RECENT FCS GRADUATE HEADS TO NEW YORK TO ATTEND THE HONOR’S PROGRAM AT NEW YORK LAW SCHOOL

When Kasey Kimball first entered Montana State University as a freshman, she thought she wanted to major in graphic design. She soon realized that her passion lay in working with children and families. The Bozeman native briefly considered pre-med leading to a career as a pediatrician or an optometrist before discovering that a degree in family and consumer sciences (FCS) would be her path to becoming a lawyer.

Kimball chose family and consumer sciences instead of a more traditional major leading to law because it is more geared toward families and children. Through classes like “Family Law and Public Policy,” she was able to see the “people side of situations, not just the law side.”

“I’ve always wanted to work with children,” said Kimball, who graduated in December 2015. “My dad was the one who encouraged me to think of a career in law as a way of helping with adoptions and victims of child abuse.”

After applying to 10 schools and being accepted into all that she kept active, Kimball headed off to New York City in January to attend New York Law School’s accelerated honor’s program, where she was one of 12 students accepted.

“I had visited New York several times and always dreamed of someday living there,” said Kimball, “so this is a dream come true.”

While at MSU, Kasey also did a study abroad in Ghana in western Africa, teaching school and swim lessons, helping with homework, and playing with children at an orphanage. She believes that experience helped broaden her perspective and provided a real contrast between Montana and the world at large.

Sandra Osborne, associate professor in family and consumer sciences, helped place Kimball in an internship with MSU family and consumer sciences alumna, Angie Cavallini, a Bozeman attorney specializing in litigation and family law.

“When we can place a current senior in the FCS program with an FCS alum, it is always a great match,” said Osborne. “Certainly the specific court opportunities Angie was able to provide for and with Kasey, contributed to the success of her application (to New York Law).”

Cavallini said Kasey was able to “see contested family law cases—from initial client meetings to contested hearings that determine child placement.” She also observed or participated in dependency and children neglect cases.

“I have no doubt that Kasey will do well as an attorney,” said Cavallini. “She is articulate, intelligent and compassionate. These qualities, among others, will take her far.”

Kimball received a full ride for the two year program, plus a guaranteed one-year paid fellowship with a law firm or non-profit organization after she completes her coursework.

With strong family ties to Montana and MSU where her father and uncle played football for the 1984 championship team, Kimball hopes to return to Montana someday and become an advocate for children and families. Until then, she will take in all that New York City has to offer and live one of her dreams.
Colleen McMilin accepted a full time position in Health and Human Development this fall as an assistant teaching professor in community health. McMilin teaches a variety of courses, including “Drugs and Society,” “Human Sexuality,” “Human Behavior Theories,” and “Human Response to Stress,” all undergraduate classes.

Growing up, McMilin “lived all over Montana” since her father was a teacher and administrator in many Class C to Class A school districts across the state. She began her academic career at Montana State University and received a bachelor’s degree in food and nutrition. From there, she moved to Colorado for her master’s program, obtaining a degree in public health from the Colorado School of Public Health in Denver.

She and her husband, who had done his student teaching in New Zealand while at MSU, decided they wanted to live abroad, so they moved to New Zealand for three years. While there, McMilin began working toward a Ph.D. in health sciences at the University of Auckland, which is a very research based institution. She has been involved in a longitudinal research project that is following a cohort of children from birth to young adulthood collecting information on the growth and development of the children. Specifically, McMilin is investigating peanut allergies within this cohort. The children are now six-years-old.

“There is not a lot of published research on food allergies in New Zealand,” said McMilin, “so this project not only generates new data within the New Zealand context but will add to the international discussion of increasing rates of food allergies.”

Her doctoral thesis included an investigation of national trends in hospital presentations (visits) for food-related allergic reactions in New Zealand children. A qualitative component in which she worked with seven families allowed her to gain insight into how food allergies impact their daily lives.

McMilin is excited to be back home in Montana and working at Montana State University.

