

CAMPUS REPORTS
Board of Regents Meeting
March 4-5, 2010
Dillon, Montana

Montana State University
President Waded Cruzado

An \$873,963 grant from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development will enable MSU Extension's Housing and Environmental Health Program to create the national Tribal Healthy Homes Assessment and Training Center at MSU. The funds will enable healthy homes specialists to conduct health assessments of hundreds of tribal homes in Montana over the next two years.

Mark Young, professor in the Department of Plant Sciences and Plant Pathology, has received a \$1.37 million grant from the National Science Foundation to identify and categorize viruses from extreme environments around the world, primarily very hot and very acidic places. The results of Young's work will be added to the National Institute of Health's National Center for Biotechnology Information's database.

Great Falls attorney Alexander Blewett, a Montana State University alumnus, has given \$500,000 to MSU Athletics to improve facilities for student-athletes. A former wrestler, Blewett understands the importance of a strong work ethic and the impact collegiate athletics can have on an individual.

MSU scientists led by Gary Strobel received a four-year, \$2 million grant from the National Science Foundation to work with collaborators to conduct a detailed study of the fungus *Gliocladium roseum*, which naturally produces gases that contain many of the same hydrocarbon compounds found in petroleum-based diesel fuel. The ultimate goal is to determine whether the production of *G. roseum* has the potential to produce large volumes of biofuel at an affordable price.

Montana State University Extension specialists won four national awards at the American Society of Agronomy's annual conference in Pittsburgh. They were honored for their work on providing web-based tools to help farmers choose the best crops for their conditions; for software that helps wheat and barley producers determine the best amount of fertilizer to apply; and for a DVD showing Montanans across the state how to take care of their groundwater.

MSU's Equine Science program was featured in the January 2010 issue of *Western Horseman*, an internationally-circulated monthly magazine dedicated to stock horse culture with a total circulation of 164,944 per month. MSU's program began in 2002 and graduates are now teaching, continuing their studies as doctoral candidates, working as veterinarians, training horses, working at feed and nutrition companies and employed in the horse-breeding industry.

MSU launched a new Leadership Fellows Certificate Program, a collaboration between the Associated Students of MSU, the MSU Leadership Institute and University College. The program – which was built in response to student requests – has a strong emphasis on community service to prepare our students to be leaders who will enrich their communities after leaving MSU.

A small research satellite built by MSU students will ride into space this fall on a NASA launch. Under the supervision of David Klumppar, director of MSU's Space Science and Engineering Laboratory, approximately 125 undergraduate students have worked on the satellite since 2006, gaining hands-on experience in designing, building and operating equipment for space.

The MSU America Reads*America Counts Program is in its 13th year of service to Bozeman area schools working with and supporting preschool through 8th grade students to achieve and succeed academically. The Office of Community Involvement has matched over 30 MSU students with more than 200 students who were referred as

needing extra help with literacy or math skills development. Thus far, MSU students have given over 2000 hours of service to these students in need.

The School of Architecture design build program, in cooperation with the Gallatin National Forest and private company contributors, designed the new Hyalite multi-use pavilion at the Hyalite Reservoir. Working in the small window between a very wet summer and early snows, students, faculty, GNF employees and private company individuals worked to build the pavilion June-October 2009. The work is expected to be completed by summer 2010.

Montana State University Billings
Chancellor Ronald P. Sexton, Ph. D.

The 2009-2010 year was an outstanding year for both the Men's and Women's Soccer teams. Don Trentham, Women's Soccer Coach and Dan McNally, Men's Soccer Coach, did outstanding jobs in a very competitive GNAC Conference. The crowning achievements for our students/athletes were the 14 MSUB Men's and Women's Soccer players selected for the 2009 Great Northwest Athletic Conference Soccer Academic All-Star Team - 7 selected from our men's team and 7 from our women's team. Outstanding!

Jaclyn Rooney, MSUB music student, presented her Senior Flute Recital in Cisel recital Hall. She is completing her degree in Music Education and Flute Performance and plans to student teach this spring.

As a way to recognize and celebrate Native American Heritage Month at MSUB, students and friends of the University and its Native American Studies Program constructed a Medicine Wheel on the main campus. The Medicine Wheel will remain in place through the winter "to remind us to be strong and succeed for those who need the skills of our education," stated Reno Charette, Director of American Indian Outreach at the University.

