

DATE: 8/27/2008

TO: Board of Regents

FROM: Stefani Hicswa
President, Miles Community College

RE: Campus Report for the September 24 -26, 2008 Board of Regents' Meeting

- James P. Lucas of Miles City, former MCC Board of Trustee and founder and member of the MCC Endowment Board, has been announced as the recipient of the Association of Community College Trustees (ACCT) 2008 Western Regional Trustee Leadership award. Jim Lucas was nominated by the current MCC Board of Trustees as an “exemplary mentor to many trustees and college presidents over the decades.” Jim began his education at Miles Community College and completed post-secondary degrees in business administration and law from the University of Montana. He has been a practicing attorney in Miles City for over 50 years. He has been an active trustee for over 40 years, member of the College Athletic Booster Club, and has been president and member of the College Endowment Board since its 1964 inception. As well he served as a charter member of FIPSE and as Speaker of the House for the Montana legislature. The ACCT Trustee Leadership award recognizes the tremendous contributions made by college trustees. Mr. Lucas will be honored at the ACCT Leadership Congress in New York City, October 29-November 1.
- The Board of Trustees unanimously approved a faculty master agreement at their July 28, 2008 regular meeting. The master contract was negotiated with Miles Community College negotiating team and union representatives in June 2008.
- Miles Community College was the site for the State of Montana Democratic convention on July 25-26. Governor Brian Schweitzer was a keynote speaker during the event. Approximately 100 individuals attended the convention.
- Kassie Taylor of Miles City was hired as the new Workforce Training Coordinator for Miles Community College. She will work with the MAP-WIRED project developing distance education courses for entrepreneurship and biofuels. Kassie will also work with the Center for Distance Education and Community Outreach developing customized workforce training opportunities with community and regional employers. She began her duties July 1.
- Miles Community College has an upgraded website to improve ADA compliance and services for all students, especially those with disabilities. The new website was funded through grants awarded to 1) MCC partnering sponsored agency, Career Development and Workforce Center, from Montana Rural Reserve and 2) the College for distance education through the Office of Commissioner of Higher Education E-Learning Business Development. The college website is www.milesc.edu.
- President Stefani Gray Hicswa served as a panelist for rural healthcare June 16-18 in Chicago, Illinois facilitated by the Rural Policy Research Institute (RUPRI). The

dialogue included university researchers, rural community college administrators, and federal policy representatives who discussed 1) future training needs in rural healthcare, 2) community college program development and workforce responsiveness, and 3) the importance of partnerships with the specific roles all the entities provide. President Hicswa provided panelist's information regarding her research in rural community development as well as the Miles Community College 2008 federal appropriation "Career Pathways in Healthcare" project for healthcare science program development.

- The Miles Community College Board of Trustees unanimously approved moving forward in the fundraising process for building an indoor agri-equine complex on Monday evening, May 12. The addition of an indoor facility will enhance the Equine Studies program and provide a venue for community equine activities and events.
- Miles Community College Lady Pioneers Head Coach, Dwight Gunnare, resigned and accepted the same position with Casper College. Under his leadership, the Lady Pioneers were the 2006-2007 and 2007-2008 Mon-Dak Conference Champions and 2007-2008 Region IX Championship runners-up. The Region IX conference includes community college teams from Montana, Wyoming, Nebraska, and Colorado. The MCC Lady Pioneers basketball team received recognition in the National Junior College Athletic Association (NJCAA) Women's Basketball Top 25 Poll, ending the season ranked 12th in the nation. They were ranked as the #1 defense team and #7 offense team in the country.
- Lindsay Woolley has been chosen as the new MCC Lady Pioneers basketball coach. Lindsay has been head golf coach and assistant coach for the men and women's basketball teams for the past four years. He was named 2008 Mon-Dak Conference Coach of the Year for golf.
- Kristina Murnin, Miles Community College Presidential Scholar, was elected in May as Student Senate President for the 2008-2009 academic year. She is a first year nursing student and a second year Presidential Scholar. Krissy begins her Student Senate presidential term in September 2008.
- The 68th annual Miles Community College Commencement Exercises were held on Saturday, May 10, 2008 in the Kailey Gymnasium at the Centra Athletic Center. United States Senator Jon Tester from Montana was the commencement speaker. Approximately 100 graduates received their degrees. The Nurses Pinning Ceremony was held Friday, May 9 at 7:00 p.m. Thirty-five nursing graduates received pins from their family and friends during the ceremony.