

CAMPUS REPORT

DATE: September 8, 2009

TO: Board of Regents

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

RE: Campus Report for the September 23-25, 2009 Board of Regents' Meeting

- Rachel Conrad, a sophomore biology student at Montana Tech, was awarded an American Society for Microbiology (ASM) Undergraduate Research Fellowship to study mycobacteriophage "Snickelfritz" in Montana Tech Associate Professor Dr. Marisa Pedulla's lab during the summer. The Fellowship is aimed at highly competitive students who wish to pursue graduate careers (Ph.D. or MD/Ph.D) in microbiology. Students can present research results at the ASM General Meeting the following year.
- Courtney Young was elected to be a Qualified Profession (QP) Member of the Mining and Metallurgical Society of America. In addition, he accepted nominations to serve on the review board of the peer-reviewed journal, Minerals Engineering, and two prestigious AIME award committees, Mineral Education Award and Frank Aplan Award, which he received at SME's Awards Banquet.
- On August 10-14, Montana Tech Biology Department's Associate Professor Marisa Pedulla and Salish Kootenai College's Roger Dilts and Libby Rutledge partnered to provide a Phage Discovery Workshop at Salish Kootenai College in Pablo, Montana. Participants included SKC science students, elementary education students, a Helena Middle School teacher, a Former Tech Biology graduate, and Ft. Peck Community College Science Faculty.
- Petroleum Engineering Instructor and Lab Director John Getty's peer-reviewed paper, "Assessing Inquiry Learning in a Circuits/Electronics Course" has been accepted for the Frontiers In Education conference, October 2009 in San Antonio, TX.
- Assistant Professor of General Engineering Hal Millegan, Ph.D., P.E., has recently been appointed by the Transportation Research Board (TRB) Executive Committee for a two-year term to serve on the Application of Emerging Technologies to Design and Construction Committee.
- Dr. Hal Millegan's article entitled "Do stop signs improve safety at highway-railroad grade crossings" was accepted for publication in the *ITE Journal*, the official publication of the International Institute of Transportation Engineers. The paper examines the safety record of all passive railroad grade crossings in the United States over the last 25 years.
- Montana Tech's Joe McClafferty has been named Frontier Conference Athletic Director of the Year for the 2008-2009 school year. League commissioner Kent Paulson announced the award, saying McClafferty had instilled a sense of pride and class to the Oredigger athletic department. McClafferty oversaw a \$650,000 expansion of the HPER Complex, including a new floor, seating, lighting, sound system and scoreboards with video capabilities. In addition, he spearheaded a new corporate partnership program that brought in another \$200,000.
- U.S. News & World Report has named Montana Tech of the University of Montana the 3rd Top Public Baccalaureate College in the West in the 2010 edition of "America's Best Colleges." Montana Tech also ranked 7th Best Baccalaureate College in the West (combining public and private) in the same report. Montana Tech's placement in the report remains the same as 2009.
- Montana Tech is one of the country's best institutions for undergraduate education, according to The Princeton Review. Only about 15% of America's 2,500 four-year colleges and two Canadian colleges are profiled in the The Princeton Review's flagship annual college guide. The Princeton Review praises the school for its strong academics saying, "Under-recognized schools like Montana Tech can be a godsend for students who are strong academically...because of its small size and relatively remote location, Montana Tech is a good choice for anyone leaning toward a technical career. You'd be hard-pressed to find many other places that are as low-key and personal in this realm of academia."