

CAT CONNECTION

Donor Profile

Strong Family Ties to MSU Benefit Nutrition Students

When Carol (Mathews) Roehm was first asked to chair the Herrick Hall Alumni Advisory Committee in 2002, she did not hesitate to say yes. A committee had been formed to offer advice and help with fund-raising efforts to renovate labs and classrooms called the Herrick Hall Renaissance Campaign.



“I thought it sounded like an interesting project,” said Carol, who was instrumental in raising funds for the renovation. “And I already knew Herrick like the back of my hand.”

From 1981 to 1985, Carol worked for Montana State University in the architectural services department (now called Facilities Planning, Design and Construction) and was very familiar with buildings on campus.

However, Carol’s history with MSU did not begin with her employment. She first came to campus from Sun River, Mont., as a young business student in 1954, where she met future husband Richard Roehm in an economics class on the fourth floor of Linfield Hall. Richard graduated in 1957 with a degree in microbiology, and Carol followed the next year with a degree in business. In 1958, they were married. For the next 24 years, they traveled the world with Richard’s military career in the United States Air Force, where he served in Korea and Viet Nam.

In 1981, after retiring, the Roehms found themselves back in Bozeman and became very involved in the Bozeman community. Richard served on numerous boards, including seven years on the Montana Board of Regents for the Montana University System. Meanwhile, Carol worked at MSU and was a member of the Weaver’s Guild, often teaching weaving classes in Herrick Hall.

In addition to their history with MSU, the Roehms have another, more personal connection to Herrick Hall. Richard’s parents, Professors Gladys and Richard Roehm, were nutrition faculty members. Both had graduated with doctorate degrees from Columbia University in 1923, and then worked at the University of Arizona and later in California. The Roehm family, including 14-year-old Richard, Jr., arrived in Bozeman in 1949, when Gladys was hired to teach nutrition classes and Richard was in charge of the infamous rat lab in the basement of Herrick Hall, where he conducted nutrition and vitamin C studies on rats.

When Carol began working on the Herrick Hall Alumni Advisory Committee, she and Richard thought it would be a nice tribute to Richard’s parents to raise money to renovate the foods lab, where Gladys had worked from 1949 until her retirement in 1968. They recognized the need to bring the gold countered kitchen units into the 21st Century so nutrition students would be able to learn with the most up-to-date appliances and equipment. The last remodel was done in the 1960s and spearheaded by nutrition professors at the time.

Carol remembers Gladys and former professor Bertha Clow working hard to raise funds to redesign the foods lab and the nutrition lab in the basement in 1963.

“Both these ladies then spent years working in these labs, inspiring students who became stimulated and educated in the art of providing nutritious meals,” Carol recently said. “But the lab aged over the years and funding limitations prevented renewal.”

Forty-eight years later, to help honor the work of Richard’s parent, Carol and Richard pledged a lead gift, to which they contributed over a five-year period. And then they went to work to let others know of the project.

“Dick and I composed a letter and sent it to 500 friends and family members,” said Carol. “We wanted to raise enough money to name the renovated foods lab after the Roehms.”

Over the next several years, 111 people responded with donations of support totaling \$65,297. Furthermore, Carol traveled around the state helping organize luncheons and receptions to educate alumni and friends about renovation efforts. One time, Richard, who owns a Cessna plane, even flew Carol, former department head Ellen Kreighbaum, and the director of development to Havre, Mont., for a lunch to encourage attendees to support the campaign.

After renovation completion, Richard said, “I am sure both Dr. Roehm and Dr. Clow would be delighted to see the beautiful asbestos-free tile floors, the shiny stainless steel tables and stools, plus all new appliances and kitchen facilities. They would be most proud to see current students effectively learning the essential skills and knowledge connected with foods and nutrition.”

