

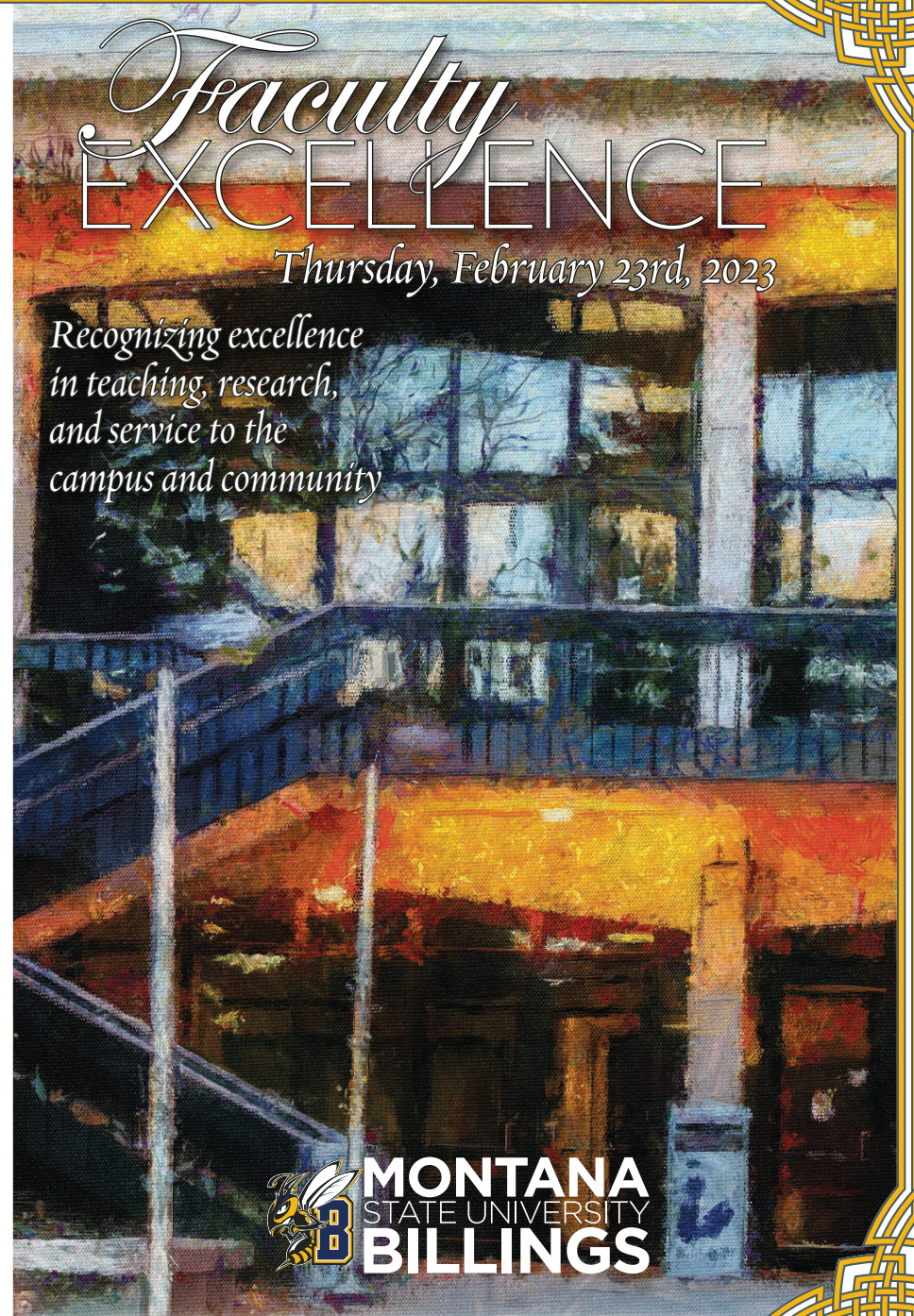


MONTANA STATE UNIVERSITY BILLINGS

1500 University Drive
Billings, MT 59101

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YEARS OF SERVICE RECOGNITION

