

Northern Network News

The official newsletter for MSU-Northern

Dec. 5, 2008

By: Jim Potter, Director of University Relations

Northern Lights the Campus Christmas Tree



Thousands, OK about 50 people, came out on a very cold December afternoon to officially light Northern's Christmas Tree. Many people need to be thanked starting with the Business Services, Registrar's Office and the Physical Plant staff for decorating, Steve Jamruszka for organizing the food and for the small ensemble for serenading everyone while they ate.

Cabin Fever Schedules

The Cabin Fever Schedules are available at the Office of Extended Learning.

Student Exit Celebration



Education students who were finishing their student teaching this semester gave their final presentation to family, friends, administrators and supervisors. This exit celebration has become a tradition at Northern and gives the students a chance to share some of the things they learned while student teaching.

Openings at Northern

Cook I/Dishwasher – Responsible for preparation of dinner entrees for the campus community; assists with entrée preparation for all catered events. Full-time, \$8.55 per hour, MUS benefits, AFSCME Union.

Custodian II – Maintains cleanliness and safety standards of university buildings; responsible for minor maintenance and repair tasks; some grounds keeping duties. Full-time, \$9.73 per hour, MUS benefits, AFSCME Union.

Women's Head Volleyball Coach – Responsible for recruiting, scouting, eligibility, player development, fund-raising, scheduling, and teaching. Full-time non-tenure track, Salary DOE, MUS benefits.

For complete vacancy announcements, see www.msun.edu and click on employment.

Chancellor's Search – Open Forum

President Geoff Gamble and Commissioner Sheila Stearns will be visiting campus on Tuesday, December 16th to meet with various groups to discuss the Chancellor's Search. There will be an Open Forum at 1:00 p.m. -1:45 p.m. in the Hensler Auditorium everyone is invited so bring your questions and your ideas.

Veterans' Upward Bound Newsletter

The Montana Veterans' Upward Bound Newsletter is now available online, click here to read <http://vubmt.com/newsletter/index.php>

Please share this with fellow veterans and their families.

Transferability Initiative Status Report

Meeting in Missoula on Friday, November 21, members of the Board of Regents expressed satisfaction and gratitude to the many participants throughout the system whose efforts have enabled the project to achieve its initial goal of delivering 12 disciplines to the public by the end of the year. They also recognized the magnitude of the task—both in terms of what's been accomplished and what lies ahead.

As of last week, the initial 16 faculty learning outcomes councils (FLOCs) have collectively reviewed 3,500 individual courses to identify those courses that stand as equivalents within a given discipline, those that are clearly not equivalent, and those that may appear equivalent to others, but in the final analysis are not. Reporting out on behalf of 13 disciplines from these councils, FLOCs identified 386 equivalent courses from the statewide inventory of 3,500 in those disciplines. FLOC reviews of these courses throughout the state yielded 1,496 newly numbered and titled courses—an array that encompasses both unique and equivalent courses in these disciplines.

Campuses throughout the system also owe their thanks to UM's Tim Irmen, a programmer/analyst working in the office of Loey Knapp, Assistant Chief Information Officer, for creating an automated script for registrar's offices using Banner to export data from our well-known Excel worksheets into the Banner systems at those campuses. This script has significantly reduced data-entry workloads for campuses as they convert older numbers and titles to the new common course numbers.

Wal-Mart Donates Christmas Tree



Our local Wal-Mart store donated a beautiful twelve foot tall Christmas tree to the campus. This tree is located in the library for everyone to enjoy. Several administrators took a few minutes out of their busy schedule to pose for this photo which will be sent to Wal-Mart along with a nice thank you letter.

Heating System Fails

The heating system in Donaldson Hall failed this week. The decision was made to not patch the old system. The building is being winterized in an effort to minimize the effects of the cold. Everyone is encouraged to get anything they have in storage out of the building that might be damaged by the cold. This system failure helps to confirm that the right decision was made to get people out of the building before winter.

Baskets for the Ball

Our goal for this ball is to increase the number of scholarships by increasing the number of program and department **Silent Auction baskets**. This lofty goal cannot be reached without all of us working together to donate auction items. These program and department “basket” donations are used for the Silent Auction portion of the event. In addition to MSU-Northern’s contributions dollars are raised from the generous donations from the Havre community, businesses and individuals.

