

MSUBILLINGS CONNECTION

January
2017

THE

Student Support Services TRIO



20

SPRING SEMESTER

17

Are you ready for a new semester? Here are some helpful tips to make sure you start off the new year with academic success:

- ✍ View your web bill and confirm your attendance (myInfo - Student Services - Student Records - View Web Bill or call Financial Aid: 657.2188)
- ✍ Check with the Business Office for any balances you may owe: 406.657.2301
- ✍ Fill out 2017-18 FAFSA and check on current financial aid status in the Financial Aid Office in McMullen Hall: 657.2188
- ✍ Create the FSA ID (instructions available at <http://www.msubillings.edu/finaid/>)
- ✍ Three letter of recommendations are required for the scholarship application (You will need their email addresses)
- ✍ Confirm class times and locations
- ✍ Print and read syllabi for classes

- ✍ Order books for classes or contact Kerri Rogers in the SSS/TRIO Office to see if a copy of the book is available for check out: 657.2162
- ✍ Sign-up for Tutoring/Study Groups which are due February 10 (Forms may be found at <http://www.msubillings.edu/sss/> or picked up at the SSS/TRIO office)
- ✍ If you are eligible for work study, look for job positions at Career Link or call to Advising & Career Services: 657.2240
- ✍ If you have an internship, do not forget to fill out the application
- ✍ For help with organization, time management, study skills or other learning strategies, schedule an appointment with your mentor
- ✍ Priority deadline for applying to the SSS/TRIO program is January 27
- ✍ Visit the office to meet new members of our staff and find out about upcoming opportunities

2017

MSU BILLINGS

Social Spotlight

The Accounting Club

The mission of the Accounting Club is to provide students with the opportunity to strengthen their skills in communications, leadership, marketing, and management, to enable them to bridge the gap between academic skills and professional skills. Membership is open to anyone who has a concentration in Business, it is not just for Accounting majors. It also looks great on a résumé! During the Fall 2016 semester, the club gave away over \$1200 in prizes. Students who attended every meeting were eligible for a wide-variety of goodies. During the spring semester, the club will meet the last Thursday of each month in Library 148 at 4:30 pm. This semester the meetings will focus on topics in accounting, marketing, finance, management, and other business-related issues. "The club offers a variety of professional speakers, social activities and interaction with faculty and community leaders outside of the classroom. It is a tremendous boost for students and gives them the opportunity to improve their leadership skills and to get involved with the many benefits of this outstanding club," Dr. Scott Butterfield, Faculty Advisor.

CLUB OFFICERS:

President: Scott Gorman
 Vice President: Amy Sexton
 Treasurer: Shimmeri Secrist
 Secretary: Alayna Marten
 Faculty Advisor:
 Dr. Scott Butterfield



Stellar Student

Scott Gorman is a student you've probably seen on campus. Maybe you had a class with him, he might have been your mentor at SSS/TRIO, or you saw him leading an Accounting Club meeting. He is a busy guy. In addition to his 4.0 GPA this semester, his active participation in SSS/TRIO, and being President of the Accounting Club, Scott donates a lot of his time to non-profit agencies on campus and in the Billings community.

After retiring from the transportation industry, Scott became a student at MSU Billings. He had spine surgery and, through help from Vocational Rehabilitation, he is pursuing a major in Accounting and minors in: Organizational Communication and the Honors Program. He is hoping to compress a five year degree into three years. By taking intercession and summer classes, he is well on his way to accomplishing this goal. Scott also worked for a while at Delta in the weight and distribution department. He ultimately hopes to pursue a career in Forensic Accounting for Delta. This job will mostly likely require him to move to a "hub city" like Atlanta, Salt Lake City, or Minneapolis.

He is a person who likes to stay active while working, and set a positive example for his children. Scott has a daughter, 16 and a son, 13. During the 2016 Fall semester, he helped with a fundraiser that raised \$800 for Landon's Legacy Foundation. This is an organization that honors Landon Smith. The money it raises will create a special needs baseball field in Billings. It will be a smooth, seamless surface for players and mobility equipment to maneuver. It will also feature adaptive equipment allowing all special needs children and adults to play together.

