

# Northern Network News



The Official Newsletter for MSU-Northern

March 23, 2012

## Deputy Commissioner Visits Campus



Dr. John Cech, Deputy Commissioner for Two-Year and Community College Education, was on campus Wednesday to talk about College Now, a multi-year initiative approved by the Board of Regents and led by the Montana University System to make two-year higher education more accessible, better coordinated, better understood, and, as a result, better utilized statewide. This initiative is being supported by the Lumina Foundation for Education, which selected Montana as one of seven states to participate in the program. Cech met with a number of administrators and also conducted an open forum during the lunch hour. They discussed ways Northern could maximize their two-year programs.

### Accreditation Reaffirmed

Montana State University-Northern has had its regional accreditation reaffirmed by Northwest Commission on Colleges and University (NWCCU). MSU-Northern submitted a Fall 2011 Year One Evaluation which was favorably reviewed by the Commission. NWCCU is recognized by the U.S. Department of Education as the regional authority on educational quality and institutional effectiveness of higher education institutions in the Northwest region. The Commission recognizes MSU-Northern for its performance, integrity, and quality to merit the confidence of the educational community and the public.

## Leadership High School Banquet



Leadership High School is a program specifically designed for Havre High School juniors. The program teaches participants to develop their leadership skills and introduces them to many facets of Havre's community and volunteer opportunities. This year's Havre Leadership High School participants visited the Northern campus, yesterday, for their yearly banquet where they received recognition of their year's work as leaders in their school and community.

### Student Excellence Winners

Eleven MSU-Northern students have been named Student Excellence Award winners for the 2011-2012 school year. Nominees for this award must meet the following criteria: students must be at least a junior at MSU-Northern, have a 2.75 grade point average or higher, and be actively involved in the campus and/or community. The Student Excellence Award is the highest honor an MSU-Northern student can receive. The awards will be given out at the Student Excellence Award Luncheon on March 23rd in the Student Union Building. A limited number of tickets will be available at the door for \$8.50 per person. Following is a list of this year's award winners and a short biography of each:

**Sandi Bitterman** of Havre plans to graduate in May of 2013 with a Bachelor of Science in Elementary Education with a reading specialist minor and a Bachelor of Science in Secondary English Education. She is the daughter of Donald & Linda Bitterman. After graduating, Bitterman plans on teaching.

**Kimberly Boyce** of Glendive, Montana, plans to graduate in May of 2013 with a Bachelor of Science in Secondary English Education and a minor in art. She is the wife of Tyler Boyce. After graduating, Boyce would like to teach in a high school somewhere in the United States where her husband can coach hockey.

**Kevin Buck Elk** of Billings, Montana, plans to graduate in May of 2013 with a Bachelor of Science in Diesel Technology. He is the son of Clara Buck Elk and the father of Alden Buck Elk. After graduating, Buck Elk hopes to become employed by Cummins Inc. and to be able to advance within the corporation.

Chad Forest of Peerless, Montana, plans to graduate in May with an Associate of Science in Business Technology and a Bachelor of Science in Agricultural Operations Technology with a minor in agricultural mechanics technology. He is the son of Mike & Laura Forest. Forest would like to

eventually return to the farm and expand it.

**Carrie Gillen** plans to graduate next December with a Bachelor of Science in Elementary Education and a reading specialist minor. She is the spouse of Jerad Gillen. Upon graduating Gillen plans to get an elementary teaching position in an area school.

**Sean Kelly** of Grover Beach, California, plans to graduate in May with a Bachelor of Arts in Liberal Studies and a minor in community service. He is the son of James & Darlene Kelly. In July Kelly will be attending the California Highway Patrol Academy.

**Krista Lundberg** of Helena, Montana, plans to graduate in May with Bachelor of Science in Agricultural Operations Technology with a minor in diesel technology. She is the daughter of Mike & Teri Lundberg. Her career goal "...is to work for a major heavy equipment company in a product support role" and then continue her father's equipment service business.

**Marissa Mahkuk** plans to graduate in May with a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration and two minors, small business management and marketing. She is the daughter of Christine Mahkuk. After graduating, Mahkuk plans on obtaining her MBA, working in the corporate world, and eventually starting her own business.

**McKenna Mielke** of Conrad, Montana, plans to graduate in December of 2012 with a Bachelor of Science in Graphic Design and a minor in marketing. She is the daughter of Kevin & Carol Mielke. After graduating, Mielke hopes to find a job in Montana as a graphic designer.

