

## End of 2011-12 Edition

The College of Education, Health and Human Development at Montana State University ended the 2011-2012 academic year with numerous events, research celebrations, and graduation. This edition of *College News Update* highlights some of the activities and year-end stories.



Brian Kessler and family enjoy the Mexican buffet.

### 5th Annual Recognition Reception and End-of-the-Year Celebration



Dean Baker congratulates HHD's Award for Excellence winner Jamie Diehl



Becky Lyons, Cheri Johannes, and Suzette Nynas are outstanding education grads students.

*Over 100 people attended the "Cinco de Mayo" themed Recognition Reception on May 3 at the Holiday Inn to honor outstanding faculty, staff, and students in the College of EHHD.*



Ed. Department Head Jayne Downey presents Outstanding Graduate Award to Cheri Johannes.



Dean Larry Baker with Education Outstanding Researcher Betsy Palmer



Karen Bangert celebrates her new doctorate degree.



Milana Lazetich, Melis Edwards, and Outstanding Classified staff recipient Tracy Krushensky share a laugh.

# Recognition Awards for 2012



## **Outstanding Graduating Seniors**

Greg Ruegsegger—Health and Human Performance  
Kaci Wohlfeil—Family & Consumer Sciences  
Kristen Erickson—FCS, Teaching  
Amanda Rusnell—Food & Nutrition  
Amanda Judisch—Community Health  
Brian Kessler—Health Enhancement K-12  
Amber Henne—Elementary Education  
Jeff Todd—General Science Broadfield  
Tony Coppola—General Social Studies Broadfield  
Jonathan Clark—Technology Education Broadfield  
Tyler Leary—Technology Education, Industrial Arts

## **Outstanding Graduate Students**

Aubree Durfey—Sustainable Food Systems  
Katie McNulty—Exercise Physiology & Nutrition  
Rocky Dailey, Cheryl Johannes, Becky Lyons, and Suzette Nynas, Adult & Higher Education (Billings cohort)

## **Barbara Miller Award for Outstanding Student in Health Enhancement**

Brian Kessler



Outstanding community health senior Amanda Judisch with Assistant Professor Dawn Tarabochia

## **Outstanding Faculty in Health and Human Development**

Dr. John Seifert—Outstanding Teacher  
Dr. Adina Smith—Outstanding Service  
Dr. Beth Rink—Outstanding Research

## **Outstanding Faculty in Education**

Dr. Art Bangert—Outstanding Teacher  
Dr. Nick Lux—Outstanding Service  
Dr. Betsy Palmer—Outstanding Research

## **Outstanding Staff Members**

Bill Freese—Outstanding Professional Employee  
Tracy Krushensky—Outstanding Classified Employee

## **Promotion and Tenure**

Dr. Carrie Myers (ED)—Tenured  
Dr. Beth Rink (HHD)—Tenured  
Dr. Mary Miles (HHD)—Full professor



Department Head Mark Nelson congratulates HHD's Mary Miles, who was promoted to full professor.

# Graduation Weekend

**A**round 35 EHHD alumni and family members returned to campus to celebrate their 50, 60, and 70 year class reunions. The college hosted a reception in their honor on Friday, May 4 on the first floor of Herrick Hall. After the reception, education alumni toured Reid Hall, physical education alumni toured the movement science lab in Romney Gym, and home economics alumni toured Herrick Hall. Margaret Eagle (home economics) from Helena, Mont., had the distinction of being the only EHHD alumna from the class of 1942.



Dr. Baker (standing left) and Development Director Stacy Radke (seated right) visit with alums.



Maggie Nottestad (left), Phi U member and education data/research analyst, greets alumna.



Home Ec alumnae from classes of 1942, 1952, and 1962



From left: EHHD faculty at commencement. Carmen Byker, Alison Harmon, John Christopher, Bethany Letiecq, and Suzanne Christopher.

## The Main Event



Counseling students line up to receive their master's degrees.



**T**HE 116TH COMMENCEMENT CEREMONY WAS HELD AT THE BRICK BREEDEN FIELDHOUSE ON MAY 5, 2012, TO CELEBRATE THE ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF MORE THAN 2600 STUDENTS. THE COLLEGE OF EHHD PARTICIPATED IN THE AFTERNOON CEREMONY, ALONG WITH THE COLLEGES OF AGRICULTURE, BUSINESS, AND ENGINEERING. FROM EHHD, 362 UNDERGRADUATE AND GRADUATE STUDENTS WERE ELIGIBLE TO RECEIVE DEGREES FOR THE ACADEMIC YEAR OF 2011-12.

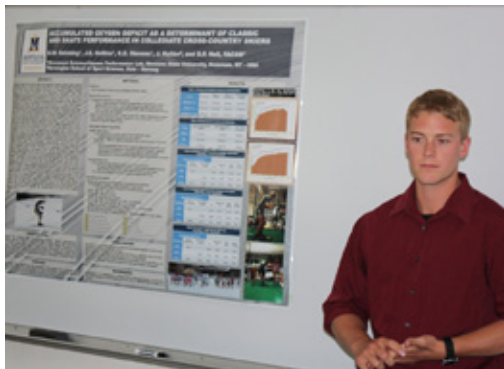
# Research Celebrations End the Year

Spring semester concluded with a number of research related events in both departments. Below are a few highlights.

