

# Montana Center for Inclusive Education at Montana State University Billings

## 2017 Annual Report

“Creating a fully inclusive society that values diversity”



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:

- E-mentoring
- Hearing Conservation Program
- Montana Regional Education Service Area III
  - Gifted and Talented
  - Indian Education for All
  - Region III Comprehensive System of Personnel Development
  - State Personnel Development Grant
- Movin’ On in Montana
- National Science Foundation Noyce Scholarship Phase One Grant
- Pre-Employment Transition Services Technical Assistance Center
- Special Education Endorsement Project
- Work Incentives Planning and Assistance Program

## Faculty Award for Exceptional Support of Students with Disabilities



### **Don Larson**

Assistant Professor, Management, College of Business

“Professor Larsen has always gone above and beyond to help with my disability accommodations. He never gripes or moans, but instead offers any other help or assistances I may need. He goes out of his way to make sure I am comfortable by allowing me to take my exam in a separate quiet room ahead of class time, so I do not feel the pressure of noise and time constraints.”



### **Dr. Laura L. Tayer**

Lecturer, Inorganic Chemistry, College of Arts and Sciences

“When I was in her class, I felt intelligent. She never second guessed my disability in her chemistry class. She incorporated her own videos of what to expect in the lab along with writing her own lab manual experiment book, and gave pre-lab lectures. My disability disappeared in her class. ”

### **MSUB Collaboration**

- College of Arts & Sciences
- College of Education
- Disability Support Services
- Extended Campus
- Grants & Sponsored Programs

### **Faculty Collaboration**

- Cheryl Young-Pelton with Region III Comprehensive System of Personnel Development
- Ken Miller, Stuart Snyder, Mark Jacobson, and Don Wilathgamuwa with the National Science Foundation Noyce Project
- Susan Gregory with the Special Education Endorsement Project

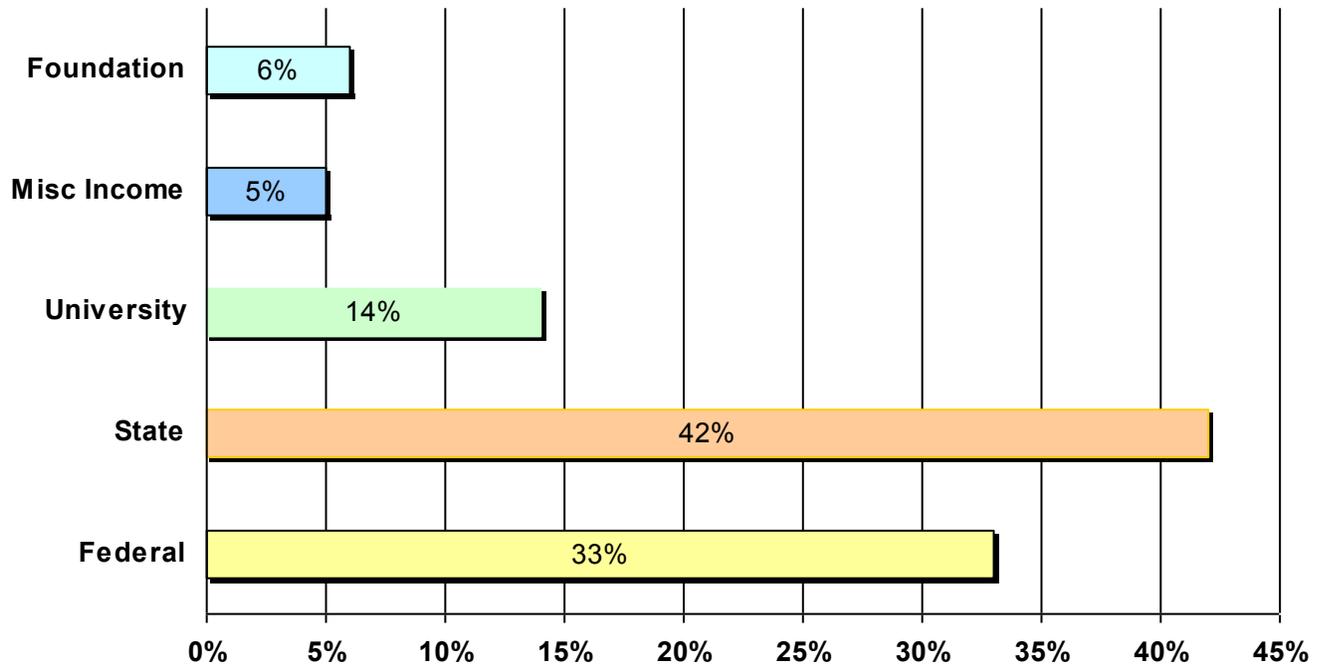
## **The Hearing Conservation Program conducted 4,877 hearing screenings.**

