



CAMPUS REPORT | Board of Regents Meeting | Sept. 21-22, 2011 | Billings



MONTANA STATE UNIVERSITY | BOZEMAN  
President Waded Cruzado

Jena Burke, an aspiring history teacher who wants to inspire future generations of students, was Montana's 2011 recipient of a James Madison Fellowship. The fellowship will support her while she earns a master's degree in education, attends a summer institute in Washington D.C. and meets with 56 other recipients of the fellowship.

Horticulture professor Tracy Dougher received a Teacher Fellow Award from the North American Colleges and Teachers of Agriculture in June 2011. The award recognizes Dougher's efforts to help students succeed in the horticulture field by implementing active learning in the classroom, organizing horticulture open houses, advising clubs, arranging community service activities, connecting undergraduates at MSU with K-12 students, providing opportunities for her students to network with people in the horticulture industry and coordinating internships.

Thomas McNab, director of the Community Design Center in MSU's School of Architecture, was a recent winner of Northwest Energy Efficiency Alliance's 2011 BetterBricks Awards for energy champions in Montana. McNab was honored for advocating sustainable strategies in the design and construction of projects in Montana and Wyoming.

MSU's civil engineering program won an honorable mention for the Walter LeFevre Award, a national award given by the American Society of Civil Engineering. The evaluation criteria included percentage of graduates who took the fundamentals of engineering (FE) exam, the percentage of graduates who passed that exam, the number of licensed faculty, and the department's curriculum. All 55 of MSU's 09-10 civil engineering graduates who took the FE exam passed it, a 100 percent pass rate compared to the 74.5 percent national average.

A new Veterans Support Center, located in the Strand Union Building, opened in fall 2011 to provide space for speakers, seminars, resources and support services to assist approximately 500 student veterans in their transition to higher education. MSU was also designated a "Military Friendly Schools" for the second year in a row by G.I. Jobs magazine in 2011.

Three recent MSU graduates have received Fulbright Fellowships to teach and research abroad. Dan Cornish of Butte will teach in Turkey, Jayme Kreitinger of Manhattan, Mont., will conduct research in Jordan and Sasha Dingle, a freeskiier and honors student from Jericho, Vt., will teach in Vietnam as recipients of the prestigious fellowship.

Civil engineering graduate student Katey Plymesser is one of 14 students nationally chosen as a Hydro Research Foundation fellow. The \$94,000 fellowship over two years will support her research on Steeppass fishways, which help fish such as salmon and shad navigate around dams and other obstacles to reach their spawning grounds.

The Journal of Criminal Justice Education recognized sociology professor David Eitle as one of the most prolific criminology and criminal justice scholars.

Three 2011 graduates of MSU's Department of Chemical and Biological Engineering, all female, have won prestigious National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowships. Chandra Macauley of Billings, Kathryn Morrissey of Colorado Springs, Colo., and Nicole Schonenbach of Ashland all received the fellowship, which provides them \$30,000 a year, plus tuition and fees, to support three years of graduate education. Macauley received her fellowship in materials science and engineering, Morrissey in environmental science and Schonenbach in chemical engineering.

Griffin Stevens, a mechanical engineering and Honors Program major from Bozeman, was one of 20 students to receive a 2011 Pearson Prize National Fellowship, recognizing leadership in community service. Stevens received the award for his efforts to help bring drinking wells to Kenyan schools, broadcaster Tom Brokaw to Bozeman and a national trophy to MSU.



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Welcome Dr. Mark Pagano, new Provost and Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs, at MSUB! Prior to accepting the Provost position, Mark was a Professor of Mechanical Engineering Technology and served as Dean of Purdue University's Extended Campus in West Lafayette, Indiana.

MSUB opened Petro Theatre to parents, community members and other little leaguers interested in watching the Big Sky All-Stars compete in the first round of the Little League World Series. Jeff Rosenberry, Assistant Director of Housing & Student Life; and Evan Slagsvold, Operations Manager in the SUB; both share an interest in umpiring the Little Leaguers not as authority figures, but as educators.

