

CAMPUS REPORTS
Board of Regents Meeting
May 30-31, 2007
Miles City, Montana

Miles Community College
President Stefani Hicswa, Ph.D

- Spring 2007 FTE was 418.73 which include 22 out-of-state.
- The Center for Distance Education and Community Outreach reported approximately 190 distance education students (online and Interactive Television) for Spring 2007 semester. Director Shelly Weight provided several community work force and customized training seminars relating to customer service and employee conflict resolution.
- Kristen Gustad was hired February 16 as the Miles Community College WIRED Grant Project Coordinator. Kristen received her BS from Brigham Young University-Idaho and MS from University of Nebraska-Lincoln and will direct the *Today's Fuels for Tomorrow's Growth* project for Miles Community College and the Montana WIRED Education Consortium. The consortium includes: Miles Community College-Miles City, Fort Peck Community College-Poplar (Fort Peck Reservation), Stone Child College-Box Elder (Rocky Boy Reservation), Fort Belknap College-Harlem (Fort Belknap Reservation), Dull Knife Memorial College-Lame Deer (Northern Cheyenne Reservation), and Little Big Horn College-Crow Agency (Crow Reservation).
- Erin Rogge was hired as an Enrollment Specialist in February 2007. She is a graduate of University of Montana-Missoula and a Miles City native. Erin has employment experience in student recruitment and orientation.
- The Miles Community College Agriculture, Auto Technology, and Building Trades programs hosted the Montana Eastern District FFA Mechanics competition on Tuesday, February 20. Thirty students from eastern Montana area high schools were on campus and participated in competitive events relating to agriculture, engine power and machinery, construction and carpentry, and welding.
- Miles Community College Faculty Association (MEA-MFT/NEA) signed their first negotiated contract at the Miles Community College Board of Trustees meeting on February 26, 2007.
- Miles Community College hosted three conferences during February and March, 2007: 1) Montana Eastern District FFA convention February 19-20 (75 high school students attended), 2) Eastern Montana Academic Olympics competition for area junior high and high school students on March 13-14 (189 junior high and 225 senior high students from 17 schools participated), and 3) Montana State GIS Professionals Conference March 14-16 (70 participated).
- Miles Community College partnered with 34 community regional employers and community employment/resource agencies for the first Miles City Job Fair on Wednesday, March 21. The purpose of the job fair was to a) provide community and area citizens with opportunities to learn the process for job searching and b) provide employers the opportunity to educate participants of their employment needs.
- Spring 2007 Preview Day was held Friday, March 30. Approximately 25-30 students and parents registered for the event. Participants toured the campus, attended classes, interacted with current student club members, and received campus orientation information for enrollment and financial aid.
- The Miles Community College Spring 2007 Awards Banquet was held Friday evening, March 30 at the Miles City Town and Country Club. One-hundred and fifty individuals attended the annual event held in recognition of student awards and honors. Approximately 60-75 students received awards and honors for meritorious academic records, student club involvement, humanitarian service, and outstanding graduate commendation.
- The Miles Community College Student Players presented four performances of "**The Fairy Godmother's Guide to Etiquette and Home Décor**" April 13-15. Approximately 300 people attended evening and matinee performances. Ms. Robin Gerber, MCC History and Humanities Instructor, wrote and directed the play. Of the performance proceeds, \$145 was donated to the community after school program (ROCKS – Raising Our Community Kids Safely) and \$50 was designated for the MCC student Agriculture Club.

Montana Tech of The University of Montana
Chancellor W. Franklin Gilmore

- The 4th Montana Economic Summit will be held April 30th and May 1st on the Montana Tech campus.
- Montana Tech junior math student Chris Dienes was awarded the Barry M Goldwater Scholarship.
- Gov. Brian Schweitzer appointed Kerra Melvin, junior in business information systems, for a one-year term as the student regent on the state Board of Regents.

