Outstanding Faculty Lecture Series Kicks Off for 2014-2015

For the 2014-2015 inaugural EHHD Outstanding Faculty Lecture series, Dawn Tarabochia, assistant professor in community health and the 2014 HHD Outstanding Faculty for Service, presented “Wellbeing through Service and Volunteerism.” Using a power point presentation of quotes from famous individuals, Tarabochia introduced key concepts on how being involved and volunteering is beneficial to human wellbeing. She was introduced to volunteerism at an early age by her grandfather who founded the senior center in his hometown of Blackfoot, Idaho.

Sharing some of her research on the subject, Tarabochia said volunteering is positive for wellbeing for a number of reasons. It creates engagement in a meaningful way, creates social interaction and social networks, gives meaning and purpose to life, and provides self-worth. She also cited a 2012 study in the United Kingdom, which looked at demographics of who volunteers, and noted retirees are more engaged that previously thought.

Tarabochia also stated there are a few negative consequences such as how multiple role issues play a part and how that impacts family life, a risk of overcommitting, and for some, a feeling like they are not doing a good job.

However, she concluded by saying, “every little piece makes a difference and improves wellbeing. We can all do something.”

Currently, Tarabochia is president of the board for the Cancer Support Community in Bozeman and also stays active in her children’s sports activities.

Pecha Kucha Research Open House

Selena Ahmed, assistant professor in sustainable food systems, and MSU Vice President of Research and Development, Renee Reijo Pera, hosted a pecha kucha open house in the Molecular Bioscience Building in late October to showcase the latest health research being conducted at MSU. Each presenter shared 20 slides, with 20 seconds per slide, of their current research. Participating from the College of EHHD were Carmen Byker, assistant professor in nutrition; Mica Jenkins, a sustainable food grad student; Selena Ahmed; and Mary Miles, associate professor in nutrition and exercise science. At the conclusion, tours of labs in the building were conducted, including Ahmed’s and Byker’s food and health disparities integrative lab.
The 18th Indian Education for All workshop hosted by education professor and American Indian Council advisor, Jioanna Carjuzaa, was held on October 29 with keynote speaker Cornel Pewewardy, professor and director of Indigenous Nations studies at Portland State University. His presentation was entitled “Why Educators Should Not Ignore the Indian Mascot Controversy: The construction of whiteness, looking at relations and transdifference in the misuse of Indian mascots in American Schools and sport culture.” The concept of using Indian mascots originated with the Indian boarding schools on the east coast in the early 1900s with the establishment of Indian sports teams at the schools. The concept of empirical nostalgia (the noble savage, the wild west image) was used by schools to affirm the use of Native American mascots.

Pewewardy, who has been an educator for 30 years in public schools as well as in higher education, supports “eliminating Indian mascots at all costs.”

“Mascots are about power and control,” said Pewewardy. “If people want to honor us, do so with curriculum. Hire us. Give us scholarships, but don’t use mascots to honor us.”

In addition to the keynote speaker, a panel discussion featured Mike Jetty, Indian education specialist with the Office of Public Instruction; Sweeney Windchief, assistant professor of adult and higher education at MSU; Rex Ternan, principal at Red Lodge High School; and Pewewardy.

“We have an instructional responsibility as well as an ethical commitment to Indian Education for All,” said Carjuzaa in her opening remarks to the workshop.

Before the featured presentation, the American Indian Council at MSU held a silent auction to raise funds to support council activities.

The workshop was sponsored by the College of EHHD, the MSU Foundation, Office of the Provost, and Native American Studies.

**CELEBRATING 30 YEARS OF SCIENCE**

The Montana Science Olympiad celebrated 30 years of competitions in November as middle school and high school students from districts across Montana descended on the MSU campus. Over 1000 students from 71 schools competed in events, such as crime busters, disease detectives, simple machines, and write it/do it. The Science Olympiad is housed in the college’s Science Math Resource Center directed by Mary Leonard, associate professor in education.
Destini French says being president of Associated Students of Montana State University (ASMSU) is “the cherry on top” of her time at MSU. French, who is a senior in family and consumer sciences, first arrived in Bozeman from Los Angeles to play on the MSU women’s basketball team.

