



**MONTANA STATE UNIVERSITY
NORTHERN**

Northern Network News

The Official Newsletter of MSU-Northern - March 28, 2025

MSU-Northern Students Explored London on Study Abroad Trip



Over spring break, eleven MSU-Northern students, accompanied by faculty, high school teachers, and community members, traveled to London for an immersive study abroad experience. The trip aimed to expose students to different cultures, histories, and global perspectives through hands-on learning and exploration.

Dr. Grant Olson, Assistant Professor of Communications and co-trip organizer, emphasized the value of international travel. “Understanding other cultures and ways of life makes students better global citizens,” he said.

The group, which included five MSU-Northern faculty members, two high school teachers, and additional community members, visited renowned

landmarks such as the Houses of Parliament, Westminster Abbey, the Tower of London, and Hampton Court. They also explored world-class museums, attended theatre performances, and participated in engaging tours, including a Jack the Ripper walking tour.

Assistant Professor of Biology and co-trip organizer, Dr. Kyra Kaercher, highlighted the lasting benefits of study abroad, noting its impact on academic and professional development. Organizers hope this trip will be the first of many international opportunities for MSU-Northern students.

MSU-Northern PAS Students Compete at Nationals



Over spring break, six students from MSU-Northern traveled to Sheridan, Wyoming, to compete in the 45th National Postsecondary Agricultural Student (PAS) Conference. This marked the first time in five years that MSU-Northern had sent a team to Nationals—and the first time attending with their new advisor.

The conference kicked off on Monday with educational tours. Students had the opportunity to explore either a fish hatchery and learn about fire recovery efforts from last fall, or visit a wool mill and sheep production operation. These hands-on experiences set the tone for the week, immersing students in real-world agricultural applications.

After the industry tours, the students participated in competitions in Ag Mechanics, Veterinary Technician, Equine Specialist, and College Bowl. Dante Otsuka & Keelin Humble placed 3rd in Ag Mechanics, earning John Deere belt buckles and tying for 5th-highest individuals. Other strong finishes included Hunter Holobaugh & Reinhard Bold (7th in Ag Mechanics), Natalie Farlow (13th in Vet Tech), and Natalie & Taylynn Lindsey (6th in Equine Specialist).

The College Bowl team advanced through four rounds.

With this year's success, MSU-Northern looks forward to building on the momentum and continuing its presence at future PAS Nationals.

Idaho State University's Chi Alpha Team Helps with MSU-Northern Activities



This past week, a group of students from Idaho State University spent their spring break at MSU-Northern to support the local Chi Alpha chapter and foster a sense of community and faith among students.

The visiting students helped with several events, including a game night, participation in ongoing campus activities, and a large Chi Alpha gathering on Thursday evening. The week will conclude with a community feast tonight at Tyler Boyce's house, Friday, March 28th at 5:00 pm in the red room, which is open to both students and staff.

Dr. Lindsey Brandt-Bennett Appointed New Vice Chancellor of Enrollment Management

MSU-Northern is pleased to announce that Dr. Lindsey Brandt-Bennett has accepted the position of Vice Chancellor of Enrollment Management. Her responsibilities will include overseeing Recruiting, Financial Aid, Student Support Services, Veterans Upward Bound, Little River Institute, Sponsored Programs, and Accessibility Services. Her new position will begin immediately.

“I believe Lindsey will do an excellent job providing leadership for these departments and will play a key role in enhancing our enrollment efforts,” said Chancellor Greg Kegel.

Dr. Brandt-Bennett has also held several roles over the past seven years at MSU-Northern, which have included Dean of Learning Excellence and Sponsored Programs, Director of the Office of Teaching & Learning Excellence, and a leader of the MSUN Institutional Assessment Committee.

Dr. Brandt-Bennett holds an M.A. in Modern Languages & Literatures from the University of Montana and a Ph.D. in German Studies from Duke University and the University of North Carolina.



