

DATE: 4/24/2009

TO: Board of Regents

FROM: Stefani Hicswa
President, Miles Community College

RE: Campus Report for the May 27-29, 2009 Board of Regents' Meeting

- **Rickie (Rick) Abbott**, Miles Community College student, was named a 2009 New Century Scholar recipient through the Phi Theta Kappa International Honor Society of Two-Year Colleges. The New Century Scholars program is an extension of the All-USA Academic Team competition with the highest-scoring student in each state on the All-USA Academic Team named a New Century Scholar. Mr. Abbott is a sophomore majoring in Business. His future educational plans include attending Montana State University-Billings to pursue a bachelor's degree in Business then continue on for a Master's degree with an emphasis in Accounting. All New Century Scholars were honored at the American Association of Community Colleges convention April 4 -6 in Phoenix, Arizona. Community college students from states and nations hosting Phi Theta Kappa chapters were chosen to receive this award. New Century Scholar recipients receive a \$2,000 stipend funded by the Coca-Cola Foundation and the Coca-Cola Scholars Foundation.
- **Stefani Gray Hicswa**, Miles Community College President, has been named as a nominee for the 2009 American Association of Community Colleges (AACC) President's Academy Executive Committee. Nominees represent community college CEOs from the Northern, Central, Western and Pacific regions. Members of the Executive Committee are nominated by professional colleagues in recognition of their outstanding leadership in community college education. Committee members are elected to three year terms and meet four times a year throughout the United States. Each member of the Executive Committee represents their region serving as the educational liaison of the AACC. Their role is to network within their region, encourage involvement with the AACC, and gather input for professional development needs of community college presidents. The 2009 election of the Presidents Academy Executive Committee was held in April and all candidates will be notified of the results in June.

- Miles Community College has been included in the U.S. FY 2009 Omnibus Appropriations Act that will bring more than \$77 million to Montana. President Obama signed the bill into law on March 11. The College will receive \$95,000 to expand its Pathways to Careers in Health Care initiative; funding to develop additional health care program education for rural Montana workforce development. Approximately \$6 million has been dedicated to eastern Montana projects that range from highway construction, education, healthcare, wastewater treatment and housing assistance.
- The MCC Players student drama group presented “The Treasure of the Family Halligan” on April 17-19 at the Montana Veterans Administration Healthcare System auditorium in Miles City. Four performances were given with approximately 150 people in attendance. Ms. Robin Gerber, Miles Community College History and Social Science Instructor, wrote and directed the comedy performance.
- Spring 2009 “Pioneer Preview Day” was held on Monday, March 23. Approximately 50 prospective students, parents, and community members visited the MCC campus to learn about academics and advising, housing, campus life, admissions information, and financial assistance. Campus tours were provided by the Student Ambassadors.
- The 2009 Miles Community College High Class Buckaroo Bash was held for its twelfth successful year on Saturday evening, February 7. MCC Pioneer Rodeo Coach **Wally Badgett** reported 350 people in attendance for the dinner and art auction. There were 44 art items in the main auction donated by artists from Montana, Canada, and throughout the United States. There were approximately 125 silent auction items donated from regional businesses and individuals. A total of \$37,280 was raised from this year’s Bash with all netted funds designated to the 2009-2010 Miles Community College Rodeo Team scholarship fund. As a newly introduced program, “*The President’s Collection*” received two donations from this year’s Bash. This special program was created to recognize the corporate and individual support of the one-of-a-kind collectible artwork offered through The Bash and begin a permanent art collection for display at Miles Community College. Artwork donated was an oil painting “**The Call of Companionship**” (Bryan Tarter) from Wayne Morford and a gouache painting “**Horse Dreams**” (Whitney Badgett) from Bill Champion.