“I wanted to get out of California and try something different,” said French. After playing for a year, she sustained a knee injury that ended her basketball career, but not her academic career. At first she was interested in film, but her academic advisor suggested she try family and consumer sciences because of her interest in helping people. French said she “is a fan of learning something you can use now or 50 years from now” and FCS is the perfect program for her philosophy.

She became involved in many campus activities, such as serving as an orientation leader and as president of the Student-Athlete Advisory Committee, and joining a sorority (AOΠ) and the MSU Student Alumni Association. With her involvement in activities and encouragement from her resident advisor, she decided to run for president of ASMSU.

“A common theme in my life is that opportunities seem to happen to me,” French said.

With “one campus, one community” as her theme, French has initiated a new ambassador program that uses eight freshmen to connect with campus offices (ASMSU Day Care, KGLT Radio, Museum of the Rockies) to build relationships. She believes in bridging the gaps among all student organizations to be more collaborative. Over the summer, she met with Human Resources and the Office of Student Affairs to become more informed about their operations and how they relate to students, and she has worked to increase peer to peer communications to enhance residence life.

After she graduates, French would like to work for MSU, but also has an interest in becoming a trauma therapist for those dealing with domestic violence or human trafficking. The message French hopes to leave MSU students with after her tenure is “get involved while you can.”

For the past year, Recynthia “Rey” Robinson has been working as a VISTA member in the office of MSU’s Lewis and Clark Troops to Teachers program, helping to develop a data base to identify teacher preparation programs in the seven state region. Program manager, Le Gaub, said this is the first time his office has utilized a VISTA member to work on a specific project. Previously, TTT had no organized data base in one place and advisors had to search out the information on the internet. By searching individual state department public education sites, university web sites, and veteran centers on campuses, Robinson has created a large data base to make it easier for TTT advisors to give clients correct information about becoming educators after their military experience ends.

“I was interested in the position with Troops to Teachers because part of my major from the University of Arizona was in education and felt like I could apply some of my experience in higher education,” said Robinson, a native of Hardrock, Arizona.

Robinson says she has a long family history of service in all branches of the military and her family respected her decision to move to Montana to work in the TTT program. Her great-grandfather was one of the founding members of the original code talkers in World War II.

“My relatives didn’t even know what he did (in the war), because it was highly classified,” said Robinson.

While Robinson has been in Bozeman, she has also been actively involved in the community, especially with the Human Resource Development Council, volunteering for the Head Start program and with the warming center fundraisers.

When she completes her year of service to TTT, she would like to seek out a master’s program either in higher education or in studying Native American linguistics, especially her native Navajo language.
A very large piece of new equipment arrived in the technology education lab in Cheever Hall this fall. The Computer Numerical Control lathe (CNC) becomes the fourth lathe of its kind on the MSU campus (two in the College of Engineering, and one in Gallatin College) and will be used by technology education students for a variety of teaching activities. CNC lathes (also called turning machines) are used in many areas of manufacturing from making components in a watch to parts for a jet engine.

Assistant teaching professor, Lidia Haughey, is very excited for new opportunities for students. Already, students have contracted with Montana Fish, Wildlife, and Parks to design and manufacture a tranquilizer stick for use with bears in problem situations.

For their fall 2014 advocacy project, eleven members of Mu Tau Sigma, MSU’s chapter of the Counseling Honor Society, Chi Sigma Iota, raised over $600 for the Human Resource Development Council’s (HRDC) Community Café and volunteered their time serving 138 meals on November 15. An important community resource, the Cafe serves healthy, well prepared meals at no charge in a sit-down restaurant style fashion. The cafe serves close to 100 individuals nightly. Chi Sigma Iota students are the first organization to both sponsor and volunteer at the cafe. Students saw the project as a way to give back to the community and also provided an opportunity to put leadership skills into action.

