

UHP NEWS



MSUB Honors Program

April 2015

Dear Fellow Honors Programmers,

As we wrap up the year, there is lots of excellence to report: UHP members have been recognized for all manner of achievements. Amanda Nichols is the new holder of the MSUB pole vaulting record, and Elizabeth Mullins is a recipient of the Outstanding Senior Award, marking the third consecutive year one of our members has won this prestigious award. The awards and scholarships are easy to report; it's harder to convey all the praise that I hear about you individually and collectively. I will save that for the individual congratulatory notes that I will write in coming days.

The year's achievements signal an MSUB culture change to which we are contributing: more undergraduate research and creative projects, innovative classes and engaging seminars, challenging internships and other community-impact activities. Nationally, such endeavors are called high impact practices. Why: because they increase student success in college and after. Some illustrations:

- Research and Creativity Conference – with 88 participants, the conference almost doubled in size, and, with 12 participants, honors was disproportionately represented.
- Technologically Enhanced Classes – two of the five classes in MSUB's new TEAL classroom were honors classes, including Dr. Nurmi's African-American Literature class which was taught in conjunction with a class at Ithaca College.
- One of Those Internships – For his internship with Big Sky Beetle, Derrick Anderson began by developing an online inventory for the business and along way contributed ideas that may change its business model.

(continued...)

Congrats to Lacey Mogan!

(Recently named
Newman Civic Fellow)



Chi Alpha Sigma* Inductees

Mary Conwell
Dana Lubieniecki

*Honorary society for student athletes

- Hunger II – Our capstone course again had a demonstrated impact on hunger in Billings, as the Cans around McMullen documents (the largest donation from a food drive Family Services has ever received). Representatives from a variety of organizations dealing with hunger and from Senator Tester’s office attended the students’ final presentation.

The times are always a changing, and, as a program, we want to participate in this change, affect it, not just reflect its effects.

Next year, we want to direct some of our energies toward the UHP itself. Our members will likely have quadrupled from 2012-13; 38 students took classes that year, 155 this. More to come on our goals for next year, but for now congratulations and all good wishes for the summer to come.

DC

THANKS, VOLUNTEERS!

Thanks to those of you who helped with set up and tear down at the Research & Creativity Conference!

Amanda Fairclough
Leonie Gelfarth

Chas Haggerty

Sierra Ross
Carissa Sorenson

The following UHP students presented at the

Second Annual Research & Creativity Conference

Thanks for your participation!

Desja Eagle Tail
Jehremy Felig
Theodore Hampton
Aubree Honcoop
Baudry Metangmo
Lacey Mogan

Elizabeth Mullins
Mary Owen
Blanca Perez
Sally Weinand
Christine Wilson
Bonny Beth Luhman

CONGRATULATIONS

Leadership Recognition

Emerging Student Leader Nominees

Derrick Anderson, Lacey Mogan

International Student Leader Nominee

Baudry Metangmo

Outstanding Academic Leadership Nominee

Ranielle Santos

Outstanding Academic Leadership Award

Baudry Metangmo

Student Employee Leadership Nominee

Miranda McNeil

Outstanding Student Volunteer Nominee

Mollie Carty

Striving for Excellence in Leadership While Caring for One's Family Award

Derrick Anderson

Outstanding President of the Year Nominees

Derrick Anderson, Audrey Econom
Miranda McNeil, Kristen Wederski

Senior Leadership Award

Audrey Econom

Outstanding Organization Service Project

Cans Around McMullen

Amanda Nichols

tied the all-time MSUB
 pole vaulting record!
 Way to go, Amanda!



2015 MSUB Outstanding Graduate

Elizabeth Mullins



SAVE THE DATE:

**Orientation
September 10
6:30 - 9:00**

2015 Honors Scholars

Desja Eagle Tail:

Music Business

In her dream of a career as a singer, Desja has broken new ground in the UHP, most notably in the concert that she gave which resulted in a \$1,000 donation to United Way. As she continues to pursue her dream, she has taken a part-time job as box office manager of the NOVA theater and will again be a featured performer at the Alaska State Fair.

Elizabeth Mullins:

Biology

As MSUB's first Goldwater Scholarship recipient, Elizabeth took an important step for herself on her goal of becoming a physician who is engaged in research and one for the university in showcasing the excellence of students here at MSUB. She will begin medical school next year at on a full scholarship.

Theodore

Hampton: Art

Theodore has completed his honors requirements, but still has two years to go at Rocky so that he can complete a computer science major to complement his art degree. Guest writers Valerie Hemingway and Virginia Spragg have each praised his sensitivity to storytelling, and Theodore hopes to translate this skill into video gaming or another medium which combines art, computing, and story.

Audrey Econom:

Elementary Ed

Audrey's Senior Leadership Award is the most recent recognition of the contributions she has made to MSUB, especially to Intervarsity Christian Fellowship. She took a mission trip to Kenya last summer as part of Intervarsity and will return this summer as well. Audrey will begin her teaching career at the Billings Christian School.

Sally Weinand:

Biology

Sally Weinand became the first MSUB student to take advantage of the McNair Scholars Program, sponsored by Montana State University to do research on campus here. A talented researcher, Sally has been accepted into the Earth Sciences graduate program at MSU on her way to a career in environmental science.

Have a Great Summer!