Angela McClean, former lieutenant governor of Montana, was in Bozeman in November to meet with faculty involved in P-12 education. Before McClean addressed the group, Jayne Downey, department head for education, shared information on the department and also on the accreditation process which began in spring 2014 and culminated with a site visit by the Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation (CAEP). Downey stated that MSU has an opportunity to become a national leader in several of the standards.

In her address to the faculty and staff, McClean said the state has some of the best education preparation programs in the nation and congratulated MSU on educational leadership programs, Indian Education for All, and an “astounding” teacher prep program. She also said that Montana is one of seven states that does not have publically funded preschool, and encouraged everyone to “convince your legislators to fund it.”

Before arriving at MSU, McClean attended a dual enrollment class taught by graduate teaching assistant, Spencer Johnson, who invited her to visit and share her thoughts on education. Johnson taught the dual enrollment class during fall semester at Bozeman High School to students interested in education. According to McClean, dual enrollment saved Montana families $3 million last year in college education costs. “It gets students in the pipeline sooner and graduates them sooner so they can enter the workforce because the state needs them,” stated McClean.
In November, Marilyn Lockhart, director of the Center for Faculty Excellence and professor in adult and higher education, along with four education graduate students, presented “Higher Education in the UK: A report from the 2015 summer visit to the ancient universities.” The presentation was a report from a summer graduate class that traveled to the United Kingdom to visit historic universities. Presenters included Catherine Johnson, adult and higher education doctoral student; Jennifer Clark, engineering student success coordinator; Nicole Redding, disability, re-entry, and veteran services; and Chelsey Wilson, division of student success.

The group visited Kingston University in London, Cambridge University, Oxford University, the University of Edinburgh, and the University of Glasgow. Lockhart selected the universities because they were ones she personally wanted to visit, in addition to being some of the leading universities in the world.

“People were very gracious and inviting and happy to have us there,” said Lockhart in making contacts with the universities.

Each person selected a university and became an expert. When they visited the university, the students facilitated the conversations. They kept daily reflection journals, had a reflection day at the end of the trip, and came up with emerging themes—diversity, cost and access, student experience, teaching and learning, quality assurance, governance, and institutional types—all similar themes in the United States’ higher education system.

Chelsey Wilson said she wanted to participate in the overseas adventure because all of her degrees are from MSU, and she wanted to learn about higher education from a global perspective.

“You could feel history in the air,” said Wilson.

Some themes they noted among the universities were much higher retention rates (as much as 98%), fee structures (the government funds tuition to residents), institutional climate (42% of the student body at Edinburgh is international), student teacher ratio (two students to one faculty for tutorials at Cambridge), and the value of a global education.

Jennifer Clark “found an interest in the historical foundations of these ancient universities and how they have perfected practices that have led to high retention rates.”

“We need to look at what they do, and granted they have resources far beyond ours, look at the groundwork that they’ve laid…how do we hone that and bring it back and apply it?” Clark said.

Catherine Johnson was interested in the organizational structure and institutional climate, particularly the internationalization of higher ed. She was surprised at the high percentage of international students attending universities in the U.K.

Nicole Redding, a doctoral student in public administration, noted that the University of Glasgow, founded in 1451, historically focused on attracting children of the wealthy, but now they have a “really strong focus on welcoming in disadvantaged students, students from lower income and middle class…and students that might not normally get to go to an ancient university.”

They also have a really strong focus on academic technology, which creates access for students with disabilities and those not on campus.

Johnson summed up the experience by saying, “… the experiences we had really cemented what we’d been learning in the classroom.”
Eight students from the College of EHHD presented their research in late November at the 6th annual McNair research symposium held in the SUB Ballrooms. Out of 25 McNair scholars, one-third were from the College of EHHD. The scholars work with faculty mentors to research topics of interest, create a poster of their findings, and present at a public forum where attendees can ask questions about their research topic.

Each year, 25 students are selected who are either first-generation/low-income or traditionally underrepresented minority students. Students have strong academic potential and are committed to attending graduate school. The program is named for Ronald McNair, a NASA astronaut and physicist who died in the Challenger explosion in 1986. The program was established by Congress in his honor.