5 YEARS OF SERVICE

Dr. Paula McMahon
Chair and Assistant Professor, Rehabilitation and Human Services, CHPS

John Pannell
Instructor, Computer Systems Technology, CC

Dr. Jessie Perius
Assistant Professor, Business Administration, COB

Jeffrey Michael Willardson, PhD, CSCS*D
Associate Professor, Health and Human Performance, CHPS

Dr. Daniel Willems
Assistant Professor, Biological and Physical Sciences, CHPS

10 YEARS OF SERVICE

Mark Earnhart
Associate Professor, Art, CLASS

Joshua P. Hill, Ph.D.
Associate Professor, Social Sciences and Cultural Studies, CLASS

John J. Roberts
Chair and Associate Professor, Music, CLASS

15 YEARS OF SERVICE

Dr. Mark Fenderson
Associate Professor, Music, CLASS

Dr. Ying Wang
Professor, Business Administration, COB

20 YEARS OF SERVICE

Dr. James Barron
Interim Associate Dean and Professor, Biological and Physical Sciences, CHPS

Dr. Susan J. Gilbertz
Interim Associate Dean, COB, and Professor, Social Sciences and Cultural Studies, CLASS

Joy Crissey Honea, Ph.D.
Professor, Social Sciences and Cultural Studies, CLASS

Dr. A.J. Otjen
Professor, Business Administration, COB

Katherine Pfau
Chair and Instructor, Transportation and Welding - Metal Fabrication, CC

Debra M. Schoenfeld, J.D.
Professor, Business Administration, COB

25 YEARS OF SERVICE

Patricia Vettel-Becker, Ph.D.
Professor, Art, CLASS

30 YEARS OF SERVICE

Bruce Brumley
Instructor, Computer Systems Technology, CC

Craig M. McKenzie
Instructor, Computer Systems Technology, CC

40 YEARS OF SERVICE

Dr. Deborah Schaffer
Professor, English, Philosophy & Modern Languages, CLASS

Dr. Rachel Schaffer
Professor and Chair, English, Philosophy & Modern Languages, CLASS

RETIREES

Michael Campbell
Professor Emeritus, Business Administration, COB

Brian Gurney
Adjunct Assistant Professor, Business Administration, COB

ACHIEVING TENURE

Austin Grant Bennett
Instructor, General Education, CC

Jeffrey Michael Willardson, PhD, CSCS*D
Associate Professor, Health and Human Performance, CHPS

AWARD SPONSORS

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Montana State University Billings Foundation

SPECIAL THANKS TO

the Faculty Excellence Committee and to all those who nominated faculty for these awards.

WINSTON & HELEN COX FELLOWSHIP AWARD

Dr. Aaron Mertes

Assistant Professor and Clinical Coordinator, Rehabilitation and Human Services, CHPS



Dr. Aaron Mertes has made a profound impact on his students, peers, and MSUB, and ensuring student success is central to his teaching philosophy.

Mertes started teaching online when he came to MSUB and immediately saw new opportunities to facilitate a successful online classroom experience. He creatively engages all students, both in-person and in virtual ways, and has been consistently praised by his students and colleagues for his teaching ability and dedication to his students.

Staying engaged and active in his field, Mertes is writing a book that is scheduled

to be published this spring relating to alternative career paths of students in the counseling program. Mertes shares that there are real needs in the community for counselors who understand both physical and mental disabilities, but not all students have the foresight to see that far into their future career. His book is a resource for students to carry with them into all stages of their professional development.

Outside of MSUB, Mertes advocates for the state-wide mental health needs of Montana constituents. He is also one of the newest members of the counseling accreditation body that sets educational standards for rehabilitation counseling programs nationwide and is on a working committee that sets up and updates licensing policies for addiction counselors in the state of Montana. He also cares very deeply about having healthy relationships with his colleagues and friends.

