



MONTANA STATE UNIVERSITY  
**NORTHERN**

Northern Network News

The Official Newsletter of MSU-Northern - May 1, 2020

## NNN Introduces the Last Group of Three Student Excellence Awards Recipients

The Student Excellence Award is the highest honor that a student can receive at MSU-Northern. This year's recipients are: Erika Anderson, Kishey Baker, Brittany Garden, Adam Huse, Cody Murphy, Rilee Peterson, Ryan Roche, Petra Sellin, and Amos Taiswa.

[Click Here to read them all](#)



**Ryan Roche** will graduate this spring with a 3.65 GPA, having earned a Bachelor of Science in Health Promotion and a minor in psychology. He has been active on campus and in the community as a student athletic trainer [where he has logged over 2000 hours working with Northern athletes], a resident assistant, a peer educator with the Healthy Living Advocates helping students learn more about improving their health, a volunteer with the Havre Wrestling Club, a volunteer ski technician, and a youth group assistant with Van Orsdel United Methodist Church. Ryan has been the recipient of multiple scholarships and was recently awarded the opportunity to work with the

medical staff at the Montana High School Association State Wrestling tournament, which is usually offered to graduate students and certified athletic trainers. Following graduation, Ryan will be pursuing the Masters of Athletic Training degree at North Dakota State University, eventually becoming a certified athletic trainer.



**Petra Sellin** will graduate this spring with a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration and a minor in marketing, earning a 3.78 GPA. She has played the past two seasons with the Skylights basketball team and has received Academic All-Conference and Academic All-American honors. Petra has been an active community volunteer as she instructed a yoga class and facilitated arts and crafts with elderly residents at Timber Creek Village, participated in Havre Pride Day, MSUN Campus Clean Up, and built gingerbread houses with Highland Park Elementary School students, just to name a few. After graduation, she plans to return to Sweden

and enroll in a marketing graduate program while continuing to play basketball. Petra's goal is to secure a professional position in marketing.



**Amos Taiswa** will earn his Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering Technology with a 3.98 GPA this spring. He has been engaged on campus as the Vice President of the Civil Engineering Club, a resident assistant, a 2019 Homecoming duke, a math tutor, and a member of the Lights Cross Country team. He earned Academic All-Conference honors twice, was awarded the 2017 Champion of Character Award for Men's Cross Country, served as a field team leader for NASNTI summer research with Dr. Terri Hildebrand, and was selected to present a poster at the National Conference of Undergraduate Research, highlighting his research in the

advanced fuels Lab with Dr. Randy Maglinao. His immediate plans are to travel back to his country, Kenya, to participate in a charity movement over the summer and then attend graduate school in the fall in material science and engineering. Amos has been accepted by both Stevens Institute of Technology and Montana Tech.

---

## The ASMSUN Student Senate Members for Next Year are:

**Riley Mortenson** - President  
**Jeri Copenhaver** - Vice President  
**Madison Laux** - Business Manager  
**Maggie Shane** - Administrative Assistant  
**Austin Wiese** - Sustainability Coordinator  
**Janae Boles** - PRM Coordinator

**Tiffany Hill** - Food Pantry Coordinator  
**Dylan Chvilicek** - Senator at Large  
**Kassidy Compton** - Senator at Large  
**Stacie Cornell** - Senator at Large  
**Morgan Mason** - Senator at Large  
**Abbey Morse** - Senator at Large  
**Cole Rhodes** - Senator at Large  
**Grace Schwenk** - Senator at Large  
**Lana Wagner** - Senator at Large  
**Sammi Watson** - Senator at Large

---

## **New Grant Helps with COVID-19**

MSU-Northern was notified this week that the campus will receive a \$15,000 sub grant as part of WICHE's Native Serving Institutions (NSI) initiative. This grant's goal is to increase the educational success of American Indian/Alaska Native students.

The impact of COVID-19 has dramatically intensified student needs for internet connectivity and academic support in the transition to increased on-line instruction. This mini grant will provide the Little River Institute with some additional funds to help offset the additional needs and expenses related to COVID-19.

---

## **MSU-N Business Faculty Get Involved in the Painting for a Pantry Fundraiser**



Several years ago, Barbara Zuck, Professor of Business, took an oil painting class from Joel Soiseth, Professor of Art at MSU-Northern. She then joined the Havre Art Association and now seeks creative ways to give back to the Havre community. She learned about the Painting for a Pantry fundraiser, organized by Choteau artist, Leslie Kesler, and got the Havre Art Association and Jay Howland, Professor of Business and Director of Institutional Research, involved in this project. Jay developed a webpage to showcase the paintings donated by members of the Havre Art Association: Kris Shaw, Mary Nault, Linda Warnke, Ginny Streeper, and Barbara Zuck.

Collectively, the Havre Art Association donated 15 paintings for the benefit project, "Painting for the Pantry." For a \$50 donation to a food pantry of choice, plus a \$7 packaging and shipping charge to the Havre Art Association, donors receive an original, unframed, original painting. The paintings are on display at

the Artitudes Co-op Gallery in Havre and posted on the webpage created by Howland:

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

## The Flower Bomb Brigade: Making a Northern Faculty or Staff Member's day



Northern faculty and staff member's day by covering their front lawn with brightly colored and spinning flowers.

