

CAMPUS REPORTS
Board of Regents Meeting
March 5-6, 2008
Dillon, Montana

The University of Montana-Missoula
President G. M. Dennison

- Two students in the Radio-Television Department have earned honors in the prestigious Hearst Journalism Awards Program. **Natalie Neumann**, a junior from Sidney, placed eighth and won \$500, while **Dan Boyce**, a junior from Lewistown, placed 14th in the radio broadcast news competition.
- UM students **Kelley Orteg** and **Allie Harrison** have been selected to participate in the Next Generation Nonprofit Leaders Program of American Humanics, a national alliance dedicated to educating leaders of nonprofit organizations. Orteg and Harrison will also participate in a program evaluation and a multiyear longitudinal research study.
- For an unprecedented 10th year in a row, a team from The University of Montana School of Law advanced to the final rounds of the National Moot Court Competition. The UM team of **Erica Grinde**, **Sabrina Hansen**, and **Angela Wetzsteon** joined 27 other teams in the nation's oldest and most prestigious appellate advocacy program, sponsored by the American College of Trial Lawyers and the New York City Bar Association.
- Wildlife Biology doctoral student **Heather Johnson** has earned one of four national scholarships from the 2007 Canon National Parks Science Scholars Program for her efforts to save endangered bighorn sheep in California's Sierra Nevada. Johnson will receive \$80,000 over the next three years.
- The University of Montana Foundation has received a \$15,000 grant from the Edward L. Hutton Foundation of Cincinnati, Ohio, to provide scholarships for students and area teachers who enroll in courses offered spring semester through the Hamilton Higher Education Center.
- **Creagh Breuner** and **Vanessa Ezenwa**, assistant professors in UM's Wildlife Biology Program and Division of Biological Sciences, received Early Career Development Program grants from the National Science Foundation. The prestigious, five-year awards honor promising teacher-scholars who most effectively integrate research and education for their institutions. Breuner will receive \$800,000, and Ezenwa will get \$715,000.
- MTV has selected 2007 Radio-Television graduate **K'Lynn Sloan** to serve as a citizen journalist for Choose or Lose Street Team '08 election coverage. Sloan will post weekly multimedia reports online and will keep a blog discussing political and social issues affecting Montana youth.
- The University of Montana has retained its top 25 ranking for producing Peace Corps volunteers. UM is No. 17 on the 2008 list that ranks medium-sized colleges and universities with enrollments between 5,001 and 15,000. UM now has 23 alumni serving in the Peace Corps.
- The Division of Educational Research and Service in the School of Education recently landed a \$2.4 million grant from the U.S. Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration to fund a National Native Children's Trauma Center at UM.
- A \$240,600 grant from the Toyota U.S.A. Foundation awarded to UM's Center for Environmental Health Sciences will fund its Air Toxics Under the Big Sky program, which promotes real-world research at the high school level in the field of atmospheric chemistry. The program provides greater access to University-based mentors through classroom visits, laboratory tours, and increased distance-learning opportunities for areas outside Missoula, including Corvallis, Libby, Whitefish, communities on Idaho's Nez Perce Indian Reservation, and a remote Native village in Alaska.
- The University of Montana's recently completed Don Anderson Hall has received first prize in the 2007 Excellence in Craftsmanship Awards presented by the Montana Contractors' Association. The awards go to projects exhibiting exemplary design and craftsmanship as well as innovative construction techniques.

Miles Community College
President Stefani Hicswa

- Miles Community College was approved for \$335,000 in FY 2008 federal appropriations for the "Pathways to Careers in Healthcare" project. The College submitted appropriation bids through Montana US Senators Max Baucus and John Tester and Representative Denny Rehberg. Programs to be offered will be tied directly to the workforce needs of health care providers in eastern Montana. The College will also continue to implement the developed online Health Care Educator Certificate to provide "teacher training" for currently practicing expert clinicians who will serve as clinical instructors to students who desire careers in various health care fields.
- The Montana Health Network, a consortium of hospitals from eastern Montana, has gifted four scholarships totaling \$50,000 to the Miles Community College Registered Nursing Program for

nursing faculty educational development. The scholarships, which provide financial assistance to registered nurses seeking to obtain the required Master's in Nursing, stipulate that the recipient will agree to teach nursing at Miles Community College for a minimum of three years.

