

CAMPUS REPORTS
Board of Regents Meeting
November 15-16, 2007
Bozeman, Montana

Montana State University
President Geoff Gamble

- **New MSU television commercials** debuted October 6, 2007. The campaign will include four TV spots in addition to print, online and radio efforts. The TV commercials, created by alumni-owned and Bozeman-based **Chisel Industries**, focus on integrating hands-on, active learning and the discovery of knowledge. Each spot showcases a MSU student's involvement in a research theme that is nationally and globally relevant.
- Six projects that build on Montana State University's reputation as the University of the Yellowstone have received one-year **grants from MSU's Thermal Biology Institute and Big Sky Institute**. The grants, all given to support the University of Yellowstone Initiative, average \$5,000 each, and were awarded to faculty in the **humanities and social sciences, the Museum of the Rockies and the Burns Technology Center**. When the recipients finish their projects, they will have produced music, art, essays, a book, exhibits, podcasts and other new media productions related to the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem.
- **A dinosaur skeleton found 24 years ago near Choteau has finally been identified as a new species that links North American dinosaurs with Asian dinosaurs**. The dinosaur would have weighed 30 to 40 pounds, walked on two feet and stood about three feet tall. The fossil came from sediment that's about 80 million years old. A paper on the finding was published in September's issue of the **Journal of Vertebrate Paleontology**. The paper's lead author was **Brenda Chinnery**, a former postdoctoral researcher with **Jack Horner**, who was a co-author on the paper.
- **A new \$1 million grant from the U.S. Department of Education will help the Bozeman School District and Montana State University work together to facilitate American history education in Montana schools**. The grant is aimed at pairing mentor teachers from Bozeman with teachers in under-served school districts, especially in central and eastern Montana, recipients said. The grant will fund a variety of activities for teachers in kindergarten through 12th grade.
- A new partnership will provide communities in Gallatin, Park, and Meagher Counties improved access to the economic and community development resources available from **Montana State University Extension**. The program is a pilot project from MSU Extension and the **Northern Rocky Mountain Resource Conservation and Development Corporation**. The two groups have hired **Sarah Hamlen** as Extension area economic development coordinator. The goal of the project is to deliver educational programs and develop new projects that aid communities in reaching their economic and community development goals and objectives.
- An experiment that's aimed at **healthy space travel** and involves Montana State University scientists and students orbited the earth on a Russian space capsule in September. The experiment involves common contaminants that hitch rides into space and may threaten astronauts' health. Samples from the completed experiment will go to Moscow for preliminary processing by **Pyle and Tresa Goins, assistant research professor in microbiology**, and then to MSU where they will be analyzed by three undergraduate students and research associate **Susan Broadway**. The students are **Chelsea Crandell of Scobey, Aaron Smith of Havre, and Kien Lim of Malaysia**.
- **The Center for Native Partnership Research has received a \$6.5 grant over 5 years with the goal of improving health of Native Americans in Montana through community-based health projects**. The Center brings together Native American community members and academic health researchers to work in partnership on health projects. The Center grew out of the Montana Consortium for Community-Based Research in Health. The principal investigator of the grant is **Dr. Linda Hyman, with co-investigators Suzanne Christopher and Sara Young and Mike Babcock**.
- The **Center for Entrepreneurship** for the New West has been recognized nationally by the Small Business Administration (SBA) for **Excellence in Economic Development Activity** through a formal competitive process.

Montana State University-Northern
Chancellor Alex Capdeville

- **Northwest Accreditation Visit** – On October 15, 16, & 17 MSU-Northern hosted the Northwest Accreditation team as they conduct a full-scale review of campus. I want to thank the campus accreditation committee co-chaired by Larry Strizich and Carol Reifschneider along with all of the faculty and staff who have helped to compile, write and edit the Self-Study for our Northwest accreditation review.
- **Action Plan Update** - On October 4 our master planning committee met to review the various plans submitted in response to our July 31-August 1 planning retreat. These plans included a balanced budget, a recruiting plan, a marketing plan and a review of existing programs. I was very pleased with the reports and the committees submitted some excellent recommendations. Northern has been working closely with MSU-Bozeman to agree on the next steps needed to ensure a strong enrollment for next fall.
- **The Alumni Auction** - Brought in \$9,641.00. That is \$323.00 more than last year's all time high! Special

thanks to those members of the Northern Family who worked so hard to pull this off especially our auctioneers and time keeper who got the most out of every item.

