

Welcome to the First Day of Spring!

Greg Kegel Named Montana Ambassadors' 2014 Educator of the Year



Pictured (L to R) Debbie Vandenberg, Greg Kegel, Tom McGee, and Paul Tuss

MSU-Northern Chancellor Greg Kegel received The Montana Ambassadors Educator of the Year Award by Governor Steve Bullock and the Montana Ambassadors. Greg Kegel was nominated by Chantel Schieffer. This award is given to those individuals who have made outstanding contributions to economic development in Montana. Governor Bullock mentioned three guiding principles our state strives for that the Montana Ambassadors also embody: better jobs, better education, and a more effective government.

In September 2014, Greg Kegel was named interim Chancellor at Montana State University- Northern after serving for 12 years as the Dean of the College of Technical Sciences, where he succeeded in raising money for the new Applied Technology Building and creating the Bioenergy Innovation Testing Center, among other projects. The creation of the testing center was made possible through Kegel's acquiring a large grant from the U.S. Department of Energy to construct the building. Recently, Kegel, along with President Waded Cruzado and several corporate partners, announced raising \$3.15 million for a new automotive and diesel facility which will allow the school to nearly double the enrollment of that program. Well done, Chancellor Greg Kegel. You make Northern proud.

The other recipients were:

The Montana Ambassadors' 2014 Ambassador of the Year - Pam Haxby-Cote.

The Montana Ambassadors' 2014 Entrepreneur of the Year - Renelle Bratten; Enell Sports Bra.

The Montana Ambassadors' 2014 Business of the Year - GTUIT

The Outreach Montana Ambassador of the Year - Chris Ageson

If you're interested in reading the accomplishments of all the honorees, you can access the full press release at: <http://montanaambassadors.com/ambassadors/wp-content/uploads/2011/05/PressRelease2014AwardWinners.pdf>

Irish-American Heritage Celebration



March is Irish-American Heritage Month, so to commemorate the rich Irish heritage so many of us share, the Multicultural Center, International Friends of MSU-N, and the Community Involvement Association offered some musical entertainment as well as a craft. Janelle Baird, 2014 MSU-N Talent Show winner, played violin, Courtney Cotas strummed the guitar, and Jim Potter grounded the Irish tunes with percussion. The trio performed during supper on St. Patrick's Day. Attendees also had the opportunity to make Celtic knot bracelets.

Comedian Kabir Singh



One of the fastest-rising stand-up comedians in the USA, Kabir Singh shared his multicultural views and humor this past week. Singh's unique Indian and American upbringing (taking place in both countries for different periods of his childhood) allowed him to bring a fresh comedic expression that had the crowd rolling with laughter this St. Patrick's Day evening. His hilarious routine was enjoyed by all who attended.

Last Karaoke Night before the Big Competition

This Wednesday the Program Council Committee held the last "normal" karaoke night leading up to Northern's big competition to name the best karaoke singer at MSUN. Once again, many talented and funny students came out to participate in the event. The last competition is sure to be a hit. Who will the best karaoke singer be? Find out on April 15 at 7 p.m. in the SUB Ballroom. Come to compete or just listen, and have some fun. The best YouTube karaoke star will be awarded a \$100 gift certificate to the MSUN Bookstore. Come on out, and join in on the fun!

First Cross Country Runner Signed



Jamie Lieberg, a senior at Havre High School, will run cross country for Montana State University Northern's men's cross country team this fall for the 2015 season. Born and raised in Havre, Lieberg is the youngest son of Richard and Patricia Lieberg.

So far in his senior year, Lieberg has earned academic all-state honors and was named the Most Inspirational Runner on the Havre High Cross Country team. Northern's Cross Country Coach Chad Spangler expressed his excitement with Lieberg's decision. "I see a ton of potential in Jamie because he's already running well, and he's only run competitively for one cross country season." Lieberg is the first athlete to commit to the Men's and Women's Cross Country teams at Northern. Jamie will major in biology and says he is looking forward to new challenges and meeting new people this fall.

