This academic year has seen many positive developments for the Davidson Honors College. Our longtime administrative associate Andi Armstrong has moved on to a new position in the School of Business Administration, and we have hired a highly qualified UM alumna, Marissa Lehner, to take over this front-line position in the DHC. We are also fortunate to have a new Director of Development, Lauren Clark, who brings great talent and a wealth of experience to her work for the DHC. In April, Andrea Vernon, Director of the Office for Civic Engagement, won a prestigious UM award for her outstanding service to the campus community.

In April, the DHC organized the twelfth annual UM Conference on Undergraduate Research, a full-day event where students of all majors presented their research and creative scholarship. The conference has doubled in size this year, with 240 students presenting their work, a clear indicator of the strength and vitality of undergraduate research across all the disciplines at UM. My sincere thanks to the faculty and student volunteers and to the UM staff members who made the conference a great success.

In May, the DHC hosted a reception in the DHC Ephron Student Lounge to honor the 105 students who will graduate from the DHC as University Scholars this year – the largest graduating class in the history of the college. UM President Royce Engstrom offered hearty congratulations to the DHC graduates and their family members. DHC alumnus Brian Morgan (class of 1996) encouraged the graduates to be persistent in realizing their highest aspirations. Graduating senior Emily Cross offered a toast to the DHC graduates, exhorting them to stay true to themselves and to follow their dreams. Excellent advice for any college graduate!

Jim McKusick

The Davidson Honors College is pleased to announce the appointment of Lauren Clark as Director of Development for the DHC and University Scholarships.

In this role, Lauren will lead fundraising efforts for the Davidson Honors College, in collaboration with Dean James McKusick, and she will also be engaged in seeking private support for campus-wide scholarship priorities. Her experience and skill in fundraising and volunteer management, and her personal knowledge of Honors College programs, make her particularly well-suited for this position.

Lauren is from Pullman, Washington. She is a graduate of Washington State University (WSU) and the WSU Honors College, with degrees in Public Relations and Spanish. Lauren's interest in development began in college where she served for three years as a student intern for the WSU Foundation.

Lauren began work for the University of Montana Foundation in 2007 as Assistant Director of Development for the School of Business Administration, where she enhanced outreach to and private support from donors. Since 2009, she served as Director of Annual Giving–External Campaigns. In this role, she has been recognized for her creativity, strong volunteer management and leadership, ability to increase project revenue and return-on-investment, and effectiveness in qualifying and cultivating top prospects.

Lauren writes: "I am delighted and honored for the opportunity to work with the DHC. I was the beneficiary of an honors education at my alma mater, and I can personally attest to its benefits. It is inspiring to play even a small role in enhancing a mission that I truly believe in. I look forward to getting to know the DHC community of alumni and friends!"
As both an instructor and an advisor with the Davidson Honors College, I’ve been lucky enough to speak with our students this year in a variety of settings. I have been extremely impressed by the level of involvement that the DHC students exhibit in all facets of their community, from volunteerism in the greater Missoula area to taking an active role in their residence hall. I’ve been struck by how eager Honors students are to participate in what the University and town have to offer.

To this end, I want to remind all DHC students to keep track of every activity that you engage in, either by updating your resume regularly or by keeping a more casual list of the things you do on or around campus. This may seem self-evident, but you never know when that Saturday volunteer project you did in your first year will become a talking point at a conference, or when an interviewer for a job will ask you to discuss experiential learning and how it has affected your values. We can’t rely on memory to serve us as well as it should in situations such as these, so a regularly updated list of activities will keep your accomplishments, no matter how trivial seeming, in the forefront of your mind!

Scholarship Success

Emily Cross, a graduating senior in philosophy with minors in economics and music, was awarded the Phi Kappa Phi Fellowship, a $5,000 award for the first year of graduate or professional study. She will attend law school at the University of California-Irvine. Emily served in summer 2011 as a Kimmitt Public Service Intern in the office of U.S. Senator Max Baucus and was Montana District Governor for Circle K. In 2012 she was a finalist for the Rhodes Scholarship. Emily is from Glendive, Montana.