- Nick Gow, a senior in Metallurgical & Materials Engineering pursuing his 5-yr MS, has received a scholarship from the ASM Foundation to the LeaderShape Institute, a six-day experience which builds leadership skills by learning from practical experiences and self-discovery.
- Adam Hammes, a junior in Metallurgical & Materials Engineering, was awarded a \$1000 scholarship from the Mineral & Metallurgical Process Division (MPD) of the Society of Mining, Metallurgy and Exploration, Inc. (SME).
- Students from the COT's new AAS Carpentry program refurbished a building at the Kiwanis Sunshine Camp and assisted with the historical preservation of the Mary McLain house.
- Micron Scholar Pat Kane, a student triple-majoring in Computer Science, IT&D and Biology will be researching at MIT as part of the 2007 Amgen-UROP Scholars Program. Amgen Scholars collaborate in research while gaining practical skills for both graduate study and post-graduation careers.
- Instructor Dennis Noel's Metals Fabrication class at the College of Technology will race the go-carts they fabricated on Friday, April 27th. Dean Jane Baker is scheduled to drive the cart built by Noel.
- The Montana Tech Environmental Design won 2nd place in Tasks 4 and 5 at the International Design Competition in Las Cruces, New Mexico.
- Campus Compact recently granted Montana Tech \$69,000 for a 2007-08 AmeriCorps team to include 2 team leaders and 12 student positions. As the largest in the state, the Americorps team is expected to serve numerous community needs in the Butte area.
- The OCHE's GEAR UP program awarded Montana Tech \$25,000 to host a one-week summer camp for middle school students. The camp will be held June 25 – 30, 2007 with instruction provided by Dr. Marissa Pedulla, Biologist, and coordination provided by Annette Kankelborg, Outreach.
- Technical Outreach hosted the 4th Annual Little Digger Day on Thursday, April 12, 2007. 700 students from 35 elementary classrooms attended the event dedicated to increasing math and science interest in elementary students from southwest Montana. Over 80 faculty and students volunteered their time.
- Dr. Grant Mitman was invited to participate in the National Education Associations Higher Education Emerging Leader Academy, Class of 2008. Mitman is the first Montana educator invited to the program.
- Assistant Professor Philip Dirige, Mining Engineering, authored two papers for presentation at the MineFill2007, 9th International Symposium on Mining with Backfill, to be held on April 29-May 2 in Montreal, entitled "Engineering design of backfill systems in undercut mining" and "The advantage of centrifuge modeling for backfill design."
- Professor Pat Munday, Professional & Technical Communications, taught "Earthweek: an environmental history of the Upper Clark Fork River basin" for high school history and science teachers.
- Professor Diane Wolfgram has been appointed Alternate Commissioner for Geological Engineering Programs on the Engineering Accreditation Commission of ABET.
- Professor Courtney Young will present a Key Speaker paper at the XXVIII Convencion Minera meeting to be held in Arequipa Peru September 10-14, 2007, entitled "A new variable in flotation: The effect of Pressure/Altitude on Performance," hosted by The Mining Engineers Institute of Peru.
- Brandon McLean, Upward Bound Coordinator for the Outreach Department, was elected Montana Chapter Secretary/Treasurer at the ASPIRE state meeting held in Helena April 4-6, 2007.

The University of Montana-Missoula

President G. M. Dennison

- The Corporation for National and Community Service named The University of Montana to the Honor Roll. The distinction honors students, faculty and staff for helping to build a culture of service and civic engagement. President George Bush recognized UM "for extraordinary and exemplary contributions to meeting critical local and national needs through community service and service-learning."
- The University of Montana's **College of Forestry and Conservation** was ranked third among graduate forestry programs, according to a new ranking system, the Faculty Scholarly Productivity Index, that measures faculty productivity.
- **Andy Erickson** a UM junior double majoring in environmental studies (EVST) and biology won a prestigious Truman Scholarship worth \$30,000 for graduate studies.
- The University of Montana continues to hold the lead in national Udall Scholarship awards for environmental studies or Native American health care and policy issues. Environmental studies majors **Kendra Kallevig** and **Katie Pritchard**, and **Rebecca Guiao**, who majors in environmental studies and resource conservation, each received \$5,000 Udall Scholarship awards for use in the 2007-08 academic year at UM.

