

CAMPUS REPORTS
Board of Regents Meeting
March 1-3, 2006
Dillon, Montana

The University of Montana-Western
Chancellor Richard Storey

Accomplishments

Dr. Nili Luo, UMW Early Childhood Education Associate Professor, has had the following recent accomplishments:

- Accepted to present at the 2006 National conference of the International Association of Asian Studies at Baton Rouge, Louisiana (February 13-18,2006), her topic will be "The Adoptive Parenting Process: A Study of the Experiences of Parents who Adopt Infant Girls from China. " After the conference, her paper will be submitted to *The Journal of Intercultural Discipline*.
- Another paper was accepted for presentation at the 2006 Association For Childhood Education International Conference at San Antonio, TX, April 12-15. The topic of this presentation was " The American Adoption of Chinese Infant Girls: Adoptive Parents' Childhood Family Structure and Childhood Experience." Due to financial constraints, Dr. Luo will be unable to attend this conference.
- In October, Dr. Luo accompanied her students and presented at the MtAEYC (Montana Association for the Education of Young Children) annual conference in Bozeman, the topic was, "Rock Project-An introduction of project approach in early childhood educational center" They received very positive feedback from the peers and student parents.
- Dr. Luo also has a recent publication in the Cumberland Law Review Volume 35, Number 3, 2005,the topic was "Intercountry adoption and China: Emerging questions and developing Chinese perspectives".
- Finally, The University of Montana-Western now has a chapter of the Montana Association for the Education of Young Children (MtAEYC). Dr. Nili Luo is the faculty advisor, Mollie Kern is the president. The purpose of MtAEYC is: (a) To serve and to act on behalf of the needs, rights, and well being of all young children and their families, with special emphasis on developmental and educational services and resources, and (b) To foster the growth and development of the membership in their work with, and on behalf of young children. MtAEYC-Western Chapter expresses its mission in terms of the following goals: (1) Raise awareness on how children develop and learn, (2) Advocate for early childhood professionals, (3) Collaborate with other organizations and institutions, and (4) Support those who work on behalf of children and their families. For more information please email: MtAEYYC_WESTERN@yahoo.com
- Western Associate Professor of English Dr. Diana Francis has had a short story published in Doses of Death: A Macabre Collection of Small Town Terror. Title of the story is "Local Work." Also, she has had "In Between the Dark and the Light" accepted to the anthology Fur Fantastic, which will be published sometime soon.
- Dr. Gary Lundy's poem, "in san francisco. during the war. the," has been accepted for publication in the "Pacific Coast Journal." It should appear in print sometime in 2006. Also, "it being later. she. now all," has been accepted for publication by the lit mag "karamu," out of eastern illinois university. It will appear in the Spring 2007 issue.
- Dr. Rita Moore, Western's Interim Dean of Education, Business and Technology has been accepted for presentation at the International Reading Association conference in Chicago in May, 2006. She will be a part of a full day institute on Reading Assessment Strategies K-12. Nine presenters, many of them top names in literacy education, will be addressing Institute participants. Also, Dr. Moore's position as a member of the Editorial Review Board for Reading Teacher has been renewed for another year. She has also been appointed to the Editorial Review Board for Reading and Writing Quarterly.
- Holly Williams, at UM-Western, was one of eight Montana Volunteers in Service to America recognized for their work throughout the state this year in a formal ceremony in Helena. The VISTA honorees served through the Montana Campus Compact during 2005, bringing Montana communities long-term sustainable solutions to hunger, housing and school-performance needs. Montana's VISTA volunteers seek innovative ways to address critical needs by connecting the resources that college and university campuses provide with community organizations.
- Early Childhood Education Professor Dr. Julie Bullard has received a grant for \$25,000 to develop an advanced infant/toddler curriculum for the state of Montana. Several partners will assist with developing parts of the curriculum including faculty from Salish-Kootenai College and The University of Montana-Missoula. The grant is funded by the Department of Health and Human Services through Montana Best Beginnings.

