

*in recognition of excellence
in teaching, research, and service
to the campus and community*

Faculty EXCELLENCE



MONTANA STATE UNIVERSITY BILLINGS

1500 University Drive
Billings, MT 59101

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MARCH 2, 2017

MSU BILLINGS | ACCESS & EXCELLENCE

RETIREES

Dr. Kathleen Gabel
Dr. Sharon Hobbs
Tasneem F. Khaleel, Ph.D.
Dr. Loretta Morgan

IN MEMORIAM: THOSE WE LOST IN 2015

Professor Ben Steele
Dr. Marvin Gershon Bulgatz

AWARD SPONSORS

The Winston & Helen Cox Fund
Montana State University Billings
Associated Students of Montana State University Billings
Montana State University Billings Foundation

SPECIAL THANKS TO

Debbie Brown
Sarah Brockel
Blair Koch
Patrick Williams

Joy Ott

and all those who nominated faculty for these awards



N O R T H E R N

*A special thanks to
Mike and Chris Nelson
and the Northern Hotel*



PROGRAM

Welcome and Opening Remarks

Dr. Ronald Larsen
Interim Chancellor

Ceremony

Dr. Robert Hoar
Provost, Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs

Presentation of Awards

Greg Dicharry, ASMSUB President, and Katelyn Focht, ASMSUB Student Resolution Officer, will present the ASMSUB Outstanding Faculty Awards

Jeff Rosenberry, Interim Associate Dean of Students, will present the Outstanding Service Learning Faculty Award

Dr. Matthew Redinger, Vice Provost, will present the Promoting International Student Success Award and two MCIE Awards for Support of Students with Disabilities

Dr. Jennifer Lynn will present the Tasneem Khaleel Award for Mentoring Young Female Professionals

Dr. Clifford Coppersmith, Dean, City College, will present the City College Leadership Award

Dr. Barbara Wheeling, Dean, College of Business, will present the Excellence Awards for Part-Time and Non-Tenured Faculty

Dr. Robert Hoar will present three Faculty Excellence Awards

Dr. Christine Shearer, Dean, College of Arts and Sciences, and Dick Cox will present the Winston & Helen Cox Fellowship Award

Chancellor Ronald Larsen, Dick Cox, and Dr. Robert Hoar will present the Pippenger Award Winner

Years of Service and Retirees

Closing Remarks

Dr. Ronald Larsen
Interim Chancellor



ASMSUB OUTSTANDING FACULTY AWARDS

Ms. Chairsty Stewart

Instructor, Math and Writing
City College



Dr. Alex Shafer

Assistant Professor
Health and Human Performance
College of Allied Health Professions



Dr. Scott Butterfield

Associate Professor of Accounting
Business Administration
College of Business



Dr. Rachel Schaffer

Professor of English
English, Philosophy and Modern Languages
College of Arts and Sciences



Ms. Melinda Tilton

University Lecturer
Communication & Theatre
College of Arts and Sciences



YEARS OF SERVICE RECOGNITION

5 YEARS

Dr. Samuel Boerboom
*Assistant Professor, Communication, Dept. of
Communication & Theatre, College of Arts &
Sciences*

Trevor Brown
*Instructor, Welding & Metal Fabrication, Dept. of
Transportation & Industry, City College*

Brent Finger
*Assistant Professor, Psychology, Psychology Dept.,
College of Arts & Sciences*

Leanne K. Gilbertson, Ph.D.
*Assistant Professor, Art, Art Dept., College of Arts
& Sciences*

Jodi Lightner, MFA
*Assistant Professor, Art, Art Dept., College of Arts
& Sciences*

Dr. Paul J. Pope
*Assistant Professor, Political Science, Dept. of Social
Sciences & Cultural Studies, College of Arts &
Sciences*

Francisco Saldivar
*Instructor, Sustainable Energy Technology, and
Chair, Dept. of Business, Construction, and Energy
Technology, City College*

Dr. Jennifer Scroggins
*Assistant Professor, Sociology, Dept. of Social
Sciences & Cultural Studies, College of Arts &
Sciences*

Kelly D. Shumway
*Instructor, Nursing, Dept. of Nursing, Health, &
Public Safety, City College*

10 YEARS

Natalie L. Bohlmann, Ph.D.
*Assistant Professor, Educational Foundations,
Dept. of Educational Theory & Practice, College of
Education*

Brenda Dockery
*Adjunct Instructor, Marketing, Dept. of Business
Administration, College of Business*

Dr. Thomas Lewis
*Professor, Biochemistry, Dept. of Biological &
Physical Sciences, College of Arts & Sciences*

