



CAMPUS REPORT | Board of Regents Meeting | March 7-8, 2013 | Helena

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MONTANA STATE UNIVERSITY | BOZEMAN  
President Waded Cruzado

Angela Brennan, a doctoral student in the Department of Ecology, will travel to Zambia on a Fulbright Fellowship to study the effects of disease in wildlife and livestock populations in and around Liuwa Plain National Park. Brennan will investigate how brucellosis, foot-and-mouth disease and bovine tuberculosis affect Liuwa's wildlife, particularly blue wildebeest, which migrate back and forth across Liuwa.

Newly renovated Cooley Laboratory, a hub for biomedical research, this week became the first facility at Montana State University to earn a prestigious LEED Gold certification from the U.S. Green Building Council for energy-efficient design and construction.

Montana State University's Sustainable Food and Bioenergy Systems program has been named one of the 10 best college environmental programs in the United States by Mother Nature Network.

Eight MSU undergraduates majoring in everything from English to earth sciences traveled to Antarctica for several weeks in December to learn more about the ecology, climate and geopolitics of the Antarctic Peninsula. Organized by David McWethy, assistant research professor in the Department of Earth Sciences, the trip was the first time undergraduate students had the opportunity to travel to Antarctica through a class.

Walter Fleming, professor and chairman of the Department of Native American Studies, were selected as two of the seven recipients of the 2013 Governor's Humanities Awards honoring achievement in humanities scholarship, service and enhancement of public appreciation of the humanities.

MSU researchers including faculty, staff and students who are part of a U.S. expedition in Antarctica have now reached and sampled a massive lake beneath the West Antarctic Ice Sheet. Polar ecologist John Priscu is one of the lead scientists of the project and hopes the samples may offer lessons about how life can survive without light and at temperatures near the freezing point of water.

MSU's Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry recently learned that the department is now ranked 28th in the nation, surpassing Yale, Princeton and other top U.S. schools in terms of federal support for chemical research and development according to "Chemical and Engineering News."

Brenda York, director of MSU's Office of Disability, Re-entry, and Veterans Services, was appointed by former Gov. Brian Schweitzer to a task force helping Montana service members, veterans and their families make use of the state and federal Substance Abuse and Mental Health Service Administration resources.

A collaborative program between Montana State University and Little Big Horn College has received a four-year grant from the U.S. Department of Education. The grant will enable the Indian Leadership Education and Development program, or I LEAD, to continue and expand the scope of its work. The program is designed to train American Indian educators and improve schools on and near Indian reservations in Montana and several neighboring states.

To provide eighth-graders with information about educational opportunities after high school, representatives from MSU's presented a variety of sessions during Chief Joseph Middle School's weeklong event focused on career and college readiness.

Richard Canfield, a solar physicist at Montana State University, has won the 2013 Hale Prize from the Solar Physics Division of the American Astronomical Society. The award recognizes outstanding contributions over an extended period of time to the field of solar astronomy.



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MONTANA STATE UNIVERSITY | BILLINGS

MSUB has sponsored the national bell ringing ceremony on Martin Luther King Day for two decades. This year, emphasizing that "Change Starts with One" the organizers scheduled a week of special presentations, art, expression and service to honor the work and legacy of the famous civil rights leader which engaged students and the community in a more diverse way.

Tanner Lambert, a finance major senior from Columbus, MT participated in the International CapSim Business Simulations Challenge, in the Capstone Division - top level. Of the nearly 1,000 participants worldwide, Tanner placed 5<sup>th</sup>, ranking the MSUB student among some of the best business colleges in the world.

Northcutt Steele Gallery at MSUB featured the work of abstract artist Corey Drieth. Drieth's works begin with basic design and construction materials of gouache and wood and creates a visual dialogue between painted surface and wooden substrate, producing a resonance that is expansively mysterious yet intimately familiar.

