



MONTANA STATE UNIVERSITY
NORTHERN

Northern Network News

The Official Newsletter of MSU-Northern - October 11, 2024

TekNoXpo ShowCASE a Shining Success



MSU-Northern's annual TekNoXpo ShowCASE event proved yet again to be an outstanding opportunity for high school students to explore the diverse programs at Northern and discover potential career paths. This year's event also featured a new initiative for high school counselors, bus drivers, and chaperones, offering them a dedicated track that included a campus tour and an introduction to Northern's various programs, helping them better guide their students in future academic and career decisions.



With over 400 students attending on Thursday, October 10, the event gave participants the chance to engage in hands-on activities tailored to their interests, showcasing the real-world applications of Northern's programs. Director of Recruiting Jessica Fagerbakke and Chancellor Greg Kegel welcomed the students in the gym at 8 a.m., after which they were divided into ten tracks. Each track focused on specific areas of study, providing insight into what MSU-Northern has to offer:



- Track 1: Manufacturing & Engineering
- Track 2: Agriculture & Business
- Track 3: Welding, Plumbing & Electrical
- Track 4: Diesel & Automotive
- Track 5: Nursing & Health Sciences
- Track 6: Theatre & Humanities
- Track 7: Graphic Design & Marketing
- Track 8: Criminal Justice
- Track 9: Chemistry & Biology
- Track 10: Education & 3D Printing



Thanks to the beautiful weather, the day was as enjoyable as it was informative, creating a perfect backdrop for students to explore MSU-Northern's campus and programs.



MSU-Northern Career Fair Drew a Great Crowd



The annual MSU-Northern career fair was held in the Armory Gymnasium on Wednesday (Oct. 9th), drawing significant interest from students and employers alike. Employers had booths set up and engaged with students, discussing potential career paths they could pursue after earning their degrees. Career fairs play a vital role in helping students identify and launch their careers by connecting them with industry professionals and providing real-world opportunities. 57 companies representing a wide variety of industries were on hand. In addition to the career fair, many companies conducted student interviews for possible summer internships or full-time careers, offering students a crucial step toward gaining practical experience and landing a job.

Career Fair Participants Enjoy Wined-Up Reception



On Tuesday night (Oct. 10), MSU-Northern hosted a wine and cheese reception for all employers participating in the Career Fair on Wednesday. This event was

sponsored by the Career Center and the Chancellor's office and provided a way for employers to meet some of the key administrators at MSU-Northern.

Alumni Auction Surpasses Fundraising Goals

By Melanie Skoyen



The recent Alumni Auction, a cherished tradition for over 30 years, drew approximately 130 guests and featured more than 120 generously donated auction items. This year, we are thrilled to announce that we not only met but surpassed our fundraising goals, enabling us to support multiple student scholarships at Montana State University-Northern.

The Alumni Auction brought together alumni, local businesses, and residents to invest in our future students. The funds raised will significantly enhance the educational opportunities available to those pursuing their academic dreams at MSU-Northern.

On behalf of the foundation, we extend our heartfelt gratitude to the businesses and individuals in this wonderful community whose support made this event a resounding success. Your generosity plays a crucial role in shaping the future of our students and ensuring that they have access to the resources they need to thrive.

Thank you for your continued support. We truly appreciate all the time and effort our volunteers put in to support our cause and we look forward to seeing everyone at next year's event!

Workshops Help Students Better Understand AI



MSU-Northern Associate Professor of Education Dr. Amy Smith hosted a crucial workshop series for students aimed at demystifying artificial intelligence and its role in higher education. Each session built on the previous one, emphasizing the importance of understanding how to use AI appropriately and effectively. Participants received a free drink from the Northern Brew coffee shop for each session attended and earned a certificate in AI Preparedness after completing all three workshops. The sessions took place in the lower-level classroom of the MSUN Vande Bogart Library.

Session 1: Exploring AI in Education

Session 2: Mastering Power Prompting for Effective AI Use in Education

Session 3: Enhancing Learning and Studying with AI

For full details, visit <https://libguides.msun.edu/aiworkshops>.