Suzette Nynas
*Program Director/Assistant Professor, Dept. of
Health & Human Performance, College of Allied
Health Professions*

Thomas Regele
*Associate Professor, Modern Languages &
Literature, Dept. of English, Philosophy, & Modern
Languages, College of Arts & Sciences*

15 YEARS

Vern M. Gagnon
*Instructor, Automotive Technology, Dept. of
Transportation & Welding, City College*

Lisa Kemmerer
*Professor, Philosophy, Dept. of English, Philosophy,
& Modern Languages, College of Arts & Sciences*

Don Larsen, Ph.D.
*Associate Professor, Management, Dept. of Business
Administration, College of Business*

20 YEARS

Dr. Carl Castles
*Assistant Professor, Physiology and Biology, Dept.
of Biological & Physical Sciences, College of Arts &
Sciences*

25 YEARS

Kenneth Miller, Ph.D.
*Professor and Chair, Dept. of Educational Theory &
Practice, College of Education*

30 YEARS OF SERVICE

Abbas Heiat, Ph.D.
*Professor, Information Systems, Dept. of Business
Administration, College of Business*

35 YEARS

St. John Robinson
*Professor, Modern Languages and Literature, Dept.
of English, Philosophy, & Modern Languages,
College of Arts & Sciences*

40 YEARS

Stephen Coffman
*Professor and Chair, Dept. of Communication &
Theatre, College of Arts & Sciences*



WINSTON & HELEN COX FELLOWSHIP AWARD

Jodi Lightner

Assistant Professor, Art, CAS



Art has always been her first passion but while Jodi Lightner was working on her Master of Fine Arts, she realized teaching was a worthwhile pursuit as well.

The assistant professor of art is being recognized as this year's Winston and Helen Cox Fellowship Award winner for her impressive record as an artist and educator.

Jodi was hired by MSUB just two years after she earned an MFA.

"Professor Lightner was hired to teach painting and drawing in the spring of 2012 after a nationwide search that yielded 177 applications, which demonstrates the high esteem in which she is held by her colleagues in the department," a colleague said. "Since joining our department, Jodi has continued to pursue professional opportunities, and has been successful in securing exhibitions of her work and in being invited to other campuses as a visiting artist."

While at MSU Billings, Jodi has received a number of internal and external grants to support her creative endeavors.

Additionally, Jodi is a leader in foundational education, serving a three-year term as the Fine Arts representative on the General Education Committee and acted as advisor for the Art Students League.

She also believes in international education and has proudly represented the University abroad. In 2013, Jodi was chosen by administration to represent MSUB at a partner campus in Xuchang, China. She played a key part in students traveling to Italy and Spain in 2014 and taught a painting course at the Pieve International School near Perugia, Italy in 2015.

"I love the autonomy students have at the college level," Jodi said. "They are young, individual adults choosing to be here and choosing to learn and I get to be able to help them explore their future and help set them on a successful path."

OUTSTANDING SERVICE LEARNING AWARD

Lynne Fitzgerald

Program Coordinator and Assistant Professor, Outdoor Adventure Leadership Program, CAHP



Lynne Fitzgerald is passionate about getting her students engaged with and serving the Billings community.

"Service learning is an important aspect of education as it gives students real-life, hands-on experience," Lynne said. "Plus, both the community and the students benefit from it."

Lynne's dedication to service learning has had a significant impact on the students, university, and community.

Her REC 411 Adventure Guiding and Instructing classes have been collaborating with the Billings Parks and Recreation Department for four years on "Refresh the Rims."

This annual fall clean-up has grown substantially.

"It's really gained momentum and every year the turnout from community volunteers grows. Students have been very successful in recruiting volunteers and we had more than 150 people that came out," Lynne said. "Last year, we were able to expand our clean-up area to include land below the Rims as well."

Chris Waite, volunteer coordinator with Billings Parks and Recreation, said Lynne is especially deserving of this award.

"She's incredible," he said. "She has such passion for her students and does a really good job preparing them for success during the event and then does a really good job evaluating them afterward. Refresh the Rims not only gets the Rims cleaned up, but it creates an opportunity to have this wonderful dialogue with the public about how important our public spaces are."

Another popular service learning opportunity her students engage in is working with Skyview High School's physical education department to teach rappelling, ropes, and challenge courses for students. She and her Outdoor Adventure Leadership students also help many other community groups, including the Audubon Education Center and Boy Scouts.

Lynne's commitment to service is apparent as well. She was a Service Learning Fellow in 2015 and currently serves on the Service Learning Advisory Board.



PROMOTING INTERNATIONAL STUDENT SUCCESS AWARD

Don Larsen, Ph.D.

