

## Miles Community College's Response to the Oil Development

The Bakken Formation is an important domestic petroleum resource located in North Dakota and Montana. With dozens of oil rigs increasing on the horizon of the Bakken Oil Formation, it is not surprising that the oil workforce has grown exponentially. According to HIS Global Insight, oil production in North Dakota has nearly quadrupled since 2005 and employment in mining, quarrying, and oil and gas extraction has increased 185%.

This upward trend will continue as oil companies maintain their exploration of the oil formation, but companies are facing the challenge of finding qualified employees for their oil field jobs. Miles Community College (MCC) is equipped and prepared to respond to the workforce needs of the Bakken oil development. MCC has developed a strong foundation for students to enter and thrive in a higher education setting while reaching their goals.

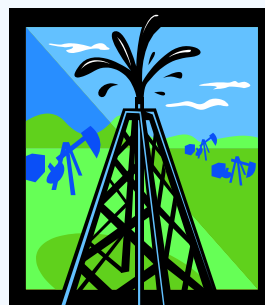
MCC's Workforce Development Program is in a prime position to alleviate some of the issues for employers and employees affected by the recent oil boom. The MCC Workforce Development

Program offers customized training, computer training, business seminars for area business leader, as well as more specific classes like accounting, small business management, contractors environmental training, first aid and CPR, CNA certification, OSHA online training, CDL training, and flagger training for the road construction industry. They also manage continuing education for careers in teaching and nursing.

MCC has recently expanded its offering of CDL training and CPR courses. The CDL training is designed to provide students with essential knowledge and practical skills necessary to prepare for the MT Commercial Driver's License written examination and skills test. This program is intended to provide tractor-trailer driving fundamentals to students who have minimal or no truck driving experience. The program includes classroom instruction, hands-on labs and behind-the-wheel driving time. MCC also provides a CDL refresher course designed to prepare students for the MT Commercial Driver's License Class A Road Test. The course covers the operation, preventive maintenance and basic components

of the semi-truck and trailer. For more information on what is provided by the MCC Workforce Development Program, you can contact Kassie Taylor at [taylork@milescc.edu](mailto:taylork@milescc.edu) or 406-874-6199.

MCC trades programs react to the needs of regional employers also and currently include: Building Trades, Heavy Equipment Operation, Auto Mechanics, IT, Ag related programs, Healthcare programs, and Business programs, which includes an online entrepreneurship program. With its location near the Bakken Oil Formation and its array of workforce training and other course options, Miles Community College is the best place to meet the needs of expanding workforces and growing economies in Montana and North Dakota.



## Call for Distinguished Alumni Nominations

Miles Community College is requesting nominations for the Distinguished Alumni Award, which will be awarded during the Commencement Ceremony on May 12, 2012. All nominations must be submitted by February 28, 2012.

The award criteria consist of Miles Community College alumni that have exhibited high professional achievement, have an established legacy of community

service, evidence of lifetime achievement and service since they began their educational career at Miles Community College (or Custer County Junior College, as was the prior name). Nominees for the award include alumni that have attended a minimum of one full academic year.

The nominator for award candidates must supply a brief letter of nomination summarizing why the nominee should be

considered for the Distinguished Alumni Award.

The nominator must also supply all necessary documentation for the nominee, which includes description and demonstration of all award criteria as listed.

To nominate, please send materials to Brandi Gray, Miles Community College, 2715 Dickinson, Miles City, MT 59301 .

## Quality Initiatives

MCC has implemented initiatives to assist the success of at-risk and developmental students such as: mandatory placement, required pre-requisites, no late registration, required orientation and systematic advising. MCC has an 89% placement rate in the state of Montana for their trades programs and a 75% retention rate. MCC has one of the highest graduation and transfer rates in the nation at 61%. Last year MCC's graduation rate ranked #4 in the nation among community colleges. MCC was selected as one of the 120 community colleges in the nation, nominated for the ASPEN award as a result of its stellar graduation rate last year. Many of MCC's students are low income and first generation college students yet they are succeeding in the MCC environment. MCC has also recently modified its recruitment area to encompass a 500 mile radius of Miles City, which includes portions of North Dakota, South Dakota, Wyoming, and Canada.

