

TTT HOLDS ANNUAL MEETING

The Lewis and Clark Region Troops to Teachers (TTT) program held its annual training conference on September 15-16 at their offices off Kagy Boulevard and 19th Street. State representatives from Wyoming, South Dakota, North Dakota, Montana, and Idaho attended the two-day training entitled "Teacher Placement Assistance: Getting from Recruiting to Hires." Bill O'Dea, a former elementary principal and retired school superintendent from South Dakota, said state reps are the ones who make contact with universities, attend teachers' fairs and National Guard unit events to educate military personnel about the Troops to Teachers program. Marvin Zerr, the newest rep from North Dakota, is a part-time dentist, former high school science teacher, and holds principal credentials. Zerr said he knew about TTT for many years from being in the National Guard.

"We have direct access to troops," said Zerr about his position as a state representative.

Guest speakers for the conference included Bozeman superintendent of schools, Kirk Miller, and Jim Tweet, a Troops to Teachers participant now teaching middle school math at Belgrade Middle School.

Attendees at TTT annual conference from left to right: Byron McKinney, Bill O'Dea, Bill Hardesty, David Polmanteer, Scott Fife, Bill McAleer, Larry Baker, Le Gaub, and Marvin Zerr.



An education student looks through the choice of door prizes.

Faculty and students get acquainted at the reception.

EDUCATION SOCIAL A HIT WITH STUDENTS

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Over 100 education students and faculty attended the first ever social held for education students and those interested in becoming teachers. "The Future Starts Here: Celebrating Teacher Education" event was held in Reid Hall in September and allowed students to meet education faculty, advisors, staff, and fellow students. Ann deOnis, professor of education, secured several hundred dollars worth of cash and prizes for door prizes for the attendees.



Adjunct faculty Sarah Schmitt-Wilson with education students and a future Bobcat.

ECEDP AWARDED ADDITIONAL FUNDING

Associate professor of early childhood education Laura Massey received a \$1.3 million grant to continue the Early Childhood Education Distance Partnership (ECEDP), which provides online curriculum to Head Start teachers on Montana Indian reservations and allows them to earn a bachelor's degree. The project which started in 2000 has been funded by the US Department of Education's Office of Indian Education. Massey says this grant will fund the fifth cohort with tuition, fees, laptop computers, and internet service. Massey and the ECEDP program will be a feature story in the next issue of MSU's *Mountains and Minds* magazine.



Laura Massey helps ECEDP students with online learning.



Dietetic interns treated home economics alumni to lunch in the foods lab.

MDI STUDENTS HOST HELENA ALUMNI

Seven Montana Dietetic Intern (MDI) students recently hosted the Helena Home Economist group for a special luncheon to showcase the newly renovated foods lab and the child development center in Herrick Hall. The interns served a lunch of foods all grown at the Towne's Harvest Garden. The interns spent a two week rotation "working to make a connection between Towne's Harvest, the foods lab, and the Gallatin Valley Food Bank," according

to Alison Harmon, associate professor of food and nutrition. In addition to a delicious lunch, Department Head Mark Nelson talked about all the renovations that have taken place in Herrick Hall, (which many in the group had supported financially) and how HHD faculty excel in teaching, research, and service to the state of Montana. MDI Director, Coleen Kaiser, also shared information on the new internship program.

After lunch, the group toured Towne's Harvest Garden, and they each took home a small sack of fresh vegetables, courtesy of Chaz Holt, the garden's full-time farmer.

The garden was of special interest to one member of the group, MSU alumna Virginia Barfknecht. Her uncle, Norman Towne, once owned the land that Towne's Harvest Garden now occupies.



The Helena Home Economist group toured Towne's Harvest Garden.

ALUMNI NOTABLES

Over the last few months, the College of Education, Health and Human Development has had several alumni who have received recognition for accomplishments in their fields. Below are highlights of their achievements.

On September 15, US Education Secretary Arnie Duncan named 305 schools as “2011 National Blue Ribbon Schools.” This program recognizes high-performing schools (schools, regardless of their students’ backgrounds, that rank among the state’s best performing schools as measured by state assessments) and improving schools (those with at least 40% of their students from disadvantaged backgrounds, that have reduced the achievement gap by improving performance to high levels). Educational Leadership alumnus and principal Rob Pederson of Plentywood Schools will receive a Blue Ribbon School flag and plaque to recognize his school at a ceremony in Washington D.C., in November.

Rick Jordan, an MSU education alumnus, was recently named the Idaho Health Professional of the Year by the Idaho Association of Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance. Jordan, who previously taught in the Bozeman Schools and was head girls basketball coach, now resides in Boise, Idaho, and is a health and physical education teacher and varsity golf coach at Meridian High School.

Also named as Idaho Middle School PE Teacher of the Year was Trudy Weaver, an MSU K-12 health enhancement graduate.

Bill Mendoza, a recent graduate of Indian Leadership Education and Development (I LEAD) at MSU, testified before the US Senate Committee on Indian Affairs this summer. Mendoza, who is acting director of the White House Initiative on Tribal Colleges and Universities with the US Department of Education, spoke about increasing partnerships with tribes to improve student achievement. To read Mendoza’s testimony, click on the link below.

<http://indian.senate.gov/hearings/hearing.cfm?hearingID=3d9031b47812de2592c3baeba60ef95c>

Mendoza was also featured in the 2011 summer edition of the MSU Collegian in an article called “Serving Native Americans through Education.” <http://alumni.montana.edu/collegian/>



Acting
Director
William
Mendoza



Bozeman Public Schools has had back-to-back recipients of the Montana Teacher of the Year. These two outstanding educators are also graduates of MSU. Paul Anderson, the 2011 Montana Teacher of the Year and 2011 National Teacher of the Year finalist, teaches biology and physical science at Bozeman High School. He was recognized for his innovative use of technology in the classroom, from using cell phones and twitter to posting lessons on You Tube for students to review on their own time. Anderson graduated from MSU with a degree in biology and science education.



Anne Keith, the 2010 Montana Teacher of the Year, teaches math and algebra at Chief Joseph Middle School. She has also been awarded the Presidential Award for Excellence in Math Teaching. Keith was principal of Longfellow Elementary School for a short time, but decided her passion was for the classroom. Keith earned a master’s from the Department of Education’s Educational Leadership program.

PAUL RECEIVES CERTIFICATION FOR STRONG WOMEN PROGRAM

MSU Extension Food and Nutrition Specialist, Lynn Paul, was recently certified as a Strong Women Ambassador for the Strong Women Program. The primary objective of the program is to help communities nationwide implement safe and effective strength training programs for women over the age of 40. Paul is one of 14 professionals nationally to be certified as an ambassador whose primary function is to train others to provide Strong Women programs in their communities.



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CHRISTOPHER GIVES PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS



President-elect Jim Lamiel, professor of psychology at Georgetown University, introduces John Christopher.

In August, John Christopher gave the presidential address to the Society for Theoretical and Philosophical Psychology (Division 24) at the annual convention of the American Psychological Association in Washington, D.C. Christopher's address was entitled, "Well-being, Self-care and Embodiment." He has served as president of the organization for the past year.

A few more photos...



Above: Dr. Baker models an MSU Foods Lab apron.



Right: MDI intern chefs (in aprons) listen to Alison Harmon explain the new program to Helena alums.



Above: Students check out treats at the education social.



Left: Nick Lux visits with students.