(See related story on Herrick Hall inside)

Invest in the Future of EHHD

Director of Development
Stacy Stanislao
406-994-7906
stacy.stanislao@montana.edu

College of Education,
Health & Human Development

Montana State University
P.O. Box 172940 · 250 Reid Hall
Bozeman, MT 59717-2940
Tel: 406-994-4133 · Fax: 406-994-1854

Student Profile

Leading the Way to Better Health



Brian Kessler thrives on being involved and committed to his future profession. Besides being a double major in health enhancement K-12 and social studies broadfield, this Montana State Uni-

versity senior took over the reins of a state professional teacher's organization this past year. What makes this so unusual is that the Helena native is the youngest person and the first student ever to become president of a state organization affiliated with American Alliance for Health, Physical Education, Recreation, and Dance (AAHPERD).

Kessler became president when he was encouraged to run for president by executive director Nancy Stock and Cathy Fischer, the 2009-2010 Montana AAHPERD president. So far, reaction around the state has been very positive from the 500 member organization. Kessler said he also received "a lot of support from the national level."

Last summer, he attended the National Leadership Development Conference in Washington, D.C. for state presidents-elect. As part of the conference, he set up meetings with the Montana congressional delegation to discuss funding for the Carol M. White Physical Education Program (PEP) grants for K-12 schools.

Kessler found the experience of advocating for the profession to be very rewarding. It helped him realize how important his profession in health enhancement is.

He said none of these experiences would have been possible without the scholarship he received for 2010-2011. Kessler is the recipient of the Dorothy Kennemer Physical Education Scholarship. (Recently, he was re-awarded the Kennemer Scholarship for 2011-2012).

Dorothy Kennemer, a long-time professor of Physical Education at MSU from 1949-1978, established the scholarship when the Dolphins synchronized swim team disbanded after 19 years.

"There was \$200 left in the Dolphin account, so I used that money to set up a scholarship, and I added to it every year," said Kennemer, who still lives in Bozeman. "PE (physical education) was important to me so I set up the scholarship for a PE student."

Because of Kennemer's scholarship, Kessler said he can devote his time to the community and to improving himself as a teacher and coach. Furthermore, he can devote his time to being president of the Montana chapter of AAHPERD.

As president, his goals include being an advocate for the health enhancement profession, encouraging other Montana health enhancement teachers (especially beginning teachers) to join the Montana chapter of AAHPERD, and to bring adaptive PE to the forefront.

At the most recent AAHPERD conference in San Diego in March, Kessler received two awards—the Outstanding Majors of the Year award and the Ruth Abernathy Presidential Scholarship. Health Enhancement assistant professor Nancy Colton said Brian was one of only three undergraduate students to be named with the presidential scholarship.

As if he is not busy enough, Kessler also is a volunteer assistant basketball coach at Bozeman High School, a middle school track coach for Chief Joseph Middle School in Bozeman, past president of the Health Enhancement Majors Club, and a Big Brother.

Kessler said, "...there are a great number of people who work behind the scenes to ensure that we leave Montana State with the tools needed to survive in the real world, and it is up to the students to continue our professional involvement and pay back to the community and school that worked so hard for us."



Two New Scholarships Established

Through the generosity of family members, two new memorial scholarships have been established this past year benefiting students in the Department of Education.

- *The Carol S. Nelson—Dedicated to Educating Children Award*, given to a second or third year elementary education student from a Montana High School.
- *The Lea Mae Miller Memorial Scholarship*, given to an education or psychology student with preference to a traditionally underrepresented student such as a single parent.

The Renaissance of Herrick Hall



On January 5, 1926, Montana State College's *Weekly Exponent* included the article, "New Building Will Accommodate Women's Division." The new building was Herrick Hall, the latest building designed by Bozeman's most prominent architect, Fred Willson. Since the founding of the university in 1893 as a land grant institution, Domestic Economy had been a part of the mission to "promote the liberal and practical education of the industrial classes." Because the number of women students had increased dramatically after World War I, the need for a building to house Domestic Science and Art was needed.

In the beginning years of the college, the department was first housed in downtown Bozeman at 42 West Main (the Bon Ton Bakery building) until permanent quarters were found in the basement of the newly constructed Main Hall (now Montana Hall) in 1898. In 1908, the department moved once more to the Agricultural Building (Linfield Hall), before finally settling into Herrick Hall in November 1926. Named after Una B. Herrick, Dean of Women and early champion of women's rights, the Italian Renaissance style building would now be the permanent home to Home Economics.