The Department of Education held the first annual Education Research Symposium in the SUB at the end of May. Over twenty graduate students in the department showcased a variety of research conducted this past academic year. Department Head Jayne Downey said “the research addresses issues across the P-20 (preschool through college) spectrum.” In addition, education faculty’s research and published works from the year were presented on a slide show.



Ed grad student Julian Collins explains his research to Marilyn Lockhart, adult & higher ed associate professor.



HHD grad student, Bryant Reinking from Colorado, presents his research on VO2 max levels of cross country skiers.

Students in the Assistant Professor Christine Lux’s *Curriculum in Early Childhood Education* class culminated the semester with poster presentations of activity plans they had created for pre-school aged children. Students organized activities to incorporate the five developmental domains—communication, cognitive, emotional, social, and physical—into eight-week units that were taught to the preschoolers in the Child Development Center in Herrick Hall.



Danielle Lindner, a junior in elementary education from Bozeman, shares her project.

## Long-Time Faculty and Dean Retire

Three faculty members and the current dean from the College of Education, Health and Human Development are retiring after many years of service to the university.



**A**t the end of June, Larry Baker, dean of the college for the past five years, will retire from the university after 29 years of service. Baker first arrived at MSU in 1983 as a graduate teaching assistant in the Department of Secondary Education.

After earning both a master's degree and a doctorate in adult and higher education from MSU, Baker held many positions-- an adjunct instructor in education, a loan officer in the Office of Financial Aid, assistant to the dean of the College of Education, Health and Human Development, assistant and associate dean, and finally, dean. He has served the state by his involvement in the Math and Science Teacher Initiative, the Montana Council of Deans, and the Montana Board of Public Education. He recently won an award, Friends of Great Plains Interactive Distance Education Alliance, for his service to distance education.

**A**fter a 42 year affiliation with MSU, Rozan Pitcher is hanging up her dancing shoes. Hired in 1969 to build the dance program, Pitcher served as the dance specialist in the Department of Physical Education. Besides teaching classes, she also founded the MSU Dance Repertoire and the Dance Express touring group. In addition to touring the state and nation, in 1995, she was chosen to take a group of students to China. A personal highlight happened in 2005, when she competed in a ballroom dance competition in the United Kingdom.



**G**reg Olson, assistant professor in health enhancement K-12, was 28-years-old when he was hired to teach aquatics and martial arts in the Department of Physical Education in 1978. For 12 years, he took students to Mexico and Belize to scuba dive. Olson says his most memorable moment in his long career was when he saved the life of a student who had fallen off a building in Mexico. For his heroic efforts, he was presented the Certificate of Merit by then President Jimmy Carter. Most recently, he has formed a partnership with a university in Sweden to provide exchange opportunities for faculty and students. After retirement, Olson plans to enjoy driving his convertible sports car and doing Ikebana.



**J**oanne Erickson, associate professor of educational leadership, began her tenure in 1998. Erickson has been instrumental in securing several large grants, including the I LEAD grant which has provided approximately 70 new school administrators on or near Montana's reservations. Recognized for outstanding research, teaching and service, Erickson has won MSU's Cox Family Award, the Charles and Nora Wiley Faculty Award, and the Montana Rural Education Association's Outstanding Leadership Award. Having graduated 20 doctoral students and hundreds of master's students, Erickson says one of her greatest joys is "getting to see our former students at professional meetings and enjoying an ongoing relationship with them."



## Advocates for Art

**D**uring spring semester, Priscilla Lund, associate professor of art education, challenged students in the art methods class to create an installation that would advocate for art education. Using a variety of materials, posters, art work, and even old Barbie dolls, groups of students designed a three-dimensional exhibit for the display case on the first floor of Reid Hall that demonstrated “how visual arts are embedded in our culture and lives,” said Lund.

A member of the National Art Education Association, Lund got the idea of an advocacy project from the association’s web site. Students accessed the site for guidelines on how to be a voice for art education. <http://www.arteducators.org/>

“With funding cuts in schools, I wanted future art educators to be able to go in front of a school board and advocate for their program,” Lund said.



Art  
Advocacy  
Installation  
Project



## HHD Student Honored as Academic All-American Student-Athlete



Tyler Reinking performs a VO2 max test on the movement science lab’s oversized treadmill.

**T**yler Reinking, an MSU Nordic ski team member majoring in exercise science, was named as a Capital One First Team Academic All-American. The award is the highest honor for a student-athlete and is based on a student-athlete’s combined athletic and academic performance. Reinking, a Colorado native and spring 2012 graduate, posted a 3.98 grade point average, had five top-5 race finishes, and placed third at the NCAA West Regional championships in February.