



College News Update



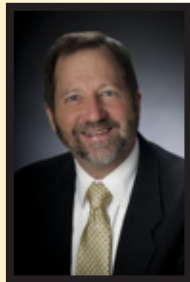
College of Education, Health and Human Development

September 2012

www.montana.edu/ehhd

BACK TO SCHOOL EDITION- WHAT WE DID THIS SUMMER

The College Welcomes Fox as Interim Dean



Carl Fox, dean of MSU's Graduate School, has stepped in to fill the position of interim dean of the College of EHHD, after the retirement of Larry J. Baker. Fox has been dean of the Graduate School since 2006, coming to MSU from Northern Arizona University, where he was a vice provost and professor of biological sciences. Fox holds a Ph.D. degree from Arizona State University in botany and has more than 25 years of experience in higher education as an instructor, professor, research center director, and vice provost.

The College hopes to have a new dean in place by January 1, 2013.



Larry Baker, former dean of EHHD, and Coleen Kaiser present Kilani Klette (center) with her dietetic internship certificate.

MDI Graduates First Cohort



Thirteen dietetic interns from the very first cohort of the Montana Dietetic Internship (MDI) graduated on June 7, 2012,

at a ceremony held at the Corporate Room in Bobcat Stadium. The interns, all from Montana, spent 10 months in various supervised rotations to gain experience in the areas of clinical nutrition, community nutrition, food service management, and a concentration in sustainable food systems.

Eighty family members and friends, as well as preceptors (mentors-supervisors) and faculty from the program, celebrated with the interns. During the program, dean of the college (recently retired), Larry Baker, told the interns that "the intensity and importance of what you do will be felt in the future." He gave each one a gold coin to remind them of the effort they have put into becoming dietitians.

Alison Harmon, associate professor of food and nutrition, shared the history of the internship program and said "this graduation was a five-year process."

In directing comments to the graduates, director of the internship, Coleen Kaiser, said, "You are pioneers, you are the first, and you have made the way for others. You have set the bar high for those who come behind you."

At the conclusion of the ceremony, intern Colleen Miller spoke on behalf of the group expressing gratitude to faculty, preceptors, family, friends, and those who opened up their homes to house interns when they were doing rotations in communities across Montana.

Education Student Receives National STEM Scholarship



**Jayne Downey & Lynn Kelting-Gibson
with Austin Robbins**

For the second year in a row, Austin Robbins, a general science broadfield major/math minor senior, has received a \$5,000 national scholarship from the Armed Forces Communications and Electronics Association (AFCEA) Education Foundation, which offers 50 scholarships to students pursuing teaching degrees in science, technology, engineering or math (STEM). Studies show that the U.S. continues to fall behind other countries in the areas of science, math, and technology, and AFCEA has stepped up to help address the decline.

Robbins says the STEM Teachers Scholarship was created to support preparing more students who want to teach in the areas of science, math, technology and engineering.

A native of Columbia Falls, Mont., Robbins originally came to MSU to major in chemical engineering, but decided to change to education.

“I felt I could make more of an impact with teaching,” said Robbins. “At first I was a little hesitant switching my major to teaching. However, in the last two years of college, I have been an undergraduate tutor for math, spent time in several math and science classrooms in the local area, and I have been a judge in the Science Olympiad Competitions. My decision to pursue teaching has been confirmed through these experiences as I always leave them energized from helping people learn to apply math and science. They have also made me aware of the major impact teachers can have in the lives of students and future professionals.”

Coming from a family of educators—his father is a principal and his mother is a teacher—Robbins felt he found his calling.

Assistant Professor of classroom assessment Lynn Kelting-Gibson wrote in her recommendation that Robbins “takes the time to work with the local school district to gain experiences necessary to become an outstanding future science educator.”

Robbins has taken more than 10 courses in the math, science, and engineering areas. Because of his strong background, Kelting-Gibson says, “I can see Austin providing his students truly integrated learning experiences.”

In addition to the \$5000 scholarship, he will also receive \$1000 for each of his first three years of teaching to use in his classroom.

Ed Leadership Cohorts on Campus for Summer Academy

Throughout June, the educational leadership program, a mostly online degree program, held summer campus academies for three cohorts of master’s and doctoral students. First year students spent a week in a Leadership Foundations Academy, second year students attended the Instructional Leadership Academy, and third year students attended the Capstone Academy taught by visiting scholar, John Tarter. Tarter is a full professor at the University of Alabama, and is well-known as a leading educational theorist in educational leadership. Program leader and associate professor, Bill Ruff, said there were activities and dinners so the three cohorts could interact.



HHD Students Participate in Swedish Exchange

For the first time, two exercise science students from MSU spent a semester in Sweden as exchange students at the Swedish School of Sport and Health Sciences (GIH) in Stockholm. Brittany LaSalle from Helena and Kendra Anderson from Missoula attended the school in the fall of 2011 to take classes in public health, epidemiology and biophysics, and exercise testing and prescription.

Before they left for Sweden, both women learned some Swedish through the Rosetta Stone language series, but they weren't quite prepared for all of their classes to be taught in Swedish.

"Professors did give us special instruction outside of class," said Anderson. "They would send us the power point in Swedish and we would translate them into English."

The grading system is based on pass/fail, with the option of retaking tests. Professors want students to know the material. Both women, who graduated this spring and plan on pursuing degrees in medicine, said they passed with "high pass."