- Two UM students won Honorable Mentions and a \$500 award in the Goldwater Scholarship competition for math, science, and engineering students: **Clark Kogan** in physics and math and **Ryan Kovach** in wildlife biology.
- **Nicole Clark**, a senior earning a degree in History, received the prestigious George C. Marshall Award, given to the top cadet from every ROTC program nation-wide. She received a scholarship to attend the 2007 George C. Marshall Seminar at the Virginia Military Institute in Lexington, Virginia.
- Professor **Peter Koehn**, Department of Political Science, won designation as the first recipient of the Faculty Sabbatical Fellowship awarded by the National Association of State Universities and Land-Grant Colleges (NASULGC). He will conduct special projects in the NASULGC International Division in Washington, D.C., during the FY 08 Academic Year.
- UM Professors **Clemens Work** and **Jeffrey Renz** received the Jeannette Rankin Civil Liberties Award from the Montana ACLU in Helena. UM Students, **Katie Olson**, **Peter Lacny**, **Jason Lazark**, **Kimberly Coburn**, **Daniela Pavuk**, **Myshell Uhl**, **Stuart Segrest**, **Margaret Weamer**, **Megan Healke** and **Laura Hurd** received the first-ever awarded Vern Klingman Meritorious Act Award from the Montana ACLU.
- **Melanie Overcast**, a junior studying radio-television at the University of Montana School of Journalism, won first place in the radio features category of the William Randolph Hearst Foundation's journalism awards program. Print journalism senior **Zachary Franz** won eighth place and a \$500 scholarship and broadcast journalism student **K'Lynn Sloan** took 11th place in the program.
- **UM School of Law moot court team** won the right to compete at the national Moot Court Finals held in New York City in January 2007. The law school's nine-year streak of making it to the national finals of the competition is by far the longest in the nation. Another UM team, including **Stephen Adamson** and **Tara Keller**, placed first at the American Bar Association's regional Negotiation Competition last November for the fourth time in as many years, and represented the region at the national competition.
- The **UM Lacrosse "club" Team** won the Pacific Northwest Collegiate Lacrosse League Division B. They will head to the National Championships in Dallas on May 15-19. They are currently ranked number 5 in the country Division B.
- The **Montana Museum of Art & Culture** at The University of Montana acquired an important donation of 161 works of Western art through the generosity of the Bill and Polly Nordeen family. It contains works by some of the most well-known pioneers of Western art, including Karl Bodmer, Edward Borein, George Catlin, Ace Powell, Edgar Paxson, Frederic Remington and C.M. Russell.
- Members of the UM Debate team, **Svein Newman** and **Jessica Reynolds**, finished in second place overall at the Western States Communication Association annual tournament in Seattle. **Matt Meade** and **Michael Nevas** finished third in the Junior Division. Reynolds received the First Place Speaker award, Newman received fifth and Sam Trammell received sixth. Meade won third in the Junior Division and Jennifer Elliott eighth in the Novice Division.
- UM has signed exchange agreements with the University of Brescia and the Catholic University of Northern Italy to promote student and faculty exchanges slated to begin this summer and fall and continue for the next five years under the terms of the deal. UM is the only school in the United States that has such an agreement with the University of Brescia.
- University of Montana student, **Sarah Allen** along with four fellow Golden Key International Honour Society officers, raised \$1000 for the China Care Foundation, which assists orphans in need of medical procedures.
- **Tom Webster**, director of the University Theatre at The University of Montana, participated in a "The Performing Arts Center of 2032" symposium brought together between 30 and 50 experts in theater facilities and performing arts centers.
- **Montana Public Radio** raised \$451,255 during their annual pledge week, the largest amount pledged in the history of the station.
- Retired UM Professor **Bill Knowles** was recently awarded a Fulbright Grant to teach journalism in Jordan for the 2007-08 academic year.
- University of Montana law student **Valerie Grubich** received the 2007 Distinguished Bankruptcy Student Award for the Ninth Circuit from the American College of Bankruptcy. Grubich is the first Montana student to receive the award for the Ninth Circuit.
- University of Montana School of Journalism Professor **Dennis Swibold** has won the Spur Award from the Western Writers of America in the contemporary non-fiction category for his book "Copper Chorus: Mining, Politics and the Montana Press, 1889-1959."
- **Michael Downs**, a University of Montana visiting assistant professor in the School of Journalism, won the 2006 River Teeth Literary Nonfiction Prize for his first book, "House of Good Hope."
- University of Montana Professor **Carol Brewer** will receive the 2007 American Institute of Biological

Sciences Education Award for her efforts to improve scientific literacy and reach diverse audiences through projects that interconnect the general public, educators and scientists.

- **Kara Docherty** is the recipient of the 2007 Sam Brooks Student Scholarship awarded by the National Association of College & University Food Services (NACUFS). The \$500 scholarship is the highest regional award bestowed upon a food service student employee and recognizes only one outstanding student employee from the Continental Region.
- The Corporation for National and Community Service has announced renewed support of about \$350,000 for **Montana Campus Compact's Campus Corps program**.
- **Tyler Hoyt**, a second-year psychology student at The University of Montana, received the Montana Indian College Student of the Year award. This is the second consecutive year that a UM student has won the award.
- UM associate professor of English **Debra Magpie Earling** received a 2007 Guggenheim Fellowship Award by John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Foundation for her novel "Perma Red," which has been receiving critical acclaim and awards since its release in 2002.
- A 2006 graduate of The University of Montana College of Technology culinary arts program, **Carol Chandler**, recently received the Western Regional Student Culinarian of the Year Award from the American Culinary Federation.
- **Patrick Barkey**, former director of the Bureau of Business Research, has joined The University of Montana's Bureau of Business and Economic Research as the new director of health care industry research who will examine the state's health care markets, trends, costs and other high visibility topics.
- UM assistant professor of Health and Human Performance **Charlie Palmer's** guide, "*Fired Up! The Optimal Performance Guide for Wildland Firefighters*," was recently published by Minnesota-based Birch Grove Publishing.
- University of Montana graduate student **Carter Benton** won first-place in the fiction category of the Atlantic Monthly's 2007 Student Writing Contest for his short story "The Second Coming of Gray Badger."

