

**DATE:** June 7, 2017

**TO:** Board of Regents

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

**RE:** Campus Report for the July 18, 2017 Board of Regents' Meeting

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- Gov. Bullock recently named FVCC English Professor **Lowell Jaeger** as [Montana's Poet Laureate](#). Jaeger will begin his two-year term on August 1 and plans to start a program called "Poetry 101" with events throughout the state.
- FVCC's **Surgical Technology** graduates achieved a **100 percent pass rate** on the National Surgical Technology exam (NBSTA) this spring.
- FVCC Botany Professor Dr. Mirabai McCarthy took eight students to **Costa Rica** for two weeks in May to study tropical flora, participate in a service learning project at an elementary school in San Josecito and learn about Costa Rican culture and politics.
- FVCC President **Jane Karas** held her annual [Community Conversations](#) across northwest Montana from May 31 to June 14 to share information about current issues and activities affecting the college and receive feedback from community members. Conversations were held in Bigfork, Kalispell, Lakeside, Columbia Falls, Eureka, Libby and Whitefish.
- **Chris Clouse, Ph.D.** was named FVCC's new **Vice President of Instruction and Student Services** effective July 1. Dr. Clouse has served as FVCC's Director of Educational Services since 2013.
- **Nicolas Glynos**, a 2016 graduate of FVCC, recently won a [Young Botanist Award](#) from the **Botanical Society of America**. Glynos earned an A.S. degree at FVCC and transferred to Cornell University last fall where he has distinguished himself through his outstanding academic performance and plant science research.
- [Teacher's Camp](#) for **K-8 educators** was held for two weeks in June on the FVCC Kalispell campus to offer teachers an opportunity to earn college credits and satisfy OPI renewal requirements.
- FVCC's **Art Department** presented the [Big Night Art Auction](#) in June, a culinary event to benefit **student scholarships** for the Semester in Venice program and

art studies. In honor of the college's 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary, FVCC alumni, faculty, students and community artists contributed more than 50 pieces of original art to the auction.

- Forty-eight FVCC students were inducted into the **Phi Theta Kappa** international Honor Society in May. To be eligible, the students must have earned a minimum of 12 credits and maintained a 3.4 or higher grade point average during spring semester.
- Longtime FVCC faculty and staff member **Pete Wade** was honored with FVCC's 2017 **Eagle Award** during the 22<sup>nd</sup> annual President's Dinner on May 11. The award honors individuals who have made outstanding contributions to the college. Wade is retiring July 1 from the position of Director of Career and Technical Education.
- **419 7<sup>th</sup>- and 8<sup>th</sup>-grade girls** from schools in Flathead, Lincoln, Lake and Sanders counties participated in the **Expanding Your Horizons** program at FVCC in May. Women employed in STEM professions introduced the girls to a variety of STEM fields, including health care and natural resources, through interactive presentations and hands-on activities.