Western Business Professor Jim Sethi also had recently published the following:

- Sethi, Jim. An Integrated Model For Human Resource Management for the Internet Economy. Ottawa: Universal Publications. [Explores Dynamic Strategies For Managing Employee Performance, Anxiety, Stress, Technostress, and Burnout.]
- Sethi, Jim. Strategy and Leadership: A Guide For CEOs and Team Leaders. Universal Publications. The author proposes a "Balanced Team Leadership (BTL) Model" as a guide for achieving the strategic balance between organizational profit and ethical equity. The model rests on two fundamental commitments on part of CEOs and strategic team leaders: Profitability and ethics. To realize this balance, team effectiveness, organizational development, and ten practical leadership strategies are recommended. These include: a-Developing Visionary Leadership; b- Leader as Ethics-Builder; c-Leader as Communicator; d- Leaders as Culture-Builder; e. Leader as Innovator; f. Leader as Strategic Change Master; g. Managing Power and Political behavior; h. Leader as Mentor; i. Leader as Negotiator; j. Leader as Lifelong Learner and Mediator. The BTL Model rests on the hypothesis that the direction of a post-modern society in the new digital economy will not be based on profit alone. A paradigm of the new team leadership model is essential for forging a balanced society that can deliver both profits and ethical equity
- Dr. Robyn Wingo was awarded a Title II Improving Teacher Quality Program grant in the amount of \$63,117 by the Office of the Commissioner of Higher Education. The grant, titled "Improving Students' Writing Proficiency through Prewriting Skills," is designed to help secondary English Language Arts teachers improve their instruction in the prewriting phase of the writing process. Through the grant, Dr. Wingo and Dr. Bethany Blankenship will deliver two workshops in Thompson Falls and be involved in the 2006 Montana Writing Assessment.

Retirement Announced

- John Bailey, UMW Assistant Professor of Tourism and Recreation, has announced his resignation effective at the end of the current school year. He has been at Western since 1988, when he was brought on to initiate Western's Associate of Applied Science degree in Tourism and Recreation. Mr. Bailey also played a major role in the development of Western's Bachelor of Liberal Studies degree, which eventually was converted to a Bachelor of Arts degree with multiple options. He has also twice served as department chair where he has been involved in a number of other curricular and other departmental and campus changes.

Ag Conference and Expo

- Western's 5th annual Ag Conference and Expo was again very successful. The event occurred on January 12th and 13th and included topics such as sustainability, ranch and farm profitability, range management, ranching history, ag safety, use of GPS/GIS, resource management, ranching history, energy conservation, and more.

Improved Facilities

- A private donor has provided funds for the renovation and rent of a foundation-owned building utilized by the campus to house faculty and staff of its rapidly growing equine program. This academic center for equine studies is adjacent to campus and will provide a focal point for information and student recruitment as well as a headquarters for the equine personnel.

Montana State University-Bozeman President Geoff Gamble

- **FERDINAND JOHNS**, architecture professor, and his student **ALLISON ORR** (fifth-year architecture/Bozeman), received one of only eight, 2006 Institute Honor Awards for Regional and Urban Design from the American Institute of Architects. The prize-winning plans were hand-drawn by Orr and demonstrated a 50-year master plan for the 130,000 acre Chippewa/Cree Reservation southwest of Havre which expects to see as much as 400% growth by 2050. The plan was done as an extension of a project Johns directed as part of the MSU Community Design Center. Other contest winners included some of the best architectural firms in the country.
- **LINDA YOUNG**, political science professor and an expert in global agricultural economics, spent a week in Islamabad in November helping prepare the Pakistani Secretary of Agriculture and his staff for the World Trade Organization's December meetings.
- During February, **CAREER SERVICES AND STUDENT EMPLOYMENT** offered its first Professional Development Workshop weekend retreat, at a fee of only \$15.00 for meals and accommodations, to give students from all majors and standing strategies and resources to be successful. Industry leaders from companies including Right Now Technologies, Boeing, Intel and Bacterin presented career insights and job hunting advice to students.
- **ADELE PITTENDRIGH**, associate dean of the College of Letters and Science, was recognized as one of 10

national "Outstanding First-Year Student Advocates" by the National Resource Center of the First-Year Experience at the University of South Carolina and the Houghton Mifflin Company. Pittendrigh oversaw the development of MSU's new core 2.0 and also directs the University Seminar for first-year students. She recently received a National Science Foundation grant to help develop core science classes.