One of Mertes' favorite parts of teaching and scholarly work is to be a careful listener of the needs of both students and the communities he is in. When asked recently how he knows what he wants to teach, talk about, or study, he said, "I first must be a discerning listener to the needs of others. My work is in service to them, not based on what I think is good for them." Mertes' service to MSUB and impact on his students, peers and in his field make him a well-deserving recipient of the Winston & Helen Cox Fellowship Award.

PROGRAM

Welcome and Opening Remarks

Dr. Stefani Hicswa
Chancellor

Ceremony

Dr. Sepehr Eskandari
Provost and Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs

Presentation of Awards

Mr. David Russell, ASMSUB President, will present the ASMSUB Outstanding Faculty Awards

Dr. Tom Manthey, Director of Montana Center for Inclusive Education and Interim Associate Dean, College of Education, will present two MCIE Awards for Support of Students with Disabilities

Dr. Rachael De La Cruz, Co-Director of Women's and Gender Studies Center, College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences, will present two Dr. Tasneem Khaleel Awards for Mentoring Young Female Professionals

Ms. Abby Cook, Assistant Director of International Studies, will present the Promoting International Student Success Award

Dr. Tom Manthey, Director of Montana Center for Inclusive Education and Interim Associate Dean, College of Education; and Dr. Kurt Toenjes, Dean, College of Health Professions and Science and Interim Dean, College of Education, will present the Outstanding Service Learning Award

Ms. Tami Haaland, Dean, College of Liberal Arts & Social Sciences, will present the Part-Time Faculty Award

Dr. Vicki Trier, Dean, City College, will present the Excellence Award for Non-Tenured Faculty

Dr. Vicki Trier, Dean, City College, will present the City College Faculty Leadership Award

Ms. Tami Haaland, Dean, College of Liberal Arts & Social Sciences, will present three Faculty Excellence Awards

Dr. Kurt Toenjes, Dean, College of Health Professions and Science and Interim Dean, College of Education, will present a Faculty Excellence Award

Dr. Kurt Toenjes, Dean, College of Health Professions and Science and Interim Dean, College of Education, will present the Winston & Helen Cox Fellowship Award

Dr. Stefani Hicswa, Dr. Sep Eskandari, and Cox Family Members will present the Walter & Charlotte Pippenger Excellence in Innovation Award

Dr. Sep Eskandari, Provost & Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs will present the Faculty Lifetime Achievement Award

Achieving Tenure, Years of Service, and Retirees

Closing Remarks

Dr. Stefani Hicswa
Chancellor

ASMSUB OUTSTANDING FACULTY AWARDS

Dr. Rhonda Dillman

Assistant Professor
Biological and Physical Sciences
College of Health Professions and Science

Dr. Thomas Regele

Associate Professor
English, Philosophy & Modern Languages
College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences

Anne Cole

Instructor
General Education
City College

Dr. Melanie Reaves

Associate Professor
Educational Theory and Practice
College of Education

Anna Talafuse, Ph.D.

Assistant Professor
Business Administration
College of Business

FACULTY EXCELLENCE AWARD

Alex Shafer, Ph.D.

Associate Professor, Health and Human Performance, CHPS



As a trained exercise physiologist, Dr. Alex Shafer gets the greatest joy from interacting with students in classroom and laboratory experiences, as well as mentoring undergraduate research.

Since joining MSUB in 2015, Shafer has mentored an average of seven undergraduate senior thesis research projects per academic year, focusing on various health/fitness topics. Two of these student projects have been published as journal articles with another article currently under review. Many of his students presented their theses at the 2020 and 2021 National Council of Undergraduate

Research national conferences, and at MSUB's Creativity and Research Symposiums. Shafer and a student co-author also recently submitted an abstract for presentation at the 2023 American College of Sports Medicine Annual Meeting.

In 2019, Shafer joined Drs. Butler, Queen, and Toenjes to collaborate on the Undergraduate Student Research grant from MT-INBRE. This project provides students with funding to conduct original research in their field. Shafer's involvement has resulted in the funding of 16 HHP student projects.

