The vision of the Montana Center for Inclusive Education (MCIE) is creation of a fully inclusive society that values diversity. The mission supporting this vision states that MCIE serves the diverse population of Montana and provides continuing professional development opportunities for educators and direct service providers. MCIE also provides grant management and fiscal management for the Montana State University Billings (MSUB) College of Education’s externally funded projects. The programs of the MCIE include:

- Hearing Conservation Program (HCP)
- Montana Partnership with Regions for Excellence in STEM
- Montana Regional Education Service Area III
  - Gifted and Talented
  - Indian Education for All
  - Region III Comprehensive System of Personnel Development
  - State Personnel Development Grant
- National Science Foundation Noyce Scholarship Capacity Building and Phase One Grant
- Special Education Endorsement Project
- Teaching with Primary Sources
- Work Incentives Planning and Assistance Grant

Montana Center for Inclusive Education Professional Development Coordinated by Montana Regional Education Service Area III

2,571 service providers, school personnel, and teachers-in-preparation attended professional development events. Topics included autism, technology, classroom behavior, Title IX, and Indian Education for All.
MSUB Collaboration
Extended Campus
College of Education
College of Arts & Sciences
Disability Support Services
Grants & Sponsored Programs

Faculty Collaboration
MRESA3
Noyce Project
Region III CSPD
OPI Endorsement

Faculty Award for Exceptional Support of Students with Disabilities recipients were Earl Beck, Computer Technology Instructor at City College, and Natalie Bohlmann, Assistant Professor, Educational Foundations at the College of Education.

70 children received full hearing evaluations as the result of a referral from their parents, their school, or their physician.

125 children received medical referrals as the result of their school hearing screening or hearing evaluation.

5,857 children had their hearing screened through the Hearing Conservation Program.

Pictured L to R: Dr. Susan Gregory, Dr. Stuart Snyder, and Dr. David Snow
Federal funding came from the National Science Foundation, Noyce Scholarship grant and Social Security Administration.

State funding was provided by the Montana Office of Public Instruction.

MCIE funding was appropriated to the University system by the state legislative assembly and allocated by the Board of Regents.

Miscellaneous income includes subcontracts in the amount of $89,475, audiology fees in the amount of $13,928 and workshop/conference fees in the amount of $37,133.

Foundation income was the result of interest on the MCIE Endowment.

Federal Grants: $210,486
State Grants/Contracts: $390,952
MCIE Allocation & IDC: $177,672
Misc. Income: $140,536
Foundation: $55,373

Total Income: $975,019
Montana Center for Inclusive Education
Highlights of Fiscal Year 2014

Ten proposals were submitted to state and federal funding agencies. All ten were funded, including proposals prepared in collaboration with the College of Education.

One of these is the Noyce Phase I Project funded by the Robert Noyce Scholarship Program (National Science Foundation). It was awarded to the College of Education and is administered by MCIE. The Phase I project recruited and will train 12 undergraduate mathematics or science students and 6 STEM professionals to become secondary school teachers. They will serve in high need, rural schools in Montana.

Another, funded by the Social Security Administration and awarded to the Montana Center for Inclusive Education, is the Work Incentives Planning and Assistance Project (WIPA). WIPA goals are to provide benefits counseling to beneficiaries of Social Security Disability Insurance or Supplemental Security Income, allowing them to make informed choices about work and to support working beneficiaries to make a successful transition to self-sufficiency. In FY 14,103 beneficiaries were served.

The Montana Partnership with Regions for Excellence in STEM (MPRES), has 5 trainers that focus on the Science Framework and Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS) Toolkit and 5 trainers developing the NGSS conceptual change toolkit. The trainers each recruited 5 teacher leaders. All of the teachers are involved with an online course, face-to-face workshops, and professional learning communities.

The Montana Office of Public Instruction’s Special Education Endorsement Project worked with 23 teachers in Montana. In Fiscal Year 2014, 10 have received their special education endorsement.

An $850 scholarship from the Merry Jane Trewhella Memorial Endowment was awarded to a student majoring in education. In addition, ten scholarships totaling $10,000 were given to students with disabilities at Montana State University Billings.

As MCIE continues looking to the future, some key priorities will be to:
- monitor funding opportunities and apply for those that support the vision and mission;
- provide professional development to schools and community organizations;
- continue strengthening the partnerships with the College of Education and with Extended Campus; and
- focus on recruiting and retaining students with disabilities to MSUB.