- **ANNA MADORSKY**, a senior anthropology student and president of the Anthropology Club, placed 17th at the U.S. National Figure Skating Competition held last month in St. Louis. Madorsky returned to skating after a five-year hiatus and was featured on ESPN2 and other national media because of her quick transition from being a retired junior skater to one of the 20 best skaters in the country.
- **STUDENT ADVOCATES FOR FINANCIAL EDUCATION (\$AFE)**, recorded record attendance at its counseling sessions and presentations last Fall. \$AFE had 37 counseling sessions and reached 180 students via presentations and around 900 students through displays at various locations and meetings. \$AFE is a collaboration between MSU and the Student Assistance Foundation which provides free financial counseling to students.
- **JEFF BOLTON**, senior offensive lineman, received 1st Team All-American accolades from the Associated Press, the Sports Xchange and Walter Camp and 2nd team from the Sports Network for his outstanding play with the Bobcats. **TRAVIS LULAY**, senior quarterback in business management, received 1st Team Academic All-American honors from ESPN and was named to the 1-AA Athletic Directors Academic All-Star team.
- The **LOCAL GOVERNMENT CENTER** hosted nearly 60 mayors from across the state at its annual Mayor's Academy, which provides intensive training and networking for Montana's elected mayors.
- The **MSU EXTENSION HOUSING AND ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH PROGRAM** has published a series of resources to inform homeowners of numerous energy saving and weatherization tips. These brochures are free and can be found online at: <http://www.weatherization.org/energytopics.htm>

Montana State University–Billings Chancellor Ronald P. Sexton, Ph. D.

- Dr. Tasneem Khaleel, Chair of the MSU-Billings Department of Biological and Physical Sciences since 1996, was appointed permanent Dean of the MSU-Billings College of Arts and Sciences. Khaleel, a popular professor of biology and an accomplished researcher, joined the MSU-Billings (then Eastern Montana College) in 1976 as Assistant Professor of Biology. From 1993-96, she served as Director of Graduate Studies and Research, and Chair of the Department of Modern Languages at the University. She had been Academic Vice Chancellor since 1996.
- Dr. Matthew Redinger has a new book that has been published by the University of Notre Dame Press: *American Catholics and the Mexican Revolution, 1924-1936*.
- Montana State University-Billings Professor Catherine Feher-Elston presented research about reintroduction of the Mexican Wolf at the International Wolf Center's, *Frontiers of Wolf Recovery* meetings in Colorado Springs.
- Dr. Adrian Heidenreich was featured in the Billings Gazette regarding "Mapping Crow History." Dr. Heidenreich and Michael Bugenstein collaborated together about a map that features historic sites on the Crow Nation.
- "Gravel in Her Gut & Spit in Her Eye," the long-awaited half-hour documentary on the life and work of Dorothy M. Johnson, written and co-produced by MSU-Billings English Professor Sue Hart, had its Billings premiere showing on campus. Sue Hart has taught in the English and Philosophy Department at MSU-Billings for over 40 years, during which time she also wrote extensively about Montana authors for a variety of publications.
- Dr. Sarah Keller, Assistant Professor of Communication at MSU-Billings, was the overall women's winner in the Carlsbad Marathon last Sunday morning, January 15, with a time of 3:11:08.
- Faculty research and scholarship continues to grow at MSU-Billings due to the diligent efforts of faculty and staff. Halfway through the fiscal year, the Office and Grants and Sponsored Programs reports that the MSU-Billings has already surpassed \$6.5 million in funded grants and projects. That six-month total already surpasses the previous annual record of \$6.4 million. The funded projects are spread across the campus, with the College of Technology landing most of the total. Seventy-six percent are funded through competitive grants while the remaining 24 percent are from appropriations.
- Grades matter to the Montana State-Billings women's soccer team. The team earned its fourth straight NSCAA academic honor by posting a combined 3.38 grade point average for the 2004-2005 school year.
- College of Business Assistant Professor Rakesh Sah set up a unique short-term study abroad program to India during the Intersession. 12 students, 5 COB faculty and the Staff Director of International Studies from MSU-Billings toured in India.

- College of Business Faculty receive awards from the MSU-B RACE Committee: Assistant Professor A. J. Otjen to support her proposal “The Digital Divide” High Speed Data in Rural Areas; Professor Abbas Heiat to support his research titled “Proposal for Developing an Intelligent Tutoring System for Novice programmers.”; and Professor Nafi Heiat to support her research entitled “Proposal for Developing a Data Miner for Fund Raising.”
- MSU-Billings has been named one of twenty-five 2004-2005 MVP Award Winners by AchieveGlobal, an international training organization. As a Fortune 500 company, and a Fortune 100 trainer, Achieve Global has worked with the largest international conglomerates. Through a unique educational partnership with the Achieve Global, MSU-Billings can offer industry-standard training at Montana prices. Our certified instructors deliver Achieve Global modules customized to meet the needs of our clients. AchieveGlobal training is available through the College of Technology and College of Professional Studies and Lifelong Learning. The announcement on the Achieve Global web site states, *“We appreciate your true spirit of partnership, constant dedication, and strong commitment. Your organization has exhibited outstanding promotion and key leadership in providing AchieveGlobal’s leading training solutions in your local communities and beyond.”*
- Craig McKenzie, COT Instructor, received a “passed” score from the National Institute for Automotive Service Excellence in various engine repair mechanic categories.
- The two-year Medical Assistant Program at College of Technology received national accreditation by the Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs.

