



Date: January 10, 2014

To: Board of Regents

From: Daniel J. Bingham, Ph.D.
Dean/CEO, Helena College University of Montana

Subject: Campus Report for March 5-6, 2014, Board of Regents Meeting

- The 2013 Science Expo at Helena College was a great success. Over 500 community members attended to observe and take part in science demonstrations such as liquid nitrogen ice cream, a 500,000 volt Tesla coil, and more. Local employers also participated in the Careers in Science Fair.
- Helena College has signed an articulation agreement with the Davidson Honors College at the University of Montana that guarantees admission to qualifying students who complete an AS or AA degree, complete 12 required hours of honors courses and maintain a specified GPA. Students will begin pursuing the honors designation in Fall 2014, for transfer to UM as early as Fall 2015.
- Helena College will offer a new honors course titled "Ways of Knowing," in line with UM's course offerings. It will fulfill a diversity and a humanities requirement for any student who wants to take it and will be a requirement for students admitted to the honors program. The course will cover texts from the Bible to Darwin to Kate Chopin to James Welch, all texts that inform "how we know." It will be rigorous in both reading and writing and will require seminar participation.
- Helena College will have 15 LPN students completing the program in December 2013.
- Helena College Nursing Program signed an articulation agreement with Montana Tech University of Montana School of Nursing to allow our ASRN graduates to continue their education in the RN to BSN completion program.
- Professional certificate for Professional Customer Service for the Department of Revenue with potential credit available. Just completed first session in October and planning will begin in January for a new session.
- Professional certificate for Reserve Officer Training to begin in May – will also have credit options available.
- The project to move a spray booth from Great Falls College to Helena College has been completed, and the unit is ready for use. Many thanks to the staff at Great Falls College who helped make this transfer happen.
- Helena College is in the planning stages of a project to remodel four restrooms (2 women's and 2 men's) over the course of the spring semester. The restrooms are part of the original building construction and are in need of some serious updating.

- The enrollment at Helena College is lower than anticipated; however, all indications are that the college will be able to adjust for the shortages without having to make significant changes to our operations.
- Helena College is in the early stages of implementing a SharePoint platform for the facilitation of collaborative work projects and the sharing of information.
- Over the summer, a group of veterans and students volunteered their time and provided financial resources to relocate the flag pole at the Donaldson campus to a more prominent location near the main entrance. Helena College is now installing lighting for the flag so that it may remain up longer on these short winter days.
- Helena College received a Safety Smart grant from the MUS Work Comp Committee for the purchase of an additional snow plow. A plow truck with a dump box was purchased to allow the College to relocate some of the snow removed from our parking areas.