"Pathways to Success" was a unique program that MSU Billings designed to upgrade academic and workforce skills for offenders at Montana Women's Prison in Billings. The program, funded by a grant from the U.S. Department of Justice, began nearly 11 months ago and featured instruction from many faculty members from the University as well as the community. 20 inmates enrolled when the class began last January. After 9 were discharged or moved to pre-release centers throughout the state, 11 inmates completed the program, with some completing more than 200 hours of work by graduation. "This is the first time anyone has ever told me that I could do something," one inmate said through her tears. To qualify for the certification, participants had to complete a minimum of 180 hours of training, including core courses dealing with math, personal finance, communication and work-related soft skills.

Through a student-led sustainability initiative and the Billings branch of the Coca-Cola Bottling Company of Montana, the Associated Students of MSUB and the MSUB Environmental Awareness Club moved a recycling project forward. Before Coca-Cola finds its way into 12-ounce aluminum cans or 20-ounce plastic bottles, the sweet pre-carbonated elixir begins its life cycle in 55-gallon plastic drums. The students recycled 42 of these hard plastic drums into recycling receptacles to make the University more sustainable.

The MSUB College of Professional Studies and Lifelong Learning offered an assortment of short-term courses to fit the needs of busy professionals and working adults. The College of Professional Studies and Lifelong Learning offers educational programs tailored to the economic, social and cultural needs of constituents in the community and responds to the needs of changing expectations in higher education.

Dr. Linda Swift, a retired geologist who worked in the mining, oil and gas industry for years, was on campus as the Chancellor's Distinguished Lecturer. She presented a free lecture on "A Positive View of Climate Change" focused not only on scientific fact about climate change, but also on possible solutions, both as a nation and as individuals. "Solutions to complex problems are hard to find," she said, "but can be done." Dr. Swift was also the guest speaker for the MSU Billings Urban Institute which is housed at the MSUB Downtown campus. The function of the Urban Institute is to identify critical issues of long-range significance to the community and region, provide facilitative leadership to address emergent problems and opportunities and help implement sustainable solutions. The current areas of emphasis are water supply sustainability, diversity and school dropouts.

Jaucelyn Richter, a freshman Soccer forward, was selected Great Northwest Athletic Conference Freshman of the Year. She led the team with 10 goals and tied for the team lead with eight assists on the year.

MSUB College of Business and the Downtown Billings Partnership formed a new partnership in an effort to fully integrate the University into the community on a number of levels. "As a comprehensive Urban University, this partnership will help to bring more attention to the value MSU Billings brings to the city and the region," Dr. Sexton said. "The Downtown Billings Partnership is an important partner and our students will benefit greatly from this agreement." Dr. Gary Young, Dean of the College of Business, said, "The Relationship between the DBP and his College is a perfect partnership."

In order to help provide accurate information on H1N1 flu and how to stop its spread, MSUB and RiverStone Health sponsored a series of H1N1 forums at the Downtown Campus, Main Campus and the COT Campus throughout November.

Garfield Community Resource Center began offering classes last July to provide access to the south Billings Community - allowing them to enroll at a location that is comfortable and encouraging without having to navigate barriers. The first computer class enrolled 7 students from the neighborhood. Many students were unfamiliar with computers and challenges of the curriculum. All students completed the course and sincerely appreciated the opportunity to become part of the class offered at GCRC. 21 students enrolled in the second offering of a similar level computer class. Partnerships have been developed with YWCA and HRDC that allow for MSUB to become involved with the Employment Programs coordinated by these partners. This has been a successful program and has strengthened the MSUB visibility in the community as well as providing support for clients.

The Adult Basic Education GED partnership between MSUB COT and School District 2's Adult Education is now in its second year. The success of the program is evident in the increased enrollment which has doubled since the first year.

Business Academic Programs Department Chair, Mike Campbell, travelled to China with MSUB Administrators to discuss opportunities for international degree completion partnerships for College of Business students.

The Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business accreditation team will visit our campus in January 10-12, 2010.

MSU Billings standout student/athlete Sam Charles earns Division II Player of the Year honors. Charles, a senior forward for the MSUB Men's Soccer team, has been named the Ron Lenz Daktronics Division II National Player of the Year. "When I arrived at MSUB, I had every intention of leaving my mark and I have worked hard throughout my career to do this. Obviously I am very thankful to everyone associated with MSUB for helping me improve as both a player and an individual," said Mr. Charles.

A welcome reception was held to celebrate the arrival of two Visiting Faculty Scholars from China to the MSUB campus. Mrs. Li Shuhua, an Associate Professor & Deputy Dean for Anshan Normal University in China, with a specialization in English Language & Literature, is sponsored by the College of Arts and Sciences, Department of English, Philosophy & Modern Languages. She will be with us for a 12-month visitation period through September 30, 2010. Mrs. Gangyi Luo, Associate Professor and Dean, also from Anshan Normal University, is sponsored by the College of Business. She specializes in Management and will be at MSUB for a 6-month visitation period through March 31, 2010.