- **Grammy Artist on Campus** - Bill Miller won a Grammy in 2005 for Best Native American Music Album (vocal or instrumental). On October 11 at 2:00 p.m. Bill lectured to the campus and hundreds of people from Hayes/Lodgepole, Rocky Boy, Box Elder and Stone Child College on the topic "Life on the Reservation." Later that evening he gave outstanding concert. At the Native American Music Awards, Bill was honored with five awards: including Best Songwriter, Song of the Year, Folk Artist and Artist of the Year and most recently was given a Lifetime Achievement Award.
- **Hall of Fame** - Dan DeKaye of Argyle, Texas, Al Faechner of Great Falls, Montana, Jodi Kruta of Douglasville, Georgia, and Anthony L. Taylor of Laurel, Maryland were inducted into the Northern Alumni Association All-Sports Hall of Fame, Friday night October 5th during our Homecoming Alumni Games.

Montana State University-Billings

Chancellor Ronald P. Sexton, Ph. D.

- To all of you that visited our campus in September, thank you for attending the Board of Regents meeting. We enjoyed having you as our guests!
- The Urban Institute of MSU Billings gathered about 50 business, civic and political leaders from the community for a daylong seminar about the future of Billings. Mr. Chuck Tooley, Director of the Urban Institute said he organized the "Smart Communities" seminar as a brainstorming session but also wanted to provide an opportunity to begin prioritizing issues that will help Billings thrive in the future. To provide some guidance for the seminar, Mr. Tooley engaged Dr. Suzanne Morse, Director of the Pew Partnership for Civic Change at the University of Richmond who led the group in a conversation that was intentionally forward-looking. She acknowledged the cultural and historical values of Billings, but wanted the group to think how Billings was going to "move from good to great." Dr. Morse suggested a strong focus on the economy, affordable housing, and the importance for Billings to leverage the resources of the higher education community for applied research and technology transfer. Those resources, she said, will be critical to help build and sustain Billings as it continues to grow.
- Student Resource Awareness Day at MSUB gave students an opportunity to find out what campus resources were available to them for a successful experience at Montana State University Billings. This was a one-stop Student Services Resource Fair sponsored by Student Affairs.
- Increasing academic and workforce training opportunities at both four-year and two-year levels led to record enrollment at MSUB. Total headcount at the University this Fall is 4,912. That number is up 113 from 2006 and represents an overall increase of 505 students (about 11 percent) since 2002. According to Dr. Sexton, enrollment increases can be tied directly to maintaining high standards of academic excellence as well as a continued commitment to access to higher education for all learners. Dr. Sexton said "It is gratifying to see students respond to the wide array of opportunities presented to them by MSU Billings. New degree programs, new majors and new workforce training opportunities at all levels are striking a chord in Billings and the region. A commitment to students doesn't stop with the faculty. Student affairs staff, advising staff and recruiters work with academic leaders to develop a personal touch during campus visits by prospective students and their families."
- Stacy Klippenstein, Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs, did a broad-ranging interview with Mr. Jon Stepanek of KTVQ-TV. Topics of discussion ranged from: How do our students do it? What drives them to succeed? How do they make ends meet?
- At the start of Fall Semester 2007, during our University Wide-Open Meeting, The Walter and Charlotte Pippenger Excellence in Innovation Award was presented to Dr. Sarah Keller, Department of communication & Theatre, College of Arts and Sciences and Dr. A. J. Otjen, Marketing, College of Business. The Pippenger Award is funded by Dick and Cheri Cox and Family recognizing faculty or staff members who exhibit the most successful and innovative program, initiative or project that significantly enhances teaching and student success at MSUB. Dr. Keller & Dr. Otjen's winning project titled "Interdisciplinary Community Communication Project" combined marketing and communication studies in an applied learning experience to help change attitudes and beliefs for community or social problems, such as domestic violence, HIV prevention, and physical activity. The curriculum drew students from throughout the University, including health promotion, health administration, communication studies, business marketing, drama, web design and public relations. In Spring 2006, the end result of the combined student efforts was a mass media campaign to prevent domestic violence, entitled "Open your Eyes," which aired on Yellowstone County television, in local newspapers and on billboards. The ads won multiple advertising awards and community recognition. Domestic violence advocates recognized the campaign as an effective approach for addressing the problem; University administrators saw it as a unique and educational opportunity for students; and academic peers recognized the campaign by accepting a recent article describing the project for publication in a highly competitive journal.
- Dr. Bernard Quetchenbach, a poet and an assistant professor of English at MSUB, read from his newly published book of poetry at the Parmly Billings Library. "Everything As It Happens" is Quetchenbach's first book published at MSUB.
- Artist, Neil Jussila, professor of art at MSUB, was the featured faculty artist at the annual Faculty Art Exhibit at Northcutt Steele Gallery. The exhibit featured 10 pieces of art – paintings, collage drawings and line images of

interaction between individuals, but was meant to open up a relationship between the artwork and the observer.

