**The Dean's Column**

It has been a productive spring semester here in Missoula! Students in the Davidson Honors College have had exceptional opportunities to present their research in local and regional conferences.

In April, the DHC organized the thirteenth annual UM Conference on Undergraduate Research, a full-day event where over 120 students of all majors presented their research and creative scholarship. For the first time this year, the conference included a Painting and Print exhibition, a juried display of artwork by undergraduates. My sincere thanks to the faculty mentors, judges, peer reviewers, student volunteers, and DHC staff members who made it all possible.

Also in April, ten UM students and four DHC faculty and staff members traveled to Denver, Colorado, to attend the Western Regional Honors Conference. DHC students Mercedes Becker, Becca Boslough, Jocelyn Catterson, Paige Ely, Kim Ledger, Christian Lipscomb, Erin Hastey, Michelle Nemetchek, Zach Shearer, and Damara Simpson presented their research and creative photography at this prestigious regional conference. Their research topics included mental health care, invasive plant species, Ayurvedic medicine, intra-group conflict, and gender inequality in Arab States.

In May, the DHC hosted a reception in the DHC Ephron Student Lounge to honor the 80 students who will graduate as University Scholars this year. UM President Royce Engstrom offered congratulations to the DHC graduates and their family members. Graduating senior Rodolfo Villarreal-Calderon offered a toast to the DHC graduates, inviting them to imagine that “the fruits of our labor lie in this celebration, in self-respect, and in the opportunities that await us beyond the graduation podium.”

Let me add my own words of encouragement to the graduating class of 2014. I wish you the best of success in all of your future endeavors!

Jim McKusick

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**Honors Student Association**

By Jessy Weiss

It has been an exciting semester for the Honors Student Association. In February, members of HSA, Students for Peace and Justice, and Mount of Olives collaborated to organize the second annual Valentines for Peace event. The driving theme of this event is for everyone to “do something kind for someone.” HSA set up tables for writing letters to Syrian refugee children and selling fair trade chocolate to benefit their education. The event was a great success, raising about $300 and collecting a pile of letters to be translated by high school Arabic students and sent via a UM alumna who is working with Syrian refugee children in Jordan. HSA is already looking forward to our third annual event next February.
Three outstanding DHC students have won nationally competitive scholarships this year:

**Becca Boslough**, a 2013 Truman Scholar and 2014 UM graduate, will spend next year in Germany on a *Congress-Bundestag Youth Exchange for Young Professionals*, a program that exchanges 75 students from Germany with 75 students from the US each year. Participants are given language training; then they study at a German university, and complete their year with an internship.

**Mara Menahan**, a junior majoring in environmental studies and geography with minors in climate change studies and wilderness studies, won a *Truman Scholarship* for her leadership in public service. Mara’s passionate and professional leadership in a variety of campus and community activities helped her achieve the award. She has been a leader at the UM FLAT (Forum for Living with Appropriate Technology), served as a UM student delegate to the UN 2013 Climate Change Conference in Warsaw, participated in the Bhutan Ride for Climate, and interned as a wilderness ranger with the Selway-Bitterroot Frank Church Foundation. She has also served as women’s team captain of the UM Cycling Team.

**Hope Radford**, a sophomore majoring in resource conservation with minors in climate change studies and international development studies, won a *Udall Scholarship* worth $5,000 for her leadership in the environmental field. She is organizing an internship abroad in Latin America that will focus on sustainable agriculture. On campus, Hope has been a leading Eco-Rep in the residence halls and has been a leader in setting up a campus farmers’ market. She is also a violinist and has contributed her time to play for several events.

A place for alumni and friends of the Davidson Honors College at the University of Montana to reconnect, catch up, share photos, and tell stories.

Join our Facebook group at [http://www.facebook.com/groups/164884334563/](http://www.facebook.com/groups/164884334563/)

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**Advisor’s Corner**

*By Laure Pengeley Drake*

The other major HSA event this semester was Undergraduate Research Night. Dr. Scott Whittenburg, Vice President for Research and Creative Scholarship, discussed the reasons for and benefits of participating in research, and two of our DHC Summer Research Fellows, **Kim Ledger** and **Mercedes Becker**, spoke about their own experience of undergraduate research, as well as offering tips for getting started.

HSA will be holding elections early in autumn semester, so if you are interested in running for an officer position or becoming an active member of HSA, we invite you to join our meetings!
Davidson Honors College student Rebecca Collins recently was awarded a $1,000 scholarship for her winning essay submitted to the inaugural Phi Beta Kappa Association of Western Montana Essay Contest. The scholarship will be used for the 2014-15 academic year.