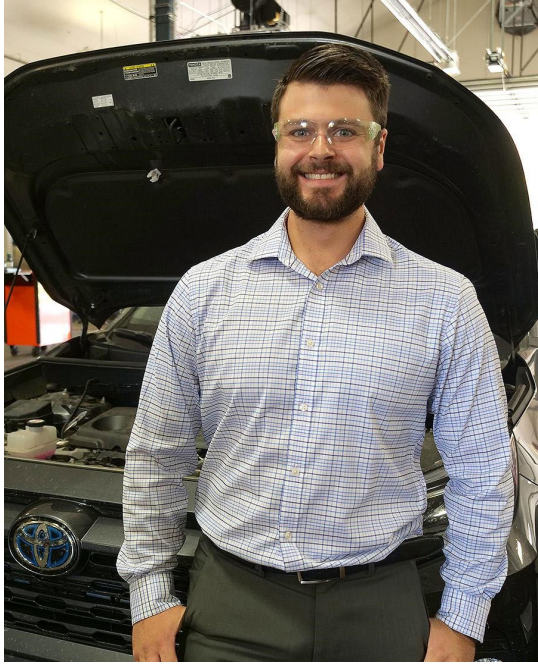
Advisory Boards Enhance Educational Experience



This week MSU-Northern hosted its annual fall automotive and diesel advisory board meetings. The advisory boards are made up of professionals in the automotive and diesel industries. The boards listened to presentations that included discussions on curriculum, media promotion, and recruiting strategies. They also had some breakout sessions to work on specific program initiatives.

Almost every program at MSU-Northern has an advisory board to help ensure that our programs are preparing students for the needs of industry. These are the first two of seven advisory boards that will be meeting this semester for programs in the College of Technical Sciences.

Alumni Spotlight – Jack Walgamot



Jack Walgamot's journey to becoming a full-time quality product engineer at Toyota Motor North America began with his passion for cars. Born in Boise, Idaho, and raised in Missoula, Montana, Jack was always fascinated by motors and engines, spending much of his time turning wrenches and learning about vehicles. His love for automotive technology led him to enroll in MSU-Northern's renowned four-year Automotive Technology program, initially with plans to open his own shop.

While at Northern, Jack discovered unexpected opportunities that would shape his future. The university's strong industry connections introduced

him to a contact at Toyota, which led to two internships with the company. "I fell in love with the company culture," Jack recalls, noting how Toyota's focus on continuous improvement aligned perfectly with Northern's values. By the time he graduated in December 2022, he had secured a full-time role at Toyota as a quality product engineer.

In his current position, Jack describes himself as a "quality detective," working to identify repair trends in Toyota vehicles before they impact customers. He collaborates with manufacturing plants, suppliers, and even designers in Japan to ensure the company's cars meet the highest standards. "It's never the same day in and day out, and I love that," Jack says, emphasizing the variety and impact of his work.

Looking to the future, Jack is eager to stay with Toyota, a company that continues to challenge and support him in ways that reflect the values instilled in him by MSU-Northern. His advice to students? "Don't ever say no to a good opportunity. Northern opened doors I never expected, and saying yes made all the difference."

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Positions Available at MSU-Northern

Interested in a great full or part-time position at MSU-Northern? Visit jobs.msun.edu to see a list of currently open positions and apply!

- Instructor/Assistant Professor - Agriculture Faculty (Tenure Track)
- Administrative Associate III (COTS)
- Career Center Coordinator
- Recruiting Specialist
- Instructor/Assistant Professor of Electrical Technology
- Assistant Professor of Psychology, tenure-track
- Assistant/Associate Professor of Counselor Education, tenure track

[Click here for more information or to apply...](#)

UPCOMING EVENTS

Join The Walk Around Campus Every Friday



Every Friday, in the month of October, you are invited to meet in front of Vandebogart Library at 12pm (noon). From there, we can all walk the path that's shown below. It's anticipated that the path will take approximately 45 minutes. Those that take part in all four weekly walks will be entered to win 1 of 4 MSUN apparel options from the Campus Bookstore (chosen by each winner). Coordinated by MSUN Student Success, Academic Affairs and Human Resources. For any questions, please call Josh Engle | (406) 265-3566 (Everyone taking part in this group activity does so at their own risk.)

Lights vs Alumni Wrestling Match – Oct. 11

The start of the Montana State University-Northern wrestling team's regular season is still a few weeks away, but, per tradition, Lights wrestling fans get an exciting look at this year's team at the annual Alumni Dual. Come out and see how this year's team stack up against the legends of the past.