Assistant Professor, Management, COB



Recognized for the special bond and dedication to MSUB's international students, Don Larsen, Ph.D., is this year's Promoting International Student Success Award recipient.

Don, whose service to MSUB spans 15 years, says international students, like non-traditional students, add an exciting dimension to the classroom.

"It leads to more discussion and students get so much more when there are other perspectives and outside experience brought into and shared with the class," Don said.

During his Human Resource Management class, for instance, international students offer a context that many American students simply do not have.

"I love for them to talk about their work experience in their home country," Don said. "While I'm always surprised at how much is similar in the workplace, oftentimes their experience is much different."

He tells a story about a student from Saudi Arabia who worked as courier. When asked what the biggest workplace concern he had was, the student answered, "You don't want to hit a camel."

Montanans are well aware the risks of hitting wildlife on the open road but the classroom discussion highlights how businesses may deal with similar problems but in entirely different venues.

A student was impressed with how well Don connected with everyone. This student had an opportunity to present information about the German Health System during Human Resource Management.

"He shows special interest to our culture, shares stories, and really puts effort into involving us in his lectures," the student said. "I personally experienced his help a lot of times already. He used my experiences from Europe to show the class how we do certain things in Germany."

Don is truly an inspiration for MSUB as he goes above and beyond in supporting our international students.

FACULTY EXCELLENCE AWARD

Dr. Paul Pope

Assistant Professor, Political Science, CAS



Dr. Paul Pope is recognized as an excellent instructor and campus leader who strives to make his classroom as innovative and impactful as possible to drive student success.

For this commitment, the assistant professor of political science is among three faculty members receiving a Faculty Excellence Award.

"Dr. Pope is an active and enthusiastic member of the department and never hesitates to step up to serve students and the MSUB community," a colleague said. "He is innovative and continually working to improve curricula and programs to better serve our students."

Paul has been teaching at MSUB for five years and is a tenure-track professional.

"I am heavily influenced by the 'Finnish Model' of education," he said. "It's a very innovative and highly successful way to teach and I find that students really seem to like the approach."

Highlights from his extensive service includes a reelection to the Academic Senate in 2016, after serving in 2013. He is currently serving a second year as Secretary of the Senate.

When he isn't teaching political science, Paul can be found mastering beer brewing and sharing that passion with others.

Through Extended Campus, Paul has been instrumental in creating popular courses like the MSUB Learn and Taste Craft Beer series and the establishment of a Certificate in Craft Brewing and Fermentation.

"I have also worked closely with Extended Campus to create a graduate Certificate in Nonprofit Administration and Leadership and we are working with another campus group to create several nine-credit summer academic programs to prepare high school teachers to teach dual enrollment," Paul said.

Scholarship is also important to Paul, who has been invited to review seven political science textbooks, as well as serving as a reviewer for a trio of international academic journals.



FACULTY EXCELLENCE AWARD

Bruce M. Brumley

Instructor of Computer Systems Technology, City College



Technology has changed rapidly while Bruce M. Brumley has been teaching for 25 years, but that hasn't kept him from becoming internationally sought for his skills and teaching. Over that period, he has also become a well-known leader at City College and the MSUB campus.

For his accomplishments in teaching, service, and scholarly activities, Bruce is amongst this year's Faculty Excellence Award recipients.

"It never gets old," Bruce said. "There is always something new to learn, since the technology does change so quickly I have to recertify certain skills every three years."

Highlights of his work include integrating the Raspberry Pi computer into the second-year CST students' network class.

He also teaches for Kids on Campus: introduction and advanced Raspberry Pi, as well Minecraft camps. He is active with Girls in Science and other community groups.

"My biggest challenge is having enough hours in the day to get everything done I want to do, especially with all of the outreach," Bruce said.

Bruce's dedication to service runs deep. He served as chair for the Academic Senate and has served on the Chancellor's Cabinet, Executive Budget Committee, and University Budget Committee, to name a few.

His peers know how hard Bruce worked to gain prominent status in the Cisco world, as the top Cisco Networking Academy Instructor of North America.

He has taught these skills to students at Guangxi University, China, and presented at the University of Cambridge, United Kingdom.

"Mr. Brumley's accomplishments go without saying," a colleague said. "He has been a longtime leader of not only City College, but the University as well. He has made his program into a premier Cisco Networking program that prepares students for lucrative careers offered in the state and country."

MCIE AWARD FOR SUPPORT OF STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

Dr. Laura L. Tayer

Lecturer, Inorganic Chemistry, CAS



In her 21 years at Montana State University Billings, Dr. Laura Tayer has been driven to support all students.

