



CAMPUS REPORT | Board of Regents Meeting | Nov. 21-22, 2013 | Bozeman



MONTANA STATE UNIVERSITY | BOZEMAN
President Waded Cruzado

MSU set an enrollment record in fall 2013 with 15,294 students attending classes at MSU. Increases in retention rate as well as several enrollment categories, including undergraduates, freshmen and graduate students contributed to the enrollment boost. In addition, 127 of 211 Montana high school graduates offered Montana University System Honor Scholarships, or 60 percent, chose MSU.

David Walsh and Tom Weas, both graduates of MSU's physics department, have been named the first two recipients of the Hutcheson Emerging Fellows Award. The scholarship will provide them each \$50,000 over two years to study in MSU's new Professional Master of Science and Engineering Management program (PMSEM). The PMSEM program is a 30-credit master's degree combining courses from the Jake Jabs College of Business and Entrepreneurship, the College of Engineering and the College of Letters and Science.

MSU welcomed its largest class of WWAMI medical program students this fall, comprised of 30 Montana students. A celebration was held to thank everyone who supported the 50 percent increase in the program capacity (from 20 to 30 students).

MSU is among the top 10 of institutions that have received the country's premier scholarship for undergraduates studying math, natural sciences and engineering. MSU students have earned 58 Goldwater Scholarships - the same as Johns Hopkins University and two more than Yale University and the University of Washington. MSU's history of Goldwater success reflects its strengths in STEM disciplines as well as the abundance of research opportunities available to undergraduates.

MSU scientists along with federal and private collaborators received a five-year \$500,000 grant from the USDA's National Institute of Food and Agriculture, to look for wheat genes that may be resistant to wheat stem sawflies, a harmful pest that damages wheat crops.

The MSU Jake Jabs College of Business and Entrepreneurship hosted nearly 300 high school students during its annual Entrepreneur Day. The event, which included small group workshops and a keynote presentation by Helena entrepreneur and founder of four0six, Alex Rincon Jr., was established to enhance entrepreneurial spirit and education in the area, as well as improve the economic development of the state.

In a collaboration between MSU, Project Archaeology and the Extreme History Project, a group of 11 Montana elementary teachers and 8 MSU anthropology students gained hands-on experience in Virginia City during a three-week archaeology field course. The students not only excavated artifacts, but also explained their work to interested locals and visitors.

According to Victory Media, MSU ranks in the top 20 percent of colleges, universities and trade schools in the country that are doing the most to embrace military service members, veterans and spouses to ensure their success on campus. MSU celebrated the second anniversary of its Veterans Support Center this fall, and currently has approximately 580 students whose education is funded by the GI Bill.

MSU civil engineering senior Josh Robbins was recently awarded a highly competitive U.S. Department of Defense Science, Mathematics and Research for Transformation, or SMART, scholarship. The scholarship will pay all tuition for Robbins' final year at MSU, plus a \$25,000 salary. The SMART scholarship program, aims to increase the ranks of civilian engineers and scientists working at Department of Defense laboratories.

MSU recently earned the 255th spot on Forbes' "America's Top Colleges" list, which was the highest rank earned by a public or private institution in Montana.



CAMPUS REPORT | Board of Regents Meeting | Nov. 21-22, 2013 | Bozeman



MONTANA STATE UNIVERSITY | BILLINGS

The MSUB Music Department and the Office of American Indian Outreach presented a performance by Franco Littlelight and his Love Mountain Singers, celebrating Native American music along with ceremonial, ritual and social songs. The ensemble is dedicated to collecting songs and instrumental music that has substance in their cultural heritage.

Trumpet play, Emily Prouty, presented her senior recital, fulfilling the requirements for her Bachelor of Arts in Music Education degree.

MSUB hosted the annual Billings College Fair, giving high school students the opportunity to gather information about higher education. We welcomed approximately 1,500 students from Billings and surrounding school districts.

Representative Steve Daines of Montana, Representative Cynthia Lummis from Wyoming and Doc Hastings, Chairman of the House Natural Resources Committee, held a Congressional Endangered Species Act (ESA) Working Group Field Hearing on the MSUB campus to find ways to improve the ESA for both species and people. The hearing, entitled "State and Local Efforts to Protect Species, Jobs, Property and Multiple Use Amidst a New War on the West," focused on efforts to preserve wildlife while maintaining jobs in agriculture, energy and recreation.