Flathead Valley Community College President Jane Karas

- Flathead Valley Community College **President Jane Karas** testified before the **United States Senate Committee on Finance** in Washington, D.C., March 20. The hearing focused on: "**Realizing a Competitive Education: Identifying Needs, Partnerships, and Resources.**" Karas' testimony focused on changes in tax instruments that would benefit community college students and their families. She testified on behalf of the American Association of Community Colleges (AACC) that represents 1,183 of the nation's community colleges.
- The **Plum Creek Foundation** awarded **\$25,000** to Flathead Valley Community College in part of the college's Building for Success capital campaign. The grant will support the construction of the electrical, plumbing and heating/ventilation/air conditioning shop bay in the new Occupational Trades Building, as well as a new student resource area.
- Flathead Valley Community College hosted its **2007 Honors Symposium** this spring. More than 600 community members attended lectures from various local and national experts on issues relating to this year's theme: "**Men and Women/Girls and Boys: Emerging Views on Gender.**"
- FVCC was one of many sponsors for the inaugural **Employment Extravaganza** April 12. Approximately 70 employers, including FVCC, participated in "The "Biggest Employment Event in the Flathead Valley."
- **Bill Roope**, director, Northwest Montana Regional Tech-Prep Consortium, was presented with a **HERO award** for his "Contributions to Montana Workforce Development" **by the Job Service** during a tour of the Occupational Trades Building in February. Roope was recognized for his professional dedication in assisting the workforce retraining efforts for the state of Montana.
- FVCC Geology/Geography Instructor **Anita Ho** and Chemistry/Mathematics Instructor **Janice Alexander** presented at the **Expanding Your Horizons workshop** in Columbia Falls March 17. The event was designed to encourage sixth through eighth grade female students to explore career possibilities in math and science.
- FVCC held its **13th annual Senior Institute** this spring. Nearly 140 area seniors 62 years of age or older enrolled in classes such as ceramics, photography, conversational Italian and line dancing every Friday for six weeks. The college provided students with a complimentary lunch buffet and transportation to and from area senior centers.
- Flathead Valley Community College has teamed up with Flathead County shuttle operator **Eagle Transit** to offer training for its future drivers of **Glacier National Park's new shuttle system** that will debut July 1. Through the college's three-week **Commercial Driver's License—Bus** course,

students who complete the course will be qualified candidates for the positions. The shuttle system is anticipated to reduce traffic by 10 percent while the Going-to-the-Sun road rehabilitation project is underway.

- Nine students and two sponsors from the **FVCC/Polson High School Building Trades** class were among 105,000 participants who attended the **International Builder's Show** in Orlando, Fla., in February. Five FVCC students competed in a residential construction competition. The team presented construction drawings, labor and material cost estimates and other supporting documentation that they compiled as their proposed solution to a given construction problem.
- Flathead Valley Community College's **Green Team** hosted a **community rally and photo** to support the National Day of Climate Action. Approximately 250 community members attended the initiative as part of a nationwide campaign entitled, "**Step It Up 2007**" that was directed toward the United States Congress to take action against global warming by cutting carbon emissions 80 percent by 2050. The college is one of seven participating locations in Montana and one of 1,400 locations in the United States.
- Flathead Valley Community College welcomed **24 students** into **Phi Theta Kappa** of the Alpha Iota Pi Chapter March 23. These new members who maintained a minimum grade point average of 3.5 were inducted into the international honor society of two-year colleges.
- The **FVCC Logger Sports team** unveiled its new arena April 21 when it hosted the annual **Stumpjumper Days** competition. Seventy-five competitors from seven colleges and universities competed in various events including the axe throw, horizontal hardhit chop, obstacle pole, single buck and bonzai logger. FVCC placed fourth in the competition. The team finished up the year by performing demonstrations at the Family Forestry Expo held in Columbia Falls May 12 and 13.
- The Flathead Valley Community College Foundation hosted tours of the beautiful **Bibler Home and Gardens** May 5, 6, 12 and 13. Proceeds will benefit student scholarships and programs at FVCC.
- FVCC Student Senate hosted a **Battle of the Bands** competition April 27. Nearly 200 people attended the event that helped raise \$750 to support Student Senate.
- The FVCC Board of Trustees approved two new programs--**Graphic Arts Certificate of Applied Science** and **Pharmacy Technology Certificate**—to launch this fall. The Board also approved the **expansion of both Certificate in Electrical Technology and Certificate in Plumbing Technology to two-year Associate of Science degrees in Electrical Technology and Plumbing Technology** to be submitted to the Board of Regents for approval.
- FVCC's **Flathead Valley Community Theatre** bid farewell to its performance space of 14 years during its season finale production of William Shakespeare's "**Twelfth Night.**" The area presented numerous challenges to students such as having to assemble and disassemble the theatre space before and after each performance, design and create sets outside regardless of the weather conditions, cram props into hallways or change costumes mid-performance in bathrooms and closets. The college will open its new production space, a black box instructional theatre lab with a scene shop, green room and dressing rooms, this summer in its new Arts and Technology Building.