It is for this dedication that Laura is one of this year's recipients of the MCIE Faculty Award for Exceptional Support of Students with Disabilities.

"I really want to make sure that in the lab a disability doesn't prevent learning," Laura said.

She loves her chemistry lab classes because they allow both teacher and student to form a relationship.

"I really enjoy the contact I get to have with students," she said. "The main purpose in the lab is really one on one. It's very hands on with the students. I enjoy that so much more than lecturing with a sea of faces because often you don't get to know the students."

Students sang the inorganic chemistry lecturer's praises for providing extra lectures and materials for those needing help.

"When I was in her class, I felt intelligent. She never second guessed my disability in her chemistry class," a student said. "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 when I was in her class."

This support gave the student a boost in confidence because she didn't have to worry about her disability in Laura's class.

Laura said the award is an honor.

"I was surprised about the award," she said. "I try to support students with disabilities but I didn't think I was doing any more than other faculty members do. We are all very open to accommodations."



MCIE AWARD FOR SUPPORT OF STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

Don Larsen, Ph.D.

Assistant Professor, Management, COB



Receiving the MCIE Faculty Award for Exceptional Support of Students with Disabilities is an honor Don Larsen, Ph.D., takes to heart.

“My daughter is in college and uses the equivalent of Disability Support Services,” Don said. “I have a soft spot for this; it’s very important to support our students and make accommodations so they can succeed.”

The associate professor of management with the College of Business said his experience has been that students asking for accommodations are often leaders in the classroom.

“These students don’t ask for much and they don’t like to be singled out. They just want a hand of help in areas they need it,” Don said.

Students are grateful for support from faculty like Don.

“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 assistance I may need,” a student said.

The student continued, “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.”

Don has been at MSUB for 15 years and brings experiential learning to his courses in management, leadership, and human resource management.

His previous experience includes time serving as a senior auditor for the U.S. Department of Defense and as a consultant. He has published in journals such as SAM Advanced Management Journal and Journal of Business and Psychology.

FACULTY EXCELLENCE AWARD

Dr. Salem Lotfi Boumediene

Associate Professor, Accounting and Business, COB



Dr. Salem Lotfi Boumediene is recognized for his strong commitment to continuous improvement in teaching, high degree of integrity, and as a University and industry leader. For this, he has been named one of this year’s Faculty Excellence Award winners.

Salem has been teaching at MSUB’s College of Business for four years and is an associate professor of Accounting and Business.

A colleague said Salem’s methods stand out in the classroom.

“Among his positive attributes as a teacher, Dr. Boumediene is a faculty leader in utilizing the TEIL (Technology Enhanced Interactive Learning) classroom to improve the learning outcomes of students in his Accounting courses,” the colleague said.

Further, Salem receives high accolades from students and via peer review.

“These reviews are extremely favorable in his use of the technology and group work, resulting in students coming early and leaving late because they are so highly engaged in learning.”

Salem has over 24 years of experience as a college professor and an independent accounting and information systems consultant.

He is an industry leader as well. Currently Salem is committee chair of a section of the American Accounting Association and the Director of Information Systems for the Western Decision Sciences Institute.

He has published articles in several research journals and a book on the statistical properties of accounting information and the fraud in financial statements and received several awards for his research.

It’s exciting to experiment with different teaching methods, Salem said, and he enjoys watching students in the TEIL room.

“Teaching active learning and group learning is important because as engagement increases, so does student success,” he said.

Salem is dedicated to student success and is an inspiration to all at MSU Billings.



Jessie Perius, MBA

Part-Time Instructor, COB



Jessie Perius, MBA, is into her second semester teaching at the College of Business and she is already setting herself apart as an MSU Billings leader.

Her dedication to continued learning and student success is just one reason why Jessie is being recognized as this year's Excellence Award for Part-Time Faculty winner.

Her Sales and Sales Management class is continuing a project started by Brenda Dockery (winner of this year's Excellence Award for Non-Tenured Faculty) to update the MSUB

Foundation alumni lists and teach cold-calling skills to students.

The class utilizes alumni information provided by the Foundation to conduct sales calls and collect pledges that support MSUB.

Jessie also works full-time as an office manager for a local company, but is seriously considering a career in higher education.

"I really like teaching. I feel like I should have considered it sooner but I didn't," she said. "But I should have."

Jessie is an MSUB alumna and said her connection with the University provided her the opportunity to be doing what she loves.

"I've had tremendous support from everyone here. The resources are here if you need it and I love that," she said.

A colleague indicated that even though Jessie has not been in the classroom long, her students love her.

