At Spring Convocation on January 7, three faculty from EHHD were recognized with university awards at a ceremony in Reynolds Hall. In all, 23 faculty, staff, and community partners received awards for excellence in teaching, research, mentoring, and service. From HHD, Sandy Bailey, department head and professor in family and consumer sciences, received the Excellence in Outreach Award for her work with the Grandparents Raising Grandchildren program. Suzanne Christopher, associate dean for research development and professor in community health, received the Women’s Faculty Caucus Distinguished Mentor Award for her work in mentoring junior faculty beginning their research. William (Bill) Ruff, associate professor in educational leadership, was recognized with the Cox Faculty Award for Creative Scholarship and Teaching for his work with the Indian Leadership Education and Development (I LEAD) project. Congratulations to this year’s recipients from EHHD.

Jioanna Carjuzaa, associate professor in education, has received a Title II grant for the second year in a row. The grant totaling close to $86,000 is an “Improving Teacher Quality Grant,” which focuses on teaching culturally responsive pedagogy to 30 in-service K-12 teachers and administrators from Montana. While the three-credit course is mostly online, participants will also attend a face-to-face three-day workshop to explore instructional strategies, review resources/materials, and network to further strengthen their content knowledge and skills.

Carjuzaa says the course will support the implementation of Indian Education for All, and partners include MSU’s Department of Education, the College of Letters and Sciences’ Department of Native American Studies, MSU’s Extended University, and school districts across Montana.
Christine Stanton says the recent article she had published in “Qualitative Inquiry” is what is driving the rest of her research these days. The online version of “Crossing Methodological Borders: Decolonizing Community-Based Participatory Research” was published on October 29, 2013, with the print version to follow in 2014. According to the article’s abstract, “This article explores the potential for Community-Based Participatory Research (CBPR) to guide the re-envisioning of mainstream conceptions of scholarly control to cross epistemological borders between theory and practice.”

Stanton, an assistant professor in education, based her research on a project she was involved with several years ago to engage Native participants from Wyoming’s Wind River Reservation by using community-based participatory research as a model for research. After teaching English and social studies for several years in Lander, Wyo., and also at Ft. Washakie High School on the reservation, she began to recognize that as a non-Native scholar, she needed to “confront the colonizing reputation” that many researchers had developed in the past. She began to recognize much of the research about indigenous peoples was not respectful collaboration with Native communities.

“As a group of scholars—both Indigenous and non-Indigenous—we need to learn how to cultivate good ethical work that’s respected without overstepping the boundaries,” said Stanton.

During her research, Stanton used “the Four R’s” of respect, relevance, reciprocity, and responsibility to recognize the challenges when planning and implementing the project. She explored some of these challenges, particularly those related to engaging participants in data analysis and interpretation. In order to be successful, Stanton recommended including community members more fully throughout the CBPR process.

“Make community members part of the process early on,” said Rogers. “They need to decide what’s important to them, not to the researcher.”

Stanton hopes her research will offer insights into ways non-Native scholars and teachers can enhance the participatory nature of their work in order to more fully honor Native perspectives, histories, and experiences.

She is also involved in several other research projects-- as the co-principal investigator for the $250,000 National Science Foundation grant Altai Project with education professors Michael Brody, and Art Bangert, and a project in collaboration with Brad Hall, an I LEAD graduate student and institutional researcher for the Blackfeet Community College in Browning.

For the Blackfeet project, she and Hall are using CBPR and Indigenous methodologies with Native youth to guide them in collecting digital histories of the elders.

“The students decided what topics they wanted to focus on and how to approach elders,” Stanton said.

She and Hall will present a paper, “It’s Gonna be MY Story: Advancing Sovereignty with Participatory Digital Histories in Indian Country,” at the American Education Research Association (AERA) conference in Philadelphia this spring.