- John Munsell was hired as the new WIRED Bioproduct Coordinator and UM-COT Project Coordinator in December 2008. John will provide educational presentations to various groups, assist in curriculum development and implementation as well as coordinating and advising students in the UM-COT Energy Technology Program. He began with the WIRED project in January 2008.
- Wally Badgett, Miles Community College Rodeo Coach, was recently recognized in the January 2008 *Collegiate Arena* magazine. The article "*Wally Badgett: Collegiate Champ, Coach, and Cartoonist Steps into the Spotlight*" recognized Coach Badgett as a man of many talents and interests. The *Collegiate Arena* is the official newspaper of the National Intercollegiate Rodeo Association. Wally has been coaching the MCC Pioneers Rodeo Team for 11 years and has been the head coach for the past seven. He is an accomplished cartoonist with 14 books published, and seven more ready for print of his famous cartoon character "Cowboy Earl".
- Miles Community College President, Stefani Hicswa, was recently spotlighted in the January 4, 2008 issue of the Community College Times. The Times article "*The New Wave of Young Presidents*" spotlighted several young college presidents across the nation. President Hicswa was highlighted as MCC's first female CEO and as a minority in a field where most two-year college presidents are white males nearly in their 60s.
- Miles Community College employee, Dwight Gunnare, received the Employee of the Semester Blue and Silver Award for Fall 2007 at employee in-service day on January 15, 2008. Dwight is a faculty member and head coach for the Lady Pioneers basketball team. He began his employment at Miles Community College in 2002. Under his leadership, the Lady Pioneers were the 2006-2007 Mon-Dak Conference Champions and have received recognition in the National Junior College Athletic Association (NJCAA) Women's Basketball Top 25 Poll, currently ranking 14th in the nation. His colleagues referred to Dwight as a positive attitude employee, where students come first. He was commended for achieving success on and off court as the result of his commitment to student athletes.
- The Miles Community College Center for Academic Success (CAS) began GED (General Educational Development) instruction via distance education on January 21. Instruction is provided through online tutoring. Interested students come to the MCC campus for initial assessment, orientation, and registration. The Center for Academic Success is one of three pilot sites in the State of Montana that provide online GED instruction opportunities.

Flathead Valley Community College

President Jane Karas

- FVCC has received a second gift of \$500,000 to support the **Jerome and Rebecca Broussard Family Endowed Scholarship Fund**. With this second contribution, the scholarship fund totals **\$1 million**, the **largest scholarship fund received by the college's Foundation**. Strong supporters of higher education and philanthropically committed to their community, the Broussard's established the Jerome and Rebecca Broussard Family Endowed Scholarship at FVCC with a gift of \$500,000 in 2003. In fiscal year 2007, 49 students received Broussard scholarships ranging between \$500 and \$2,300.
- Flathead Valley Community College saw record enrollment for its **14th annual Senior Institute** that kicked off February 1. Approximately 190 area seniors ranging from 62 to 95 years of age have enrolled in the program that involves a series of classes ranging from painting and health and fitness to gardening and computers. Students are provided a complimentary lunch buffet and transportation from the area senior centers.
- FVCC opened its new **Early Childhood Center** February 4. The state-of-the-art 7,140 square-foot-facility serves as a learning lab for FVCC students pursuing careers in early childhood education, elementary education, psychology, human services, and social work. The curriculum was developed in conjunction with the college's Early Childhood Education program. The Center provides infants, toddlers, and preschool-aged children with limitless opportunities to maximize their developmental and learning potential.
- FVCC Art Instructor **Karen Leigh** received national recognition during a reception hosted by **First Lady Laura Bush** at the **White House** November 28, 2007. Leigh was selected to paint an ornament capturing Glacier National Park to be hung on the 2007 White House Christmas Tree. The tree was themed to honor all of the National Park Service sites. Leigh's ornament was joined by 346 others created by artists from across the nation.
- FVCC hosted the **2008 Northwest Montana Regional High School Business Professionals of America Conference** January 14. Under the leadership of FVCC Business Instructor **Brenda**

Rudolph, the conference consisted of over 50 competitions in a variety of business subjects such as job interviews, accounting, computer applications, Web design, entrepreneurship, human resource management, and business decision making. Approximately **150-175 students from nine high schools** in the northwest region of Montana competed in the conference.