- The 2007 Chancellor's Scholarship Reception was held to honor the Chancellor's Excellence Scholars and Haynes Foundation Merit Scholars. We had an exceptional group of students who selected Montana State University Billings to continue their educational goals. The recipients of the Chancellor's Excellence Awards are freshman with a composite score of 26 or greater on the ACT or a score of 1760 or greater on the SAT. These scholars ranked in the top 10% of their high school graduation class with a cumulative grade point average of 3.5 or higher. Additional criteria for being chosen for this prestigious scholarship are the student's record of leadership, in addition to school and community service.

Montana Tech of The University of Montana

W. Franklin Gilmore, Chancellor

- Luke Buckley recently earned the Microsoft Certified Information Technology Professional (MCITP) in Database Administration. Luke is responsible for developing and maintaining databases for the Montana Bureau of Mines and Geology in its Ground-Water Assessment Program.
- Biology faculty Drs. Rick Douglass, Amy Kuenzi, and Marisa Pedulla presented on HantaVirus and Bacteriophage discoveries at the Northern Rocky Mountain Conference on Infectious Disease & Environmental Health in Big Sky. Tech's K-12 Outreach Phagedigging Program was highlighted as a model for educational research projects.
- Courtney Young, Dept Head and ASARCO Professor of Metallurgical & Materials Eng., and Corby Anderson, CAMP Director, presented at Precious Metals Processing 2007 with MS student Nick Gow.
- Danette Melvin, Nursing Lab Director, was approved by the Montana Board of Nursing and selected to participate on the NCLEX® item development panel of subject matter experts in Chicago in September.
- Dr. Pat Munday, Tech. Comm., received an NSF "Science & Society" Scholar Award of \$140,000 to study the role of citizens in shaping remedies in America's largest Superfund site.
- Montana Tech received a grant from the NSF EPSCoR program for \$750,000 to continue its successful Undergraduate Research Program and to begin collaborative work with U of M on river science.
- David Armstrong, Associate Professor, Mining Engineering, and member of the SME Resources and Reserves Committee, contributed in updating the "2007 SME Guide for Reporting Exploration Results, Mineral Resources and Mineral Reserves." The guide was formally accepted by the SME Board of Directors to help bring the U.S. reporting of ore reserves in line with international standards.
- Dr. Chris Gammons (Professor, Geological Engineering) presented an invited plenary lecture on "Water quality and irrigation" at the 2007 American Water Resources Association Conference in Lewistown.
- Don and Andrea Stierle and their research have been noted in two national publications, **WIRED Magazine**, Aug 21, 2007 and **New York Times**, October 17th, 2007. Their work focuses on the isolation of microbes in the Berkeley pit, finding and testing unique chemical compounds for their anticancer, antibacterial, and antifungal properties. Andrea and Don's work was also featured in *Montana Magazine*, summer, 2007; *Montana Quarterly* 2007; and *The History Channel—Boneyards: Mines* 2007.
- Over 110 employers registered for Montana Tech's 8th Annual Career Fair on September 13, reflecting 30% growth in the last two years. More than 800 students attended.
- Professor Rich McNearny, Mining Engineering, will travel to the University of Graz, Austria in November to inspect a tunnel being driven in the Austrian Alps in highly plastic "squeezing" rock, creating difficult engineering design and construction problems. Rich will give presentations in German on the latest rock mechanics research at Montana Tech and the block caving mining method.
- Montana Tech's RAVE Technical Development Center, in collaboration with Apex Technologies, LLC, has been awarded \$264,936 by the Montana Board of Research and Commercialization Technology to create a new prototype Water Jet Cutting Pump.
- Marvin Speece, Professor and Chair of Geophysical Engineering, and Taylor Patterson, Geophysics graduate student, are at McMurdo Sound in Antarctica as part of a multinational collaborative initiative.
- The Materials and Metallurgical Senior Design Team recently placed third at the first annual Undergraduate Design Competition sponsored by ASM Materials Education Foundation.
- CFWEP and the Blackfoot Challenge, the Watershed Education Network and the Bureau of Land Management carried out the 2007 Blackfoot Youth Field Day in September, with over 100 4th–6th grade students from the Blackfoot River Basin who traveled to Garnet ghost town. In October, CFWEP and the Butte-Silver Bow Arts Foundation, with Northwestern Energy, PPL Montana, and Water & Environmental Technologies, held an inaugural *Divides & Watersheds Symposium & Art Exhibition*.

The University of Montana-Western

Richard Storey, Chancellor

SCHOLARSHIP AND AWARDS

- Montana Western Geology Professor Dr. Rob Thomas will be honored by the Geological Society of America (GSA) in October in Denver with its national Distinguished Service Award. The GSA Distinguished Service Award recognizes individuals for exceptional service. He is the first Montana geology professor to be so recognized.