Her essay, titled “Reflecting the Active World,” exposes her love of connecting her studies and self-reflection to action while at UM.

“The University of Montana rests in a place of praxis,” Collins wrote in her essay. “It recognizes that intellectual pursuit does not remain in books – it propels students into engagement. Nestled into mountains and wilderness areas, embraced by a bustling city, I am of the world and strive to be a person of informed action.”

Collins is a Presidential Leadership Scholar from Forest Grove, Ore., and studies English literature and environmental studies. In the fall, she plans to complete 12 credits of independent study on the Camino de Santiago, a medieval pilgrimage in southern France and northern Spain. Equipped with knowledge from her interdisciplinary studies on pilgrimage history, European pilgrimage literature and nature writing, she will walk the Camino de Santiago herself and do nature writing of her own.

“Ms. Collins’ essay demonstrates an admirable commitment to a searching examination of pressing human questions, especially the importance of thinking about the human relationship to the environment in an age of rapid change,” said UM English Professor Ashby Kinch. “The essay accomplishes this goal through an emphasis on the need for individual human growth, which she will endeavor to realize in her fall project of following the Camino de Santiago.”

Essay contestants were required to have a declared major within the College of Humanities and Sciences, have a minimum GPA of 3.75, have attained junior standing (minimum 60 credits) and fulfilled all of their general education requirements before applying. The essays were required to be between two to three pages in length and address the value of freedom of inquiry and liberty of thought in modern education.

“[Collins’] essay powerfully explores the importance of deep transformation as the root of commitment to making change in the world,” Kinch said. “The committee thought that the earnest and eloquent expression of that goal made it exemplary of both the mission of the University of Montana and the goals and values of Phi Beta Kappa.”

Mona Schwartz, a Davidson Honors College student from Bozeman, will travel to Washington, D.C., this summer as the recipient of the 2014 J. Stanley Kimmitt Public Service Internship.

Schwartz, a junior who majors in political science with a double minor in international development studies and Latin American studies, will serve as a summer intern for U.S. Sen. Jon Tester. The Kimmitt internship includes a $3,000 stipend.

“I am interested in many public policy issues, including immigration, Indian affairs, environmental issues, human and civil rights and women’s rights,” Schwartz said. “With an internship in Sen. Tester’s office, I will be able to learn much more about the American political process, public service and current policy issues to help advance change in the future.”

Schwartz will serve as vice president of Griz for UNICEF this fall. She also volunteers with the Women’s Resource Center and the North Missoula Community Development Corporation. She spent this past summer in Mexico studying politics, development, immigration and Spanish. Since 2011, Schwartz has served as a staff member at Camp Equinox Summer Theatre Camp in Bozeman and has been an employee at the UC Market since spring 2013.

The Kimmitt intern is selected each year through a competitive application process. The review and ranking of this year’s internship applications were carried out by a UM faculty committee convened by DHC Dean James McKusick. Finalists then were interviewed by staff in Tester’s office to determine their suitability for an internship in the U.S. Senate.

The internship is a public service opportunity for UM students established to honor J. Stanley Kimmitt, former secretary of the U.S. Senate and aide to Sen. Mike Mansfield. It rotates among all three members of the Montana congressional delegation.

The next Kimmitt internship will be awarded in summer 2015. A call for applications for that award will be announced this fall by the Davidson Honors College. For more information, call 406-243-2541 or email dhc@umontana.edu.
Alternative Spring Break

This year a group of 11 students were selected to travel to Moab, Utah to help restore native plant life to Arches National Park. Students worked with Plateau Restoration, Inc., to remove invasive species and plant native trees and perennials while learning about the delicate ecology of the park. **The OCE will be planning a shorter trip to Glacier National Park to monitor loon activity early this summer. For information, contact our coordinator at Alternativebreaks.um@hotmail.com.**

Service Saturdays

Do you want to volunteer but you’re not sure how much time you can dedicate? Service Saturdays can help! The Office for Civic Engagement organizes 2 to 3 Saturday volunteer opportunities each month. This is a great way to meet people, connect with your community, and make a difference. Past Service Saturdays have included serving meals at the Poverello Center, socializing with cats at Animeals, organizing and cleaning at the YWCA, raking leaves for the Missoula Aging Services, and much more! If you would like more information e-mail Service.Saturdays@mso.umt.edu.

National Service Recruiting Continues!

