

MONTANA STATE UNIVERSITY

BOZEMAN | BILLINGS | NORTHERN | GREAT FALLS COLLEGE

CAMPUS REPORT | Board of Regents Meeting | May 26 & 27, 2021



MONTANA STATE UNIVERSITY BILLINGS

- **MSUB sees increase in graduate program enrollment and returning students.** Spring 2021 enrollment data showed an increase in undergraduate student enrollment and graduate degree program enrollment, particularly in healthcare support programs such as clinical rehabilitation, special education in applied behavior analysis, and health administration. At its official 15th class-day count, 3,987 students were enrolled with 2,263 at University Campus and 1,724 at City College.
- **M.J. Murdock Charitable Trust continues investment in health and education with \$527,000 grant to MSU Billings for new neurodiversity institute,** which will serve children with mental, social, behavioral and learning challenges associated with autism spectrum disorders. The institute will also increase clinical training opportunities for MSU Billings graduate students studying Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) therapy, expand research opportunities, and provide telehealth services to rural families.
- **James Unzaga, MSUB junior, is awarded the Goldwater Scholarship.** Unzaga is the third recipient from MSU Billings. Unzaga is one of 410 Goldwater scholars, selected from a pool of 1,256 nominated sophomore and junior students across 438 institutions. Unzaga is a first-generation college student currently pursuing a bachelor's degree in chemistry, with the goal of earning a doctorate degree in biomaterials science.
- **City College paramedic program awarded reaccreditation** by the Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs (CAAHEP). Continuing accreditation of the paramedic program was approved for compliance of the Emergency Medical Services Standards by CAAHEP on March 22, 2021. The paramedic program has been successfully accredited since 2002 and this continuing accreditation award is valid through 2026.
- **Assistant professor of mathematics recognized for outstanding contributions.** Tien Chih, Ph.D., was honored at MSUB's Faculty Excellence Ceremony, receiving the two most honorary awards—the Winston and Helen Cox Fellowship Award and the Walter and Charlotte Pippenger Excellence in Innovation Award for his extensive work on promoting mathematics outside the classroom.
- **MSUB senior Charlene Allmer honored as the 2021 Newman Civic Fellow.** Allmer is majoring in criminal justice and minoring in psychology. Growing up in a low-income household in a rough part of town, she knows what it is like to be less fortunate. She eventually moved to Montana and started college, hoping to earn a degree where she could positively impact others. The Newman Civic Fellowship is a year-long program for students from Campus Compact member institutions. The students selected for the fellowship are leaders on their campuses who demonstrate a commitment to finding solutions for challenges facing communities locally, nationally, and internationally.
- **MSUB hosts eighth annual Research, Creativity, and Community Involvement Celebration (RCCIC).** This event celebrates the research and creativity of MSUB's students. Presentations and programs included creative writing, psychology, history, the sciences, health and human performance, and more, with students participating from across all parts of the university.
- **MSUB establishes business degree pathway with Northwest College.** MSU Billings and Northwest College have established a 2+2 partnership that will allow Northwest College graduates who have completed an Associate of Science degree the opportunity to seamlessly transition to a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration degree with the general business, accounting, finance, management, or marketing degree option at MSU Billings.
- **MSUB Outdoor Adventure Leadership students teach Backpacking 101.** Billings Parks and Recreation partnered with MSUB Outdoor Adventure Leadership students to offer an educational program, Backpacking 101. The class was led by students in Outdoor Adventure Leadership and covered everything a person needs to know to successfully and safely plan a backpacking adventure. In this two-and-a-half-hour class, students led instruction and taught participants how to backpack and how to plan, pack, and successfully complete an overnight or multi-day backpacking adventure.
- **Krista Montague announces resignation as MSUB director of athletics.** After nine years as athletic director and 25 years overall at MSUB, Krista Montague announced her resignation on March 30. Montague was named interim athletic director in 2012 and permanent athletic director in 2013. She will serve in her current position through June 30, 2021. Plans for the search for the next director of intercollegiate athletics will be announced in the coming weeks.
- **MSUB names Ed Garding as interim College of Business dean beginning July 1, 2021.** Garding served as the interim dean of the College of Business from 2018-2019. He is currently the Corporate and Government Relations officer with First Interstate BancSystem and previously served as president and CEO from 2012 to 2015. A search for a permanent dean will commence next spring.
- **MSUB names interim dean for the College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences.** Tami Haaland has been named interim dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences effective immediately after Dean Christine Shearer resigned due to personal reasons. A search for a permanent dean will commence next spring.