Montana State University – Great Falls College of Technology
Dean Mary Sheehy Moe

- The College’s new Creative Arts Enterprise program, designed to help artisans market and manage sustainable businesses, is gaining national attention. A nationally broadcast webcam session featured MSUGF TRACE graduates and instructors as an example of innovative programming developing the creative cluster. Program Director Dr. Cindy Kittredge and Business Management/Entrepreneurship Program Director Dr. Marilyn Besich, were also featured presenters at a national conference for small business/entrepreneurs in Tucson, AZ, in January. Also in January, Dean Mary Sheehy Moe joined the presidents of three other community colleges at the Workforce Development Institute in Sarasota, FL, to explain the unique features of the Creative Arts Enterprise program that meet the needs of rural artists in the creative economy. Back home in Montana, Dr. Kittredge and Dr. Besich provided entrepreneurship training to 60 prospective participants in the Made in Montana Show in March. The program will also be featured in the Governor’s Conference on Tourism this spring.
- The MSU-COT Interior Design Program Received 2020 Software donated by 2020 Technologies recently. The company provides free training for up to 4 instructors and support for IT as part of the company’s commitment to design education. With the new software, the students will be well-prepared for the workforce.
- Several Respiratory Therapy Students spent Respiratory Care Week in a “stop smoking” clinic at a local hospital. In conjunction with the off-campus program, a booth was set up at MSUGF to provide lung education and recruit new students for the program. Students were interviewed on local ABC and CBS stations, and were featured on the American Association for Respiratory Care Website for their efforts.
- Jim Alderson visited Jon Nitschke’s Financial Accounting Class to discuss the high-profile federal government lawsuit he was party to a few years ago. Mr. Alderson filed the suit following his dismissal from a Whitefish area hospital because he refused to file a fraudulent Medicare Cost Reimbursement report. He began his presentation by showing the ‘60 Minutes’ segment with Mike Wallace when the case captured national media attention. Mr. Alderson and his wife discussed with students the effects his decision to pursue the law suit had on their family.
- College in a Day drew over 300 students from 26 high schools to MSU-Great Falls College of Technology on Thursday January 5, 2006, for the 8th annual College in a Day event. High school students from as far away as Malta traveled to Great Falls to participate in career exploration activities.
- Bringing U to You Lecture Series kicked off its season with Dr. Paul Monaco of MSU Bozeman with *Media Effects: Their Social and Cultural Impacts*. Dr. Monaco has enjoyed a career as an author of five books, award-winning teacher, and producer/director of more than thirty video, documentary, and experimental projects. Twice he has been awarded Fulbright Fellowships to Western Europe. For seventeen years he has headed the Media & Theatre Arts at MSU Bozeman, where he is now Professor of Cinema/Video.
- Advisory Council members for healthcare, business and technology programs on the MSU-Great Falls campus met with faculty and administration on Monday evening, January 9th. Keynote speaker, Dr. Stefani Gray Hicswa, shared her passionate vision of two-year education. Dean Mary Moe reported on the results of

study on Northcentral Montana workforce projections recently commissioned by the College and led a discussion of the implications for future economic development strategies in the region.

Montana State University-Northern Chancellor Alex Capdeville

- Update on Campus Improvement Projects– HKM Engineering of Bozeman has been hired to design and administer our new campus quad/courtyard. Pershing Hall will be getting an update in the heating and ventilation system as well as new windows. A & E is in the process of bidding for this project. Both projects are set to begin this summer.
- \$500,000 Gift – Klabzuba Oil and Gas gave a \$500,000 lead gift to our new Wellness Center. The check was presented by Steven Frazier, Klabzuba's Vice President of Finances and Cole Chandler Klabzuba's Havre Regional Director during a recent basketball game. This money is the beginning of a fundraising project in which our goal is to raise \$1.2 million to fund the facility.
- \$33,000 Gift – The Northern Lights Athletic Foundation recently presented our Athletic Department with a gift of \$33,000. This money was raised through their annual Legends for Lights Pheasant Jamboree.
- Nursing accreditation – The MSU-Northern College of Nursing recently received word that the State Board of Nursing has approved our nursing program for continued accreditation through the year 2013. A focus report will be due in 2007 concerning faculty overload and lab and storage space. This continued accreditation is great news for the campus.

