

# MONTANA STATE UNIVERSITY

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**CAMPUS REPORT** | Board of Regents Meeting | July 18-19, 2016 | Helena



**GREAT FALLS  
COLLEGE**  
MONTANA STATE  
UNIVERSITY

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Great Falls College MSU has partnered with Habitat for Humanity to build safe, affordable homes for Great Falls families for several years. Students in the Carpentry Program, Habitat for Humanity, and the families who helped build their own homes recently marked the completion and dedication of the 34<sup>th</sup> house built.

GFC MSU, in partnership with the Bright Beginnings Learning Center, celebrated the Week of the Young Child. This annual celebration is sponsored by the National Association for the Education of Young Children, celebrating early learning, kids and their teachers and families. In recognition of this GFC MSU hosted an art display featuring the artwork of the young students from Bright Beginnings Learning Center.

GFC MSU expects to confer degrees and certificates to 361 students. Of those students, 92 will receive multiple degrees. Fifty-six students will graduate with honors (GPA of 3.5-3.79), and 62 students will graduate with high honors (GPA of 3.8 or better). Following the 2016 spring commencement, GFC MSU proudly recognized 212 students as members of the Dean's List for the spring 2016 semester.

The Great Falls College Community Choir held its debut performance in New York's Carnegie Hall May 28, 2016 after more than two years of fundraising and preparing for the trip. The choir's performance was titled "Music from Montana." All eight of the songs performed were written by Montana composers and debuted in Carnegie Hall.

The GFC MSU Pharmacy Technician program was ranked in the Top 10 of all Pharmacy Technician programs across the country.

GFC MSU NANSLO Lab manager, Dr. Brenda Canine, was recognized as the 2016 Educator of the Year by the Montana Association for Gifted and Talented Education (AGATE). The award acknowledged Dr. Canine's hard work and passion to the science field.

GFC MSU students held a test launch during a partial solar eclipse in preparation for the total solar eclipse on August 21, 2017. Students launched an aircraft fueled by helium. The balloon will allow the students to get a glimpse of the edge of space. The project is funded by a NASA Space Grant, through the Montana Space Grant Consortium.

In June, GFC MSU hosted an information session for the Malmstrom Key Spouse program highlighting many of the college's programs, as well as several options and education benefits to assist in paying for college.

Former GFC MSU student, Zachary Swartz, was featured in the Great Falls Tribune Young Professional Profile. He is currently an IT Application Support Manager at D.A. Davidson.

GFC MSU has launched a new one-year Industrial Technician Program beginning Fall 2016. Students will learn electro-mechanical skills including pneumatics, hydraulics, electronics, and programmable logic controls. Graduates will have skills to construct or maintain machinery for assembly lines turning raw products into finished products or maintain renewable energy equipment and installations.

The Montana State Workforce Innovation Board held their spring board meeting at Great Falls College MSU in June. Following the meeting, attendees had the opportunity to tour the college and learn about the programs being offered.

GFC MSU hosted the Montana Institute on Educational Technology (MIET) in June. K-12 teachers from all over the state spent two days learning and using educational technology, including a free Microsoft innovative educator training.

GFC MSU recently unveiled a new teaching tool purchased as part of the Consortium for Healthcare Education Online (CHEO) Grant. A lightboard is now in place on campus and being fine-tuned by Dr. Dan Casmier and Dr. Brenda Canine. A lightboard simulates a whiteboard being used for a lecture. It is made of a special glass and written on with neon-colored dry-erase markers. Using this technology, instructors will be able to record videos for their course lectures and labs making their online courses more interactive. The lightboard is available this summer for faculty to prepare for fall classes.