

**The University of Montana Western
Academic Newsletter
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November 8, 2011**

ACCOMPLISHMENTS



Professor Rob Thomas was awarded "Best Scenery Photo." at the Montana Chapter of the American Water Resources Association (MT AWRA) meeting in Great Falls in October. The photo is above.

Regent Professor and 2009 U.S. Carnegie/Case Professor of the Year Rob Thomas has accepted an invited position as a faculty member on the spring 2012 Semester at Sea. Professor Thomas follows Eva Mastandrea, Michael Schulz, and Andrea Easter-Pilcher who were also granted leaves from Montana Western to participate in this development opportunity. Professor Thomas will have the opportunity to learn first-hand about the geology, environment, and environmental issues at a number of locations around the world while he teaches students from many different places in the U.S. as well as international students.

According to the SAS Website:

Established in 1963, Semester at Sea is the only study abroad program of its kind in the world. Using a ship as a traveling campus, undergraduates, lifelong learners, faculty, and lecturers live and learn together while circumnavigating the globe each fall and spring semester. Rob's wife, Dean of Outreach Anneliese Ripley, as well as their daughters Abbey and Halley Thomas, will accompany Professor Thomas on this enlightening educational voyage. Their itinerary can be viewed at: <http://www.semesteratsea.org/voyages/upcoming-voyages/spring-2012.php>

Assistant Professor of English Dr. Shane Borrowman has recently had the following publications:

Shane Borrowman. "Boxing by Broughton's Rules." *Renaissance* 16.5(2011): 70-72 (Renaissance is a national publication with a circulation of ca. 33,000. In this article he considers the history of boxing and argue that the sport fundamentally changed when, in the 1600s, gentlemen of leisure began to participate. Unlike their rustic and rowdy counterparts, these men wanted to box and not run the risk of permanent injury--an attitude that led to the development of rules, the use of gloves, etc.)

Shane Borrowman and Marcia Kmetz. "Divided We Stand: Beyond Burkean Identificaton." *Rhetoric Review*, 30.3, 275-292, 2011. (*Rhetoric Review* is widely considered to be the top journal in the field of rhetoric.) In this article, Marcia and Shane argue that division, rather than unification, is the natural state in a republic; the example we explore in detail is that of Montana's Congresswoman Jeannette Rankin, famous for voting against US involvement in both World War I and World War II but not for her lifetime of work as an advocate of women's rights.)

Shane Borrowman. "City Visits Hurtful to Gonzaga Students." *Nostalgia Magazine*, September-October 2011. 22-29. (*Nostalgia* is a regional publication based in Spokane, Washington). In this article Dr. Borrowman describes how the original Catalogue of Gonzaga College for 1887-1888 is a curious mixture of sales-pitch and dire warning, attracting students to the beautiful new campus by the Spokane River but warning students not to make too frequent visits to the city itself.)

O. Alan Weltzien, Professor of English, delivered a lecture on Thomas Savage's newly republished second novel, *Lona Hanson* (Riverbend Publishing, 2011), Saturday, 12 November 2011, as part of this year's Helena Book Festival.

The Society for the Teaching of Psychology of the American Psychological Association announced the recipients of the 2011 Teaching Excellence Awards earlier this year. The winner of the Jane S. Halonen Teaching Excellence Award was Montana Western graduate Dr. Aaron S. Richmond, Metropolitan State College of Denver, Denver, CO. In addition to earning the national teaching award, he was also awarded early promotion and tenure by his college, which will be holding a reception on Monday October 25 to honor Dr. Richmond.

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 Montana Western, its programs, and its faculty, staff, and students. If you have academic 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