Montana State University-Billings **Chancellor Ronald P. Sexton, Ph. D.**

- The People, Pride & Promise campaign exceeded its \$21 million goal by raising \$30,163,696. The five-year campaign was launched in January 2002 to raise money for scholarships, capital improvements, and to build endowments for academic programs. The campaign was spearheaded by a 55-member National Campaign Leadership Council, and was chaired by Mr. Bruce Parker, Senior Vice President and Banking Group Manager for First Interstate Bank, Billings. Dr. Ronald Sexton, MSU-Billings Chancellor said, "The wide-reaching support for the campaign was indicative of how important MSU-Billings is to our community, state and region. The partnerships developed through this campaign are phenomenal and will serve the University for many, many years. The interest demonstrated by business, industry, health care providers, builders, financial institutions and others continues to grow at very positive rates."
- The Montana State University Billings Potters' Guild and Art Students' League, in the MSU-Billings Department of Art, have joined forces to raise money for the Billings Women's Shelter and MSU-Billings student art clubs, by sponsoring a Lovin' Bowls Benefit Luncheon. Leo Zoltowski, Ceramics Instructor, offered free wheel-throwing demonstrations to MSU-B students and Potters' Guild members who created over 100 bowls for the luncheon.
- The College of Professional Studies and Lifelong Learning, The Center for Business Enterprise and the College of Business are partnering to present two kids camps this summer through the Kids on Campus Program. The camp partners with local businesses to offer an Honors Business and Community Leadership Camp to 7th, 8th and 9th graders. There is also a Kid's Enterprise Camp

offered to younger children teaching them how to come up with a business idea, and then to produce and sell a product.

- MSU-Billings communication and marketing students and their two professors won four coveted GOLD ADDY® awards, a SILVER ADDY® and a BRONZE ADDY® for an “Open Your Eyes” public service marketing campaign. The students wrote, created and designed the campaign to raise awareness of domestic violence in Yellowstone and carbon counties, the “Brain Injury” television public service announcement and for the overall multi-media campaign. The ADDY® Awards are the advertising industry’s most prestigious annual awards given to advertising, production and media-industry professionals. The award winning public service marketing campaign was conceived and written by MSU-B communication students in Dr. Sarah Keller’s Media for Social Change classes, and by MSU-B business students in Dr. A. J. Otjen’s Integrated and Applied Marketing classes.
- In February, College of Business Adjunct Instructor, Brian Gurney, reported to Dean Young and representatives of MDU and Stillwater Mining Company about the Fuel Cells Durability & Performance 2006 Symposium held last December in Miami Beach, FL, where he represented the COB Center for Applied Economic Research. The presentation included opportunities to develop a Montana-based fuel cell research agenda.
- Ms. Julie Seedhouse, a graduate of MSU-Billings and an 8th grade English teacher at Will James Middle School in Billings, has been named Director, Alumni Relations. Ms. Jeanne Moller, who served as Alumni Director at the MSU-B Foundation, has been named Development Officer in Charge of the Wine & Food Festival and major giving.
- Six outstanding Alumni were honored at the 25th annual MSU-B Alumni Association Celebration, Receiving recognition for exceptional contributions were Sharon Redfern, Michael Tolstedt, Father Dale Yurkovic and Carl David Treick. Marvin Jochems and Mike Matz received Distinguished Alumnus awards.
- At the Faculty Excellence Awards Celebration, MSU-B faculty was recognized for their excellence in teaching, research and service to the campus and Billings community. Receiving Faculty Excellence Achievement Awards for Outstanding Performance were Ms. Sue Hart, Dr. St. John Robinson and Dr. Farzad Farsio. Receiving Non-Tenure Faculty Excellence Awards were Mr. Dennis Kern, Ms. Lea Zoltowski and Mrs. Gary Amundson. Mr. Vern Gagnon received the Faculty Leadership Award from the MSU-B College of Technology. Dr. Sarah Keller was the recipient of the Winston and Helen Cox Fellowship award.
- MSU-B staff was recognized at the annual Staff Appreciation Dinner. Recipients were Ms. Donna Cooper, Admissions and Records; Ms. Mary Morup, Student Opportunity Services; Ms. Kristin Peterman, Operations Manager Student Union Building; Ms. Jenny Thronson, Advising Center; Ms. Lacey Tooke, Admissions & Records; and Ms. Becky Lyons, Advising Center. A special Team Recognition was awarded to New Student Services.
- MSU-B hosted its first annual Native American Student Day for Native American students interested in attending MSU-Billings. Over 40 students, along with teachers and other school representatives attended the event. The morning began with a welcome and greeting session, lunch, followed by an informative afternoon session. We know we have a great University and it was nice to see others from outside the campus appreciate the academic opportunities available to them.
- Congratulations to Conference Coach-of-the-Year Kevin Woodin, Yellowjackets’ Head Basketball Coach. Congratulations also Yellowjackets’ guard, Michelle Lieber, Conference Player-of-the Year.