During Spring Break

Northern Agriculture Students Attended PAS Conference



MSU-N PAS Members at Shoshone Falls on the Snake River (Left to Right): Kyla McNamara, Timberlee Pankratz, McCall Lammerding, Lacey Woldstad, Nicole Moline, Luke Stulc, Ethan Partch, Wyatt Ullery, Clay Boyce

Nine MSU-Northern students from the Post-Secondary Agriculture Students (PAS) Club and their advisors attended the National PAS Conference in Boise, Idaho on March 10-14. The conference theme was "Rooting Your Legacy" and featured keynote speakers, industry-sponsored workshops, tours of Idaho agriculture, entertainment, and individual and team competitions in many areas. Northern PAS students had teams competing in the college quiz bowl, overall livestock, beef specialist and soil science specialist contest areas. Advisor Tom Welch said, "Montana and MSU-Northern were well represented at the conference by this outstanding group of students that spent most of their spring break improving themselves, learning more about agriculture and networking with PAS members, agriculturalists and industry representatives from many different states."

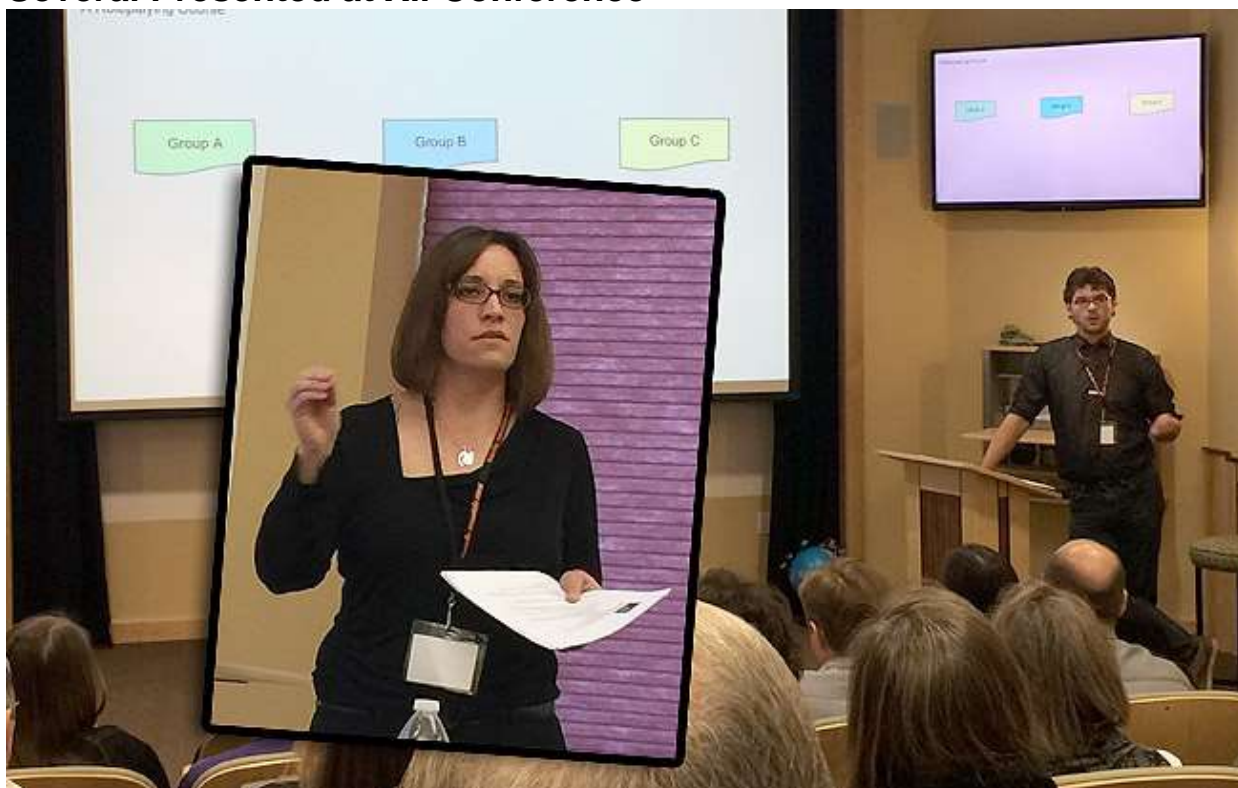
PAS is an organization available to college students majoring in areas related to agriculture, agribusiness, and natural resources and has a mission of providing opportunities for individual growth, leadership and career preparation.

