

DATE: March 2024

TO: Board of Regents

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

RE: Campus Report for the March 2024 Board of Regents Meeting

- Cosmetology Students will enter the program every Spring, Summer, and Fall semester. Our first sixteen students start this Spring semester! The program takes four consecutive semesters to complete, and along with becoming a licensed cosmetologist, students will earn an Associate of Applied Science degree.
This is the first public cosmetology program in the state, where students will train in the on-site salon and learn a variety of skills: haircuts, styling, coloring, facials, hair removal, false eyelashes, manicures and pedicures, and nail care. This first cohort of cosmetology students will begin taking clients in the salon in April of 2024. We hope to see you on campus for a salon service soon.
- Motorcycle Safety at Helena College: Montana Motorcycle Rider Safety (MMRS) is Montana's official motorcycle training school. Courses for riders of all levels are offered throughout the state, with classroom instruction and on-cycle practice from certified coaches with real-world experience. Casey and MMRS are part of our Community Education Center. Casey Redder has joined Helena College as the Director for MMRS.
We are very excited to be the new hosts of this fantastic rider safety program!
- K-12 Partnerships welcomed a new addition to our staff. In January, Gabrielle Wheeler started serving students at Helena College as the Dual Enrollment Coordinator. We are excited to have her on board!
- Dual Enrollment started the year out with advising appointments for early college students for the spring semester. On the first day of class, 118 early college students were enrolled. 65% of those were returning students! 43 East Helena High School students enrolled in college credit-only classes this spring and 31 homeschool students enrolled, making them the bulk of who we are serving. The three favorite classes our high school students registered for are College Writing, College Algebra, and Introduction to Psychology.
Dual Enrollment Orientation on January 10, 2024, was a small event where students learned how to navigate through the resources on our website with Cari Schwen, Executive Director of Fiscal Services, and spent quality time with Patricia Pearson, Librarian, and Kim Caldwell, Academic Coach.
- Montana Future's at Work grant funding is paying for books and supplies for 10 High School students enrolled in ECP 130, Emergency Medical Technician, at Helena College. Students were introduced to their instructors and each other at a catered orientation on January 11, 2024, at our Airport Campus.
- Once again Helena College hosted the regional First Lego League Robotics tournament on January 20, 2024. Approximately 150 students ages 6-10 attended, bringing with them the robots they wrote the code for and built. Helena College Admissions staff, Community Education staff, and community members volunteered to judge the team presentations, and facilities chipped in on the day of the event. Campus was full of life, and it was fun to see the sportsmanship and support the students shared.
- Dual credit registration week is always fast-paced and fun! We are incredibly lucky staff at Helena College chipped in and helped during this busy time. January 30, 2024, dual enrollment staff were at

Capital High School collecting paperwork and registering students. January 31, 2024, was spent at East Helena High School, and on February 1, 2024, Helena High School students walked across the street to our Student Center to turn in forms.

- CTE & Skilled Trades Helena College's Aviation Maintenance Advisory Board met Tuesday, February 6 to discuss industry needs and ensure alignment of our Helena College curriculum. Industry representatives joined in-person and online.
- Six prospective students spent the day visiting our skilled trades programs on the Airport Campus for our first spring semester "Shadow Day" opportunity on Wednesday, February 7. Helena College's newest faculty member, Nolan Eggen (Fire and Emergency Services program) demonstrated fire behavior with a small, replica house for his FIRE 202 students. The students built the house and then participated in the demonstration and learned how to do a similar demonstration for the public.