There are rumors that Virgil Hawkinson is already working on framed photographs for his program’s donation—back by popular demand from last year! Student Services (with the creative mind and nimble fingers of Shauna and Cindy) is getting thread and needles ready for another awesome rag quilt.

Please consider influencing your colleagues to get together and see what kind of unique, crazy, fun items you can put together to attract a potential bidder’s attention and generate bids (\$\$) that make it possible to provide more scholarships for our students. Of course, if you would like to donate something individually, your generous contribution is very welcome!

Due to the work needed to organize and highlight all the energy generated by the campus to support the ball, it is important to have donated items turned into Shauna (Library 103) by January 10, 2009. This year, your generosity and creative natures will be exposed in a dynamite booklet that lists all the items available at the Silent Auction. Even more exciting is that your donations will be displayed on the website for a few weeks before the actual event!

Season’s Greetings and Santaland Diaries

Montana Actor’s Theatre is pleased to present Season’s Greetings and Santaland Diaries by David Sedaris in the MSU-Northern Little Theatre on December 12-13 and 19-20 at 8:00 p.m. lounge opens at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are \$10 Adults and \$8 for Seniors/Students. MSU-Northern Students are free with current student ID. Adult content: Not appropriate for children.

Piano and Pipes

This Sunday is the 12th annual Pianos and Pipes Musical Extravaganza! Numerous musical groups will be performing holiday music (including the MSU-N Community Choir) starting at 2 p.m. at First Lutheran Church 303 6th Avenue. This event is free of charge and a wonderful way to get into the festive seasonal mood!! This is our own Dr. Wiberg’s last Piano and Pipes as the MSU-N choir director as she will be retiring this coming spring!! Your penultimate opportunity to see Dr. Wiberg in her glory!!

As an added attraction – following the musical happening, there will be a cookie exchange in the First Lutheran gym, who knew?!, where for \$5 you receive a container to fill with what ever cookie delights your fancy. All proceeds collect are pledged to the Havre Food Bank. The goal is to raise \$1400 for this cause.

Christmas Carol

The Montana Actors' Theatre presents (In Missoula) Charles Dickens' "A Christmas Carol" adapted and directed by Grant Olson. While retaining much of the original language, MAT enters into Dickens' erie world of choking mists and restless spirits with a largely physical performance drawing on German Expressionism of the late 19th and Early 20th century. A fun adaptation bound to draw gasps and chuckles from the entire family, and set the mood for an enjoyable Christmas season.

December 11th-13th 7:30 PM

December 14th 2 p.m 6 p.m

December 17-20th 7:30 p.m

December 21 2 p.m - 6 p.m.

Sunday, Wed, Thur. \$10 Fri, Sat \$15, Student Rush \$5 Children \$7

Venue Details:

Crystal Theatre

515 S. Higgins

Missoula, Montana 59801

For more details about this event, including maps, comments, and other attendees, visit the event page at

<http://upcoming.yahoo.com/event/1408405/?invitation=1c5dc4b57f>

Alumni Scholarship Deadline Nears

February 1 is the deadline for applying for the Northern Alumni Association scholarships. The \$750 scholarships are available for students who will be attending MSU-Northern fulltime during the next academic school year. The scholarships are granted by the Northern Alumni Association and presented during the annual MSU-Northern Awards Convocation in April of each year.

Two Keith Clawson Memorial Incoming Freshman Scholarships are awarded each year to incoming freshmen who are the son or daughter of a Northern alumnus. Application for these scholarships should be made by using the MSU-Northern Application for Admission form that will include a transcript, a 500 word essay indicating community involvement, educational goals, and two letters of recommendation from someone other than a family member.

The Keith Clawson Memorial Single Parent Scholarship is awarded to a student who is a single parent with a child or children residing in his or her household. Incoming and/or continuing students are eligible for this scholarship.

The Keith Clawson Non-Traditional Student Scholarship is awarded to a student who is 21 years of age or older. Incoming and/or continuing students are eligible for this scholarship. Incoming student's application for Admission must be on file in the MSU-Northern Admissions Office.

The Keith Clawson Memorial Continuing Student Scholarship is for a student who is presently attending or who previously attended Northern and who will be attending Northern fulltime. Preference is given to a son or daughter of an Northern alumnus.

