

Date: April 2022

To: Board of Regents

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

Subject: Campus Report for May 2022 Board of Regents Meeting

Career Technical Education

- The new Avionics certificate has been approved and will be offered starting the fall of 2022.
- Helena College hosted Skills USA for the first time on our campus. There were over 300 secondary and post-secondary students on campus in over 500 skills and leadership competitions. Helena College will host the event for the next five years.
- Helena College's Fire and Emergency Services program was featured in the local media and continues to grow. We are working on an articulation for a bachelor's program with the University of Montana Western for the current group of students.
- Helena College's Machining Program purchased a new HAAS Mini Mill with Wi-Fi capabilities. Due to this technology, the program will be able to offer HAAS certification.
- The Helena College Welding Program received a donation from McDantim Incorporated in Helena which specializes in gas blending technologies. They have provided Helena College with a gas blending system, manifolds, and regulators for the welding lab. This allows Helena College students to have five different blends of gases available to the 30 welding stations. The college and faculty are continuing to work with McDantim as they develop smaller blending systems to be used with welders that can be moved throughout the shop.
- Helena College was also able to purchase 20 new Miller welders complete with push-pull welding guns. These machines are capable of pulse welding as well as the traditional GMAW process and transfer modes. HC recently renewed the MOA with Miller Electric and will continue to be the State's only Miller training facility.

Career Connections

- Helena College has been working with Boeing Helena to strengthen the workforce pipeline through innovative collaboration. Boeing has given Helena College \$8000 in scholarship monies this year. They expect to increase their workforce by 70-plus over the next year and are guaranteeing all Helena College students an interview if they apply for employment.
- Helena College also had a visit from Rampart Aviation which is breaking ground in Kalispell to extend their business opportunities. Helena College is working with Rampart to provide students with summer internship opportunities as well as create a workforce pipeline for future avionics technicians and mechanics.

Community Education Center

- An online high-flex Introduction to Banking Fundamentals course is currently running. There are 23 students from Opportunity Bank participating.
- The CDL program has grown tremendously this year with a class completing early April, a second class starting at the end of April, and a third class starting in July.

- The Community Education Center is working with the Montana Department of Transportation to create customized training in heavy equipment electrical, both basic and advanced.
- The Community Education Center is also providing face-to-face courses in Phlebotomy, Clinical Medical Assisting, Pharmacy Technician, Licensed Massage Therapy, and Certified Medical Assisting with Billing and Coding (online) as certifications leading directly to careers in the workforce

Enrollment

- After going through an RFP process, Helena College has selected Target X as a Customer Relations Management software. This will be taking the place of our Starfish retention system. Target X was selected because it offered a blend of retention and recruitment functions. Implementation will begin this summer.
- Helena College will be holding two graduation ceremonies. One on May 6, 2022, at the Airport Campus, and one on May 7, 2022, at the Donaldson Campus. The ceremonies give every family a chance to have a front-row seat to see their graduate walk across the stage.

eLearning and Faculty Development

- The eLearning & Faculty Development Office is hiring a full-time eLearning Specialist & Developer. This new employee will be charged with the primary responsibility of working with various college departments to manage and maintain the Learning Management System (currently Moodle) and instructional technologies used by all faculty and students. The goal of this hiring is to increase the efficiency and performance of our teaching and learning tools so we can continue to support our diverse community and advance our student access and success.

K-12 & Dual Enrollment

- After a successful first year, Helena College will once again be hosting a two-week summer bridge program focusing on Montana history and culture through filmmaking for high school students and recent graduates. [Humanities Through Film: A Summer Bridge Program](#) will allow students to collaborate with experts and create a documentary film. This experience is made possible by a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities. The program will run from July 11-22, 2022.
- Two dual enrollment students will graduate with their Associate of Arts degrees this spring. These students have met all of the requirements to graduate from high school as well as from Helena College. They will attend the graduation ceremony on the Donaldson campus.
- Helena College has partnered with the Helena Area Summer Jobs program to offer a summer class for students participating in the program. A special section of COMX 115, Interpersonal Communication, will be offered to students as a way to reflect on their work experience. Helena College faculty and staff are also assisting with the program's work skills training sessions.
- A special graduation ceremony will be held on May 13 for the 5th-grade students from Bryant Elementary who have participated in yearlong educational experiences at Helena College.
- Helena College faculty and staff will present healthcare program opportunities at an event taking place at Carroll College on April 23.

Nursing Department

- First-quarter NCLEX pass rates for RNs are back up to 90.91% (State pass rate 80.75% and National (82.45%). LPN NCLEX pass rate is 80%.
- Helena College's 4th semester (senior) nursing students provided CPR review and AED training to both campuses in the past month. They are reminding everyone that the AED is designed for use by the lay population. The AED machine talks you through the steps needed.

- On April 7th, the two 5th grade classes from Bryant Elementary visited the Pediatric Nursing students' class for an interactive and informative presentation. The nursing students and instructor Jamie Valdez selected and designed the event. The Nursing students presented information on nutrition, summer safety, heart sounds (with the help of Hal our pediatric manikin), protective gear, handwashing, and making slime!
- Nursing held Career Fair on April 12, and despite the wintery weather, eleven healthcare employers/vendors were in attendance, including representatives from Deer Lodge Medical, St. James, St. Peters, VA Fort Harrison, Shodair, Touchmark, Elkhorn Healthcare, Mt. Ascencion Transitional Care, Pure View, A Plus Health, and Grand Canyon University.
- Benefis is hosting a social on April 26 for our graduating students to discuss their residency program.
- The Helena College RN pinning ceremony is set for May 6th at 1:30 p.m. at St. Mary's Catholic Community, 1700 Missoula, in Helena. HC has 16 RN students graduating this spring.
- Plans to repurpose our existing nursing classroom/lab spaces to include a dedicated Simulation Lab are in progress. The dedicated simulation lab will allow HC to increase RN enrollment by augmenting reproducible clinical experiences for our students.

TRIO SSS

- Four students completed NASPA's Certified Peer Educator training and attended the State TRIO Student Leadership Conference at Fairmont Hot Springs in March.
- The program provided several workshops with the support of other departments such as *How to Salvage Your Semester* and *Financial Aid 101*.
- The TRIO program met its Annual Performance Report, (APR) grant objectives in retention, graduation, and graduation/transfer for the 2020-2021 academic year with retention rate of 62%, graduation rate of 53%, and graduation/transfer rate of 23%.

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- The 2020 cohort graduates are being interviewed by Virginia Reeves. Their narratives are being collected as a qualitative assessment of the program at HC.

General Education Art Program

- The Holter Museum is giving all our students free membership to the museum. This allows students to go to a free event or class, as well as receive discounts in the community. Free campus-wide membership is in the works. This is one of many ways we are partnering with local organizations in the arts.
- Helena College Art Showcase featured 63 pieces from over 30 artists. The event raised \$2200 to support the art program. Over \$2500 in scholarships and prizes were given out to students who were selected by ASHC and local businesses.



General Education Art Program Cont'd:

- HC's first art capstone class will display their final projects at The Holter Museum of Art located at 12 E. Lawrence Street in Helena. The show runs from April 22 to May 15.