- English Professor Gary Lundy has received word that "spout," a magazine out of Minneapolis has accepted another poem for publication in its next issue. The journal RFD is also publishing three of his poems: "off topic," "love speak," and "loss."
- English Professor Rebecca Knotts has received notice that "The Sky Appeared as a River" will be published in the forthcoming issue of *Alba*.
- *Tearing Down the Gates: Confronting the Class Divide in American Education* by Peter Sacks was published recently. Montana Western's Math Science Upward Bound (MSUB) program is included in the book. The author uses it as an example of a program that has been tearing down the gates (addressing the growing socioeconomic divide in higher education). The author presents the Upward Bound program and the University in a very positive light in his book. Unfortunately, Montana Western's excellent MSUB program was not re-funded for the current year.
- "Facts on File" accepted a second entry written by librarian Anne Kish for their Encyclopedia of American Disability History. The entry is titled, "National Disability Sports Alliance."
- Education Professor Jennifer Gilliard has had two recent publications: Gilliard, J. L., Blanton, P. W. & Bartley, S. J. Gender and generation: The relative influence of intimacy and individuation with mother and with father for spousal intimacy and individuation among dual-earner husbands and wives. Paper accepted by The Family Journal, April 2007. Gilliard, J. L., Moore, R. A., & Lemieux, J. J. "In Hispanic culture children are the jewels of the family": An investigation of home and community culture in a bilingual early childhood program serving migrant and seasonal farm worker families. Paper accepted by Early Childhood Research and Practice, March 2007.
- Business Professor Jim Sethi has given the following presentations: Paper titled, "The Balanced Global Management [BGM] Model I: Developing Cultural Intelligence for Competitive Advantage." Annual Conference. Institute for International Marketing, Hilton Hotel, Montreal, Quebec, Canada, June 20, 2007. "Strategic Combinational Negotiation [SCN] Model: Applications in International Trade," Annual Workshop, Institute for Leadership Excellence, Chelsea Inn, Toronto, Ontario, Canada, June 15, 2007. "Challenges Facing Transnational Collective Bargaining and Multinational Corporations." Workshop on Strategies and Techniques for Collective Bargaining. Industrial Relations Institute, Ottawa, Canada, June 27-28, 2007.
- Equine Studies Professor Sid Gustafson's novel, "*Horses They Rode*," (Riverbend Publishing) has been nominated for the book of the year award honoring works published in 2006. The High Plains Books Awards have been established to recognize regional authors and/or literary works that examine and reflect life on the High Plains.

NEW FULL-TIME FACULTY AND ACADEMIC STAFF

An exceptionally large and talented group of individuals has joined the Division of Academic Affairs as new faculty and administrators or have taken on different roles or status. Those individuals are as follows:

- **Dr. Brian Price** arrived in August to serve as the new Assistant Provost. Dr. Price, a native of Northern Ireland, most recently served as the Assistant Vice President for Academic Affairs at Wheelock College in Boston. Dr. Price was also a faculty member and administrator at Evergreen College in Washington State.
- **Dr. Tom Straugh** was hired to be the new Coordinator of Career Services. Dr. Straugh has most recently served as an adjunct faculty member in the Education Department.
- **Dr. Michael Gilbert** is a new Assistant Professor biologist/biochemist in the Environmental Sciences Department. Dr. Gilbert was most recently at The University of Montana Missoula.
- **Dr. Linda Lyon** is a new Associate Professor botanist in the Environmental Sciences Department. Dr. Lyon was most recently at Frostburg State University in Pennsylvania.
- **Dr. Brent McCabe** is a new Assistant Professor of Music Education. Dr. McCabe most recently was at Montana State University as a postdoctoral fellow.
- **Dr. Fred Chilson** is a new Assistant Professor of Business. Dr. Chilson arrives from being on the faculty at Adams State College in Colorado.
- **Dr. Megan Chilson** is a new Associate Professor of Health and Human performance. Dr. Chilson was also most recently on the faculty of Adams State.
- **David Regan** is a new Assistant Professor of Art. He was most recently an artist in Missoula and was an adjunct faculty member at The University of Montana Missoula.
- **Dr. Sara Glasgow** is now a tenure-track Assistant Professor of Politics. She was previously a non tenure-track faculty member in the same position.
- **Dr. Sid Gustafson** is now a tenure-track Assistant Professor of Equine Studies.
- **Dr. Nanette Chastine** has also been hired as an Assistant Professor of Equine Studies. She was awarded her D.V.M. from the University of Georgia this past May.

