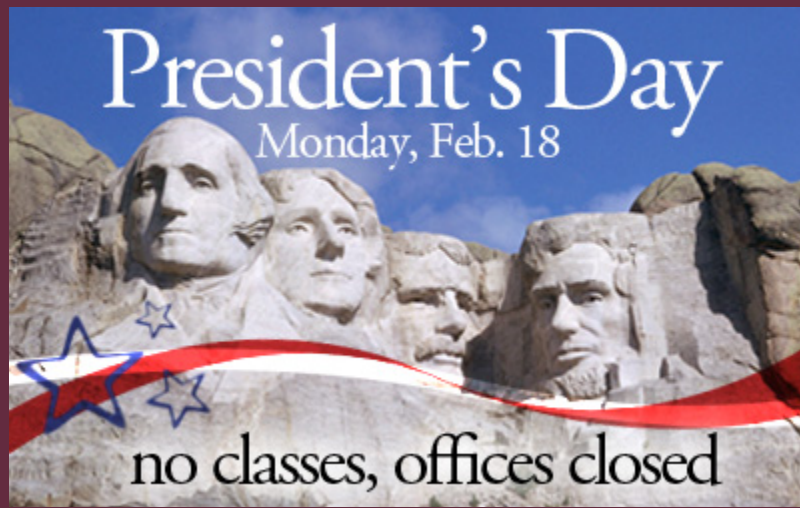


NORTHERN NETWORK NEWS

The Official Newsletter of MSU-Northern

February 15, 2013



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From the Chancellor

By Dr. James M. Limbaugh

As part of our [focus on student success](#), Montana State University-Northern has retained the services of [Noel-Levitz](#), a national consulting firm specializing in higher education, to work with us on two specific projects: recruitment/admissions and retention. In the second of his six visits to campus, Dr. Charles Schroeder, the former vice president for student affairs at Georgia Tech and our retention consultant, reported on his work with several members of the campus community via focus groups and through the newly-formed Student Success Improvement Team. Based on these campus dialogues and on data provided by the university, Dr. Schroeder has recommended five strategies to serve as the focal points for our retention efforts:

- Helping students better understand their financial responsibilities;
- Establishing a robust learning communities program;
- Designing integrated performance support systems that improve academic and social success;
- Enhancing advising processes; and
- Creating an ethics of service excellence throughout the campus.

Additionally, as part of his first report, Dr. Schroeder cited as a significant factor contributing to MSUN's efforts to improve its retention programs the "hard-working and committed faculty and staff, many of whom attended MSUN as undergraduates and feel a deep and abiding loyalty to the university."

I will continue to keep you abreast of our continued work in retention, as well as the work of our consultants guiding our review of the admissions/recruitment process.

