



CAMPUS REPORT | Board of Regents Meeting | March 3-4, 2011 | Helena



MONTANA STATE UNIVERSITY | BOZEMAN  
President Waded Cruzado

MSU's College of Nursing has added an accelerated program that allows students with a bachelor's degree in a field other than nursing to earn a bachelor's degree in nursing in approximately 16 months instead of 29. To be eligible, students must have completed the same prerequisite courses as students in the non-accelerated nursing program. The program will help to address the shortage of nurses in Montana and other states.

MSU scientists in the earth sciences department have received a \$320,000 grant from the National Science Foundation to study the impact of humans on forests in New Zealand. The goal of the project is to better understand how the first peoples of New Zealand influenced the environment and how resilient landscapes were to human activity, which may have implications for how climate change and land-use change will influence fire and other disturbances in the western U.S.

Jake Jobs, an MSU alum and president and CEO of American Furniture Warehouse based in Denver, has given more than \$3 million to the MSU College of Business. The gift will be designated to support the newly renamed Jake Jobs Center for Entrepreneurship for the New West. The college plans to develop further curricular and professional opportunities for entrepreneurship students through the center.

Through a partnership with Reach, a local organization devoted to empowering adults with disabilities, students in Professor Laura Stanley's industrial engineering class worked with disabled adults to help them develop efficient ways of working independently.

A new Web site, film and teacher's guide now available free online from Montana State University promote a better understanding of scientists' quest for alternative energy sources. The site, <http://hydrogen.montana.edu>, focuses on the potential of hydrogen as an alternative fuel. The materials were created by Montana's EPSCoR team based at MSU. EPSCoR stands for the Experimental Program to Stimulate Competitive Research, and is part of the National Science Foundation.

MSU's School of Architecture program was among five university architecture programs featured in the December 2010 issue of Architectural Record magazine. The magazine, cited three MSU projects: the Khumbu Climbing School, a sustainable building in Phortse, Nepal where Sherpas learn safe climbing skills; the renovation of an igherm (or grain storage building) in Zawiya Ahansal, Morocco; and the Hyalite Pavilion, a structure on the Hyalite Reservoir in the Gallatin National Forest, south of Bozeman. That project won a 2010 AIA Montana Honor Award.

Jordan Kennedy, a mechanical engineering sophomore and first generation descendent of Blackfeet, won first in both the oral and poster presentation at the National American Indian Science and Engineering Society (AISES) conference in Albuquerque in November.

MSU electrical and computer engineering Professor Ross Snider was one of nine people to receive a 2010 Boeing Welliver Faculty Fellowship from an international pool. Snider was the first MSU recipient of the fellowship, which allowed him to shadow Boeing professionals and observe Boeing operations for eight weeks during the 2010 summer. Since returning, Snider has shared his experience and incorporated it to better prepare students for careers in engineering.

Under the guidance of Professor Anne Christensen, senior and graduate accounting students from MSU's College of Business are offering free help preparing tax returns for MSU students and individuals who made less than \$55,000 last year. The student accounting volunteers gain practical experience through their participation in the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program, which was established by the Internal Revenue Service to assist people who may find it difficult to pay for tax preparation services.

In 2011 MSU was awarded The Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching's engagement classification, which recognizes MSU's commitment to teaching that encourages volunteer service in communities and the spreading of knowledge that benefits the public. MSU was commended by the Carnegie Foundation president for "excellent alignment among mission, culture, leadership, resources and practices that support dynamic and noteworthy community engagement."

A film made by former students of the MSU film school premiered at the prestigious 2011 Sundance Film Festival. "Prairie Love," a quirky love story set in North Dakota, was one of 118 films selected from 10,000 submissions to the 2011 Sundance Film Festival, and one of just 40 narrative feature films accepted. Sundance is the largest film festival in the U.S.

# Montana State University

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BILLINGS

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Over the past year Dr. Jenny Leonard, Associate Professor, MSUB College of Business, has worked with her students to develop a new website promoting energy conservation in Billings. Students who worked on the project over the course of the past year with the City of Billings researched various energy conservation topics and websites and used them to develop a website that not only advances energy-saving topics, but raises awareness of the good work that is already taking place in Billings. Faculty and student interns from the communications, public administration and business programs partnered with the City of Billings to develop a marketing campaign to highlight the city's conservation activity and encourage local citizens to look at ways to conserve energy. The "Blue Skies Green Pockets" campaign messages and website for conservation launched in January on television and the internet. The Energy Star Program is a joint program of the U. S. Environmental Protection Agency and the U. S. Department of Energy that helps cities around the country save money and protects the environment through energy efficient products and practices.

