

**DATE:** 10/20/2008

**TO:** Board of Regents

**FROM:** Stefani Hicswa  
President, Miles Community College

**RE:** Campus Report for the November 19 -21, 2008 Board of Regents' Meeting

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- Lindsay Woolley was hired as the Miles Community College Lady Pioneers Basketball Head Coach, replacing former head coach Dwight Gunnare. Lindsay continues as the Pioneers assistant basketball coach and head coach of the Pioneers and Lady Pioneers golf teams, a role he's had for the past four years. He is also a faculty member teaching courses in Math. Lindsay assumed his new responsibilities on August 24.
- Brenda Little was hired as the new Coordinator of Admissions and Student Life for Miles Community College beginning Fall 2008 semester. She has been employed in the College Student Services for the past 11 years with experience in admissions, student activities, and residence life.
- Marnie Blotsky, was named Employee of the Fall 2008 Semester, receiving the MCC Blue and Silver Award. She is the newly hired Director of Dining Services. Marnie has been employed with the College cafeteria for the past 13 years and began her new position responsibilities on June 1. She received the award at semester orientation workshops held for Miles Community College employees on Monday, August 25. President Stefani Hicswa presented the award.
- Miles Community College Fall 2008 enrollment is 383.03. Student headcount is 558, an increase from Fall 2007 headcount of 556. Sixty students are dually enrolled from local and area high schools taking college credit classes.
- Brandi Gray of Miles City was hired as the new Endowment Executive Director for Miles Community College. She will direct the functions of the MCC Endowment including capital campaigns, annual giving, and planned giving. Brandi has extensive experience in finance and economics and has worked with individual financial investments and retirement planning for the past ten years. She began her duties September 2.
- In honor of Constitution Day, the 1st Amendment: "Implausible Words: The Story of Freedom of Press and Speech" was presented by the Miles Community College faculty and staff on Tuesday evening, September 16. Robin Gerber, History and Humanities Instructor, wrote the presentation. The purpose of this annual oral presentation is to provide a historical overview to the public and create awareness regarding the background of the U S Constitution.
- Miles Community College Enrollment Services Representative, Erin Niedege, was recently elected to the board of directors of The University of Montana Alumni Association. Erin is a Miles City native and has been employed at Miles Community College since Spring 2007.
- Jessie Dufner, Director of Student Financial/Enrollment Services, was recently spotlighted in the October "Rocky Mountain Exchange," a publication of Rocky Mountain Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators (RMASFAA). Jessie began her career at Miles Community College in 2002 as an admissions representative then become Financial Aid Director in 2003 for three years. She took a financial aid outreach position at the MCC campus with Student Assistance Foundation then took her current administration position at Miles Community College in Fall 2007. Jessie is the acting chair of the Membership

Committee for RMAFSA and is the president-elect for the Montana Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators (MASFAA).

- Miles Community College and Prairie View Curriculum Consortium (PVCC) partnered and wrote a Humanities Montana grant for \$2,625 for the “Planting Seeds” project to purchase Indian Education for All materials for the PVCC schools. On October 3, twenty-six rural schools in the Prairie View north and southeastern Montana consortium received a variety of media materials to use with their students presenting information and cultural awareness about the Northern Cheyenne, Crow, Sioux, Assiniboine, Salish, and Pend d’ Oreille tribes. The “Planting Seeds” project developers and writers include: Carol Hudson, MCC Director of Institutional Research and Grants, Robin Gerber, MCC History and Humanities Instructor, and Kim Stanton, Prairie View Curriculum Consortium Director.
- Miles Community College in partnership with Ethanol Producers and Consumers (EPAC) and Great Northern Development Corporation presented “All Things Considered—the Pros and Cons of Biofuels” in Miles City on October 7. This all-day workshop had topics including Food Vs Fuel, Crop Diversification, Environmental Impact of Biofuels, Use and Availability of Biofuels for Vehicles, and others. Kristin Buck, MCC MAP-WIRED Grant Project Director, and John Munsell, MCC MAP-WIRED Bioproduct Coordinator, presented at the workshop.
- Leadership Montana 2008-2009 was held in Miles City on October 9-11. President Stefani Hicswa served as a panelist with other Miles City community leaders. Kristin Buck, MAP-WIRED Director, served as a member of the Energy and Exploration Panel. The emphasis and discussions centered on special opportunities and challenges facing Montana East of the Mountains, including agriculture and energy.
- The Miles Community College Center for Distance Education and Community Outreach held its Fall 2008 Educator’s Conference on October 16-17. A variety of half day and full day classes were offered for area educators, business members, and community members in a myriad of topics and subjects. There were 250 participants that attended classes and workshops. Kassie Taylor, Workforce Development Coordinator, administrated the conference.
- President Hicswa and MCC Board of Trustee members, Sharon Wilcox and Garret McFarland, accompanied former Board of Trustee, James P. Lucas, at the Association of Community College Trustees (ACCT) Leadership Congress in New York City. Jim Lucas of Miles City was honored as the recipient of the Association of Community College Trustees (ACCT) 2008 Western Regional Trustee Leadership award and was one of five regional award recipients for the prestigious M. Dale Ensign Trustee Leadership Award. Eligible regions for the regional and annual awards are Pacific, Western, Central, Northeast, and Southern. Jim Lucas was nominated by the current MCC Board of Trustees and has been an active trustee for over 40 years, member of the College Athletic Booster Club, and has been president and member of the College Endowment Board since its 1964 inception.