**Compact Service Corps**, a national service AmeriCorps program, works to connect college students with local nonprofit agencies to help both grow and learn from one another. Members participate in meaningful community service experiences in the areas of Health, Nonprofit Capacity Building, and Education. Compact Service Corps positions offer education awards in varying amounts, as well as a year’s worth of priceless experience working to make a change in the Missoula community. We are currently recruiting for summer positions with Free Cycles and Garden City Harvest. For more information, or to see how you can become a Compact Service Corps member, contact Colleen at colleen.kane@mso.umt.edu.
Buttrey Scholarships
The Buttrey Family Trust Fund offers scholarships to outstanding juniors who demonstrate both academic excellence and financial need.

Samuel Forstag, major: Political Science
Jessica Hurd, major: Economics
Genevieve Wilson, major: Anthropology

DHC Student-Faculty Summer Research Awards
Awarded to DHC students and their faculty mentors for summer research projects.

Hannah Fay, Microbiology major, Chemistry minor; faculty mentor: Mike Minnick, Biological Sciences
Jesse Rowan, English major, English Literature second major; faculty mentor: Erin Saldin, English and DHC
Sara Thane, Political Science major, International Development Studies minor; faculty mentor: Christopher Muste, Political Science
Jessica Weiss, Psychology major; faculty mentor: Christine Fiore, Psychology

Undergraduate Research Scholarships
Awarded to students for research and creative scholarship in any discipline.

Sydney Blackmore, major: Theatre, with Randy Bolton, Theatre, “Trigger for Change: Theatre as a Tool for Social Activism”

Watkins Scholarships
The Watkins Scholarship Program offers research awards to students who are seniors in the College of Humanities and Sciences or whose faculty mentor is in the College of Humanities and Sciences.

Isabel Makman, major: Russian, faculty mentor: Josh Lawrence, Biomedical & Pharmaceutical Sciences, “Novel CYP26 Inhibitors as a Treatment for Alzheimer's Disease”

Daniel Mullee, major: Biochemistry, faculty mentor: Michael Kavanaugh, Biomedical & Pharmaceutical Sciences, “Glutamate Transporter Function at the Neuromuscular Junction of Drosophila”


Jessica Weiss, major: Psychology, faculty mentor: Christine Fiore, Psychology, “Quantitative Analysis of Consecutive Violent Relationship Risk”

Ellen Whittle, major: Wildlife Biology, faculty mentor: Creagh Breuner, Wildlife Biology, “A Survey of Western Montana Bridges for Bat Use”

Montana Space Grant Consortium Scholarships
Undergraduate research scholarships awarded to students for research in science, technology, and mathematics.

Brianna Berg, major: Geosciences, faculty mentor: Julia Baldwin, Geosciences, “The History of Metamorphism of the Ruby Range”

Britt Dickman, major: Athletic Training, faculty mentor: Valerie Moody, Health and Human Performance, “Comparing the Effects of Pulsed Short Wave Diathermy and Dynamic Stretching on Hip Flexor Flexibility and Postural Control”

Hannah Fay, major: Microbiology, faculty mentor: Mike Minnick, Biological Sciences, “Molecular Biology of a surface-exposed protein family of Bartonella bacilliformis”
Nora Ifft, major: Athletic Training, faculty mentor: Valerie Moody, Health and Human Performance, “Examining Rewarming Trends Following Cyrokinetics Using Different Cooling Modalities”

Heather Vallejo, major: Elementary Education, faculty mentor: Matt B. Roscoe, Mathematical Sciences, “Research of Prime Factorization Regarding Elementary Students”

Reegan von Wildenradt, major: Athletic Training, faculty mentor: Valerie Moody, Health and Human Performance, “Comparing the Effects of Pulsed Shortwave Diathermy and Static Stretching on Shoulder Range of Motion and Performance”

Dailey Study Abroad Scholarships
These scholarships provide support for a full-year study abroad program in a country where English is not commonly spoken.

Laura Barta
Major: Spanish
Country of travel: Spain

Caelan Simeone
Major: Geoscience
Country of travel: Chile

Voile M. Boileau Memorial Study Abroad Scholarships
These scholarships offer funding to students who intend to participate in a study abroad program.

Elizabeth Bierer
Major: Pharmacy
Country of travel: Guatemala

Caelan Simeone
Major: Geosciences
Country of travel: Chile

DHC Study Abroad Scholarships
These scholarships offer funding to students who intend to participate in a study abroad program.

