We have a winner!

The results of the Name the CQI Bulletin Contest are in. Although almost every entry did receive at least one vote, by massive acclaim—seven votes for the first-place entry vs. six votes for the second-place entry—there is a clear winner. Henceforth, the CQI Bulletin shall be called CQI: FYI! The winning entry was submitted by Deborah Schaffer (no, there was no nepotism involved: both Deb and Rachel voted, in fact, for the second-place entry, Quality Matters). Congratulations, Deb!

However, since Deb already owns both of the signed Montana-authored mysteries being offered as prize choices, she has agreed to spread the bounty around, and therefore, Sheila McGinnis, who crafted the second-place entry, will be given a choice between Wenda Wardell Morrone’s The Year 2000 Killer and Lise McClendon’s Nordic Nights. Congratulations, Sheila!

Our thanks go to everyone who entered the contest and to the 25 civic-minded folks who actually voted. We expect to hear no complaints whatsoever about the new name from anyone who didn’t vote!

Some Holiday Greetings, CQI Style

In the spirit of CQI, we would all like to wish everyone a continuously improving holiday season! Whether you celebrate Christmas, Chanukah, Kwanzaa, Winter Solstice, all of the above, something else altogether, or nothing at all, we hope you enjoy a season of peace, of love, and perhaps most importantly, of rest, relaxation, and recuperation.

Our peers pay attention to all that we do!

Questions and concerns about CQI and accreditation that you would like to see addressed in this column can be e-mailed to Rachel Schaffer at rschaffer@msubillings.edu.

Q. How many Evaluation Committee members does it take to screw in a light bulb?

A. More than you might think, if the light bulb in question is a witty metaphor for the on-site visit that every institution undergoing accreditation review undergoes. The actual number depends on the size and complexity of the individual institution. The evaluators themselves are peers from out-of-state institutions (sometimes even from outside the accreditation region).

The evaluators will have received a copy of our self-study several weeks before they arrive and will spend on average three days on campus, reviewing our exhibits and interviewing many people in every office and department on all three campuses.

They will draft a tentative report before they leave, each evaluator taking a separate area of responsibility, and the committee chair will assemble the parts into a whole, which will be shared with our chief executive officer (i.e., our Chancellor) for factual review and then submitted to the Commission office, where the institution’s self-study, the Evaluation Committee’s report, and any responses from the CEO are thoroughly reviewed and a final decision on the institution’s accreditation status made.
Interns get dose of the real world

The Office of Career Services and Cooperative Education has been in the matchmaking business for a long time—matching students with businesses, that is. One of the most beneficial services Career Services offers is the opportunity for MSU-Billings students to sign up for internships with area businesses. The students gain experience beyond coursework and have a chance to find out firsthand if their academic interest in an area holds up in the workplace.

An article in the Summer 2006 issue of MSU-Billings’ alumni publication, Connections (“The Real World,” pp. 17, 19), points out that the number of students participating in internships was up 24% this year compared to last, with 119 Billings businesses serving as community partners. Increased faculty involvement helps explain the increase, and the enhanced visibility of the Career Services office in its new Library location may also have helped.

Whatever the reason, internships are alive and well — and thriving — at MSU B.

For anyone interested in more information about internships—or even arranging internships—please contact Mandy Brottem at 657-1717, and check out the website at <http://www.msubillings.edu/careers>.

The CQI Library Collection

Do you have a question about accreditation or assessment? The CQI Office, located in McMullen 308, now has a collection of library books for individuals to use. Visit the CQI website at www.msubillings.edu/cqi to view the listing of materials (under Activities and Projects).

FIND MORE CQI NEWS AT WWW.MSUBILLINGS.EDU/CQI

---

Standard 3: It’s all about students

Another month, another standard to meet. This month, it’s the turn of Standard Three: Students.

**Standard 3A:** Purpose and Organization examines the effectiveness and appropriateness of the services, programs, staffing, policies, and resources designed to support students enrolled in the institution.

**Standard 3B:** General Responsibilities looks in more detail at methods for meeting student needs, opportunities for student and faculty participation in policy development, policies governing students’ rights and responsibilities, provisions for student safety, publication of catalogues and handbooks, and evaluation procedures.

**Standard 3C:** Academic Credit and Records covers criteria for evaluating student achievement and the resulting award of credit, both for degree and nondegree programs; policies governing transfer credits; and security of student records.

**Standard 3D:** Student Services examines policies and procedures governing admission, student needs, placement, appeals, graduation requirements, financial aid, orientation, advising, career counseling and placement services, health care, housing, food services, co-curricular activities, bookstore, and student publications.

**Standard 3E:** Intercollegiate Athletics evaluates the goals and objectives of the intercollegiate athletic program, budget management, equitable treatment of female and male athletes, and scheduling issues.

---

The CQI/NWCCU Accreditation Visit Steering Committee

The CQI Steering Committee is a team of faculty and staff appointed by the Provost.

**THE COMMITTEE**

(* = Co-chairs)

Dr. Michael Barber, Chief Information Officer

Prof. Michael Campbell, College of Business (Accounting)

Mr. Robert Carr, Special Assistant to the Chancellor

Mr. James Ellis, ASMSUB Student Senator

*Dr. Mary Susan Fishbaugh, Interim Dean, College of Education*

*Dr. Karen Heikel, Dean, College of Professional Studies and Lifelong Learning*

Dr. Sharon Hobbs (ex-officio), College of Education, (Educational Theory & Practice)

Ms. Jane Howell, Director, Library

*Dr. Tasneem Khaleel, Dean, College of Arts and Sciences*

Mr. Stacy Klippenstein, Vice-Chancellor for Student Affairs

Dr. Kirk Lacy, Associate Dean, College of Professional Studies and Lifelong Learning

Mr. Kevin Majewski, ASMSUB President

Ms. Valerie Martinez, Associate Dean, College of Technology

Dr. Sheila McGinnis, College of Allied Health Professions, (Health Administration)

Dr. Mathew Redinger, College of Arts and Sciences (History)

Mr. Brent Roberts, Associate Director, Library

Ms. Patty Rukstad, CQI/Accreditation Office

Dr. Rachel Schaffer, College of Arts and Sciences (English)

Mr. David Sullivan, Graduate Studies

Ms. Sharon Weatherwax-Ripley, Outreach Director, College of Professional Studies and Lifelong Learning

Ms. Linda Wham, Institutional Research Analyst, Information Technology

Dr. George White, Interim Provost/Academic Vice Chancellor