ACADEMIC DISCUSSIONS

Last year Provost Ulrich started a series of informal discussions on academic issues of concern to the campus. Those discussions led to developments in a number of areas. He plans on continuing that series this year, including the serving of refreshments in a relaxed setting, either on campus or off-campus. Assistant Provost Price has been putting together summaries of current and recent enrollment patterns in lower and upper division courses. Since the

number of students in classes at all levels is important to program quality as well as a major budgetary consideration, designing curricula and course scheduling to maximize program quality while minimizing program cost is very critical to the campus. We will therefore be scheduling an academic discussion on this topic soon. Another campus concern, reflected in the strategic plan, is starting the search process for new faculty early enough in the year to maximize the pool of highly qualified applicants. Unless we have a dramatic increase in student numbers, the only funds available for new faculty will come from the reallocation of existing budgets, which can be a very difficult thing to achieve. Nevertheless, the Provost has asked departments to examine their needs for new faculty, if any, and submit a ranked list, with justification, to me by the end of the month. As we did last year, we will then schedule an academic discussion to review the requests and determine which, if any, we will be able to fund.

CAMPUS

- The campus recognized Constitution Day Monday, September 17th.
- Buildings – Phase I of the state-funded renovation of Main Hall is just underway with architect selection. This summer we added three ADA compliant lifts, upgraded fire alarms and continued stabilization work in Main Hall, modernized our admissions office and remodeled Block Hall for student research and computing areas. We have been working on maintenance of the Short Administration Building, Mathews Hall and parking areas and installed a new steam distribution project in the food service area. Primarily using private funding, we have begun renovation of the sound system in Beier Auditorium.
- A conference on water issues on the Big Hole River was held on campus October 3 and 4, 2007. The conference was sponsored by Montana DEQ, the Big Hole Watershed Committee, the Big Hole Foundation and several state and federal agencies.
- We have invited Dr. Janine Pease, member of the Montana Board of Regents, to be our May 2008 commencement speaker.

The University of Montana-Missoula

G. M. Dennison, President

- **Steve Running**, UM Professor of Ecology, shares a piece of the Nobel Peace Prize awarded to Al Gore and the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change. Professor Running, one of the nation's foremost experts on climate change, was a lead author of the 2007 United Nations IPCC report.
- The UM School of Law recently announced that **Scott Bear Don't Walk**, a University of Montana Rhodes Scholar, has won the Charles M. Bair Family Trust Native American Law School Scholarship.
- **Hilary Martens**, a member of The University of Montana chapter of Phi Kappa Phi and a Davidson Honors College senior majoring in physics and music, was among 30 student delegates invited to attend the 2007 Phi Kappa Phi National Triennial Convention in Orlando, Florida.
- Montana Public Radio news staff, along with a UM Journalism student reporter received first place Montana Associated Press Joe Durso Excellence in Broadcast Journalism awards. Winners include **Kevin Maki**, Best Radio News Writing; **Melanie Overcast**, Best Radio Enterprise; **Hope Stockwell**, Best Radio Audio and Best Radio Spot News, Edited; and the **KUFM News Team**, Best Newscast and Best Radio Spot News Live.
- The University of Montana formally announced the Department of Communicative Sciences and Disorders at the annual Montana Speech Language Hearing Association (MSHA) Conference in Missoula. The new program in the School of Education will offer an undergraduate degree in communicative disorders and a master's in speech pathology.
- The University of Montana's School of Physical Therapy and Rehabilitation Science received an \$18,000 grant from the Christopher Reeve Foundation for rehabilitation equipment.
- The UM Department of Curriculum and Instruction received a three-year \$3 million grant from the U.S. Department of Education to improve the quality of teacher education at reservation schools in Montana through Project LETTERS (Literacy Education and Teacher Training for Excellent Reservation Schools). The project will recruit, support, and prepare highly qualified teachers in reading and literacy, as well as provide extra course work in American Indian studies and technology.
- The Montana Geriatric Education Center at UM recently received a three-year \$1 million grant from the U.S. Health Resources and Services Administration to increase health literacy of at-risk rural minority elderly in Montana, expand and refine 36 education modules on health care problems in the elderly population, and enhance the Improving Health Among Rural Montanans program.
- **Shane Bishop**, national producer, Dateline NBC; **Paul Caine**, retired Navy aviator and commercial real estate consultant; **Al Kelley**, professor emeritus of mathematics, University of California, Santa Cruz; and **Harley Lewis**, director of development, University of Arkansas received Distinguished Alumni Awards during Homecoming festivities last month.
- The five children of Stan Kimmitt, former Secretary of the U.S. Senate and aide to the late Montana Senator Mike Mansfield, gathered on campus last month to announce the J. Stanley Kimmitt Public Service Lecture and Internship at The University of Montana. U.S. Deputy Secretary of Treasury Robert Kimmitt and U.S. Assistant Deputy Secretary of State Mark Kimmitt attended and met with UM students to discuss public service and their father's legacy.
- UM received a four-year, \$2.4 million grant from the U.S. Substance Abuse and Mental Health Service

Administration to fund a first-of-its-kind national trauma center for American Indian children to be operated by the UM Division of Education Research and Service (DERS). **A. Kathryn Power**, director of the federal Center for Mental Health Services, visited UM to help launch the center.