The University of Montana-Missoula President G. M. Dennison

- More than 200 University of Montana faculty members took part in the national 2004-05 Higher Education Research Institute Survey, and the results show that teaching is a primary value and focus at UM. Ninety percent of UM faculty members reported that teaching is their principal activity, compared to 75.4 percent at other public universities.
- **Jenny Eck**, one of eight Montana Volunteers in Service to America, was recognized for her work in several communities throughout the state this year. She served through The University of Montana Campus Compact during 2005 to raise funds for the Poverello Center, a service that provides emergency food resources and housing to the homeless. The funds will be used for a daycare center at the Poverello's new Joseph Residence for homeless families.
- Two University of Montana faculty members, **Michael Downs** and **Debra Earling**, will receive National Endowment for the Arts 2006 Literature Fellowships. The Fellowships recognize writers of prose, encouraging the production of new work by affording the writers the time and means to write. Each Literature Fellow receives \$20,000.
- **Martin Twer**, a Ph.D. student at The University of Montana's School of Forestry, received the Fall 2005 Outstanding Student Leader Award.
- The University of Montana received a \$300,000 grant from the Wyss Scholars Program for Conservation of the American West. It will allow UM to select two Wyss Scholars each year for five years from master's level students in the University's Environmental Studies Program or College of Forestry and Conservation.
- The 2006 Charitable Giving Campaign at The University of Montana achieved its most successful year yet with donations of more than \$100,000. The campaign was launched 18 October, and when the event ended a month later, nearly 1,000 UM staff, faculty members and students had given \$102,200.
- The National Institutes of Health presented a five-year Science Education Partnership Award to The University of Montana's Center for Environmental Health Sciences. The University will use the award, a \$1.25 million federal grant, to promote environmental health education among the State's rural youth.
- The University of Montana has announced that **Paul Williamson**, Dean of the College of Technology, has accepted a special assignment to work on University projects related to alternative energy and the development of the Long-Range Building Program for the College's new campus. Associate Dean **Harry Sheski** will assume the position of Acting Dean.
- University of Montana officials have stepped up efforts to inform students about the 'flat spot,' the line drawn at 12 credits, after which additional credits up to 18 don't cost any extra tuition. A UM study has shown the benefits are legion, ranging from graduating in four years to a higher likelihood of staying in school, in addition to saving money.
- University of Montana researcher **Mary Poss** and her colleagues have shown that species-specific viruses can act as "genetic tags" to track the history and distribution of animal populations. Their work is published

in the Jan. 26 issue of Science, one of the world's most-prestigious research journals. Poss and her co-workers tracked feline immunodeficiency virus in cougar populations in Montana, Wyoming, British Columbia and Alberta.

- As of January 24, 2006, there were forty-nine Saudi students enrolled at ELI, but their numbers are expected to rise to more than fifty by the end of the second week of Spring semester. These Saudi students, who will study English as a second language before matriculating into various undergraduate programs at UM and Montana Tech, are all recipients of full scholarships offered by their Ministry of Education. The Saudi student participation at UM is an integral component of a larger program that is intended to provide an increasing number of young Saudi students with an American education, while introducing them to American culture, traditions, and ways of life. The majority of the Saudi students at UM will eventually receive degrees in fields such as: accounting, pharmacy and computer science.

