

CAMPUS REPORT

DATE: February 10, 2011
TO: Board of Regents
FROM: W. Franklin Gilmore, Chancellor, Montana Tech of The University of Montana
RE: Campus Report for the March 3 - 4, 2011 Board of Regents' Meeting

- Dr. Chad Okrusch (Assistant Professor, Technical Communication) and Matt Vincent (Director, CFWEP) have published a book, [Butte \(Then and Now\)](#). It's a marvelous collection of historic photos paired with the current view, along with historical vignettes about how we got from there to here.
- Montana Tech has rolled-out a new program to the campus called CAPP (Curriculum, Advising, and Program Planning). CAPP is a degree evaluation tool available via Banner Self-Service that will help students track their progress toward their degree by taking the courses they've completed and comparing them to the appropriate curriculum. Within the first two weeks after going live in October, students and faculty have used CAPP to perform 543 evaluations on nearly 15% of the student population.
- Dr. Henrietta Shirk presented a refereed paper "The Postmodern Visual Rhetoric of Photographs: When Photoshop® Becomes a Verb" on October 15, 2010, at the *Marshall McLuhan in a Post-Modern World: Is the Medium the Message? Conference* sponsored by the Languages and Cultures Circle, Department of Rhetoric, Writing, and Communications, University of Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada.
- Dr. Hal Millegan of Montana Tech's Department of General Engineering and Dr. Joe Figueira of the Montana Tech Office of Research have negotiated and signed a Montana Partnership agreement with the Montana Department of Transportation. The contract is a seven-year open-ended contract that provides for small research contracts with durations of one year or less and up to \$35K each.
- Chris Gammons (Professor, Geological Engineering) presented two invited talks at a recent Short Course entitled "Environmental Geochemistry for Modern Mining" at the 2010 Geological Society of America meeting in Denver. This work will be published by the Society of Economic Geologists in an upcoming Short Course volume.
- Geological Engineering faculty Larry Smith, Professor Emeritus Hugh Dresser, and six students published a paper on the glacial geology of the Anaconda and Flint Creek ranges in Northwest Geology. The work was the product of a group mapping project done in a Spring 2010 class in Geological Engineering.
- Mathematical Sciences faculty members Chip Todd, Jim Handley, Rick Rossi, and undergraduate math majors JoAnne McAllister, Virginia LaMere, Sarah Hotaling, Jay Rosencrantz, James Arnold, Stuart Fortier, and Jeffrey Winter attended the Annual Joint MAA/AMS Math Conference in New Orleans in January, 2011.
- Katherine McElroy, MT Tech Interdisciplinary Masters of Science graduate student, Anaconda High School Biology Teacher, and MJ Murdock Charitable Trust Partner in Science with MT Biology Associate Professor Dr. Marisa Pedulla, presented both an oral podium presentation and poster presentation of her research project, "Isolation and Characterization of Warm Springs Extremophiles" at the annual Murdock Partners in Science conference in San Diego, California January 14 and 15, 2011.
- Assistant Professor Larry Smith, Geological Engineering, was accepted to attend and present at a Geological Society of America Penrose Conference on Google Earth in Geoscience Education and Research held in Mountain View, California Jan 3-8, 2011. He presented a poster entitled *Sedimentary environment investigations for an introductory sedimentology class, using Google Earth*.
- The following are recent publications from the Montana Tech Hantavirus Crew. Montana Tech has been studying the ecology of deer mice and Sin Nombre Virus since 1994. Carver was a Post Doctoral researcher on the crew for two years. Piudo is a Ph.D. student in Patagonian Argentina finishing her degree this March. 1) Carver, S., J.T. Tueax, R.J. Douglass, and A. Kuenzi, 2011. Delayed density-dependent prevalence of *Sin Nombre virus* infection in deer mice (*Peromyscus maniculatus*) in central and western Montana. *J. Wildlife Diseases* 47:56-63. 2) Piudo, L, M Monteverde, RS Walker and RJ Douglass. Rodent community structure and Andes Virus infection in sylvan and peridomestic habitats in Northwestern Patagonia, Argentina, 2010. *Vector Borne and Zoonotic Diseases* (In press). 3) Cline, BJ, S Carver and RJ Douglass, 2010 Relationship of human behavior within outbuildings to potential exposure to Sin Nombre Virus in Western Montana. *EcoHealth* (in Press) 4) Carver, S, AM Kilpatrick, A Kuenzi, R Douglass, RS Ostfeld and P Weinstein. Environmental monitoring to enhance comprehension

and control of infectious diseases, 2010. J. of Environmental Monitoring (in Press). 5) Carver, S, JN Mills, A Kuenzi, T. Flietstra and R Douglass, 2010. Sampling frequency differentially influences interpretation of zoonotic pathogen and host dynamics: Sin Nombre virus and deer mice. Vector-Borne and Zoonotic Diseases 10:575-583.