Hi-Line Regional Science Fair



Several faculty and staff spent part of their break judging the Hi-Line Regional Science Fair which was held at the MSU-Northern SUB on March 10. More than one hundred students, grades 5-12 from ten different schools, came ready to prove their scientific hypotheses. Madison Reichelt came in first overall in the science fair. Caleb and Julia Meisdalen took second, and Gabriella Blatt took third. The first and second place winners claimed all-expense paid trips to the Intel International Science and Engineering Fair in Philadelphia May 10-15.

Several Presented at Xli Conference



Caleb Hutchins and Heather Thompson presented at the Xli conference in Helena at Carroll College over spring break. MSUN attendees Randy Bachmeier, Rodney Ridenour, Justin Mason and Ligia Arango also took in the conference presentations. Overall, the Xli conference was said to be very informative and enlightening, focusing on technology in higher education. Hutchins and Thompson greatly enjoyed their opportunity to present.

Nursing Students Completed Preceptor Clinical Hours



Many of our nursing students spent their spring breaks completing preceptor clinical hours. This section of study is the nurses' capstone class. Tom Kropt with his preceptor Molly Netburn RN are pictured here, as well as Jordon UHler with her preceptor Brenda Donaldson RN.

MSU-Northern Orchestra Helped with Damn Yankees and Grease



Havre High School presented the musical *Damn Yankees* March 12-14. The MAT's musical *Grease* also took place in February and March. Members of the MSU-Northern Community Orchestra were part of both of these productions- filling their minds, hands, and schedules with many musical endeavors this past month. MSUN is proud to have some of its students, faculty, and staff involved in such a talented and helpful group. Great job MSU-Northern Community Orchestra, you make Northern proud.

Announcements

Skylights Update

MSU-Northern Skylights Basketball team defeated the No. 6-seed Lindsey Wilson (Ky.) 60-42 on Wednesday. The team's next game will be today at 1:15 p.m. against No. 7 seed Southern-New Orleans (La.). The game will be televised in the Food Court at 1:15.

Upcoming Events

Scotch Doubles Bowling - Mar. 25

The ASMSUN Intramurals & Recreation committee has planned a Scotch Doubles tournament on March the 25th at 7 p.m. in the SUB Pin-n-Cue. Scotch Doubles bowling is a system of doubles play where the two bowlers on each team play alternate shots throughout the game. The only time one of the pair ever completes a frame on his/her own is when scoring a strike. Bring a team member or just show up and we will hook you up with a teammate.

The ASMSUN group will be providing refreshments and snacks, and the team with the highest score will receive prizes.

"Montana's Poet Laureate" With Tami Haaland - Mar. 26

Come and enjoy some poetry reading! The MSU-N Chancellor's Lecture Series will host the Humanities Montana Speakers Bureau program "Montana's Poet Laureate" with Tami Haaland on Thursday, March 26, 2015. The program will be at Hensler Auditorium, Applied Technology Center at 7:30 p.m. The presentation is free and open to the public. Partial funding for the Speakers Bureau program is provided by a legislative grant from Montana's Cultural Trust and the National Endowment for the Humanities.

