



College News Update



College of Education, Health and Human Development

October 2014

www.montana.edu/ehhd

Governor Visits MSU Collaborative Classroom

Earlier this fall, Governor Steve Bullock, along with his education policy advisor, Shannon O'Brien, visited Hyalite Elementary School in Bozeman to view the Hyalite/MSU Collaborative Partnership in action. Begun as a pilot program in 2013 by education professor Nick Lux, the partnership now "embeds" language arts, science, and instructional technology classes into education students' day by having students attend class at Hyalite Elementary for several days a week. Then they take what they have learned into the elementary classrooms in the afternoon to work with school children. The collaborative program resulted from a \$63,000 planning grant from the Montana Office of the Commissioner of Higher Education and helps train teachers to use technology in the classroom. It also provided a boot camp to learn about coding and robotics. Principal Mike Van Vuren said the partnership also benefits his school by having more adults in the room to provide learning opportunities, which impacts student achievement.

Also attending and supporting the partnership from MSU were Lynda Ransdell, dean of the College of EHHD, President Waded Cruzado, instructors Kathryn Will-Dubyak, Rose Valor, and Nick Lux, and education department head, Jayne Downey, as well as superintendent of Bozeman schools, Rob Watson.

For a further story on the collaboration, [click here](#).



Dean Lynda Ransdell, President Waded Cruzado, Bozeman School Superintendent Rob Watson, Governor Steve Bullock, and Shannon O'Brien meet to discuss partnerships.

EHHD Celebrates Homecoming Award Recipients for 2014

The College of EHHD participated in MSU's weeklong homecoming celebration by honoring four outstanding individuals for their professional achievements and outstanding record of service that reflects positively on MSU. Awardees, who were selected by a committee of EHHD faculty and staff, were recognized at a morning reception on September 26 in Herrick Hall Lounge where Dean Lynda Ransdell introduced each recipient and awarded them with a plaque. The following are this year's recipients.

- **Distinguished Alumna**—Anne Teppo, Ph.D. in curriculum and instruction, math education, 1989
- **Distinguished Professor (Emeritus)**—John Kohl, former professor and dean in the Department of Education
- **Distinguished Staff**—Katie Bark, project director on Montana Team Nutrition since its inception in 1995.
- **Honorary Alumnus**—Mike Van Vuren, principal at Hyalite Elementary School in Bozeman



**2014 Homecoming
Honorees:
Dr. John Kohl, Katie
Bark, Dean Lynda
Ransdell, Dr. Anne
Teppo, and Mike
Van Vuren**

Spotlight on Research

HHP Professor Explores the Mechanics of Hand Digit Coordination

Because farmers have been reported to have a higher risk of developing Parkinson's disease, Assistant professor of biomechanics, Jae Park is researching changes in mechanical properties of hand digit coordination and dexterity of hand/finger control in order to find an effective way to evaluate the disease and intervene to keep farmers safe from effects of pesticides.

"Many farmers use pesticides that enter the body through skin and the respiratory system," said Park, who has received two grants to study the issue. "This may change the mechanical properties of hand digits, as well as their control strategies."

With the first grant from MSU's INBRE program, Park used the funding to set up the research project and gather data. He studied whether mechanical properties of hand digits in farmers are different from those in age-related control subjects.

Park said as people age, changes in grip and skin surface occur in the fingers. He is able to measure how smooth and how much moisture are in the tips of fingers. Also, he measures finger grasping forces along with the fingertip properties. Because there is more moisture in the fingers of the elderly, a person has to squeeze harder to pick up things like a coffee travel mug. Park's research may indicate exposure to pesticides could impair brain function that allows impairment of tactile sensitivity and manipulation of hand-held objects. The long-term objective of this research is to develop biomarkers for early detection of Parkinson's disease (PD) and other neurological disorders by characterizing changes in neural control mechanisms.

With the second INBRE/NIH grant, he will begin conducting research by setting up three groups—a peer controlled group who are not farmers, a group of organic farmers who are not exposed to pesticides, and a group who are using toxic pesticides. He will collect the data from 30 subjects, all living in Montana.

Other research Park is conducting is from a NASA grant to study how human prehensile actions are affected by the microgravity condition. By investigating changes in digit force production patterns in the microgravity condition, this project will assist NASA in the design of effective space gloves and rehabilitation strategies for post-flight impairment in hand/digit motor coordination.

"We perform many tasks which the brain controls and these control strategies consider environmental factors such as existence of gravity," said Park.

Park traveled to Pennsylvania State University this summer to use a robotic arm to test how much force is required to produce a grip in an anti-gravity condition.

Park is working with a six person team to conduct research in micro-gravity conditions. Joining Park are a post doc, two undergraduates students, and two MSU graduate students.



EHHD Holds 2nd Grant-Writing Boot Camp

*by Elizabeth Bird, Ph.D.
EHHD Project Development
and Grant Specialist*

The EHHD Office of Research Development offered the second annual Boot Camp for grant writers from May through July 2014. Organized by Associate Dean Suzanne Christopher and Project Development and Grants Specialist Elizabeth Bird, the Boot Camp featured 12 MSU guest speakers, and two guests from federal and regional funding agencies via Skype. The highlight was a final two-day session with education and health proposal review experts who came from Wisconsin, Idaho and Arizona to lead critical discussion aimed at improving each of the participant's proposal drafts. Participants came away with inspiration and clear guidance for completing proposal submissions. Participant faculty member Sweeney Windchief called this final session "invaluable preparation before going through the review experience for real."



