

Session Highlights

- **Media Orientation**

Just prior to session, provided half-day orientation for 14 print and broadcast journalists, including tour of new sound and video ports installed in chambers and committee rooms to improve media access; produced and disseminated booklet on “Covering the Legislature.”

- **Civic Education Presentations**

Spoke to more than 600 students about representative democracy and legislative process (including groups from Augusta, Bigfork, Big Timber, Bozeman, Centerville, Charlo, Fort Benton, Garfield County, Glasgow, Great Falls, Helena, Jefferson County, Kalispell, Lavina, McLeod, Rapelje)

Served on panel that discussed media-government relations with journalists from Afghanistan and Pakistan (U.S. Dept. of State’s International Visitor Leadership Program)

- **Civic Education Day**

Organized and participated in Civic Education Day in the Rotunda (featuring AmeriCorps, VISTA, League of Women Voters, Learn & Serve, Legislators Back to School Program, Project Citizen, Senior Corps, State Bar, State Law Library, and YMCA Youth and Government)

- **Celebrating Women Elected to Serve Montana Ceremony**

Worked with Governor’s Office, Historical Society, and Department of Administration to organize event in Rotunda; produced booklet featuring all women elected to state office and Legislature since statehood.

- **Legislative Interns**

Helped to provide intern orientation, monitored legislative interns, arranged getting-to-know-you lunch, helped to get program evaluations from interns

- **Web Site**

Helped keep legislative Web site up to date with session information; added new information, including Web page listing all session laws as they were assigned chapter numbers, to make Legislature’s work product easily accessible with one click (in response to request from former Legislative Council member)

Proposed Interim Work Plan

Contingent upon available resources, I hope to:

- Work with Governor's Office, Dept. of Administration, Secretary of State's Office, and Historical Society on development of Capitol Student Visit Policy; produce student visit brochure to mail out to schools in advance of next session
- Produce Legislative Branch Emergency Communications Plan in advance of our participation in Vigilant Guard exercise in September
- Work with TVMT to produce timeless civic-education broadcasts to air when no legislative meetings are being broadcast
- Promote Legislators' Back to School Program, including news release and article in The Interim newsletter, presentation at MEA-MFT annual conference
- Help to produce The Interim newsletter
- Review and improve access to legislative publications on Web site
- Ensure adequate media and public notice of interim activities through news releases, state e-calendar, and legislative Web site
- Research use of social networking by state legislatures
- Chair planning committee for 2010 Legislator Orientation

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