Montana State University-Northern
Dr. Frank Trocki, Chancellor

Northern Alum becomes New United States Director of the Selective Service – On December 4, 2009 Laurence G. Romo was appointed the 12th Director of our Nation's Selective Service System by President Barack Obama. Before his appointment he was the Soldier and Family Assistance Program Manager for the U.S. Army 5th Recruiting Brigade. Romo earned a Master of Education from Montana State University-Northern.

Dr. Cruzado Visits Campus – Northern was pleased to host MSU President Dr. Waded Cruzado on our campus Feb 22-25. During her visit she met with all of the major groups including faculty, staff, administration, alumni, donors, legislators, city officials and Northern's Local Executive Board. The visit opened the doors for uniting the system.

New Foundation Director - Shauna Albrecht has been named the new Director of the MSU-Northern Foundation. Albrecht was the Director of the Advising Center and has been working for Northern for more than

eight years. Albrecht took over as the Executive Director of the MSU-Northern Foundation on Monday January 25th and replaced Bill Gupton, who announced he was leaving the position late last year.

Provost Announces Retirement – Dr. Joseph Callahan plans to retire at the end of June. He has worked in higher education for 39 years. On three different occasions he has worked at Northern under nine different presidents and chancellors: Dr. J.R. Crowley, Dr. Duane Leach, Dr. H. Warren Gardner, Dr. James H.M. Erickson, Dr. William Merwin, Dr. Alex Capdeville, Dr. Rolf Groseth, and now Dr. Frank Trocki. His retirement will begin July 1, 2010 and the search for his replacement is underway.

New Electronic Catalog – Northern's catalog is now online. We're not talking about a simple pdf. We have redesigned our entire website so that every aspect of the catalog is at an individual's fingertips. It now integrates and links programs with course descriptions, schedules and policies. We plan to replace the printed version of the catalog with an **Academic Guide** which will give our potential students a good overview into the various programs.

Lewistown Campus Receives Grant - Northern's Lewistown campus received a grant for \$4,842.50 from the Central Montana Foundation to purchase eight different body models for use in their Anatomy and Physiology science classroom. The body models to be purchased include: male half pelvis, female half pelvis, half head, deluxe spinal cord, a heart, digestive system, respiratory system, and the eye in orbit. They also received \$1,700 to be used to upgrade some of their technology equipment that is needed by faculty for PowerPoint lectures and presentations. We are grateful to the Central Montana Foundation for their generosity over the years to our Education Center.

Enrollment is up for Spring Semester – At the time of this report Northern's enrollment was up 76 FTE over last year's spring semester. This is a major encouragement for our campus and helps to achieve our budget projections.

2010 Career & Internship Fair - MSU-Northern Career Center is pleased to announce their first annual Career and Internship Fair. Northern has had several program specific fairs in the past but this fair will feature job opportunities for all Majors. The fair will be Tuesday, February 9th, 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. in the SUB Ballroom.

Auto Tech Center in Design Phase - Members of the Auto Tech Planning Committee met in January to set goals and discuss the schematic for the site design and establish some guidelines for how the space will be used. It is now in the architect's hands to develop a preliminary conceptual drawing. However, Governor Brian Schweitzer, in a recent effort to trim the state's budget stopped all new building projects. This means Northern's new Auto Tech Building has been put on hold until the state has the money to fund it or an alternate funding source can be found. Northern wants to thank everyone from the community who took time out of their busy schedules to show their support and make recommendations during the public comment portion of the all day meeting.

Addy Award Winners - Three Graphics Arts students, Paul Alexander, Amanda Johnson, and Tom Metcalfe, have created award winning designs and will receive an award at the Montana Addy's in February. The awards (silver or gold) will not be known until the ceremony. Instructor Norton Pease has also been notified that he will receive 2 professional awards at the same ceremony.

ABC's of Biodiesel Workshop Goes to Billings - The Bio-Energy Center staff Jon Soriano and Taylor Lyon, once again hit the road to deliver the ABC's of Biodiesel Workshop to MSU-Billings College of Technology on Jan 7, 2010. The workshop introduced the participants to the basic chemistry of biodiesel, its benefits and provided hands-on training on biodiesel production in laboratory scale. The participants also received training on some fundamental biodiesel analysis. The workshop was well attended by high school teachers, college professors, instructors and administrators. This workshop was made possible by the Energy for Tomorrow Grant of MSU-Billings COT.