**Participants gather
to work on
grant ideas.**

The 2014 Boot Camp had 11 participants, including five from disciplines outside EHHD who had heard about our great program. These five all were working on projects related to public health, prompting synergies with HHD faculty and broadening the conversations. Seven half-day proposal development sessions focused on identifying funding sources, interpreting requests for applications, assessing funding agency agendas, applying to serve on review panels (the best way to understand the culture of a funding program), understanding MSU policies and procedures, managing research teams, creating a budget, and developing relationships with program officers (who often provide guidance on what makes a competitive proposal and may help shepherd a proposal through the review process). Participants completed regular writing assignments and met in pairs for feedback.

"Boot Camp was a huge demystification process for me, knowing what's involved in putting together a proposal," said Windchief. "It made clear that academic and grant proposal writing are two very distinct things. I had no idea."

Bootcamp participants will be submitting proposals to external funding agencies throughout the year. The previous year's Boot Camp participants had submitted on average two proposals each with a 57% success rate by the middle of the 2013-14 academic year (the national proposal success rate is less than 20%). The purpose of Boot Camp is to support MSU's mission of increasing research/grant productivity. Other MSU programs have followed EHHD's lead and have started offering



Grant Experts: Yong Gao (Boise State University), Barbara Ainsworth (Arizona State University), and Marjorie Piechowski (University of Wisconsin)

similar faculty seminars. The college is looking forward to continuing this successful program.

Troops to Teachers Host Annual Meeting



Back row:
Dave Polmanteer, Charles
Rick, Bill O'Dea,
Chris Ligocki,
Gordon Rognrud, Bill
Hardesty, Scott Fife,
Le Gaub,
Front row: Marvin Zerr,
Casey Cook, Lynda
Ransdell, Bev Richardson,
and Byron McKinney

The annual meeting of the Lewis and Clark Region of Troops to Teachers (LCTTT) was held in late September, with seven state representatives as well as MSU staff attending. Dean Lynda Ransdell provided opening remarks and said that "Troops to Teachers is one of our flagship programs" in the college. Troops to Teachers is a national program under the Department of Defense that assists military personnel who want to transition from service to become classroom teachers. LCTTT reported a record number of hires this past year with 55 educators being placed in classrooms in the seven state region.

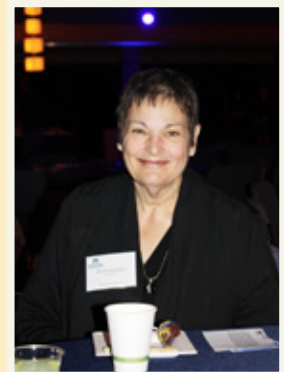
The annual meeting included a teleconference with Teresa Daniels, deputy director of the national office in Pensacola, Fla. and a retired Navy chief. Using a power point presentation, Daniels, along with Bill McAleer, director of Troops to Teachers, briefed the staff on registration and employment data for the region and nation, upgrades to the national web site, new eligibility requirements and hire definitions, and marketing materials. She reported that LCTTT is above the national average in placing teachers in grades 1-9.

LCTTT is housed in the College of EHHD and employs a staff of 12, (10 who have served in the military and eight who are former teachers or school administrators). The seven states within the region are Montana, Wyoming, North and South Dakota, Minnesota, Wisconsin, and Idaho.

Congratulations to the EHHD recipients of the first annual MSU Years of Service Awards. The recognition event was held on October 10 from 2:00-4:00 in the SUB Ballrooms.

The following were recognized from EHHD:

Milana Lazetich--25 years
Micki MacGregor--20 years
Katie Bark--20 years
Marilyn Lockhart--15 years
Elena Kalinina-Turner--10 years
Erica Filipowicz--5 years
Tiffany Krushensky--5 years



Honorees from EHHD Years of Service: Milana Lazetich and Katie Bark (top left); Micki MacGregor (top right); and Elena Kalinina Turner (bottom left)

2014 Donor Appreciation/ Scholarship Breakfast

The college's annual donor appreciation/scholarship breakfast was held in September with over 185 alumni, donors, scholarship recipients and guests attending. This year, a record number 115 students received scholarships. Highlights of the college and departments were given by Dean Lynda Ransdell, and department heads Jayne Downey and Sandy Bailey. This year's student speaker, Candace Moyer, a senior in the sustainable foods program, shared how scholarships have helped her realize her dream of working with sustainable foods. She also thanked donors for their generosity and challenged her fellow recipients to be "good stewards in life" and to "do what we can to give back." She demonstrated her own commitment to giving back by handing a cash donation to EHHD's development director, Kelly Meredith, at the conclusion of her speech.



EHHD students visit with donors at the breakfast

Chelsea Bourque, Kathy Walker, and Dean Lynda Ransdell led the fight song



HHD student, Candace Moyer, addressed the audience at breakfast.



