Since the fall of 2011, the Department of Education’s Adult and Higher Education (A&HE) graduate program has been offering a 12-credit College Teaching Certificate (CTC) to develop and promote exemplary teaching among graduate students, aspiring faculty, and current faculty wanting to enhance their teaching skills in post-secondary educational settings. Carrie Myers, associate professor and current program leader for the Adult & Higher Education program, had earned a College Teaching Certificate from Iowa State University in conjunction with her master's, and brought the idea to MSU. She said she “had a small vision of how a certificate program could benefit emerging college teachers and their current and future students.” When she approached her A&HE colleagues—Betsy Palmer and Marilyn Lockhart—with the idea, she found they also shared her vision and recognized the value of a CTC. Lockhart, with assistance from grad student Susan Benne, began researching other institutions’ teaching certificate programs. Based on their work, the three professors developed the criteria and requirements for an MSU program. To date, 11 students have graduated from the program and there are 16 current students enrolled from a cross-section of disciplines and institutions (MSU and MSU-Billings).

In November, some of the students from the CTC program, in collaboration with the Graduate School, led a series of five disciplinary-based workshops called “Teach2Learn,” designed to enhance teaching within specific disciplines such as chemistry, biochemistry, and physics.

The graduate students covered a range of topics, including classroom assessment techniques, strategies for creating practical feedback, and how to implement hands-on activities and sustain quality discussions.

Over 114 graduate students and faculty from a cross-section of disciplines (physics, chemistry & biochemistry, WISE, Native American studies, and general graduate education) participated in the five workshops. Graduate students Kayte Kaminski, John Marian, Katelyn Mason, Alison O'Neil, Michelle Tigges, and Kathryn Williamson designed and implemented the workshops.

Congratulations to Elizabeth Rink, associate professor in community health, on being nominated for a Best Public Service Announcement film at the 37th annual American Indian Film Festival in San Francisco. One of four nominations from a large group, “Warrior’s Heart” was filmed and directed by Justin Lubke of Story Roads Films. MSU student Kris FourStar attended the festival to present the 20 minute film, which deals with healthy relationships of young Native American men on the Fort Peck reservation. The film is based on Rink’s community based participatory research between Fort Peck tribes and MSU and will serve as a teaching tool.
At Health and Human Development’s fall seminar, Mary Miles, associate professor in nutrition/exercise science, shared information on her research conducted while on sabbatical at the Cleveland Clinic. Miles continues to focus her studies on inflammation and the effects on the body, especially on the relationship with insulin resistance. She noted inflammation plays a part in a lot of diseases. She is also exploring the difference between nutrition for sports performance versus nutrition for health. She concluded by saying people need to focus on increasing healthy carbohydrates (grains and vitamin rich fruits and vegetables) and decreasing refined sugar, starchy vegetables, and high glycemic processed foods. The negative effects of these latter carbohydrate sources that increase blood sugar more rapidly are more pronounced in people who have more fat tissue.

Christopher Works with Counselors in Asia

John Christopher, professor of counseling in health & human development, of was one of ten counselor educators who spent two-and-a-half weeks in Bhutan in Southeast Asia. Sponsored by the National Board of Certified Counselors, the counselors were there to consult with governmental agencies in Bhutan in their efforts to establish professional counseling. Christopher teamed up with Pat Polanski, associate professor from the University of Dayton, to work with the Youth Development Fund (YDF), observing their drug and alcohol rehabilitation center and drop in center (Nazhoen Pelri TRCDAD), and they offered feedback to YDF administrators and the Director General of Bhutan Narcotics Control Agency. The team also provided individual supervision to peer counselors, conducted brief psychotherapy, and provided a five hour workshop to train peer counselors from multiple agencies in Bhutan.

The recipient of a Fulbright-Nehru Scholar Grant, Christopher is spending the academic year on sabbatical at the University of Delhi.

FCS Students Attend Fall Professional Conference

Several family and consumer science students attended the Montana Association of Career and Technical Educators (MACTE) annual meeting in Billings this fall, along with associate professor Holly Hunts. In addition to the FCS students from MSU, many former alumni from the program also attended. The photo, taken by retired FCS teacher Ruth Linse, is from the Family and Consumer Science Division social. Included in the above photo (from bottom left) are MSU students and alumni Patricia Whiteman, Edie Vogel, Ashley Schools, Bobbi Robinson, Megan Stuffs, Lauren Ortega, Jamie Diehl, Anjeanette Haas, Jordan Parchman, and Lindsey Henning.
The second annual Food Day was held in the SUB in November, with 530 people attending the event, according to nutrition student Stephanie Johnson, event coordinator for the second year in a row. The Montana Student Dietetic Association and adjunct nutrition professor Melody Anacker’s Nutrition 321 class hosted a number of activities beginning with a movie called, “Bozeman Eats,” a documentary about Bozeman’s food system by Dylan Strike and Sam Atkins. After a panel discussion led by local farmer and MSU adjunct instructor Dean Williamson and Gallatin Valley Food Bank director Lori Christensen, participants were able to wander through the booths in the SUB Ballroom to find information on gardening, nutrition, and food security. Kara Landolfi, president of Friends of Local Food, said the day ended with a “Community Harvest” potluck, where almost 100 people attended and feasted on dishes all which contained local ingredients.

