

**DATE:** May 28 – 30, 2008

**TO:** Board of Regents

**FROM:** Daniel J. Bingham, PhD  
Dean/CEO  
UM-Helena College of Technology

**RE:** Campus Report for the May 2008 Board of Regents' Meeting

University of Montana-Helena  
Dean/CEO Daniel J. Bingham

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- Sending three instructors to the National Institute for Staff and Organizational Development (NISOD) to be recognized for teaching excellence, Austin, TX
- New programs: Mental Health Direct Care option in the AA program and Certificate in Interior Space Planning and Design
- New courses in: Psychology, Archaeology, Latin American Studies, Math, Business, Welding, Machining, Construction Technology, Computer Technology, Environmental Sciences
- Courses put on-line: English Composition; Intro to Psychology; Intro to GIS; Applied GIS; Intro to Water Resources; Art Appreciation
- Engaging in talks with IBM and State ITSD to develop an online offering in Large Enterprise System. We will be the third school in the country this training with IBM when it is delivered.
- Creation of summer offering for high school instructors in Career Pathways creation in the areas of Construction and Welding
- Completion of the 40<sup>th</sup> Construction Trade House by first year Construction Students.
- Completion of the second Salvation Army Duplex for the Homeless to Homeowner project.
- Ford AAA Trouble-Shooting Competition to be held on May 15<sup>th</sup>.
- UMH hosted a lunch for visitors from the United Nations in our new Lecture Hall.
- The student-inspired UM-Helena Basketball League finished their spring games with a rousing tournament at the YMCA. The Construction team won the tournament. The league was initiated and inspired by students in the trades programs but ultimately involved students from both campuses.
- May 1<sup>st</sup> the Student Senate sponsored a Red Cross Blood Drive that drew participation from both campuses.
- A presentation entitled "A Personal Look at Deaf Culture" was sponsored by the UM-Helena Diversity Committee on April 29<sup>th</sup>. Presenters included students, staff and community members. New technology for the deaf was also demonstrated. It was well attended, informative and entertaining.
- The UM-Helena Library extended their hours to Saturdays the last few weeks of school to better serve students during the end of spring semester.
- Admissions and New Student Services recruited UM-Helena students for student testimonials that will be used for our marketing, recruitment and website activities. Many students dressed up and showed up for this volunteer event.
- The Admissions Department has conducted many tours of prospective students but a new trend is tours for eight grade students. We have had two schools bring their eight grade students on tour to UM-Helena!
- A Television Reader Board system was installed in the Student Center on the Donaldson Campus as a means of providing information and announcements to students, faculty and staff.
- The Library extended its hours to include Saturdays from 9 am to 3 pm thru graduation to accommodate our Saturday class students.
- UM-Helena in conjunction with the VITA group, provided free tax services on Saturdays on the Donaldson campus.
- The Staff Senate arranged a number of brown bag lunch trainings sessions on health and safety issues which were open to all faculty, staff and students.

- The first floor level of the Donaldson expansion was placed into use this academic year. This area included a new library, new science labs, new computer labs, and new Nursing Labs. The expansion also included a new Welcome Center that houses Admissions, Student Services, Financial Aid and Career Services. A lecture hall with tiered seating for 45 and the room for more seating on the floor area was also added as part of the expansion.
- The basement level of the Donaldson expansion was completed during the academic year and will provide additional science labs, classroom space and offices for Community Education.
- The Airport expansion was placed into use this academic year. This area included new automotive and carpentry labs. Several new pieces of equipment were acquired to update the automotive instruction including state of the art alignment system and a dynamometer.
- As part of the Donaldson expansion a new parking lot was built at the corner of Townsend and Harris to provide off street parking for faculty, staff and students.
- The Donaldson campus was total re-keyed as part of the construction and now most employees can access the building and their areas with a single key instead of the multiple keys used in the past.
- Many of the faculty offices, included those that had been in a house across the street from the campus, were consolidated into a single area which was accomplished by purchasing new modular furnishings.
- Several existing hallways were upgraded to make them more appealing and safer for students. The upgrades included lowered ceilings to cover up building infrastructure and additional lighting.
- The network back-bone of the college which was running on outdated, patched together hardware was replaced with state of the art equipment.
- Antiquated servers were replaced with large, faster servers.
- Classrooms that boasted an overhead projector and a TV on a stand as A/V equipment have been upgraded to digital LCD projects, sound systems, SmartBoards and wireless network connections.
- The Machine Tooling program that is still using a number of manual lathes built in the early part of the 1900's received a donation of a CNC Milling Machine and purchased one to expand course offerings.
- UM-Helena in conjunction with the VITA group, provided free tax services on Saturdays on the Donaldson campus.
- The Staff Senate arranged a number of brown bag lunch trainings sessions on health and safety issues which were open to all faculty, staff and students.
- Helena Valley Timing Association held a car show last year with assistance from the Staff Senate. The Car Show raised \$15,000 for UMH student scholarships. The event will be held again on June 28 and 29, 2008 in Helena. Both the Staff Senate and the Faculty Senate will be working the car show this year.
- The UM-Helena Art Committee is developing a look and feel plan for the campuses. As part of that plan several bulletin boards have been ordered to help clean up all the random notices pasted throughout the halls of the buildings.