- FVCC Student **Bill Hartman** was awarded honorable mention in the memoirs/personal essay category of the **76th Annual Writer's Digest Writing Competition**. His essay titled, "The Open House," was one of over 19,000 entries entered in the competition.
- The FVCC Art Department opened its series of **spring exhibitions** with a collection of works by 18 FVCC Art Department alumni. Free and open to the public, the exhibit titled, "**Alumnus**," featured artwork consisting of paintings, sculptures, photographs, and jewelry.
- Seven FVCC students were named spring 2008 recipients of **Whitefish Credit Union's Community Pride Scholarships**. **Nathan Schaff, Natalie Valov, Barbara Cook, Tracy Lost-Bear, Haylie Chapman, Joshua Hirsch** and **Christopher Jermeay** received scholarship awards ranging from \$200 to \$400 in awards totaling \$2,100 for the spring semester.
- The **Flathead Valley Community College Choir** debuted with its first public performance during a free concert for community members December 21, 2007. Songs performed varied from Broadway musical tunes to an African walking song, duets, and a small selection of Christmas carols.
- The Flathead Valley Community College Foundation awarded **\$11,884** to fund three **Enhancement Grants at FVCC for 2008**. Of the 10 submitted proposals, the three proposals selected and their awards included: FVCC Teaching Excellence Center; the FVCC Honors Program; and Mathematics Colloquium on Effectively Using Technology Based Instruction.
- Flathead Valley Community College hosted in **Kalispell Chamber of Commerce Luncheon** November 6, 2007. More than 100 Chamber members gathered in the college's new Arts and Technology Building to learn about the college's impact on the community and how the college has progressed since it was founded 40 years ago in 1967.
- FVCC Early Childhood Education Instructor **Marlyn James** and Digital Photography and Basic Videomaking Instructor **Marita Combs** completed a 12-minute **DVD video** titled, "**Looking To The Future: Early Childhood Environments In Montana**." The video will be packaged with a state early childhood education curriculum that will be used by all resource and referral agencies in Montana. The video will also be utilized by students to raise community awareness about the importance of early childhood education. James is also co-author of the new book, "Early Learning Standards and Staff Development: Best Practices in the Face of Change," that was released in October 2007.
- The FVCC Foundation's **Christmas Tree Excellence** benefit, held November 9, 2007 at the FVCC campus in the new Arts and Technology Building, **raised over \$25,000 for student scholarships**. The gala highlighted a Denim & Diamonds theme and was attended by 160 guests, and more than 8,500 raffle tickets were sold. The event featured gourmet hors d'oeuvres created by FVCC culinary arts students and instructor Hillary Ginepra, fine wines and beers. Highlights included dancing to live music by Smart Alex, Christmas tree raffle drawings and a live holiday stocking auction.
- In conjunction with the "Montana by Food: A Taste of the Past" exhibit on display in the FVCC Student Art Gallery, the college hosted the presentation, "**Songs for your Supper**" by retired FVCC professor **William "Bill" Rossiter** December 13, 2007. Sponsored by the FVCC Library and Humanities Montana, the event consisted of Rossiter singing songs accompanied by guitar, banjo, and autoharp and sharing stories that tell how food reflects who we are, who we were, and from where we come.
- Seven second-year **FVCC culinary arts students** spent three weeks crafting their very own culinary concoctions in honor of the holiday season—**customized gingerbread houses**. Under the direction of Culinary Arts Instructor **Hillary Ginepra**, these students, along with Ginepra, put in about 100 hours each to the project. Each house was generated from the creator's unique and specific idea, and the process involved a lot of research, brainstorming, patience, and teamwork. Houses range from traditional gingerbread cottages to an elf house, a Mayan pyramid, a structure inspired from the movie "Lord of the Rings" and an abandoned snow-covered north woods cabin.

