

DATE: December 20, 2017

TO: Board of Regents

FROM: Jane Karas, Ph.D.
President, Flathead Valley Community College

RE: Campus Report for the January 11, 2018 Board of Regents' Meeting

- Chemistry student **Heather Cox** was awarded the undergraduate research travel grant from the **Montana American Chemical Society** for her presentation on "Chemistry Chalcone Synthesis Procedures." Heather will use the award to attend the American Chemical Society national conference in New Orleans this spring to present her research.
- FVCC recently contracted with an outside firm to conduct an analysis of the [economic impact](#) and return on investment of the college's educational services on Flathead and Lincoln counties during FY 2016. The analysis shows that FVCC generated **\$93.6 million** in added income and supported 1,779 jobs in the region during this time period.
- The FVCC Foundation held its 24th annual **Scholarship Award Luncheon** in October to honor scholarship donors and student scholarship recipients. A total of **900 FVCC Foundation and community based scholarships** totaling **\$867,000** were distributed to FVCC students for the 2017-18 academic year. Student speakers Karl Dirham, Stevie Mead and others shared their gratitude and personal stories about the impact scholarships have made on their lives.
- The FVCC Foundation awarded more than \$32,000 in **Enhancement Grants** to support innovative instructional strategies and technologies that shift the student learning experience, student travel to present research at conferences and one-time events that engage K-12 schools and the larger community with FVCC's academic programs.
- Thirteen graduates of the **Registered Nursing** program were honored in a traditional pinning ceremony on December 14.

- Fourteen graduates of **The Culinary Institute of Montana at FVCC** were honored at a graduation ceremony on December 15.
- Fifty FVCC students presented their research projects during the college's fall [Conference on Student Research](#). The event provided students the opportunity to present their research, portfolios and projects to faculty, staff, students and community members.
- FVCC's Theatre Arts department produced "**Shades of Orcus**" in December. The play was written by FVCC alumnus **Joshua Kelly**, who is currently working toward a Ph.D. in Interdisciplinary Theatre Studies at the University of Wisconsin-Madison.
- FVCC's Fine Arts department held a **student show and holiday art sale** in December.
- FVCC's Music department produced several **free community concerts** this fall, featuring the vocal and instrumental talents of students and faculty members.
- Several student organizations collaborated to host **Weeks of Giving** in November and December to collect clothing, food, toys and other items for local people in need during the holiday season. Student Government collected non-perishable food items; Phi Theta Kappa collected coats; the Veterans' Association collected toys; Gay/Straight Alliance collected hygiene products; TRIO and Appreciating Individuality, Challenges and Excellence collected socks and gloves.
- FVCC's **Service Learning program** hosted a **holiday cookie decorating event** for local non-profit agencies. Members of the community were invited to help decorate the cookies. Service Learning students also collected **holiday gifts** for children represented by Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) for Kids.
- Students, staff, alumni and community members came together in November to seal a **time capsule** in honor of the college's 50th anniversary. FVCC's first student body president, Marlin Hanson, and current student body president, Emily Baker, placed items in the capsule, which won't be reopened until the centennial anniversary in 2067.
- FVCC hosted **free workshops** at its Kalispell and Libby campuses to help college-bound students and their families complete the necessary forms to apply for federal financial aid, including the Free Application for Federal Student Aid

(FAFSA). The workshops were sponsored by **Reach Higher College Goal Montana**.

- FVCC's Theatre & Communications departments hosted a book reading by fire lookout, humanities professor and author **Amy Pearson** in November. Pearson read from her book, "100 Days of Solitude," as theatre students performed accompanying scenes.
- Students in the **Heavy Equipment Operator** program assisted the nonprofit organization Project Whitefish Kids prepare the site for a **new playground**. Students hauled, graded and leveled approximately 1,000 cubic yards of fill in order to help alleviate spring flooding. The project not only provided valuable hands-on experience for the students, it engaged them in community service.