Montana State University-Northern Chancellor Alex Capdeville

- **Commencement** – This year MSU-Northern graduated 334 individuals, 194 women and 140 men. Of these, 110 are earning their associate's degree, 236 are earning their bachelor's degree and 33 are earning their master's degrees, and 2 certificates for a total of 381 degrees being conferred. MSU President Geoff Gamble gave the address to the graduates, families and friends.
- **Founders Excellence Dinner** – During the annual dinner, Founders Excellence Awards were presented to Mr. Larry Brubaker, Ms. Kristi Kline, and Mr. Ross Seger for their outstanding accomplishments and support of MSU-Northern. Tom Reynolds and Cheri Jimeno were also presented with the Chancellor’s Distinguished Service Award for their excellent service while at Northern.
- **Nurses Pinning** – MSU-Northern was pleased to pin 55 Nursing students. 22 from the Havre Campus, 18 from the Great Falls Campus and 15 from our Lewistown campus. This is the first time our Lewistown campus has held its own pinning ceremony.
- **New Foundation Director** – On May 1, 2007 William L. Gupton became the new Director of Northern’s Foundation to replace Tom Reynolds who retires June 30. Gupton has spent the last 17 years as a leadership and management consultant in Albuquerque, NM.

- **New Interim Provost** – I am recommending to the Board of Regents to hire Dr. Joe Callahan as Interim Provost and Senior Vice Chancellor at MSU-Northern. Dr. Callahan will replace Dr. Cheri Jimeno who is leaving Northern to become the new Campus Executive Officer for New Mexico State University-Alamogordo. Dr. Callahan will start his new responsibilities on May 10, 2007.
- **New Athletic Director** – Mark Samson accepted the position of the new athletic director to replace Dave Gantt. Samson has been with Northern for three years as the head football coach and will continue in that position while also taking on the responsibilities of Athletic Director.
- **Student Excellence Awards** – Eleven MSU-Northern students received Student Excellence Awards. This is the highest honor a student at MSU-Northern can receive. This year's recipients are: Matthew Anderson, Joy Barsotti, Leo Bullchild, Allison Flynn, Jennifer Gorder, Monty Harrison, Joy Linn, Starlaen Perkins, Kyle Samson, Brooke Schwan and Kylee Starr.
- **We Love Northern Ball** – The 21st annual "We Love Northern Ball" cleared over \$24,000 for new student scholarships. This is the first year Northern has hosted the event and it featured numerous silent and live auction items.
- **New Doctor on Campus** - Terry Munson completed his Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) in Organization and Management with a specialization in Leadership from Capella University's School of Business and Technology. Capella University is accredited by The Higher Learning Commission and a member of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools (NCA).

