

MONTANA STATE UNIVERSITY

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CAMPUS REPORT | Board of Regents Meeting | Sept 16-17, 2015 | Butte



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Katy Brooke, RevUp Montana Grant Coordinator, presented at the 2015 Pacific NorthWest Economic Region Summit in Big Sky in July. She provided information on the history of RevUp Montana and the exciting partnerships and programs created through the grant. The information on the project's workforce development initiatives was well-received with the intent to form new partnerships and create more productive processes.

The Great Falls College Community Summer Choir members performed the National Anthem at the Great Falls Voyagers first home game of the season on July 14. They also performed at Glacier Park Lodge in East Glacier on July 19. The 45-minute concert entertained more than 60 guests of the lodge.

Great Falls College MSU received notice of reaffirmation of full accreditation on July 24 from the Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities. The College will now begin its next seven year cycle in the accreditation process.

Bear Traxx Truck Training held a six-week truck driver training course at GFC MSU in July and August. Eight students attended lecture and driving time to earn the skills necessary to sit for the Commercial Driver's License (CDL) exam. It is hoped to be able to continue to offer the course quarterly to meet the demand for commercial drivers in northcentral Montana. As a non-credit course, the CDL training was not eligible for federal financial aid; however, Embark Credit Union offered low interest loans to qualifying students to pursue new opportunities. Additionally, Embark Credit Union has offered an additional \$100 to loan recipients who successfully complete the program to help with licensing and fees.

The GFC MSU Veteran's Success Center secured operation funding in the amount of \$40,000 for each of the next two years. Centene Corporation generously gifted these funds for the College to continue and expand the work currently being done in the Center under the guidance of Veteran's Success Coach, Kevin Lyons. In addition to Centene's amazing support, Davidson Companies provided \$3,000 and Walmart provided \$2,500 to assist with the Veteran Success Center operations. Veterans' Success Center usage has grown from 19 veterans using the center 180 times in spring semester 2014 to 98 veterans using the Center 1568 times in spring semester 2015. The retention rate of student veterans using the Center is 92%, while only 73% of veterans not using the Center were retained. The College is grateful for the support the Great Falls Community shows for its student veterans.

27 students were named to the summer 2015 Dean's List with 10 earning a 4.0.

Great Falls Public Schools and GFC MSU hosted "Brainia Mania" on campus from August 3 through 14. Students in grades 4-6 took classes in the biology of living things, programming, math, and geocaching. Students in grades 7-9 learned about LEGO robotics, the biology of outer space, exploring the upper atmosphere, math and exploring the human heart.

Cynthia Stevens, fine arts and humanities faculty, brought a "Back 2 School Gospel Bash" to campus on August 30. According to Jazmyn Steele, performer and event organizer: "Our mission is to give back to students in the community of all ages by inspiring them through singing, spoken word and different expressions of Gospel."

Great Falls College MSU welcomed the North Central Montana Area Health Education Center's MedStart camp the first week of August. Area high school students spent the week in the College's simulated hospital learning about a variety of careers available in the healthcare industry. The five-day program included curriculum sessions on animal heart dissection, blood typing, suturing on pig's feet, job shadowing, and taking blood pressures.

Human Resources was busy during summer 2015 with the following hires and position shifts: six new faculty, three new full-time staff, three part-time staff, three staff accepting new positions, and three staff accepting interim positions