- The University of Montana performed better than 70 percent of four-year institutions on the Collegiate Learning Assessment. Results show that UM first-year students performed at the level expected, given their entering SAT/ACT scores.
- Enrollments reached 12,049 this semester at The University of Montana with students taking more credit hours than ever before.

Flathead Valley Community College

Jane Karas, President

- Flathead Valley Community College hosted a **dedication celebration** of its new **Arts and Technology Building** October 9. The college was joined by a number of local, state and national elected officials including **U.S. Senator Max Baucus, Flathead County Commissioners Gary Hall and Dale Lauman, Kalispell City Mayor Pam Kennedy, Salish Kootenai Community College President Joe McDonald, Blackfoot Community College President John Salois** and messages of congratulations from **U.S. Senator Jon Tester, represented by Amy Croover, and U.S. House of Representative Denny Rehberg, represented by Keli McQuiston**. Senator Baucus assisted FVCC President Jane Karas with cutting the ribbon to the new facility.
- Twelve FVCC students in the surveying program have received **MARLS scholarships** totaling nearly \$14,000. FVCC surveying student **Kendra Rose Levanen**, a graduate of Flathead High School, became the first student in the nation to receive the **Trig Star Scholarship Award** in the amount of \$5,000.
- Flathead Valley Community College honored its **first graduating class of practical nursing students** for successfully completing the practical nursing program. The **college's inaugural pinning ceremony was held on September 6**.
- **Poems Across The Big Sky**, an anthology of poems by more than 100 Montana poets, was published this fall by Many Voices Press, a newly formed nonprofit literary press edited by **FVCC English Instructor Lowell Jaeger** under the auspices of Flathead Valley Community College. The book was compiled over the past two years by an editorial board of 10 Montana writers from across the state including Jaeger.
- Flathead Valley Community College launched its **building trades program** in **Eureka** August 30 for both high school Running Start and college students. The Flathead Builders Association purchased a lot during the summer, and construction of the new student built house is underway.
- FVCC co-hosted Senator Baucus's **2007 Montana Faith Community Impact Summit** October 8 and 9. More than 300 FVCC participants from across the state and the nation attended the event at the college featuring U.S. Senators Max Baucus and Jon Tester and U.S. Senate Chaplain Barry Black.
- FVCC celebrated the **grand opening of its new state-of-the-art black box theatre** in October with the production of "**The Boys Next Door**," which first opened on the FVCC stage during the college's 1999-2000 theatre season. Many of the original actors returned to the stage for the celebration.
- The Flathead Valley Community College Ambassadors and Alumni Association teamed up with the Hockaday Museum of Art to sponsor free showings of the film, "**Songs in Stone: an arctic journey home**," and presentations by **filmmaker and Inuit Art expert John Houston** of Nova Scotia October 5. Approximately 385 students from surrounding community schools and members of the public attended the award-winning Canadian Broadcasting documentary screenings. The FVCC Culinary Arts students prepared a variety of hors d'oeuvres for the exhibit viewing of "**Inuit—A History Told by Art**" **on display at the Hockaday Museum of Art** in conjunction with the film.
- Flathead Valley Community College hosted its **opening exhibit and reception** of the **new FVCC Student Art Gallery** October 10. The exhibit entitled, "**Venice...the Lion City**," features photographs by FVCC Art Instructors Peter Hertlein and John Rawlings and will be on display through November 12.
- Four FVCC students were named fall 2007 recipients of **Whitefish Credit Union's Community Pride Scholarships**. The following students received scholarship awards totaling \$1,800 for the fall 2007 semester at FVCC: Ron Benton, Katherine Emerson, Jordan Lister and Andrea Morrison.

Miles Community College

Stefani Gray Hicswa, Ph.D, President

- Miles Community College Fall 2007 enrollment is 409.8. Student headcount was 560, up from Fall 2006 headcount of 534. Dual enrollment students are larger than previous years with 71 students from local and area high schools taking college credit classes.
- The Miles Community College Student Services Division, in tandem with the Registered Nursing Division, collaborated with Montana Campus Compact to provide \$46,000 in student educational award opportunities for service learning. This opportunity allows nursing students to utilize clinical experience hours towards completion of the Montana Campus Compact service learning requirements.
- The Center for Distance Education and Community Outreach continues to build distance education access through interactive television (ITV) and on-line courses adding 12 additional online courses for Fall 2007. There are 198 distance education students enrolled for Fall 2007 semester.