Shawn Casagrande, a second-year student in the Computer Systems Technology Program at City College; represented Montana at an international online competition as part of the Cisco NetRiders IT Skills Challenge. Congrats to Shawn for finishing 9<sup>th</sup> on this major competition. For the last two years in a row, City College Computer Networking students have finished in the top 10!

Samantha Hamburg, MSUB Music Performance Major, presented a flute recital which included works by Handel, Mozart, Hindemith and Poulenc. She was accompanied by pianist, Delores Vigesaa. Emily Walker, a piano performance major at MSUB, recently won the Montana Association of Symphony Orchestra's Young Artist Division in a statewide competition. She received a \$650 stipend and the opportunity to perform with the Billings, Bozeman, Great Falls and Helena symphonies this year. Walker performed the "Saint Saens Piano Concert in g minor."

MSUB is a valued place of teaching and learning. In a 200-level communications class that deals with group dynamics, the groups were told to find a local need that could be addressed with a collaborative, solutions-oriented process. Amanda Grubbs and fellow juniors Steve Joiner, Chase Robertson, Leah Jones and Lisa Sobolewski teamed up to find a project that would be different from efforts already underway in various social service sectors. Their project, the Heritage Christian Center, had been operating without hot water. The church had recently been vandalized and nearly every outside window broken so money needed to be directed to replacing windows rather than getting a professionally installed water heater, estimated cost of \$2,000. Through the group effort, one person in the group had some plumbing background and contacted various vendors. Mountain Supply Co. donated a 40-gallon water heater, another donor contributed \$130 for parts and installation was completed. The project provided a valuable out-of-class learning experience for the students.

MSUB held a celebration event for the conclusion of the 3 year "Opportunity Campaign" which had a goal of \$6 million and ended 2012 at \$7.2 million.



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MONTANA STATE UNIVERSITY | NORTHERN

**Rededication of Gym** – In celebration of the new floor and bleachers, MSU-Northern rededicated the Armory Gymnasium and held an open house. The festivities included a ribbon-cutting by Dr. David Abbott who was NMC Student Body President when the gym was first dedicated in 1957.

**Tracey Jette to Attend HERS Institute** – This Spring, Tracey Jette, Northern's Director of Student Success/Career Center, will be attending the Higher Education Resource Services (HERS) Institute.

**Energy Lectures** - MSU-Northern, Bear Paw Development and the Havre Chamber teamed up to sponsor the first in a series of occasional lectures called Energy & the Hi-Line: Options, Challenges, and Opportunities. The first lecture focused on the geology of the Hi-Line and its socio-economic impact. Speakers were Jay Gunderson, Leslie Messer, Tony Preite, and Greg Kegel.

**Veteran/Disability Office Renovated** - The Veteran/Disability Office was relocated to the newly renovated Cowan Hall 309. This space has computers and couches, creating an inviting environment where students can study or just hang out.

**New CFO** - Mr. Brian Simonson is our new Interim Vice Chancellor for Administration and Finance. Simonson, a Havre native, brings skills acquired through a twenty-year career in the US Navy, as well as experience gained as the Chief Financial Officer for the Bullhook Community Health Center.

**YouthBuild Graduation** - At the conclusion of fall semester, 14 participants received their HBI PACT Certificates of Carpentry and their Certificates of Participation in YouthBuild.

**Chancellor's Club Celebrates Supporters** - The Chancellor's Club, a new program that started this semester, honors donors who have purchased a reserved seat in the gymnasium. The club meets and enjoys refreshments between the women's and men's home basketball games.

**MSU-Northern Receives Pathway Grant** - The Office of the Commissioner of Higher Education recently awarded MSU-Northern a grant for \$75,000 that will benefit future Montana college students. These grant funds will cover a wide array of career-building activities and support ties between MSU-Northern and various Montana secondary education institutions.

**Wrestling Team Nationally Ranked** - Northern's wrestling team has a long history of superb athletic success and keeping with that tradition, they are currently ranked #4 nationally and are poised to move up to #3. Along with the expected success in the sports arena, this year's wrestling team had 18 student-athletes with a 3.25 GPA or higher.