Emilyn Bauer
Major: Biology
Country of travel: Australia

Claire Chandler
Major: Journalism
Country of travel: China

Rebecca Collins
Major: Environmental Studies
Country of travel: Spain

Mikaela Koski
Major: Political Science
Country of travel: Palestine/Israel

Michelle Nemetchek
Major: Biochemistry
Country of travel: Canada

Eamon Ormseth
Major: History
Country of travel: Israel

Tessa Richards
Major: Exercise Science
Country of travel: Australia

Rachael Schmoker
Major: Health and Human Performance
Country of travel: South Africa

Kari Shelkey
Major: English Teaching
Country of travel: France
The Paul Lauren Undergraduate Research Faculty Mentor Award
This award recognizes UM faculty members who excel in guiding undergraduate students in their senior Honors research projects.

Kari Jo Harris, Associate Professor, School of Public and Community Health Sciences
Anya Jabour, Professor, History

UMCUR Awards for Poster Presentations
This award recognizes UM students for their outstanding poster presentations at the annual UM Conference on Undergraduate Research.

Sarah Hendricks subject area: Life Sciences, faculty mentor: Mark Grimes, Biological Sciences, “Evaluating neurite outgrowth and signal integration in response to NGF and GDNF in neuroblastoma cell lines”
Pamela Lavering, subject area: Physical Sciences, faculty mentor: Marc Hendrix, Geosciences, “Stratigraphic and Sedimentologic Analysis of the Bear Gulch Limestone (Mississippian-Pennsylvanian) near Grass Range, Montana”

UMCUR Awards for Oral Presentations
This award recognizes UM students for their outstanding oral presentations at the annual UM Conference on Undergraduate Research.

David Schaad subject area: Humanities, faculty mentor: Daniel Spencer, Environmental Justice & HidroAysén: Pristine Waters to Power Santiago, Multinational Mining Interests in Chile”
Jeanette Comstock subject area: Life Sciences, faculty mentor: Scott Samuels, Biological Sciences, “The Role of RNase Y in Gene Regulation During Transmission of B. burgdorferi”
Benjamin Campbell subject area: Physical Sciences, faculty mentor: Joel Henry, Computer Sciences, “Modular Abstraction of Complex Real Time Analysis”
Jesse Desrosier subject area: Social Sciences, faculty mentor: Mizuki Miyashita, Anthropology, “Second Language Acquisition in Blackfeet Rhythm”

Brooke Carlisle subject area: Visual & Performing Arts, faculty mentor: Heidi Jones Eggert, Theatre and Dance, “Dancing Through the Lens”

UMCUR Award for Painting & Print Exhibition
This award recognizes UM students for their outstanding artwork at the annual UM Conference on Undergraduate Research.

David Sampson subject area: Art, faculty mentor: MaryAnn Bonjorni, Art, “eleutheromania”

University Scholar Candidates

Autumn 2013
Sara Anderson
Mary Callahan Baumstark
Morgan Lawrence
Kathryn Tokle
Ketti Wilhelm

Spring 2014
Mary Anderson
Tess Barker
Amy Beale
Celeste Bickford
Rebecca Boslough
Allison Bye
Brooke Carlisle
Larisa Carter
Elizabeth Clemens
Jeanette Comstock
Alicia Connolly
Abigail Connolly
Nicholas Connor
Harrison Cooper
Matthew Cosca
Kari Lynn Dowling
Paige Ely
Paige Ferro
Thomas Flies
Jenna Franklin
Kellee Glaus
Ally Guldborg
Leah Hall
Erin Hasty
Erin Helmholz
Sarah Hendricks
Isaac Iverson
Emilie Jacobsen
Emma Jaqueth
Dylan Lang
Jessica Lareau
Richard LeCoultre
Kimberly Ledger
Gwendolyn Mann
Christa Moore
Daniel Moran
Madeleine Murray
Ellen Myers
Patrick Myers
Karla Nettleton
Sophie O’Brien
William Omholt-Montague
Jessica Potter
Kristine Quint
Blake Reynolds
Lauren Robinson
David Schaad
Brandon Shannon
Jill Sharp
Zachary Shearer
Damara Simpson
Amy Sisk
Payton Skawinski
Harrison Stein
Erika Stinchcomb
Tysen Timmer
Rodolfo Villarreal-Calderon
Eliza Visscher
Schuyler Watt
Conner Weston
Tessa Weyrauch
Matthew Wier
Adam Woods
Grace Yon

Summer 2014
Angella Molvig
Priscilla Lekalkuli

Autumn 2014
Joceyln Catterson
May Conley
Rose Dickson
Alesia LaRoque
Skye Lawlor
Max Potter
Rebecca Sinichko
Sara Thane