Stanton’s teaching load includes K-8 and 5-12 social studies methods courses, as well as various online graduate courses.
Utilizing funds from the college's new student travel scholarships, two graduate students in the exercise physiology and nutrition program had the opportunity to present their research at the International Congress on Science and Skiing in St. Christoph am Arlberg, Austria, in December. Erika Rauk and Emily Ranta submitted abstracts in September for consideration and both were selected to present at the congress, a first for MSU students.

Ranta, who worked with health and human performance Professor Dan Heil, presented research collected on 18 recreational cross-country skiers over the age of 40 from the Bozeman area. Her research was titled “Distribution of Late-Summer Training Intensity in Masters-aged Recreational Cross-Country Skiers: A Pilot Study” and focused on using heart rate monitors and training logs to characterize exercise volume and intensity over a period of seven days. Ranta found that there was a relatively even distribution of training intensity, with significantly less time spent at the highest intensities. She concluded that the combined use of a heart rate monitor along with a training log was an effective means of “characterizing training distribution characteristics in recreation XC skiers over the age of 40.” Ranta is currently applying the findings from this study in her thesis research, which aims to characterize training intensity among 57 competitive masters cross country skiers during two distinct training periods.

Rauk’s poster presentation, “The Influence of Slope Angle and Gate Length during Slalom Training in Developing Alpine Ski Racers,” won third place in the Young Investigator Contest, where she competed with 35 others. A student of Associate Professor John Seifert, Rauk examined 26 twelve-year-old ski racers, using two different slope angles (20 and 25 degrees) and four different gate lengths. Subjects were timed and then judged their perceptions on the line they skied, their confidence in the run, and how aggressive they felt moving through the gates on each course. Rauk found that participants were more confident with smaller slope angles and shorter gates.

“The potential for training young racers is that they need to be trained differently to build confidence,” said Rauk. “They should start with shorter gates and work until they are confident.” She concluded that “slope could be utilized as a teaching tool to allow natural skill progression as a result of terrain acting on the body to develop proper biomechanics.”

In addition to the students, both Heil and Seifert attended and presented research at the conference, which is held every three years. Heil collaborated on projects with Brian Higginson, biomechanist from Gonzaga University, Jason McLaren, biomechanist from Nanyang Technological Institute in Singapore, Kristen Cornachione, former MSU grad student, and Emily Ranta. In all, he was involved with four poster presentations and three slide presentations, ranging from research on upper and lower body sports compression garments to muscle adaptations while skate skiing.

Seifert’s oral presentation was on ski boot stiffness on performance and quadriceps muscle activity, which was a collaboration with HHD’s Jae Park and Ron Kipp from the US Ski and Snowboard Association. As one of the original organizers of the ski congress, Seifert is still very active, serving on the scientific committee which reviews abstract submissions and determines who will present, and also the committee which selects the Young Investigator. Seifert himself won third place in 2000 as a Young Investigator.

Rauk and Ranta both agreed that it was a great experience to see all the international research and get to meet world renowned researchers.
Kala Lougheed, a doctoral student in the educational leadership program, was selected as one of 40 graduate students to attend the 2014 David L. Clark National Graduate Student Research Seminar, which brings emerging educational administration and policy scholars and noted researchers together for two days of presentations, generative discussion, and professional growth. Top students from top-tier universities in the United States, Canada, and abroad compete for this invitation. She is the first MSU student to attend the Clark Seminar.

At this seminar, Lougheed will be working one-on-one and in small groups with some of the most recognized scholars in the educational leadership and policy studies fields. The seminar is sponsored by the University Council for Educational Administration (UCEA), Divisions A and L of the American Educational Research Association (AERA), and SAGE Publications.

“It wouldn’t be possible (to attend) without the support of a great department, awesome advisor, and a supportive cohort,” said Lougheed. “I am honored and very much looking forward to the seminar!”

There are two current education faculty members who have attended the David L. Clark Seminar as doctoral students—adult and higher education professor, Carrie Myers in 2002, and educational leadership professor, William Ruff in 2001.