Patrick Funk is a graduating senior in Mathematics with an emphasis in statistics. He has worked in a variety of fields such as soil science and neuroscience while pursuing his undergraduate degree. Recently he was chosen for an internship in solar technology through the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) RISE Professional program. He is moving to Germany in May for a year-long contract developing learning algorithms to improve electrical grid efficiency.

Erin Hastey, a third-year DHC student in English, communication studies, and German, was recently accepted to the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) internXchange program. She, along with fourteen other students from the U.S. and Canada, will spend six weeks studying at the Freie Universität Berlin before conducting an intensive five-week internship at a publication, broadcasting or TV station in Berlin.

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/16488434563/
Environmental activist **Mara Menahan** won a $5,000 **Udall Scholarship** to support her environmental work. Mara is double majoring in geography and environmental studies with a minor in climate change studies to prepare for a career as a landscape planner. Mara was a member of the inaugural “Bhutan Ride for Climate” where she experienced first-hand the impacts of climate change while biking across the country with youth from the Himalayas. She has since developed visual aids to communicate better the impacts of climate change. Mara has also worked to protect Montana’s open spaces as an event coordinator for a local land trust. Mara enjoys spending time on her grandparent’s ranch, riding her bike long distances, and painting the landscapes that inspire her.

**Peregrine Frissell**, a freshman majoring in journalism with a minor in climate change studies, has been accepted into the **Fulbright Summer Institute at Nottingham Trent University**. He will be traveling to the UK for the month of July to study journalism with other students where they will get the chance to learn about the culture of the UK and about the ambassadorial leadership values on which the Fulbright Commission was founded. The Fulbright Commission will cover international airfare, tuition and fees, room and board, student visa, and travel expenses while Peregrine is in the country. Peregrine says, “I am very thankful for all the wonderful support and inspiration that my professors and peers at the University of Montana have given me; I hope to represent Missoula well.”

**UM junior Rebecca Boslough** recently won a **Truman Scholarship**. This prestigious award provides top U.S. university student leaders up to $30,000 for graduate or professional school. Becca is majoring in resource conservation with a minor in climate change studies. She is an active member of Montana’s conservation community, working on issues such as wilderness designation, climate change education, and public land management. She hopes to pursue a career in land and water management. She is a member of Student Senate and a leader in the University of Montana Wilderness Association.

**UM junior Kim Ledger** recently received a $7,500 **Goldwater Scholarship** for science research. She is majoring in biology with an emphasis in ecology. Her current research interests involve explaining the intricacies of species interactions. This summer she will conduct field work in Europe and the northwest U.S. to investigate biogeographical differences in exotic plant invasion. After graduating from UM, Kim intends to pursue a doctoral degree in ecology and evolutionary biology.
Farewell to Andi Armstrong

In January 2013 Andi Armstrong accepted a new position at the UM School of Business Administration (SoBA) Management and Information Systems Department (MIS). She is the Department Assistant for MIS and is a member of the SoBA Tech Team, Branding Committee, Web Committee, and News Story Monday subcommittee in her new position.

Andi was a valued member of the DHC staff and helped all of us out at the front desk daily in many ways. She provided excellent guidance and assistance as we made the transitions in the work we perform with the technology available to us today. She was our Access database guru, helped with classroom technology, and maintained our websites and social media. But what she enjoyed most of all was working with the students in the DHC, which she will miss very much.

Loving that she’s still on campus—just a different corner now!—Andi continues to serve on Staff Senate, hike to the M, sweat at campus rec, watch movies in the UC Theater, and attend plays. You can visit Andi at the School of Business Administration. She has an incredible view from her new office on the third floor in GBB 308!

Meet our new Administrative Associate – Marissa Lehner

The Davidson Honors College is pleased to welcome Marissa Lehner as our new Administrative Associate for the DHC.

Marissa is from Laurel, Montana. She is a graduate of The University of Montana, with a degree in Environmental Studies. She comes to the DHC with four years of experience working at UM in the Admissions Office as a student employee while earning her degree. She welcomes the opportunity to continue to work with a diverse group of students, our campus colleagues, and the many friends of and donors to the DHC. Marissa brings to DHC excellent communication, analytical, administrative and technology skills and a deep commitment to be an active member of the UM and DHC community.

Please stop by and say hello to Marissa when you are visiting campus.