- Kristina Murnin, 2007 Custer County District High School-Miles City graduate, was awarded the 2007-2008 Miles Community College Presidential Scholarship Award. She is the first Miles Community College student to receive the Presidential Scholarship award. Kristina is enrolled in the Registered Nursing program and has begun Pre-Nursing general studies classes in preparation for the formal admissions process into the program. Qualifications for the Presidential Scholarship include: a 4.00 grade point average in high school, minimum composite ACT score of 26 or SAT score of 1180, student must be a Montana resident and a first-time freshman. Students applying for the scholarship must submit an essay and have an interview with the Miles Community College President.
- "The 19th Amendment: A Long and Winding Road" was presented by the Miles Community College faculty and staff on September 13 at Miles Community College. The purpose of this oral presentation was to provide a historical overview to the public and create awareness regarding the background of the U S Constitution. This annual event is orchestrated and prepared by Miles Community College History and Humanities Instructor, Robin Gerber.
- According to the Montana Guaranteed Student Loan Program, Miles Community College announced a significant decline in its 2005 federal fiscal year cohort default rate. Miles Community College's rate fell to 4.4% in 2005, a decrease of 32.3% from the year ago rate of 6.5%.
- President, Stefani Gray Hicswa, and Miles Community College Board of Trustees Chair, Sharon Wilcox, recently presented at the Association of Community College Trustees (ACCT) Conference in San Diego, California. The ACCT Conference was held September 26-29 with presenters from community colleges across the nation. President Hicswa and Ms. Wilcox presented a session on "Building Hope for Rural Survival: The Role of Community Colleges in Rural Community Development."

Montana State University – Great Falls College of Technology

Dean Mary Sheehy Moe

- **Surgical Technology Program Recognized:** The Accreditation Review Committee on Education in Surgical Technology has designated the MSU – Great Falls Surgical Technology program as one of the Elite Top Twenty programs in the nation. The Great Falls program led by Program Director, Sandra Ondler, ranked number 11 out of 20.
- **Building Expansion Approaching Completion:** 'Essential' completion of the MSU – Great Falls building expansion is slated for November 15th. Science Labs, the Library, Student Services and Distance Learning will be moving to the new area in mid-December. The Bookstore and Heritage Hall are currently being renovated. Construction on the new Construction and Industrial Trades building is underway.
- **EMT Students Participate in Community Emergency Exercise:** Great Falls Emergency Services invited the MSU – Great Falls Paramedic students to partner with their registered paramedics in their response to an emergency exercise at the Great Falls International Airport in October. Each student worked with a paramedic mentor in responding to the exercise, which involved the scenario of a terrorist cell firing a missile into a regional jet. An explosion and fire ensued. Utilizing the Incident Command System, Great Falls Emergency Services handled all decisions involving medical care. They used a system called START, which stands for Simple Triage and Rapid Transport.
- **Poetry and Prose Reading Forum:** The MSU - Great Falls Literary Guild and Hastings Books Hard Back Cafe resumed community Poetry and Prose Reading Forums in September. They are held on the second Thursday of each month in the Hastings Books coffee shop. This is a regular opportunity for area writers to read selections of their original work in a public venue.
- **Constitution Day:** Bob Campbell, a delegate to the 1972 Montana Constitution Convention from Missoula County who served on the Bill of Rights Committee, contributed the Preamble, the Right to a Clean and Healthy Environment, and the Right of Privacy sections was keynote speaker at the MSU – Great Falls Constitution Day Celebration.
- **American Indian Heritage Week:** American Indian Heritage was kicked off with a Proclamation by Mayor Dona Stebbins – a cooperative effort between MSU – Great Falls and the Great Falls Public Schools. Murt McCloskey, an expert in Indian education, presented on American Indian Role Models.

Staff and Faculty Accomplishments:

- **Gail Staples** received the Community Leadership Award at the MDHA (Montana Dental Hygiene Association) Annual session along with being elected President-elect for the Association.
- **Dr. Bonnie Lederman** received a Community Service Award at the Montana Dental Association Annual meeting in May held in Missoula. This award was given on the basis of her ability to get dental hygiene and assistant students involved in Community Service projects.
- **Andrea Johnson's** article 'PTA Program in Great Falls' was published in the August 2007 edition of the MAPTA Newsletter. In her article, Andrea explains the reactivation of the program due to increasing demand for physical therapist assistants in Montana. She also gives an overview of the program content, its accreditation and the value of clinical experiences.

