

# MONTANA STATE UNIVERSITY

BOZEMAN | BILLINGS | NORTHERN | GREAT FALLS COLLEGE

**CAMPUS REPORT** | Board of Regents Meeting | May 21, 2025



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After a national search, Dr. Brock Tessman has been selected to become the [13th president of Montana State](#). Tessman brings a wealth of experience and vision to his new role and is known for his energy, dedication to students, strong communication and ability to deliver results — qualities that make him uniquely suited to lead MSU.

Two MSU [juniors won the prestigious Goldwater Scholarship](#): Anna Erickson, from Dalton, Minnesota, majoring in psychology and cell biology and neuroscience, and Derek Jollie, an MSU Hilleman Scholar from Butte majoring in mathematical sciences and physics.

MSU has again been designated by the Carnegie Classification of Institutes of Higher Education as an [R1 institution](#) for its very high research output and doctoral education. MSU is one of just a handful of R1s to also have a “very high undergraduate” enrollment profile.

MSU [enrollment](#) set a new all-time spring record of 16,237 students, marking the fifth consecutive year of spring semester enrollment growth at the state’s largest university.

MSU [reached its goal](#) of raising \$22.5 million in private donations to fund a first-ever on-campus building for the fast-growing Gallatin College MSU.

MSU announced a \$30 million endowment for [Crawford Wildlife Habitat Scholarships](#), the largest scholarship endowment in the history of the university.

MSU’s institutional [accreditation was officially reaffirmed](#) by the [Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities](#).

MSU is again among the top [military-friendly schools](#) in the country, according to MilitaryFriendly.com. The university has consistently placed in the top 10 for the past five years and has received recognition for being a military spouse-friendly school.

[Gallatin College MSU](#) will expand its [photonics and laser technology](#) program thanks to a new [subcontract with the American Center for Optics Manufacturing](#).

MSU's nursing college has helped [bring oncology services to the city of Dillon](#), thanks to a grant from the Merck Foundation.

Richard Badenhausen has been selected as the [new dean](#) of the [MSU Honors College](#).

A \$2.8 million grant from the NIH will allow a MSU researchers to [deepen explorations into Lyme disease](#), which is posing an increasing threat in the U.S., including Montana.