

Turning Eyes to the Big Sky



Ryan Hannahoe works with science teachers.

On Saturday, October 16, 15 public school science teachers and one pre-service teacher attended a hands-on learning workshop entitled

“Turning Eyes to the Big Sky.” **Ryan Hannahoe**, elementary

education student, with the support of **Mary Leonard**, assistant professor of education, and **Joe Shaw**, professor of electrical engineering, led participants through a variety of activities on light and optics, refracting telescopes, and magnification—lessons that they will incorporate in their science classrooms over this school year.

“Turning Eyes to the Big Sky” was an out-growth of an astronomy, light and optics unit Hannahoe and Shaw conducted with Bozeman’s Irving Elementary School third and fourth graders last spring.

“An enriching, meaningful, and dynamic public education should include a hands-on science curriculum,” said Hannahoe. “All children deserve access to quality science experiences within their classrooms.”

When Hannahoe decided he wanted to expand the project to include teachers, he began writing grants proposals to help fund a workshop where teachers would receive not only hands-on instruction, but also plenty of free materials for their classrooms. Hannahoe’s proposals to the Society of Photographic Instrumentation Engineers (SPIE), several programs at MSU, NASA (Hannahoe is one of 50 NASA Space Science Student Ambassadors), and the Montana Space Grant Consortium netted more than \$18,000 worth of funds and materials. From these various funding sources, each attendee received a kit with activities and materials that included a Terrific Telescopes tool-kit and curriculum (part of the Hands-On Optics program described at www.hands-on-optics.org). Each teacher

also received enough simple refracting telescope kits and materials for up to 25 of their students, a set of five Eldeman Galileoscopes for their classroom, and a SunSpotter solar telescope.

Hannahoe, Shaw, and Leonard conducted several lectures and demonstrations on rays, waves, and photons, as well as guided participants through numerous activities that they would use with students in their own classroom. Teachers completed several activities with refraction of light through acrylic blocks and convex lenses, and also spent the afternoon building a refracting telescope.

“Kids will love this,” said Austin Peaslee, a first year middle school teacher from Butte, Mont. “They will like the hands-on activities and will get excited about working with something visual.”

Becky Atkins, a teacher from Monforton School in Gallatin County, agreed. “While it’s fun and exciting, these activities also have real world application.”

As an additional component to the workshop, Hannahoe will travel to each participant’s classroom this year to work directly with students. He will administer a pre-assessment and will teach an “Eye on the Big Sky” lesson. Each teacher will teach the “Terrific Telescopes” curriculum for 45 minutes a day for two weeks and will administer a post-assessment.

“Extending opportunities to children while helping them feel comfortable in the science world is my ultimate goal,” said Hannahoe. “Some of these children may even become world-changing scientists.”

As a culmination to the project, all teachers and their students are invited to attend an evening star party in April 2011 at the Museum of the Rockies’ Astronomy Day.



Mary Leonard assists with an optics activity.

Spotlight on Education Department

Annual IEFA Workshop



Teresa Veltkamp and Michael Jetty facilitated the IEFA workshop.

Since the fall of 2006, Jioanna Carjuzaa, associate professor of education, has been organizing Indian Education for All professional development workshops for MSU faculty, staff, students, and K-12 school educators. The most recent workshop in October was entitled "Moving beyond IEFA 101" and was facilitated by Indian education specialists Mike Jetty and Teresa Veltkamp from the Office of Public Instruction. Ninety people registered for the event including MSU professors from several colleges and visiting international teachers with the Teaching Excellence and Achievement (TEA) program. Carjuzaa said attendees represented a "diverse, broad audience." The workshop was videotaped and will be posted on the web for the MSU campus and sister campuses.



Mike Redburn (L) and Art Bangert (R) visit with MSU alumni at the MCEL reception.



Dean Larry Baker at the alumni reception in Billings

Teachers from Around the World Visit MSU

Twenty-two secondary school teachers from Europe, Asia, Africa, the Caribbean, and South America were in Bozeman and MSU for an intensive six-week professional development experience this fall. The Teaching Excellence and Achievement (TEA) program partners with the Office of International Programs at MSU, the Department of Education, and Bozeman Public Schools to facilitate an exchange of teaching methodologies for English as a Second Language teachers. MSU is one of only six universities in the U.S. to host TEA scholars. While in Montana, the TEA scholars interned with teachers in Bozeman schools, attended American Indian Heritage Day events, participated on a panel discussion at the MEA-MFT conference in Helena, attended the NRMERA research conference in Big Sky, and toured Yellowstone National Park.