Maggie Gregori, a senior at MSUB, performed her Senior Clarinet Recital consisting of arrangements from Bach, van Beethoven and Mozart. The concert also featured musicians Gary Behm, clarinet; Garion Holian, viola; and Jesica Henderson, clarinet. After graduation this spring, Maggie plans on becoming a Marine Corp Band member.

As one of the scheduled events for the "Power of One Week" honoring the actions and legacy of Martin Luther King Jr., resident assistants at MSUB constructed a "Wall of Hate" in the Student Union Building. The Wall represented the different types of oppression that happen in society, both past and present. Students were asked to write words on sheets of paper that they had heard or had been called in the past that offended them, or other kinds of injustices they have witnessed in their world today. The words were then placed together to represent a wall that keeps people apart. Crystal Svoboda, Rimrock Hall Director, said "In order to create a new path for the future, we have to tear down the wall." The "Wall of Hate" was ripped down by the students at the end of the week.

Northcutt Steele Gallery, in the LA Building at MSUB, featured an exhibit by Saudi Arabian artist, Hend Al-Mansour. The "Fatimah in America III" exhibit portrays the lives of five women who came from the Middle East to begin new lives in America. Hend graduated from the University of Cairo, Egypt in 1980 and practiced medicine in Saudi Arabia until she came to the United States in 1997 to escape what she saw as the Saudi oppression to women. Hend never had formal training as an artist in Saudi Arabia, but coming to the United States she was able to realize her dream of becoming an artist, achieving an M.F.A. from Minnesota College of Art and Design in 2002.

Under the direction of Dr. Mark Fenderson, the MSU Billings Symphonic Band presented their Fall Concert. Included in the program were "The Peaceful Warrior," composed and conducted by senior music major Ron Dorado and "Chanson Funeraire" by Gabriel Faure, conducted by junior music major Mike Walker.

Four students of the MSUB Health Promotion Program passed a prestigious national certification examination administered by The National Commission for Health Education Credentialing, Inc. (NCHCEC). NCHCEC is a nonprofit organization whose mission is to improve the practice of health education and to serve the public and profession of health education by certifying health education specialists, promoting professional development, and strengthening professional preparation and practice. Today there are more than 8,000 individuals actively carrying the Certified Health Education Specialist designation.

The Cisco Networking Academy NetRiders competition is designed as a way for students to showcase their IT/Networking skills and gain visibility among talent recruiters in the growing networking field. An hour before the online international competition was to start, the University's internet system went down, leaving Kent Savage and Alandra Oukrop, both second-year students in the MSUB COT's Computer Systems Technology program, in search of a dependable public wireless network. Barnes and Noble to the rescue! The duo linked to the wireless system and was able to log into the site for the three-hour session. Upon completion of the 100-question skills test and some Cisco technology-specific networking challenges, they bested all but two of the 45 teams in the competition for a noteworthy third place finish.

Curtis Walette, a junior majoring in Business Management in the College of Business, finished third among 297 competitors in the 2010 Fall Foundation Business Simulation Challenge, an international business simulation competition sponsored by Capsim Management Simulations. In November, he completed in the final rounds against five other student management teams and achieved 677 points out of 1,000 on the Balanced Score Card to take the competition. He then moved onto the finals where he placed third behind students from Baylor University and Brigham Young University. The challenge is a global online competition held in the spring and fall semester each year. The competition is hosted by Capsim Management Simulations, Inc. of Northfield, Illinois, the world's largest provider of business simulations to college graduate and undergraduate students.



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**Ted Turner as Commencement Speaker** – Ted Turner, the highly successful entrepreneur and well-known philanthropist has agreed to deliver the commencement address for Northern’s 2011 graduation ceremony. Mr. Turner is an America’s Cup Champion and founder of the cable news network CNN. As a philanthropist, he is known for his support of United Nations and has devoted assets to environmental causes.

**Northwest Evaluators** - Three additional Northern faculty members became peer evaluators for Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities (NWCCU). Larry Strizich, Barbara Zuck, and Jay Howland attended an accreditation workshop in Helena at the UM-Helena COT. The training was delivered by Dr. Ronald L. Baker, Executive Vice President of NWCCU.

**Bio-Energy Center Works With HHS** - The advanced biology class at Havre High School, under Mr. David Burleigh, spent four class periods of lecture and hands-on-experiments with the Bio-Energy Center staff of MSU-Northern to learn more about bio-diesel. The Bio-Energy Center’s Research Scientist Jon Soriano visited Havre High School to deliver a lecture and a pre-lab discussion. The students then spent two class periods at the Center’s Fuel Chemistry Lab to synthesize and purify their own bio-diesel.