Student Food Pantry Moves to SUB

A promotional poster for the MSU-Northern Food Pantry. At the top left is a red megaphone icon with the text "WE HAVE MOVED". To its right, a black brushstroke graphic contains the text "NEW LOCATION & HOURS FOR YOUR CONVENIENCE!". The main title "MSU-NORTHERN FOOD PANTRY" is in large, bold, white letters on a yellow background. Below this, a photograph shows a person's hands holding a cardboard box filled with various food items like bread, pasta, and canned goods. Text on the poster includes: "Now located in the Student Wellness Center just off the SUB Ballroom", "Mon-Thurs 9-12 1-4 pm", "OPEN to ALL students", and a list of items: "Pasta, Peanut Butter, Canned Goods, Applesauce, Rice, Oatmeal, Tuna, Beans, Seasonings & more". At the bottom, there are logos for ASMSUN (Associated Students of MSU-Northern) and Montana State University Northern. A small note at the very bottom states: "The food pantry is a collaboration of the MSUN CARE Team and the Associated Students of MSU-Northern (ASMSUN)." data-bbox="154 650 398 896"/>

Over Spring Break, the Student Food Pantry was relocated to the Student Wellness Center in the SUB (just off the Ballroom), to better serve MSUN students.

The pantry is open during Student Wellness Center hours (Monday through Thursday, 9-noon and 1-4pm during the academic year). On Fridays and during semester breaks, students may contact CARE Team member Taryn Wallon in the SUB to access the pantry.

As a reminder, donations of non-perishable food items are always welcomed and appreciated. You can bring donations to the

Student Wellness Center, or leave them at the SUB information desk and they will get them to the right people.

Student Spotlight: Elaine Reed



Elaine Reed has always had a passion for travel, culture, and food. When the opportunity to study abroad in London arose, she knew she couldn't pass it up. Traveling had been a dream of hers since high school, but as a student at MSU-Northern, where study abroad programs were rare, she never thought she would have the chance. When the opportunity presented itself, she seized it.

Originally from Columbia Falls, Montana, Elaine chose Northern for its small-town feel, financial aid opportunities, and train access home—especially helpful in winter. Staying close to family and becoming involved on campus as a Resident Assistant, Chi Alpha member, and peer tutor in Student Support

Services made her college experience even more rewarding.

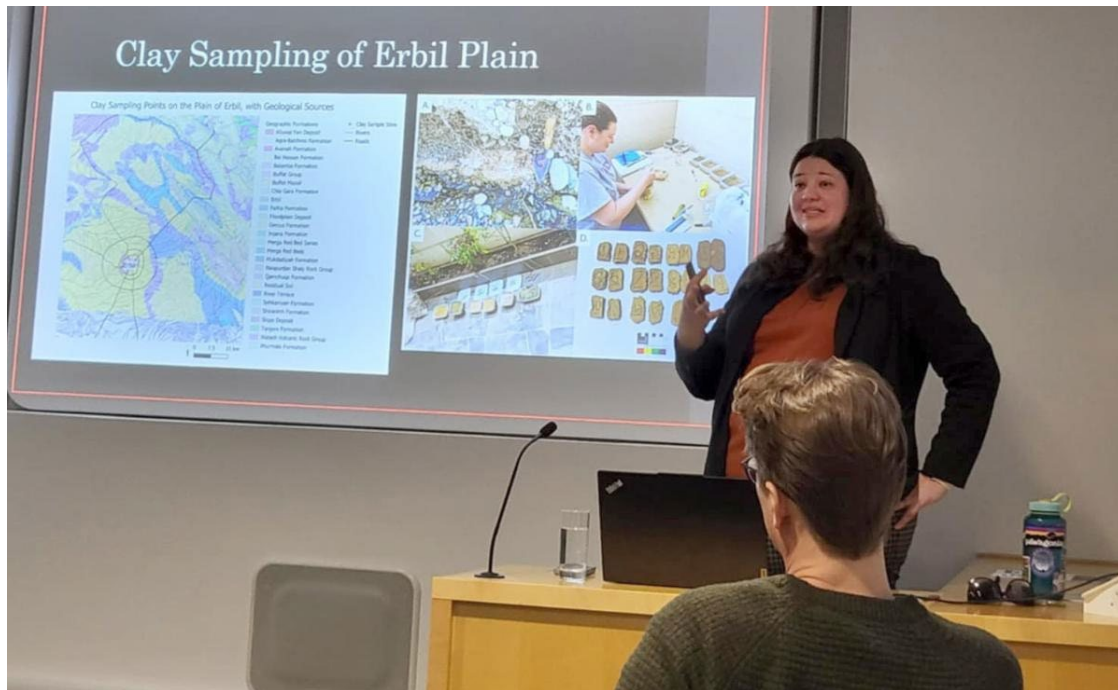
Her trip to London was an unforgettable adventure. A highlight was visiting the historic town of Bath, where she explored the ancient Roman baths. Seeing water that had filtered through the earth since the Roman era fascinated her, and enjoying a traditional high tea made the experience even more special. Another memorable moment came when Elaine and her friends discovered a small Italian restaurant. The cozy eatery specialized in handmade pasta, with chefs preparing everything fresh each morning. Sitting at the bar, she watched as they crafted ravioli and simmered sauces—a dream come true for someone passionate about food and cooking.