In 2022, Shafer was a co-recipient of the Walter and Charlotte Pippenger Excellence in Innovation Award for assisting in the construction of the Yellowstone Science and Health Building, specifically the Exercise Physiology and Movement Labs. In collaboration with his colleagues, he was instrumental in outfitting these labs with cutting edge equipment that allows students and faculty to conduct research and engage in meaningful laboratory experience. Shafer also participates in multiple service activities that help promote engagement in the health sciences.

Shafer's students note that he goes above and beyond to ensure their success. His peers note that his students are engaged in his classes, and his courses are organized and logical. Shafer always strives to stay current in his field and continues to develop his teaching skills. His dedication to his field, MSUB, and his students makes Shafer a well-deserving recipient for the Faculty Excellence Award. One of his nominators shares that "Dr. Shafer has been an asset to our students and our department, and he is very deserving of the Faculty Excellence Award."

FACULTY EXCELLENCE AWARD

Dr. Jennifer Lynn

Professor, History, CLASS



Dr. Jennifer Lynn graduated from MSUB as one of the top history students and went on to receive her Ph.D. from UNC Chapel Hill, one of the most rigorous and demanding German History programs in the nation. She was then hired to teach at MSUB in 2011 and is now a tenured full professor. Lynn has been the recipient of numerous awards for her scholarship and service. Last year she was awarded a CARE grant to conduct research in Berlin for a new project, “Tanks, Gas Masks, and Beauty Queens: Images of Political Violence in the German Communist Press.” Her book manuscript “Contested Feminities:

Representations of Modern Women in the German Illustrated Press, 1920 – 1960” is under review with Berghahn Books, one of the most prestigious international scholarly presses.

Lynn is a demanding but compassionate teacher and mentor to our women students. Having a ranching background from rural Montana, she has a certain amount of “street cred” with students. Her nominator shares that when she speaks, her students listen. Lynn was instrumental in founding and directing MSUB’s Women’s and Gender Studies Center, serves as the Chair of the Academic Senate, and a co-chair of the MSUB Diversity Equity and Inclusion Council.

In the community, she volunteers as a SANE advocate for the YWCA, is a reader for High Plains Books in the “Women Writers” category, has given public lectures of the Holocaust, history and graphic novels, and monsters in European history, and is involved in the new ‘Jacket Mentors program.

Lynn’s work is exceptional and her dedication to MSUB and her students is second to none, making her a well-deserving recipient for the Faculty Excellence Award. Her nominator shares that there is no one more professionally deserving of this Faculty Excellence Award than Dr. Jen Lynn.

MCIE AWARD FOR SUPPORT OF STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

Dr. Jason Comer

Assistant Professor, Biological and Physical Sciences, CHPS



Dr. Jason Comer’s commitment to student success is central to his teaching philosophy. He especially goes above and beyond to ensure students with disabilities have the resources they need to be successful.

Comer is the MSUB botanist and the curator of the MSUB herbarium and greenhouse director. His ongoing research projects prioritize Montana plants and include local floristic inventories of public parks and genomics studies of plant communities and invasive species. Comer involves students in his work and creates unique opportunities for them to grow and succeed.

His nominator shares that he is always quick to lend a helping hand and make any accommodations needed. “What really stood out to me is that he took the time to talk to both the Disability Support Services as well as TRIO, to see what he could do to better ensure my academic success as well as my safety.” Comer’s commitment to all student success makes him a well deserving recipient of the MCIE Award for Support of Students with Disabilities.

MCIE AWARD FOR SUPPORT OF STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

Dr. Rhonda Dillman

Assistant Professor, Biological and Physical Sciences, CHPS



Dr. Rhonda Dillman has taught at MSUB for nearly 30 years, putting student success as her main priority, especially putting extra time and effort into students with disabilities. She teaches very challenging classes and keeps the standards high while assisting students with disabilities in subtle ways to be successful.

