## **MONTANA STATE UNIVERSITY**

BOZEMAN | BILLINGS | NORTHERN | GREAT FALLS COLLEGE

CAMPUS REPORT | Board of Regents Meeting | March 14-15, 2024



## MONTANA STATE UNIVERSITY BILLINGS

Through the expansion of the Yellowjacket Excellence Award, 307 scholarships were awarded this fall as part of our ongoing effort to improve retention rates. The award is renewable for up to four years and removes financial barriers that may otherwise impede a student's ability to complete their degree.

Additionally, we awarded two new scholarships; <u>the Corning Honors Scholarship and Scheels Honors</u> <u>Scholarship</u>. First-time freshman Connor Brandon who is studying business was awarded the Corning Honors Scholarship. The Scheels Honors Scholarship recipient is Casey Davis who is studying education. Both recipients are Billings natives and have received full-tuition for the 2023-24 academic year, making these scholarships an investment in our students and our community.

<u>Andrew Laszlo Jr. presented a guest lecture</u> on his father's story as a survivor of the Holocaust. Laszlo discovered the profound story of his father's survival when a copy of his father's memoir, "Footnote to History" arrived unexpectedly at his doorstep. In sharing his journey of uncovering his father's experiences, Laszlo brought a new perspective to keeping survivors' stories alive.

<u>Faculty and students will work with Northern Cheyenne speakers to record the stories</u>, contributing to the wider effort to preserve the Northern Cheyenne language and heritage. With funding provided through a Humanities Montana Film + Video grant, the team will create a planetarium presentation to share Northern Cheyenne star stories in the Northern Cheyenne language.

Office of International Studies Director <u>Paul Foster Ph.D. will develop and lead the Yellowstone Consortium of</u> <u>International Studies and Foreign Languages</u> in eastern Montana and northern Wyoming through a multiyear Grant of nearly \$500,000 from the United States Department of Education. The goal of this initiative is to expand international and foreign language studies in the region.