

MEMORANDUM

DATE: October 23, 2015

TO: Board of Regents

FROM: Jane Karas, Ph.D.
President, Flathead Valley Community College

RE: Campus Report for the November, 2015 Board of Regents' Meeting

- The FVCC Board of Trustees Chair appointed **Jeremy Presta** of Kalispell to fill the vacant position left by Bob Nystuen. Presta has served as president/chief executive officer of Park Side Credit Union since 2002. An active volunteer, he serves on the Montana West Economic Development Board of Directors, Kalispell School District 5's Career Field Advisory Committee and the Boys and Girls Club of Glacier Country Board of Directors. He is past president of Whitefish Rotary and serves as secretary/controller of the Montana Credit Union Network.
- The **Northwest Montana Chapter of the Vietnam Veterans of America** presented a **\$1,000 donation to The Veterans' Association at FVCC** during a check presentation at the college September 15. The gift was made to honor fallen U.S. Army brother, Sgt. 1st Class **Christopher Atkinson** who was raised in Lakeside and served as a Tomb Guard, Honor Guard and multiple tours in Iraq. The gift helped the association reach its **\$5,000 Veteran's Endowment Fund goal**, enabling the association to issue scholarships to veterans in need to help them complete their studies at FVCC.
- In celebration of **Flathead Manufacturing Day**, FVCC hosted an open house of its new **Center for Manufacturing Advancement (CMA)** and **Haas Demo Day**. The event featured educational mini-seminars, live cutting tool demonstrations and the latest in high-performance, high-production Computer Numerical Control machines from Haas Automation, Inc., vendors. The event was **attended by 275 manufacturing professionals, students and educators, nearly 150 of which were students from across the state**. The CMA was founded to help strengthen and support the growth of manufacturers in Northwest Montana by addressing the needs of industry leaders and identifying training and educational needs to bolster workforce preparation and promote manufacturing careers.
- The first-ever **Kalispell Manufacturers Alliance Scholarship at Flathead Valley Community College** was announced at the kickoff luncheon for "Flathead Manufacturing Day and Series of Events," presented by the **Kalispell Chamber of Commerce**. The **\$2,000 scholarship** was split evenly between **Ryan Burrows**, a first-year electronic technician student, and **Jared Kesterson**, a second-year machining and industrial machine technology student.
- The FVCC Foundation's eighth annual **Festival of Flavors** signature fundraising event was a tremendous success. The nine-day festival, comprised of 11 events, highlighted seven of the **Flathead Valley's finest chefs** including **students of The Culinary Institute of Montana at FVCC** and Executive Chef **Howard Karp**, FVCC Culinary Arts Professional **Chef Tracy Darue** and **Chef Manda Hudak** and culminated with a grand

wine tasting event. The festival opened with a Spanish Paella Party, featuring paella and tapas prepared by The Culinary Institute of Montana.

- FVCC President Jane Karas and UM President Royce Engstrom hosted a **legislative breakfast** at FVCC October 8. Attending area legislators were presented campus updates and an overview of current issues facing each institution.
- FVCC hosted Northwest Montana's second annual **Glacier Startup Weekend** October 9-11. The 48-hour event was open to entrepreneurial individuals interested in launching new businesses over the course of the weekend. More than 30 community members and FVCC students received startup-coaching and mentoring from 10 highly-successful entrepreneurs and business owners.
- This fall, FVCC's **weekly STEM colloquium** returned, featuring presentations of various **STEM undergraduate research** projects by FVCC students and research and work conducted by STEM professionals in the area. Members of the campus and greater communities are invited to hear and discuss the presentations by participating faculty, students and visitors.
- This fall, **The Culinary Institute of Montana at FVCC** introduced a new **student-run restaurant**, "Nurture Me," featuring Montana soul food with a twist. The capstone project provided second-year culinary students the opportunity to plan, open and operate their own restaurant. Students spent five weeks operating their restaurants for the public inside the program's instructional kitchen. Created by FVCC Executive Chef **Howard Karp**, the course was designed to provide a practical approach to planning, organizing and managing a restaurant.
- FVCC hosted a free **Community College Citizen Preparedness Training workshop** for the campus and area communities in honor of National Preparedness Month. Sponsored by the FVCC Service Learning program and presented by FVCC Campus Emergency Coordinator **Kris Long**, the training provided a step-by-step approach to learning about local emergency plans, identifying hazards that affect the local area and developing a disaster plan and supply kit, among other related topics.
- Flathead Valley Community College hosted its second annual **Red, White and Blue Run** to honor September 11 National Day of Service and Remembrance and to pay tribute to local veterans and first responders. FVCC students, alumni, employees, families and other members of the college community participated in the non-timed 3K fun run/walk and were doused with non-toxic red and blue-colored cornstarch powder throughout the course. Sponsored by the FVCC Service Learning and Campus Rec programs, the event raised \$250 to benefit the **FVCC Veterans Association Endowment Fund**.

- To educate the campus community on what to do in the event of an earthquake, FVCC participated in the **2015 Great Montana Shake Out** on October 21 at 10:21 a.m. During the campus-wide earthquake drill, FVCC students, faculty and staff were asked to drop, cover and hold on for one minute. Members of the campus community who were off campus during the drill also were encouraged to participate.

- **Chef's Table**, presented by **The Culinary Institute of Montana at Flathead Valley Community College**, returned this fall, featuring five gourmet dinners for the community to enjoy, including two new themed dinners highlighting dishes from the Deep South and India. Under the instruction of **Chef Howard Karp**, the program involves culinary

students completing their first-year internships as they prepare and deliver a unique fine dining experience.

- The Flathead Valley Community College Alumni & Ambassadors Association hosted its third annual **FVCC Alumni and Friends Social** October 22 at The Rack Shack in Somers.
- FVCC Theatre opened its fall season with “**Dracula**” by American playwright Steven Dietz. The show was directed by Theatre Arts Professor **Joe Legate** who was joined by his son, FVCC theatre arts alumnus **Mike Legate**, who delivered the show’s sound design.
- The FVCC Music Department opened its **Fall Concert Series** September 18 featuring FVCC music faculty and master violinist **Wai Mizutani** and accompanying artists. The six-part series showcases the talents FVCC music faculty and students to the greater community.
- The FVCC Art Department hosted two art exhibitions this fall. The season opened with a photography exhibit featuring works by FVCC graduate **Tyler Rasmussen** of Whitefish. The second exhibit featured original iron and steel works by award-winning artist **David Secrest** of Somers.
- FVCC students **Michael Craig, Lorelei Marble, Presley Pritchard, Molly Whitewater Stroupe** and **Jennifer Skillings** were named fall 2015 recipients of **Whitefish Credit Union’s Community Pride Scholarships**. The students received scholarships totaling \$1,875 for the fall 2015 semester at FVCC.