Dillman knows her students personally and will routinely check up on those who need additional support in her classes without drawing unnecessary attention. One of her student nominators shares that Dillman turned a stressful situation related to her disability into something manageable for them and looks

forward to taking her classes. Many of her students agree that she excels at accommodating them with tools they need to succeed academically, sometimes even before they know what they need.

Another nominator shares that “It is difficult to find someone who is willing to ‘bend over backward’ to help someone like me, which is why I am so fortunate to have Professor Dillman as my chemistry teacher. If there is anybody deserving of this award, it would be her.” Dr. Rhonda Dillman’s dedication to the success of her students with disabilities make her a well deserving recipient of the MCIE Award for Support of Students with Disabilities.

FACULTY EXCELLENCE AWARD

Joy Crissey Honea, Ph.D.

Professor, Social Sciences and Cultural Studies, CLASS



In 20 years at MSUB, Dr. Joy Honea has served in numerous roles, acting as the current Faculty Association president, mentoring junior faculty, assisting in the creation of the Women’s and Gender Studies Center, serving as a member of the Women’s Faculty Caucus, and co-leading the Center for Teaching and Learning (CTL.)

In 2019-2020, Honea conducted research on suicide prevention as a Fulbright Scholar in Finland. She put that work aside during the pandemic and focused on COVID-19 prevention strategies, which resulted in several presentations and a co-authored article. In 2022, she returned to suicide prevention research and published an article in the Journal of Men’s Health. She is presenting a paper on suicide and masculinity at a conference next month. In her CTL position, Honea has begun a new scholarship agenda related to HyFlex teaching. Along with her colleagues, she has presented at two national conferences, and recently submitted a proposal for a third.

Honea is also a leader off campus. She served on MSU’s President’s Commission on the Status of University Women and served on the Social Science Research Team at MSU on a National Science Foundation ADVANCE grant, focused on issues of institutional equity and increasing the representation of women in the sciences. Currently, she serves on the Higher Education Public Policy Committee for the American Federation of Teachers.

Honea’s dedication to MSUB, the faculty and her field is commendable, making her a deserving recipient of this award. Her nominator shares that “Dr. Honea is one of the hardest working faculty members I have ever met at MSUB. Her efforts on behalf of the Faculty Association are unparalleled as she has tirelessly and professionally advocated for the faculty for the last four years. It is truly a thankless but wholly necessary task, and I am humbled by her talent, energy, and sheer, undiluted hard work she’s put into the organization.”

Dr. Melissa Boehm

Associate Professor, Communication, CLASS



Dr. Melissa Boehm is a dedicated professor who teaches Media Studies and General Education courses in the Department of Communication. A former smalltown newspaper reporter, public relations specialist, and corporate trainer, she cares deeply about preparing students for success during their time at MSUB and after they graduate. To reach students where they are, she offers her courses in an array of modalities such as in-person, online, hybrid, and HyFlex.

Boehm is a beloved professor amongst her students and was awarded the Outstanding Faculty Award twice by ASMSUB. She is

currently working to create a shareable course shell for colleagues to use for the popular Introduction to Public Speaking course. By anchoring the online course with an Open Educational Resource (free textbook), she helps make the course accessible to all students from the start of the semester.

Boehm co-chairs the MSUB Women's Faculty Caucus which provides support to faculty who identify as women and meets monthly to discuss issues that impact women faculty. She also serves on Academic Senate and the Sabbatical Committee, chairs the Department of Communication DRTC, and has served on several DRTCs as an outside member.

In the Billings community, Boehm serves as a board member for the Friends of Yellowstone Public Radio and volunteers her time serving campus and the community in various roles. In Fall 2022, she presented at two peer-reviewed conferences; one project interrogated the concept of hegemonic femininities on Netflix's *Maid*, while the other focused on HyFlex teaching. She has served as a peer-reviewer for multiple journals and is a member of the Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication.

Boehm shares that she chose to teach at MSUB because she personally knows the life-changing potential of higher education for first-generation students.