The University of Montana-Western
Chancellor Richard Storey

EXAMPLES OF FACULTY ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- O. Alan Weltzien, Professor of English, has had his memoir, re-titled *A Father and an Island: Reflections on Loss*, accepted for publication by Lewis-Clark Press, in Lewiston, Idaho. This book has occupied Weltzien for the past seven years. In it he focuses upon his late father and the waterfront log cabin the family has owned since Weltzien was a young child, and to which he returns, with his own family, every summer on Camano Island of the Puget Sound area.

- Professor Gary Lundy has been informed that Ignavia Press has accepted his story, *creations myth*, for publication in their Winter 2008 issue of Ignavia. Dr. Lundy also received word that his poem, *faces*, has been accepted for publication in Timber Creek Review, a journal in Greensboro, North Carolina.

ACADEMIC DISCUSSIONS

- Montana Western's Bachelor of Arts (B.A.) programs were the topic of an Academic Discussion in November and subsequently with the chairs of the departments in the College of Arts and Sciences lead by Provost Karl Ulrich. We currently have a single Bachelor of Arts (B.A.) degree with seven options and 35 related areas. The B.A. evolved from a single Bachelor of Liberal Studies (B.L.S.) degree with the same structure of options and related areas, although originally with only four options (originally referred to as primary areas) and six related areas.
- Much additional thought, discussion, and examination of other information will be necessary as the campus moves to potentially modify its B.A. and B.S. offerings to increase their recognition and value to students.
- The faculty at Montana Western continue to discuss strategies to take advantage of Experience One and develop new ways of experiential teaching and learning with technology a large part of the discussions. On-line courses are being expanded and new programs using technology are being discussed. We strive to take our academic program to the next level of excellence.

RECRUITMENT AND RETENTION

- We continue our emphasis and efforts on recruiting even more good-fit students to campus. Our new full-time admissions director and her staff are working closely with our full-time marketing director to attract students to Montana Western as we work hard to accomplish this challenging goal.
- We have a new assistant provost to oversee our expanding advising office, initiatives, and the student learning center. We have a new director of the center and new and improved programs in review. The assistant provost also works with outcomes assessment in courses, programs, and departments and with accreditation agencies.

Montana Tech of The University of Montana Chancellor W. Franklin Gilmore

- Josef Bilant was selected as the first place recipient of the 2007 Mineral and Metallurgical Processing Division Richard R. Klimpel Scholarship. Josef will receive \$2,000 and an all expense paid trip to the SME annual meeting, and he will serve as a non/voting member of the MPD Executive Committee.
- Keri Petritz, Environmental Engineering Graduate Student, took home first place for her presentation entitled "Resource Recovery of Belmont Mine Water" at the 2007 Pacific Northwest International Section (PNWIS) conference of the Air & Waste Management Association. Students were evaluated on technical content, visual aids and presentation skills, and given cash awards for outstanding presentations.
- Montana Tech freshman Audrey Sholty of Missoula was recently named Miss Rodeo Montana.
- Dr. Kumar Ganesan, Environmental Engineering Department Head, won the 2007 Robert Stockman Distinguished Achievement Award. This award is presented annually in recognition of an outstanding contribution to air quality management and for long-standing contribution to the PNWIS.
- Professor Willis Weight gave an invited presentation at the North American Environmental Field Conference and Exposition in Tampa, Florida in January 2008. His talk was entitled "Evaluation of the Effective Saturated Thickness in Pumping Tests."
- Marvin Speece, Geophysical Engineering Department Head, received an International Polar Year research grant from the National Science Foundation for his project titled, "Understanding the Tectonic and Stratigraphic History of Offshore New Harbor, Ross Sea, Antarctica." The International Polar Year is a large multinational scientific program that focuses research on the Arctic and Antarctic.
- Matt Eglhoff, General Engineering Lab Director, was appointed to National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) Committees on Explosives and on Electrical Equipment in Combustible Atmospheres. These committees govern NFPA standards related to definition, storage, and transport of explosives, and standards on purged and pressurized enclosures and classification of hazardous combustible dust and chemical environments.
- Dr. Courtney Young, Metallurgical & Materials Engineering Department Head, is chairing the Hydro 2008 Conference, an international meeting for Hydrometallurgy and Environmental Applications held every five years. The meeting scheduled for Aug 17-20 in Phoenix honors Bob Shoemaker, a Montana Tech MetE alum.
- General Engineering faculty Dr. John Morrison was awarded the "Engineer of the Year" at this year's Butte Area Annual Engineers Banquet. Nominated by a student, John is recognized as an