To watch “Bozeman Eats,” go to http://vimeo.com/40781403

Students from the Sustainable Food and Bio-energy System capstone class presented projects at their senior seminar in November. Associate Professor Alison Harmon said each of the class’s 16 students developed an article for the SFBS newsletter, which comes out in January, and presented a demonstration in class. The class voted on three to make presentations at the fall seminar.

Forrest Lintner, a senior from Whitefish, Mont., presented his research on using algae for renewable energy. He has worked with a company in Columbia Falls, Mont., that uses algae to transform waste from logging mills and agriculture into energy, fertilizer and bio-fuels.

Samantha Kerivan, a senior from Boston, shared her experiences in working in the restaurant industry and the top trends in the farm to restaurant movement—working towards more locally grown produce, meat and seafood; more healthy meals for children; and sustainability. She also discussed the barriers and the benefits of using local, sustainable foods.

Claire Slosson, a senior from Ft. Collins, Colo., shared slides on her internship in rural Ecuador, working with a 57-member dairy co-op. She explained that everything in the village is done by hand. Because they have no access to fertilizers, pesticides, fossil fuels or even grocery stores, the villagers grow and produce everything organically for themselves.
Science Olympiad Challenges the State’s Best Minds

Lydia Haughey’s Technology Education class shows off musical instruments they made for the harmonics event at the Science Olympiad.

For 29 years, MSU has been hosting the Science Olympiad the week of Thanksgiving. In November, over 1200 middle school and high school students from 86 schools across Montana converged on campus to compete in events from Lego race cars to disease detectives.

For many years, Elisabeth Swanson, director of the Science and Math Learning Center and professor of education, has been involved in the event, first as an event captain (the person who designs the task and runs the event), then as the director. Swanson said this year, the event had some new features—a new computerized scoring system and a newly designed awards ceremony featuring local DJ Missy O’Malley and MSU Space Science Lab researcher Andrew Crawford—and she had much needed help with organizing the one day event from co-coordinators, Ben Kinsella and Alaina Garcia-Scott. Kinsella recruited event captains, coaches, and scorers, and Garcia-Scott orchestrated the awards ceremony and coordinated the “Talks and Tours” events held after the competitions ended and before the awards ceremony.

Additional support staff included Jesse Hunter, a junior in civil engineering, and Annie Mollock, EHHD administrative support staff.

Team winners this year were Corvallis Middle School and Billings Central High School. They will represent Montana at the national Science Olympiad in Dayton, Ohio, later this year.
MSU and HHD alumna Katherine Isaacson returns to the college not as a student, but this time as the new director of the Human Development Clinic on South Third Street. Isaacson, who received her master’s in mental health counseling from MSU, has worked in the field of counseling since 2007.

Originally from Michigan, Isaacson received a bachelor’s degree in park, recreation, and tourism resources from Michigan State University and then moved to Colorado to work at Copper Mountain Ski Resort and the Frisco Recreation Department. She also spent several years working as a field instructor with therapeutic wilderness programs in Utah and became interested in therapy. In 2001, she moved to Bozeman to pursue a second bachelor’s degree in psychology and from there received her master’s. She has worked at the Gallatin Mental Health Center as the clinical supervisor and spent last year as the director of Riverfront Mental Health Center in Hamilton, Mont.

Because of her love of music, Isaacson spends every other Saturday morning as a DJ for KGLT radio, playing a variety of music from classic rock to funk to blues and everything in between. In addition, she continues her role as part-time clinical supervisor at the Gallatin Mental Health Center, snowboards and skis, and spends time with her husband and their two “furry children” (dogs).

Isaacson says of her new position as director, “I really enjoy working with students in a training clinic. It is refreshing to be a part of the learning process and a student’s professional development at this level. I also appreciate what students have to teach me, and I learn something new every day.”

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Education Students Volunteer for Children’s Book Festival

Students in Associate Professor Joyce Herbeck’s Children’s Literature class volunteered to help out at the Bozeman Public Library’s “Children’s Festival of the Book” in early November. Over 30 students spent their Saturday helping with crafts, book signings, handing out programs, and staffing the information table. The annual library event brings noted illustrators and authors of children’s books to Bozeman for a day of activities. This year two illustrators—Paul Zelinsky, a Caldecott winner for illustrations, and Edward Hemingway (grandson of Ernest Hemingway)—and young adult author Jeanne DuPrau were the featured celebrities. Over 1,000 people attended the pre-event reception and the all-day event.