Erika Rauk, a graduate student in exercise physiology and nutrition in the Department of Health and Human Development, won third place in the Young Investigator Awards contest at the International Congress on Science and Skiing held in December in Austria. Rauk, who competed against 35 young researchers from all over the world, presented a poster on “The Influence of Slope Angle and Gate Length during Slalom Training in Developing Alpine Ski Racers.” Over 250 scientists from 23 countries were in attendance.

Rauk was also the recent 2013 Graduate Student Research Grant Winner from the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics, Sports, Cardiovascular, and Wellness Nutrition (SCAN). The grant will provide funds for research to compare high fructose corn syrup sweetened beverages and glucose-sweetened beverages and their effects on exercise metabolism.

Rauk received a bachelor’s in chemistry from the University of Montana and a bachelor’s in food and nutrition from Montana State University. She completed a dietetic internship through Idaho State University in May 2011. She has been published in the “Journal of Chromatography, Electrophoresis, and Analytical and Bioanalytical Chemistry.”

Rauk is mentored by associate professor in health and human performance, John Seifert.
College of EHHD alumnus, John Vollertsen, has written and compiled a new book, “Landscape and Legacy, the Splendor of Nature, History, and Montana’s Rocky Mountain Front,” which focuses on the wildlife, geology, Native American inhabitants, resources issues, and legislative issues of the Front. John received two degrees from MSU—a master’s in public administration with a concentration in natural resource and environmental management, and a doctorate in adult and higher education. The MSU bookstore carries the book in the Western Americana section. It is also available on Amazon.com and at Barnes and Noble.

Health and Human Development faculty and staff recently participated in a needs assessment dialogue with representatives from the Livingston community for a new food resource center and community kitchen. Michael McCormick, executive director of the Livingston Food Pantry of Park County, and Mary Anne Keyes, MSU Extension FCS Park County agent, are providing leadership for Livingston’s Local Food Resource Center and Community Kitchen. The two requested input by HHD participants to review the concept of a local food system, provide ideas and input for the design of the new facility, and programs related to the resource center. Discussion centered on an overview of the plans for the new facility and what MSU can bring to the table to help with expertise in sustainability, training, and engagement from MSU and the community.

Lynn Paul, professor, MSU food and nutrition specialist, organized and facilitated the needs assessment dialogue. Other participants included Selena Ahmed (assistant professor in sustainable food); Katie Bark (program coordinator, Montana Team Nutrition); Carmen Byker (assistant professor, food and nutrition); Cathy Costakis (Montana Nutrition and Physical Activity); Alison Harmon (associate professor, food and nutrition); Coleen Kaiser (director of Montana Dietetic Internship); Aubrey Roth (child nutrition coordinator, Montana Team Nutrition); Molly Stenberg (school nutrition educator, Montana Team Nutrition); and Kelsey Conrow (intern, Montana Dietetic Internship).

Due to increasing demand for testing services, the EHHD MSU Testing Services opened a second location in room 19 in the basement of Renne Library in December. Testing Services offers a wide variety of academic and professional exams in its two locations. With a suite of rooms in Renne Library, one room offers PearsonVUE testing, which allows for administration of a wide array of certification testing to MSU students and the public, and a testing room for all MSU students who require testing accommodations. Each of these rooms has 10 seats.

The Reid Hall testing space continues to offer all ETS exams (Praxis, GRE, TOEFL, MCAT), distance learning, make-up exams, Compass, CLEP, ACT, and others.

The staff of four includes program assistants—Carla McLaughlin, Carey Rogers, and Denise Hoepfner—and manager, Wendy Rivers. A new staff member will be hired this semester to help with evening testing appointments and the growing demand for services Monday through Friday.

“We are thrilled to be open and extend our thanks to Provost Potvin, Dean Lynda Ransdell, Dean Brett Gunnink, Dean Kenning Arlitsch, Sam Des Jardins with MSU Facilities Planning, and our steering committee who all helped make this happen in a very short period of time,” said Rivers. “We’re having a great start to spring semester!”