**EHHD STUDENTS, MAJOR, TOPIC AND MENTORS**

- Amy Fiel, family and consumer sciences, “Use of Interactive Technology in MENA Region,” Mitch Vaterlaus
- Heidi Hanson, community health, “A Sustainable Model for Health Programs: A Case Study in Zambia,” Wendy Morrison
- Erica Latorre, exercise science, “Effects of Anthocyanin Antioxidant Supplementation on ROS Markers and Metabolic Flexibility after a Low-Intensity Treadmill Exercise,” Mary Miles
- Rebekah Lindsey, elementary education, “A Neural Marker of Cognitive Control Predicts School Competence and Engagement,” Rebecca Brooker
- Jaycie Loney, exercise science, “Strengths Based Exercise Prescription in the Cancer Community,” Lynn Owens
- Dietrich Perchy, general science broadfield education, “Gamification of STEM Education,” Nick Lux
- Wade Robinson, exercise science, “Differences of Heart Rate between Frequent and Infrequent Video Game Players While Playing a Nonviolent Video Game,” Rob Wilson
- Kendra Teague, sustainable food systems, “Indigenous Food Systems: Grains, Global Perspectives and Health Outcomes,” Alison Harmon

Additionally, Suzanne Christopher, professor in community health, was a mentor for Coleen Trotter, psychology, “Encouraging Good Health among Apsaalooke People through Traditional Relationships.”
Joyce Herbeck, associate professor of literacy in the Department of Education, listed several reasons why she chose to take 11 students to Mexico last summer instead of returning to Europe for a unique summer literacy/art education program, one she has done for several years.

“Latin Americans are the fastest growing population in the United States,” said Herbeck, “and it’s important to break down biases and barriers since many of our teachers will have (Hispanic students) in their classrooms.”

Herbeck and Kim Boehler, adjunct art education instructor, spent months planning the trip, even traveling to Mexico to establish personal contacts with schools and museums. Herbeck’s son, who had been working in Mexico, was helpful in taking them to many of the places that MSU students visited.

“We actually went to places that tourists don’t go,” said Herbeck, “and we saw a cross-section of Mexico that was helpful in dispelling negative images of the country.”

Taylor Floming, a junior from Colorado, agreed with Herbeck. Floming had previously vacationed with her family in Mexico, but this trip offered her a much different perspective.

“We got a better glimpse of the authentic side of the day-to-day culture of Mexico,” said Floming.

In preparation for the trip, the students spent a week attending class on campus learning about folk art and famous Mexican artists, as well as reading 40 books. Herbeck said the best way to enlighten students about the culture is through studying art and literature. Since most of the authors they read were Americans writing about Mexico, students also Skyped with one of the authors.

Students visited museums in Mexico City and Guanajuato, where painter Diego Rivera was born. In Pachuca, they visited an American school and read books to children. In Ocotlan, they visited the studio of Josefina Aguilar, a blind Mexican folk artist known for her small ceramic figurines. Students actually watched as she demonstrated how she shaped clay into human figures.

Floming said one of her favorite experiences was visiting Coyoacán on the outskirts of Mexico City where Diego Rivera and Frida Kahlo, prominent Mexican artists, lived. The couple had befriended Russian Leon Trotsky, who lived with them for a time after he sought asylum from the Soviet Union. Trotsky was eventually assassinated in 1940 by his future son-in-law, who had been recruited by Josef Stalin, and was actually a Soviet agent.

“We could see the bullet holes in the walls of his home,” said Floming.

As future teachers, students said their experience in Mexico would help them in their classrooms by incorporating in-depth multicultural curriculum and help dispel the stereotypes that many in the United States have of Mexico and its culture.
Holly Hunts, Outstanding Faculty for Service for 2015, presented a lecture in late November called, “Creators and Disseminators of Agricultural Innovation (CDAI)—Addressing Wicked Problems through Transdisciplinary Research.” Hunts, associate professor in family and consumer sciences, is a member of a group of colleagues from four colleges who share a common interest in food, agriculture, nutrition and health. Joining Hunt in her presentation were professors David Sands and Florence Dunkel from the Department of Plant Sciences and Plant Pathology and Ed Dratz from the Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry.