Boehm's community engagement, student-first focus, and academic work makes her a well-deserving recipient of a Faculty Excellence Award. One of her nominators adds, "Dr. Boehm has been invaluable to me and helped me navigate the rigors of being a new faculty member. She is a tremendous asset to MSUB, our students and to me personally."

Dr. Heather Thompson-Bahm

Assistant Professor, Business Administration, COB



Dr. Heather Thompson-Bahm has been part of the MSUB faculty since 2015 and has held several roles mentoring students, assisting advisees, and supporting those around her. During her time teaching at City College and now in the College of Business, Thompson-Bahm's impact has touched the lives of many students and colleagues, especially female students and colleagues through mentorship, friendship, and compassion.

One of her nominators shares that as a mentor for young women, Thompson-Bahm is a role model and advocate. She is raising two daughters, teaches full-time, owns a

small business, and understands the challenges female students experience. Thompson-Bahm has gone above and beyond numerous times to support students who have faced personal challenges, from building up the self-confidence of nontraditional female students when they were having doubts, to helping single mothers get the most out of their education and even babysitting for her students during class so they could take tests. Thompson-Bahm shares that she has a soft spot in her heart to help women succeed, especially those who struggle to see their worth.

Thompson-Bahm is very active within MSUB and in the community. She has served as Department Chair of Business, Construction, Energy Technology at City College, served as Faculty Co-Director for MSUB's Center for Teaching and Learning, contributed as a lead trainer for faculty in the HyFlex modality delivery, serves on Academic Senate and the Provost's Graduation and Retention Council, and served as the College Relations Chair on the Montana State Board of SHRM and local Board of YVC-SHRM until 2022. Thompson-Bahm also revitalized the 2+2 pathway options for the Business Administration associate degree at City College, allowing students the options between pathways to Bachelor of Science in Health Administration and Bachelor of Science in Liberal Studies."

Another nominator shares that Thompson-Bahm mentored her in her college-level teaching journey and learned a lot from her concerning all aspects of course design. "She has an unmatched work ethic, and I cannot think of another person who meets and exceeds this award's expectations." Thompson-Bahm's combination of accomplishments, talent, determination, and compassion makes her a well-deserving recipient for the Dr. Tasneem Khaleel Award for Mentoring Young Female Professionals.

Dr. Ana K. Diaz

Associate Professor, English, Philosophy & Modern Languages,



CLASS

Dr. Ana Diaz is a committed faculty member who provides mentorship and academic support to women students. She has also contributed valuable work in Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion, and has brought her students along in her work. As co-chair of MSUB's DEI Council, Diaz has taken a lead in advocating for DEI work at MSUB, such as chairing meetings; providing outreach to various campus departments; working with faculty, staff, and students to offer the admission application in other languages; creating a diversity statement; and many other projects.

Diaz is also a public member of the Montana Board of Medical Examiners and the Lead for Native American, Veteran and Hispanic Outreach at MSUB. She is also the Hispanic Outreach Coordinator for MSUB and a member of the Hispanic Outreach Committee that has been working on several initiatives to highlight the presence of the Hispanic community in Billings and MSUB. For three years, Diaz was a member of the American Philosophical Association's Committee on Hispanics, which is charged with assessing and reporting on the status of Hispanics and Latinos/as in the profession and identifying discriminatory practices affecting Hispanics and Latinos/as in their profession. Diaz also serves as the Athletic Diversity and Inclusion Designee for MSUB, a position created by the NCAA.

The culmination of Diaz's work illuminates her strong commitment to MSUB and the community and makes her a well-deserving recipient of the Dr. Tasneem Khaleel Award for Mentoring Young Female Professionals Award. Her nominator adds that "Dr. Diaz presents thoughtful approaches to solving problems, has a great sense of humor, and is a model for all students, young women especially, as a powerful example of a brilliant, engaged, and kind faculty member."

