

**DATE:** April 29, 2021  
**TO:** Board of Regents  
**FROM:** Jane Karas, Ph.D., President, Flathead Valley Community College  
**RE:** Campus Report for the May 2021 Board of Regents' Meeting

- On Friday, May 7<sup>th</sup>, FVCC will celebrate the 53<sup>rd</sup> annual commencement ceremony at Legends Stadium in Kalispell. There will be 299 graduates earning 312 degrees at the ceremony. In addition, the college has invited all 2020 graduates to participate in the ceremony. FVCC will honor a total of 638 students earning 682 degrees and certificates from 2020 and 2021.
- FVCC recently profiled three 2020 graduates who are returning to campus to participate in 2021 commencement. The article can be found here: [fvcc.edu/news/2020-graduates-return-to-fvcc-to-participate-in-commencement](https://fvcc.edu/news/2020-graduates-return-to-fvcc-to-participate-in-commencement)
- FVCC partnered with the Kalispell Chamber of Commerce and the Montana Job Service to provide a month-long online 'Workforce Opportunity Fair' providing information about workforce training at FVCC and connecting interested students and community members with local employers.
- FVCC welcomed new nursing program director, Carla Genovese with a Q&A that shared Genovese's journey from ICU nurse to director of critical care at Kalispell Regional Healthcare and now FVCC nursing program director. The article can be found here: [fvcc.edu/news/fvcc-welcomes-new-nursing-program-director-carla-genovese](https://fvcc.edu/news/fvcc-welcomes-new-nursing-program-director-carla-genovese)
- In observance of Genocide Awareness Week, FVCC hosted free Zoom presentations to increase awareness and public dialogue surrounding genocide and the Holocaust. Presentations were led by holocaust survivor Henry Haas and author of "The Politics of Annihilation: A Genealogy of Genocide," Benjamin Meiches.
- FVCC announced its inaugural Women in Welding course specifically designed to provide a comfortable learning environment and camaraderie for women interested in learning to weld. (see press coverage below).
- In March, FVCC students Wolfgang Sandtner and Helen Abramchuck were named 2021 New Century Pathway Scholars. Sandtner earned the highest score of all Transfer Pathway Scholar nominees in Montana and Abramchuck received the highest score for the Workforce Pathway Scholar program.
- Beginning Fall 2021, FVCC will offer biotechnology, brewing technician and social media marketing certificate programs to provide students industry-recognized and transferable skills.
- FVCC recently began a partnership with the Montana Department of Labor and Industry and Job Service Kalispell to help former students re-enroll and finish their certificate or associate's degree.

**Additional media:**

- KPAX 4/18 – ['Women in Welding' course at FVCC preps women for careers in welding](#)
- NBC Montana 4/25 Montana Moment story - [Women in Welding class opens new doors at FVCC](#)
- Flathead Beacon 4/28 – ['Building a Grassroots Workforce'](#)