University of Montana Announces 2013 Presidential Leadership Scholars

University of Montana Presidential Leadership Scholarships have been awarded to 24 exceptional incoming UM freshmen. The scholarships recognize outstanding talent, academic performance, leadership and contribution to the community.

This year’s scholarship winners were chosen from a field of more than 300 qualified applicants. Scholarship recipients become members of UM’s Davidson Honors College and receive a four-year tuition waiver plus an additional $5,000 to $7,500 per year.

Montana’s crop of 2013 Presidential Leadership Scholars are Madison Drake, Madison Schwarzkoph and McKenzie Watterson of Billings; Caleb Chestnut and Lucy Tompkins of Bozeman; Travis Glenn and Katherine Shea of Helena; Roman Chinkaylo, Rachel Dickson, Meaghan Gaul, Stacia Hill, Ellen Ipsen, Levi Kindred, Mackenzie Lombardi, Claire Michelson and Ashlin Staso of Missoula; and Eli Nordstrom of Red Lodge.

Seven Presidential Leadership Scholars will come to UM from other states. They are Emily Leonhardt of Rocklin, Calif.; Aspen Peifer of Colorado Springs, Colo.; Ryann Carlson of Coeur d’Alene, Idaho; Katherine Sussman of Idaho Falls, Idaho; Gavan Borgias of Ashland, Ore.; Mariah McIntosh of Corvallis, Ore.; and Clare Vergobbi of Salt Lake City.

“We have recruited an impressive group of students for this prestigious scholarship program,” said James McKusick, dean of the Davidson Honors College. “These students will contribute to the entire campus through their aspiration to academic excellence and their engagement in leadership and service. We expect tremendous accomplishments from them.”
Alternative Breaks

This year a group of 11 students was 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. To learn more about the Alternative Breaks program, contact our coordinator Alternativebreaks.um@hotmail.com.

Service Saturdays

Do you want to volunteer but you’re not sure how much time you can dedicate? Service Saturday’s 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 Saturday’s have included helping at the Poverello Center, Teen Challenge, raking leaves for the Missoula Aging Services, helping AniMeals collect food for their shelter, and much more! If you would like more information e-mail Service.Saturdays@mso.umt.edu.

Compact Service Corps.

Compact Service Corps, a national service AmeriCorps program, works to connect civic-minded college students with local nonprofit agencies to help both grow and learn from one another. Members participate in meaningful service-learning, civic engagement, and 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 price-less experience working to make a change in the Missoula community, and beyond! For more information, or to see how you can become a Compact Service Corps member, visit our website at http://www.dhc.umt.edu/uce/campuscorps.html.
Buttrey Scholarships
The Buttrey Family Trust Fund offers scholarships to outstanding juniors who demonstrate both academic excellence and financial need.

Nicholas Green, major: History
Joshua Helle, major: Geography
Danielle Howlett, major: Political Science
Hugh Kingery, major: History
Aaron Lebowitz, major: Psychology
Linda Malone, major: Psychology
Eamon Ormseth, major: History
Casey Panarese, major: History
Julianne Peterman, major: Political Science

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

Mercedes Becker, Psychology major, Political Science minor; faculty mentor: Robert Saldin, Associate Professor, Political Science
Paige Ely, Sociology major, Biology minor; faculty mentor Daisy Rooks, Assistant Professor, Sociology
Kimberly Ledger, Ecology and Organismal Biology major; faculty mentor: Ragan Callaway, Professor, Biological Sciences

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

Erika Berens, major: Athletic Training, with Valerie Moody, Health and Human Performance, “Comparing Variation of Mood States in College Students Enrolled in Healthcare Professional Programs”
Jocelyn Catterson, major: Resource Conservation, with Keith Bosak, Society and Conservation, “The Use of Sacred Lands: Dine Bikeyah and the Four Sacred Mountains of the Navajo”
Kevin Kuper, major: Psychology, with Yoonhee Jang, Psychology, “False Memory in Environmental Context”