UM-Helena College of Technology
Dean Daniel Bingham

- Hosted Donaldson Campus Open House and Helena Chamber Business After Hours event on October 25th and the 3rd Annual Griz Football event on October 27th. For the combined events, UM-Helena hosted between 800 and 900 people.
- UM-Helena received 636 applications for admission from new and readmitting students for the Fall 2007 semester, which represents a 12% increase over last year and the highest number of applications the college has received for a fall semester during the past five years.
- Admissions staff assisted in coordinating the fall semester “Week of Welcome,” which included a number of events for the college community, including the Student Life Community Fair with more than 30 local businesses and organization participating with donations and exhibit tables.
- UM-Helena concluded the 2007 recruitment year with 2,852 initial contacts from prospective students.
- UM-Helena participated in the MPSEOC 2007 Montana College Fair Tour in September. The three-week tour included 19 fairs in cities and towns throughout the state. Approximately 8,000 high school and middle school students attended the fairs. UM-Helena made contacts with 286 interested students.
- Admissions Director Mike Brown was asked to testify on behalf of technical and vocational education before the Huntley Project School Board on September 17th at the request of Taylor Brown, President of Northern Broadcasting and a Huntley Project resident.
- UM-Helena debuted its On Campus Experience program this fall, which allows local area high school students to take tuition-free courses on campus (fees still apply).
- UM-Helena recognized Constitution Day on September 17th through a voter registration drive and screening of The UM PBS documentary *For This and Future Generations: Montana’s 1972 Constitutional Convention*.
- The Library sponsored two activities as part of the citywide BIG READ of *To Kill A Mockingbird*. Twenty-five students, faculty, staff, and members of the general public held a book discussion in October, followed a week later by a lecture on the historical context of this novel from scholar and author Claudia Durst Johnson. BIG READ is an initiative of the National Endowment for the Arts designed to restore reading to the center of American culture.
- An exhibit of paintings in watercolor, color pencil, and charcoal by Sharon Farnham McLane, Helena artist and UM-Helena adjunct instructor, was displayed in the new library throughout October. The exhibit, titled *Renewal*, is the culmination of McLane’s work as a Master of Arts candidate at The University of Montana-Missoula.
- A tutoring program has been implemented by the Learning Center at Helena High School for a second year.
- The Learning Center is working with Helena High School to implement a job training program for students with disabilities.
- The Director of the Learning Center & Disabilities Services is working with the Governor’s Transition Task Force to address transition issues for youth with disabilities.
- As current president of AHEAD of the Northern Rockies, the Learning Center Director is overseeing development of a web site for the organization; UM-Helena students are developing the web site.
- Computer Technology is meeting with Northrop Grumman regarding the shortage of Java programmers. Initial ideas include scholarships for Computer Technology students and the exploration of dual credit opportunities for high school students.
- The Developing Web Applications class is working on two web site projects: (1) Association on Higher Education and Disabilities (AHEAD) of the Northern Rockies; and (2) First Special Service Force (FSSF), which will offer historical information about the group and its members.
- The PHP Web Applications class is developing a web site for Helena’s Vigilante Soccer organization, which will allow members and the public to obtain information about the league and events.
- Accounting & Business Technology faculty invited two local business representatives as guest speakers and have been named to the Helena High School Business and Information Technology, Computer Science, Cisco and Oracle Advisory Council.
- A&BT faculty are actively engaged with ASUM-Helena student governance and with supervision of three student internships for fall semester.
- UM-Helena provided a judging panel for the National Council on Marketing & Public Relations District 7 2007 Medallion Marketing Awards. This organization focuses on admissions and marketing professionals at two-year colleges.
- The Office Technology Program Department Chair collected and compiled surveys of state legal offices and private law firms to determine the need for a paralegal program and associated content.
- Office Technology helped develop a Community Education class for Spring 2008 to offer a review of grammar and punctuation, including teaching the skill of recording accurate minutes.
- Office Technology worked with Academic Affairs to develop a calendar of workshops for Topics in Teaching.
- The Office of Retention & Advising presented two workshops on test anxiety and test strategies for pre-nursing students taking the TEAS test.
- The Diversity Committee helped organize a celebration of Montana’s American Indian Heritage Day with showings of *Silent Thunder*, *Talking without Words*, and book and art displays.

- The Diversity Committee assisted with writing an action plan for diversity at UM-Helena.
 - UM-Helena organized a Phi Theta Kappa membership drive (28 applications to date) and helped organize a second initiation of members scheduled for November 2nd.
 - The Aviation Department hosted a “Haunted Airplane” and Department Open House on October 30th and 31st, with more than 350 attendees.
 - Financial Aid staff will attend the UM-Missoula Financial Aid Office retreat in November to stay current on Banner issue updates and financial aid disbursements for UM-Helena.
 - Financial Aid staff will attend Federal Decentralized Training in November, which will focus on how to explain to students and families in layman’s terms how their financial resources and family demographics are used to calculate the expected family contribution (EFC) under federal methodology (FM), and other options available to them when the standard approach does not work.
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