnegan '78, M.F.A. Creative Writing; Front row: President Sheila Sterns; Dr. Robert "Bob" Seim '59, B.S. Microbiology and Public Health

Harry Fritz '62

An active and respected scholar and a generous colleague and mentor, Harry Fritz, who earned a master's degree in history from UM, is an engaging and dedicated teacher who shared his passion for history with thousands of students during his 50-year career as a professor at the University. Few historians are able to bring to the lectern as much energy, good humor and sheer love of storytelling as Fritz; fewer still can do so with his democratic unpretentiousness. Fritz's service to the state of Montana has been recognized by a host of awards and commendations, and he extended his public service beyond the classroom by serving two terms in the Montana House of Representatives and one in the Senate.

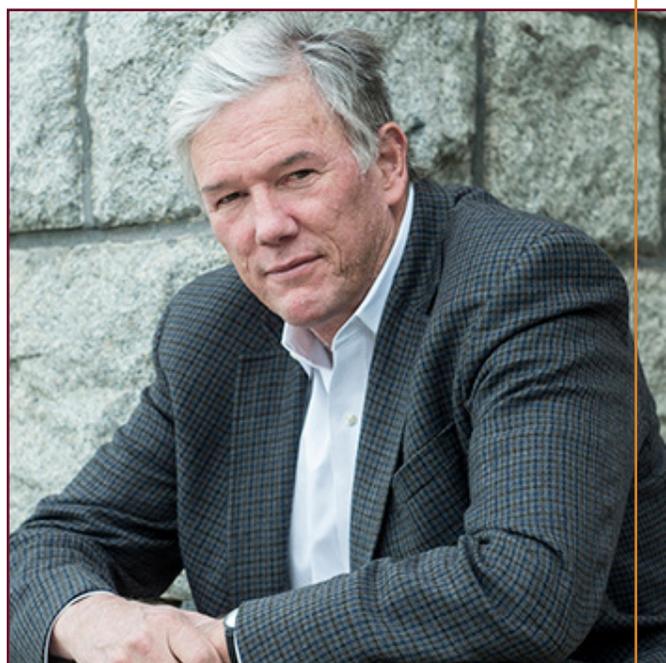


Scott Wheeler '69

After graduating from UM with a bachelor's degree in history, James "Scott" Wheeler joined the U.S. Army and was commissioned a second lieutenant, beginning his long, distinguished military career. He served several years overseas, including in Vietnam, before earning advanced degrees in history at the University of California, Berkeley. He then served a year as a White House Fellow in the U.S. Department of Energy before becoming a history professor at West Point. Wheeler retired from the military and returned to Montana to pursue his love of history, publishing several books, including "Cromwell in Ireland."

William Finnegan '78

William Finnegan, who earned a master's degree in creative writing from UM, is an award-winning journalist who's been a staff writer for *The New Yorker* since 1987. He's spent the majority of his career writing in-depth features on conflicts at home and abroad, reporting on everything from apartheid in South Africa to the politics of immigration reform in the U.S. In 2016, Finnegan's surfing memoir, "Barbarian Days: A Surfing Life," won a Pulitzer Prize. He has earned numerous accolades for his reporting as well, and his research and reporting have resulted in several nonfiction publications, including "Cold New World: Growing Up in a Harder Country."



Bob Seim '59

Robert Seim, who earned a bachelor's degree in microbiology and public health from UM, has distinguished himself as a physician, community leader, nonprofit board member and mentor. After earning his medical degree and becoming board-certified, Seim served in the U.S. Army before establishing a long career in orthopedic surgery in Montana. Following his retirement in 2015 after three decades at Missoula Bone and Joint, Seim continued to serve Montana veterans through his work with VA orthopedic clinics. He's also demonstrated steadfast commitment to his community and the University as a longtime and active member of the Missoula Rotary Club and by serving on the boards of the Grizzly Scholarship Association, UM Alumni Association and UM Foundation.

2017 H&S Philan

As the Heart & Soul of the University of Montana, the College of Humanities and Sciences (H&S) delivers 80% of all general education courses for the University and supports diverse undergraduate and graduate degree programs in the Humanities, Social Sciences and Natural Sciences.

H&S has a fiscal year fundraising goal of more than \$8.1 million for a wide range of student, faculty and academic programs including the freshman retention programs like the Success in Science program and the H&S Legacy Scholarship. Your gift to the College can help first-generation students become the first in their families to earn a degree, help faculty publish high-impact research, or positively impact international study abroad opportunities. Please join us today to make a difference for your College and University!

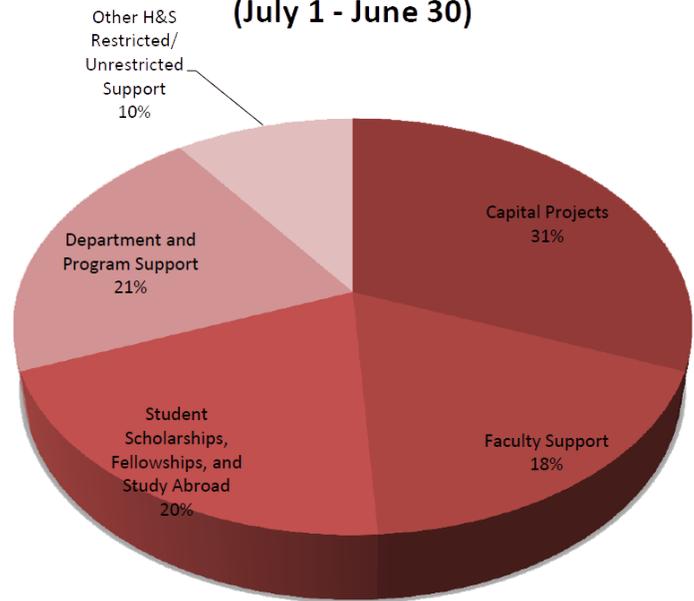
To give online: www.supportum.org.

To give by phone: (800) 443-2593.

To mail your gift:
University of Montana Foundation
P.O. Box 7159
Missoula, MT 59807-7159

Your Dollars in Action

H&S FY 17 Philanthropic Support (July 1 - June 30)



Make an Impact

\$23 represents the 23 dynamic departments and programs in the College of Humanities & Sciences

\$64 recognizes the number of BA and BS degrees within H&S

\$125 celebrates the upcoming 125th anniversary of the University of Montana

\$650 funds one student's participation in the Success in Science program next year

\$1,000 awards an H&S Legacy Scholarship to a talented new student

Anthropic Update

Last year, alumni and friends of the College of Humanities and Sciences provided more than \$680,000 in outright support for student scholarships, fellowships and study abroad awards.

“Receiving a scholarship has made a huge difference in my ability to focus on school and reduce the need to take out costly loans. I always knew I wanted to study Computer Science and appreciate how much this support is helping me fulfill my career goals.”

Cameron Gomke

Recipient of the Mike McGinley
Scholarship in Computer Science
Junior, Computer Science Major
Lambert, MT





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If you have supported the College of Humanities and Sciences in the past – thank you!
If you would like to continue to support the College or make your first contribution,
please visit this H&S online donations link.

<http://hs.umt.edu/hs/donate.php>

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@supportum.org,
or by calling 406.243.2646

We are happy to provide you with information about our giving programs including the H&S Impact Fund, membership in 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.