London's arts scene also left a lasting impression. Elaine attended a performance by the London Philharmonic Orchestra, listening to Mahler's Fifth Symphony in a world-class concert hall. She also experienced the West End's theatrical magic, seeing *The Play That Goes Wrong*, a hilarious production that kept the audience laughing nonstop.

Reflecting on her trip, Elaine is grateful for how it broadened her perspective. London reinforced her love of exploring new cultures and deepened her appreciation for the details that make each place unique—history, flavors, music, and unexpected discoveries.

Now back at Northern, Elaine continues her busy life as a student, RA, and tutor, but she carries with her the memories of London and the inspiration it provided. She knows this is just the beginning of her adventures, and with her passion for travel and learning, she's excited for what's next.

Dr. Kaercher Gives Lecture at Cambridge



While in London as part of the study abroad program, Dr. Kyra Kaercher was invited to give a lecture at Cambridge University as part of the Ancient Near Eastern Seminar Series—a group run by Cambridge PhD students and supported by the Near East Archaeology and Assyriology department.

Her audience included PhD and Master's students specializing in Assyriology and Archaeology at Cambridge, along with professors, museum professionals, and archaeologists who joined both in person and online. Her talk, titled "Qach Rresh: A Neo- and Post-Assyrian (950–323 BCE) Site on the Erbil Plain," focused on recent findings from the site, including its historical significance and new ceramic research.

Dr. Kaercher will be presenting a lecture on the same topic at MSU-Northern's Brown Bag Lecture Series on Wednesday, April 2, 2025 (11 AM–12 PM, ATC Hensler Auditorium).

Don't miss this opportunity to hear Dr. Kyra Kaercher discuss Qach Rresh, a rural site founded in the late Neo-Assyrian period, located just 15km south of modern-day Erbil (Iraqi Kurdistan).

Oliver! – Now Showing at Havre High School



MAT, the MSU-Northern Community Orchestra, and Havre High School are once again collaborating to produce their version of the Broadway Musical “Oliver!” The show will be presented on the stage of the Havre High Theatre. Show dates are: March 27-29, April 3-5

The streets of Victorian England come to life as Oliver, a malnourished orphan in a workhouse, becomes the neglected apprentice of an undertaker. Oliver escapes to London and finds acceptance amongst a group of petty thieves and pickpockets led by the elderly Fagin. When Oliver is captured for a theft that he did not commit, the benevolent victim, Mr. Brownlow takes him in. Fearing the safety of his hideout, Fagin employs the sinister Bill Sikes and the sympathetic Nancy to kidnap him back, threatening Oliver’s chances of discovering the true love of a family.