international expert in advanced battery storage technologies. John recently received the PE designation.

- On February 4-5, Dr. Sean Gulick of the Jackson School of Geosciences at the University of Texas-Austin gave presentations on the Chicxulub Crater, evidence that a meteor impact is a leading candidate for the extinction of the dinosaurs. Dr. Gulick is Ocean Leadership Distinguished Lecturer.
- Joseph F. Figueira, Associate Vice Chancellor and Dean of the Graduate School, received a \$450,000 grant from the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation. The grant will provide \$32,100 in scholarships to Native Americans seeking Masters of Sciences degrees in engineering and science at Montana Tech.
- Montana Tech received \$9,786,104 in grant and contract awards in FY2007. This compares to \$6,858,099 received in FY2006 and represents an all-time high for the campus. Also in FY2007, Tech submitted 134 proposals with a total value of \$21,928,150.
- The Geophysical Engineering Department at Montana Tech recently received software valued at \$13,900,000 through a strategic university alliance grant agreement with Landmark Graphics Corporation, Houston, TX. The software is used for processing and interpretation of two- and three-dimensional digital seismic data and associated petrophysical and well log information.

Montana State University
President Geoff Gamble

- Montana schools where more than 50 percent of the student population is Native American have the highest turnover rates of administrators and more than three times the student dropout rates of other schools. Education professors, Joanne Erickson and Bill Ruff, designed the Indian Leadership and Development (ILEAD) program to help increase the number of Native American administrators, therefore decreasing turnover and increasing quality. ILEAD offers Native American teachers the opportunity to earn a master's degree in school administration without leaving their jobs. The program covers tuition for students who agree to work at a Native American school for two years. There are currently 40 participants and a waiting list. ILEAD recently won a \$1.3 million federal grant to expand to provide 15 Native American administrators in South Dakota.
- MSU students from a variety of disciplines are working with Dr. David Klumpar in the Space Science and Engineering Lab to build a satellite to honor the 50th anniversary of Explorer-1. The students, who have been working on the project for three years, hope to launch Explorer -1(prime) in December 2008 from the Vandenberg Air Force Base in California.
- Kent McVay, Montana State University Extension cropping systems specialist at the Montana Agricultural Experiment Station's Southern Agricultural Research Center, created a Web-based crop variety selection tool to assist producers in selecting appropriate spring and winter wheat seed varieties. Producers can choose varieties based on protein levels, milling and baking quality, yield potential and more. The tool assists producers in selecting, based on data, the right seed for a specific area. The tool will be expanded later to include information on barley and alfalfa varieties. The tool is accessed from www.sarc.montana.edu. Select "crop variety testing" and then "crop variety selection tool."
- The Office of Communications and Public Affairs earned a CASE District VIII Communication Bronze award for its Integrated Marketing Guide. Produced by Suzi Taylor, Julie Kipfer and Angie Mangels, the guide is a comprehensive instruction manual for all wishing to use the Montana State University brand. In addition, Suzi Taylor, Carol Schmidt and Tracy Ellig earned a silver CASE award for team periodical feature writing for the Mountains and Minds Magazine.
- Montana Horizons is a community leadership program funded by the Northwest Area Foundation and delivered by MSU Extension. The goal of the program is to assist small rural communities that have had significant economic decline or demographic change by building the capacity of those living and working within the communities. Horizons recently hosted the Rural Community Conference for service providers, educators, researchers, policy-makers, business and civic leaders, faith leaders and anyone else looking for community-focused strategies to build thriving communities in rural Montana.
- The MSU Agricultural Marketing Policy Center Web site is host to a series of one to four page documents created by Joel Schumacher and other MSU economists to assist producers in determining whether they are good candidates to pursue bio-energy crops. The information, including cost/benefit analysis, will also be presented in a series of seminars and conferences throughout the winter as well as in college and university classes.
- Bill Inskeep, professor of land resources and environmental sciences, organized a conference which featured more than 100 scientists and educators from the United States and abroad to share findings on the unique biology and chemistry of geysers, hot springs, mud pots and steam vents. Some of the best-known and most active researchers involved in Yellowstone geothermal science attended.