**MSU-N Chancellor's Lecture Series** – This semester the Chancellor's Lecture series will include: Terry C. Blosser - "Finding Lifelines in Wild Places"; Wilbur W. Rehmann - "American Art and Democracy Come Together in Jazz"; Jack Gladstone - "Native Anthropology: Challenge, Choice and Promise in the 21st Century"; and Jack Glatzer - "One Man, One Violin, and One Remarkable Recital!"

**Governor Visits Auto Diesel Facility** - Governor Steve Bullock visited MSU-Northern's Havre campus to see, first-hand, what we are doing in our Auto Diesel program to train the future workforce of Montana. During his visit he also met with several people from General Electric and Modern Machinery who were on campus conducting training sessions





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## GREAT FALLS COLLEGE MSU

Great Falls College MSU (GFC MSU) has expanded the **Welding Technology program** to address the workforce needs of companies moving into north central Montana. Meeting the “just in time” training needs of industry is an ongoing goal of the College. Phase 1 of the expansion will add a spring semester welding cohort of 20 students who will complete the program by July 2013. The College has applied to become an American Welding Society (AWS) accredited test facility and is working with the Canadian Welding Bureau (CWB) to align the welding program with the CWB trans-border welder training course.

**Jim and Debbie Filipowicz** of Steel Etc., a local steel and recycling business, donated \$20,000 to GFC MSU to support the expanding needs of the welding program. Their generous donation will be used to establish Montana’s first American Welding Society (AWS) Accredited Test Facility.

The opening of the Great Falls College MSU **Bright Beginnings Learning Center** was celebrated on January 16 with a ribbon cutting and tours of the new facility. Children’s Choice Learning Centers is operating the new center for children aged 0-5. Children of Great Falls College MSU students are given priority for enrollment, followed by college employees and the general public.

Great Falls Mayor Michael Winters proclaimed January 2013 **Higher Education Month in Great Falls**. To celebrate Higher Education Month, Great Falls College MSU co-hosted an event with the Chamber of Commerce and MSU Alumni Foundation to showcase the face-to-face and online education options available in our community. Representatives from our partners in higher education provided information to attendees. Evening’s festivities included live music, a short program, food, and prize drawings.

The GFC MSU **15<sup>th</sup> Annual College in a Day** was attended by 262 students from 29 area high schools. Students participated in 25 career exploration workshops. The program provides opportunities for students to see classrooms and labs, hear from the instructors of 25 college majors, and participate in hands-on experiences within each of these fields of study.

Earlier this year the GFC MSU Dental Hygiene students volunteered at the **Project Homeless Connect (PHC)** in Kalispell and ever since they have been envisioning, preparing, and looking forward to the opportunity to bring the event to Great Falls. Kelli McDonald and Katie Zignego, second year dental hygiene students, provided outstanding leadership in organizing the event held on January 26 at GFC MSU. The event provided a single location where nonprofit medical and social service providers collaborated to serve the homeless with comprehensive, holistic services. PHC was free and open to anyone who is having trouble making ends meet, worried about losing their home, or homeless.

**AmeriCorps VISTAs** of Great Falls held a Martin Luther King Jr. Day ‘Read for Peace’ event. Volunteers read to Great Falls elementary and middle school classes. Following the readings, students reflected on the readings using art and creative writing. Their inspiring words and drawings were displayed at GFC MSU, the GF Public Library, and the Cascade County Courthouse.

GFC MSU student, **Jess Canada**, ranked 16<sup>th</sup> of 94 competitors in the NetRiders skills competition, an international contest for students in the Cisco Networking Academy program.

**Jo Running Fisher** has been hired as Coordinator of the new Native American Welcoming Center at GFC MSU. Jo will work closely with Native American students in healthcare programs through collaboration with the Blackfeet Community College Isksiniip Grant.

High school students interested in health care careers participated in the **Health Care Career Fair** on February 12. The **Adult Basic and Literacy Education Center** on the GFC MSU campus held an ‘Enrollment Extravaganza’ on February 7.