According to Sandra Alcosser, Montana's first Poet Laureate, "Tami Haaland's poems touch the interior of the world, the way a bat might test, through echolocation, the walls of a cave, or a whale might sound the interior of the sea." Poet and critic Mark Jarman has called her new book, *When We Wake in the Night*, "a remarkable achievement," characterized by "clarity and sanity and fluent formal skill," while poet and composer Kate Light characterizes her work as "resonant, heartfelt, and startling." Haaland will share her work and answer questions afterward.

Haaland is professor of creative writing and literature at Montana State University Billings. She is the author of two books of poetry, *Breath in Every Room*, winner of the Nicholas Roerich First Book Award, and *When We Wake in the Night*. Haaland has been teaching creative writing and literature courses at Montana Women's Prison since 2008, and she coordinates a writing-in-the-schools program for Arts without Boundaries. She has received an Innovation Award from the Montana Arts Council, a Humanities Hero Award and research fellowship from Humanities Montana, and several excellence awards for her teaching. Her work has appeared in many journals and anthologies and has been featured on the *Writer's Almanac* and *American Life in Poetry*.

For more information, please call MSU-Northern at (406) 265-3700.

Please visit the website to see the Spring 2015 Chancellor's Lecture Series:
<http://msun.edu/news/calendar/events2014/ChancellorSeries.aspx>

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 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

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.

Upcoming Faculty Workshops

Tech Snacks: Discussions - Mar. 20

Tech Snacks are 15-minute professional development workshops for MSU-Northern faculty. This week's topic: Discussions. Learn how to use the D2L Discussions tool. We'll show you how to set up discussion forums, how to grade student participation, and a few "best practice" tips for encouraging student engagement and communication online. We can't promise Socratic Dialogs, but we can at least try to get them talking! Tech Snacks is happening today, Friday, March 20, 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.

Quality Matters - Anytime Online

Quality Matters (QM) is an organization devoted to effective design in online learning. QM offers professional development workshops and certifications that are available to instructors anytime online. If you are interested, please contact Justin Mason in Extended University.

Weekly Articles

Writer's Café Menu Tip:

By Terry Blosser



Transition words and phrases are like glue that hold your writing together and direct the reader's attention. Examples include: likewise... in other words... in contrast to... another key point... the first thing to remember... and, in conclusion. Words and phrases like these are essential because they can point out connections to ideas; introduce a shift in focus, contrast, or point of opposition; indicate emphasis or agreement; and may signal a purpose, result or conclusion. To learn more, visit www.smart-words.org/linking-words/transition-words.

Improve your writing assignments! Consult with Terry Blosser at the Writer's Cafe in the library, Monday-Thursday 11 a.m.-1 p.m. and 5 p.m.-7 p.m., and Fridays by appointment.

@ Your Library

By Vicki Gist

Does your phone or tablet need to be recharged? Did you forget your charging cable at home? Well, come on over to the library and get recharged! The library has a new charging station where you can recharge your device.

The station can charge nearly 100% of mobile devices including Apple, Android, Windows, Blackberry, and more. There are 8 charging connectors-2 Apple Lightning, 2 Apple 30-Pin, 3 Micro USB and 1 Mini USB-allowing for multiple devices to recharge at the same time. The charging station can be found on the main floor, outside of study room #209. The library also has comfortable chairs, Coffee Cart, WiFi, and books and magazines to browse while you wait for your device to charge.



Tidbits

By Bill Lanier

This last weekend the Choteau Bulldogs won the Montana State Class B boys state basketball title to go along with their state championship in wrestling. The Principal/Athletic Director at Chouteau High School is Northern Alum and former Lights Basketball standout Nate Achenbach (4th All-time leading scorer in Lights Basketball history). Remember that former Lights wrestling All-American Steve French is the Bulldog's wrestling coach. It is believed to be the first time a Class B school has pulled off this feat (Thank you Scott Dean). Nate is married to former Skylights great Patty Pohle Achenbach. Additionally, this week their daughter Tristin was selected as the Great Falls Tribune girls prep athlete of the week for her performance at the girls' state basketball tournament.

