THE UNIVERSITY OF MONTANA | MONTANA UNIVERSITY SYSTEM BOARD OF REGENTS CAMPUS REPORT

November 2026

UM **continued enrollment growth** with its largest first-year class in 12 years.

Missoula, home of the Montana Grizzlies, was recently voted the "**Best College Sports Town**" in a national USA TODAY sports reader's choice poll.

The UM College of Business ranks among the **top 15% of public undergraduate business programs** in the nation, according to U.S. News & World Report.

UM President Jeremiah Shinn proclaimed that every Friday each week be known as **"Griz Fridays,"** encouraging everyone to wear UM colors and insignia.

The University's **Montana Photo Workshop** is pushing students to new professional heights.

If you study **hiking in pretty places**, Missoula is the place to be. UM researchers are studying how spending time in outdoor scenic spaces relates to positive emotional well-being.

UM alumna Alison Bramlet is **shaping young lives**, working as lead teacher of one-room Malmborg School near the top of Bozeman Pass.

A new UM partner program with area high schools points students towards **careers in rural healthcare**.

A UM program is working to add more female superintendents into Montana's workforce with the **Women in Educational Leadership master's degree program**.

Emma McMillan became the **first UM music education student** placed as part of the Montana Teacher Residency Program.

It may be 575 miles from their house to Missoula, but Brad and Carol Holm **never miss a home Griz football game**. And now they ride in style with their new Griz-logo van.

The UM College of Business and Fort Peck Community College **entered into a new agreement** to help students easily transfer credits and finish their degrees online.

UM's President's Lecture Series kicked off the season with a lecture titled "**Birding to Change the World**." The presenter, Trish O'Kane, wrote the current Griz Read book.

The University opened a new research and clinical services space Oct. 2, adding **an additional two floors to its Bio Research Building**.

Prominent UM alumnus Tim O'Leary was presented with the **Bucklew Service Award**. Another alumnus, Nicholas Triolo, will serve as UM's 2027 **Kittredge Distinguished Visiting Writer in Environmental Studies**.