



**DATE: June 15, 2022**

**TO: Board of Regents**

**FROM: Jane Karas, Ph.D., President, Flathead Valley Community College**

**RE: Campus Report for the July 2022 Board of Regents' Meeting**

- On Friday, May 13, FVCC awarded 319 degrees and certificates at the 54th Annual Commencement ceremony held on campus in Kalispell.
- The Associate of Science Nursing class included ten graduates who were honored in a separate pinning ceremony on May 13.
- FVCC's Culinary Institute of Montana senior culinary capstone class served patrons at their very own Italian-inspired lunch pop-up restaurant, Divina Trattoria for three weeks in April. The students created the restaurant as the culmination of their culinary studies, and it was a huge success.
  - <https://nbcmontana.com/news/local/local-community-college-opens-pop-up-restaurant>
- FVCC Marketing & Communications developed and launched the new website at fvcc.edu in June. The project spanned 18 months and was a campus-wide effort to effectively connect students and the community with the wide range of offerings and services at FVCC.
- In collaboration with the culinary, music and theatre programs, the FVCC Foundation hosted its Festival of Flavors spring event, "Bon Voyage," a Mediterranean-themed dining experience and auction, raising more than \$180,000 for student scholarships.
- Associate Professor in Education Eliza Thomas co-authored the recently published article, "A community of practice shares perspectives on utilizing telepresence in doctoral education" in Teaching Higher Education about the power and opportunity of telepresence. With this work in mind, the FVCC Education program is investing in two Kubis (portable robots) for tele-present learning for those students for whom distance may be a barrier with the assistance of an enhancement grant from the FVCC Foundation.
  - <https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/abs/10.1080/13562517.2022.2048366?journalCode=cthe20>
- Director of Adult Education Jacquie Wroble won the Mountain Plains Adult Education Association (MPAEA) Award of Excellence. This award is to honor an individual who has made significant contributions to the advancement of adult education at the state or local level. One award is given per state.
- Associate Professor of Biology Dr. Mirabai McCarthy's undergraduate research students presented their projects entitled "Bioprospecting: A Search for Antibiotics in Nature", and "Lichen Diversity: A Visual Guide to Flathead Valley Lichen" during the STEM colloquium and the annual research conference at FVCC. The group will be attending a research conference in Alaska on plant biology this summer.



- FVCC Continuing Education Kids College introduced a new program, FVCC Experiential Learning Academy, designed to introduce middle school and early high school students to the college experience through hands-on learning and engaging with FVCC faculty, staff and students, as well as local employers. The all-day, week-long camps begin this summer and focus on culinary and welding and serve as a pre-Running Start connection to academic programs.