

**Date:** September 2023

**To:** Board of Regents

**From:** Sandra J. Bauman, Ed. D.  
Dean/CEO, Helena College University of Montana

**Subject:** Campus Report for the September Board of Regents Meeting

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### Accessibility Services

An **Accessibility Processes** workgroup has been formed at the college. This group will be examining and addressing institutional barriers to equal access to information, communication, and learning at Helena College. In addition, Accessibility Services is partnering with TRIO and MT 10 to work with various areas of the campus community to reduce institutional barriers affecting our underrepresented populations.

### ART 244 Watercolor

Helena College was privileged to have local professional artist [Doug Turman](https://www.dougturman.com/) as a summer instructor to teach ART 244 Watercolor. Doug asked local artists, Paulette Etchart and Terry Cohea, to visit the watercolor class in August to share their experience as watercolorists. (<https://www.dougturman.com/>)



*Figure 1 Doug Turman, Paulette Etchart, and Terry Cohea*

### Community Education Center

- The Community Education Center continues to work with **Accelerate Montana** and **JobSite Ready** with Jefferson County to build a tiny home for the Jefferson County Fairgrounds. **Dick Anderson Construction Apprenticeship** program is the partner for the build and the **Montana Business Assistance Connection** is continuing collaboration to bring the effort to fruition.
- Working with the **Department of Corrections**, the Community Education Center is building a program to bring a mobile welding lab to correctional institutions for onsite learning. This is in collaboration with Great Falls College to utilize their mobile welding lab.
- The SBDC within the Community Education Center is working with the **Montana Manufacturing Extension Center** to offer training to local area manufacturers and workshops in the area to showcase manufacturing jobs in the region.

- The Community Education Center recently held another successful **Hybrid and Electric Vehicle Training** course through a partnership with **Diagnostic Nation** which brought in mechanics from all over the U.S.
- The Continuing Education Center's fall course offerings are available on the [CEC webpage](https://www.campusce.net/helenacollege/category/category.aspx). (<https://www.campusce.net/helenacollege/category/category.aspx>) The courses provided by the Community Education Center continue to be an important community resource and priority for both the learners and Helena College.

### **Cyber Camp**

Nineteen junior high students participated in a two-week **Helena College Cyber Camp** in June, funded by a grant through **Cyber Montana**. Each student received a T-shirt, LePotato-Libre computer board, monitor, mouse, and accessories. Five high school students assisted as counselors. Helena College Information Technology and Programming instructors, Bryon Steinwand and Bill Hallinan, directed the camp.



*Figure 2 Cyber Montana Logo*

### **Dual Enrollment**

Helena College partnered with the **Helena Area Summer Jobs** program. **Virginia Reeves**, Helena College Writing and Communication Instructor, offered a special section of COMX 115, Interpersonal Communication, to students in the program, and **Reach Higher Montana** paid the tuition. **Americas Jobs for America's Youth Montana** (AJAY MT) hosted a reception for participants of the program at the Airport Campus.

Dual Enrollment hosted an orientation for new dual enrollment students and parents on August 21, 2023. Seventy new students are invited to discover the great things that await them at Helena College. The event informed the students of the resources available and their responsibilities as dual enrollment students.

### **eLearning & Faculty Development**

Jelena Kalderon, Instructional Designer & Technology Specialist has taken two rigorous **Quality Matters** (QM) training courses this summer and became a QM certified Peer Reviewer.

The department aims to enhance faculty support in the upcoming academic year, ensuring that course materials align with ADA compliance. A series of accessibility workshops will be conducted throughout the year, and these sessions will also be open to all HC employees.

- Workshop #1: Create Accessible WORD and PDF documents
- Workshop #2: Create Accessible PowerPoint Slides
- Workshop #3: Create Accessible Course Contents on Moodle

### **Enrollment**

Two new Admissions Counselors were hired this spring. They have attended **MPSEOC Summer Institute** in preparation for the College and Career tour around Montana in September.

### **Financial Aid & Veterans**

Alyssa Neace, Grant & Loan Officer, was integral in securing an **Ellucian PATH Grant** for \$15,000 to use as an emergency scholarship for students in need of assistance with rent, food, transportation, etc.

### NEH Summer Bridge Program

Last year's film, *The People's House* won a **Regional Emmy**.



Figure 3 Image of Emmy Award

This was the final year of the National Endowment for the Humanities Summer Bridge program: *Humanities Through Film*. The 2023 theme was “fishing” and Dr. Ari Laskin was once again the Program Director. He has assembled a great group of guest lecturers and film professionals to work with the students on individual projects. Helena College faculty members, Seth Roby, Virginia Reeves, Kim Feig, and Rick Henry were part of this year's program also. Click on the link to view the [behind-the-scenes](https://vimeo.com/852410528?share=copy) footage of the program. (<https://vimeo.com/852410528?share=copy>)



Figure 4 Behind the Scenes

### Nursing Education

- The RN cohort graduating in May 2023 passed the **NCLEX at 100%** and most of these new nurses are employed in the Helena area.
- We have 14 new RN students set to begin their nursing education this fall.
- The nursing department purchased AV recording equipment in the spring and the nursing faculty recently received day-long training in its use. This recording equipment allows the faculty to record student return demonstrations and activities with simulated situations, and then play the recordings back to the class as a learning tool.