Bringing Biodiesel Education to Havre High - The Bio-Energy Center hosted Havre High School's Automotive Tech Class taught by Merle Hoerner. Center staff, Jon Soriano, delivered a pre-lab discussion Tuesday, January 19 at the high school followed by two class periods of a hands-on experiment at the Center on Wednesday and Thursday, Jan 20 & 21. The Center staff trained the senior students on how to prepare biodiesel in lab scale. Staff also provided the students a tour of the Center's facilities and an opportunity to see biodiesel being produced at the Biodiesel Pilot Plant housed in the old auto-diagnostic building. The students will be back next week to test the biodiesel that they made.

Montana State University – Great Falls College of Technology
Joe Schaffer, Dean / CEO

A partnership between the MSU - Great Falls' Outreach Department, Great Falls Job Service Workforce Center and GFPS Adult Basic Literacy Education is making **training opportunities available to unemployed workers** at no cost. Computer Basics, Handling Job Loss & Regaining Your Self-esteem, Preparing a Resume, and Interviewing Techniques are examples of the courses being offered to the community.

Interest in the new **Pharmacy Technician program** is high with both potential employers in the Great Falls area and those interested in this career. The program, which is full for Spring Semester, will prepare Pharmacy Technicians who help licensed pharmacists to provide medication and other health care products to patients. Program Director **Jacob Golik**, the lead pharmacist at Benefis Healthcare, designed and is delivering the initial coursework. An introductory meeting with Golik, the new Program Advisory Board and students was held in January.

The MSU – Great Falls' **COTtage Bookstore** has set another record. The fall semester book buyback that ended on December 28 put over \$78,500 back in students' hands! When you put the economic multiplier to the dollars being returned to the community, it is over \$ 235,000. MSU – Great Falls is happy to help our students recycle their books and fund their next semester or expenses in entering the workforce.

Dental Hygiene students sent oral health care items to military troops serving in Iraq and Afghanistan as their Fall 2009 community service project. The packages included donations received from the local community and dentists for toothbrushes, toothpaste, floss, mouthwash, lotion, body wash, hand sanitizer, sugar-free gum, and 200 handmade Christmas cards.

The 12th Annual College in a Day was a huge success. This annual event is a great opportunity to showcase programs and faculty members to high school students and their counselors. Over 300 students from 24 area high schools spent the morning of January 7 on campus attending three career sessions of his or her choice. College in a Day offers information on exciting careers in business and healthcare as well as transfer, distance learning, and financial aid options in 27 unique sessions.

Bruce Gottwig (faculty - Business, Trades and Technology Division), **Ryan Schrenk** (Extended Learning Division Director), and **Joe Schaffer** (Dean/CEO) recently sat for their comprehensive exams and are well on their way to receiving their doctorates in educational leadership from the University of Montana! While this was a very daunting and exhausting two-day experience for these three gentlemen, this part of the journey is now behind them.

MSU-Great Falls, Great Falls Public School, Local Union No 41, and Montana Contractors Association teamed up to offer the 4th Annual **Skilled Trades Career Fair** on February 23. Professionals from a variety of skilled trade-related businesses were on-hand to explain the career opportunities in their specialty areas. Representatives from colleges and local apprenticeship programs were also in attendance to provide information on educational options. Twenty plus vendors participated, bringing information on current job openings and hands-on demonstrations. Great Falls and area high schools students were specifically invited. The event is free and open to the public.

The annual **Healthcare Career Fair** was held on February 3. The fair exposes students to a variety of healthcare professions to give them information on the options in the field and also emphasizes the importance of taking math and science classes in high school if they are interested in a healthcare career. Students had the opportunity to engage with approximately 30 various healthcare providers from the community during the "Medical Rounds" session. During this session, they performed hands-on healthcare related activities including calculating dosages of medication, viewing an endoscopy scope, matching food intake with insulin dosages for diabetic patients, performing endotracheal intubations, administering IV drugs, reading EKG's, viewing radiological films and many other activities requiring math and science skills. Community partners include: Benefis, Spectrum, the PEAK, Centene, Gateway Recovery Center, the Red Cross, the Great Falls School District and the U.S. Army and Air Force recruiters.

Dr. Waded Cruzado, the new MSU President, visited Great Falls and the campus February 2-5. During her visit, she met with faculty, staff, and students. In addition, she met with the Dean's Advisory Council, Foundation Board, and various elected officials. There was also an event for MSU and MSU – Great Falls' Alumni. The campus was happy to have Dr. Cruzado visit and looks forward to seeing her on campus again soon.

On April 1-2, **Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities (NWCCU)** will be visiting the College to conduct an interim evaluation. In February, Dean Joe Schaffer and CAO Heidi Pasek visited NWCCU headquarters in Seattle to learn about the new accreditation model that will begin in 2011.