



**The University of Montana-Helena**  
COLLEGE OF TECHNOLOGY

**DATE:** June 27, 2011  
**TO:** Board of Regents  
**FROM:** Daniel J. Bingham, PhD  
Dean/CEO  
UM-Helena College of Technology  
**RE:** Campus Update Report for the September 2011 Board of Regents' Meeting

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- UM-Helena will be partnering with the Helena School District and Career Training Institute to perform a federal Youth Build grant which will serve 28 high school dropout and at-risk youth annually for the two years of the grant.
  - UM-Helena received a Perkins Special Populations grant which we will combine with grant funding from the Rigorous Program of Study to hire a full time Math instructor dedicated to the Technical Mathematics courses and the effort to integrate math concepts and instruction into the trade's program core courses.
  - UM-Helena received a Perkins Special Populations grant in partnership with the Helena School District to promote career and technical education in the Access to Success high school degree completion program.
  - The Aviation program completed the acquisition of two new planes for the Aviation Maintenance program. One from the federal surplus program and one purchased through donated funds.
  - Continuing Education delivered accelerated Airframe and Powerplant training in Great Falls for the Avmax maintenance facility.
  - Two faculty NISOD Excellence in Teaching award recipients, Dr. Nathan Munn (psychology) and Candace Pescosolido (nursing), and one administrator traveled to Austin, TX, to attend the annual NISOD conference and awards presentation.
  - Conducted the Community College Survey of Student Engagement (CCSSE) survey.
  - Held a Public Speaking Awareness event to inform students of anxiety and learning disabilities issues commonly experienced by students and to educate students about support services available.
  - Showcased final class projects in Business, Office, Psychology, and Interior Space Planning programs.
  - Over the course of the past academic year, 463 students used the Learning Center and logged a total of 7433 hours.
  - Tutors put in approximately 1600 hours with students.
  - The majority of students utilizing the Learning Center were over 25 years of age. Most of the students were females.
  - Disability Services served 129 students over the course of the year. Approximately 15 students completed a certificate or a degree.
  - Joelle Selk, a second year student in The University of Montana-Helena College of Technology Nursing Program was awarded the Frank Newman Civic Fellows Award. This award honors inspiring college student leaders who have demonstrated an investment in finding solutions for challenges

facing communities throughout the country. Through service, research, and advocacy, Newman Civic Fellows are making the most of their college experiences to better understand themselves, the root causes of social issues, and effective mechanisms for creating lasting change. Joelle, in collaboration with a diabetes educator, developed an education program curriculum as an RN preceptorship project. Accreditation through the American Association of Diabetes Education enables the health center to leverage additional funding to expand community diabetes education. As an AmeriCorps volunteer, Joelle has put in countless hours as a Habitat for Humanity volunteer and also volunteers at the Cooperative Health Center.

- Advisors assisted 170 new students in May. In addition to these new students, Student Services advisors helped advise more than 50 continuing students. The collaboration between the Academic Advisor, Ann Willcockson, and the Student Services advisors Suzanne Hunger and Alan Thompson, provides a very good continuum of advising and academic planning for students. Terri Clairmont, TRiO Academic Advisor, has participated in continuing and new student advising. She presents the TRiO program to students in the advising sessions.
- Val Osborne, Director of Financial Aid and James Bisom, Financial Aid, Work-Study and Scholarships Specialist attended the RMAFSA (Rocky Mountain Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators) Summer Institute Training in Salt Lake City, Utah in June.
- Summer applications are at an all-time record high with 135 applications submitted. 92 of the applications enrolled in summer. Applications for the fall continue to show an increase over prior years.
- The TRiO-Student Support Services program is currently serving 67 students with more participants joining a daily basis. Support services provided include academic planning, career, financial literacy and mental health counseling, tutors and access to educational support software.
- Kendall May, having completed his graduate degree in public administration from the University of Montana this past spring, has been appointed interim director of the program for the 2011-2012 academic year. The program anticipates relocating to its permanent space in Donaldson room 118 by fall.
- UM-Helena's 2011 Commencement Ceremony was held Saturday, May 7<sup>th</sup>, 2011. 211 students graduated this spring with 126 graduates participated in this year's ceremony.