**Tricia Samson** of Havre, Montana, plans to graduate in December of 2012 with a Bachelor of Science in Elementary Education with a minor in English. She is the daughter of Mark & Kellie Samson. After graduating Samson hopes "to find a fulfilling job in the Havre area and to work towards a master's degree."

**Cynthia Sharples** of Chinook, Montana, will earn an Associate of Science in Nursing in May. She is the wife of James Sharples. After graduating Sharples plans on enrolling in the BSN program at Northern, eventually working in a medical surgical unit, and then pursuing a master's degree.

### Senior Wrestling Awards Banquet

The Northern Wrestling Team would like to extend an invitation to the MSU-Northern Senior Wrestling Awards Banquet set for March 24, 2012 at 7:30 p.m. in the cafeteria. The cost is \$20 per person at the door for dinner and an 'Old Fashion BBQ' will be served.

The banquet will honor this season's seniors as well as the rest of the wrestling team on a terrific season. We went 10-5 in dual meets and finished in 7th place at the 55th Annual NAIA National Wrestling Tournament. We look forward to many more productive years and hope to see you at the banquet on Saturday night!

## Daniel Martin Magic



The ASMSUN Program Council hosted magician Daniel Martin this past Tuesday. Martin displayed his mystifying magic show with a dash of humor. The event was well attended by Northern students as well as families from the community. Martin even incorporated young audience members into his tricks in order to keep them entertained and engaged.

## Coach Huse Talks About the Season



"We want to thank everyone for the outstanding support we received all year! It was another great season and we are extremely thankful you were there to share the moments and help us along the way! A special thank-you goes out to the following people who gave phenomenal support towards our National Tournament: Our school for making it possible; Autumn Elliot (MSUN Alumni Director) and Shauna Albrecht (MSUN Foundation CEO) for arranging our National Tourney sendoff and helping us with ALL of the National Tournament paperwork, organization, and travel details largely on your own dime (as well as several other events to rally Northern supporters for road games this

year); Pam and Dave Wilson (HPE Instructor and husband) for your SIGNIFICANT contribution, along with everyone who attended the sendoff and gave to our travel-costs fund - your donations really helped defray some expenses for our trip!; And all of the students, family, fans, alumni, "adopt-a-light" families, & Daniel Horton (Havre Daily News), for sacrificing so much to travel to Kansas City and help in so many ways while we were there! We are of course disappointed with the outcome but look forward to pushing forth again towards tackling "KC business left undone" next season and beyond - see you in 2012-13!"

Tournament and year-end notes: The Lights defense came into the tournament ranked #1 in the country while Columbia College was #2. In a game that saw the Lights lead for 36/40 minutes, Columbia ended up on top 58-52; Joe Simpson was named the MSU-Northern Champion of Character Award recipient at the tournament; The team finished with their second straight conference co-championship (3rd one in five years), second straight conference tournament championship, sixth twenty-win season in a row, earned their third trip to the NAIA National Tournament in four years, broke a school record for wins at 27, (27-7), and broke the school record for three-pointers made in a season (317).

## **Criminal Justice Degree Approved by NWCCU**

Montana State University-Northern received confirmation this week that the Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice degree program has been approved by Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities, the last stage in the approval process needed to fully implement the new program.

The new Criminal Justice program is designed for degree-seeking criminal justice professionals. Almost all classes are offered on-line or in a hybrid on-line/weekend format so students can continue their employment while pursuing their academic goals.

Introduction to Criminal Justice and Corrections Systems have been offered at Northern over the past few semesters. With approval of the program being finalized, a schedule of course offerings is currently being drafted so that full-time students transferring with an Associate's degree can complete all coursework in two years. Northern is currently working with 2-year colleges in Montana which offer Associate's degrees in Criminal Justice to finalize transfer agreements to assure a smooth transition from the Associate's into Bachelor's degree completion. Anyone seeking further information on the Criminal Justice degree is encouraged to contact Katherine Williams, Associate Professor of Community Leadership, at [kwilliams@msun.edu](mailto:kwilliams@msun.edu) or 406-265-3522.

