

MONTANA STATE UNIVERSITY

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CAMPUS REPORT | Board of Regents Meeting | November 19-20, 2015 | Bozeman



**GREAT FALLS
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Great Falls College MSU celebrated Native American Heritage Day on September 25 with a variety of events on campus. Presentations included Tipis in Native American culture, Indian Givers, and Old School Skinning and Butchering. Perhaps the most exciting event was the reopening of the Native American Enrichment Center. Previously funded by the Issksiniip Grant, the Center will now be operated by the Academic Success Center and staffed by students. It will be a comfortable area in which our Native American students can gather to do homework and support each other.

The Kristine M. Lawrence endowed scholarship at Great Falls College MSU will provide students pursuing a paramedic career with tuition assistance. Created by her mother, Janet Lawrence, Kristine's legacy will help future paramedic and EMT students accomplish their goals.

An open house for GFC MSU's trades' facilities was held on September 30. Attendees from across the United States and Canada attended to celebrate the expanded welding area, as well as the relocated carpentry and renewable energy technology program areas. CEO/Dean Wolff welcomed over 100 people from government agencies and industry, followed by Lieutenant Governor Angela McLean's celebration of GFC MSU's trades' students and their futures. From the Governor's Office of Economic Development, Mr. John Rogers shared his enthusiasm of the completed project and welcomed Ms. Mari Sutton from the Regional EDA Office in Denver, who also was pleased with the work done. Deputy Commissioner Cech offered well-wishes on behalf of OCHE, and CEO/Dean Wolff closed the program with the assistance of a Great Falls Area Chamber of Commerce Ribbon Cutting, of which the students took the lead and opened the new welding shop with great excitement.

The Great Falls College MSU dental hygiene and dental assisting programs held an open house on October 8. Attendees were able to meet the new dental hygiene program director and faculty, as well as tour the clinic and lab facilities.

CEO/Dean Wolff was invited by ACT to participate on an expert panel discussion at the CloseIT Summit in Washington, D.C., on October 13. Dr. Wolff was joined by Ms. Joy Hofmeister, Superintendent of Public Instruction in Oklahoma and Sean Hoeing, Senior Business Executive for Safran Aerospace Composites. Their topic of discussion was "Leaders and Linkages: Supporting K-12, Postsecondary, and Workforce Success" examining each of those three institutional roles in helping to prepare individuals for postsecondary and career success.

Great Falls College MSU held public information sessions in October for each of the three academic areas. During the three distinct informational sessions, prospective students were given the chance to explore their educational options in healthcare, business, computers and skilled trades, and learned about some 50 transfer options available through the college. Staff from admissions, financial aid, the Academic Success Center (tutoring), and Lifelong Learning were also available to answer questions.

The Great Falls College MSU Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society held a meet and greet event on October 28. In addition to sharing information with prospective new members, the attendees learned about the "Heads Up America Campaign" and heard from CEO/Dean Wolff.

The Rev Up Project has had 79% (719 full time students) of participants complete at least one semester with a GPA of 2.0 or better. Fall to fall retention (using the CCA definition of first-time, full-time freshmen retention/transfer/grad) was 68.25% for the F2014 cohort, which is about 8% higher than the two-year system average for the previous year (FY13 cohort). The system change from 2005-2013 was only +4.6%, meaning the RevUp retention changed much faster than normal.

The Great Falls College MSU/Community Choir hosted a fundraising event on November 5, *Soup, Salad, and Song: A Feast for Your Senses*. All proceeds benefit the choir's expenses to perform in Carnegie Hall in spring 2016.

Faculty and staff attended the OneMSU Symposium held at MSU-Northern on November 5 & 6. Faculty and staff from all of the MSU campuses participated in collaborative discussions regarding a seamless OneMSU and industry needs.