Nick Lux helps TEA teachers with a computer assignment.

Jioanna Carjuzaa, associate professor in education, was the academic coordinator and an instructor for the 2010 Teaching Excellence and Achievement (TEA) program. Other faculty from the Department of Education who taught included **Michael Brody, Nick Lux, and Joan Cook.**

College Administrators and Ed Leadership Faculty Attend MCEL Conference.

The College of EHHD, Department of Education, and the MSU Alumni Association hosted the alumni reception at the annual Montana Council on Educational Leadership (MCEL) conference in Billings in October. **Joanne Erickson**, associate professor in educational leadership, was a presenter at the conference.

Education Department Has Strong Presence at MEA-MFT Conference

Presenters at MEA-MFT

Ann deOnis:

"Blogging Buddies: First Graders & Teachers-to-Be"

Priscilla Lund:

"Learners with Autism and the Visual Arts"

Bryce Carpenter & Pat Ingraham:

"Mentoring Student Teachers through Co-Teaching"

Mary Leonard:

"The Crocodile Dentist: Teaching Scientific Models"

Lynn Kelting-Gibson:

"Testing and Disney?"

Fengjen Luo:

"Single Activity in a Multi-Grade Classroom"

Jioanna Carjuzaa:

"Secondary Teachers from Around the World Speak Out"

Marilyn Lockhart:

"Icebreakers and Games for Learning"

Kimberly Boehler:

"Art That Takes a Stand (Without Creating More Hate)"

Ryan Hannahoe:

(NASA Student Ambassador and education student): "An Introduction to the Space Public Outreach Team"

In keeping with the department's goal of reaching out to the education community across the state of Montana, a number of MSU education faculty and students gave presentations at this fall's annual MEA-MFT Educators' Conference in Helena, Mont. Each fall, educators from across Montana gather to attend workshop sessions presented by peers, education experts, university faculty, and students. This year, the MSU faculty and students presented workshops on topics ranging from sharing the new co-teaching model for practicum students, to developing well-written test questions, to teaching science with the "Crocodile Dentist."

Eighteen students from **Joyce Herbeck's** children's literature class designed poster presentations on books that had received the Batchelder Award, which is given to a foreign language children's book for best translation. Herbeck's students shared award winning books from France, Germany, Israel, Italy, and other countries.



Kim Aplin, a junior in elementary education from Parker, Colo., shared information about a foreign language book.



Education students presented award-winning children's literature books at MEA-MFT.

Annual Wetlands Festival

Education students from MSU once again volunteered to teach at Longfellow Elementary School's annual "Wetlands Festival" in early October. Kindergarten and first grade students were divided into groups and rotated through a variety of stations at Langhor Park to learn about water and native plants and animals living in the wetlands. Second and third grade students were taught at Cherry River fishing site north of Bozeman. Using curriculum materials provided by Montana Watercourse and Project WET, 26 MSU education students led children through activities such as finger painting with mud, identifying predators and prey, and learning about the water cycle. **Mary Leonard**, assistant professor of education, recruited and organized the volunteers. She said each student received free materials and a Wonders of Wetlands curriculum guide from Montana Watercourse for their volunteer efforts.



Charlie Murphy & Tavin Stewart assist with scavenger hunt.



New Positions in EH&D

This spring, **Christine Lux** accepted a new full-time assistant professorship with the Department of Health and Human Development. Lux not only teaches early childhood education classes, but she is also the new director of the



Child Development Center on first floor of Herrick Hall. She began her employment with MSU in 2008 as program coordinator for the Early Childhood Education Distance Learning Project, an online grant program under the

direction of Laura Massey. Lux has a bachelor's degree in elementary education from Boston College and a master's in educational media and technology from Boston University, with doctoral work in curriculum and teaching, with specialization in early childhood education, also from Boston University.

Coleen Kaiser was hired this summer to become the program director of the MSU's new dietetics internship program, which is pending

accreditation this fall. Her appointment is for half-time director for the internship program and half-time nutrition faculty, teaching the senior nutrition classes. As a registered dietician, Kaiser brings much experience to her position. Her background includes research in barley and immunology, field experience in community health and food service, and dietetics experience at Bozeman Deaconess Hospital.

"Being a registered dietician has opened doors to many experiences for me," said Kaiser. "A lot of what I've done covers many aspects of the rotations in the internship."

