MONTANA TECHNOLOGICAL UNIVERSITY

INNOVATION

Department of Business E-Newsletter

FALL, 2020 ISSUE 2

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> Doug Abbott Professor

Lance Revenaugh Associate Professor

Rita Spear Associate Professor

Charie Faught Associate Professor

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MONTANA TECHNOLOGICAL UNIVERSITY

means **BUSINESS!**

AND <u>BUSINESS</u> is everywhere!

DAYONE Montana Tech's Giving Event

Department of Business Has Successful DayOne Event

Our own Department of Business was a success in Montana Tech's Fourth Annual DayOne Giving Event held on September 10th and 11th.

Related directly with the DOB were 41 donors and donations ranging from \$15 to \$1500 for a total of \$8600 donated. This put our department in 4th place overall, with the Occupational Safety and Health Department beating us out by a mere \$500.

"I am proud of our department," said Dr. Tim Kober, Department Head. "What we raised this year evidences our strong commitment to our students and the business education we offer here at Tech."

Montana Tech's Annual Giving Event celebrates the people, places and programs of our university while raising funds for projects to improve the education and experience of our Montana Tech students.

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Montana Tech opened its doors to our first 39 students on the 11th of September, 1900. It was our DayOne. To celebrate our beginnings and the future of Montana Technological University, each year we host our online DayOne giving event to highlight the good work happening on campus and raise funds for the areas we are passionate about.

This year's event came to an impressive conclusion. For the entire university, there were 726 gifts totaling \$198,356 to support 27 separate projects that represent our Montana Tech students, departments, programs and initiatives.





BUSINESS

DOB
Departmental
Highlights
of the Fall, 2020
Semester

DayOne Giving Event

- The entire DOB
- Sept 10th & 11th

Constitution Day Lecture

- John M. Garic
- September 17th

First Friday Lecture

- John Cummings of Anderson Zurmuehlen
- October 2nd

Mock Trial

- Rita Spear's class
- October 12th & 14th

DOB Jeopardy for Tech Day

- October 23rd

3-Minute Thesis Challenge

- John Garic judges
- October 28th

COVID-Caused Semester End Schedule Change

- November 24th

Montana Tech's Faculty Senate

What Exactly Do They Do?

Our own DOB Faculty member, Dr. Charie Faught, is Chair of the Montana Tech Faculty Senate. When asked "What exactly do they do?" Charie gave a quick rundown.

The Tech Faculty Senate represents all faculty with a leadership role in shared university governance.

With a significant time commitment, the Faculty Senate Chair serves as ex-officio of all academic committees, including the Curriculum Review Committee (CRC).

... represents all faculty with a leadership role in shared university governance.

The Faculty Senate consistently applies good business practices, such as:

- Effectively running meetings (which an be a real challenge given the diverse viewpoints and contentious issues);
- Communicating important concerns with a broad array of stakeholders;

 Prioritizing work and activities that are most relevant to the function of the body.

A recent accomplishment of the Faculty Senate was an improvement initiative updating the curriculum review process and form.

A recent discussion at a Faculty Senate meeting included the university's Covid-19 virus response.

Our New Name and Logo!

The name "Business and Information Technology Department" has been retired and replaced with the "Department of Business."

The logic behind the change was to help high school students and their parents who might not understand the nature and context of "information technology." Fear not, however, our department will continue to emphasize information and big data management in our courses and, in doing so, be the only business department in Montana which does so.

Along with our new departmental name, we have a new departmental logo, which has been designed in alignment with Tech's new branding initiative. Here is our new logo! Enjoy!



Dear Alumni and Friends,

I hope all is well with you and your families as we approach the holiday season. This semester has gone better than I had anticipated as of our last newsletter and the students are the underlying reason. I would like to formally thank all of our students for their patience and flexibility in this changing academic environment. I would also like to thank the business faculty for their instructional efforts this semester. We have worked hard to deliver the course material to both a face-to-face and a distance audience. The plan for the spring semester is to continue this approach.

As is most likely the case with you folks, we are all becoming proficient with Zoom as all lectures are being recorded and posted for the distance students.

A Message from our DOB Chair, Dr. Tim Kober

Again, I cannot state how blessed we are as a department to have such generous alumni and friends. The DayOne event exceeded everyone's expectations, thank you again for your contributions. I am very happy to say that a group of students, led by Professor Rita Spear, has made remarkable progress in the development of an SAP Next Gen lab.

The contributions from the DayOne event should help make this a reality in the spring semester.

Finally, I have heard from a number of alumni as a result of this newsletter. I would very much like to hear from as many of you as possible. That said, I would like to start a formal alumni happenings section of this newsletter. Please contact me if you have anything you would like to share in a future newsletter, either personally or professionally.

Best wishes going forward,

Tim



Kody Torgerson is this issue's Internship Spotlight. Kody is a senior Business Management student expecting to graduate in May, 2021.

Kody comes from a well-known family in his hometown of Great Falls, Montana. He is part of the 5th generation of the Torgerson family, known throughout the region for their family-owned business, Torgerson's, LLC, a farm implement dealership with 10 locations.

This past summer, Kody worked as an intern with the company. One might think that, being a Torgerson, that Kody might have an easy internship. Wrong. They worked Kody hard – probably harder than they might a different intern. Kody rotated among the various departments in the company including the Sales Department, the Parts Department, the Service Department and the Corporate Office (in both the Accounting and Human Resources areas).

What is perhaps the most interesting aspect of Kody's internship is not that he had a tremendous learning opportunity (which he did), but that the company allowed him to use his Tech Business Education to make numerous innovations and thereby significantly benefit the company. For example, he conducted a customer satisfaction survey and created various systems to aid their truckers and mechanics.



FACULTY SPOTLIGHT: DR. CHARIE FAUGHT

Dr. Charie Faught is a faculty member in the Montana Tech
Department of Business where she leads the Health Information Technology Option.

But, who is she really?

Here are the basics: Charie was raised in Montana – her mom is from Bozeman and her dad was from Belgrade. She went to Missoula Big Sky High School (which is, by the way, the crosstown rival of Dr. Tim Kober's Sentinel High School).

Charie graduated from the University of Montana in Chemistry with minors in Math and French.

She earned a Master's in Health Administration from Tulane University in New Orleans.





After college, Charie served in the Peace Corps in Fiji, teaching high school Chemistry, Math and Biology at an all-girls Methodist school.

Before coming to Montana Tech, Charie worked for ten years in the health care industry in Washington State and Minnesota.

Her health care career was mainly in the areas of compliance and privacy, but also worked in patient advocacy, quality improvement and patient satisfaction.

I also went scuba diving ... well ... because it was Fiji!

While in Fiji, she played tennis and even made it to the quarter finals of the Fiji National Tournament!

And, in case you don't know, Fiji is a country in the South Pacific and part of a 300 picture perfect tropical island archipelago.

While at Tech, Charie completed her PhD in Human Services, specializing in Health Care Administration.



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<u>John Garic's</u>
<u>Constitution Day</u>
<u>Lecture</u>

In Case You

Want To Watch

Click Links Below

John Cummings'
First Friday
Lecture Passcode
a&q3\$xq0





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