For a couple of days each week we "Flower Bomb" someone's front yard. We leave a print out with the directions in their mailbox or inside their door, as well as send a picture to the person who nominated them, that person gets to tell the nominee that they chose them, the recently "Bombed" person then has four days to contact Rachel Hutchison to nominate the next person to "Flower Bomb." We would like to continue to do this throughout the summer. No one is safe and anyone can be nominated. We are going by our motto: "Neither Snow, Nor Rain, Nor Havre Wind Will Keep the Flower Brigade from Fulfilling Our Destiny: Of Bringing a Little Cheer to Our Northern Family."



What started out as a way to cheer up a quarantined friend and colleague during this time has become a little bit more. The "Flower Bomb Brigade," who have asked to remain anonymous (but some know who we are, or are figuring it out) as we call ourselves, is a small group that has been making a

# Go the Social Distance...

## Show Me Something Northern

Sharon Molitor Day is staying safe in Ulm, Montana



## Northern Alumni Foundation Cares



## Cooking with Becky – Another Great Meal From MSU-Northern



MSU-NORTHERN PRESENTS

# Nurses' Pinning Ceremony

Friday, 05/08/20 @ 10AM

Watch live on [YOUTUBE.COM/MSUNORTHERN](https://www.youtube.com/MSUNORTHERN)



MSU-NORTHERN

# TidBit

By: William Lanier

## A Spotlight on Father John A. (Jack) Bogacz

In the fall of 1979, Northern Montana College hired a young man from Trenton, New Jersey, to replace Ralph Brigham as Director of Student Life. Northern, Havre, and the Hi-Line were introduced to John A. Bogacz. Known by all as Jack, he began a 9-year run at NMC as the Director of Student Life.



A graduate of Cathedral High School in Trenton, New Jersey, Jack went on to earn a bachelor's degree in English and communications from St. Joseph College in Philadelphia (1973). In 1977, he earned his master's degree in post-secondary education from Syracuse University in New York. The following two years, he worked as the resident director for Johnson-McFarland Residence Hall at the University of Denver.

As stated in the September 18th, 1979 issue of the Havre Daily News, as Director of Student Life, Jack Bogacz was responsible for student activities, residence hall programs, Student Union Building and the food service.

As a student and resident of Morgan Hall, I got to know Jack in a variety ways, a student who got in trouble (once), a Resident Assistant working under him and being a member of ASNMC Central Board (that was the term for Student Senate back in the day). During the 1980's, there are two things that really stick out in my mind about Jack Bogacz. First, was his taking pictures of everything and everyone. Jack loved taking pictures of students engaged in all campus activities and then he just had to get a group photo and you would always hear his famous phrase "Just one more." If you were a student at NMC while Jack was the Director of Student Life, you are sure to remember the Student Life slide shows that were shown at the end of the year in the SUB Ballroom. Remember, this was that 80's, so these slides were in the old round carousel slide holders where there were 2 projectors, with about 7 carousels of each projector and to top it off, there was the music. By my estimate, that is more than 1,000 slides. These slide shows were so popular, there were multiple showings with more and more students attending each time.

The second thing I remember was Jack's love for the MDA (Muscular Dystrophy Association) Super Dance. The MDA Super Dance was an entire weekend event (later it was 24 hours) where Northern students, area High School students, and the community came to support one another and raise funds for MDA. This event began in about 1977. After his arrival on campus, Jack became the events biggest supporter and club advisor. According to several Havre Daily News articles, from the time the event began until 1988, the NMC MDA Super Dance raised more than \$160,000.00.

In May of 1988, Jack Bogacz was awarded the Golden "N" award! The 1987-88 Northerner stated, "The Prestigious award is given by Central Board to a person who they feel has earned the respect and admiration of the student body." A tradition that continues to this day!

While in Havre, Jack made his presence known throughout the community, he was a member of the Big Brothers and Sisters Board of Directors, (was a Big Brother himself), member of the Crime Stoppers Board, a lector for St. Jude's Church, and a member of Project H.A.V.R.E.

In July of 1988, Jack left North Montana College to begin work as the Associate Dean of Students at Cornell College in Mount Vernon, Iowa. After working as a college administrator for number years, Jack Bogacz, decided to change careers. He enrolled and attended St. Mary Seminary and University in Baltimore. Then on May 30, 2009 he was ordained in St. Mary of the Assumption Cathedral by Bishop John M. Smith., thus becoming affectionally know as Father Jack!

In 2009 Father Bogacz began as the Parochial Vicar at St. Justin the Martyr Parish. After 8 years in Toms River, Bishop David M. O'Connell assigned Father Jack to Parochial Vicar, Our Lady of Good Counsel Parish, Moorestown, New Jersey. Our Lady of Good Counsel Church, does live stream all Sunday Masses and special events at link: [www.olgcnj.org/live-stream](http://www.olgcnj.org/live-stream)

In August of 2018, Father Jack made a visit to Montana to visit the many friends that he had made nearly 40 years earlier. Also, while visiting in Havre, Father Jack celebrated Mass at St. Jude's Catholic Church!

In August of 2019, Father Jack once again visited Montana, but this time it was to assist with the funeral service of long-time friend and former NMC colleague, Mavis Filler Farnham (see the November 15, 2019 issue of the Northern Network News for a tribute to Mavis).

Thank you, Father Jack, for your dedication to all those who have crossed your path over the years. While it has been many years since you worked at Northern, you are still part of the Northern and Havre communities. You continue to make Northern Proud!



Visit our website

Montana State University-Northern | 406-265-3700 | [www.msun.edu](http://www.msun.edu)

STAY CONNECTED



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