

Memorandum

To: Board of Regents

From: Jane Karas, President
Flathead Valley Community College

Re: November 2013 Campus Report

Date: October 25, 2013

- FVCC is the recipient of a **\$46 million computer software gift** from **Siemens PLM Software**. The college has received 27 seats of the software which will be used in the college's advanced manufacturing programs. The software will allow users to take products from conception through the manufacturing process and will help students become proficient with technology used by many of the world's leading manufacturing, architectural and construction companies. **U.S. Senator Max Baucus** played an instrumental role in securing the gift from the German-based company by laying the groundwork for the award when he met with Siemens during a trade mission to Germany in 2012.
- FVCC has received a **\$3,466,107 Trade Adjustment Assistance Community College and Career Training grant** award. FVCC was among 14 partnering colleges that received a combined total federal grant award of \$25 million. The grant will be used for **improvements in the college's occupational training programs** to help students prepare for energy and manufacturing jobs.
- This summer, five FVCC students ventured to Belo, Horizonte, Brazil, to participate in **U.S.-Brazil Connect**, a paid fellowship program that aims to strengthen education and build economic opportunities by connecting communities, engaging leaders and creating transformative learning experiences linking the United States and Brazil. **Taylor Keltner, Elaina Hansen, Brigitte Henkelmann, Lee Shamp and Monica Peterson** were among the outstanding students from four U.S. community colleges selected to participate in this year's program. During their four-week paid fellowship, these students worked to improve the English skills of Brazilian technical students while developing the foundation for mutually-beneficial cooperation and opportunities between U.S. community colleges and SENAI/SESI schools in Brazil. In continuation of the partnership, FVCC welcomed **six of the Brazil high school students** taught by the FVCC U.S.-Brazil Connect students for a nine-day visit to Northwest Montana November 3-12.
- Flathead Valley Community College's Entrepreneurship Center hosted a **public viewing of a live simulcast** of the **2013 Montana Economic Development Summit** organized by **Senator Max Baucus**. Immediately following the conclusion of the presentation by **Sheryl Sandberg**,

Facebook chief operations officer, FVCC hosted a community discussion regarding the opportunities and challenges facing girls and women who aspire to leadership roles. Former Keebler executive **Lori Marin** facilitated a panel discussion featuring three local business women: **Jen Elden**, founder of Amalgamated SOPE Company; **Karen Witt**, director of strategic operations and business development for NxGEN Payment Solutions; and **Callie Schieffer**, process development engineer for Applied Materials.

- Flathead Valley Community College's **Entrepreneurship Center** introduced a new 10-week **Ice House Entrepreneurship Program** this fall designed to immerse students in the fundamental mindset of successful entrepreneurs. The program helps students identify and pursue viable business opportunities while developing critical-thinking and problem-solving skills. Created by The Entrepreneurial Learning Initiative, this is the first time the program has been offered in Montana.
- This summer, FVCC became Montana's second welding accreditation test center after receiving accreditation through the **American Welding Society** as an **Accredited Test Facility**. The accreditation enables FVCC to certify welders with national certification through the American Welding Society.
- FVCC's **natural resources conservation and management program** hosted the college's first **Geocache Adventure** October 19. **Seventy participants** ranging from novice to experts ventured on one of two courses designed and tested by the college's natural resources students. The goal of the event was to improve participants' skills in using navigational tools while providing fun for the whole family and outdoor enthusiasts alike.
- The FVCC Foundation's **Festival of Flavors** signature fundraising event was a tremendous success. The 10-day festival, comprised of 11 events, highlighted seven of the **Flathead Valley's finest chefs** including **students of The Culinary Institute of Montana at FVCC** and their instructors **Chef Howard Karp** and **Chef Hillary Ginepra**, and culminated with a grand wine tasting event. The festival kicked off with a fall harvest farmers' market featuring a salsa smackdown and live salsa dancing.
- **Chef's Table** returned for its **tenth season** this fall. Starring nine new students and four senior chef students enrolled in **The Culinary Institute of Montana at Flathead Valley Community College**, the program involves the professional chef students completing their first-year internships as they deliver first-class cuisine, service and entertainment to Flathead Valley patrons and visitors to the valley. Under the instruction of **Chef Howard Karp**, the program introduced four **new themed dinners** featuring dishes from around the world including Caribbean Night, Korean Night, Mexican Night and Oktoberfest.
- Psychology Professor **Ivan Lorentzen, Ed.D.**, and Kalispell Public Schools Superintendent **Darlene Schottle, Ed.D.**, delivered a joint presentation on "Student Achievement: Do Boards

and Administrators even Matter?” at the Montana Conference of Education Leadership in Billings in October. The presentation was largely centered on the results of Lorentzen’s recently completed dissertation. In addition, a brief article about the results and implications of his dissertation was included in the Washington State School Directors Association August newsletter.

