

MONTANA STATE UNIVERSITY

BOZEMAN | BILLINGS | NORTHERN | GREAT FALLS COLLEGE

CAMPUS REPORT | Board of Regents Meeting | September 21-22, 2022



MONTANA STATE UNIVERSITY BILLINGS

- Recent City College graduate Dylan Miller [won gold at the national automotive refinishing competition](#) at the SkillsUSA Conference this past May in Atlanta, Georgia. City College has the only automobile collision repair and refinishing program in the state.
- Upward Bound at MSUB [received a \\$2 million grant](#) to help low-income, first-generation high school students prepare for college.
- After a national search, [Tami Haaland was named dean of the College of Liberal Arts & Social Sciences](#). A professor of English, Haaland has been teaching at MSUB for 27 years and has held numerous high-level positions at the university.
- After the 2016 death of her spouse, Angelica Johnson found herself as a single mother of four providing for her family on a teacher's salary. But with determination, grit, the encouragement of her family, and a newfound passion for special education, [she completed her master's degree in education](#), graduating this past spring.
- The Native American Achievement Center was [awarded a Supporting Indigenous Arts Mastery Program grant](#) designed to help public institutions support cultural arts of tribal communities.
- Emily Arendt, associate professor of history, was [awarded the prestigious 2022 James H. Bradley Fellowship](#) from the Montana Historical Society. The fellowship includes a three-week research residency at the Historical Society in Helena and the opportunity to submit an article based on that research for publication in the journal, Montana: The Magazine of Western History.
- Recent MSUB graduate and pilot Sarah Cozart missed her graduation for a good reason: [flying a research mission for the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration](#). Her task was to locate endangered North Atlantic right whales in the Gulf of St. Lawrence, Canada. Cozart said the environmental studies education she received at MSUB has been an important factor in her success.
- Suzette Nynas, associate professor and department chair for the health and human performance department, was recently [inducted into the Montana Athletic Trainers' Association Hall of Fame](#) for her contributions to support and advance athletic training and sports medicine through education, research and community engagement.
- Professors Joy Honea, Sue Balter-Reitz and Heather Thompson-Bahm shared their expertise in the flexible learning modality called HyFlex with peers from throughout Montana and the U.S. at the XLi Extended Learning Institute, a recent MUS conference. [MSUB is at the forefront of online learning in the state](#), from being the first to offer videoconference capabilities for classes and community meetings to offering the largest number of fully online degrees.
- Assistant professor of botany Jason Comer received [a grant to purchase a state-of-the-art nanopore sequencer](#), a portable, real-time device for sequencing DNA and RNA in plants. Such technology is typically only found in large testing and sequencing facilities, and it is rare for students to have access. This year, Comer and his students have conducted research in Billings' Dover Park to form plant genetic "family trees."