## **Creative Problem Solving Business Competition**

Touring the MSU-Northern Bio-Energy Center, doing research, thinking creatively, and overcoming jangling nerves to present a solution to a business problem in a 20 minute presentation to a critical panel of judges and peers may not sound like an ideal extracurricular activity.

Yet, for undergraduate students who participate in the competition at MSU-Northern, this type of challenge is an exciting opportunity. The event will create a chance for students to use the skills learned in the classroom to come up with solutions to real-world business problems under a tight time-line.

Students will work in teams. The ideal team size is 4 students. Teams of 2 and 3 students are allowed; however teams with 2 or 3 students may be competing against teams with 4 students. An advisor from each participating institution is required. The competition will take place April 9-10, 2012.

Register for this event by March, 30, 2012. You can register at:

<http://www.msun.edu/businesscompetition/register.asp>

And for more information, here is a brochure including the event's schedule and further details:

[http://www.msun.edu/businesscompetition/2012\\_BusinessCompetitionBrochure.pdf](http://www.msun.edu/businesscompetition/2012_BusinessCompetitionBrochure.pdf)

## **Native American Guest Speaker Robert Four Star**

The fourth guest speaker in Humanities Montana sponsored Native American Guest Speaker series is Robert Four Star of Red Bottom Assiniboine band from Wolf Point, MT. The presentation will be in Hensler Auditorium on Monday, April 2, 2012 at 2 p.m. Mr. Four Star's topic is the history of Fort Peck Assiniboine. The campus and larger Havre community is encouraged to attend.

## Points of Pride

Nathan Chandler, a 2006 MSU-Northern graduate in automotive technology, started his own business "Nate's Gonna Fix It" not long ago and seems to be doing quite well. Chandler serves many happy customers with his professional and pleasant attitude, reasonable prices, and explanations of his work in understandable terms. He is known around town as a very honest mechanic. Chandler certainly casts a positive reflection upon the education he received from MSU-Northern.

Nathan Chandler, you make Northern proud.

## Last Weekend to See The Boys Next Door

This weekend is your last chance to see MAT's rendition of The Boys Next Door. The play is shown at the MSUN/MAT Theatre, and will show on March 22-24 at 8:00 p.m. each night.

An Off-Broadway success, this very funny yet very touching play focuses on the lives of four mentally handicapped men who live in a communal residence under the watchful eye of a sincere, but increasingly despairing, social worker. Their social worker, Jackie, is becoming burned out with her job, and her life. Lucien P. Smith and Norman Bulansky are mentally handicapped. Barry Klemper is a brilliant schizophrenic who fantasizes that he is a golf pro, and Arnold Wiggins, the ringleader, is a hyperactive, compulsive chatterer, who suffers from deep seated insecurities and a persecution complex.

The doors and backstage lounge open at 7:30 p.m. Admission is \$15 for adults, \$10 for students and seniors, and MSU-Northern students attend for free with their current student I.D.s. Tickets are also available online at: [www.mtactors.com](http://www.mtactors.com) or at the door.

## Northern to Begin Recycling Plastics

Northern will soon start recycling plastics. In partnership with Wal-Mart, we will be collecting and recycling #1 and #2 plastics only. These include water bottles, pop bottles, and milk jugs (but check the number stamped on the bottom of your plastic container to make sure). To ensure that the items are properly recycled, please remove all lids and make sure bottles are rinsed and fairly clean. We cannot accept bottles that once contained chemicals (cleaning supplies, bleach etc.) Be on the lookout for new plastic recycling bins around campus soon.

Wal-Mart will also be hosting a city wide recycling drive on April 28 as part of Havre Pride Day, so don't throw away those recyclables!

## FREE Citizen CPR Class

Gain lifesaving skills or refresh your current CPR certification in this 30 minute course on Saturday, March 24 in the Havre-Hill County Library. The session will teach basic first aid skills and will enable individuals to respond in a time of crisis. Participants will not receive certification cards but will leave with the ability to perform lifesaving CPR. Sessions are in half hour blocks from 12-3 p.m. For more information on free courses, please contact MSUN Campus Corps at 265-3577 or [campuscorps@msun.edu](mailto:campuscorps@msun.edu).

## Free Tax Assistance

On Wednesdays from 2 p.m.-5 p.m. at the Financial Aid computers, IRS certified Campus Corps members are on hand to help you electronically file your taxes. You'll have access to free tax software that will build your confidence in preparing your own return later. Please bring any tax documents (W-2s, 1099s, etc.), prior year adjusted gross income, and bank account and routing information.

