MSU-Northern College of Health Sciences, Department of Nursing participated in a virtual campus visit for their continued accreditation by the Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing (ACEN) for the ASN and the RN-BSN nursing programs. During the three-and-a-half-day virtual visit, the ACEN committee met with key faculty, staff, nursing students and administrators from across the campus and listened to public comment.
This past Tuesday (March 2), the MSU-Northern Career Center hosted their first Virtual Career Fair. This event provided the opportunity for students to meet with 27 organizations that are looking to hire our students for internships this summer or full-time employment after graduation.

MSU–Northern Conducts Survey on Harmful Algal Blooms
MSU-Northern is conducting a survey to determine public awareness of harmful algal blooms (HABs) that occur on Beaver Creek Reservoir (Lower/First Lake) and Bear Paw Lake (Upper/Second Lake) in Beaver Creek Park. Algal blooms have occurred on Beaver Creek Park lakes yearly since 2017, including the summer of 2020.

Click here to take the 3-5 min survey...
Click here to read more...

Northern Brew Reopens

As COVID cases continue to go down and more and more people are being vaccinated, the campus will be slowly opening services. One service reopened this week was the Northern Brew (coffee cart) in the library. It is open Monday thru Friday 8:30 a.m.-11:00 a.m. with a reduced grab and go drink menu. Feel free to call ahead and place your order over the phone (call 265-3706).
Modern Machinery Visits Campus

The campus is slowly resuming our in person job interviews. Modern Machinery, out of Missoula, was one of the first businesses to interview potential employees. They were on campus Wednesday and Thursday (Mar. 3 & 4) to interview students for summer co-ops and full-time jobs. Interviews were conducted in the Library. The Modern Machinery recruiters also met with the Chancellor and some of our diesel faculty for an informal lunch on Wednesday (Mar. 3) in the DTC – foyer.

Red Cross Blood Drive

MSU-Northern hosted their annual Red Cross Blood Drive on Wednesday, March 3, from 9-3 in the SUB ballroom. The Red Cross is currently testing all blood donations for COVID-19 antibodies.

Every unit donated at the blood drive can help save up to three lives. Each recipient of that blood donation has his or her own story. He or she could be an accident or trauma victim, cancer patient, a mother giving birth, a premature baby, a transplant recipient or surgical candidate. Our impact goes beyond that patient – it is multiplied by the impact it has on that person’s loved ones who are thankful for the unit we donated.

Thanks to all who donated, you make Northern proud!
Planning is underway for MSU-Northern’s Spring 2021 Commencement Ceremony. In the past, Northern’s celebration has included all the colleges in one ceremony. This year, because of covid, there will be multiple college ceremonies that will allow students to bring a limited number of family members to the ceremony.

RSVP invitations will be going out, via email, to students who were eligible to walk in last year’s cancelled ceremony and students eligible to walk during this year’s ceremony. Please respond, indicating that you will “attend” or that you will “not attend” to the invitation by the deadline of April 2, 2021. For planning and safety reasons, only those who respond “attend” by the deadline will be allowed to walk in the ceremony.

Additional details will be sent out via email, MSU-Northern’s web page and social media in the next couple of weeks.
2021 Media Festival

The Spring 2021 Media Festival took place yesterday (March 4) in the Hensler Auditorium and was also live over Zoom. Each spring semester the OTLE hosts a two-hour media festival intended to showcase audio, video, and other media projects created by MSU-Northern students, staff, and faculty. The goal of the Media Festival is to promote and celebrate diverse media creation and usage in face-to-face and online classrooms at Northern.

This year’s presenters and their topics were:
• Barbara Zuck – Students use a video camera in the classroom
• Emilee Luke – Northern’s social media and other communications platform
• Joseph Todd – Jamboards, improvisation, and experimentation
• Mary Ward – Student engagement and promotion in the digital age
• Anna Bowker – Online presentations
• Jeremy Siemens – Annotating creativity
• Valerie Guyant – Netflix and Teach
• Thomas Kline – Media cart to the rescue
• Kevin Holzworth – Lab-live streaming

Important Announcements

COVID-19 Testing Available on Campus
This past week students were able to get a free 15-minute COVID test in the residence halls. This is an exciting new step to help prevent the spread of COVID for both symptomatic and asymptomatic individuals since we want to maintain in-person class delivery, athletic competitions, and minimize quarantines.
Any student may make an appointment to be tested with Student Health Services at any point throughout the semester. Simply call (406) 265-3599 to schedule your test. Testing remains voluntary. However, we strongly encourage all students to be tested upon returning to campus to ensure that we are able to identify and respond to any positive cases as quickly as possible.

**Marijuana on Campus Still Prohibited**

Montana voters passed two recreational marijuana laws in November 2020. The passage of these laws does not affect existing MSU-Northern or Montana University System policies that prohibit the possession and use of marijuana on campus property and in MUS programs. Federal laws make marijuana use, possession, manufacture, and distribution illegal. Colleges or universities who fail to comply with this federal regulation could lose eligibility for their federal funding, including student financial aid programs.