Montana Tech of The University of Montana

Chancellor W. Franklin Gilmore

- Dr. Steve Parker was awarded a \$14,646 water research grant and Dr. Chris Gammons of Montana Tech was awarded a \$14,000 water research grant by the Montana Water Center. Kenneth Bates, an undergraduate student in the Chemistry Department, was awarded a research fellowship.
- Montana Tech Professor Chris Gammons received a \$15,000 grant from the U.S. Geological Survey entitled "Temporal and spatial changes in the concentration and isotopic composition of nitrate in the upper Silver Bow Creek drainage, Montana". Dr. Gammons also received a \$50,000 grant from EPA and DOE through the Mine Waste Technology Program to investigate vertical gradients in the geochemistry of mine water in the flooded mine shafts of Butte.
- Montana Tech professors Steve Parker and Doug Cameron received a USGS grant for \$15,000 for their project entitled "Carbon cycling and the temporal variability in the concentration and stable carbon isotope composition of dissolved inorganic and organic carbon in streams."
- Dr. John W. Ray and Dr. Henrietta Shirk have been invited to participate in the Oxford Round Table to be held at Oxford University in England in August 2006. The topic of the Round Table is "History as a Guide to the New International Order: The United States, Europe and China in the 21st Century." The Round Table is a small interdisciplinary group of scholars.
- Dr. Courtney Young has been elected to serve on the Mineral & Metallurgical Processing Division (MPD) Board of SME. His term is for six years and begins at the 2006 SME Annual Meeting in St. Louis where he will also chair a session in nanotechnology.
- Miriam Young, Assistant Professor of Nursing, has been selected by The National Council of State Boards of Nursing to participate in the National Council Licensure Examination (NCLEX) development panel session held in Chicago, Jan. 18-21. Young was selected as an item writer, one of 15 nurses from across the nation to be selected for this prestigious assignment. She was nominated by the Montana Board of Nursing on the basis of background and nursing experience.
- Dr. Richard J. Rossi, Department Head for Mathematical Sciences, and 7 undergraduate math majors attended the Annual Joint MAA/AMS Math Meetings in San Antonio held in January.
- John Wiley & Sons, Inc. is publishing Dr. Richard J. Rossi's book *Theorems, Corollaries, Lemmas, and Methods of Proof*. The book should be available in October of 2006.
- Professor Pat Munday and alumni Josh Vincent were successful in writing a proposal to Montana's Natural Resource Damage Program on behalf of the George Grant Chapter of Trout Unlimited. The group will receive \$912,519 from the state plus an additional \$180,736 in matching funds for an environmental restoration project in the German Gulch Creek watershed. Josh Vincent is a graduate of Tech's Environmental Engineering program and is a Project Engineer with Water and Environmental Technologies in Butte.
- Professor Willis Weight was invited to present a 2-hour short course on January 11th, based on his conference proceedings paper, at the North American Environmental Field Conference & Exposition in Tampa, Florida.
- John Kill Eagle has been selected as Montana Tech-Sloan Foundation Partnerships student. John was raised on the Fort Belknap Indian Reservation near Dodson, MT. Upon graduation from Dodson High School in 1979, he enlisted in the United States Navy where he served 9 years, visiting all of the world's continents except Antarctica. He returned home and worked for area farmers and ranchers and served as a BIA wild-land fire fighter prior to starting classes this spring. In September, the Montana Mineral Museum won second place for the 'Best of Museums' display at the Denver Gem and Mineral Show. The title of the exhibit was 'The Many Faces of Quartz'.

- The Stranahan (\$22,440) and Niles (\$10,000) Foundations have awarded the COT's Outreach Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA) program grants to provide tuition, fees, textbooks, supplies and uniforms for Montana high school students. During 2006, outreach classes are planned in Plains, Butte, Livingston, and Columbus. COT's Health Programs Coordinator Karan Kunz and the Foundation's Pat Naughton are to be congratulated for their efforts in obtaining these grants.
- Professors John Brower and Phil Patton of the Mining Engineering Department traveled to Guatemala City in November where they presented a two-day seminar to university students, professors, and professionals. Patton discussed the basics of mining technology and methods and Brower covered the economics of the mining industry in mining, especially gold mining. The seminars were sponsored by the Glamis Gold Mining Company.
- The U.S. Department of Energy's Idaho National Laboratory has honored Dr. John Morrison, a current associate professor at Montana Tech, with the lifetime achievement award for his work in various fields such as environmental, nuclear, industrial processing and national security. Dr. Morrison has received four patents related to his work at and with INL.
- Registrar Ed Johnson has been nominated as one of 14 American Association of Collegiate Registrars and Admissions Officers (AACRAO) members to serve on the 2006-2007 AACRAO Nominations and Elections Committee. The Nominations and Elections Committee selects those AACRAO members who will lead the organization into the future.
- On November 7, the National Park Service released the results of a study completed by the Safety, Health and Industrial Hygiene Department at Montana Tech. According to the study, levels of air and noise pollution that Yellowstone Park workers were exposed to declined after new limits on the number and type of snowmobiles allowed in the Park went into effect. The study, commissioned by the NPS, is one of several that Park officials say they will use as they develop a long-range plan in Yellowstone and Grand Teton National Parks.
- Professor Pat Munday of the Technical Communication Department has been named to the Advisory Board for *About PLACE!*, the multimedia outreach program for the forthcoming PBS documentary film, *The Richest Hill on Earth*. The film explores the relationship between people and place in the historic copper mining community of Butte, Montana.
- Professor Pat Munday was invited to participate as an instructor for the *Teaching American History Grant Rendezvous* held in Anaconda, December 2-4, 2005.
- In November, Professor Pat Munday was one of twenty-five faculty union leaders invited to the *AFT Higher Education Special Leadership Conference* in Washington, DC. He attended presentations on federal policy for higher education, healthcare issues for college faculty, and creating strong unions.

