

MONTANA STATE UNIVERSITY

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CAMPUS REPORT | Board of Regents Meeting | Nov. 18 -19, 2021 |



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Montana State University reported the [largest incoming class](#) in its history, with 3,871 new, first-time students are attending MSU, including undergraduates and Gallatin College MSU students. Those new students contribute to an overall enrollment of 16,841.

MSU announced a [\\$101 million philanthropic investment](#) from Mark and Robyn Jones, founders of Goosehead Insurance. The investment, the largest in U.S. history to a college of nursing, will address the critical need to improve access to health care in Montana.

For a third year running, MSU recorded an [all-time high for research expenditures](#) — more than \$193 million for the fiscal year ending in June.

A [\\$2.2 million federal Nursing Workforce Diversity grant](#) will support students in MSU's Caring for our Own Program. The grant will let the [MSU College of Nursing](#) offer scholarships to 15 American Indian and Alaska Native nursing students.

[Fifty high school graduates from across Montana](#) became the sixth class of MSU's [Hilleman Scholars](#).

With a [\\$20 million National Science Foundation grant](#), MSU and the University of Arkansas will establish the MonArk Quantum Foundry to accelerate the development of quantum materials and devices.

A [collection of artwork](#) and personal files of Bob and Gennie DeWeese, [pioneers in the modernist movement](#) in Montana, is now open for research at the [MSU Library](#).

An MSU-led group was [awarded \\$4 million](#) from Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency to identify how viral threats spill over from animals to humans and to develop ways to stop spillover before it occurs.

MSU researchers will [work with Montana wheat producers](#) on the [Data-Intensive Farm Management project](#), which received \$4 million from the National Resources and Conservation Service. The project will help apply precision agriculture technology to improve efficiency of planting, management and input decisions.

A [\\$3 million NSF grant](#) will support innovative MSU research on extreme microbes useful for industrial tasks, such as [sealing hard-to-reach leaks in oil and gas wells](#) or [recycling plastic](#).

MSU is again [ranked among the top universities in the nation](#) in [U.S. News & World Report's](#) annual [rankings](#). The "Best Colleges 2021" guidebook placed MSU 132nd in the [top public schools](#) category. MSU was also 263rd in the [best national universities category](#), which includes both public and private institutions.

Three ventures with MSU ties were selected for the [HyperAccelerator program](#) offered by the nonprofit [Early Stage Montana](#).