"Let's Talk Miles City" documentary was held on campus in Petro Theatre featuring an original theatre production created and performed by Miles City high school students to kick-off an innovative suicide/depression prevention campaign, using media and arts workshops to reach teenagers in Billings. Global Healthy Equity Foundation (GHEF), a non-profit philanthropic organization based in Miles City, is dedicated to making tangible improvements in healthcare and health education. MSUB Theatre Director and former student, Miriam Veltman, spent 10 weeks on the project, working with Miles City youth in the Summer of 2012. Dr. Sarah Keller, Associate Professor, Department of Communication and Theatre, is leading a social science research project involving a three-pronged approach to identifying strategies for suicide prevention in Montana.

C-SPAN "Cities Tour" showcased MSUB faculty. C-SPAN sent three Local Content Vehicles (LCV), equipped with driver/reporter and the latest digital news gathering equipment with the specific task of capturing historical programming for American History TV. In Billings, Dr. Tom Rust, Associate Professor of History, shared his segment on "Fort Ellis" on Book TV and Mr. Tim Urbaniak, City College Instructor, for his segment titled "Pictograph Cave State Park." Both segments can be viewed at <http://www/c-span.org/LocalContent/Billings/>.

MSUB Northcutt Steele Gallery, Department of Art, welcomed visiting artist Rachel B. Abrams. Abram's primary focus is on how ecosystems and life cycles are affected by climate change, over population, and invasions of new species.

Ms. Shanna Fliegel, Assistant Professor of Art at MSUB, held an exhibition at Yellowstone Art Museum titled, *The Elastic Past: Visual Interpretations of Life's Early Lessons*, examining childhood memories, toys, significant childhood objects, play and serious humor.



CAMPUS REPORT | Board of Regents Meeting | Nov. 21-22, 2013 | Bozeman



MONTANA STATE UNIVERSITY | NORTHERN

Enrollment Increase - Northern's enrollment is up 4% (1334 headcount) as compared to last year's (1282 headcount). We are also up 2.1% in full-time equivalent (1080.38 FTE) students. We also have a 6.46% increase in the first-year to second-year retention of our continuing students.

Faculty and Staff Orientation – In addition to honoring those employees who have worked at Northern for 5, 10, 15, 20, 25, or 30 years we unveiled a new program to highlight all employees who have worked 35 years or more with a plaque on one of the newly painted campus benches.

Donaldson Hall Starts Phase 1 (Stabilization) - Work has begun to repair Donaldson Hall for future academic and institutional growth. The repairs are being made to the exterior masonry, and water drainage issues are being addressed so the building will be preserved for future renovation and use.

New Learning Success Center - The new MSU-Northern Learning Success Center is located on the main floor of the Vande Bogart Library and provides a variety of services including tutoring, study techniques, and workshops that will enhance classroom learning.

Tennis Courts - The tennis courts received a facelift with a new layer of asphalt sealed with school colors, new posts, new nets, new fence and a new practice backboard. The courts will be officially dedicated later this fall.

Resurrection of Fight Song – Northern's fight song, written in 1963 by John Varnum, has not been played since NMC became MSU-Northern in 1994. The updated version of the fight song, introduced at the first volleyball game, keeps the original Washington and Lee Swing tune but the new words are more appropriate for today.

Chancellor's Lecture Series:

- Neal Lewing Singing the Lewis & Clark Legacy - October 10, 2013
- Dan Thyer The Sundance Kid in Montana - November 7, 2013
- Scott Prinzing American Indian Music - November 19, 2013
- Ralph Esposito Jingdezhen: The Porcelain City - March 4, 2014
- Jack Glatzer One Man, One Violin, One Amazing Concert - April 22, 2014

Homecoming Court - Homecoming King and Queen were Nick Louma and Kassie Kudrna, representing SEA (Student Education Association). The Prince and Princess were Kody Reed and Molly Grubb, (Residence Hall Association). The Duke and Duchess were Tyson Ferda and Mary Kaercher (Northern's Ambassadors).

