Valerie Lambert is our new Director of Financial Aid – she comes to us from the Student Assistance Foundation and will be a definite asset to the UM-Helena team

We have welcomed 3 new faculty members recently; Leonard Miller, Aviation Instructor, Steve Lewis, English/Communications Instructor, and Richard Purcell, Diesel/Auto Instructor

Mary Moe, Deputy Commissioner of 2 Year Education will be meeting with UM-Helena Administrators on June 17, 2008 during the weekly Leadership Team Meeting

The Annual Summer Community Night 2008 was held on June 10, 2008 during which we presented an overview of our Program, Admissions, and Financial Aid the event was featured twice on Beartooth News/NBC Channel 12

UM-Helena had a record number of campus visits during the 2007-2008 academic year – numbers show a 77% increase over last year

Online admission applications for new students at UMH will be available later this summer through a partnership with Embark – this process will significantly expedite admissions applications and make enrolling much more convenient for future students

Summer Semester began June 9, 2008 and will run 24 courses for at total of 178 seats

26 – 30 May 2008 three instructors (Barbara Yahvah, Steve Schlauch, and Mike Cronin) were recognized for teaching excellence by being awarded the prestigious NISOD Excellence medal during the National Institute for Staff and Organizational Development (NISOD) Conference in Austin, TX

UMH is currently enrolling new students for Fall 2008 through First Semester Advising

Planning for summer orientations continues and is on target to be the best yet

Retention programs for the fall and spring semesters will include stress reduction packets, information to faculty and students on stress, mental health issues, personal finance, and physical well-being

The Director of Enrollment Management attended the AHEAD conference in Butte which covered mental health issues and ADA accommodations

Student Services is currently analyzing withdrawal survey information and should have results in the near future

UMH hosted the Montana Campus Compact Network Meeting June 5 & 6 – Campus Coordinators from MUS schools and Tribal Colleges met to exchange ideas, hear presentations on best practices, common challenges, and to discuss community collaboration and partnership in Montana

A Faculty Support Center and ECOS office is currently being developed and will be located on the Donaldson Campus

Fire & Rescue Orientations will be held at the UMH Donaldson Campus on Thursday July 10, 2008 and Friday July 11, 2008 at the UM-COT Campus in Missoula

An art exhibit featuring works from UMH art students was recently held in our Donaldson Campus Library

Currently on display in the library is “The History of the American West” which accompanies a course of the same name being offered during the summer session
• The library is conducting an inventory of the entire library collection as well as continuing to process new books.
• IT installed a new server backup system – formerly, all servers had their own backup unit – the new unit will allow for better archival of material and easier access to backed up data.
• IT is in the process of installing MRM 7 which is a meeting room manager that will run the room scheduling for classes and other events at the campus and is a much more user-friendly program – the new software includes Exchange integration to allow notifications to be sent to required personnel through outlook email.
• IT is replacing two computer labs to keep up with current software requirements and will remove outdated hardware also an important advantage is that the new computers are much more energy efficient.
• IT has installed a print server which will allow us to be able to monitor and control the volume of printed material and if necessary restrict access which will save paper/toner usage and can be used in the future to charge departments/students for excessive printing.
• IT is currently updating all faculty, staff, and student labs to Office 2007 which will allow UMH to keep up with the needs of our students and the community.