A Day at the Museum for HHD Students



Taylor Planetarium

Counseling instructor Katey Franklin saw an opportunity for her students in HDCO 563 (multi-cultural awareness) to "embrace the outreach that the Museum of the Rockies offers" and set up a field trip for the class to view the planetarium's "One World-One Sky" show, which introduces children to multi-culturalism at an early stage. Franklin saw the movie as a way for students in her class to think about how they can incorporate multicultural competence and awareness when working with children. The students had been studying ethnocentrism, and after viewing the film starring Sesame

Street characters, the class discussed themes highlighted by the movie, such as appreciating others' differences and finding common ground.

An MSU counseling graduate student said "this was a fun and helpful way to learn about multi-cultural awareness and working with children."

Students currently enrolled in HDCO 563 are master students in counseling, health sciences, and community health.

Check out the new video of the online Addiction Counseling certificate program ! <http://eu.montana.edu/online/degrees/addiction-counseling/>

Montana Students Learn Leadership Skills

Over 200 Montana high school students and their family and consumer sciences teachers from 37 schools attended the Family Career and Community Leaders of America (FCCLA) leadership rally on the MSU campus at the end of September. Family and consumer science education instructor, Nicole Wanago, said the conference was organized and led by the FCCLA state officers' team with students from each of the state's ten districts. The students spent two-and-a-half days enhancing their leadership skills through a variety of workshops on topics such as communication, membership development, and how to manage chapter meetings. One of the featured speakers was Ariana Lake from Missoula, Mont. Ariana currently serves on the National FCCLA Leadership Training Team and was the Montana FCCLA state president.

The rally's activities also included an etiquette luncheon conducted by MSU Career Services, a "Say Yes to MSU" session hosted by FCS faculty, and campus tours led by MSU Admissions. By being on campus, the students were exposed to the dynamic campus environment MSU offers and will serve as an excellent recruitment tool for all degree programs at MSU, especially education and family and consumer sciences.

According to the national website, Family, Career and Community Leaders of America is a national career and technical student organization that provides personal growth, leadership development, and career preparation opportunities for students in family and consumer sciences education.



Students participate in a team building competition



FCS instructor Nicole Wanago leads a workshop for FCCLA leadership rally

*Around the
World with
EDLD 535
by Justin Shanks
Director, Learning
Technologies, EHHD*

**Graduate students
share information on
student services in
TEAL classroom.**



On October 25, Tricia Seifert, assistant professor in adult and higher education, and a group of graduate students took a fast-paced trip around the globe. With Bozeman as their point of departure, the group made brief visits to Argentina, Australia, the Caribbean region, Finland, Holland, Japan, Poland, Russia, South Africa, Thailand, Turkey, and the United Kingdom. This amazing day of immersive travel was made possible thanks to Seifert's innovative use of the TEAL classroom in Gaines Hall. Reinventing the traditional academic poster session, Seifert's EDLD 535 course utilized the interactive and modular equipment in Gaines 143 to explore how various countries provide services for their students. Rather than printed on large format paper, the posters of this session harnessed the opportunities provided by the technologically rich environment. There was text on the posters, but they also featured hyperlinked content, embedded videos, interactive displays, and navigable information. Not only was this a forward-thinking adaptation of the TEAL room, but Seifert also provided her students with an enriching opportunity for professional development. Presenters were engaging and well-prepared with posters that were dynamic and rich with information. Given the enthusiastic feedback from participants and audience members, Seifert's class will present a second digital trip round the world on November 24, 2014, from 3:30-4:45 in 143 Gaines Hall. Be sure to find time to join this great group of graduate students for an informative look at student services in all corners of the globe.



STUDENTS IN THE SPOTLIGHT

Tech Ed Students Engage Home School Students in Science Projects



Technology education practicum students worked with eight home school students from the Gallatin Valley this fall introducing them to a unit on power energy. MSU technology education students—Ben Butts, Julie Small, Mark Gangsted, and Margaret Forslund—brainstormed ideas and created lesson plans on wind and solar power. The young students spent several hours each week for three weeks in the technology education classrooms in Reid Hall, building turbines, testing the voltage of the rotating blades, and determining tip speed ratio formulas. In addition, they also built and raced solar energy cars.



Above: Ben Butts works with wind turbines. Left: Margaret Forslund teaches students how to work with tip speed ratio formulas.

Education Students Get Wet for Wetland Festival



On a very soggy day in early fall, education students had the opportunity to provide instructional outdoor activities for the Wetlands Festival at Langhor Park for kindergartners and first graders at Longfellow Elementary School in Bozeman. They also volunteered an additional day at Cherry River Fishing Access for second and third graders. Mary Leonard, associate professor of science education, served as coordinator for MSU instructors, with assistance from Marcie Reuer, graduate teaching instructor for science methods. Leonard said this is the 11th year education students have participated in the festival. The Wetlands project provides hands-on teaching experience to work with small groups of children who rotate through a variety of activities.



Leonard also noted Longfellow Elementary School was named a Blue Ribbon School for 2014 and the Wetlands project was mentioned in their profile.