

# MONTANA STATE UNIVERSITY

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**CAMPUS REPORT** | Board of Regents Meeting | March 9-10, 2017 | Helena



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[Montana Wilson](#), a student from Poplar, has won a [Gates Cambridge Scholarship](#) that will fund graduate work at the University of Cambridge in England. The prestigious scholarship, which is funded by the Gates Foundation, is similar to the Rhodes Scholarship, but recipients attend Cambridge rather than Oxford.

Blake Wiedenheft, assistant professor of microbiology and immunology, has won a [Presidential Early Career Award for Scientists and Engineers](#). It is the highest honor the government bestows to early-career research science and engineering professionals.

A design by Meta Newhouse, associate professor of graphic design, recently was picked in the top 10 of 5,000 submissions in the international [Poster for Tomorrow](#) contest.

All four MSU campuses have been named [among the nation's military-friendly schools](#) by the website [MilitaryFriendly.com](#) for its 2017 compilation of schools that support student veterans.

Three doctoral students who work on research projects with biomedical applications have been awarded 2016 [Kopriva Graduate Student Fellowships](#). Arianna Celis, Amanda Fuchs and Amanda Byer will each receive \$5,000 to support their research. Each will also give a Kopriva Science Seminar Series lecture.

A Rubik's Cube-sized computer prototype MSU researchers designed is [now on the International Space Station \(ISS\)](#). The researchers hope the prototype demonstrates an improved method for coping with the radiation of outer space.

MSU researcher Chaofu Lu has received a [\\$1.2 million grant](#) from the U.S. Department of Energy to research ways to improve the usefulness of camelina, an ancient crop with biofuel potential.

Connie Chang, an MSU researcher with the Center for Biofilm Engineering, and her colleagues have received a [\\$5.2 million grant](#) to push the boundaries of a new approach for treating flu and other fast-evolving viruses that resist traditional vaccines.

The Western Transportation Institute at MSU has been [awarded \\$7.5 million](#) from the U.S. Department of Transportation to research ways to improve the mobility of people and goods in small urban, rural and tribal areas.

Casianne Lund will travel to Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, on a [Fulbright English Teaching Assistantship](#). Lund graduated magna cum laude from MSU in December with dual degrees in psychology and French.

MSU has been [selected to host](#) the 2020 [National Conference on Undergraduate Research](#) (NCUR). The event brings together more than 4,000 students and their faculty mentors to present their scholarly research in a professional setting.

Four recent graduates of Montana State University's online master's degree program in science education have won prestigious [Presidential Awards for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching](#).

Middle school and high school students from across Montana participated in the [FIRST Tech Challenge](#), annual robotics competition on the MSU campus in January.

Jake TeSelle, a 2016 engineering graduate, has been named [Entrepreneur of the Year](#) for the counties served by Headwaters RC&D. TeSelle and his business partner, Colten Sales, are the founders of Crooked Yard Hops, a specialty operation growing hops for local microbreweries.