This Week on Campus

We Love Northern Ball Raises \$25/K



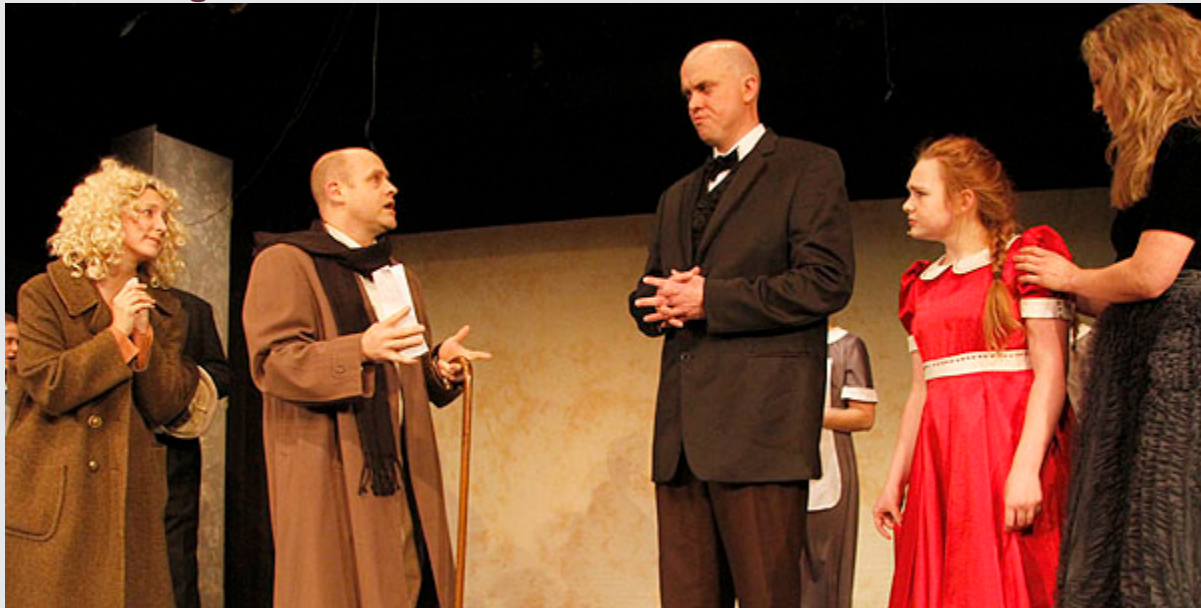
Thank you to everyone who came out to enjoy the We Love Northern Masquerade Ball this past weekend. The food was delectable and the company of everyone in attendance was even better. The evening featured a Cajun & Creole inspired menu followed up with all the fixings on Sweet Tooth Lane. There were many wonderful live and silent auction items to bid on. The Cure for the Common played a fun selection of New Orleans beat tunes. We raised over \$25,000 from the evening's festivities. Thank you and we look forward to seeing you next year! - Shauna Albrecht, CEO, MSU-Northern Foundation

Flowers for Valentine's Day Support Trips Abroad



What started as a simple and romantic fundraiser for MSU-Northern and Chi Alpha trips abroad became a huge undertaking this week. Three Northern students set out to sell roses and carnations to raise a little cash for their upcoming excursions. They ended up selling hundreds of flowers to students, friends, and community members all over Havre. Matt and Emily Bean and Kimmi Boyce thank everyone who helped make their fundraiser a success.

Annie Delights Audiences



Montana Actor's Theatre's production of Annie premiered last week and delighted audiences every night it ran. The popular Harold Gray comic strip "Little Orphan Annie" inspired the writing of this hit musical, which features music by Charles Strouse with lyrics by Martin Charnin. The original Broadway production, which opened in 1977, ran for nearly six years and won the Tony Award for Best Musical. The musical's songs "Tomorrow" and "It's a Hard-Knock Life" are among its most popular musical numbers.

Several students and members of faculty and staff are in the show and the MSU-Northern Community Orchestra provides the live pit orchestra. The play is performed in the MSUN/MAT Theatre in Cowan Hall, and is fun for the whole family. Evening shows are on February 15-16 and 21-23 at 7:30 p.m. Matinees will be held on February 16 & 23 at 2:00 p.m. Doors and lounge open one half hour before show times.

Tickets: Adults \$15, Students/Seniors \$10, Children 12 and under \$7, MSUN students free with current ID

2013 Spring Career Fair



A collection of employers gathered on the MSU-Northern campus for the Spring Career Fair on February 12. As usual, the fair was a great success, as it connected many able students with eager employers. If you happened to miss this career fair, be looking for the next one you can take part in. You won't regret stopping in and learning about all the opportunities that await you.



Hal Stearns Spoke on "Homestead Dreams"

MSU-Northern hosted Mr. Hal Stearns on Friday, February the 8th. Stearns spoke on "Homestead Dreams." Last year (2012) marked the 150th anniversary of the passage of one of America's most important pieces of Legislation, The Homestead Act, which has continually had a profound impact on Montana since its inception. Stearns presentation was filled with intriguing and useful information about The Homestead Act and our great state.