“We wanted to help an underserved population,” said Aimee Volkman, also a student in marriage and family counseling from Columbia Falls, Mont. “We saw a lot of diversity with the people who utilize the cafe, from tourists to Bozeman’s homeless community—all who expressed their gratitude towards the cafe’s service.”

“It is our hope that these hands-on experiences in the MSU graduate counseling program will continue to develop a strong professional counseling identity in our students that fosters the many roles counselors play in their communities,” said Rebecca Koltz, assistant professor in counseling and advisor.

Mu Tau Sigma counseling students plan to volunteer again in February 2015.
End of Semester Wraps Up with Presentations

Several classes ended fall semester with presentations by students sharing their research projects.

Assistant Professor Selena Ahmed’s sustainable food systems (SFBS) capstone class shared a unique project in collaborating with MSU Food Service on addressing food waste. The students divided into groups to research food waste, conducted surveys of MSU students at Miller Dining Hall, and designed interventions and recommendations. Some interesting facts emerged from their study. In a three-day collection where SFBS students weighed and measured food waste, there were 1,551 pounds of pre-consumer waste (waste from packaging, non-edible food, and food left at the end of the meal) and 2,589 pounds of post-consumer waste (food and liquid thrown away by students). Each student threw away about a pound per week or about $12.20. Students noted that intervention/education did help make diners more aware of the issue, and their strongest recommendation was to compost more.

Professor Suzanne Christopher’s CHTH 445, Program Planning community health class, spent the semester completing a service learning class project exploring Health Leads, which is a program that works with low-income clients to find resources to meet their social determinants of health needs. Students broke into small groups to research various topics, trying to learn the feasibility of implementing Health Leads in the Bozeman community. Community partners for the semester were Matt Kelley, the Director of the Gallatin City-County Health Department and Buck Taylor from Community Health Partners. Health Leads has been implemented in much larger cities such as New York and Chicago. Class groups explored topics such as how Health Leads is implemented in other cities, other ways that social determinants of health are being met in other community settings, how Health Leads could utilize students at MSU to implement the program, and how the program might fit in with existing resources in Gallatin County. Christopher told the class “because of your work, this program continues on beyond you.” The program will continue to be explored in the spring semester class of Program Planning.

Graduate students in assistant professor of adult and higher education, Tricia Seifert’s EDLD 535 class, held a second digital poster session on their research using a TEAL classroom in Wilson Hall. The “around-the-world trip” included information on student services at universities from other countries.
Hosted by the Montana Student Dietetics Association and Nutrition 321 class, MSU’s annual Food Day was held at the end of October in the SUB ballrooms. Students planned a variety of activities to educate and celebrate healthy, affordable, and sustainable food. Several organizations, such as MSU Food Services and the Gallatin Valley Farm to School program, displayed information on their programs, and MSU students created games to teach Food Day attendees about topics from food preservation to nutrition facts.

The seventh annual Children’s Festival of the Book was held at the Bozeman Public Library in November, with 12 education students volunteering from Joyce Herbeck’s children’s literature class. Herbeck, associate professor of literacy, has helped organize student volunteers for the event for several years. Students host the information table, assist the Country Bookshelf with book sales, and help children with crafts.

This year’s featured authors were Amy Krouse Rosenthal, Charise Mericle Harper, and Janet Fox, who all gave presentations and signed their books. Children’s Festival of the Book is the only book festival in Montana dedicated to children’s and young adult books.

Ann Marie Kaufman, a junior from Bozeman, Mont., helped out in the craft room.

Andrew Staub, a junior from Iowa, assisted with sales for the Country Bookshelf.
Fall Semester in Pictures

Fall Graduation Round Up Reception

New Collaborative Lab Classroom at Hyalite Elementary

Faculty and Staff from the College of EHHD

The MSU Owls

Above: Tech ed students with President Cruzado. Right: Anni the dog with three prosthetic leg designs.

Coffee with the Dean

Homecoming Awards 2014

Child Development Center Cookie Decorating Party