

Date: August 18, 2021

To: Board of Regents

From: Sandra J. Bauman, Ed.D.
Dean/CEO, Helena College University of Montana

Subject: Campus Report for September 2021 Board of Regents Meeting

eLearning and Faculty Development

- Nine SMART classrooms have been built on both campuses at HC. There are three training opportunities in July and August for HC employees to learn how to use the SMART equipment in the classrooms.
- [SMART Classroom Quick Guidebook](#) and [Smartboard mini-poster](#) have been created for each SMART classroom as supporting materials. A [webpage](#) has also been built for posting SMART resources.
- Two “Quiet Rooms” have been created for faculty. The rooms will be used for recording online lectures, hosting meetings with online students, and conducting virtual office hours.

General Education

- The Business & Accounting program is seeing an increase in enrollment, thanks in part to the connection with the 2+2+2 GEER’s grant through UM. The grant supported increased marketing and promotion of the program this summer.

K-12 Dual Enrollment

- Thirteen students participated in the inaugural cohort of Helena College’s “Humanities Through Film Summer Bridge Program” which took place August 9-20 on the Helena College Donaldson campus. The student participants were high school students and college freshmen; 7 of the 13 elected to earn one college credit for COMX 298. Dr. Ari Laskin was the Program Director and three Helena College faculty taught for the program: Seth Roby, Virginia Reeves, and Kim Feig. This year’s program theme was “Pandemics Then and Now,” and the students produced a documentary film that will be shown in the community this fall.
- Helena College is on track to have the largest class of early college students (high school students taking college credit directly through Helena College) this fall. Many students are enrolled in online and HyFlex classes.
- A new Dual Enrollment Coordinator, Lewis Jackson, will assist the Director of K-12 Partnerships to better serve dual enrollment students through personalized advising and high school outreach.
- East Helena High School, with its first class of high school juniors this fall, will be offering Helena College’s CSCI 100 (Intro to Computer Science) to 5 students in a new remote learning classroom this fall, funded by one of the Governor’s Emergency Education Relief grants.
- Helena College and Helena WINS will be offering a pre-health career exploration event for high school students at Helena College on October 6. Other career exploration events will be planned throughout the year.

Library Learning Hub

- The Library Learning Hub (the Hub) renovation is complete! The active learning space is open and includes tutoring, moveable tables, chairs and whiteboards, comfortable seating, technology and research help, plus a comprehensive service desk for all. This will enable easy creation of a classroom with a Smartboard for library and tutoring instruction as well as other public group gatherings. On the other side of the Library Learning HUB there is a true quiet study area for the HC students complete with stacks, pods, carrels, group study rooms, and comfortable seating.
- The Library Learning Hub is offering four “Are you Tech Ready?” hands-on workshops the first week of the semester. Three of the workshops will take place in the new Library Learning Hub on the Donaldson Campus, and one will be offered on the Airport Campus. The hands-on workshops will cover all the technologies that will be needed for day-one tech readiness; campus email, Wi-Fi access and printing, Moodle, Microsoft Teams, textbook access, Starfish, TutorMe, website navigation, and more.

MT 10

- Helena College has completed the recruitment of the 2021-2022 MT 10 cohort. 45 Helena College students will take part in the program this year. In July we had the MT 10 orientation to introduce students to the program and help them with their fall semester onboarding. Currently we are administering the Ruffalo NL College Student Survey to help each student create a personal success plan. Information from the survey will help with our overall planning. In addition, we have created a Freshman Year Experience around the 8 Dimensions of Wellness.

Nursing Department

- Approval for expanding the LPN program to 16 students in collaboration with Bitterroot College was approved by MT Board of Nursing at the July 2021 general meeting. The expansion will start with Spring 2022 as outlined in the GEER grant, didactic classes will be taught by HC Nursing faculty in virtual blended format. The Nursing Department is planning to hire Clinical resource nurses (CRRN) in Hamilton area to provide in-person lab and clinical instruction.
- Nursing Department is fully staffed with four full-time faculty members!

TRIO SSS

- Helena College is on track to bring in a full cohort of TRIO SSS scholars. In August a TRIO SSS orientation took place. This event helped to answer any questions new TRIO scholars might have about the program or starting the fall semester. New participants were able to hear from a panel of HC TRIO students and ask questions.

HC Remodel

- Cody Torres, HC Welding Instructor, designed and fabricated the new floor panel for the Donaldson hallway!



