

# MONTANA STATE UNIVERSITY

BOZEMAN | BILLINGS | NORTHERN | GREAT FALLS COLLEGE

CAMPUS REPORT | Board of Regents Meeting | March 8-9, 2018 | Dillon



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- MSUB has partnered with the Montana Department of Justice's Motor Vehicle Division to help guide roll-out of the REAL ID law for the state. Three courses working on this project, taught by Drs. Sarah Keller, A J Otjen and Melissa Boehm, include Graduate Research Methods, Integrated Marketing Communications, and Principles of Public Relations. "It's exciting that the state of Montana is entrusting some of the brightest young minds to tackle this project in a cost-effective way," commented Otjen. "It gives the students an opportunity to work on an impactful project by applying what they learn in classes to real life."
- MSUB welcomed Valerie Hemingway, daughter-in-law and former assistant to Ernest Hemingway, as the 2018 Writer-in-Residence. During spring semester, she will be teaching the course, "Hemingway's World", exploring literature, life and the times of Ernest Hemingway. "The Writer-in-Residence program provides an opportunity for our students to work with professionals from the writing world. The program also contributes to the intellectual life at MSUB and in the Billings community," commented David Craig, Director of the University Honors Program.
- City College hosted "Lewis and Clark Week" for over 700 middle school students from Billings and the surrounding area. For 13<sup>th</sup> year, this unique learning opportunity was presented by Judy Foster, Program Founder and Coordinator, of Our Montana Inc. Our Montana Inc. promotes stewardship and enjoyment of Montana's natural, historic, and recreational resources. "It's all about connecting students with what happened during the Lewis and Clark Expedition and comparing the technology they had to the technology available today," said Foster. The different stations focused on medicine, weather, food, buffalo and communication. One station featured a live buffalo calf.
- MSUB was named amongst 19 schools as finalists for the 2018 NCAA Division II Award of Excellence. The award is based on the NCAA Division II community engagement philosophy, and honors institutions, and athletic conferences across the nation annually for service to their local communities. MSUB was selected for the ongoing work with Team IMPACT. The Team IMPACT program is designed to partner children who are facing life-threatening diseases with collegiate athletic teams. In October 2017, the men's basketball team signed 6 year old Elijah Salley of Billings to its roster, in 2016 the softball squad signed Bria Koch, and in 2014 the men's soccer team featured Sebastien Easton. "We couldn't be more proud of our students-athletes and coaches who have brought this valuable partnership with Team IMPACT to life," said MSUB Athletic Director, Krista Montague. "Giving back to the community is one of our foundational pillars as an athletic department and we feel a sense of accomplishment in that area by being selected as an Award of Excellence finalist. Perhaps most rewarding of all, however, has been watching the positive impact, Elijah, Bria and Sebastien have had on the young men and women on our teams."
- Neal Ambrose-Smith was on campus for a public artist talk and reception. His exhibit, *Footprints on the Moon*, coincided with programming presented by the MSUB Library and The Writer's Voice in conjunction with the NEA Big Read of Louise Erdrich's novel, *The Round House*. Argentine Bandoneon Maestro, Hector Del Curto, was also a guest lecturer for MSUB's World Music class. The MSUB branch of Sigma Tau Delta, the international English honor society, participated in the Montana Writers Roundup in conjunction with the Family Tree Center's Festival of Trees to raise funds for English scholarships, awards and activities.
- City College faculty and staff presented an "Adventures in Coding" class at STEM Billings, a group committed to growing future innovators, creators, and leaders through community-wide engagement and visionary thinking. "We are excited to work with the young minds in the Billings community," said Craig McKenzie, Department Chair, Computer Technology and Drafting & Design Department, at City College. "By exposing students to STEM and giving them opportunities to explore these concepts, hopefully they will develop a greater interest and consider additional educational and career opportunities in the STEM field."
- MSUB College of Business welcomed to campus 300+ high school students who are members of the Business Professionals of America (BPA). The students were on campus to compete in written and oral presentations related to various business disciplines, leadership training, and networking with a focus on experiential learning.