Extended University Office Open House



In celebration of their new office space, the MSUN Extended University staff held an open house on Valentine's Day. Many campus members visited the newly remodeled office and met their new staff member, Justin Mason. Justin joined Extended University on January the 9th as the new instructional designer and Desire2Learn technical support.

Important Announcements

Office Mailboxes Moved to Reprographics

Northern extends a huge thank you to the Physical Plant, as they moved the mailboxes to the Media Center. Effective immediately, all outgoing and incoming mail will be sorted with Samantha at the Media Center. Any outgoing mail will need to be to the Media Center for processing before 4 p.m. If mail is dropped off after 4 p.m., and the mail has already been taken to the Post Office, it will not be posted and mailed until the following business day. Thank you in advance for helping to make this transition smooth for Samantha & the Media Center.

GOLDEN N AWARD NOMINATIONS OPEN

The deadline for Golden N nominations will be March the 5th. Only current MSUN students may submit nominations.

Criteria: Nominees, to be considered, must be non-student staff or faculty of MSU-Northern and should demonstrate a commitment to adding positive experiences directly relating to student life and students.

Forms may be picked up and returned to the Student Union Information Desk.

Students Encouraged to Take Part in Survey

Ninety adult learners have been asked to participate in a survey developed by the Council for Adult and Experiential Learning and adopted by the Office of the Commissioner of Higher Education to help determine where we need to improve. The survey will look at nine areas: outreach, life and career planning, financing, assessment of learning outcomes, teaching-learning processes, student support systems, technology, strategic partnerships, and transitions. Those who complete the survey will be

entered into a drawing for several excellent prizes awarded before spring break. We want to encourage everyone who is sent an invitation to take part in this important survey. The ninety adult learners being surveyed are in two-year associate degree programs and are 25 years of age and older.

Upcoming Events

Guest Speaker Today

The third guest speaker in the Humanities Montana sponsored Native American guest speaker series for Jaakko Puisto's Montana Indians class will be today, Feb. 15, from 1-2 p.m. in Brockmann 209. William Turcotte is a former (education) graduate of ours and will talk about Nakoda bands, relations, and spirituality. Everyone is welcome to attend.



"Torture" the Professor

The SEA club is sponsoring a fundraiser entitled "Torture the Professor" for the Bob Bricker Memorial fund. The funds are being raised to plant a tree in his memory. For \$1 (per vote) you can submit a ballot for one of several participating professors. On Saturday night during the Lights basketball game a professor's name will be drawn. They will then roll the dice to determine what activity or "Torture" the professor will have to do for one day. The NNN will follow the outcome of this story next week.

Legislative Videoconference

Each Tuesday at noon in the second-floor Tele-Conference Room of the Robins School Building you can view a legislative videoconference. Stay connected with what is going on in Helena and learn what developments could affect you and your business. The upcoming videoconferences will be on: February 19 and 26, with the February 19 session held at the Triangle Communications Tele-Conference Room.

Talent Show Scheduled For Feb 21

The Program Council of the Associated Students of MSU-Northern will hold a talent show for the students, faculty and staff of the campus on Thursday, February the 21st in the SUB Ballroom at 7 p.m. Acts will be judged by a panel of students, faculty and staff. Points will be earned for originality, appearance, talent and presentation. If anyone is interested in helping with the judging, please contact Denise at 265-3732.

Winners will receive gift certificates of \$75 for first place, \$50 for second and \$25 for third. Acts are being solicited for music, dance, comedy or any area of talent that would lend entertainment for the evening. If you are interested in joining the fun, please sign-up at the Student Information Desk or phone 265-3732 by February the 21st at 5 p.m.

Northern Alumni & Foundation Invites MSU-Northern Fans to Support the Teams

Northern's Skylights and Lights will be playing at Rocky Mountain College on February 21, 2013 with the Skylights tipping off at 5:30 p.m. followed by the Lights at 7:30 p.m. Supporters are invited and encouraged to meet at the Granary for goodies and to catch up from 3:30 p.m. to 5:15 p.m. at 1500 Poly Drive, Billings, MT

A similar get-together will take place in Dickinson, ND at Spaghetti Western at 532 15th St. West from 3:30 p.m. until 5:15 p.m. on February 23, 2013. The Skylights will tip off at 5:30 p.m. followed by the Lights at 7:30 p.m.

Please RSVP to alumni@msun.edu or 406-265-3770; also join us on FaceBook

Juarez to Compete on the Bellator 90 Card

Former Lights Wrestling National Champion Jesse Juarez who is now a mixed martial arts competitor will be fighting on the Bellator 90 card on Thursday February the 21st. The event can be followed on spike.com starting at 6 p.m. Mountain Time. Jesse has had bouts in the United States and abroad. He presently lives with his wife and two children in Lomita California.

Coed Volleyball Begins Soon

Get your volleyball teams together for the Spring Coed Volleyball league that begins on February the 25th at 8 p.m. in the Gym. Teams must consist of 3 men and 3 women with only one former or current collegiate student (who has played in the last two years) on each team. Rosters are due February 22 at 5 p.m. at the SUB Information Desk. Games will be held every Monday and Tuesday night from February 25-March 19 (excluding spring break March 11-12) Prizes will be awarded to the winning team during the tournament to be held on March 25-26.

MSU-Northern Little Cheer Camp - This Saturday

Do you have a little one between the ages of 3 and 13 who wants to be a cheerleader? If so, sign her up for MSU-Northern's cheer camp on Saturday, February 16, 2013! The camp will start at 8:00 a.m. and go until 10:00 a.m. The little cheerleaders will perform their newly learned dance and cheer at the half time of the Skylights' game later that night. Participants will need to be in the lobby of the Armory Gymnasium by 6:30 p.m.

If you're interested in enrolling a little cheerleader, pick up information at MSU-Northern in Student Support Services or the Registrar's office. The available camp packages include:

- One Child enrolled for \$25, which includes a full day of camp, a T-shirt, and a priceless performance at half time of the women's game (snacks provided)
- Two Children enrolled for \$40 (package includes all above items for each child)
- \$5 off each additional child

The MSU-N cheerleaders hope to see you there!!

For more information please contact:
MSU-N Cheerleaders
Phone (406) 390-5239

MSU-N Chancellor's Lecture Series

The MSU-Northern Chancellor's Lecture Series presents an intellectually and culturally diverse program that brings the broader MSU-Northern communities face-to-face with notable thinkers, scholars, civic leaders, authors, and artists throughout each academic year. Designed to create campus and community-wide conversation, the 2012-2013 MSU-Northern Chancellor's Lecture Series will consist of talks on vital topics by distinguished guest speakers. The campus community and general public are cordially invited to attend all of the lectures, and admission is free. The next speaker will be:



Terry C. Blosser presenting "Finding Lifelines in Wild Places" on Tuesday, February 19, 2013 at 7:30 p.m. in the Hensler Auditorium.

Our friends and experiences matter most in life and some of the best connections are to be enjoyed through immersion in living, working and playing in wilderness environments. Blosser has taught speech and writing at MSU-Northern for 11 years. During summers, he has immersed himself in the adventurous seasonal employee lifestyles of two major national park wildernesses, amassing a wealth of experiences and friends. Terry will share

some of his unique experiences through visuals, stories, and music. Recorded background music by Blosser will softly play and images of Glacier National Park will flow across the screen as the audience assembles.

John Wort Hannam Duo in Concert Feb 28

The Northern Showcase Concert Association will present The John Wort Hannam Duo (blue grass music) on February 28, 2013 at 7:30pm in the HHS Auditorium. Hannam is a Canadian folk musician from Fort Macleod, Alberta and was born in Jersey, Channel Islands. He is known for his story telling through music. Central themes in his music include: life in Western Canada and the human experience as seen through the eyes of simple working folk. Hannam was a full-time public school teacher until 2000. He now performs at festivals in Canada, the United States, Great Britain and Australia and appeared at the 2006 Smithsonian Folklife Festival in Washington, D.C. In addition to singing, Hannam plays guitar, tenor guitar and harmonica.



Fiddler Scott Duncan hails from Calgary, Alberta and is an energetic, passionate performer. He enjoys playing all styles including Celtic, blue grass, folk, classical, swing and country. Growing up in the Calgary-style-dual-classical/fiddle world since age 5, and exploring many other genres of music along the way, Scott is still attempting to find an alternative name for the violin/fiddle that does not offend anyone. Until then, referring to his own as a fiddle, he continues to play and write to his heart's content.

Tickets are available at the door for \$15 for adults and \$10 for students for those who do not have a Season Pass. MSU-Northern students are admitted free of charge.

Weekly Articles

@ Your Library

By Val Hickman

This week let's look at education resources available at the Vande Bogart Library. For the future education professional, "ERIC", "Educator's Reference Complete", and the "Teacher Reference Center" are good sources of articles. Here you will find information on most educational topics. Are you an elementary education student looking for ideas to use in the classroom? Take a look at the "Mailbox" magazine. Issues of "Mailbox" can be read in and checked out from the library. Preparing to take the PRAXIS exam? The "Testing & Education Reference Center" database includes sample PRAXIS tests and online prep books. Additional print PRAXIS study guides can be checked out from the library. The library also has hundreds of education books that discuss educational theories, classroom management, ideas to use in the classroom, bulletin board ideas and many other topics. If you are a parent with children who let you know at the last minute that they have to write a paper, find a picture of something, or share some information with their class-don't panic! Take a look at "Kids Search" (K-8), "Searchasaurus" (K-3), or the "Student Research Center" (8-12). These databases are designed with child friendly search screens and retrieve age appropriate information. And as a parent, you can feel safe in letting your child use these databases. These databases are much safer and easier to use than doing Google searches! And remember, you can access these databases at home, regardless of the time! If you have any questions about any of these databases, contact the library staff.

Computer Corner

By Marianne Hoppe

Word 2010 Tip

Annoying automatic changes... and how to turn them off

Last week we talked about how to undo automatic changes that Word makes as you type. This week I'll tell you how to disable the AutoCorrect features you don't want.

To get to the AutoCorrect settings:

1. Click the **File** tab then **Options** (it's almost at the bottom of the list, above Exit)
2. Select **Proofing** from the left-hand menu.
3. Click the **AutoCorrect Options** button at the top of the window,
4. Then click on the **AutoFormat As You Type** tab.

5. Select or clear the check boxes for the options that you want to enable or disable.

When you're done, click the **Ok** buttons to exit.

A Pinch of Salt

By Kimmi Boyce

For our "learn something new" topic this week, let's address the idea of learning a new language. Now it may seem daunting at first, but with how culturally diverse our country is becoming and how easy travel has become, learning a new language has never been a better idea. I've heard that full language immersion is the quickest way to force yourself to adapt to a new language, but since not too many of us can drop all we're doing to spend a couple months in a foreign country, here are some plausible alternatives:

- Save up some cash and invest in the Rosetta Stone program of your choice. The sets are generally pretty expensive, but the company has had recurring positive results for many years.
- Take a much cheaper route by checking out the free online flashcard system at www.learnalanguage.com.
- The website "thedailymuse.com" gives 5 fun ways to learn a new language. They are: 1. Learn as if you're really young by using the most basic children's materials that break down the language in "chewable" portions. 2. Watch movies in the language you're trying to learn. It'll help your fluidity so you can avoid sounding choppy and robotic. 3. Shop in an area where people will speak the language. This would be a hard one for Montanans, but it is still an option. 4. Use all sorts of technology and apps to help you learn like a local. 5. Speak the new language as much as you can. It helps if you have someone to talk to who is also learning or can already speak the language. Repetition will help solidify your pronunciation and confidence.

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."