

CAMPUS REPORT

DATE: August 22, 2008

TO: Board of Regents

FROM: W. Franklin Gilmore
Chancellor, Montana Tech of The University of Montana

RE: Campus Report for the September 25-26, 2008, Board of Regents' Meeting

- Professor Marvin Speece will travel to Antarctica to conduct seismic studies as part of his ongoing participation in the ANDRILL program. This will be Dr. Speece's third field season in Antarctica. He will be accompanied by two students in Tech's geophysical engineering master's degree program.
- Kim Churchill, MS student in geophysical engineering, has received two years of full funding to perform research on unexploded ordnance (UXO) in the Helena, MT area. Her research is supported by the Montana National Guard.
- Matt Vincent from the Clark Fork Watershed Education Program received a grant from Silverbow County for Butte Reclamation Evaluation Systems for \$24,232.15
- Justin Ringsack from the Clark Fork Watershed Education received a grant from Powell County for the Cottonwood Creek Outdoor Native Education Center for \$16,924.56
- In July, Drs. Chris Gammons (Dept. of Geol. Eng.) and Steve Parker (Dept. of Chemistry) presented papers at the 2008 V. M. Goldschmidt Conference, held in Vancouver B.C. This is the premier international meeting for geochemistry. Drs. Parker and Gammons teamed up for another paper entitled "Diagenetic changes in metal concentrations in a geogenically acidic river: Rio Agrio, Argentina", which has been accepted for publication by the Journal of Volcanology and Geothermal Research.
- A grant of \$107,000 was awarded to the Safety, Health, and Industrial Hygiene Department to support undergraduate and graduate students during the 2008-09 academic year. The grant provides \$60,000 in scholarships as well as funds for student travel and faculty development. The award came from the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health. Professor Roger Jensen is Principal Investigator for the grant, which is renewable for up to 5 years.
- Assistant Professor of Mining Engineering Philip Dirige has presented three papers at symposiums this summer.
 - Dirige, A. P. E. and Archibald, J. F., 2008. *Use of thin, spray-on linings for structural material protection and fire damage mitigation*. Proceedings of the 41st Annual Symposium on Geological Engineering and Geotechnical Engineering, Boise, Idaho, April 9 – 11, 2008.
 - Dirige, A. P. E. and Archibald, J. F., 2008. *The effect of different mixing techniques on the strength behavior of paste backfill*. Proceedings of the 52th US Symposium on Rock Mechanics (ARMA), June 29 – July 22, 2008, San Francisco, CA.
 - Dirige, A. P. E. and Archibald, J. F., 2006. *Engineering design of backfill systems in adjacent pillar mining*. Proceedings of the 52th US Symposium on Rock Mechanics (ARMA), June 29 – July 22, 2008, San Francisco, CA.
- Dr. Pat Munday, Professor of Science & Technology Studies, has received a one-year renewal of funding from the National Science Foundation. Dr. Munday is Principal Investigator for the project "Science, Society & Superfund: A Social History of America's Largest Superfund Site." The project is about the role of citizens and grassroots organizations in shaping Superfund remedies in the upper Clark Fork River basin of western Montana.