Perhaps Scott's busiest volunteering project is Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA). Scott began his interest in the Accounting field by reading tax law after thinking he should be getting more money on his tax return. This year, Scott will volunteer for the program as part of his honors internship. It provides free electronic state and federal filing for people who make less than \$54,000 and do not own farm land. If you are interested in becoming a volunteer, you may attend a 6-hour training on January 15 to become certified. If you are in need of help filing your taxes and you meet the criteria, volunteers will be on campus every Saturday from late January through mid-April. Please visit the HRDC site to find out more: <http://hrdc7.org/programs/volunteer-income-tax-assistance-vita/>

Thanks, Scott for being a Stellar Student and for all your contributions on campus and in our community!

What you need for filing your taxes with VITA:

- Social Security card for tax payer, spouse, and all dependents
- Valid photo ID for taxpayer and spouse
- ALL tax documents issued for the tax year, including: W-2, 1098, 1099, Healthcare Form 1095 A, B, or C, K-1, and dependent care amount spent with provider EIN
- Last year's tax return
- Check statement, blank check, or savings account number

On campus at MSUB: Saturdays, 11:30 am - 5:30 pm, SUB-Beartooth and Missouri Rooms

Important Dates

January

2017

January 15- Residence Halls Open

January 16- Martin Luther King, Jr. Day; NO CLASSES & OFFICES CLOSED

January 18- Classes Begin

January 20- Late Registration (\$40 fee applies)

January 26- Last day to Register/Add Classes

January 28- FREE Tax Prep with MSUB Accounting Club and HRDC

February 1- Deadline for MSUB Scholarship Application

Get Involved

Wednesday, January 18

§ Non-Traditional Coffee Hour, UCM 12-2 pm

§ Java with Dr. Joe, COE 1st Floor Lobby 1:30-2 pm

Thursday, January 19

§ International Club Meeting, Upper SUB Atrium 4-5 pm

Saturday, January 21

§ Service Saturday, SUB Atrium 9:30 am- Noon

Tuesday, January 24

§ Chi Alpha, SUB Beartooth 7-9 pm

Wednesday, January 25

§ Employers on Campus, SUB Atrium 11 am- 1 pm

Thursday, January 26

§ International Club Meeting, Upper SUB Atrium 4-5 pm

§ Accounting Club Meeting, Library 148 4:30-6 pm

§ InterVarsity Christian Fellowship Meeting, SUB Banquet 7-9 pm

Saturday, January 28

§ FREE Tax Preparation with MSUB Accounting Club and HRDC,
SUB Beartooth 11:30 am-5:30 pm



<https://www.facebook.com/BeMoneySmartMSUB/?fref=ts>

Power of One Week

Monday, January 16

Bell Ringing Ceremony

9:45am Peaks to Plains Park / SUB Atrium

Montana State University Billings has been commemorating Dr. King's life for over 20 years with a Bell Ringing Ceremony. The ringing of the bell symbolizes the quest for peace, along with justice, human rights, and social and economic progress for all people. Our keynote speaker is Ginny Lee Mermel PhD, CNS, who is the Backpack Meals and Teen Pantry Programs Coordinator for Billings School District Two. This event is free and open to the public. Please join us at Peaks to Plains Park for the ringing of the bell followed by a ceremony & reception in the Student Union Building Atrium.

Tuesday, January 17

Grocery BINGO

7:00pm: SUB Atrium

Learn about Food insecurity on our campus and community while playing Bingo. Student Activities Board will match all the grocery winnings to donate to our Yellowstone Emergency Pantry on Campus. This event is free to all MSU Billings students.

Wednesday, January 18

Free Hugs Project on Campus-Pack a Care Kit

5:00pm SUB Atrium

Join Student United Way and Intervarsity as they pack care kits for the homeless. Kits will be made and distributed to Tumbleweed and The HUB. Kits will also be available for students to keep in their car to help those in need. This event is free to all MSU Billings students.

Ken E. Nwadike Jr. Keynote Lecture: Free Hugs Project

7:00pm Petro Theatre

Ken Nwadike is a peace activist known online as the Free Hugs Guy. As a former homeless student athlete, he overcame many challenges. Ken presents a fun, creative, and interactive program to engage students to explore how to overcome the differences that divide us and to create unity and build community on our campus.