## Personal Enrichment

### Social Dance

Dates: Jan. 18-Mar. 1  
7:00-9:00 pm

### Basic Home Repair

Dates: Mar. 6-27

### Journaling and Memoir Writing

Dates: Feb. 1-Mar. 14

### Self Defense for Women

Dates: Feb. 16-Mar. 8

### Beginning Guitar

Dates: Feb. 6-Mar. 19

### Fly Fishing

Dates: Jan. 20, 21

(Session 1)

Feb. 17, 18

(Session 2)

Mar. 16, 17<sup>th</sup>

(Session 3)

Apr. 13, 14

(Session 4)

### Basic Digital

### Photography

Dates: Feb. 21 and 28

5:30-8:30 pm

### Portrait Photography

Date: Apr 5, 5:30-8:30

### Golf Fundamentals

Dates: Feb. 28-Apr. 3

Miles Community College  
Endowment  
Brandi Gray,  
Executive Director  
2715 Dickinson St  
Miles City, MT 59301

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**Check us out on  
MySpace,  
Facebook, Twitter  
and LinkedIn.**

#### Board of Directors:

**Don Hartman, President**  
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Terri Stevenson

#### Staff:

**Brandi Gray,**  
Executive Director

### CDL Basics

**4 week course  
Mon-Thur  
8:00-5:00 in  
Room 314  
Price \$1,365.00**

**Four Sessions:  
Jan 23-Feb 16  
Feb 27-Mar 22  
Mar 26-Apr 19  
Apr 23-May 17**

**Contact Kassie Taylor  
at taylork@milescc.edu  
874-6199**

## MCC High-Class Buckaroo Bash

On Saturday, February 11, 2012, Miles Community College will be hosting the Fourteenth Annual High Class Buckaroo Bash. Tickets are \$50.00 each with a maximum of 300 tickets available. Dinner will be provided at the Eagles Lodge with a live and silent auction. Cocktails will start at 6:00 pm, with dinner at 7:00 pm, and the live auction at 8:00 pm. The silent auction will begin at 6:00 pm and continues until the live auction ends, around 10:00 pm. All proceeds benefit the Miles Community College Rodeo Team Scholarship Funds.

This year MCC is introducing an online auction for those unable to attend or for those who would like to purchase items early. Visit <http://www.biddingforgood.com/mcced> and make a donation to the Rodeo Team Scholarship Fund or bid on items of interest. The online auction will open January 30th and close February 10th.

"The President's Collection" was introduced three years ago. This special program was created to recognize the one-of-a-kind collectible artwork offered through the Bash. Attendees

may purchase art and donate it to the permanent collection for display at MCC. If you are interested in more information regarding this collection, please contact Wally Badgett at 874-6195.

If you are interested in purchasing tickets for the Buckaroo Bash or would like to make a donation to the Rodeo Team, please contact Brandi Gray at 874-6288 or grayb@milescc.edu.

## Thought for the Day:

**"If you can't feed a hundred people, then feed just one."**

**Mother Teresa**

## Strategic Initiatives

This fall, Miles Community College created a new strategic plan for the next five years. The initiatives were developed during an all-employee meeting to provide all departments and employees an opportunity to participate in the creation of MCC's future plans. The new MCC Strategic Initiatives are: to provide a quality student experience-both curricular and extra-curricular; to ensure stable levels of enrollment, including retention and completion; to secure sustainable funding; to enhance the College's reputation; and to foster innovativeness with technology, facilities, and equipment. Each department has outlined specific goals that address every initiative. The function of the strategic plan is to determine the focus of the institution and ensure agreement towards uniform goals.



## MCC History by the Decades

### *Continued:*

Rob Bishop was named the 2006 American Baseball Coaches Association Regional Coach of the Year for NJCCA Division II. The Pioneer Baseball team clinched its first ever Northwest District Championship, as well as a berth to the NJCCA Division II World Series in the spring of 2007

August 2007 was the beginning of the Equine Studies Program at MCC. This two-year degree is designed to give students a foundation in natural horsemanship and how to apply that knowledge in a practical manner. Graduates will be prepared for a career in equine business and management, colt training, assistant trainer and facilities management.

In 2008, the women's basketball team, led by Region IX Coach of the Year Dwight Gunnare, won the Mon-Dak Conference and ranked 12<sup>th</sup> in the nation.

