



Date: May 3, 2017

To: Board of Regents

From: Daniel J. Bingham, Ph.D.
Dean/CEO, Helena College University of Montana

Subject: Campus Report for May 25-26, 2017, Board of Regents Meeting

- Dean Bingham has been selected to present at the 2017 National Security Seminar (NSS) at the U.S. Army War College in Carlisle, Pennsylvania. The National Security Seminar is a four-day event that creates an environment for Army War College students and invited guests to examine current national security issues and exchange candid dialogue. NSS guests represent a cross-section of professions, occupations, regions, experience, age, contemporary interests and perspectives.
- Helena College's NWCCU Year Seven Evaluation site visit was conducted the week of April 10. The evaluation committee was impressed with the College. Commendations noted Helena College's commitment to student success and community engagement, sound fiscal planning, foundation activities, co-curricular activities, and the long-term dedicated leadership of Dean Bingham. The evaluation committee's recommendations focused on improving the planning and assessment of student learning outcomes, programs, core themes and mission fulfillment, and the evaluation of faculty. With the conclusion of the year seven self-study and evaluation visit, the committee will now turn its focus to the upcoming 5-year review of the College's strategic plan.
- Helena College has been named to the Top 10 Certification Center list by the NC3 - National Coalition of Certification Centers. Our certified instructors have completed 290 student certifications. At this time, Helena College offers certification in four different areas through Snap-On: Torque, Scan Tool, Multimeter and Precision Measurement. These industry specific certifications lead to preference in hiring and better job opportunities for our students. Please see this link for the official list: <http://www.nc3.net/>
- Helena College is now the only Subaru-U institution in the Montana University System. As a result of this partnership, Subaru has donated three new vehicles for use in the College's automotive program and has included the diagnostic tools and software as well. This will be a great addition to the program and will greatly benefit Helena College students. Helena's local Subaru dealer, Placer Motors, has been very supportive of the automotive program and has several of Helena College graduates on staff.
- Helena College Student Thea Ostwald was selected to participate in the NEW Leadership Montana class of 2017. Thea was nominated and selected to be the Helena College representative for the program.
- After several years of growth in the welding department, Helena College now has a formal MOU with Miller Electric Mfg. Co., and they have agreed to continue to use the Helena College airport campus to support their training as the only official Miller training facility in the state of Montana.

- As a result of a close working relationship with Mergenthaler Transfer and Storage and thanks to their generosity, Helena College has acquired three new diesel trucks that will update our current diesel program. Two of the older trucks will now be used to support our up-and-coming CDL program to be offered through Helena College Continuing Education.
- The nursing department hosted a career fair where 14 employees attended, meeting with Helena College LPN and RN students who will be graduating in May. As well, first semester Helena College RN students hosted a Bone Marrow screening project in which 50 people signed up to be donors. Normally, they have about 20 sign up, so they felt this was a very successful project. A CRRN/Preceptor training was completed in Great Falls for the TAACCCT IV grant in which the Director and nursing faculty from Helena were presenters.
- Helena College Disability Resources has developed an advisory council consisting of individuals from eight schools and community programs working directly in the field of disabilities. The first meeting of this council was held April 18th, 2017.
- Helena College has disbursed \$5.4 million in financial aid to date for the 2016-2017 academic year. This does not include any tuition waivers.
- Helena College Advising Committee is dedicated to re-imagining and creating an innovative advising process that builds student agency, promote academic success and increase learning opportunities. The committee recently held pre-advising sessions for students that needed additional support and assistance with constructing an academic pathway, career plan, degree-transfer, and class schedule prior to meeting with their faculty advisor. During the upcoming Institutional Development Day, the committee will be making several workshop presentations on the nature of academic advising and the implications for the curriculum. Also, for the Fall 2017 semester the committee is exploring administering a college wide survey to students to gather feedback on their advising experience at Helena College to assess the current process, identify existing gaps, and make the necessary recommendations for corrective action.
- Five students in the Computer Technology program completed a summer internship with the Montana Space Grant Consortium. Four of the five students presented at the Montana Space Grant Consortium Research Symposium at the Museum of the Rockies last April and all will be wearing special graduation regalia from NASA at the graduation ceremony this May.
- Helena College hosted its first Helena College Day at the Fairgrounds on Friday, April 21st. This is the largest event ever hosted by Helena College. The event showcased all Helena College programs and services and was open to the public. The event was a success with several students and community members attending.
- Helena College Student Affairs hosted a ‘Community Forum on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault’ April 18. The event was very well attended, and the panel consisted of Senator Sands; Senator MacDonald; Dan O’Malley, District Attorney; Robin Tuner, MT Coalition; Ken Anderson, HPD, Detective, VAWA; Tina Chamberlain, Montana Board of Crime Control; Kelly McIntosh, Montana Board of Crime Control; Rochelle Banning, Survivor; and Abbie Chermack, The Friendship Center, Facilitator. The event was part of Helena College’s Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Awareness Week (April 17 – 20).
- On April 25th, 6-8:00pm, Student Affairs hosted ‘Empowering Women’ workshop, conducted by Chelsia Rice. This well attended event was community oriented and the attendees learned skills regarding communication, goal setting and finding one’s voice.