



The University of Montana - Helena
COLLEGE OF TECHNOLOGY

DATE: April 12, 2011
TO: Board of Regents
FROM: Daniel J. Bingham, PhD
Dean/CEO
UM-Helena College of Technology
RE: Campus Update Report for the May 2011 Board of Regents' Meeting

- The March 3rd Legislative Reception held at the UMH Airport campus was well attended and by all reports a successful event
- Congratulations to UM-Helena, Nursing Department Administrative Assistant and former student. She was honored during an awards ceremony on March 9th. The YWCA of Helena and Soroptimist International of Helena honored Helena women “whose public actions and personal triumphs demonstrate a commitment to the YWCA and Soroptimists’ missions.”
- The remodel provided office space for the Nursing Faculty which is located adjacent to the primary nursing classrooms/labs.
- The Information Technology office area was remodeled to provide them with much needed work space.
- The floor was leveled removing floor drains in an area that had been used for trades programs. Those trades programs have been relocated to the Airport campus and this space can now be used to fill classroom and office needs.
- A maintenance area with the capability to receive large shipments was added to eliminate the need of receiving goods through the Fire and Rescue training lab.
- The Bookstore back room was expanded to accommodate the increasing volume of books and additional staffing requirements brought on by record enrollments.
- The Learning Center and Office of Disability Services will host a series of student centered presentations on Monday, April 11th, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. The presentations are open to the entire campus and Helena community. Topics include: public speaking and anxiety, mental health issues and local law enforcement, impacts of Attention Deficit Disorder (ADD), a photography exhibit by UM-Helena student Shyla Braaten, and panel discussion by Helena High School students on stigmas associated with disabilities. UM-Helena faculty attending will receive professional development credits.
- Career Services is pleased to announce the Governor’s Energy Internship in Montana. Students who complete a 200 hour Governor’s Energy Internship with a Montana business or organization are eligible to receive a \$2,000 credit towards tuition at a public Montana university or college.
- Retention and Advising: The first semester advisors are working with the academic advisor to help faculty advise and register current students in the general education, nursing, computer technology, and office technology programs. This effort allows group advising for those students who have fewer than 19 credits.

- The UM-Helena Financial Aid office welcomes James Bisom, who comes to us from the Montana Guaranteed Student Loan Program, as our new Scholarship & Work Study Coordinator, and Valarie Osborne, previously in the Business Office, as our Student Loan and Grant Officer. The college is fortunate to have these two very talented individuals on our financial aid staff who will continue offering great customer service to our students.
- Headcount and FTE enrollment increased by 11% and 10% respectively compared to last spring. Total spring headcount of 1,558 and FTE enrollment of 1089 represent an increase over the fall semester for the second consecutive year. Admission applications for spring were up 16% compared to spring of 2010.
- The Educational Dedication and Goal Enhancement (EDGE) program is fully staffed and accepting student applications. This newly funded TRIO Student Support Services program provides academic assistance, personal counseling, needs and skills development, financial aid guidance, career counseling and workshops to eligible student participants in order to improve their academic performance, retention, degree completion, and transfer rates.
- In partnership with City Brew, the UM-Helena bookstore has opened a coffee cart on our Donaldson Campus for a trial period during the remainder of the spring semester. Beverages can be pre-ordered via text or email, with a discount for bringing your own mug. Hours are 7:30-11:30 a.m. and 2:30-4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday.
- UM-Helena will host *Lincoln High School at UM-Helena Day* on Thursday, April 7th. 26 high school students will participate in their chosen area of either general education or a trade at the UM-Helena Airport Campus. This is the second year the institutions have partnered to offer Lincoln School students a glimpse at higher education.
- UM-Helena's 2011 Commencement Ceremony is scheduled for Saturday, May 7th at 11 a.m. in the Helena High School Gymnasium. Our commencement speakers include Sam Allred a CPA with Anderson Zurmuehlen & Co. based in Helena, MT. Sam is also the Founder and Director of Upstream Academy an institute for leadership development. Other speakers include Charles Brown and Patti Casne, students selected to represent the graduating class. Graduates and their families are invited to a reception in the Student Center at the Donaldson Campus immediately following the ceremony.