

MONTANA STATE UNIVERSITY

BOZEMAN | BILLINGS | NORTHERN | GREAT FALLS COLLEGE

CAMPUS REPORT | Board of Regents Meeting | January 11, 2018 | Helena



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An MSU alumnus and his wife will donate a \$1 million portion of their estate [to support the university's Hilleman Scholars Program](#), which helps Montana high school graduates succeed in college.

In what is the most significant discovery in astronomy since the Nobel Prize-winning detection of gravitational waves, MSU physicists were part of an international team to detect gravitational waves from the collision of two neutron stars and [provided further evidence of how gold and platinum are formed](#).

MSU Jake Jabs College of Business and Entrepreneurship students participating in the "Entrepreneurship Challenge," [turned \\$25 each into more than \\$7,000 in just three weeks](#), and then donated those funds to three different Montana wildfire-related relief causes.

The Plant Growth Center at MSU recently [celebrated its 30th anniversary](#). The center has enabled hundreds of research projects that have contributed important knowledge of diseases, weed management, and more to Montana and beyond.

Montana State University was [named a Purple Heart University](#) in recognition of the university's ongoing support for veterans and their families.

Researchers from MSU's Education, Electrical and Computer Engineering, and Physics departments received [a \\$445,000 National Science Foundation grant](#) to develop a curriculum to improve the spatial intelligence of middle schoolers.

A biostatistician with the Center for Biofilm Engineering at MSU and an assistant professor of chemical and biological engineering have [collaborated with the EPA](#) to develop the first antimicrobial testing standards specifically for biofilm bacteria.

MSU Extension family economics specialist Marsha Goetting [received the 2017 Western Region Excellence in Extension Award from Cooperative Extension](#), the USDA's National Institute of Food and Agriculture and the Association of Public and Land-grant Universities.

Bob Hietala, dean of Gallatin College MSU, was [named the recipient of Prospera Business Network's 2017 Economic Leadership Award](#).

The McNair Scholars Program that works to support underrepresented undergraduate students has [received \\$1.2 million from the U.S. Department of Education](#) to continue the program for another five years.

Nearly 1,200 students received their degrees and Dan Wenk, superintendent of Yellowstone National Park, received [an honorary doctorate degree in letters](#) at MSU's fall commencement.

The MSU College of Arts and Architecture [published *The Artists*](#), a magazine produced by photography student Kate Chapin for a class.

MSU mechanical and industrial engineering professor Bill Schell has been [named a fellow by the American Society for Engineering Management](#).