



DATE: 8.21.19

TO: Board of Regents

FROM: Aaron Clingingsmith
Interim President, Miles Community College

RE: Campus Report for the September 2019 Board of Regents Meeting

- Miles Community College has begun preparing for the launch of its search for a permanent President. The College held community listening sessions for the Presidential Search on August 13 and August 14. Listening sessions with campus faculty and staff will be held on August 26 during the Fall semester employee convocation. Listening sessions with students will be held in early September, after classes begin, and the College is also collecting feedback via a short survey posted on the campus website. The listening sessions provide attendees the opportunity to share their perspective as to the “values and traits” needed to be a successful MCC President. The President position will open and be posted on September 1, 2019. A dedicated search webpage will be launched that day as well, introducing the search committee and providing additional information about the process. The first screening of applicants will begin October 1, 2019. The posting will, however, remain open until filled. The search committee will reengage the community after on-campus finalists have been determined. The community will be invited to attend open forums with the finalists and once again be invited to provide feedback regarding the candidates. These open forums are tentatively scheduled for early November.
- Miles Community College submitted its final report on the installation of the Ag Advancement Center solar panel system to the Montana Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) in August. The cost of installation of the 20.5 kw solar panel system, which went online in November 2018, was partially offset by funds from Montana-Dakota Utility’s Universal System Benefits fund, administered by the Montana DEQ. The report was accepted by the DEQ and fulfills the grant obligations. Visitors to the AAC can see the energy cost savings from the solar installation in real-time by viewing a monitor that is prominently displayed in the AAC lobby. Beyond displaying the cost savings, energy production from the solar panels and peak output is also displayed on the monitor. MCC plans to use the AAC solar system for future solar and renewable energy training for ag producers and electricians. In addition, this project is part of MCC’s effort to shift ten percent of its energy consumption to renewable sources and create training programs based on the growth of solar reliance for regional ag producers.
- On August 15, Interim President Aaron Clingingsmith and Vice President of Academic Affairs Dr. Rita Kratky attended the Energy Open in Colstrip, MT. The event brought key constituents to Colstrip to talk about the future of coal and the community.
- Miles Community College is launching a “Year of Service” with a number of initiatives focused around supporting the local community and the engagement of students and employees with area service organizations and projects. The Year of Service will kick off with a donation drive called “Fill the Wagon” at the semester welcome back BBQ on August 29. The MCC Pioneers Wagon will be on display on the MCC Centra lawn to collect items for area organizations including CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocates), CNADA (Custer Network Against Domestic Abuse and Sexual Assault), and the Miles City Foster Care Project. MCC is encouraging individuals to bring donations such as clothing, socks, shoes, underwear, disposable diapers, wipes, personal hygiene products, receiving blankets, baby blankets, and/or school supplies.

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