

CAMPUS REPORT

DATE: February 12, 2019
TO: Board of Regents
FROM: Donald M. Blackketter, Chancellor, Montana Tech
RE: Campus Report for the March, 2019 Board of Regents Meeting

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT

- Ravyn Scott as an Associate of Science student, began a student-parent support program that continues today, and is funded by her work-study grant, The Perkins Grant, and additional support from Dr. Gammon, Dean of the College of Letters, Sciences, and Professional Studies.

FACULTY EFFORTS

- Elyse D'nn Lovell & Ravyn Scott (2019): Community College Single-Parent Students' Angst: Inequities Balancing Roles as Parent and Student, Community College Journal of Research and Practice
- Dr. Waleed Al-Rawashdeh, Professor of Mathematics, is the author of the peer-reviewed paper: "Products of Differentiation and Weighted Composition Operators from Hardy Spaces to Weighted-type Spaces", *J. Math. Comp. Sciences*, Volume 9, No.2 (2019), 167-181.
- During fall semester 2018, full-time Writing Program faculty at Montana Tech—Dr. Dawn Atkinson, Stacey Corbitt, Matthew Haynes, and Bryce Berkowitz—facilitated a series of workshops to assist faculty in all departments at Montana Tech and Highlands College in their efforts to assign and grade writing. Ultimately, these workshops aimed to support the development of students' written communication skills. The five workshops focused on identifying what writing is assigned in courses and how it is graded; integrating and grading writing assignments; demystifying Turnitin's functions; using Turnitin's QuickMarks to grade writing issues; and developing rubrics.
- As part of the Montana Tech Writing Program's efforts to promote ethical source use and to showcase Turnitin's grammar check and grading functions, full-time writing instructors have organized Turnitin training sessions for departments at Montana Tech. During fall semester 2018, Dr. Dawn Atkinson, Assistant Professor and Director of Writing, held a training session for faculty in the Business and Information Technology Department. During Spring 2019, Dawn Atkinson, Stacey Corbitt, Matthew Haynes, and Bryce Berkowitz have thus far organized training sessions for faculty and writing consultants in the following departments: Safety, Health, and Industrial Hygiene; Nursing; Business and Information Technology; and the Academic Center for Excellence.

- Bill Ryan (primary faculty advisor), Sonya Rosenthal, Matt Egloff and the student members of the MT Tech Associated General Contractors (AGC) club attended the Montana Contractors Association (MCA) Meeting and Auction Banquet in Helena Jan 16-17, 2019. The MT Tech students grossed \$5011.00 in the auction. Auction items included a quilt made by Sonya Rosenthal and numerous items made or donated by the students and MT Tech faculty members. The MCA has pledged an additional \$31,000 for student scholarships, and to help fund both MT Tech's and MSU Bozeman's AGC student club teams. The revenue will help fund the student trip to the Region 6 & 7 ASC construction bidding competition in Reno, NV in February. Montana Tech is sending four teams, and MSU Bozeman is sending one team to this competition. Both schools have taken home trophies in previous years, placing above much larger schools from other states in this region. In the spirit of long standing cooperation, and in representing all of Montana's students, MT Tech is transporting the equipment needed for both the Montana Tech and MSU Bozeman teams to Reno this year. In previous years the two schools have shared transportation, and faculty advisors have worked together for mutual betterment of this program in order to benefit the students of Montana.
- Matt Egloff completed 4H shooting sports leader training in air pistol in Bozeman on January 26, 2019. Mr. Egloff is also certified in 4H air rifle. He is currently in his 8th year volunteering and managing the 4H youth air gun sports for Silver Bow County.
- Matt Egloff participated in the NCEES January meeting to work on Fundamentals of Engineering (FE) Exam development and other related tasks. The FE exam is the first of two exams taken by prospective engineers in order to obtain a license to practice.
- Dr. Richard J. Rossi (Professor, Director of Statistics Program, and Co-Director of Data Science Program) published a book with John Wiley & Sons, Inc. Dr. Rossi's book is titled "Mathematical Statistics: An Introduction to Likelihood Based Inference" (2018).

MONTANA BUREAU OF MINES AND GEOLOGY ACTIVITY

- MBMG Hydrogeologists J. LaFave and J. Madison presented, "Groundwater Conditions - Tobacco Watershed - Eureka Area," at a Public Meeting, Eureka, Montana, and December 17, 2018.
 - This presentation was reported on in:
 - "Which Direction Does the Water Flow? State Agency explains how Tricky that Question is on the Tobacco Plains" in the Tobacco Valley News, by Nikki Meyer, December 19, 2018.
 - "Eureka Water Meetings Yield 'Peace of Mind'" in the Daily Inter Lake.com, by Duncan Adams, December 21, 2018:
https://www.dailyinterlake.com/local_news/20181221/eureka_water_meetings_yield_peace_of_mind_ [Accessed 1/2/19]

