



DATE: April 20, 2022

TO: Board of Regents

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

RE: Campus Report for the May 2022 Board of Regents' Meeting

- The FVCC Foundation celebrated a successful Springfest event to support student scholarships. Catered by students from the Culinary Institute of Montana, the 'Bon Voyage' themed event raised over \$150,000 for FVCC scholarships.
- Dr. Phil MacGregor, Computer Applications Professor at FVCC, hosted an employer panel for the Information Technology and Security program students on March 10. The panel included eight representatives from six different employers in the Flathead Valley, who also assisted with mock interviews. Dr. MacGregor also recently presented on cybersecurity at the FVCC STEM Colloquium in early March.
- FVCC's Culinary Institute of Montana hosted a Chef's Table Dinner of Gratitude for local high school counselors in March to thank the staff who helped area high school students continue their education during the challenges of the global pandemic.
- The FVCC satellite paramedic program launched in Miles City under the direction of James LaPierre, A.A.S Lab Coordinator. James taught initial courses in February at the Miles City site in collaboration with lead instructor Sarah Lewin, Battalion Chief with Miles City Fire Department. The satellite paramedic program is funded through a GEER grant which was secured in 2021 to support the construction of lab space and fulfillment of program supplies.
- The FVCC Math Department hosted the 5th Annual NW Regional MCTM Math Contest (Montana Council of Teachers of Mathematics) on March 17 at the FVCC campus. Almost 200 local middle and high school students participated in a series of math tests to earn scholarships and other awards. The contest was directed by Peter Musick, Kalispell Middle School math teacher and FVCC adjunct professor.
- Dr. Mirabai McCarthy and Wendy Westbroek were awarded a \$56,840 grant from the National Institute of Health (NIH) Montana INBRE program for the 2022-2023 academic year to support an undergraduate research project entitled "Antibiotic Potential of Lichen, Fungi and Plants in NW Montana." In March, student researchers presented recent findings in this ongoing undergraduate research project to the FVCC Board of Trustees.
- FVCC's eLearning Faculty Fellows (ELFFs) and Instructional Designers completed the Teaching Online Certificate (TOC) program through Quality Matters, a recognized leader in online education worldwide. ELFFs represent each academic division on campus and include Dr. Janice Alexander (Science), Erin Wenner (Math), Brenda Rudolph (Business), Carlin Hale (Social Sciences), and Dr. Julie Robertson (Health Sciences).
- Professors Conrad Rauscher and Laura VanDeKop attended the Achieving the Dream DREAM 2022 virtual conference Feb 15-17. DREAM 2022 centered on building stronger pathways to and



through postsecondary education, eliminating systemic barriers to student success and fostering a sense of belonging through teaching and learning excellence.

- Forty-five students at FVCC met the requirements for the HiSET (High School Equivalency Test) Scholarship, which is supported by the FVCC Foundation.
- The FVCC Foundation awarded seven Enhancement Grants to faculty for projects including Undergraduate Research Presentations at the Botanical Society of America Meeting, Video Outreach for the Medical Laboratory Technician Program to Middle and High School Students, and Career and Technical Education Student Exploration for Adult Education Students.
- FVCC's nursing program has partnered with the nursing program at Montana Tech in Butte to provide nursing students financial assistance and a simple transfer pathway during their nursing education. Students pursuing their two-year ASN at FVCC are eligible for up to \$2,000 in support funds and direct transfer of coursework when they choose to continue their studies at Montana Tech upon graduation from FVCC.
- For three weeks in April, seniors from the Culinary Institute of Montana completed their final capstone project entitled, "Divina Trattoria," an Italian-inspired pop-up restaurant serving lunch to the community:
 - <https://dailyinterlake.com/news/2022/apr/13/fvccs-culinary-seniors-serve-italian-lunch-fare/>