**COVID Precautions**

All of the same COVID precautions that existed last semester are in place for this semester.
- Maintain a social distance of 6 feet
- Wear a mask in campus buildings
- Wash your hands often

**Upcoming Events**

“First Friday” QPR Suicide Prevention Training Webinars – Mar. 5, Apr. 2, May 7

For the remainder of the semester, QPR Suicide Prevention Trainings will be facilitated via Zoom on the 1st Friday of each month from 1:00-2:30 PM March 5, April 2, and May 7).

Question, Persuade, and Refer are three steps anyone can learn to help prevent suicide. Just like CPR, QPR is an emergency response to someone in crisis and can save lives. QPR is the most widely taught gatekeeper training in the world. The training is about 90 minutes and your certification will be active for 2 years. Trainings are free and limited to 25 participants. To register, email Amber Spring at amber.spring@msun.edu.
Annual Tribute Band Concert – May 15

At this time, KNMC is moving forward with plans to host their annual tribute concert on Saturday, May 15th, as either a web-stream concert or socially-distanced in-person concert strictly adhering to county health department guidelines. "Tribute" is our spring music event and is KNMC’s way of paying tribute to all of the hard-working students, faculty, and staff of MSU-Northern at the end of the school year. Local musicians sign up and form "tribute bands" who then dress up and perform the music of their artist of choice. If you are a musician that is interested in participating, contact Dave Martens at 406*390*1238

#336 - Donaldson Hall Memories Continued

Since I have had such a great response on Donaldson Hall, I have decided we needed at least one more column on the topic. Spring quarter of 1971 was the last year that the upper floors of Donaldson Hall were used for Northern students. As Vickie mentioned in the first article (February 5, 2012 NNN TidBit) MacKenzie Hall opened in the fall of 1971 and Donaldson Hall was closed. MacKenzie Hall opened with 100 rooms in three wings with 8 floors. With the increase of residential students, the bottom floor of Donaldson was remodeled to house up to 36 additional students and was opened in the fall of 1981. This floor was a residence hall housing option through the spring semester of 1993. At which time it was then used exclusively for groups that visited the campus. This included high school students during VICA (now known as Skills USA) and opposing wrestling teams among other groups. In the fall of 2000, this floor was reopened to residential students when Morgan Hall was closed, due to the lower numbers of on campus residents. The lower floor in Donaldson Hall remained in use through the spring of 2002, until this space in Donaldson Hall was needed for offices, due to an upgrade in the heating and cooling system in Cowan Hall. The relocation of offices was just temporary and when the Cowan Hall project was completed, those offices were moved back to Cowan Hall. Morgan Hall was reopened the fall of 2002. The lower floor in Donaldson Hall has not been used for residential students since spring semester of 2002 and is currently used for storage.

Here are two more Donaldson Hall memories I would like to share

“Part of Donaldson was used for Non-traditional age students in the late 80s (I think the basement level). I remember this vividly as I was a freshman and having car trouble. My dad came to Havre to fix my car and MSUN let him stay in a room in Donaldson Hall because the weather got bad and he could not drive the 150 miles home. He still talks about the evening he spent visiting with students in Donaldson Hall.”
Barb Coffman  
'90, '91, '93 and '01

Donaldson opened the basement floor in the fall of 1981. I came in as a junior and my roommate was John Schneider for the first half of the year. Had to get a different room after December due to lack of sleep from Schneider’s snoring.

Gary Barta was our Dorm Assistant and had the room with his own bathroom. With Donaldson just opening they had a lot of construction material in the storage room with scaffolding being one. Of all the pranks we played on Gary our best involved the scaffolding. When Gary was gone one weekend we took it upon ourselves to set up scaffolding in Gary's room so the hallway door and Bathroom door would barely open to get in. To this day I am not sure how Gary got all the scaffolding out of his room.
Lastly, I will probably get a rent bill from Northern for putting this on paper, but here I go. Playing ball from Northern we only got five days off right around Christmas during the month long break between Quarters (not semesters back then). The dorms were closed during this time, but I needed I place to stay and since my room was in Donaldson I left my window open a crack to allow me to get in from there and then I put a small rock in the hallway door located on the east side of the building. We had a kitchen and a television room so I had all the conveniences. I spent the whole month between December of 81 to January of 82 by myself in the basement floor of Donaldson. Felt like a King having what I consider one the most beautiful college buildings I have ever seen. Donaldson will always have a piece of my heart.
Hope this gives you an interesting read.”
Gerry Veis

Thank you, Barb and Gerry for adding to the history of Donaldson, it is very much appreciated.

If anyone else would like to share their Northern experience, please send me an e-mail to wilanier1963@yahoo.com as a future TidBit will consist of various Northern memories.