Northern Receives \$1.7 Million Grant – Northern received \$1,746,864 of the \$25 million Strengthening Workforce Alignment in Montana's Manufacturing and Energy Industries (SWAMMEI) grant. Northern plans to use the funds to support the growth of our diesel technician program and several other areas of interest.

Faculty Honored – The Chancellor hosted a dinner to recognize those faculty achieving promotion and tenure in the last year. The following faculty received a promotion: Mr. Wane Boysun, Dr. Barbara Zuck, and Dr. Carol Reifschneider. The following faculty received tenure: Mr. Lorren Schlotfeldt, and Ms. Penny Taylor. The following faculty received both promotion and tenure: Mr. Trygve "Spike" Magelssen, and Dr. Stacey Dolezal.



CAMPUS REPORT | Board of Regents Meeting | Nov. 21-22, 2013 | Bozeman



GREAT FALLS
COLLEGE
MONTANA STATE
UNIVERSITY

MONTANA STATE UNIVERSITY | GREAT FALLS

Congressman Steve Daines visited Great Falls College MSU on August 29. During this informal visit, he toured the dental clinic, simulated hospital, and welding facility. The majority of his visit was spent in the welding facility learning about the program and expansion plans.

At the census date (9/16/13), GFC MSU had 167 **dual enrollment** students. In Fall 2012, the college had 103 dually enrolled students. The 62% increase is attributed to the GFC MSU faculty dual credit licensure requirement and the new welding cohort.

The **Learning Center** (LC) experienced record usage in September with 978 student visits logged. The average time spent, per visit, was 45 minutes. The majority of the visits logged were for Math and Science. Writing came in a close third. New this fall, the LC has tutors in nursing, pharmacology, and dental. Math, writing, and dental faculty have been very involved averaging 2-3 visits, per faculty, per week. LC services are provided free of charge and available by walk-in or appointment.

GFC MSU hosted an open house on September 12 to celebrate the revitalization of the **practical nursing** program. The thirty students of the new practical nursing class performed skills demonstrations and provided tours of the simulated hospital. Fall 2013 saw an increased the number of students accepted in the program from twenty to thirty, and a new partnership with MSU-Northern allows GFC MSU practical nursing graduates to earn their Associate of Science in Nursing degree entirely in Great Falls.

On September 26, Great Falls College MSU hosted a day of cultural activities to commemorate **American Indian Heritage Week**. The activities began with an opening prayer and smudging ceremony and concluded with a feast to honor Native and non-Native students. Throughout the day, students listened to presentations by cultural experts, enjoyed Native American dancing and music, and created their own dream catchers.

GFC MSU celebrated the new partnership with Habitat for Humanity at the **College House Kick-Off** on September 27. The event, held at the construction site, marked the beginning of the construction project and honored the GFC MSU carpentry students. About 40 people attended the event, including the a family of four who will be making this house their home.

Megan King, Bright Beginnings Learning Center Director, reported that 84 of the available 88 slots are filled. The infant and toddler classrooms are full, and both rooms have children waiting for spots to open.

On October 3, the **Associated Students of GFC MSU** held a joint meeting with the University of Great Falls Student Senate. Chad Ledbetter, ASGFC MSU Vice President, said this was an informative meeting and should lead to more collaboration between the two colleges. They are currently planning a co-sponsored Veteran's Day event.

The equipment for the **CHEO/NANSLO** lab node has been purchased, and the GFC MSU lab will be set up in December. To research and prepare for the lab set up, Brenda Canine, GFC MSU NANSLO lab manager, visited the NANSLO lab in Courtenay, BC. Distance students will be able to control the new lab equipment remotely allowing for real-time science lab participation.

250 high school and 150 middle school students from the Great Falls area participated in the annual **Trades Rodeo and Career Fair** on October 15. The students took advantage of hands-on experiences in a number of trades areas that they could pursue through apprenticeship or college programs. Representatives from regional colleges, labor organizations, and local business participated.

Brian Cayko, GFC MSU Respiratory Care faculty member, wrote an article that was featured in the American Association for Respiratory Care newsletter. The story recaps his efforts to enact positive legislative change for lung disease patients.