Montana State University-Great Falls College of Technology

Dean Mary Sheehy Moe

- **Thurston to Retire:** After 25 years of service to the College of Technology, Steve Thurston is resigning as Program Director of the Auto Body Repair and Refinishing Program. Steve began incorporating community service projects in his curriculum before the term "service learning" was coined. The most recent community service project from the Auto Body students was the refurbishing of a donated pool table that was donated to Big Brothers and Big Sisters in February. The students raised money for the materials and volunteered their skilled labor to make this project happen. Steve has a gift for teaching that blends a love of his field and an excellent rapport with students. "It has always been gratifying," Steve said, "to watch the wheels of learning roll once the students realize what they are capable of doing." For a quarter-century, MSU – Great Falls has been elevated by the presence of this good man and great teacher. We watch him go with a smile for him and a tear for us.
- **Also Retiring – Our Esteemed GFPS Colleagues, Dr. Bryan Dunn and Dick Kuntz:** For the past six years, MSU – Great Falls has set as a strategic goal a mutually respectful collaboration with the Great Falls Public Schools that would create pathways and partnerships expanding opportunities for local grade school, middle school, and high school students. What we have achieved in that goal area – tech prep articulations, dual credit programs, College in a Day for high school students and middle school students, early college scholarships for high school students – all of that would not have been possible without the leadership and good will of Dr. Bryan Dunn, Superintendent, and Dick Kuntz, Assistant Superintendent, 7-12. Both educational leaders retire this year, taking well over a half-century of experience with them. Again, our smiles and our tears.
- **College of Technology in Bozeman:** In April, Bozeman COT Assistant Dean Vicki Orazem and Dean Mary Moe completed their year-long series of community meetings with Bozeman-area economic development groups with an "Eggs and Issues" breakfast hosted by the Bozeman Chamber of Commerce. The event featured a presentation by Larry Swanson, Director of the UM Center for the Rocky Mountain West, who provided information on growth trends in Bozeman and Gallatin County and the relationship to area labor force.
- **Staff and Faculty Accomplishments:** Courtney Petersen, Career Services/Transfer Advisor, recently received a second master's, this one a M.Ed. from MSU-Northern. Cheryll Alt, Program Director, Practical Nursing, just completed her M.S.N. from Nebraska Methodist College. Dennis Veleber has been selected as a tenure-track faculty member in Sociology. Dr. Greg Paulauskis was selected as a Member-at-large Representative on the Lambda Beta Society, the national Honor Society for the Profession of Respiratory Care.
- **Interior Design Program Receives Prestigious Endorsement:** The Annual Interior Design Student Showcase, a juried show of student work in 10 categories, was held in Heritage Hall on April 26. Interior Design projects, furniture design and construction, and original artwork were among the featured categories. An evening gala featured a keynote speaker, silent auction, recognition & awards.
- **Construction Trades Fair:** To respond to the burgeoning demand in construction-related jobs, a joint venture was launched by MSU-Great Falls, the Montana Contractors Association, and the Great Falls Public School District in April. The Northcentral Montana Construction Trades Career Fair brought businesses and organizations from across Montana to Great Falls to promote the great

careers offered within the construction trades industry. Over 350 students from Great Falls and the surrounding area participated. Approximately 30 booths, ranging from general construction and plumbing to union apprentices and collegiate skilled programming, gave high school students a chance to explore careers of interest. The second annual Construction Trades Fair will be held next spring.

- **Literary Guild:** The 2007 issue of *MO: Writings from the River*, which includes high-quality fiction, poetry and creative nonfiction, has been published and is available for purchase (contact fbridger@msugf.edu). The writings of students, staff, and other writers included in the publication were selected through a juried process. The publication is supported in part by a grant from the Montana Arts Council.
- **Students Provide Community Service:** Dental Assistant and Dental Hygiene students participated in the American Dental Association Give Kids a Smile Program at the Community Health Fair. Dental sealants were provided to students through the sponsorship of the ADA. A dental fun room was staffed with students to provide information about dental care to children. During March, Children's Dental Health month, Dental Hygiene students demonstrated oral health care, provided tours of the Dental Clinic on campus, and distributed posters to elementary schools. The Health Occupations Student Association (HOSA) received over 50 commitments from new organ donors as a result of the HOSA Organ Donor Drive in April.

Montana State University President Geoff Gamble, Ph.D

- **Jay Radke**, a researcher in the **Veterinary Molecular Biology** department, won a \$223,000 grant from the March of Dimes to fund his research into birth defects. The award is personal for Radke, as the March of Dimes assisted his family over a period of more than 18 years while they dealt with the implications of his now healthy son's birth defect.
- MSU is one of four new members of the **NASA Astrobiology Institute**. Researchers will receive approximately \$6 million over five years to study the origin and future of life in this universe. Colleen Hartment of NASA's Science Mission Directorate stated, "Each of these (four new) teams brings something important to NASA's overall portfolio in astrobiology, and to the future success of missions in planetary science, astronomy and earth science."
- MSU was recently accepted as the 42nd member of the **LIGO Scientific Collaboration**, an international group devoted to gravitational waves. The waves, when detected, will offer a new way to explore and understand the universe. President Gamble commented, "It's very prestigious. To have one of our faculty members, and particularly **Neil Cornish**, in the group really speaks to the quality that MSU has among its faculty and the great work that Neil is doing."
- **Brad Hall**, an MSU student from Browning, was one of just 25 students nationwide to win a **2007 Rockefeller Brothers Teaching Fellowship**. The fellowship will pay Hall \$22,100 over five years to continue his education and help him with his goal of teaching Native students. "I continue to believe that teaching joins nursing and engineering as the top three most important careers in Indian Country," Hall said.
- The **Manufacturing Extension Partnership Practitioner of the Year Award** was received by **Kreg Worrest**, a field engineer with the **Montana Manufacturing Extension Center**. The award recognized Worrest's impact in the quality arena and innovative approaches to mapping the quality stream and workforce training using skit-style learning.
- **Ferd Johns**, **School of Architecture** faculty, has been named one of the top architecture professors in the country by the Association for the Collegiate Schools of Architecture. Johns was one of five professors selected from 250 universities to receive the Distinguished Professor award for his sustained creative research, or service. He was also awarded the National American Institute of Architects award in summer 2006, as well as the President's Award for Service Learning in spring 2006.
- A popular MSU-based Web site featuring science and nature documentary film and video was the **Webby Award Winner** in the student category. **TERRA**, <http://www.lifeonterra.com/index.php>, a project of the **MSU Science and Natural History Filmmaking program**, received the Webby, which is hailed as the "Oscars of the Internet" by the New York Times. More than 8000 entries from over 60 countries and all 50 states were reviewed.
- MSU and the **Intermountain Opera Association** have had a successful collaboration since 1979, enabling Bozeman to offer grand opera in the Rocky Mountains. MSU provides rehearsal space, set furniture, and terrific talent to the energetic IOA. This year the partnership culminated in a sold-out production of Mozart's, "The Magic Flute". In addition, the **Extended University** developed a website to give people statewide an inside look at what goes into creating an opera production. <http://eu.montana.edu/media/opera>