**We Love Northern Ball** - The 25th Annual We Love Northern Ball took place February 12, 2011 in the Student Union Building. The evening began at 6 p.m. with no-host cocktails and dinner and we ended the evening dancing to the music of the Milk River Band. All of the auction proceeds from the Ball go towards student scholarships.

**Pool Covered** - During the Christmas break, the old swimming pool was filled in and our wrestling team has moved their mats into the room and is using it for practice. The campus is continuing to explore the best location and design for a new wellness center and the MSU-Northern Foundation is continuing to raise money for the same. They hope to begin renovations within the year.

**Auto Lab Renovations** – We are in the process of rebidding renovations to our auto lab for our Bio-Center Pilot plant. We have made some slight modifications to the designs to get the costs down. This facility will house grain crushing, pilot plant and an electric Dynamometer.

**Youth Build Graduation** - On December 22, sixteen young people proudly accepted the academic, trade skill, and safety certificates they earned during the twenty week YouthBuild session. Their achievements also carried over into the intangibles of self-esteem, trust, leadership, confidence, pride, and sense of community. It was a touching moment for the families and friends to witness the growth that these young people had achieved given the opportunity provided and their desire to succeed.





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Physical Therapist Assistant Program Director, Brad Bechard, announced the PTA program received notice that it is in full compliance with the Commission on Accreditation of Physical Therapy Education (CAPTE). The next site visit will be in 2018.

Emergency Medical Services Program Director, Joel Henderson, announced the first accreditation site visit to the program was rewarding. Over the last year, he and his staff have been preparing our Paramedic program for accreditation. Overall, it appears that the professionals visiting were pleased and indicated to us that we are on the right track for an accredited Paramedic program.

MSU – Great Falls is hosting interactive community Legislative Forums using the METNET system. Legislators and community members participate in live, video discussion on the bills and proposals affecting the 62<sup>nd</sup> Montana Legislature. The 2011 Community Legislative Forums are scheduled on the second and fourth Thursdays of January, February and March.

The College celebrated the start of construction on its Simulated Hospital at a press conference on December 28. The conference featured MSU – Great Falls Dean Joe Schaffer, leadership from Benefis Health Systems, members of the area legislative delegation, and the general contractor, Dick Anderson Construction and CTA Architects. The Simulated Hospital will host practical and simulated learning within a state-of-the-art facility, providing enhanced clinical instruction and real-life scenarios that feature experiential patient conditions not otherwise encountered in traditional academic settings. Experiential knowledge gained through this clinical setting will significantly enhance healthcare education and student performance, ultimately benefiting patient care and safety. The Simulated Hospital will be located in the unfinished lower level of the recently expanded facility at MSU – Great Falls, which was finished in 2008. Upon completion, the Simulated Hospital will offer 10,000 square feet of patient care environments, including reproductions of emergency, surgical, intensive care, radiological, and examination facilities, replicating current medical facilities in Great Falls as to best prepare and educate students in the most realistic manner possible. The Simulated Hospital was made possible thanks to the local legislative delegation's support of a \$1.6 million appropriation in the 61st Legislative Session that will fund this project, and in part, the construction of a campus childcare center.

The annual College in a Day welcomed approximately 250 high school students and their counselors to campus on January 6. Faculty presented information about programs and offered opportunities for hands-on learning in 29 career exploration workshops. College in a Day offers information on exciting careers in business and healthcare as well as transfer, distance learning, and financial aid options. College in a Day helps high school students experience what it would be like to be in a two-year college setting. It also gives students the opportunity to explore the options available at MSU-Great Falls and the exciting careers they can pursue with an associate degree.

Orientation Day introduced new students to campus on January 7. 'Navigating MSU-Great Falls,' pilot course COLS 102, is being offered this spring. It is a survey course in the effective use of College resources and academic planning at MSU-GF. Specific topics include college policies, procedures and resources, academic planning, career and major exploration, goal setting, and other areas related to student success. Students are expected to enroll in this class their first semester.

To celebrate the Martin Luther King Day of Service, MSU-Great Falls' student government contributed funds to offer free admission to the Children's Museum of Montana. Visitors to the museum were able to see the new "Brain Station" learning center, which MSU-GF carpentry students had volunteered to build and install over the holidays. Dental hygiene students also helped children learn about health on that day. Thanks to all of the students and team leader Catherine Avery for planning this great event!