Kaiser has a bachelor's degree in community health with an emphasis in nutrition from the University of Minnesota, and a master's in health and human development from MSU. She was one of the first graduates from the graduate level nutrition program at MSU when it began in 1996.

Before becoming dietetics internship director, Kaiser served as HHD's Extension Nutrition Education Coordinator for four years.



News from Extension

Michael Vogel, Extension housing and environment specialist, presented an overview of services and workforce outcomes of the Montana Weatherization Training Center (a partnership with the Montana Department of Public Health and Human Services and the US Dept of Energy) at the 2010 Montana Economic Development Summit in Butte, Mont. Hosts of the event were Senator Max Baucus, the Montana Economic Developers Association, and Montana Tech.

Several HHD extension specialists participated in MSU Extension Annual Conference poster sessions and presentations in October. **Lynn Paul**, professor and Extension nutrition specialist, and **Carrie Benke**, project director for 4-Health, displayed a poster on "Family Influences to Prevent Childhood Obesity." **Lynn Paul, Carrie Benke, Sandy Bailey, Jill Martz, and Wes Lynch** also presented "Parents Promoting Health," a program that provided a review of research in how parents impact their children's health and strategies for improving parents' ability to impact their youth's health.

Sandy Bailey, Extension—family & human development, gave a presentation on "The Elephant in the Living Room: Depression and Suicide." Bailey said over the last 30 years, Montana has ranked in the top five for suicides, with an average of 19.5 deaths per 100,000 a year. **Lynn Paul and Carrie Benke** at the Extension poster session. Montana now has created the Montana Suicide Prevention Plan, which Bailey hopes will start a dialogue to address the issue.



Lynn Paul and Carrie Benke at the Extension poster session.

After the morning poster displays and presentations, Extension held a spirited game of basketball between county extension agents and MSU/state Extension specialists. Several members from HHD participated, including **Carrie Benke** and **Stephanie Daigle** (Extension Nutrition), with **Lynn Paul** cheering the MSU/State team to victory.



Carrie Benke (front row, second on left) discusses game strategy.



Lynn Paul (L) cheers on the MSU/State team.

1st HHD Research Seminar

A new "MontGuide" is available at <http://msuextension.org/publicationsfamily/financialmanagement/MT200912HR.pdf>. The guide is called "What are Your Rights over your Remains."

Kathy Weaver was the presenter at HHD's first Research Seminar of the year. Weaver, who works in the HHD Advising Center in Hosaeus Recreation Center, shared new information with faculty on advising issues. During advising week, Weaver and the peer advisors provide advising to 697 students. If you have questions on advising, the new "advisor dashboard" on My Info, or graduation application deadlines, please contact Kathy at kweaver@montana.edu or call 994-4002.

CDC Receives National Accreditation

The Child Development Center (CDC) located in Herrick Hall received accreditation in October from the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC). Based on 10 standards, the accreditation process examined such areas as teaching, curriculum, physical environment, and relationships. The Center was commended for "outstanding efforts" and received 100% in the areas of relationships, assessment, teachers, families, and leadership and management. In all other areas, the preschool exceeded the minimum criteria requirements.

"This accreditation is the gold star in early childhood education," said **Christine Lux**, director of the CDC. "It's a very prestigious indicator of quality."

Lux said the CDC is only one of two early childhood programs in Bozeman to earn accreditation from NAEYC, and is one of only 22 accredited sites in the state.

Korri Miller, one of the lead teachers and a 2009 graduate of the early childhood program at MSU, said there are 36 children, ages three to five, who attend the CDC, and four full-time teachers or assistants. Additionally, there are five MSU paid student employees and many paras and practicum students in the center.

Miller said that the philosophy of the center is based on playful learning and activities are created to meet the needs of students and their interests.



Meyers Publishes Articles on Rodeo Athletes

Mike Meyers, senior research scientist in EHHD, has published a two-part article in the top-tiered journal, *Sports Medicine*. Meyers' articles are a comprehensive review of all articles ever published dealing with the rodeo athlete. He concluded that rodeo athletes are not trained properly and many of the injuries could be prevented. From a medical standpoint, in order to decrease injuries and increase performance, athletes must begin training earlier in their career, instead of waiting until they are in college or at the pro level. Meyers' articles appear in the March and September 2010 issues.



College News Update is created monthly.
Writer/Editor/Graphic Design: Deb Redburn
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