



"Second" Monday



*From the desk of: Marilynn Miller, President and CEO
Monday, January 9, 2006, 8:00 a.m.*

Happy New Year! Because of the holiday, this issue of *First Monday* is going out on the second Monday of the month.

Dr. Tasneem Khaleel, chair of the MSU-Billings Department of Biological and Physical Sciences since 1996, has been appointed permanent dean of the MSU-Billings College of Arts and Sciences. Dr. Khaleel has been serving as interim dean for 20 months. Khaleel, a popular, award-winning professor of biology and an accomplished researcher, joined the faculty 1976.

MSU-Billings College of Business Student Troy Fix took the top honor in a global online competition, the Capstone® and Foundation® Challenge, in which 333 business student teams from around the world managed virtual \$100 million companies. Troy, a 22-year-old business administration major from Ekalaka, Montana, captured first place in the Foundation® portion of the Challenge. To prepare for this intense competition, Troy, along with other students, studied finance, research & development, marketing, and production in business courses taught by COB faculty member Pat Holman. Seventeen students from Holman's classes participated in the competition. Ten of the students placed in the top 25% in the semi-finals. The Competition this year included teams from dozens of countries, including China, Russia, Germany, Canada, Taiwan, and the United States.

Thanks to the following donors for their commitments during December:

- **Billings Gazette Communications** pledged \$100,000 toward the College of Technology land purchase.
- **First Citizens Bank** pledged \$50,000 for the new First Citizens Bank Endowment Fund.
- **Sam E. McDonald, Jr.** pledged \$25,000 towards the new Men's Baseball program.
- **The Briggs Distributing Co., Inc./John & Claudia Decker Endowed Scholarship** received a \$10,000 gift from John and Claudia Decker. Briggs Distributing Co., Inc. also gave an additional \$7,193.33 to help the Wine & Food Festival.
- **Virginia Stewart** added \$10,000 to the Jane Ferguson Memorial Endowed Scholarship. Students enrolled in health, sciences, or environmental studies programs, who are residents of Carbon County or graduated from a Carbon County high school, are eligible.
- **Chefs and Cooks of Montana, Inc.** has given \$6,950 towards the Chefs and Cooks of Montana – Dr. Aaron Small Endowed Scholarship. This donation plus prior contributions brings the scholarship to an endowed status. The scholarship is given to students interested in, or actively working with, the restaurant/hospitality industry.

- **The Dickerson/Knight Access to Education Scholarship** received an anonymous gift of \$6,644. This renewable scholarship is given to a non-traditional freshman with preference given to a battered spouse, single mother, widowed, or divorced female attending school on a full-time basis.
- **Harfield Hole** donated \$5,000 to the Hole Nursing Scholarship Endowment, which aids Montana residents pursuing a nursing degree on a full-time basis.
- **The Lauson Family Trust** sent a \$5,000 donation to the Marjorie & Spencer Lauson Endowed Scholarship. Montana or Wyoming residents seeking either a B.S. in Elementary Education with a minor in Early Childhood Development or a Masters in Education with an Early Childhood option are eligible to apply.
- **Ken and Lena Heikes** donated \$3,900 to the Kenneth W. Heikes Family Endowed Scholarship and the MSU-B Retiree Endowed Scholarship Fund. The Kenneth W. Heikes Family Endowed Scholarship benefits students enrolled in accounting, information systems, or teacher education.
- **KULR-8** made an in-kind donation, valued at \$3,550, of public service announcements/airtime.
- **The Jeannette Winter Tilley Endowment for Library Excellence** received a \$2,500 gift from **Jane L. Howell**. The endowment provides funds for continued library excellence and was started to keep library technology current.
- **Sonja C. Jones** provided \$2,500 for the R. A. Jones Family Scholarship. Her gift will receive a 3-1 match from ExxonMobil. The scholarship is given to female single parents or widows with financial need.
- **Sonja & Gary Bennett** gave an in-kind gift of \$2,500 in the form of the Bighorn Magic Ram “Coppercopia.” The beautiful sculpture will be installed in Peaks to Plains Park.
- **Hansen Music** donated \$2,000 to the Music Department.
- **Sue Hart** pledged \$2,000 to the Jane Dahle Memorial Women’s Studies Scholarship, which provides book scholarships.

The MSU-Billings Office of Community Involvement is planning a way for faculty, administrators, staff, and students to help make a difference in the community on Martin Luther King Jr. Day in January. “Make it a Day On instead of a Day Off” is part of a national campaign for community service projects on January 16. Service projects for MSU-Billings participants that day will be at the Family Tree Center, the Montana Rescue Mission and Senior Helping Hands. The service projects are part of the annual events surrounding Martin Luther King Jr. Day at MSU-Billings. A public bell ringing ceremony will take place at 9:45 a.m. in Peaks to Plains Park followed by a ceremony honoring Dr. King at the Student Union Building.

Prefer e-mail? If you would prefer to receive *First Monday* electronically, please contact Administrative Assistant Shannon Behounek (sbehounek@msubillings.edu).

First Monday is provided to the supporters of the Montana State University-Billings Foundation to advance the cause of philanthropy.

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