Board Game Night at the Library – Nov. 14

Are you ready for an evening of strategy, laughter, and epic fun? Join us for Board Game Night. The event will take place every second Thursday of the month (fall semester Sept. 12, Oct. 10, Nov. 14), 6:00 PM - 8:30 PM, in the Vande Bogart Library, and is hosted by the University D&D Club. Bring your friends, meet new people, and discover your next favorite game! We'll have a wide variety of board games available, from classic favorites to modern hits. Don't miss out on the chance to unwind and connect over some friendly competition. All skill levels are welcome. See you there!



Explore Europe Over Spring Break!

Imagine spending your spring break exploring the rich cultural history of Europe while earning college credit. The College of Arts, Sciences, and Education (CASE) is offering an incredible 7-day educational trip to Europe, packed with unforgettable experiences! Attend captivating theatrical performances. Visit world-renowned museums. Explore iconic historical landmarks. The price of the trip covers everything you'll need:

Flights, Lodging (twin-share rooms), Meals (breakfast, lunch, and dinner), Local transportation, Tickets to shows and events. You can even earn college credit. Start planning the spring break adventure of a lifetime, and let's make memories in Europe!

[Click here to sign up to learn more about this exciting trip...](#)

NEXT WEEK

Friday, October 11

- Mid Term Grades Due
- Skylights Volleyball @ Frontier-North Star Conference Challenge - 11:00 AM

Saturday, October 12

- Skylights Volleyball @ Frontier-North Star Conference Challenge - 1:00 PM
- Lights Football @ Eastern Oregon University - 2:00 PM
- Lights vs Alumni Wrestling Match – 2:00 Gym

Sunday, October 13

- D&D One-Shot Adventure at the Library - 1:00 PM - 4:30 PM

Tuesday, October 15

- IOC Meeting - 6:30 PM

Wednesday, October 16

- ASMSUN Student Senate Meeting - 7:00 PM

Thursday, October 17

- Fall Break (no Classes, offices OPEN)
- Skylights Volleyball @ University of Providence - 7:00 PM

Friday, October 18

- Fall Break (no Classes, offices OPEN)

Saturday, October 19

- Lights Football vs The College of Idaho - 1:00 PM
- Skylights Volleyball vs Rocky Mountain College - 6:00 PM

MSU-NORTHERN

TidBit

By: William J. Lanier

(#420) Northern Skylights Basketball

With Northern Skylight basketball right around the corner, I thought it would be interesting to take a little look at the history of Skylights Basketball. Coach Mouat is beginning his 20th season with the Skylights. Coach Mouat has had an amazing career at Northern, and his impact goes way

beyond the wins and losses. His record with his career wins is very impressive. Here is a link to his biography on the Northern Website.

<https://golightsgo.com/sports/womens-basketball/roster/coaches/chris-mouat/314>

According to his bio on the Northern athletic website, he has a career record of 323-244. The Northern website states he is ranked 22nd among active coaches. But the NAIA website has Coach Mouat ranked 16th on the Women's Basketball Coaches Wins List. Here is a link to the list

https://www.naia.org/sports/wbkb/Records/WBB_Active_Coaches_Wins_List.pdf

While checking out the NAIA site, there is a list of the NAIA Women's Basketball All-Time Program Wins list. Where do you think Northern is at on the list? Unfortunately, Northern is not on their list and has never been on their list. Only one current Frontier Conference school is on that list and that is Western at #23 with 813 all-time wins. Here is link to that list.

https://www.naia.org/sports/wbkb/Records/WBB_Program_Wins_List.pdf

Where do you think Northern should be on that list? Any idea how many wins the Northern Skylights Basketball team has? Several years ago, I began researching to find out that exact number.

Since I like interactive TidBits and quizzes, I am asking you all to guess the number of wins that the Northern Skylights Basketball team has accumulated over the years. Please e-mail me your best guess and we will see who comes the closest to my number. That person will win a \$30.00 gift certificate to the Northern Bookstore. One hint and that is that my numbers begin with the 1974-75 school year when Judy Bricker was the Head Coach for one year.

Looking forward to your guesses!

If you have an idea for the NNN TidBit, send me an e-mail at wjlanier1963@yahoo.com

[Visit our website](#)

Montana State University-Northern | 406-265-3700 | www.msun.edu

STAY CONNECTED



MSU-Northern | 300 13th Street West | Havre, MT 59501 US