

MONTANA STATE UNIVERSITY

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CAMPUS REPORT | Board of Regents Meeting | January 8, 2025

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MSU ranked among the world's top universities in the [newest Leiden Rankings](#). MSU was ranked 1,133 on the list out of 1,506 universities globally.

Montana State University has been ranked a [Top Veteran-Friendly School by U.S. Veterans Magazine](#) and is the only Montana institution included in the magazine's 2024 list.

Two MSU initiatives will help address the need for teachers in Montana's rural schools. A \$3 million grant will support dozens of [science, technology, engineering and math teachers in rural and underserved areas of Montana](#), and MSU's [Rural Teaching Exploration](#) provides MSU students a formal classroom experience during their first semester.

MSU and Gallatin Valley communities donated the equivalent of 652,876 pounds of food for the local foodbanks, [resulting in a victory for the Can the Griz food drive](#).

Author [Michael Punke will deliver Montana State's First Year Student Convocation](#) lecture in August. Incoming students will be asked to read his book "Fire and Brimstone" to expand their understanding of Montana's history.

MSU Dean of Nursing Sarah Shannon received the [State Advocate Award](#) from the American Association of Nurse Practitioners, an annual award given to one from each state who serves as a role model in the health care industry.

A [Department of Ecology](#) researcher is exploring how [Montana rangeland and crops respond](#) to drought stress by delving into plant-microbe interactions.

During National First-Generation College Celebration Day, [MSU's First-Generation Committee hosted a series of events](#) to celebrate and support first generation students, including a book club, seminars and a student panel.

Montana State welcomes two new leaders - [Sally Mudiamu](#) as new dean of Global Engagement and International Programs and [William Thomas](#) as new dean of College of Letters and Science.

MSU's Western Transportation Institute was [awarded \\$4.7 million from the US Department of Transportation](#) to improve road safety in rural communities.

The U.S. Department of Energy [featured MSU research in its Science Highlights series](#). MSU's work focuses on camelina, an oilseed crop related to canola that is a possible sustainable source of biofuels.