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

Jeannette Comstock, major: Biochemistry, faculty mentor: Scott Samuels, Biological Sciences, “The Role of RNase Y in Gene Regulation During Transmission of Borrelia burgdorferi”
Harrison Cooper, major: Biology, faculty mentor: Erick Greene, Biological Sciences, “Mercury Contamination and Reproductive Success in Osprey Population”
Richard LeCoultre, major: Biochemistry, faculty mentor: Klara Briknarova, Biological Sciences, “Characterization of Fibronectin Type III Domain of Unfolding Events”
Kimberly Ledger, major: Biological Sciences, faculty mentor: Ragan Callaway, Biological Sciences, “Impact of a global invader, Solidago canadensis, at home and away”
Chantanelle Nava, major: Physics & Astronomy, faculty mentor: Nate McCrady, Physics & Astronomy, “Determining Exoplanet Detection Sensitivity of the Minerva Observatory”
George Neuhaus, major: Chemistry, faculty mentor: Orion Berryman, Chemistry and Biochemistry, “Synthesizing Novel Halogen Bonding Organocatalysts”
Sophie O’Brien, major: English, faculty mentor: Quan M. Ha, English, “The American Woman by John Steinbeck”
Ryan Parks, major: Environmental Chemistry, faculty mentor: Nancy Hinman, Geosciences, “Growing Algae With Chitin as a Nitrogen Source to Remove Phosphorous from Pulp Wastewater”

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

Natasha Boote, major: Wildland Restoration, faculty mentor: Ylva Lekberg, Ecosystem and Conservation Sciences, “Invasive success relative to phenotypic changes between plants from native and exotic ranges”

Terra Hanks, major: Wildland Restoration, faculty mentor: Ylva Lekberg, Ecosystem and Conservation Sciences, “Deciphering the role of the octopamine receptor OAMB in male aggression”
Allison Mueller, major: Physics, faculty mentor: David Macaluso, Physics & Astronomy, “Photoionization Cross-Sections for Neutron Capture Elements”
Erika Stinchcomb, 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.

Katherine Beinemajor: Media Arts
Country of travel: Japan
Ilene Kuehl
Major: English
Country of travel: Japan

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

McKinley Sangwin
Major: Health and Human Performance
Country of travel: Costa Rica

Mona Shwartz
Major: Political Science
Country of travel: Mexico

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

Jenna Franklin
Major: English
Country of travel: Sweden

Olivia Holter
Major: Psychology
Country of travel: United States

Eamon Ormseth
Major: History
Country of travel: Israel

Danielle Smith
Major: Pre-English
Country of travel: Ireland
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.

Ragan Callaway, Professor, Biological Sciences
Laurie Marczak, Assistant Professor, Ecosystem and Conservation Sciences
Christopher Muste, Assistant Professor, Political Science
Helen Naughton, Assistant Professor, Economics
Andrew Ware, Professor and Chair, Physics and Astronomy

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

Sophia Jensen, subject area: Life Sciences, faculty mentor: Erick Greene, Biological Sciences, “The Secret Language of Birds”

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

Emily Cross subject area: Humanities, faculty mentor: Tom Huff, Philosophy, “Critical Legal Studies: Challenging Traditional Legal Thought”

Abigail Nastan subject area: Physical Sciences, faculty mentor: Johnnie Moore, Geosciences, “South America and the Red Planet: Analysis of NASA’s Climate Databases to Hypothesize Limits to Global Change on Mars”

Autumn 2012
Hannah Anderson
Derek Arnold
Seth Barnes
Rebecca Calabrese
Emily Kerr
Alyssa Komac
Alice Krebill
Rebecca Pershouse
Claire Qubain
Alex Schwier
Travis Vincent

Spring 2013
Eliza Allison
Erin Axelrod
Neil Bennett
Kaleigh Best
Brianna Boettger
Ellen Boland
Zach Brown
Sandra Burch
Peter Burns
Mary Callahan Baumstark
Emily Caponi
Bert Carlstrom
Allyson Carroll
Alexander Chandler
Beryl Clark
Savanna Cochran

Summer 2013
Robert Livesay
Kip Barhaugh
Claire Nickless
Hannah Berglund

Jill Stoelckl
Christina Strand
Alec Sundet
Maria Trujillo
Natasha VanCleave
Milan Vinks
Hannah Wadsworth
James Warwood
Corey Weber
Eileen West
Kara Wickerath
Seth Wiley
Sam Wilson
Alison Wren
Abigail Wyatt