- MBMG Hydrogeologist, Jeremy Crowley was interviewed by NBC Montana: New Drone Training and Research Area Established in Butte: NBC Montana, by Jayda McClendon, December 19, 2018: <https://nbcmontana.com/news/local/new-drone-training-program-coming-to-montana-tech?fbclid=IwAR3odJbZfYqWFdySVQ3MpssNDuEcA9mj2lqSq8VVPEW9Jywpilt8uO743qg> [Accessed 1/2/2019]
- MBMG Hydrogeologist, Jeremy Crowley presented UAV for Law Enforcement and Search and Rescue: to the City-County of Butte-Silver Bow 911 Committee, Butte, Montana, December 18, 2018.
- MBMG Hydrogeologist, Jeremy Crowley and Tech student J. Bunker, were interviewed for “Study examines LaDuke Hot Springs near Gardiner” Billings Gazette, December 18, 2018, https://billingsgazette.com/outdoors/study-examines-laduke-hot-springs-near-gardiner/article_acd07989-ac69-5602-86cc-a93d8d13193f.html [Accessed 12/19/18]
- MBMG Hydrogeologists M. Richter and J. Rose, were interviewed for “Elevated Groundwater Nitrate Suggests New Pollution Source in West Fork” in Explore Big Sky.com, by Bay Stephens, December 29, 2018: <http://www.explorebigsky.com/elevated-groundwater-nitrate-suggests-new-pollution-source-in-west-fork> [Accessed 1/2/2019].
- MBMG Hydrogeologists J. Reiten and K. Chandler presented “Clear Lake Aquifer Investigation and Ground Water Model in Sheridan County and West Crane Aquifer Investigation in Richland County” at the Montana Association of Conservation Districts Legislator Meet and Greet, Helena, MT., Jan. 24, 2019
- MBMG Research Division Chief Dr. M. Gotkowitz, participated on the Western Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education Technical Review Panel, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Phoenix, Arizona, January 23-24, 2019.
- MBMG Geologist J. Gunderson and Hydrogeologist J. Wheaton presented “Groundwater Using a Sand-Tank Model and Hand Samples” at the Bitterroot School Family Science Night, Billings, Montana, January 25, 2019.
- MBMG Geologist, Dr. Colleen Elliott, Ringing Rocks of Jefferson County: A Musical Mystery: Presented at Montana Tech, Butte, Montana, January 28, 2019.
- MBMG Data Scientist, Luke Buckley, presented “Getting Data from the SWAMP Website” at the Montana Watershed Coordination Council 2019 Annual Meeting, Helena, MT, January 29, 2019.
- MBMG Hydrogeologist A. Bobst and R. Payn, presented “Using Monitoring and Modeling to Explore How Beaver-Mimicry Stream Restoration Affects Dynamic Seasonal Water Storage” at the 52nd Annual Meeting of the Montana Chapter of the American Fisheries Society, Billings, MT, January 30, 2019.

- MBMG Data Scientist, Luke Buckley, presented Data Center Applications, at the Montana Water Well Drillers Association 2019 Annual Convention, Helena, MT January 31 - February 1, 2019.
- MBMG Hydrogeologists J. Reiten and K. Chandler presented Technical Review of Applications for Irrigation Development out of the Clear Lake Aquifer to the Sheridan County Conservation District Water Reservation Technical Advisory Committee, Plentywood, Montana, February 6, 2019.
- MBMG Director of Earthquake Studies, Michael Stickney, and Geologists Dr. C. Elliott, J. Lonn, and Dr. P. Yakovlev attended the Basin and Range Earthquake Parameters Working Meeting, Salt Lake City, Utah, February 6, 2019. Dr. Yakovlev presented the Montana Quaternary Fault Database at the meeting.
- MBMG Hydrogeologist C. Thomson was a reviewer for the Intermountain Junior Science and Humanities Symposium (IJSHS), Butte, Montana, February 1, 2019
- MBMG Hydrogeologists J. Reiten and K. Chandler presented “Findings of the West Crane Aquifer Groundwater Field Work under the GWIP Program” to the Richland County Conservation District Meeting, Sidney, Montana, February 6, 2019.
- MBMG Hydrogeologists J. Reiten and K. Chandler presented “Potential of Hydrogeologic Investigations on Big Muddy Creek Surface Water and Groundwater” to the Medicine Lake Refuge and Fort Peck Tribes Meeting, Medicine Lake, Montana, February 6, 2019.
- MBMG Hydrogeologists J. Reiten and K. Chandler presented “Fox Hills Aquifer Updated Findings on the Hydrogeologic Investigation of the West Crane Aquifer in Richland County” to the Glendive Agricultural Trade Exposition, Glendive, Montana, February 8, 2019.
- MBMG Chief Analytical Lab Chemist Jackie Timmer and Chemist Ashley Huft 2019, presented four times: “Interactive Presentation and Instructional Tour of Montana Bureau of Mines and Geology Laboratory Facilities” for Geology Field Camp, January 16; Petroleum class, January 29; Petroleum class, January 31; Environmental Geochemistry class, U of M-Western Feb. 1, 2019.
- MBMG Hydrogeologist Dr. E. Meredith and N. Blais published Quantifying Irrigation Recharge Sources Using Groundwater Modeling in Agricultural Water Management, v. 214, p. 9-16.

The Montana Bureau of Mines and Geology published:

- 2017 Annual coalbed methane regional groundwater monitoring report: Powder River Basin, Montana: Montana Bureau of Mines and Geology Open-File Report 707 by Meredith, E., Bierbach, S., Wheaton, J., Kuzara, S., and Blais, N.
- Geologic map of the Bison Mountain 7.5' quadrangle, Powell and Jefferson counties, Montana: Montana Bureau of Mines and Geology Geologic Map 71, 10 p., 1 sheet, scale 1:24,000 by Scarberry, K.C., Coppage, E.L., and English, A.R.
- MBMG Biennial Report, 2016–2018, by MBMG Staff
- MBMG Annual Screensaver, Susan Barth, with photos by MBMG Staff

CAMPUS HAPPENINGS

- Montana Tech is leading the planning effort for the first Montana Department of Energy National Lab Day and hosted the first planning meeting in January. The organizing committee has members from OCHE, all 4-year MUS campuses, and several DOE National Labs, and is reaching out to government and industry for other members. The meeting is tentatively planned for October 2019 in Butte, and will be open to the public, but especially useful to MUS faculty and students with research or internship interests that can benefit from user facility access or other collaborations. National Lab Days have been held previously in Mississippi, Arkansas, Delaware, Ohio, and Alaska.