

Memorandum

To: Board of Regents

From: Jane Karas, President
Flathead Valley Community College

Re: May Report

Date: May 2, 2008

- FVCC student **Nicole Therrien** received the **Montana Section of the American Chemical Society Undergraduate Award** for her presentation involving research she and three other FVCC students conducted on changes in protein shapes. The award of \$750 will cover travel expenses for Therrien to attend a national meeting of her choice. She competed against students, including many seniors, from numerous four-year colleges and universities throughout the state and was the only student who competed from a two-year college.
- FVCC hosted its inaugural **“College for a Day”** February 19. The day-long event gave area high school students the opportunity to sample various course offerings at FVCC, experience the college classroom setting, meet college instructors and explore diverse career options through hands-on activities. Approximately 340 high school students participated.
- The Glacier Symphony and Chorale hosted a **Chamber Music and Dessert** March 9 at FVCC in celebration of the Symphony’s 25th anniversary and the college’s 40th anniversary. The FVCC culinary arts students prepared a variety of desserts for patrons as a fundraiser to benefit the culinary arts program.
- The FVCC Student Art Gallery featured a number of spring exhibits including **“174 Years of Contemplation,”** featuring the paintings and sculptures of seniors Marvin “Skeez” Messing, 85, and Bill Ohrmann, 89; **“Faculty Show”** featuring the works of the college’s art faculty; and **“Student Art Show”** showcasing hundreds of works by FVCC art students.
- FVCC was one of many sponsors of the second annual **Employment Extravaganza** April 10. FVCC, along with 65 area employers, participated in “The “Biggest Employment Event in the Flathead Valley.” Approximately 1,500 individuals attended the event.
- Flathead Valley Community College hosted its **2008 Honors Symposium** this spring. More than **900 community members** attended lectures from various local and national experts on issues relating to this year’s theme: **“Lessons Learned: The Role of Humanities in a Free Society.”**
- FVCC’s Culinary Arts students showcased their talents during a **“Celebrate the Flavors of Spring”** fundraiser March 8. The event featured a seven-course meal consisting of seasonal ingredients prepared by the culinary arts students, a wine pairing, a wine reception and an auction for a dinner prepared by the culinary arts class. Proceeds from the event funded an educational trip to Napa Valley, Calif.

- FVCC student and recipient of the Best and Brightest Scholarship **Kasey Croft** joined Montana Governor Brian Schweitzer at Glacier High School February 21. Croft spoke to high school students about the importance in applying for scholarships.
- FVCC welcomed **U.S. Senator Jon Tester** for a Small Business Listening Session he hosted on campus February 21. Later that day, Senator Tester was joined by **U.S. Senator Max Baucus** and **Montana Governor Brian Schweitzer** for a Town Hall Meeting on the British Columbia Mine Proposals they hosted on campus.
- Flathead Valley Community College hosted its annual **Seussville University**, a day-long celebration of Dr. Seuss, March 5. Activities were themed after the Dr. Seuss book, “Green Eggs and Ham,” and included art, music, math and science classes, storytelling and a theatre production. The event that promotes literacy was attended by 287 area third grade students.
- Economics Instructor **Gregg Davis, Ph.D.**, presented at the **2008 Montana Economic Outlook Seminar** and the **2008 Flathead Valley Economic Forecast**. Davis serves on the Association of Universities in Business and Economic Research Board of Directors.
- FVCC welcomed **U.S. Congressman Denny Rehberg** on campus March 24 for a listening session on natural resources he hosted for Flathead Valley community members.
- FVCC hosted its inaugural **Poetry Festival Weekend** April 10-12. Supported by Humanities Montana, the event consisted of workshops, panel discussions and readings featuring poets, faculty, authors and students from across the state. **Montana’s Poet Laureate Greg Pape** served as keynote presenter. The event was well attended with 294 participates from across the state and the region.
- The FVCC Student Government hosted its fourth annual **Battle of the Bands** April 4. The event provides FVCC students and area high school students with a fun evening of entertainment in a safe, drug and alcohol-free environment and helps raise awareness of local bands, helps further their local exposure and helps them to establish connections with one another. Seven local bands competed in the event.
- Flathead Valley Community College’s Faculty Senate sponsored a **Candidates Forum** April 22. The forum addressed the upcoming FVCC Board of Trustees election and allowed candidates the opportunity to provide a brief summary of their qualifications and matters of particular importance to them relative to the college. Candidates John Phelps of Whitefish, Tom Harding of Whitefish and Elna Darrow of Bigfork participated. Unopposed and newly elected Flathead High School District candidate Robert A. Nystuen of Lakeside also participated.
- Thirteen students in the FVCC Polson building trades program, along with their instructor Russ Barber, traveled to Orlando, Fla., February 13-16 to compete in the **National Association of Home Builders International Builders’ Show** in carpentry trades. **The students placed eighth in the largest residential competition in the world.**
- The FVCC Green Team hosted an **Earth Day celebration** April 17. The event consisted of a wide variety of activities designed to make community members aware of environmental issues and potential outcomes and to provide information on various ways to conserve resources to protect our planet, health and environment.

- Flathead Valley Community College inducted its newest members into **Phi Theta Kappa** of the Alpha Iota Pi Chapter April 8. **Twenty-four students** who obtained at least 12 credit hours from FVCC while receiving a minimum grade point average of 3.5 were inducted into the international honor society of two-year colleges.
- Flathead Valley Community College's **Logger Sports Team** hosted its annual home competition, **Stumpjumper Days**, April 19. Seventy-four students from five colleges and universities in the northwest region competed in various events such as axe throw, horizontal hard hit chop, obstacle pole buck, single buck and bonzaii logger. The team traveled to Missoula the following week to compete in the regional Association of Western Forestry Clubs Conclave and will conclude their season providing demonstrations for the community at the Family Forestry Expo in Columbia Falls May 10 and 11.
- FVCC hosted two presentations April 29 by **Monte Yellow Bird Sr.**, better known as Black Pinto Horse, nationally-known cultural and educational consultant, presenter, storyteller and horseman of the Arikara and Hidatsa Nation from White Shield, N.D. Approximately 150 area students and community members attended the presentations sponsored by the Northwest Montana Educational Cooperative and the FVCC Continuing Education Center.
- FVCC hosted national speaker and former California Crime Lab criminalist **Bob Blackledge** for his presentation "Glitter as Forensic Evidence" as part of the **2008 National American Chemical Society's Rocky Mountain Regional speaker tour** April 18. The annual tour makes various stops throughout Utah, Idaho, Montana, Colorado and Wyoming, and this year, the tour made its first-ever appearance in Kalispell.
- Flathead Valley Community College hosted three receptions April 25 in celebration of the opening of its new student café **Campus Grounds**. Students enrolled in the college's building trades, electrical and welding programs were recognized for their contributions to the renovation and completion of the project.
- The **FVCC Library** was listed in the **Montana Library Commission's Collection Management Honor Roll** for the 13th consecutive year. FVCC was one of two academic institutions in the state that met the criteria.