Flathead Valley Community College
President Jane Karas

- The FVCC library recently installed the college's **first wireless fidelity (Wi-Fi) node**, enabling students and public patrons with laptops and wireless cards to access the Internet without any network login or identification authentication requirements.
- Flathead Valley Community College hosted approximately 150 high school students from eight area high schools January 10 for the **regional high school Business Professionals of America conference**. This is the eleventh year FVCC has hosted the regional conference under the direction of FVCC Business Instructor **Brenda Rudolph**.
- FVCC has completed a land transaction with local developer Phil Harris. The transaction involved the **college trading 25 acres** of its northernmost property **for 109 acres of Harris' property**, a payment of **\$300,000** and an additional **\$250,000 for easements**.
- Flathead County Area IX Agency on Aging has asked FVCC Allied Health Instructor and Director, Project THEO, Training for Health and Educational Opportunities, **Linda Hunt, Ph.D.**, to serve on its **Aging Advisory Council**. Hunt is a former Associate Professor and Director of the Occupational Therapy Program at Maryville University in St. Louis and a former Instructor of the Program in Occupational Therapy at Washington University School of Medicine in St. Louis.
- Four Flathead Valley Community College students have been named spring 2006 recipients of **Community Pride Scholarships** sponsored by the **Whitefish Credit Union**. The recipients are: Nikki Fisher of Columbia Falls; Amy Elletson and Katherine LeDuc of Kalispell; and Mary Wimbley of Rexford. The students received scholarships awards totaling \$1,015 for the spring 2006 semester at FVCC.
- The Flathead Valley Community College Service Learning Office and Student Senate hosted two **holiday giving trees** to benefit children of **Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA)** in December. The

college's initial goal to collect 161 toys was exceeded by the generous donations of over 206 toys from FVCC faculty, staff, students and community members.

- Flathead Valley Community College has been recognizing faculty and staff members for going above and beyond their job responsibilities to **help every student succeed** each month as part of a college-wide campaign launched at the college's fall faculty and staff in-service. A **total of 23 employees** were recognized in December and January for a variety of good deeds from providing housing and food for a student and his child in need to working with students to devise payment plans in order to help them pay off student debts while staying in school.

Miles Community College President Darrel L. Hammon

- **Dr. Beth Krueger**, Dean of Academic Affairs, had two of her photographs accepted to the Custer County Art & Heritage Center's 27th Annual Juried Exhibit. The show features original art works from a five state region and includes photography, paintings, ceramics, etc.
- **Darren Pitcher**, Director of Student Services, was elected to the Board of Directors for the Miles City Chamber of Commerce and named Treasurer
- **Teena Friesz**, Assistant Librarian, was named Employee of the 2006 Spring Semester, receiving the Miles Community College Blue and Silver Award.
- **Sue Walla**, Nursing instructor, passed her national board exam and is now a Psychiatric Nurse Practitioner.
- **Pauline Flotkoetter**, Nursing instructor, was just recently appointed to the Montana Nurses Association Board of Directors. Pauline has previously served on the MNA board.
- Miles Community College **Nursing program** hosted the Montana Health Network's traveling human patient simulator. Student's trained on the simulator for four days. Montana Health Network's recently acquired a 5th wheel trailer/home for the simulator, and we were the first site to use the 5th wheel trailer.
- Miles Community College has concluded its fall 2005 fund raising campaign on behalf of Hurricane Katrina survivors. **Miles Community College employees and student organizations** have raised a total of \$1,291.60 through a variety of fundraising efforts, including a dunking booth at Fall 2005 student orientation, campus wide collection jars, and a community talent show. Student organizations participating in fundraising events include Student Senate, Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society, and Multi-Cultural Club. Community 1st Federal Credit Union of Miles City matched dollar for dollar the fundraising efforts, bringing the total Hurricane Katrina relief donation to \$2,583.20.
- For the third annual Martin Luther King Jr. Day community service day project, **Miles Community College, Miles City Even Start program, and the Retired and Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP)** collected almost 2,300 personal care items from community participants and then taken to the Custer County Food Bank for distribution.
- Miles Community College Phi Theta Kappa recently achieved the Pinnacle Silver and Platinum Levels.

