

CONTACT

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Web Site

<http://www.hs.umt.edu/paleo>

Feel free to contact us with any questions regarding the UMPC.

LOCATION

The UMPC is located in the C.H. Clapp Building (CHCB) on the south end of campus, off E. Beckwith Ave. behind the US Forest Service Research Station.



PALEONTOLOGY CENTER



UMPC

Our mission is to enhance education by serving as a center for research, teaching, and public outreach, in order to preserve the fossil heritage of Montana and other regions.

FACILITIES

Research Collections (1500 sq. ft.)

CHCB 6, basement

- * Space-Saver system holds 192 cases.
- * Collection contains an estimated 40,000 specimen-lots, with over 2,000 being type (published) specimens.
- * Representing over 20 countries.
- * Houses microfossils, plants, invertebrates, vertebrates, and geological samples.

Preparation Laboratory (800 sq. ft.)

CHCB 323 – 3rd floor

- * Pneumatic scribes, air abrasive unit, and casting/molding equipment.
- * Acid Lab for removing matrix.
- * Microscope with a digital camera.

Display Cases

- * 1st floor CHCB: 10 cases representing the 3.5 billion years of life on Earth.
- * 3rd floor CHCB: Rancho La Brea Tar Pits Dire Wolf & Saber-Toothed Cat.
- * 5th floor Mansfield Library: dedicated Earl Douglass case.



Ursus actos dalli from the Blacktail Cave locality

Renovated Collections Room



HISTORY

The UMPC was established in 2005, as part of the Department of Geosciences. At the core of the UMPC is the Research Collection that originated in the 1890s through the work of Earl Douglass, the first recipient of a graduate degree at the University of Montana (1899). In 2008, the UMPC received a National Science Foundation grant for the renovation of the storage facility, installation of a Space-Saver compactor system, addition of 4-5 new cases to accommodate future growth, and the creation of a unique database/website to digitize the collection and for public access.

Want to be a part of the UMPC?
The Center is always accepting volunteer applications, students and non-students welcome! Contact the Collections Manager for more details.

SERVICES

Tours of the facilities and displays are available by appointment only from 8:00am-5:00pm, Monday-Friday. To schedule a tour, please submit a request form on the website.

The UMPC does outreach on campus and within the community. To request an activity/speaker/booth for your event or to collaborate with the UMPC, contact the Collections Manager.

Short-term loans to qualified researchers and institutional exchanges/loans can be arranged. The UMPC hosts visits from local, national, and international scientists who come to study the Center's fossil specimens. Space is provided for visiting researchers. If you are an outside researcher or would like to request a loan, please contact the Director for further information.



School children enjoying a tour