

# MONTANA STATE UNIVERSITY

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**CAMPUS REPORT** | Board of Regents Meeting | May 19 -20, 2016 | Havre



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Three Montana State University students received the prestigious Goldwater Scholarship, the nation's premier scholarship for undergraduates studying math, natural sciences and engineering. