

# NORTHERN NETWORK NEWS

The Official Newsletter of MSU-Northern

March 27, 2015

*This Week on Campus*

## "Montana's Poet Laureate" Tami Haaland



The MSU-N Chancellor's Lecture Series welcomed Montana's Poet Laureate, Tami Haaland, to campus this week. The attendees enjoyed Haaland's presentation, an evening of poetry, and communication with Haaland. Haaland read from her books *Breath in Every Room* and *When We Wake in the Night*. For more information on Tami Haaland and her work, please visit:

[http://www.art.mt.gov/resources/resources\\_poetlaureate.asp](http://www.art.mt.gov/resources/resources_poetlaureate.asp)

To view the upcoming lectures, please visit the Spring 2015 Chancellor's Lecture Series page:

<http://msun.edu/news/calendar/events2014/ChancellorSeries.aspx>

## Northern Participates in One MSU Symposium



This year marks the second annual One MSU Symposium, a conference that brought the MSU campuses of Bozeman, Billings, Havre, and Great Falls together in order to better understand prior learning assessment and competency based education. The Office of the Commissioner of Higher Education (OCHE) Task Force and guests from the University of Wisconsin system and American Association for College Registrars and Admissions Officers were all present to add knowledge and experience to the conference and infuse it with examples from personal experiences with prior learning assessment and competency based education. The Symposium was attended by Northern's core leadership team and academic deans. Michael DiBrizzi, (pictured 4th above) was one of the panelists.

While in Billings, the MSU college representatives listened to keynote speakers, participated in question and answer forums with panels, and took part in breakout workshops. The focus of the conference was to cast vision for the future of the MSU System and how it can build up its students through proper understanding of and opportunities in prior learning assessment and competency based education. (Photo by Aaron Clingsmith)

## The 29th Annual HIT Tournament



MSU-Northern will once again be hosting the 29th Annual HIT Tournament in the Armory Gym. As has been the tradition, most of the best high school girls and boys basketball players from all classes and grade levels will be on hand to square off in the name of their respective classes (AA, A, B, and C). In addition to a Championship team and Consolation-Winning team being crowned, all-star teams, boys & girls MVPs, scoring leaders, assist leaders, rebounding leaders, steal leaders, Mr & Miss Hustle, Mr & Miss Defense, boys & girls Three-Point-Shootout Champions, and a boys Slam-Dunk Champion, will be crowned - see schedule below

### **Friday, March 27**

Noon Class C Girls vs. Class A Girls  
1:30 pm Class C Boys vs. Class A Boys  
3:00 pm Class B Girls vs. Class AA Girls  
4:30 pm Class B Boys vs. Class AA Boys  
6:00 pm 3-Point Contest  
7:00 pm Class B Girls vs. Class A Girls  
8:30 pm Class B Boys vs. Class A Boys

### **Saturday, March 28**

9:00 am Class C Girls vs. Class AA Girls  
10:30 am Class C Boys vs. Class AA Boys  
12:00 pm Consolation Girls Game  
1:30 pm Consolation Boys Game  
3:00 pm Slam Dunk Contest  
3:30 pm Championship Girls Game  
5:00 pm Championship Boys Game

## **Student Excellence Winners**

The Student Excellence Award is the highest honor that a student can receive at MSU-Northern. The students who meet the demanding requirements have caught the attention of their peers and leaders through their hard work and determination. This award is a small token of MSU-Northern's appreciation for their commitment to excellence. Please take the time to attend the awards ceremony today at 10 a.m. in the SUB to fully recognize these honorees. Brooke Frazier, Ethan Hinebauch, Kayla Lasalle, Nick Luoma, Linda Osterman, Michael Schulteis, Elaine Serwacki, Joe Vernon, Jordanna Weimer, Laura Zentmire, and LaVon Myers - Graduate level Student Excellence Award.

## **New Graphic Artist Joins Northern Team**



Please welcome Northern's new Graphic Artist, Will Vernon. Will replaces McKenna Newton who left staff in February and is working in the University Relations office. Originally from North Carolina, Will and his wife, Heather (Havre native), moved from Charlotte, NC to raise a family in Montana in 2013. Will is a graduate of the University of North Carolina, School of the Arts with a B.F.A in Filmmaking. He is an award winning filmmaker and has also released several music albums. Will is a natural born artist of all mediums and just loves to create. He looks forward to serving the creative needs of MSU-Northern. Will says he misses the Bar-B-Que (noun not verb) but Montana is now where his heart beats.

## **Scotch Doubles Bowling Winners**

The ASMSUN Intramurals & Recreation held a Scotch Doubles bowling tournament in the Pin-n-Cue this week. The teams of dynamic duos alternated shots throughout the games while enjoying snacks and friendly competition. Ryne Antley and Alicia Borst won the night's tournament and received awesome Northern T-shirts as a reward for their awesome team play.



## Annual Awards Day Celebration- Today at 10:00

Today, March 27, 2015, at 10 a.m. in the Student Union Building, the Northern family will be celebrating the achievements of its students, faculty, and staff, as well as the generosity of its donors. The awards will include scholarships, Student Excellence Awards, and the Golden N Awards. Please come and enjoy a morning of celebration.

## Athletic Hall of Fame Inductees Announced

The MSU-Northern Alumni Foundation is excited to announce the 2015 inductees for the Athletic Hall of Fame: Coach Sherry Winn and Charna Ophus Seibert ('93). A special induction ceremony will be held on May 1 on MSU-Northern's campus.

After starting her coaching career with two seasons at the University of Minnesota-Morris, Sherry Winn coached the Skylights Basketball team for five seasons for a record of 137 wins and 19 losses, as well as five Frontier Conference titles and the 1993 NAIA DII national championship. She was also named NAIA DII Coach of the Year in 1993. Following her time at Northern, she coached five seasons at Colorado State-Pueblo and then spent 11 seasons coaching at NCAA Division II University of Charleston in Charleston, West Virginia. Over her 23 year coaching career she compiled a record of 442 wins to 234 losses. She was also a two-time Olympian who represented the US in team handball during the 1984 and 1988 Olympic games. Winn moved from coaching to pursue her passion for writing, consulting, coaching, and public speaking. Winn has written four books on maximizing success. She currently lives in Billings and travels the country as a speaker and coach.



Charna Ophus-Seibert's time at MSU-Northern included 4 seasons on the basketball team while getting her Bachelor of Arts degree in Communications, and eventually her Master's of Education in Guidance and Counseling. During her four seasons, the Skylight basketball team won four conference championships, four district championships and earned four trips to the national tournament including winning the 1993 national championship while setting the school record for a 35 game winning season. She was named MVP of the Northern Invitational tournament, was a four-time Academic All-Conference basketball player, was an Academic All-American selection for both basketball and volleyball, and a Student Excellence Award winner. She holds the career record at MSU-Northern for most assists (641), the season record for most steals (99), and recorded MSU-Northern's first women's basketball triple-double. Ophus-Seibert moved back to Montana in 2007 and resides in Great Falls where she has worked as a banker for Wells Fargo. Currently, Ophus-Seibert is on a personal leave of absence to be home with her baby boy, 6-

month-old Marcellus. Ophus-Seibert enjoys outdoor activities to stay fit including running, biking, hiking, snowshoeing and competing in sprint-triathlons and 5k runs.

The Athletic Hall of Fame induction ceremony will be held in conjunction with MSU-Northern's Founder's Excellence Award presentation ceremony on May 1 in the Student Union Building Ballroom on MSU-Northern's campus. Tickets for the event are \$25 per person and include dinner. They go on sale April 1 and are available from the MSU-Northern Alumni Foundation by calling (406)265-3711.

## Upcoming Events

### Bingo - Apr. 1

The Associated Students of MSU-Northern will continue the monthly bingo night on April the 1st at 7 p.m. in the SUB Ballroom. This Bingo night is the last of the semester and is held on April Fools Day! You never know what the prizes will be. Students will play several rounds of regular bingo for prizes, and the winner of the blackout bingo will receive a surprise prize. ASMSUN will also provide free snacks and refreshments.

## **Easter Egg Hunt - Apr. 5**

The Associated Students of MSU-Northern will be hosting an Easter Egg Hunt on the SUB Lawn on Easter, April the 5th at 2 p.m. The area will be divided into age groups for 0-3, 4-6, and 7-9 years of age. Each person who finds a SPECIAL EGG will receive a prize. Games, snacks and refreshments will also be available.

## **Intramural/Recreation Coed Softball to Begin - Apr. 6**

The Intramural & Recreation committee has scheduled coed softball beginning April the 6th at the softball fields south of town. Game nights will be April 6,7,13,14,20, and 21. There will be a tournament held on April the 25th at 2 p.m. Teams must consist of 5 women and 5 men, so put your team together. Pick up your roster at the SUB Information Desk, and return by April 3 at 5 p.m.

The winners of the tournament will receive a \$100 pizza gift card.

## **ASMSUN ELECTION - Apr. 7-9**

The Associated Students of MSU-Northern (ASMSUN) will host their online spring election for 2015-16 officers on April 7-9. If any students are interested in becoming a member of the Student Senate for next fiscal year, contact ASMSUN President Andrew Potter at [ASMSUNPres@msun.edu](mailto:ASMSUNPres@msun.edu) to pick up an application or stop by the SUB Information Desk. Applications are due by no later than April 3. For more information regarding duties of the positions, check out the bylaws at the following link. <http://www.msun.edu/stuorgs/asmsun/docs/bylaws2014.pdf>

### **Paid positions available are as follows:**

#### **EXECUTIVE OFFICERS**

President

Vice President

Business Manager

#### **COORDINATORS**

Intramural/Recreation Coordinator

Program Council Coordinator

Sustainability Coordinator

Administrative Assistant

### **Unpaid positions available**

Minimum of 5 senators at large

## **SkillsUSA State Conference and Championships - Apr. 13-15**

MSU-Northern is proud to host the 2015 SkillsUSA Montana State Leadership and Skills Conference. This year SkillsUSA celebrates 50 years of excellence- "50 Years of Champions at Work." The national organization has served more than 11.2 million members since its founding in 1965.

Northern has been part of SkillsUSA since 1972, and has hosted 43 of the 44 state conferences. MSU-Northern strives every year to provide high school students around the state with a rigorous competition in a variety of industries from plumbing to advanced machining. We present the winners with scholarships to Northern, and they are often among the best students on our campus.

## **Intramural Dodgeball - Apr. 15 & 16**

The Associated Students of MSU-Northern Intramural & Recreation department is sponsoring a co-ed dodgeball league/tournament on March 23, 24, 30 and 31. Teams are made up of 6 players. Sign up by picking up your roster at the SUB Information Desk and return by 5 p.m. on March the 20th.

## **Exit Counseling Sessions for 2015 Spring Graduates- Apr. 15 & 16**

Exit counseling sessions will be held in the Library Computer Lab:

Wednesday, April 15th at 3 p.m. and 5:30 p.m.

Thursday, April 16th at 12 p.m., 3:30 p.m. and 7 p.m.

Plan on attending one of the offered sessions as Federal Regulations require any students who have received a Federal Student Loan to attend exit counseling upon completion of their program. You will be provided with information on Federal Direct Student Loan and Federal Perkins Loan repayment options, deferments, consolidation of federal student loans, forbearance, and how to avoid default.

Presenters: Karen Terrell, MSUN - Financial Success Coordinator and Amanda Meyer, MSUN-Accounting Associate

If you are unable to attend one of the scheduled sessions, please contact Karen Terrell @ 265-3776 or stop in Cowan 213G to set up an appointment.

### **Collegiate Stockgrowers Meet and Greet- Apr. 17**

The newly formed club, MSUN Collegiate Stockgrowers, will be hosting a meet and greet in the ATC building April 17. Everyone is invited including the surrounding community. There will be a free dinner as well as guest speakers, auctions, raffles, and local music entertainment.

A poster for a retirement celebration. The text is centered and framed by a stylized graphic of a large, light-colored circle with a dark outline, resembling a spotlight or a stage. The background of the poster is white, and the text is in black. The names of the honorees are listed in a cursive font. The date, time, and location are listed in a bold, sans-serif font at the bottom.

Join us for a  
*Retirement  
Celebration*

honoring  
*Terry Blosser  
Greg Bostic  
Betty Clark  
Jose Cobos  
Marsha Ferraguti  
Kevin Johnson  
Luke Petruccione  
Debbie Ritz*

**Tuesday, April 21, 2015  
3:30-5:00 p.m.  
MSU-Northern  
SUB Ballroom**

## Seventh Annual TekNoXpo - Apr. 23

MSU-Northern's 7th annual Technology-Knowledge-Exposition (TekNoXpo) will begin on Thursday, April 23, 2015. The TekNoXpo is an amazing opportunity for Montana high school students to explore their educational and career opportunities through MSU-Northern's College of Technical Sciences.

As always, the educational tracks include agriculture, automotive technology, welding, and civil engineering, plumbing, electrical and diesel. Northern has added an additional facet to this year's TekNoXpo- nursing. Students interested in the nursing field will have the opportunity to tour the nursing department, take part in patient care interactive demonstrations, and visit with the nursing faculty.

The yearly Big Equipment Rodeo is always one of the highlights of this event. It includes skid steer racing, backhoe basketball, and the excavator simulator event. This specific portion of the TekNoXpo is made possible by generous donors who provide the machinery for the yearly event.

Pre-registration will open at the end of March on MSU-Northern's website: [www.msun.edu](http://www.msun.edu). For more information, feel free to call Northern's Big Sky Pathways Program Director, Holly Haas at 406-265-3723. This event is meant to intensify students' interest in the trades and boost enrollment in MSU-Northern's technology programs.