Eric Gilbertsen

Instructor, General Education, CC



Mr. Eric Gilbertsen is a dedicated and enthusiastic teacher and his care and concern for students is clear in everything he does. He is focused on student learning and highly motivated to adopt all kinds of new strategies to improve his students' experience.

Gilbertsen, a general education math instructor at MSUB City College, started off at MSUB as a student in the Computer Desktop / Network Support program. After graduation, he accepted a full-time position teaching mathematics for the Academic Support Center. He currently splits his time teaching classes for the math department and CC gen ed department on both campuses. He works closely with the Academic Support Center and TRIO SSS to provide math instruction to their summer bridge programs. He supports Upward Bound by teaching in their summer programs and facilitating their ACT prep workshops. Gilbertsen started his position as a faculty co-director for the Center for Teaching and Learning in August 2022, where he helps facilitate professional development workshops and works one-on-one with colleagues on best practices.

Gilbertsen enjoys learning about new ways to improve his andragogic practices, implementing them in his face-to-face, online, and HyFlex courses. His student-first philosophy is backed up by his willingness to meet with students during evening or weekend hours when it is most convenient for them. Based on student feedback, he will be teaching a HyFlex statistics course this summer to accommodate MSUB nursing students.

Gilbertsen knows how to make faculty and students comfortable as they share ideas and work on new skills. His student-first approach and dedication to MSUB and his City College peers makes him a deserving recipient of the City College Faculty Leadership Award.

His nominator shares that "Eric is full of fantastic ideas, is always a team player, and has an incredibly positive attitude. He has an infectious energy that raises the mood of any room he enters. I imagine this is such a relief to many of his students, who may approach math with significant anxiety. He is an asset both to City College and the larger MSUB community."

EXCELLENCE AWARD FOR NON-TENURED FACULTY

Jenna Jones, MHA, RT(R), ARRT

Program Director and Instructor, Nursing, Health and Public Safety, CC



Ms. Jenna Jones is a dedicated and highly engaged instructor and program director for MSUB's Radiologic Technology program. Jones has played an integral role in building the Certificate in Ultrasound at City College, taking additional certifications between 2017-2021, which then led her to teaching online didactics for ultrasound students. She has also played an important role in developing the curriculum of the Associate in Diagnostic Medical Sonography (the only program of its kind in Montana) to replace the Certificate in Ultrasound, which will expand the program to a larger student population to meet the needs of the community.

In 2021, Jones completed her Master of Health Administration at MSU Billings and became the program director for MSUB's Radiologic Technology in May of 2022. She was also part of the second graduating cohort of MSUB's Radiologic Technology Program in 2005. Jones has played an important role in maintaining the program's newly attained JRCERT accreditation, has revised program policies and procedures, and has taken on the director role with confidence and integrity. Jones has worked hard to develop and improve the curriculum and programs at MSUB for students along with achieving many academic accomplishments herself to ensure students receive the highest quality education. Her achievements make her a well-deserving recipient of the Excellence Award for Non-Tenured Faculty. Her nominator adds that "Jenna has excelled greatly and is a huge asset to this MSU Billings community."

PROMOTING INTERNATIONAL STUDENT SUCCESS AWARD

Dr. Jessie Perius

Assistant Professor, Business Administration, COB



Dr. Jessie Perius is an MSUB alum and is a faculty member with substantial focus on student impact through exposure to international opportunities, professional development, internship work, and dynamic course modalities. Perius is very engaged in MSUB's Office of International Studies events and outreach efforts and was involved in the French and East Asian themed semester programs. In 2022, Perius received a travel grant through the Undergraduate International Studies and Foreign Languages Program, which allowed her to travel to France and Germany to study ways to enhance her international

business course. She presented her grant research along with other UISFL grant recipients and participated in fostering a partnership with Northwest College.