The Class of '41 Endowed Scholarship is for incoming or continuing full-time students with preference given to relatives of members of the Class of 1941. This scholarship is supported by gifts from members of the Class of 1941 and granted by the Northern Alumni Association.

The successful applicant for each of these scholarships must enroll as a full-time student (12 or more credits). A completed application includes a list of school and/or community involvement, a copy of the applicant's high school or college transcript or GED, a 500 word essay explaining the student's career goals, why the student is attending Northern and why he or she is enrolled in his or her preferred course of study, and letters of recommendation. Incoming freshmen must indicate that they are the son or daughter of a Northern alumnus when they apply for admission to the institution through the enrollment application process. Application forms for the other alumni scholarships are available from the Northern Alumni Office and the MSU-Northern Financial Aid Office. For further information, contact the Northern Alumni Office at (406) 265-3770/(800) 661-6132 or alumni@msun.edu

Computer Tips

Tis the Season... for Holiday Scams (part 1)

By Marianne Hoppe

It's the time of year when we all surf the Web seeking perfect gifts. And during this season we also like to think of those less fortunate than ourselves. Hackers know this, so smart shoppers know how to spot popular scams before they get taken.

Naming a star

What better gift could you give someone than the symbol of the first Christmas -- a star? Various companies claim you can name a star for between \$20 and \$150. These companies will send you a certificate with the name and location of "your star" and promise that your star's name will be in a star registry.

The problem is... Stars are named by the International Astronomical Union -- and they aren't selling. Anyone else who claims to be able to name stars has no legal standing. When they say your star is going into a "registry," they mean whatever registry they made up -- not the official catalog that is kept by the IAU and used by all astronomers.

According to the IAU's Web site, "such 'names' have no formal or official validity whatever. Like true love and many of the other best things in human life, the beauty of the night sky is not for sale, but is free for all to enjoy."

Spam solicitations

Never buy anything from an unsolicited e-mail. No matter how good a deal you think you are getting, it is not worth the risk of losing your money or giving any of your information to a possible scam artist. By responding to these e-mails, you are begging to receive so much spam as to make your inbox unusable, because this lets the spammers know that you have a working e-mail address. You are also proclaiming yourself easily fooled and a great target for any number of Internet scams -- such as identity theft.

Some spam e-mails attempt to lure victims to dummy e-commerce sites in hopes of gleaning credit card numbers and passwords. By mimicking legitimate sites, they fool unsuspecting shoppers into giving up information as they make what they think are legitimate purchases. These e-mails look real, often containing legitimate company logos and live links. NEVER click on links in unsolicited e-mails!

Tune in next week for more tips on holiday scams!

Upcoming Events

Dec. 5

Lights Wrestling @ Las Vegas Invitational
I/R Weight Training for Women 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM
Yoga 11:00 AM - 11:30 AM
MAT auditions for "Beauty and the Beast" 5:00 PM

Dec. 6

Lights Wrestling @ Las Vegas Invitational
MAT auditions for "Beauty and the Beast" 10:00 AM

Dec. 8

I/R Weight Training for Women 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM
Yoga 11:00 AM - 11:30 AM
IOC Meeting 5:00 PM
ASMSUN Senate Meeting 5:15 PM

Dec. 9

I/R Weight Training for Women 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM

Yoga 11:00 AM - 11:30 AM

Wall Climbing 6:00 PM

Dec. 10

Il/R Weight Training for Women 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM

Yoga 11:00 AM - 11:30 AM

Pep Band Practice & Meeting 5:00 PM - 6:30 PM

Dec. 11

Il/R Weight Training for Women 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM

Yoga 11:00 AM - 11:30 AM

IOC Campus Holiday Party 5:00 PM

ChiAlpha Fellowship Meeting 7:00 PM

Dec. 12

Il/R Weight Training for Women 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM

Yoga 11:00 AM - 11:30 AM

Skylights Basketball @ Minot State University 7:00 PM - 8:30 PM

MAT presents "Santaland Diaries" 8:00 PM

Dec. 13

Skylights Basketball vs. Jamestown College @ Minot 4:00 PM - 5:30 PM

MAT presents "Santaland Diaries" 8:00 PM