MSUB's federally-funded "New Path, New Life" reentry initiative is being considered by state, federal and university representatives as a template for use on a statewide basis as a reentry strategy for offenders. Kim Gillan, Project Manager for the local program, said while the focus of the program is on reducing recidivism through skills development, it also helps increase public safety and lower the cost of incarceration.

"Business Essentials for the Healthcare Professionals" is an eight-week program offer during fall semester - bringing the best minds from higher education, the local business community and the region's top healthcare providers together for professional development. This unique collaboration between MSUB and the local healthcare sector will give healthcare professionals a boost in business acumen to complement their commitment to patient care.

A special community commemoration is planned on Sunday, September 11, 2011 at 2:00 p.m. at the COT. A 9/11 memorial, designed by faculty, staff and community members, features a 600-pound piece of steel I-beam recovered from the rubble of the World Trade Center, benches for personal reflection, as well as informational panels set in sandstone around the edges. To fully commemorate all heroes in the aftermath of the 9/11 attacks, MSUB will be partnering with the Exchange Clubs of Billings for the presentation of the Healing Field Program, featuring 1, 000 American flags flying to honor American servicemen and women and those who died on 9/11.

ConocoPhillips has donated a lockout/tagout training tank to MSUB COT's Power Plant Technology Program, giving students a true understanding of what it's like to safely "lockout" potentially hazardous equipment and energy sources. According to OSHA, compliance with the lockout/tagout standard prevents an estimated 120 fatalities and 50,000 injuries each year.

MSUB Women's Basketball team was recognized nationally by the Women's Basketball Coaches Association (WBCA) for having the eighth best overall GPA for an NCAA Division II team during the 2010-11 academic year.

Dr. Debra Johnson, Associate Professor of Accounting & Business Law, was honored by the Montana Society of Certified Public Accountants as the top accounting educator in the State.

Chancellor Emeritus Ronald Sexton was honored with a Lifetime Achievement Award for his 40 years as an educational leader.

Congratulations to the MSUB Billings Chapter of American Indian Business Leaders (AIBL) on winning the national championship in the Business Plan Competition. The team worked with Cheyenne artist, Jon Beartusk, to develop a plan for an artists' cooperative on the Crow Indian Reservation near the Little Bighorn Battlefield National Monument.

Thanks to Jeff Rosenberry and an amazing team of workers who worked tirelessly to provide shelter, clothing and food assistance to evacuees during the flood disaster!



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MONTANA STATE UNIVERSITY | NORTHERN

**Interim Dean** - Dr. Carol Reifschneider has been appointed as Interim Dean of MSU-Northern's College of Education, Arts and Sciences and Nursing (CEASN). The decision to hire Dr. Reifschneider on an interim basis came as a direct result of a wide range of input including the faculty of the CEASN.

**Ryan Leaf Speaks at Orientation** -Former NFL, Rose Bowl and CMR (Great Falls) quarterback, now turned motivational speaker, Ryan Leaf spoke at MSU-Northern's New Student Orientation on Aug. 27. He challenged them to make right choices for their life.

**College Quest** – This year we offered orientation sessions for 26 Native American students who are attending Montana State University-Northern this fall. The program is designed to help them make the transition to campus life and exposed them to the various services available.

**YouthBuild Receives 1.1 Million Dollars** - Northern will receive 1.1 million dollars to run the next two years of its YouthBuild Program. YouthBuild assists out-of-school youth in obtaining their diplomas or GEDs while providing occupational training in the construction industry.

**Upward Bound Program** – This year Northern hosted our 22<sup>nd</sup> North Central Montana Upward Bound program. This is a Federally Funded TRIO program that is based out of Fort Belknap. The program has a five-week residential summer component which provides college level courses designed to help students to bridge between High School and College.

**Homecoming** – One of the highlights of this year's Homecoming activities was the Friday night concert featuring the Elton John Tribute band from LA known as "Elton the Early Years". The event was also a fundraiser for our new outdoor stage which will be located behind Pershing Hall.