TekNoXpo offers an experience like no other, with hands-on learning and personal guidance into growing career fields. If you know students who are excelling in the technical sciences, send them to the TekNoXpo.

## Upcoming Faculty Workshops

### Tech Snacks: Groups - Mar. 27

Tech Snacks are 15-minute professional development workshops for MSU-Northern faculty. This week's topic: Groups. You can use D2L's Classroom Groups tool to facilitate group projects and discussions online. We'll show you how to set up groups, and share a few tools and ideas for maximizing group participation! Tech Snacks is happening today, Friday, March 27, in the Extended University office (Cowan Hall 110) at 10:30 a.m., 11 a.m. and 11:30 a.m., and in the Brockmann Center conference room at 1:30 p.m. and 2:00 p.m.

### Lunch & Learn - Apr. 6

Please bring your lunch and join Cristina Estrada-Underwood and Amber Spring for the next Lunch & Learn. Are you interested in learning more about how to support diversity with students, staff, and faculty at MSU-N? Are you interested in learning more about how to support sexual orientation and gender identity issues on campus? In this session, we will explore same-sex marriage. It is an opportunity to look at its emotional and social implications. This will be a panel in which you will have the opportunity to ask questions to two special guests.

For more information, contact Cristina Estrada-Underwood 265-3589 or Amber Spring 265-3783.

## Weekly Articles

### Writer's Café Menu Tip:

By Terry Blosser



What's the first thing you do when asked to write? One thing not to do is procrastinate, or put it off. Effective writing takes time, thinking, and practice. This complex process includes organizing your ideas, drafting your words, and then being willing to revise your work, sometimes more than once. Be patient: give yourself time to learn, think, and ask for help as you approach your writing assignments. These are important lifetime communication skills for you to develop that can make a significant difference in your career success and level of income. Remember, good writers are made, not born.



Get help with your writing assignments today. Visit the Writer's Cafe at the Learning Success Center in the Library.

## FROM THE CAREER CENTER

By Mary Heller

A few announcements:

- Please announce to your students that the summer 2015 coop schedule is now open on CareerExpress! Students must sign up for coops using their profiles on this site. If they need any help, they can certainly come to the Career Center.
- We are fast approaching the end of the semester so any soon-to-be graduates who need help with resumes, cover letters, interview tips, etc., need to come to the Career Center as soon as possible!
- The 2015 Grad Survey cards will be placed in diplomas that are handed out and mailed. In the meantime, please send all graduates to the Career Center so they can fill out the hardcopy card prior to exiting campus. This important information helps with our accreditation requirements as well as future recruitment!

For more information please contact the Career Center at 265-4198 or visit <http://www.msun.edu/career/>

## Tidbits

By Bill Lanier



This week's Tidbit is a special one, for a very special person, who after working at Northern for 9,658 days (including today) will be retiring. She started working at Northern on September 17, 1988. To put this in perspective, Northern was still called Northern Montana College, Ronald Reagan was President of the United States, William C. Merwin was President of Northern Montana College, and stamps were \$0.24). This person was the subject of the very first Tidbit in the January 26, 2007 issue of the NNN. She was also



the first female MOA (Montana Officials Association) sanctioned referee in the state of Montana. In 2007 the Student Senate presented her with their Golden "N" award.

If you have not figured it, out this person is the one and only Betty Clark. Northern has a special place for Betty and her family. In addition to working at Northern, Betty was also a Northern student. Betty's husband, Jim (James Clark, Sr.), was a Northern graduate along with all three of their children, James (Jimmy) Clark, Jr., Jenny Clark Lee and Jamee Clark Cameron.

Unfortunately, James Clark, Sr. and Jimmy are no longer with us. But Betty has made sure that they are still remembered here at Northern. On the North side of Donaldson there is a sitting area with a tree and shrubbery that Betty and her family had placed there in memory of Jimmy Clark. On the south side of Cowan Hall adjacent to the building, is another sitting area that Betty had placed there in memory of Jim Clark. Both of these areas will be here for many years to remind us of the love that Betty and her family have for Northern.

To say that Betty and her family have always been huge supporters of Northern is an understatement. From being huge supporters of the Northern Rodeo team and the Northern Rodeo, to offering a scholarship to honor Jimmy Clark (Jim Clark Memorial Diesel Scholarship), to proofing the NNN, to helping with the "We Love Northern Ball," to helping/nuturing any student along the way, Betty has always had the best interest of Northern and the Northern family at her heart.

Northern will never be the same without you Betty! Thank you for everything you have given to all of us here at Northern and for being the special person you are.