

# MONTANA STATE UNIVERSITY

BOZEMAN | BILLINGS | NORTHERN | GREAT FALLS COLLEGE

CAMPUS REPORT | Board of Regents Meeting | January 12, 2017 | Helena Conference Call



## MONTANA STATE UNIVERSITY | BILLINGS

- America's Promise Grant, awarded to City College at Montana State University Billings, will receive \$1.28 million to provide displaced energy sector workers and veterans more opportunities in obtaining tuition-free training programs and associated-level degrees. The grant, provided through the United States Labor Department and funded via H1-B visa program, will provide over \$111 million dollars to 23 regional workforces partnerships in 28 states. Funding to City College was part of the Educating Toward Economic Diversity (ETED) Partnership, led by the Northern Wyoming Community College district.
- Our many talented students filled the MSUB campus with their beautiful music during fall semester. Between junior and senior recitals, the Symphonic Band, the Jazz Ensembles, the Chamber Singers and University Chorus, and finally the Percussion Ensemble, spirits soared and toes were a tapping.
- MSUB's Student United Way hosted a Socktober fundraiser. Bins were placed at the Office for Community Involvement and the Women and Gender Studies Office in hopes of gathering 500 pairs of socks to be donated to the Montana Rescue Mission.
- The Office of International Studies held week long events in partnership with the U.S. Department of Education and the U.S. State Department, in hopes of spurring conversation and awareness of opportunities available to International students at MSUB. The "International Education Week" event showcased different components by businesses and career professional to promote programs that prepare Americans for a global environment and attract future leaders from abroad.
- The MSUB American Indian Outreach constructed a Medicine Wheel on the campus lawn to honor both Native American traditions, American veterans, Native American college students, and special recognition to MSUB Emeritus Professor Ben Steel who passed away on September 25, 2016.
- A special engagement documentary premiered at MSUB, "Survival Through Art", narrated by Alec Baldwin. The family of Ben Steel gathered to celebrate his 99<sup>th</sup> birthday and the documentary premiere.
- The MSUB Women's and Gender Studies Center hosted a screening and discussion of the documentary, *Makers: Women in Politics*. Following the documentary, Assistant Professor Dr. Sam Boerboom, Department of Communication and Theatre and MSUB graduate students Kelsi Gambill, Alyson Murnion, Sabine Oexmann, and Guido Riffeser, facilitated a conversation about the film and the 2016 Presidential election. Dr. Jennifer Lynn, Director of the WGSC, notes, "this is a great opportunity to reflect upon women's contribution to our political structures. Also, this gives the campus and community an opportunity to discuss the election results within the broader context of history and current political discourse."
- The MSUB Faculty Exhibit is on display in the Northcutt Steele Gallery through February 9, 2017 followed with a closing reception from 5-7 p.m.
- The 30<sup>th</sup> MSUB Annual Montana Poll were released to the public and the media. 22 students enrolled in "Political Science 342: Media, Public Opinion, Polling" spent hours on the phone between October 3<sup>rd</sup> and the 10<sup>th</sup> interviewing 590 adults in Montana about everything from gun rights to the Presidential Election. This year the number one problem was identified as the government, followed by terrorism and then the economy.
- MSUB are student, Patrick Williams, presented his senior capstone exhibition exploring society's love-hate relationship with technology. The exhibit featured two distinct styles, the digital work and the traditional work. Patrick said, "The two styles of art reflect two very different aspects of my personality and creativity. The digital is born from my rational, mathematical mind, while the traditional work comes from my intuitive, emotional mind. Both parts demand a creative outlet, so this work lets each half have its own voice."