**Northern Alumni Membership Drive** - The Alumni Association has decided to go a new direction. Instead of the annual phone-a-thon they are having a membership drive. The money raised with the membership drive will help with all the events and functions that they like to offer for their current and future alumni.

**Chancellor's Lecture Series** – This year MSU-Northern will be starting the Chancellor's Lecture Series which will consist of seven talks on vital topics by distinguished guest speakers. They are free and available to the campus community and general public.

**Express Experience** - The Admissions Office teamed up with Advising and held four Express Experience events this summer on the Northern campus. The events were held on May 4th, May 31st, June 16th, and July 11<sup>th</sup>. The four events hosted over 80 students.

**Grant for New Motorcycles** - The Montana Motorcycle Rider Safety program which is housed at MSU-Northern received a \$164,500 grant from the state of Montana to purchase 35-40 new motorcycles, one 24 foot enclosed trailer and three small open trailers. The goal of this grant is to help train novice motorcyclists on newer motorcycles to improve riding skills and become safer motorcyclists on Montana's roadways before purchasing their own motorcycles.



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MONTANA STATE UNIVERSITY | GREAT FALLS

The 2010-11 Dean's Award for Teaching Excellence was awarded to Jason Harding, Director of the Sustainable Energy Technology program. Jason was formerly the Director of the Collision Repair and Refinishing program and has been through a battery of trainings and professional development to prepare him for his new role.

The 2010-11 Dean's Award for Innovation was presented to the following group for their work in implementing a healthcare career fair and parent night to expose high school students and their parents to healthcare careers and help them make informed decisions on their educational goals: Charlene Marshall, Susan Cooper, Brad Bechard, Linda Wing, Lanni Klasner, Natalie Nefzger, Megann McDonald, and Greg Paulauskis.

Sandra Allen, Surgical Technology Program Director, announced that 100% of the 2011 graduates passed the National Board of Surgical Technology & Surgical Assisting exam. As a comparison, for this past year only 53% of the candidates nationwide passed this exam.

Remodeling projects on campus this summer were the consolidation of the College's Bookstore and Café and the addition of an Advising Center – both are intended to upgrade student experiences on campus.

The Child Development Center project is moving along quite nicely. The College secured the architectural services of L'Heureux Page Werner (LPW) for the design of the facility. The Center will house approximately 80 children, and is designed specifically with our student body in mind. There will be rooms for infants all the way to pre-school aged students. More importantly, the interior and exterior environment will be designed to encourage student and family interaction, as well as collaborative learning and development. The construction phase of the project will go out to bid in the early fall. Our goal is to have the Center open for students and their children by fall 2012.

Montana Institute on Educational Technology (MIET) started in 2003 and after eight successful years it has grown to a week-long event serving hundreds of teachers from across Montana. Over 200 K12 teachers attended the 2011 MIET where 116 Educational Technology Classes were taught by 40 skilled faculty.

Registrar Dena Wagner-Fossen was elected as President of the Montana Association of Collegiate Registrars and Admissions Officers (MACRAO) for the coming year.

John Godwin, a student, was selected as a liaison officer to assist a senior trade official of the Philippines at the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) Trade Ministerial and Small and Medium Enterprise Meetings at Big Sky in May. Approximately 90 trade ministers and officials representing 21 economies congregated in closed sessions to hammer out policies.

The Adult Basic and Literacy Education (ABLE) commencement ceremony was attended by 41 graduates. Drew Uecker, principal at Paris Gibson Education Center and director of the ABLE program, said 175 students completed their GEDs through the program in the last year.

MSU – Great Falls is proud to announce the establishment of the College's Development Board, an active group of donors and community supporters who will help direct the institution's philanthropic activities. The board consists of: Suzanne Waring, Knud Grosen, Sharon Oakland, Gerry Jennings, Brian Kaufman, Sandra Erickson, Channing Hartelius, Brad Talcott, and Will Weaver. By consent of the Board, Brad Talcott was elected Chair, Gerry Jennings was elected Vice Chair, and Will Weaver was elected Member-At-Large. All three members will serve on the Board's Executive Committee with Dean/CEO Joe Schaffer.