Thursday, January 19

Yellowjacket Emergency Pantry Grand Opening

3:00-5:00 pm SUB Room 222

The Yellowjacket Emergency Pantry is officially open! The grand opening will feature information regarding food insecurity on campus and staff to answer any questions you may have. YEP's purpose is to help students with their immediate needs while also linking them with long-term solutions. This event is free and open to the public. Attendees are encouraged to bring food and/or hygiene donations.

Hunger Banquet

5:00 pm SUB Upper Galleria

Friday, January 20

Panel/Lunch & Learn

12:30-1:30pm Beartooth Room

For Faculty and Staff



"The function of education is to teach one to think intensively and to think critically. Intelligence plus character - that is the goal of true education"
~ Martin Luther King, Jr.

Service Saturday

January 21, 9am SUB Atrium

One Saturday a month MSU Billings students, faculty, and staff volunteer two hours at a local non-profit agency. Service Saturdays occur once a month from 10:00 am to 12:00 pm. Projects will be centered around addressing hunger and food insecurity in Yellowstone County.



Visit YouTube to see MSUB students, faculty, and staff share their tribute to Dr. King's message:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mGs6QdPcEzM>

Visit the MSU Billings website to see updates and additional information about the week's events:

<http://www.msubillings.edu/MLK/>

Thanks Giving

TRIO

STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES

While some think giving is limited to a certain holiday, that is not true for the office of Student Support Services. Our office works year-round to help students with everything from class registration to providing toys for their children at Christmas. This year TRIO Advocates partnered with the Office for Community Involvement and The Salvation Army to provide gifts for those in need. Through the partnership, over 100 children were “adopted”. Half of the angels adopted on campus were children of MSUB students. We wanted to serve our campus community first, and it was a great success. In addition to donating items, several staff members and students from SSS/TRIO wrapped the donated items just in time to slip under the tree.



The wrapping volunteers included several members of the SSS/TRIO team. Kelly Buck, Director held packages while Nadia (Daysi’s daughter) added the tape. Jessica and Richard, TRIO mentors, transformed the lounge table into a wrapping station. Daysi, former Academic Counselor, recruited volunteers to help the staff. In addition to Nadia, Daysi brought along her friend Gina. This is Gina’s first time in the US, and she is majoring in Tourism.



Now that the holiday season is over and the new semester is about to begin, the need for volunteering has not ended. Do you know someone who needs warm clothes or clothes for an interview or new job? Do you have things you would like to donate to a good home? Let us help! SSS/TRIO accepts donations year-round for our clothing drive. We have a lot of clothing for women and children. Clothes are not the only supplies we offer. We also have sheets, blankets, shoes, and toys. Past donations have included car seats, cribs, and other necessities. Please bring donations (of any kind) to the TRIO Lounge, Library 121 or the TRIO office, Library 141. We also appreciate donations of coat-hangers and time. If you are interested in helping to organize our donation closet, please contact a TRIO staff member. Thank you!



“Every year the MSU Billings campus community comes together to make Christmas a brighter place for children in the community; we see students, faculty, staff, athletic teams, and community members donate each year,” Shayla Fox, Volunteer Engagement Coordinator for the Office for Community Involvement. Shayla is also a member of the Billings Jaycees, a local organization that empowers young people to create positive change. They “adopted” seven angels from SSS/TRIO.

Student Support Services TRIO

Staff

Professional Staff:

Kelly Buck, Director
 Kim Kost, Academic Coordinator
 Lori Hypes, Academic Counselor
 Kerri Rogers, Program Coordinator

Emily Cruz, Office Aid
 Matthew Grooms, Office Aid

Mentors:

Patrick Cosgriffe
 Richard Dawes
 Levi Eastwood
 Daniel Mehrens-Wallace
 Paradise Medicine Horse
 Annelise Phelps



Schedule an appointment online at
<http://www.msubillings.edu/sss/>



Office Hours
 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM Monday-Friday

Saturday 9-5 by appointment

Call for details

Phone (406) 657-2162

Fax (406) 657-1667

Facebook & Tumbler