The University of Montana-Helena College of Technology Dean Daniel J. Bingham

- UM-Helena's web site has undergone a dramatic redesign and was unveiled to the public in late November.
- Dean/CEO Daniel Bingham has joined the Helena Area Chamber of Commerce as a new director on the Chamber Board.
- UM-Helena hosted the Helena Chamber of Commerce's "Business After Hours" event on January 19th. More than 150 members of the business community attended the function. UM President George Dennison, who was making his annual campus visit, welcomed the crowd to UM-Helena.
- The Nursing program acquired SimMan and Virtual Clinical Excursion software to upgrade its lab. The program also received four hospital beds donated by Carroll College's Nursing Department.
- Nursing faculty toured Shodair Children's Hospital and met with staff to explore ways that UM-Helena can assist the hospital. In addition, faculty met with staff from the Veterans' Hospital to discuss a potential respiratory therapy program at UM-Helena. Faculty also attended a meeting with St. Peter's Hospital representatives to discuss working with that hospital's resources.
- UM-Helena's Bookstore now serves as an outlet store for official UM-Missoula Griz gear.
- Admissions and New Student Services staff delivered a presentation at the Helena Job Service Center for returning Montana Guard and Army reservists.
- UM-Helena collaborated with The Mitchell Group on a new television ad.

- UM-Helena English instructors assisted the Nursing program by grading nearly 50 essays submitted as part of the admissions process for the ASRN program.
 - UM-Helena conducted the Fall Forum that featured professional historian and UM-Helena adjunct Jon Axline, whose presentation garnered front-page coverage in Helena's *Independent Record*.
 - Business Department Chair Joan Schneider volunteered as a panel expert for a "Best Practices in Teaching Speech Recognition Study."
 - Office Technology staff met with Rick Yearry of e-Medical Coders, LLC, to discuss how UM-Helena can train medical coders who will work for him from home or on site. Mr. Yearry also has business contacts to place UM-Helena medical transcription students.
 - The Office Center in Great Falls donated and installed Docuware software for the Records Management course.
 - Office Technology instructor Kevin Brockbank was appointed Department Chair for the Trades programs and will also perform grant-writing services for UM-Helena.
 - Electronics program instructor Jeff Block represented UM-Helena at the Billings Career Fair in late November.
 - Electronics program instructor Emmett Coon met with staff from Rocky Mountain Christian High School to discuss partnering to offer a Cisco I course, which may encourage students to attend UM-Helena for Level 2 to Level 4 Cisco courses.
 - Computer Technology staff met with Electronics and Business Department program staff to discuss reformatting Cisco course offerings by partnering with Carroll College for the top-level courses.
 - Business Department Chair Joan Schneider attended an ARMA (Association of Records Managers and Administrators) workshop at the Capitol regarding the management of technology to meet legal requirements of electronic records.
 - The Business Department hosted federal government analyst Adam Nelson as a guest speaker.
 - UM-Helena is now an official VITA site for volunteer income tax assistance, following setup of the program by Accounting instructors Lon Whitaker and Barbara Yahvah.
 - Electronics program staff constructed a new networking lab to significantly increase the efficiency of previously used older equipment.
 - Office Technology Instructor Tricia Tyhurst is working with AFL/CIO Project Challenge to have its students begin taking classes at UM-Helena.
 - Office Technology staff arranged for a guest speaker from e-Medical for the Medical Software and Medical Coding classes.
 - UM-Helena will welcome Greg Miliger to the campus to speak and teach several Medical Coding classes prior to his administration of the Coding Certification Test in June.
 - UM-Helena partnered with the Project for Alternative Learning (PAL), a unit of the local school district, to offer a sense of the college experience to at-risk students. Nine high school juniors and seniors have registered for classes at UM-Helena. Tuition costs are shared by UM-Helena, the school district, and the student.
 - UM-Helena's Library added the following databases to its Virtual Library to support expanded nursing, science, and social science offerings: CINAHL, SpringerLink, Health Source: Nursing Academic, and Opposing Viewpoints Resource Center.
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