



**HELENA** COLLEGE  
University of Montana

**DATE:** October 9, 2012

**TO:** Board of Regents

**FROM:** Daniel J. Bingham, Ph.D.  
Dean/CEO  
Helena College University of Montana

**RE:** Campus Update Report for the Nov., 2012 Board of Regents' Meeting

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- Admissions and Records processed 705 applications for the fall 2012 semester, with a total of 479 new students. Applications are down 13% from the previous fall and the application yield is up 2%.
- Admissions and Records processed 147 Dual Enrollment applications for the fall 2012 semester. Dual Enrollment is down 17% from the fall 2011 semester.
- Financial Aid received \$18,000 in scholarship money from an anonymous donor. Six \$3,000 scholarships will be awarded to second year Helena College students. The donor is interested in continuing this scholarship.
- The Helena Brewers and Joyner Realty sponsored a ball toss to raise scholarship money for Helena College students and raised \$1,515.00. The Helena Brewers hope to make this an annual scholarship; however, it will depend on the sponsor's wishes.
- Financial Aid has disbursed \$5,015,740.68 in aid thus far for the 2012-2013 aid year.
- The Advising, Learning and Career Center (ALCC) offers tutoring many content areas and employs 5 professional and 7 paraprofessional tutors.
- Helena College is supporting 3 Yellow Ribbon veteran students and certified 120 students who are receiving GI Bill benefits. Veteran Services started a mentoring program matching returning veteran students with new veteran students and has 20 matched pairs for the fall term.
- The Office of Disability Services has 110 students registered. 13 students are receiving notes-taking assistance and over 50 texts in electronic format have been implemented.
- "Hot Dogs, Hot Rods and Cold Cash" was held at the Helena College Airport Campus. Helena Valley Timing Association members brought their classic and hot rod cars for display and promoted scholarships offered to trade students. Faculty members barbecued hot dogs and our Financial Aid Specialist gave a presentation on scholarship opportunities available to students.
- Our Admissions Recruiter recently concluded her three week state wide Montana Post-secondary Educational Opportunity Council College Fair Tour, MPSEOC. Megan Grotzke visited all regions of the state in an attempt to increase traditional age enrollment as well as promote our new name.

- The office of Student Services conducted a required Clery Authorized Report Agent training for 11 members of the college community.
- In efforts to reduce student loan-default, Helena College has created a Financial Literacy/Default Prevention Team comprised of representative stakeholders.
- Helena College is in the planning phase of a remodel project to provide ADA access to second floor which are currently accessible only by stairs. The remodel will involve the installation of an elevator and construction of office and classroom space.
- The Science programs purchased two new pieces of equipment to allow for the expansion of available course curriculum to students.
- Helena College was the recipient of a donated Fire Truck from the Missoula Rural Fire Department and will be used by our Missoula based Fire & Rescue program.
- Helena College welcomed the public to the 2012 Science Expo. This event featured our science faculty conducting live, hands-on science activities. The guest of honor was "Seismo," a 137 foot "long necked" dinosaur who greeted visitors to Helena College and the Donaldson Campus. The Expo was kick-started by Helena College science faculty who spoke to area middle and high school students about opportunities in post-secondary science education.
- Writing instructor Karen Henderson presented at the Montana Writing Summit Conference in Helena. The conference, hosted in part by MATELA and Helena College, included approximately 200 English Language Arts instructors from 108 schools and colleges in the state.
- Math instructor Joyce Walborn served on a panel on "What's Happening in Montana" at the Best Practices in Serving the Underprepared Student Conference.
- The Montana Writing Summit attracted 219 participants, representing 108 schools from Montana, including 10 colleges and universities. Four faculty members from Helena College presented, in addition to a student enrolled in Access to Success who served on a panel regarding College Readiness for College Composition.
- Helena College was awarded a Title II Improving Teacher Quality grant for \$124,252 to begin a new professional development program focused on the Common Core State Standards.
- Through a collaborative effort with the Career Technical Institute, Helena College Youth Build program completed and sold their first house.
- Interior Design instructor Karen Raphael-Conley has been chosen to receive the national award for Educational Excellence from The League for Innovation.
- Construction instructor Mike Ceartin was awarded a grant from the MUS Self-funded workers' compensation program (Campus Safety Smart Program) to purchase a "SawStop" table saw which is equipped with a safety system to stop the blade within 5 milliseconds of detecting contact with skin.
- The Interior Space Planning and Design students attended the NeoCon Conference in Chicago, Illinois. NeoCon is the premier industry event that connects more than 40,000 industry buyers and sellers in the contract furnishings industry.