James P. Lucas of Miles City, former Miles Community College Board of Trustee and founder and member of the MCC Endowment Board, was honored at the ACCT (Association of Community College Trustees) 39th Annual Community College Leadership Congress as the 2008 ACCT Regional Trustee Leadership Award Recipient for the Western region.

Miles Community College has had several students chosen as the New Century Scholar: Andrea Nichols, 2003; Breanna Bartz,

2006; Spurr Watson, 2008; Rick Abbott, 2009; and Kristina Murnin, 2010. New Century Scholars are the highest-scoring student, for each state, in the All-USA Academic Team competition. Students receiving this honor acquire a \$2,000 scholarship funded by the Coca-Cola Foundation and the Coca-Cola Scholars Foundation and are recognized in a national ceremony.

In Sept 2009, the Commons Building was named the Nibs and Edna Allen Commons in recognition of Nibs and Edna Allen's generous contributions to Miles Community College.

*To be continued...*

## **MCC Workforce Development**

### **CPR for the Non-Healthcare Provider & First Aid**

Instructor: Kassie Taylor **Session 1** Date: Jan 20, 2012-9:00 to 4:00 Place: Rm 106 Price \$60.00

**Session 2** Date: Mar 23, 2012-9:00 to 4:00 Place: Rm 106 Price \$60.00

The AHA CPR course will teach non-healthcare professionals the ability to provide CPR & First Aid, recognize emergencies and relieve choking in a safe, timely and effective manner.

### **How to Manage Conflict and Confrontation**

Date: Mar 5, 2012 Sessions Available: 9:00 to Noon OR 1:00 to 4:00 Place: Rm 106 Price: \$75.00

Guest Speaker: *David Pollard with Fred Pryor Seminars*: Can your organization afford to ignore uncontrolled conflict and confrontation? Stopping conflict before it starts is critical to success. This seminar helps individuals access their own personal attitudes and better understand the negative impact of self-destructive behaviors.

### **Miles City Job Fair 2012**

Date: Thurs – March 15th – Noon to 4:00 p.m. Place: MCC Centra Contacts: Kassie Taylor 406-874-6199

### **Flagger Certification**

Instructor: Jerry Forman Date: Sat, March 31, 2012 –1:00 to 5:00 Place: Rm 106 Price: \$50.00

This course is a combination of lecture, manuals, video and hands-on problem solving with regards to flagging in a work zone.

### **Mobile GIS for your Smartphone and Tablets**

Instructor: Dr. Van Shelhamer Date: Apr 16, 2012 – 8:00 to 5:00 Place: Rm 314 Price: \$240.00

If you are an agriculture producer, a realtor, a GIS professional or a business person looking for ways to extend geographic information system technology to your smart phone or tablet, this class is for you. No previous experience with GIS is required. All of the required software is free and available on the Internet. Using online software, free GIS apps, cloud maps and data; you will create maps for use in your mobile device or to be shared with others over the Internet.

### **Essential Skills for Beginning GIS Users**

Instructor: Dr. Van Shelhamer Date: Apr 17 & 18, 2012–8:00 to 5:00 Place: Rm 314 Price: \$420.00

Whether you are a beginner or an experienced GIS user needing a refresher course, this two day training makes a lot of sense and will have you making sense of ArcGIS effectively and quickly. Major topics include creating good layouts, creating buffers, editing, working with tables, conducting queries, creating and/or locating data, and publishing maps. Two days of fundamental training to enhance your abilities.

### **Problem Solving with ArcGIS**

Instructor: Dr. Van Shelhamer Date: Apr 19 & 20, 2012–8:00 to 5:00 Place: Rm 314 Price: \$475.00

Spatial analysis is the problem solving aspect of GIS. The tools of buffering, overlays and selections seem very basic. But, when combined in a particular sequence they can reveal things about the data that can't be seen in a spreadsheet or chart. In this training you will create new files based on existing data. That's because analysis is not about creating new data; it's about making existing data say new things. The key is to know the tools well and design the right sequences to bring the "big picture" in to view. Enrollees should have work experience with ArcGIS or have just completed the "Essential Skills for Beginning GIS Users".

*If you are interested in any of these courses or would like to have specialized training for your business please contact Kassie Taylor at 874-6199 or [taylork@milescc.edu](mailto:taylork@milescc.edu).*

Miles Community College Endowment

2715 Dickinson Street

Miles City, MT 59301-4774