Unlike universities in the United States, students at GIH go through the program as a class in three years, so they spend a lot of time together. Classes are taught one course at a time for five to six hours a day for four week blocks.

"Since school is paid for by the government, the school is very selective about the candidates. Students want to be there," said LaSalle. "Students are eager to learn and they are curious."

Both women said the culture as a whole is very much in shape and fit. There are many parks and recreational areas, and everyone rides bikes and is very active.

Burger King is the only fast food restaurant, serving much smaller portions than in the U.S., and it is very expensive.

The exchange program began several years ago with a partnership between retired HHD professor Greg Olson, retired EHHD dean Larry Baker, and GIH professor Karin Söderlund. Over the past several semesters GIH students and Söderlund have traveled to Montana with the exchange program. With the retirement of Baker and Olson, it is uncertain if the program will continue.

Lunch in the Garden



The sixth annual President's Lunch in the Garden was held in July in the grove at Towne's Harvest Garden, the university's student run farm. Ten students in Assistant Professor Carmen Byker's "Culinary Marketing: Farm to Table" class created dishes featuring ingredients from

the garden. In addition to helping set up the lunch, Towne's Harvest practicum students also contributed to the meal by growing the produce. During lunch, Associate Professor Alison Harmon shared information on new happenings at Towne's Harvest. The garden now hosts a campus farm stand every Thursday from 3:00-6:00 by the Noodle sculpture in front of the SUB until the end of September. Also new, Towne's Harvest now accepts SNAP and WIC benefits at the on-campus farm stand and the mobile market. Earlier this summer for the first time, the garden offered an early season CSA, featuring fresh greens and eggs, to 30 members. Harmon was also pleased to report that through the

university's investment funding, the sustainable foods program will now have a

stable source of funding to hire a new faculty member and also fund the farm manager's position.



First State-wide Montana Farm to School Conference Held at MSU

In mid-August, Montana Team Nutrition, along with Montana State University and Learning by Nature, hosted a two day conference—“Taking Root: Montana Farm to School.” One hundred forty participants attended the two day meeting filled with workshops and field trips intended to strengthen awareness of farm to school practices, resources, and programs. Those attending included school educators, food service professionals, parents, MSU students, nurses, dietitians, farmers, community leaders, food and agricultural professionals, Montana food companies, state agency officials, and legislators. Attendees learned information on nutrition, forming community partnerships, local food service procurement, food service safety, and how schools can incorporate school gardens into experiential learning opportunities for children.

Katie Bark, director of Montana Team Nutrition and conference organizer, said she was very pleased with the interest from schools and community members, from preschool through high school students.

“Schools can play such an important role in helping children learn about nutrition through gardening and by enjoying Montana foods in school menus,” said Bark. “Farm to School is a win-win for kids and Montana communities.”



ABOVE: Katie Bark (left) with MDI interns at Farm to School Conference. BELOW: Participants tour Herrick Hall's Child Development Center garden.



Community Food Truck Increases Access to Local Produce



With a grant from the AARP Foundation, Towne's Harvest Garden, the HRDC, and the Gallatin Valley Food Bank have partnered to provide fresh produce to seniors in Three Forks and Belgrade each Tuesday this summer. The produce, sold at affordable prices, is delivered by a new Community Food Truck (left) and is designed to increase access to fresh nutritious produce and provide nutritional education to communities in the valley.

New Cohort of Counseling Students Eager to Begin Program

In June, twenty-four new graduate counseling students were greeted by HHD counseling faculty and second-year students with a welcome reception/orientation at the Human Development Clinic (HDC) on South Third Street. The cohort consists of all three tracks in the program—school counseling, marriage and family counseling, and mental health. Adina Smith, associate professor and program leader for mental health, said the new student orientation has taken place for at least the past 13 years and helps to acquaint the students with the clinic and the program.

New student Marlena Renwyck, who is originally from Southern California but has worked in Montana for the last 15 years as a botanist, said she is seeking a second career. About six years ago, she realized she “didn’t want to be a botanist forever” and “was drawn to the relational aspects of people.”

The new cohort began taking classes in June and will complete the program in two years.



Counseling students participate in a team building game at the HDC.



A Winning Design

Melis Edwards, assistant to the dean, recently won the 2012 Graduate School’s “Design a T-Shirt” contest (see photo at left). Edwards began her design by brainstorming words based on “knowledge is...”, words such as growth, information, collaboration, consciousness, and other words associated with education. Shirts are still available in the Graduate Office in Montana Hall.

For her creative efforts, Edwards received a gift certificate to the MSU Bookstore.

Human Development Clinic Has New Interior Look

With funding from the Department of Health and Human Development, the Human Development Clinic (HDC) at 1501 South Third has undergone a number of improvements this past spring. Housed in an older home, the clinic recently received new carpeting, paint, soundproofing, new sofas, chairs, and art work for the walls. Additional improvements to the exterior are an MSU building sign and a new roof. Adina Smith, director of the clinic for the past 13 years, said the new furnishings are a big improvement over the former “garage sale” look. In August, the clinic is also moving to digital recording, which will vastly improve the audio and visual experience for students. Students use the recordings as a way to evaluate and improve their skills as future counselors.



Counseling students Kari Halvorson, Brittany Wenke, and Megan Holen enjoy the new interior improvements to the HDC.