

New Strengthsfinder Workshops

The Student Affairs Professional Development Committee is going to offer another Strengths Finder Workshop during spring semester and will continue to offer this workshop on a regular basis with the goal that everyone in the Student Affairs Division will have participated in the Strengths Finder Workshop and assessment.

**Hide not your talents. They for use were made.
What's a sundial in the shade?" – Benjamin Franklin**

In our society, there has been an overwhelming emphasis on investing your energy in order to improve areas of weakness in your life and work. However, it was found that people have more capacity for growth when they invest their energy in developing their strengths instead of correcting their deficiencies. This ½ day workshop, through an interactive assessment, video, and small group discussion, is designed to assist participants in discovering their strengths and how to make the most of them in their work.

Objectives:

- Each participant will be able to identify their top five strengths.
- Understand the next steps in making the most of their strengths and develop a plan of action to do so.
- Understand strategies to minimize their weaknesses.

Date: Tuesday, January 26th

Time: 1:00 – 5:00

Location: Bridger Room (SUB)

Materials:

Book: Strengths Finder 2.0 by Tom Rath (every participant must purchase the book and complete the assessment prior to the workshop)

You can purchase the book through Yellowjackets and Company for \$13.95 (they currently have several copies available) or it is available at local bookstores.

Please RSVP to Heather Eggum at heggum@msubillings.edu, by Tuesday, January 19th if you are interested in signing up!!! There are only 12 slots so sign up early!! If we have more than 12 people express interest, we will start a waiting list for the next session!

Strengthsfinder Follow -Up

Are you looking for a follow-up to the original Strengthsfinder workshop? The next step would be to assess your strengths in the context of your specific department. If you and folks from your office are interested in applying the concepts to your position and working through your strengths as a team, please contact Jessica Smothers to set up a specialized workshop session.

Top 5 Reasons to Keep nominating Co-workers for Proud Pickle Moments

1. Starting Spring Semester 1 monthly PPM winner will receive a **“What’s the Dill” Pickle shirt**
2. It’s ok to let others know about someone who is doing a great job!
3. You may just make a new best friend.
4. It takes very little effort to nominate someone for a PPM.
5. You may get nominated for a Proud Pickle Moment.

PPM’s can be e-mailed to Jessica Baker at:
jbaker@msubillings.edu



MSU Billings Student Affairs Staff Proud Pickle Moments – November 1-30, 2009



| <u>Nominee</u> | <u>Nominated By</u> | <u>Service Expectation</u> | <u>Reasons</u> |
|-------------------------------|---------------------|--|--|
| Kirtlye Schuman | Jenny Howie | Attitude, Consistency, and Service. | Kirtlye handles many difficult meetings with grace and patience. A meeting with one of her advisees today was a great example. In this meeting Kirtlye managed a perfect balance of customer service with a firm hand in guiding the student to take responsibility for the things that they needed to do. |
| MacKenzie Umemoto | Katharine Wight | Make each other look good, and provide the good service to colleagues that you expect from them. | I would like to nominate MacKenzie for a Proud Pickle Moment. This busy week of registration she has made an extra effort to help the advising center (and me!) stay on top of all the phone calls coming in for registration appointments. MacKenzie, thanks for helping check the voicemail throughout the day and for picking up the phone in between appointments even though you were not the walk in advisor. It has really been helpful to me!! :) |
| Dee Schafnitz and Mike Morgan | Monica Powers | | A student came in on a Friday with a money problem. He was being awarded money by SOS/TRiO and had not received the money and the rent was overdue. Thanks to some quick checking by Dee, she was able to determine that the student had a zero account balance and would in fact be receiving a check...the paperwork just wasn't processed yet. So I called Mike Morgan to see what we could do. Mike was very gracious and offered to give the student the needed money and bill his account at my assurance that the student did have money coming to him. I typed a memo stating so, sent the student to the business office, Mike gave him the cash, and the rent was paid. All of this within about a 30 minute window! Everyone was cooperative and helpful, the student was so very grateful, it was just a great example of putting the customer—or the student—first! I really appreciated everyone's effort! |
| Amelia McDanel | Charlotte Kobold | I think this covers all categories of attitude, consistency, teamwork, service. | At the student affairs conference/luncheon this week, Amelia McDanel (SOS/TRiO Administrative Assistant), got personally involved in keeping with our campus environmental cause. She brought in a recycle container bin to the ballroom so that all those empty soda pop cans and bottles would/could be recycled. She also asked if at future events more receptacles could be put out. |
| Rose Judge | Lindsay Blackburn | Service, Consistency, Attitude | When I realized how much I needed a hands-free headset for conference calls, Rose not only offered her knowledge of the MSUB phone systems, but she provided great advice and service. She even brought her own headset over to my office, and said I could try it out before placing my order. Rose consistently goes "above and beyond" in customer service to Student Affairs staff, and definitely deserves a pickle! |
| Mandy Brottem | Lindsay Blackburn | Teamwork, Consistency, Service | When students stop by my office to learn more about Campus Corps, they frequently say "Mandy told me about..." I appreciate her willingness to share information about our program to qualifying student interns, even though it is not a part of her job description. Way to be a team player, Mandy! Thanks for helping our students find additional financial help in trying economic times! |
| Becky Lyons | Rita Kratky | | Please add Becky Lyons to the proud pickle moments for her hard work, patience and professionalism with a very challenging student. Becky did everything possible and then some, to give the pickle to the student. Way to go, Becky!!! |



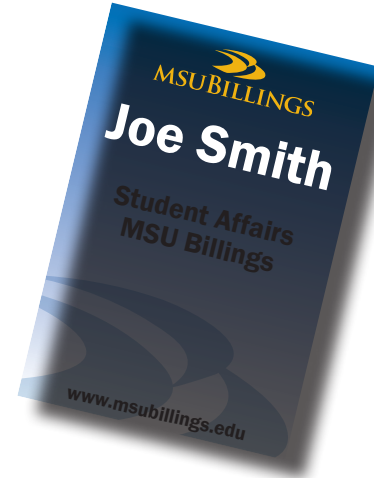
Happy Birthday

| | |
|--------------------|-----------|
| Becky Lyons | Dec. 20th |
| Sandy Goulet | Dec. 31st |
| Cheri Johannes | Jan. 12th |
| Stacy Klippenstein | Jan. 13th |
| Nancy Burton | Jan. 14th |



Pickle Prowlers

The “Pickle Prowlers” will be on the loose! Pickle Prowlers are members from the Professional Development Committee who will be prowling around MSU-Billings Spring Semester. They will be looking for Student Affairs staff members wearing their nametags. **It could just mean a surprise for those who do wear their nametags!**



Advising & Housing

from the Office for Community Involvement

thank you!

Vice Chancellor

Human Resources

for partnering with MSUB students at Service Saturday this semester

2009-10 Student Affairs Professional Development Committee

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|----------------------|--------------------------------|
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We want your feedback. If you have an idea for a seminar or workshop or would like to present on a particular subject please let our committee know by contacting Kealy Dowd (896-5910) or Jessica Smothers (657-2021).