"I advise several students in the College of Business and have had the students tell me how much they liked Jessie's class, how interactive her teaching style is," she said. "The projects and the teaching methods she uses to engage learners with activities in the classroom are very effective tools in teaching students and maintaining excitement about the learning process."

Jenna Phillips, LCPC

Mental Health Counselor & Phoenix Center Coordinator



Jenna Phillips, Phoenix Center Coordinator and Mental Health Counselor at MSUB, is being recognized for her contributions toward mentoring and advocating for the advancement of women and girls.

She is this year's winner of the Tasneem Khaleel Award for Mentoring Young Professional Women.

Jenna's work reflects the nature of the award, given to an individual who endeavors to provide support, programs or resources related to women and education, career opportunities, women's health, elevating the image and self-

esteem of women and promoting gender equality.

"Jenna continues to work tirelessly to create programming and resources for the Phoenix Center and raise awareness of sexual assault and domestic violence," a colleague said.

"As well as providing a 24-7 hotline for victims of sexual assault, she has organized a number of events on campus."

Jenna's leadership has been instrumental in the Phoenix Center coordinating with the Women's and Gender Studies Center to create an "Empowerment Quilt," which honors survivors.

Additionally, the Center was involved in what will likely be the first annual One in Five Film Festival and the screening of "The Hunting Ground."

Jenna, who has worked at MSUB since 2015 is also a new member of the Women's Studies Advisory Board. She has also worked to build inroads with community groups to advocate for survivors.

"Getting this award, I had to take a step back and reflect on the important work we do on campus," Jenna said. "I see an array of survivors for mental health counseling and when I'm working with women, I explore how women are often put into small boxes by society and I use that in my sessions."

For Jenna, it's all about supporting and fighting for those that need it.



CITY COLLEGE LEADERSHIP AWARD

Elizabeth Fullon

Department Chair, General Education, City College



Over the past 10 years, Elizabeth Fullon has risen in rank at City College and made a name for herself as an astute leader.

Elizabeth, department chair of General Education, is being recognized for her contributions at City College at Montana State University Billings and is this year's City College Leadership Award winner.

The award honors those with a superior record of leadership, performance, resourcefulness, and dedication, as well as having noteworthy involvement in activities that have advanced the academic programs at

City College.

She is a tireless advocate for all programs at City College, rather than simply maintaining a focus on General Education.

"Elizabeth's determination and passion for the success of City College, the students, student clubs, and faculty is unsurpassed," a colleague said. "She demonstrates a true passion at MSU Billings, not just through her words but her actions."

Some highlights of Elizabeth's service to City College include serving as the Assessment Coordinator, writing the grant proposal that allowed the school to access a piece of the World Trade Center, and being instrumental in the annual 9/11 Memorial remembrance event. She is currently the student Veterans Club advisor and actively participates in the Women's and Gender Equity Group.

As an academic and retired Air Force reservist, Elizabeth said she has witnessed the perils of leadership and competitive résumé building and learned to advocate a deliberate but thoughtful approach to leadership.

"As a social constructionist, I believe that culture resides in discourse," she said. This leadership culture centers on dialogue and inclusivity. In addition to creating a new assessment process for City College, Elizabeth is most proud of her dedication to the school's veterans.

"It's not just students. We have faculty, staff, and others that have veterans in their family," she said. "It truly is a veteran community."

EXCELLENCE AWARD FOR NON-TENURED FACULTY

Brenda Dockery

Adjunct Marketing Instructor and Online and Internship Advisor, COB



Although Brenda Dockery now teaches marketing classes online, she tries to integrate experiential exercises into the curriculum.

In the classroom, Brenda would open the semester by pretending to be a student. This lesson in gatekeepers not only broke the ice but also became a student favorite.

"Now that I'm teaching online, it's a different venue but I still do creative things," said the adjunct Marketing professor. "One of the things I do is a 'Reality Check' where

students have to unplug from technology and social media and then reflect about it. It's amazing how students realize how integrated and connected they are to technology at all times."

For this dedication and style of teaching, as well as her approachability, Brenda is being recognized with the Excellence Award for Non-Tenured Faculty.

She won the award in 2008. Her service to the College of Business includes developing, programming, and now teaching the online Sales & Sales Management and Social Media Marketing courses, which came about due to her effort in increasing online elective availability.

Brenda also serves as a mentor to colleagues.

"Brenda Dockery has been one of my greatest resources to ensuring my success at the university," a colleague said. "Because of my own experience working with Brenda, it comes as no surprise that her interactions with students have been just as positive."

Brenda is a graduate of MSU Billings, where she won the award for Outstanding Senior in Marketing. Prior to returning to school, she was in advertising and media sales for over 25 years.

