

# MONTANA STATE UNIVERSITY

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CAMPUS REPORT | Board of Regents Meeting | March 13, 2025



GREAT FALLS  
COLLEGE  
MONTANA STATE  
UNIVERSITY

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The Native American Enrichment Center and Military Family Center completed their move to the heart of campus with revamped spaces designed with input from the students who use them. The coordinators of the centers started their jobs in the fall and are working on building camaraderie among those who visit them and connecting them with services the college has to help them through their education. With the increased visibility and efforts of the staff members, usage should increase.

Great Falls College, which has been selected as the regional hub for Goldman Sachs' [10,000 Rural Small Businesses](#) initiative, hired Amie Thompson to be executive director of the program. Amie had a long career in journalism in Montana, including many years as an editor at the Great Falls Tribune, before working in communications at NorthWestern Energy for the past seven years. The faculty had a three-day training in February with Babson College faculty members, who developed the curriculum for the program that started 15 years ago and has helped more than 16,000 small businesses throughout the United States. The first cohort of 30 to 40 businesses will start classes March 19-21 in Great Falls. The program is an extensive, all-expenses-paid, 12-week training that also partners the business owners with industry experts to help them grow their businesses and bolster their communities.

Great Falls College is holding a Montana Actors' Theatre play, *the Fowl Monty*, in April that will serve as an alumni outreach event and a student engagement event as the college will offer alumni and current students free entry to the play with a donation to the college's food pantry. The Montana Actor Theatre is the resident acting company on the Montana State University Northern campus. The college also will be holding a Night Out at the Ballpark again this summer with the local minor league baseball team, which also will double as an alumni event as they will gain free entry to the ballpark.

Montana State University President Waded Cruzado kicked off the annual Bringing the U to You lecture series with a talk about the importance of land-grant universities and the vital role they play in educating the sons and daughters of America and sharing the school's progress over the last 15 years as she wraps up her remarkable career. The event, typically held in Great Falls College's Heritage Hall, had to be moved to the much larger Davidson Auditorium at Great Falls High School. Other lecturers include Brad Bigelow from the University of Montana discussing, "A Layperson's Guide to Cyber Warfare," Dr. Cara Palmer from MSU speaking on, "Sleep on It: Connections between Sleep and Mental Health" and finally Dr. Jason Neiffer from UM giving a talk titled, "Learning Reimagined: The promise and Perils of AI in Education."

March is Science Month at Great Falls College, with the elementary, middle and high school science fairs taking part early in the month on campus. Later in the month, the college is holding its annual fundraiser, Night Out For Science. Alumni also will be invited to this fundraiser as the college seeks to connect more with graduates. The night spotlights demonstrations by faculty and students and raises money for student scholarships. Last year, it raised a record \$23,000 for scholarships.

Great Falls College had its certificate in technical studies in addictions counseling approved. The certificate will help those already working in the field get their license to be addictions counselors.