- Ken McVay, MSU Extension cropping system specialist, and Clain Jones, MSU Extension soil fertility specialist, each received Excellence Awards from the Society of Agronomy. The two awards were among only seven given during the annual ASA conference.
- MSU Faculty delivered college classes to students at Belgrade Middle School, Belgrade High School, Charlie M. Russell High School and Great Falls High School as part of the outreach program, MSU for a Day.
- MSU Extended University worked with Bozeman-based business incubator TechRanch to create an online library of free resources for entrepreneurs. The library includes video and audio podcasts on topics such as management, marketing, operations, marketing and personal selling. The project was supported by a grant from the Qwest Foundation.

Montana State University-Billings

Chancellor Ronald P. Sexton, Ph. D.

- MSU Billings unveiled a new program to engage adult learners. The MSU Billings Senior Academy is the latest program developed by the College of Professional Studies and Lifelong Learning which will feature classes to promote lifelong learning and personal growth for adults who want to fill their desires to never stop learning.
- MSU Billings and the National Center for Appropriate Technology teamed up to host a workshop to provide more information on biodiesel production and oilseed crops. The workshop focused on oilseed crops that can be used for a range of products; economics and schematics of commercial and community-scale biodiesel production; on-farm production and/or personal use of biodiesel and its co-products; farmer experiences raising and crushing oilseeds and making biodiesel; permitting and taxation issues for biodiesel production; business models for biodiesel, as presented by biodiesel entrepreneurs throughout Montana; and resources for building a bio-products or bio-energy business. Guest speakers included Dr. Jon Gerpen of the National Biodiesel Education Program at the University of Idaho and Paul Miller, the founder of Sustainable Systems, LLC in Missoula.
- Nearly 800 seventh-grader students took part in “Back to the Future with Lewis & Clark: Technology Then & Now” held at MSU Billings College of Technology. John Pulasky, a Billings meteorologist, helped to coordinate the week long event that included exhibits and demonstrations sharing the technologies that members of the Lewis and Clark expedition used to meet the challenges of their historic endeavor combined with exhibits and demonstrations of what current technologies would be used today to accomplish the same jobs. Topics on weather and climate; medical technology and treatment of diseases/injuries; mapping and surveying; mechanical/blacksmithing; flora and fauna, were included.
- MSUB student Joe Wesen, a senior Business Management major, received an award of merit from Lisa Posada-Griffin, coordinator for the Yellowstone County DUI Task Force, for his leadership in trying to prevent drunken driving among fellow college students. Wesen was honored for his work to develop and promote Jacket Cab, a safe-ride program for fellow students. Funded through a partnership with the Yellowstone County DUI Task Force, the University’s Student Government, MSUB housing and Student Health Services, Jacket Cab rides were made available Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays from 6 p.m. to 6 a.m. SADD and City Cab arranged the rides.
- School District II and MSUB hosted free informational meetings on Dual Credit at Billings Senior High School, Billings Skyview HS and Billings West HS to provide a full spectrum of information – from class offerings to costs – about the new program. Dual Credit offers college courses to high school students for which the student earns both college and high school credit. Courses in the MSUB/School District II Dual Credit program will be taught in the high schools by high school faculty members selected by MSUB academic department heads. The courses must reflect the academic rigor of a college-level course and grades received in Dual Credit courses will be recorded as officially earned credits at MSU Billings.
- MSU Billings celebrated the groundbreaking of the new all-weather artificial turf soccer facility at the College of Technology field. Community members have worked tirelessly on this effort with our soccer program to raise \$300,000 in pledges toward the new facility.
- MSUB has a new Counseling Clinic, located on the ground floor of the College of Education building, adding a great deal more meaning to the graduate student experience. The clinic is an invaluable tool for graduate students in the MSUB Rehabilitation and Mental Health Counseling Program. The students provide counseling which allows them to deal with the fears, tears, angst and not simply watching others do the work. Dr. Terry Blackwell, Professor; Dr. Kyle Colling, Assistant Professor; and Mr. Tom Dell, University Lecturer; in Rehabilitation and Human Services, worked with health care providers in the Billings area to build referral relationships for the new counseling clinic. They emphasized MSUB students at the clinic are not competing with currently established mental health