## Chancellor's Corner

By: Dr. James Limbaugh  
Chancellor, MSU-Northern

A close friend of mine is now enjoying his well-deserved retirement in northern Florida. After 30 years, we still stay in touch, exchanging stories about family, college life, and daily goings-on. He often visits MSUN's website (calling MSUN his "newly adopted school"), and he recently perused the now-ubiquitous [Action Roster](#). "Busy, busy, indeed," he wrote me last week. But "do try to attend to academics, old friend." Nonplussed, I revisited the roster, positive in my belief that he had not read it thoroughly, that he had surely missed what I thought were obvious indicators of the centrality of academic goals. However, looking at the roster with fresh eyes, I realized that the message of academics and its primacy could indeed become scrambled by the barrage of tasks, colors, and timelines.



So, with thanks to my friend and his keen powers of observation, I want to re-emphasize that MSUN's academic mission remains at the core of my goals as Chancellor. While virtually every item on the Action Roster can trace back to academic initiatives, I want to highlight three that are most fundamental to our strategic planning efforts.

- The visioning exercise is predicated on three specific academically-related questions: (1) "What academic programs (either existing or new) have achieved statewide or national recognition?" (2) "What types of learning experiences are available to complement academic programs (e.g., internships, community service, study abroad)?" (3) "What kind of educational environment is available (e.g., facilities, technology?" Answers to these questions will drive the formulation of a new vision statement that posits desired academic goals of the future.
- The Academic Program Resources Review asks each academic department to consider opportunities for growth in light of trends in the discipline, workforce projections, competition, and our ability to grow as the result of our combination of faculty, and location, and opportunity. This information will serve as the foundation, in tandem with the vision statement and the mission statement, of a new strategic plan.
- The Facilities Master Plan will build on the combined results of the Academic Program Resources Review, the vision statement, and other cited studies (e.g., technology plan, Extended University plan) to establish a cohesive approach to management of our facilities in a proactive fashion. We will make facilities decisions based on academic programs' abilities to grow and the types of facilities needed to sustain and continue that growth.

When reviewed holistically, the Action Roster is in effect a road map that will direct our journey toward a 21st century MSUN that will be known for its excellence in academic programs and initiatives.

### Branding 101

By Jim Potter

#### **How will the branding initiative dovetail with our strategic planning process?**

There are several ways Northern will dovetail our branding initiative with our strategic planning process. As we are developing our brand we are taking into account the input people have given during our visioning process. It is essential that our brand is consistent with our past and reflects our future. For instance, our current logo uses a bold, aggressive trendy font which has a tendency to go in and out of relevancy. Therefore, it will be important to develop a word mark that is timeless, classy and reflects our future. We also plan to incorporate our vision and strategic plan into our

brand promise and our key messages.

It is exciting to me to be able to unfold a brand at the same time the University is sculpting and defining its future.

## Alumni in Action

By Autumn Elliot

Jeanine Nitzel, a 1960 Northern graduate, attended the Lights basketball game at the National tournament last Wednesday. At half time of the game all of the Northern fans joined Jeanine for a photo. The next night Jeanine and her son Steve invited the Lights team and fans to her house in Parkville, Missouri for a small get together. It was a great time to sit and get to know Jeanine and hear all of her great stories while she attended Northern. We at Northern would like to thank Jeanine and Steve for opening up their home to us and making us feel welcome! This proves that Northern has "family" everywhere.

## @ Your Library

By Vicki Gist

Students, has your professor requested that you use journals but not magazines for that research paper that you are currently working on? Do you know how to tell the difference? Here are a few tips in telling the difference between a journal article and a magazine article:

Journal articles are written by experts in their field, are usually reports of original research or experimentation, and are written for scholars and students using the jargon (specialized language) of that field. The articles usually contain an abstract, charts and graphs, as well as endnotes, footnotes, or bibliographies. Many journals require articles to be evaluated by a panel of peers in the field before being accepted for publication. These journals are considered peer-reviewed, juried, or refereed journals.

Magazine articles are often written by staff members, columnists or free-lance writers. The author's name may or may not be listed. Magazine articles are not peer-reviewed. The topics are of a popular nature meant to entertain and inform readers. The articles are written for the general public and will not contain the specialized jargon found in journal articles. The magazine will often contain colorful photographs and numerous advertisements.

