



DATE: 2.15.2023

TO: Board of Regents

FROM: Dr. Ron Slinger
President, Miles Community College

RE: Campus Report for the March 2023 Board of Regents Meeting

- Miles Community College was recognized by Montana Governor Greg Gianforte during the State of the State address on January 25, 2023. Governor Gianforte praised the college for bringing innovation to education, especially in the post-secondary education realm. MCC President Dr. Ron Slinger and Board of Trustees Chair Jamie Ogolin attended the address in Helena. “We need fresh, new thinking and bold leaders to deliver the best education possible for our kids,” stated Governor Gianforte during his address. “Miles Community College is equipping Montanans with the skills they need to thrive in good-paying, in-demand careers, from truck drivers to meat cutters to certified nursing assistants [. . .] Miles Community College is breaking the traditional mold. They’re transforming how education is delivered. They’re thinking outside the box, not confining themselves or their students to the limits of their college’s brick-and-mortar, and under Ron’s leadership, they’re delivering results.” President Slinger stated: “We are thrilled that the Governor chose to highlight MCC and the great work being accomplished by our faculty and staff. Our Trustees have set a clear vision that we are working hard at every day to put into practice.”
- Miles Community College President Ron Slinger has been appointed to the Montana Board of Public Education by Governor Greg Gianforte. The board term will run until February 1, 2030. “I am very honored and humbled to be selected by Governor Gianforte to serve in this vital role,” stated Slinger. “I look forward to participating in finding sensible and proactive solutions that benefit our children, our schools, and our communities.”
- 112 Miles Community College students were named to the President’s Honor List for the Fall 2022 semester, with 34 of those earning a 4.0 GPA. Students who are taking 12 or more credits and maintain a term grade-point average (GPA) of 3.5 or higher are eligible for this scholastic recognition.
- 15 MCC students were awarded their certificates or associates degrees at the end of the Fall 2022 term.
- Miles Community College Instructor Dr. Daigo Yamamura will provide a presentation, “Dinosaurs in Eastern Montana,” on Friday, February 24, as a part of the MCC Speakers Series. The event is free and open to the public. Dr. Yamamura will discuss the rich paleontological resources in Eastern Montana, where iconic dinosaurs including the Tyrannosaurus Rex and Triceratops have been discovered. Many well-known institutions including the Museum of the Rockies and Field Museum frequent the vast area to “dig” for dinosaurs. Additionally, fossils from this region are displayed in museums across the nation as well as international museums, both as traveling and permanent exhibits. During his presentation, Dr. Yamamura will discuss the wealth of the paleontological resources found in Eastern Montana, laws regarding those resources, and the potential use of fossils from the area to enhance science classes at both the college and community level. Dr. Yamamura earned his B.S. and M.S. degrees from Montana State University and his Ph.D. from the University of Arkansas, and has been on the faculty at MCC since 2021.

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