Hunt said wicked problems are defined as “complex problems that are intertwined and entangled with other problems.” The group shared several wicked problems in the area of nutrition that their research has addressed, such as the effects of Omega 3 on brain function, feeding cows and chickens Montana grown camelina to increase Omega 3 levels, and the correlation of malnutrition and malaria in Africa.

Under Dratz’s direction, high school students in Columbia Falls, Mont., conducted a study on the effects of Omega 3 diet supplementation on the brain. Through a double blind experiment with their classmates, they found evidence that supplementing diets with Omega 3 increased brain function. Good sources of Omega 3 are walnuts, canola oil, walnut oil, ground flaxseeds and its oil, camelina, and camelina oil.

Hunts said, “While walnuts and flaxseed are good sources of the short chain ALA Omega 3, the larger message is that it is the long chain DHA Omega 3 that is needed in our diets. Some good sources for the long chain Omega 3s are fish, grass fed animals, and animals (and their milk and eggs) that are fed diets high in short chain Omega 3s like camelina.”

Sands cited MSU research that fed camelina to cows and chickens and found that it increased Omega 3 levels in their meat and eggs. This research could be a model for industries to move away from processed foods high in Omega 6, a fatty acid that contributes to inflammation leading to chronic diseases, to healthy Omega 3.

Working with village women in Mali, a country in western Africa, Dunkel has helped improve nutrition in children, who can be very susceptible to malaria when malnourished. Through creating cottage industries and participating in nutrition education workshops, mothers now provide healthy, more nutritious meals to their children, and malaria has dropped dramatically.

Because transdisciplinary teams are more effective in solving wicked problems, the group concluded their presentation with participation from the audience by brainstorming other “wicked” problems in the world. While a single solution “tightens the knot, transdisciplinary solutions allow for better implementation of ideas that can be sustained.”

Hunts invited audience members to join the CDAI group.
For the first time ever, instructors in the addiction counseling graduate program met in person to have a conversation about teaching in an online program. What makes this so unique is that the instructors were from all over the United States and had never met face-to-face before. The program, housed in the College of EHHD, has been in existence since 2009 and offers online coursework to students who want to become licensed in addiction counseling.

Katey Franklin, part-time MSU Human Development Clinic director and part-time program director for the addiction counseling program, and Sarah Hendriks, Extended University’s program manager for the addiction counseling program, wrote a grant for funding to bring all the instructors together in one place to discuss the program’s mission and culture, and to unify the delivery of the program.

“Best practices in online instruction recommend unification of course design and delivery,” said Franklin. “It leads to increased satisfaction and success for students. Also, emphasis on program culture and community are important for student success.”

The addictions counseling program is delivered with BrightSpace, and instructors utilize innovative and interactive online teaching methods to actively engage student learning and dialogue. Franklin said a “universal shell” was created so that the instructors, who are all working professional counselors and counselor educators, can deliver a unified program. Being marketed world-wide, the program currently has 18 active students and has graduated 33 students from the program since its inception.

For more information about the program, go to http://www.montana.edu/online/degrees/addiction-counseling/

EHHD NEWS IN PHOTOS

Education
Honorary Society
Kappa
Delta Pi hosts Professional Clothing Exchange

HHD Nutrition
Students
Having Fun at Annual “Food Day”

MSU’s “Celebrating Milestones in Service” Reception. Le Gaub, Troops to Teachers; Elizabeth Bird, EHHD Grants Specialist; and Alison Harmon, EHHD Interim Dean

Meet EHHD’s Alumni Advisory Council
Ramona Marotz-Baden, Gary Lusin, Jan Leppien, Beau Freund, Elaine Gingery, Ellen Kreighbaum, Linda Hughes, Marcy Euler, Callie Langohr, with Interim Dean Alison Harmon

http://www.montana.edu/ehhd/EHHD_Advisory_Council.html