professionals or programs in the area, but fill the gaps for people who don't have insurance coverage or don't qualify for other resources.

- Tutors play an important role in the lives of many students here at Montana State University Billings, most of it through the Academic Support Center at the main campus and at the College of Technology. The ASC opened on campus in 2001 to provide tutoring, workshops and learning labs for students who need developmental education. The Academic Support Center is an integral part of the University culture, offering a variety of assistance to any student who needs it. The ASC now has 26 peer tutors and 13 instructors who also serve as tutors to an average of 700 students a day.
- The 11th annual Career Fitness Fair was held on campus. This is one of the best opportunities for students to match jobs and internship opportunities with area employers.
- Preview Day offered prospective college students and their parents an opportunity to become more familiar with the programs, services, and opportunities Montana State University Billings campuses.

Montana State University-Northern Chancellor Rolf Groseth

- Northwest Accreditation Update - At its meeting in early January, the Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities reaffirmed the accreditation of MSU-Northern. Their action was based on the campus' Self-Study, a visit to campus by a team of peer reviewers and the written and verbal presentation of that team's findings to the full Commission. The campus will address the recommendations made by the Commission, will prepare a focused interim report on campus efforts to address the recommendations and will host a visit by members of the Commission in the spring of 2009.
- Chancellor Alex Capdeville retired on December 31, 2007 and Rolf Groseth assumed the position of Interim Chancellor on January 1, 2008.
- Student Recreation Facilities Remodeled - The Northern Student Senate renovated the basement of the SUB for a Student Lounge and Recreation Area. They reopened the old bowling alley and brought in new pool and foosball tables. This is a great place to study, hang out with friends and watch your favorite television shows.
- Northern Participated in Global Warming Web Cast - On Jan. 30, 2008, MSU-Northern joined over 1,000 colleges nationwide in a live web cast known as Focus The Nation. This was a live web cast panel discussion produced by the National Wildlife Federation and aired by the Earth Day Network.
- Cabin Fever – A Huge Success - The 15th annual Cabin Fever Institute had 475 participants attending 32 different workshops. This year's courses included: Photoshop, digital video editing, making log furniture, designing web pages using Dream Weaver and much more.
- New Diesel Engines - Northern purchased 10 new Cummins QSB 4.5 diesel engines with the state's "OTO" One Time Only funds. Two representatives from Cummins Northwest's Spokane Office, came to campus to test the engines and train our students on how to use the Cummins INSITE™ electronic service diagnostic software.
- New Solar Panel on Campus - The Electrical Program at MSU-Northern received a grant from Northwest Energy to purchase and install a solar panel. This panel will produce electricity to help power Brockmann. The panel will be set up so people can use the web to monitor how much electricity is being generated. This will be a great research tool for people who are thinking of purchasing a similar solar panel for their home.
- Campus Concerts - Raining Jane – A Los Angeles based all-women independent eclectic rock-folk band performed the first concert of their five-month tour on our campus. The Men of Worth also performed for the campus. The folk-music duo consisted of James Keigher (Ireland) and Donnie MacDonald (Scotland). They have been touring and performing their traditional music in schools around the world since 1986.
- *Congratulations* - Darlene Bricker has successfully defended her dissertation and is in final stages of successfully completing her Doctorate Program.

