

The University of Montana Western
Academic Newsletter
Fiscal Year 2008-9 Block 8 Issue
May 1, 2009

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Drumlummon Institute and Riverbend Publishing have reissued *The Pass*, the first novel by renowned Montana author Thomas Savage. The new edition of *The Pass* features an introduction by Montana Western Professor O. Alan Weltzien, whose biographical essay on Savage appeared in the Winter 2008 edition of *Montana The Magazine of Western History*. For an image and brief write-up on the book, consult the home page of Riverbend (www.riverbendpublishing.com). The essay has turned up interest from admirers Tom McGuane, a major writer, and his friend, Tom Brokaw.

Dr. Weltzien learned a couple of weeks ago that *The Norman Maclean Reader* was a featured book in one of Paris's primary English language bookstores.

Professor Weltzien has recently been giving readings and done book signings at the Chapter One Bookstore (Hamilton) and the Hockaday Museum of Art (Kalispell). Dr. Weltzien also went on a Washington State book tour, giving readings and doing signings in seven venues ranging from Spokane and Walla Walla to Mt. Vernon and Bellingham, Washington.

He is currently working on the first chapter of his next book, whose working title is *Exceptional Mountains*. This is intended for Oregon State University Press, in its CEPW (Culture and Environment in the Pacific West) series.

Dr. Weltzien is also working on an essay (due by June) which surveys Montana's recent literary history and renaissance for a Blackwell's (U.K.) volume on Literature in the American West, edited by Nicholas Witschi (Western Michigan University).

Professor Weltzien has recently learned that he has received a one-month appointment, in late spring 2010, at the Universite Le Mirail in Toulouse, France.

On May 1st he is giving the A. B. Guthrie, Jr., endowed lecture at The University of Montana-Missoula English Department. This lecture is co-sponsored by the English Department and the UM School of Journalism.

Assistant Provost Brian Price is getting three photographs published in the next edition of the Canadian poetry magazine, *Filling Station*.

Dr. Sara Glasgow's article, "'What Goes Up'...The Genesis and Context of Health Reform in Sweden" will be published in the May 2009 issue of *Global Health Governance*.

Dr. Megan Chilson has been selected to attend the American Cancer Society (ACS) and the Centers for Disease Control Prevention Division of Adolescent and School Health's (CDC/DASH) first ACS/CDC School Health Education-Higher Education Academy in Atlanta on May 13-15. The academy has been designed to include professional development on topics and resources pertinent to the quality, effectiveness, and sustainability of health education in K-12 schools.

Professor Rob Thomas was an invited speaker in the Montana Bureau of Mines and Geology Speakers Series (Montana Tech) and gave a presentation entitled "Cenozoic Extensional Basin Development and Sedimentation in SW Montana"

Dr. Thomas as has had several recent publications:

Thomas, R.C., and Roberts S., 2009, Teaching geology in the field through experiential immersion learning: Geological Society of America Special Paper (in press).

Giegengack, R., Sisson, J., Kauffman, M., Bordeaux, Y., and Thomas, R.C., 2009, The Yellowstone Bighorn Research Association (YBRA): Maintaining a Leadership Role in Field-Course Education for 79 Years: Geological Society of America Special Paper (in press).

Link, P.K., and Thomas, R.C., 2009, The detrital-zircon trail of the Lemhi Arch: 500 Ma zircon population in the Worm Creek Quartzite Member, Upper Cambrian St. Charles Formation, SE Idaho: Geol. Soc. Amer. Abs. Prog., v. 41, No. 6, p. 8-2.

Professor Craig Zaspel and his international collaborators have had an article that has applications in high density magnetic information storage recently published in *IEEE Transactions on Magnetism*: "Frequencies of Radially Symmetric Excitations in Vortex State disks" with Boris A. Ivanov, Institute of Magnetism, National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine, and Alexander Galkin, Institute of Metal Physics, National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine.

NCATE's (National Council for the Accreditation of Teacher Education) Unit Accreditation Board met last month to determine the accreditation status of 55 institutions. Dr. Donna M. Gollnick, NCATE's Senior Vice President, was pleased to inform Montana Western that accreditation had been granted to the professional education unit at The University of Montana Western. This recognition of the quality of Montana Western's Teacher Education Program came through the strong efforts of its faculty and staff, especially Dr. Delena Norris-Tull.

The Business and Technology Department at The University of Montana Western received accreditation from the International Assembly for Collegiate Business Education (IACBE) at their annual conference. Montana Western is one of only two university business programs in Montana to receive IACBE accreditation. "Accreditation is recognition that the business program at Montana Western demonstrates academic excellence and a commitment to continuous quality improvement," IACBE president Robert H. Roller said. "The IACBE is especially interested in the assessment of student learning outcomes. The accreditation process is one means of making certain graduates are well-equipped to excel in the business world."

The Montana Western program was examined by trained evaluators who ensure IACBE standards are met in eight key areas. Those areas are outcomes assessment, strategic planning, curriculum faculty, scholarly and professional activities, resources, internal/external relationships and educational motivation. While all of the Business and Technology faculty were involved in the preparations necessary for this accreditation, Margareta Knopik took the lead.

Note:

This newsletter will be posted on the Provost's website at <http://www.umwestern.edu/administration/vcaa/newsletters/> Back issues can also be found at the same site. It will also be mailed to Dillon community members who express an interest in receiving it. The purpose is to have a central, broadly distributed information resource to keep people informed about Western, its programs, and its faculty, staff, and students. If you have information that you believe would be appropriate for this newsletter please send it to Karl Ulrich in the Provost's office, k_Ulrich@umwestern.edu