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



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

# Montana Center for Inclusive Education Financial Report



## **Foundation: \$70,426**

The MCIE Endowment was moved from the Foundation to MSUB and MCIE has access to spend the interest. MSUB required restrictions on spending of funds that match with the state policies.

## **Miscellaneous Income: \$63,700**

Miscellaneous income included the Pre-ETS subcontract with the Rural Institute for Inclusive Communities, audiology, and workshop fees.

## **University Funding: \$175,462**

University funding was appropriated to MCIE by the state legislature and allocated by the Board of Regents. MCIE receives a percentage of the facilities and administrative costs charged to each grant and contract.

## **State Funding: \$512,421**

State funding was received from the Department of Public Health and Human Services and the Montana Office of Public Instruction.

## **Federal Funding: \$398,175**

Federal funding was received from the National Science Foundation, Noyce Scholarship grant and the Social Security Administration.

## Highlights of Fiscal Year 2017

- Sixteen proposals were submitted to state and federal agencies and all were funded, including proposals prepared in collaboration with the College of Education.
- The E-mentoring project, funded by the Montana Department of Public Health and Human Services (DPHHS), focuses on high school students with disabilities located in rural areas and college students enrolled with Disability Support Services at Montana State University Billings. The project worked with 23 students at four schools and six mentors from MSU Billings.
- MCIE was awarded a Movin' On in Montana contract from the Montana DPHHS. The program is an opportunity for high school students with disabilities to stay in the MSUB residence halls and attend a camp that will provide them with guidance on how to successfully transition from high school to college. In Fiscal Year 2017, 17 students attended the camp on June 20-23.
- The Pre-Employment Transition Services (Pre-ETS) Technical Assistance Center project, a subcontract from the Rural Institute for Inclusive Communities, provides professional development and technical assistance to Montana Vocational Rehabilitation and Blind Services (VRBS) and local school staff so they can provide quality Pre-ETS to students with disabilities. In Fiscal Year 2017, two VRBS Field Offices and 64 schools in eastern Montana were provided consultation services and eight workshops on transition issues were offered to teachers, VRBS staff, and community providers.
- The Montana Office of Public Instruction's Special Education Endorsement Project worked with 31 teachers in Montana. In Fiscal Year 2017, nine teachers in the project received their special education endorsement.
- The Work Incentives Planning and Assistance Project (WIPA), funded by the Social Security Administration, provides benefits counseling to Social Security Disability beneficiaries who are interested in working. In Fiscal Year 2017, 329 beneficiaries were served.
- The Montana Regional Education Service Area III offered 48 professional development activities that were attended by 1,343 service providers, school personnel, and teachers-in-preparation.
- A \$1,950 scholarship from the Merry Jane Trewhella Memorial Endowment was awarded to a student majoring in education.
- Ten scholarships totaling \$10,000 were awarded to students with disabilities at Montana State University Billings.

## Future Priorities

- Apply for funding opportunities that support the vision and mission.
- Provide professional development to schools and community organizations.
- Continue to strengthen our partnerships within the Montana University System.
- Fill the director's position that will be left vacant when the current director retires.