Perius goes to great lengths to include more global components in her classes and has had high level guest lecturers speak to her students via Webex/HyFlex such as guests from the Montana Asia Trade Office, Head of Trade Policy at the British Consulate, and professors at universities in Brazil and Germany, to name a few. She also focuses on student impact and works closely with OIS to have them speak to her students about international study opportunities. With her COB colleagues, Perius has been working on a global exchange program with partner institutions in Brazil, France, and India.

As the internship coordinator for the COB, Perius works closely with business students on employment opportunities to complete internship credits—both domestically and internationally. Her hard work on increasing global collaboration and international experiences for MSUB students is commendable and makes her a well-deserving recipient for the Promoting International Student Success Award.

OUTSTANDING SERVICE LEARNING AWARD

Dr. Melissa Sullivan-Walker

Assistant Professor, Educational Theory and Practice, COE



Dr. Melissa Sullivan-Walker is a dedicated and passionate faculty member, teaching in MSUB's Special Education program for the past six years. She is also the director of MSUB's Learning Clinic, a service-learning program that is connected to a course she teaches on individualizing curriculum for students with disabilities. Local K-12 students with disabilities come to the Learning Clinic to receive high-quality, low-cost tutoring.

Since she began teaching, Sullivan-Walker has been working to expand the Learning Clinic and improve the experiences for students. One of her primary goals of expansion is to make

the Individualizing Curriculum course more accessible to students at other universities. As a leader in special education teacher preparation in Central and Eastern Montana, MSUB prepares many special education teachers that go on to teach in Montana public schools.

Students from other Montana institutions can complete their special education endorsement at MSUB and become licensed special education teachers. However, many primarily take online courses, which posed challenges for the Learning Clinic. To address this issue, Sullivan-Walker created virtual Learning Clinic field experiences for students, extending the clinic's reach to other areas of Montana.

Sullivan-Walker's hard work and dedication to meet the needs of both MSUB's pre-service teachers and students with disabilities in the region, and her work on the Learning Clinic is exceptional. Her commitment to quality education and student success makes her a well-deserving recipient of the MSUB Outstanding Service Learning Award. Her nominator shares that "MSUB has a gem in Dr. Sullivan-Walker because of her commitment to engaging and effective service-learning experiences for our students."

PART-TIME FACULTY AWARD

Lorrie Joan Henrie-Koski

Instructor, English, Philosophy & Modern Languages, CLASS



Ms. Lorrie Henrie-Koski is a master educator who brings knowledge, instructional expertise, and a great deal of caring to her students in a variety of writing classes. Her classes are always carefully prepared and engaging, with dynamic visuals and in-class activities to help students understand and practice the concepts and techniques being discussed.

Henrie-Koski's connection to MSUB has evolved from Admissions Office administrative assistant in 1984 to Eastern Montana College graduate in 1987 to MSUB adjunct instructor in 2017. Henrie-Koski values the opportunity to serve with and learn from distinguished colleagues and to work with adult students. Using an interactive writers workshop approach, she encourages and guides students to grow as writers and to confidently add their voices to the conversations of the world around them.

Prior to returning to MSUB, Henrie-Koski had a 29-year career in K-12 education, with experiences including teaching in a two-room rural school, leading the design of Columbus Public Schools English/Language Arts curriculum, and providing writing instruction professional development for several school districts.

Outside of teaching, Henrie-Koski is co-director of the Elk River Writing Project, MSUB's satellite site of the National Writing Project. She creates professional development opportunities for teachers to incorporate writing across their curriculum and to implement instructional techniques supported by the National Writing Project. These past two years she has designed and co-led Yellowstone National Park: Cultures, Conversations, and Contemplations, a place-based learning institute for teachers funded through a grant from the National Writing Project. She also mentors younger students as site director for Scholastic's annual Art and Writing Awards for teens, and is a middle-level scorer and table leader for various NWP nationwide student writing scoring events.

Her contributions to her field and service to her students make Henrie-Koski a deserving recipient for the Excellence Award for Part-Time Faculty. Her nominator shares that "Lorrie's generosity of spirit and supportive approach to teaching writing make her an invaluable part of the English and general education programs at MSUB."