Montana State University-Great Falls Dean Mary Sheehy Moe

- Building Expansion Celebrations: The Malmstrom Air Force Base honor guard raised the national and state flags over the MSU – Great Falls new entrance at New Student Orientation in January. The ceremony honored faculty, staff and students who are veterans or who are currently serving in the armed forces. The United States flag was flown over the national capitol on Veterans Day 2007.
- On the first day of Spring Semester classes, students, faculty and staff gathered to 'Celebrate a Brand New Day' and learn about the enhanced opportunities for students and community in the expanded facility. Student Services has moved to a One Stop Student Shop offering financial aid,

student accounts, academic advising, career counseling, admissions and records, recruiting, the Educational Opportunity Center, and the Student Assistance Foundation.

- A grand opening to give the public a 'Look at How Far We've Come' recognized those who gave vision, time, expertise and commitment to make the expansion project a reality. The Chamber of Commerce held a ribbon cutting and the doors were opened to allow the community and campus to enter the Atrium for refreshments, live music and informal tours of the Science Wing, Distance Learning, Library, and Student Central.
 - Crisis Team participates in Simulated Emergency Exercise: EMS faculty members, Larry Myers and Joel Henderson, planned and implemented an emergency exercise in January that included a shooting scenario. The Great Falls Police Department responded to the '911' call finding injured students, faculty and staff. The shooter was located and neutralized. Local ambulances responded with EMS professionals on the scene immediately after the police cleared them for entrance into the building. A triage center was set up to analyze wounds and do initial treatment. For the MSU – Great Falls Crisis Team, it was a realistic and disturbing exercise and proved to be effective in identifying potential problems with our emergency response planning. There are a number of preventative and response scenarios that will be considered.
 - MSU – Great Falls Attracts High School Students: Over 300 students from 24 high schools attended the 10th annual College in a Day. The event helps high school students explore the options available at MSU-Great Falls and the exciting careers they can pursue with an associate degree. Workshops highlighting opportunities for transfer, distance learning, and also financial aid options were offered as well.
 - The second Construction Trades Fair was held in February featuring businesses associated with building trades offering information and expertise to high school students considering a career in construction trades. Landscaping, roofing, drywall, and many other niche sub-contractors and interest areas are all part of this "full picture" of the industry.
 - Web Students Excel and Serve: Adjunct Faculty and Webmaster/Designer, Rhonda Kueffler, and her web design students developed a community service website fall semester to promote the Black Eagle book 'In the Shadow of the Big Stack.' At the end of term, the students presented the final product to the committee, members of the public and MSUGF staff members. To produce the site, Rhonda organized her class into groups that mirror those of a commercial web development team with an Account Manager, Design, and Production Teams.
 - State and National Perspectives Inform Spring Semester Faculty Convocation: Dr. Roger Barber, Deputy Commissioner for Academic & Student Affairs, and Tyler Trevor, Associate Commissioner for Research, Technology & Communication described the Board of Regents and how the Office of the Commissioner for Higher Education fits into the system and focused on data relating to two-year education in Montana.
 - Dr. Kay McClenney, Director of the Community College Survey of Student Engagement Community College Leadership Program at The University of Texas at Austin, presented on "Promoting Student Success: What Matters Most". McClenney has served as a consultant to education institutions, state higher education systems, state government, and professional associations in 45 states and internationally and has worked for nine years as a community college educator, serving as faculty member, system administrator, and interim CEO.
 - Dental Hygiene Community Projects: Dental Hygiene students are currently participating in: Dental Health Activity at the Easter Seals Adult Daycare Program; Working with the Residents at the Missouri River Manor; Volunteer Activity with the Meals On Wheels; Working with the residents at the Lodge-Assisted Living Facility; Working with Kim Dunlap RDH on exploration of providing dental hygiene care at the Rescue Mission; Dental Health Activity at the YWCA –Mercy Home; Sealant Day in conjunction with the Health Fair; Box Elder Sealant program; activities at the Public School System-Elementary Schools; and providing Dental Hygiene care at the Fort Harrison's Veterans Administration in Helena.
-