[Click here for Tickets...](#)

UPCOMING EVENTS



MSU-NORTHERN PRESENTS:

THIRD ANNUAL

All "N" Day

**TUESDAY
APRIL 1
2025**



FREE

CAR SHOW

SUB LOOP

SCAN THE QR CODE TO REGISTER YOUR VEHICLE!

**CHECK-IN:
4-4:30PM**



**CAR SHOW:
5-7PM**

AWARDS

FOOD

FUN TIME

OTLE Brown Bag Lecture Series – Mar. 4, Apr. 2, 23

Back by popular demand, The Office of Teaching and Learning Excellence is pleased to present their 4th annual Spring Brown Bag Lecture Series Lineup.

Teaching and Learning at the AI Crossroads - Tuesday, March 4th

This Brownbag Lecture will be taught by the Teaching Scholars Group which consists of Dr. Gwen Hart, Kristi Peterson, Dr. Praveen Dubey, Dr. Chad Spangler, Kenny Wait, Mary Ward, Erin Markus, and Dr. Mattius Rischard.

Qach Rresh: A Neo-Assyrian (950-600 BCE) Site Full of Post-Assyrian (600-323 BCE) Trash on the Erbil Plain - Wednesday, April 2nd

Don't miss this Brownbag Lecture where Dr. Kyra Kaercher will be sharing some of the findings from Qach Rresh, a rural site founded in the late Neo-Assyrian period, located just 15km south of modern-day Erbil (Iraqi Kurdistan) as well as exciting new ceramic research.

Idle Assets to Active Learning: Revitalizing Campus Resources for Student Engagement - Wednesday, April 23rd

In this Brownbag Lecture, Aaron Riggan will share some of the ways he has retrofitted, updated and revitalized campus equipment to expand and enhance student learning and engagement.

Science Saturday Series - April 4

The "Science Saturday" series provides teachers of grades 5-12 with tools to grow STEM opportunities in classrooms across the Hi Line. Participants can earn 5 hours of Professional Development Units each Saturday. This series is offered at no cost to participants.

Science Saturday II: Astronomy – April 4, 8:30pm 10pm, April 5, 9am 12:30pm,

Science Saturday III: Medicinal Plants of Montana May 3, 2025: 10am 4pm

[Click Here for more information...](#)

Scholarship Awards Ceremony – April 11

Join us for the Scholarship Awards Ceremony on Friday, April 11, at 10 AM in the SUB Ballroom. All are invited to celebrate with our scholarship recipients. Students in attendance will be entered into 6 - \$50 gift card drawings and a chance to win a \$500 We Love Northern Scholarship! Refreshments will be provided. Including oatmeal raisin cookies and fruit. Don't miss this special event!

MSU-Northern Announces 2025 SOAR Event Dates

MSU-Northern has announced the dates for its upcoming Student Outreach Advising & Registration (SOAR) events, designed to help new students transition smoothly into college life. SOAR sessions will be available both in-

person and virtually, providing flexibility for students to attend in the way that best suits their needs.

Virtual SOAR sessions will be offered via Zoom or phone for students who cannot attend in person. Attendees will receive important information about MSU-Northern's support services, including short video clips introducing key campus resources.

The virtual sessions will take place on:

- May 16, 2025
- June 27, 2025
- July 25, 2025
- August 1, 2025

In-person SOAR sessions will be held on campus, allowing students to meet with advisors, register for classes, and get a firsthand look at MSU-Northern.

The in-person dates are:

- April 25, 2025
- June 13, 2025
- July 11, 2025
- August 18, 2025 (as part of Navigate Northern Orientation)

Looking ahead, SOAR, housing selection, and orientation registration will now open each fall for the following year, allowing incoming students to plan their schedules early.

For more information or to register for SOAR, visit MSU-Northern's website.

