Bringing the World to Montana, Sharing Montana with the World
Sheldon McKamey
Executive Director
Mifune Dinosaur Museum, Japan
April 2014
MOR Community

Vesuvian Institute, Castellamare, Italy
June 2014
Angie Weikert – Montana
Director of Education
and Public Programs

Patrick Leiggi – Global
Administrative Director of Paleontology
Director of Exhibits
Director of MOR Exhibitions
MOR COMMUNITY

A University Museum

Montana State College Historical Museum – 1957
Collections holding

- Natural History
- Cultural History
- Native American
- Historical Photography
- Art
Research Museum

A scene from Hall of Giants
Siebel Dinosaur Complex
Accredited

Accredited by the American Alliance of Museums since 1989

A Smithsonian Affiliate since 2005
Unique Public-Private Partnership

Museum of the Rockies, Inc. 501(c)(3)
Established in 1965

- Manages earned income
- Raises private support
- Funds capital projects
Privately funded expansion tripled size

Opened in 1989
Added 6,000 square feet of gallery space to display nationally traveling exhibits.
Explore Yellowstone!
Martin Children’s Discovery Center
Opened in 2010
Taylor Planetarium re-opened in 2013

Completely refurbished
Digistar 5 technology

Only public digital planetarium in the five-state area
Furthering MSU’s Strategic Plan

• Learning
• Discovery
• Engagement
• Integration

Regents Professor Dr. Jack Horner
Bringing the World to Montana

SPACE - A Journey to Our Future
Presented in collaboration with NASA

Leonardo da Vinci
MACHINES IN MOTION

Treasures of Napoléon

GECKOS
Tails to Toe Pads

MOR MONTANA

MONTANA STATE UNIVERSITY
Serving the Gallatin Valley and Montana

- 145,000 annual visitors to Museum of the Rockies
- 300 business members
- 6,000 household members
Accessibility

- Head Start memberships
- Explore Bozeman Pass
- Scholarship Fund
Serving Montana Schools

• Opening Doors for Montana Schoolchildren
• Lending Library Trunks
• Starlab Portable Planetarium
Serving Montana Schools

# OF STUDENT VISITS
- 1-24
- 25-49
- 50-99
- 100-199
- > 3000

16,417 total student visits
Serving Montana Schools
Serving Montana Schools

10,417 total student visits

Museum of
The Rockies
Montana State University
Serving Montana Schools

• Indian Education for All
  – Videoconferencing and outreach materials
• Professional development for teachers
Serving Montana University System Students

• Free admission for course work
• Opportunities for student employment
Serving Montana University System Students

- Pre-service teacher experience
- Outreach experience for non-teaching majors
Serving Montana University System Students

- Research – student and faculty driven
  - Paleontology
  - Education
  - Taylor Planetarium
Serving Montana University System Students

- Internship opportunities
  - Museum studies
  - Education
  - Research
  - Business
Serving Montana Communities

- Sister Museum: Carter County Museum, Ekalaka, MT
- Dinosaur Trail
Serving Montana Communities

- Museum Association of Montana
- Montana Library Association
Sharing Montana with the World
• MOR represented MSU at the Smithsonian Folklife Festival, National Mall, Washington, D.C. in 2012
• **Campus and Community** theme of Folklife Festival celebrated the 150th Anniversary of the Morrill Act

• MOR displayed the act in 2010 in honor of MSU President Cruzado’s inauguration
• Children learned to prepare fossils at Folklife Festival

• MSU’s dinosaur display was “one of the most popular and engaging”
800,000 people attended the Folklife Festival over a two-week period.
In April 2014, the Wankel T.rex was loaned to the National Museum of Natural History.
• Centerpiece of new dinosaur hall in 2019
• Will be seen by 8 million people annually
• Returns to Montana in 50 years
MOR’s involvement in Asian countries
In 2011 MOR launched its traveling exhibits program in Fukui, Japan.

“Growth and Behavior of Dinosaurs” exhibit drew 180,000 visitors.
• Also traveled to Osaka, Kumamoto, and Yokohama, Japan, and Taipei and Singapore

• Over 800,000 people total have seen exhibit

• Scheduled to begin traveling in USA in 2015
• Yellowstone National Park: A Concept that Captivated the World

• Exhibit about tourism in Yellowstone being retooled for national and international audiences
• Final section on national park awareness with information on traveling to Yellowstone National Park via Bozeman, MT
Two sister museum relationships in Japan

- Fukui Prefectural Dinosaur Museum
- Mifune Dinosaur Museum in Montana’s sister state of Kumamoto
• Dr. Naoki Ikegami (left) contacted MOR about collaborating on a project preparing dinosaur fossils for research and display

• In return, MOR would train the MDM technical staff
A very rare sauropod skull was uncovered.
Captured attention of the prefectural government and its citizens.
Studied by MSU grad students now.
• Preparation project is not funded by state or federal dollars

• Paid for almost entirely by the town of Mifune
In 2013, the prefecture approved a new museum in Mifune.
• The new Mifune Dinosaur Museum opened April 26, 2014
• The new MDM features many Montana dinosaur replica skeletons and skulls from MOR
First exhibit visitors see when entering is a Montana case with Montana flag.

Cast of sauropod skull and vertebrae on left.
MUS Commissioner of Higher Education Clayton Christian and MSU President Cruzado at opening

Attendance rocketed to 100,000 visitors in first 4 months
• Montana reps attended ceremonial events and provided media interviews

• Celebrated with Kumamoto Montana Club and Governor Kabashima
If you want to bring the world to Montana…
Researchers in Italy have been working on an archaeological site near the Bay of Naples and Pompeii for more than 30 years.
• The Villas at Oplontis
• Where the wealthy lived and played in luxury
• Near Pompeii
• Rare exhibition coming to MOR in 2016

• Features research by MSU’s Dr. Regina Gee and the Oplontis research team

• Destroyed in 79 AD
• Life and Luxury in the Age of Nero: The Villas of Oplontis

• MOR is the only venue in the western US

• University of Michigan, University of Texas and Smith College
• Opens June of 2016 and closes January 2017

• New curriculum developed for MSU students and MOR’s K-12 schools

• Expect significant impact on Bozeman
• Serves more than 10,000 Montana school students a year
• Currently serves 21% of MSU students in various capacities
• Most visited museum in Montana
• Most popular non-recreational attraction in the state
An Economic Impact Analysis
Northern Rocky Mountain Economic Development District

Museum of the Rockies contributes $48 million annually to Gallatin County

Not including K-12 and MSU students
Questions?
Thank You!