- **The Scholars Program at FVCC** welcomed **26 new students** during an induction ceremony September 19. **Ivan Lorentzen, Ed.D.**, Scholars Program director; **Kristen Jones, Ed.D.**, vice president of instruction and student services; and scholars program faculty **Christina Reylea, Ph.D.**, **David Long, Ph.D.**, and **E.B. Eiselein, Ph.D.**, addressed the students during the ceremony.
- In honor of the **September 11 National Day of Service and Remembrance and National Preparedness Month**, FVCC Paramedicine and Emergency Management Program Director **Kris Long** led a **free community discussion on emergency preparedness** on September 11. The discussion involved the national campaign which encourages Americans to take steps to prepare for emergencies in their homes, schools, organizations, business and communities.
- **Deanna Shaw-Bergert**, adjunct professor at FVCC’s Lincoln County Campus for 20 years, left for Guantanamo Bay to teach at the base school this fall. She is continuing to teach her FVCC online class and created a blog to stay in touch with her students.
- Adjunct Art Professor **Susan Guthrie** has completed a Master of Arts degree from New York University. Guthrie’s master’s exhibition was featured in Berlin, Germany, this summer.
- Sculptures by **David Regan**, ceramics assistant professor, were among the works of 10 artists from five countries featured in the exhibit “**Clay Bodies**” in New York City this fall. The exhibit ran in tandem with the Museum of Arts and Design’s opening fall exhibition “Body & Soul, New International Ceramics.”
- This fall, the **FVCC Continuing Education Center** launched a new **Senior Seminar** for area residents ages 65 years or older. The three-week program enabled participants to choose from one of four affordable classes that ranged from “Economic Principles” and “Montana Native American Writers” to “The Power of Place: Exploring Relationships between People and Places” and “Posture, Strength and Bone Health.”
- The composition, “**ElderSpeak**,” a concerto for trombone and wind ensemble, by Music Adjunct Professor **Craig Naylor, D.M.A.**, made its world premiere debut October 15 by the University of Idaho Wind Symphony. Dr. Naylor’s three “**Unknown Heroes of the Civil War**” compositions have been released on the compact disc “Gettysburg at 150” and online by Mark Records.
- In observance of **Mole Day** on October 23, FVCC **chemistry faculty** hosted activities to educate the campus community about the significance of Avogadro's number, a key component in the study of chemistry. Activities included a Mole Day quiz, mole coloring sheets, caramols, oat-mole cookies and a periodic table of elements made of graham crackers and chocolate.

- In celebration of **American Indian Heritage Day**, FVCC welcomed Salish tribal elder **Alec Quequesah** and **several Salish performers** for a free community lecture and presentation of traditional song September 27. At the conclusion of the program, guests participated in a traditional Native American round dance and were invited to enjoy a complimentary lunch featuring homemade stew, Indian Fry Bread and mountain berry soup.
- FVCC participated in the second annual **Montana Dragon Boat Festival** in Bigfork. The college's team, the **FVCC Eagles** was comprised of **27 FVCC faculty, staff, students and alumni as well as citizens of the local community**. The team placed first in their final heat and was among 91 participating teams from across Montana, Canada and the western United States.
- FVCC students **Brandi Simpson, Meghan Danford-Komenda, Keri Kelly, James Nutzman, Anna Burdette and Kari Marsenich** were named fall 2013 recipients of **Whitefish Credit Union's Community Pride Scholarships**. The students received scholarships totaling \$3,000 for the fall 2013 semester at FVCC.
- Flathead Valley Community College Theatre opened its fall season by welcoming Missoula theatre company **Bear Bait Dance** for its free performance of "**How to Open a Cupboard**" for the community September 13. FVCC Theatre continued its season in October with its production of "**Blithe Spirit**" and will conclude its season in December with its production of "**Reckless.**"