NEXT WEEK

Friday, March 28

- Entry Deadline for The Search for the Scribble Savant Contest
- Hi-Line Tournament (H.I.T) 8:00 AM - 9:00 PM
- MAT Presents: Oliver! – Havre High School - 7:30 PM

Saturday, March 29

- Hi-Line Tournament (H.I.T) 9:00 AM - 6:00 PM
- MAT Presents: Oliver! – Havre High School - 2:00 PM
- MAT Presents: Oliver! – Havre High School - 7:30 PM

Monday, March 31

- Registration for Summer 2025 and Fall 2025 opens

Tuesday, April 01

- All "N" Day (no classes, offices OPEN)
- Eco-Innovators: Reduce Reuse, Re-Invent Contest Opens
- Spring Deferred Payment Schedule: 75% Due

Wednesday, April 02

- Brown Bag Lecture: Qach Rresh - 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM
- Board Game Night at the Library - 6:00 PM - 8:30 PM

Thursday, April 03

- MAT Presents: Oliver! – Havre High School – 7:30 PM

Friday, April 04

- MAT Presents: Oliver! – Havre High School - 7:30 PM
- Science Saturday - 8:30 PM - 10:00 PM

Saturday, April 05

- Science Saturday - 9:00 AM - 12:30 PM
- MAT Presents: Oliver! – Havre High School - 2:00 PM
- MAT Presents: Oliver! – Havre High School - 7:30 PM

MSU-NORTHERN

TidBit

By: William J. Lanier

(#433) Northern Time Machine April 1, 1985

Let's jump into the Northern Time Machine and travel back 40 years to the year 1985. By clicking on this link [MSU-Northern - Archival Collections](#) we can go back and see what was going on at Northern Montana College by reading an old NoMoCo. (Northern's old college newspaper).

Two very important and exciting things were going on. First on March 20, 1985, KNOG became KNMC and April 2, 1985 Joan Jett and the Blackhearts. Here is a clip from the April 1st, 1985 NoMoCo.

Joan Jett and the Blackhearts

Concert tomorrow night

Tickets are still available for the Joan Jett and the Blackhearts concert, Tuesday, April 2. Tickets can be purchased at the Student Life Desk, Listen Inn, Northern Electronics and Rickey's Rekerds.

The concert will start off with "Rail" and rock into the sound of Joan Jett and The Blackhearts. The NMC concert is a part of their first U.S. tour in over a year.

Their latest album, GLORIOUS RESULTS OF A MISSPENT YOUTH,

represents a growth of their talent but retains the sound that the Blackhearts are known for.

The concert is being sponsored by the Student Activities Board with the backing of the ASNMC Central Board.

Ticket prices are \$9 for students, \$11 for general admission and \$13 at the door. The concert starts at 7:30 p.m.

It should be noted that alcoholic beverages are not permitted and will be confiscated at the door.

KNOG becomes KNMC

Carl Puckett, station manager of KNOG-FM 90.1, the Northern Montana College student radio station, announced that, effective March 20, 1985, the station will use the call letters, KNMC-FM.

The station obtained the new call letters only after a number of people expended a large amount of time and effort, according to Puckett. Students staffing the radio station began the process of getting the KNMC call letters transferred to the Havre radio station in 1976. At that point it was discovered that these call letters had been assigned to the out-of-service merchant marine vessel, the *Agnes S. Quillin*.

It was believed that it would be impossible to get the identifying call sign transferred to the NMC radio station;

however, Puckett tackled the project once again in January, 1985.

After a series of letters back and forth to the Federal Communications Commission (FCC), Puckett learned that the call sign could be transferred to KNOG if the commandant of the U.S. Coast Guard agreed to give up the *Agnes S. Quillin's* call designation. Puckett quickly contacted the commandant of the Coast Guard and received his permission for the switch.

On February 27, Puckett sent a formal request to the FCC's Call-Sign Bureau for the KNMC designation. Puckett received notice of the assignment of the call letters KNMC to the college station Wednesday, March 20, and the station began identifying itself with its new call letters that day.

Happy 40th birthday KNMC!

If there is anything that you would like me to highlight, please let me know by e-mailing me at wjlanier1963@yahoo.com Thank you.

Visit our website

STAY CONNECTED



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