When students in 1926 entered Herrick Hall for the first time, they were met with a spacious foyer and a large open stairway leading to the second floor, where a welcoming fireplace lounge served as a place for students to congregate at the end of a busy day. On the first floor were several research labs, including a rat lab for nutrition studies, a dining room, and two classrooms. The art department was located on the third floor and eventually expanded to the fourth floor.



Through the years, Herrick Hall has served MSU well. It has been renovated and adapted to meet the demands of the times and has kept up with a constantly changing society. Because of rapid enrollment around 1940, changes were made to provide more adequate meal management facilities in room 117, which included five unit kitchens. In the 1960s, another complete renovation took place, with the foods lab moving across the hall to room 120.

Since 1960, no major renovations had taken place until this spring 2011 when, thanks to the generosity of hundreds of alumni and

friends, the lab was completely gutted and replaced with state-of-the-art appliances, movable steel preparation tables, and an industrial dishwasher, sink, and range.

The Child Development Center is another area that has seen many changes over the years. Professor Gladys Branegan first introduced a course in the



fall of 1927 on child development and developed a school for three- and four-year-olds in a first floor room in Herrick Hall. The nursery school was moved to the remodeled garage of the Home Management House on Cleveland Street in 1933. Then under the direction of Professor Marjorie Paisley, it was relocated to a 1918 barracks in the mid-1940s. After the Department of Art moved out of Herrick Hall in 1974, the Child Development Center moved back into Herrick on the first floor, where it is today. Within the past year, the center has had new flooring, new counters, new carpeting, and a redesign of the observation booth. Work will begin this summer on enlarging the kitchen.

When former Professor Bertha Clow passed away at the age of 101 in 2004, a campaign was launched to redecorate the fireplace lounge in her memory. Many alumni gave generously to purchase new furniture and window coverings. MSU alumna Marilyn Mockel (Home Ec '56) spearheaded the design of the renovation project and another alumnus, Jake Jobs (Ag '52) donated some of the furniture.



Over the past five years, Herrick has had other spaces renovated and updated—several classrooms, a computer lab, the clothing construction room/multi-purpose classroom, and the nutrition lab in the basement.

For over 84 years, thousands of footsteps have echoed through the halls of this dignified and historic building. Countless students have planned and prepared meals, conducted nutritional studies, constructed clothing, and learned about family life. The needs of the department have changed over the years, but the mission remains the same. With the new renovations, it will continue to serve present and future students as they form life-long friendships and prepare for life.

News Briefs

Highlights

Spring semester, elementary education student Ryan Hannahoe, with support and assistance from science education professor Mary Leonard, taught a hands-on astronomy unit to 15 area schools, called “Turning Eyes to the Big Sky.” By using grant money he secured, Hannahoe also distributed 25 refracting telescopes, five Edman Galileoscopes, and a SunSpotter solar telescope to each classroom.



Ryan Hannahoe demonstrates light refraction at a workshop.

The Child Development Center (CDC) in Herrick Hall received accreditation from the National Association for the Education of Young Children. Director Christine Lux says the CDC is one of only 22 accredited sites in Montana and received 100% in the areas of relationships, assessment, teachers, families, and leadership and management.

Nineteen educators from eight countries spent six weeks in Bozeman with the Teaching Excellence and Achievement Program (TEA). With assistance from several professors in the College of Education, Health and Human Development, the international educators received intensive training in coursework and teaching methodologies, as well as visiting area schools and Yellowstone National Park.

The 115th commencement ceremony for Montana State University was held on May 7, 2011, for 2,616 graduates. The College of Education, Health and Human Development conferred degrees on 220 undergraduate and graduate students.

Upcoming Events

• Fall semester begins
August 29, 2011

• 2011 Freshman Convocation
September 7, 7:30 @ Brick
Bredem Fieldhouse—free and
open to public. Guest Speaker
Aron Ralston, mountain climber
and author of *Between a Rock
and a Hard Place*.

• MSU Bobcat Football vs UC Davis
September 10, 2011—first home
game in the newly expanded
Bobcat Stadium

• Homecoming
September 30 - October 1, 2011