If you have any questions about journal vs. magazine articles, it's a good idea to ask your professor. For further information checkout this brief YouTube video by the Peabody Library at Vanderbilt University (<http://tiny.cc/cd2ibw>).

Coffee Cart fans-the Coffee Cart now takes Visa and MasterCard credit and debit cards!

## Computer Corner

By Marianne Hoppe

### Outlook 2010 Tip

#### Use Advanced Search Features

When you click in the **Search** field at the top of Outlook's message list, the Ribbon displays a new tab labeled **Search Tools**. On the Search Tools tab, in the **Options** group, find the icon labeled **Search Tools** (it's a crossed wrench and hammer), then click the down arrow and choose **Advanced Find** to open a dialog window that lets you fine-tune your search. There's a drop down at the top of the window that lets you change what you're searching for like appointments and meetings on your calendar, contacts, tasks and more. You can narrow your search to items from or to particular individuals, time due, sent, received... and more. While you have this dialog window open, be sure to check out additional options on the **More Choices** tab too!

While the **Search Tools** tab is open, you might also want to click on the **Search Tools** icon, and then choose **Search Options** to take a look at some default controls to your Outlook searching. (This same Search Options dialog is also available from anywhere in Outlook by using the **File** menu, then **Options**, then scrolling down to **Search**.)



## TidBit

By Bill Lanier

With the 11 Student Excellence Awards given today, the total number of recipients that have received this award is at 381. The first Student Excellence Awards were given during Spring Quarter of 1982 (yes quarters). This year marks the 31st consecutive year that Northern has given out these awards. To put this in perspective, in 1982 President Ronald Reagan was in office, a postage stamp had just gone up to \$0.18, a dozen eggs was \$.90, a gallon of milk was \$2.22 and the population of Montana was approximately 790,000 (Montana is now just over 1 million).

We currently have thirteen past Student Excellence Award recipients employed full time here at Northern. Faculty and staff members who received the Student Excellence Award while attending Northern include: Vicki Clouse, Krista Milligan, Cynthia Small, Wane Boysun, Trygve Magelssen, Andy Morris, Kyle Samson, Autumn Elliot, Tracy Jette, Barb Coffman, Cori Hindoien, Brittnee' Klick and Bill Lanier.

For more information on past recipients please go to:

<http://www.msun.edu/stuaffairs/asstdeanstatus/excellence/index.htm>

## A Pinch of Salt

By Kimmi Boyce

### **Celebrating Historic Women: Lydia Maria Child**

Lydia Maria Child (1802-1880) Child was a feisty overcomer. Her family was part of the middle class, so her education was through a local "dame school." Despite her basic education, Child later became inspired to write a book, which she did. It was titled Hobomok and was completed in only six weeks. Hobomok is not remembered as a great classic, but it is certainly remembered for its (at the time) scandalous portrayal of a Native American as the hero of the story. To make matters even "worse," the Native American hero of Child's story had a white lover (this was quite unheard of)! Child continued publishing works throughout her life, and she consistently stood up for Native Americans', African Americans', and women's rights. Child and her husband David used their literary and political connections to further their causes even in the face of poverty and imprisonment. After slavery ended, Child focused on raising awareness for educating African Americans, and then she returned with full-force to her fight for Native American equality and the acceptance of interracial love. The life and works of Child have impacted people throughout history, and I hope her legacy will not be quickly forgotten.

On a different note, here's sample of history from March 23's past:

1775- Patrick Henry proclaims "Give me liberty or give me death"

1806- Lewis and Clark reach Pacific coast

1919- Benito Mussolini forms Fascist movement in Milan, Italy

1946- 8th NCAA Men's Basketball Championship: Oklahoma State beats North Carolina 43-40

1972- Evil Kniefel breaks 93 bones after successfully clearing 35 cars

1994- Wayne Gretzky sets NHL record with 802 goals scored

(Info from brainyhistory.com)

## Mission Statement

"MSU Northern, a teaching institution, serves a diverse student population by providing liberal arts, professional and technical education programs ranging from certificates through master's degrees. The university promotes a student centered and culturally enriched environment endorsing lifelong learning, personal growth and responsible citizenship. The university partners with a variety of community and external entities to enhance collaborative learning, provide applied research opportunities, stimulate economic development and expand student learning experiences."