- Thirty-eight mayors attended the **Local Government Center's Montana Mayor's Forum**. Mayors received instruction on leadership, conflict management, the role of the city attorney, land use management and growth policy requirements, and law enforcement administration.
 - The **College of Engineering** hosted sixth graders from Chief Joseph Middle School in an Engineerathon, designed to encourage kids to pursue careers in engineering and science. Among other things the students pieced together a working model of an oil pipeline using maple syrup.
 - For the second time in five years, a MSU scientist has won a major award for solar physicists who've made significant contributions early in their career. **Jiong Qiu** (pronounced Gee-ong Chew), received the **Karen Harvey Award** from the Solar Physics Division of the American Astronomical Society.
 - **Luke Oltrogge** of Absarokee is the 47th MSU student to win a **Goldwater Scholarship**, the nation's premier award for undergraduates studying science and math. A **chemistry** major, Oltrogge works in professor **Trevor Douglas's** lab creating tiny cages out of protein viruses and adapting them for a variety of purposes including delivering medications to specific parts of the body. Oltrogge is also a Beckman scholar.
 - The MSU student chapter of the **Institute of Transportation Engineers** has raised **\$100,000 for its own endowment**. The chapter generally includes 20-30 civil engineering students in a given year. For the past five years the group has worked to fund the endowment which will be used for travel to professional conferences.
 - The Department of Homeland Security awarded Montana State University \$300,000 to study wireless communication networks that could aid law enforcement and medical personnel in rugged and rural areas. The research will be a collaborative effort between MSU's **Western Transportation Institute** and the university's **departments of computer science and electrical engineering** as well as public safety agencies in northwestern Wyoming.
 - Two graphic design students from **The School of Art** received top honors in the **Student Design Competition** sponsored by The Society of Publication Designers in New York. Graduating senior **Alison McLean** won first prize for her dynamic 4-page "Rugby" layout created for a sports magazine and senior **Beau Foor** took third place for his colorful 4-page design depicting "DJ master Armin Van Buren" for a popular music magazine. In addition to cash prizes, free CS software from Adobe, each of the students will participate in a summer internship at a major magazine, Marie Claire and Men's Fitness, in New York.
 - **Ellie Rudy** became the **2007 NCAA Indoor Pole Vault Champion**.
 - One of only 12 **Morris Udall Native American congressional internships** was awarded to **Katie Hoyt**, A **College of Engineering** senior majoring in chemical and biological engineering. Each summer the Morris K. Udall Foundation chooses Native Americans or Alaska Native students or recent graduates for a 10-week internship in Washington D.C., based on their college status and demonstrated interest in fields related to tribal public policy. Hoyt has been funded by an Idea Network of Biomedical Research Excellence (INBRE) undergraduate scholarship to conduct research in the Center for Biofilm Engineering.
 - The **Center for Biofilm Engineering** edged out Harvard University by publishing more biofilm-related papers in 2004 and 2005 than any other institution according to the ISI Web of Science database. Harvard ranked second in both years. As of December 2006, MSU had the second-most cited papers in 2004 and 2005. Researchers at the Institute of Genomic Research and at the University of California Berkeley edged out MSU in the number of citations in 2005 and 2004 respectively.
 - Seventy percent of **medical school applicants** from MSU were admitted in 2006 compared to 44.4% nationally.
 - In the past several years, MSU received more than five times the number of National Science Foundation grants for **Yellowstone** studies than its nearest competition, Stanford and UCLA. MSU scientists across a range of disciplines study Yellowstone to provide insights into the ecosystem and the interaction of the people of the region.
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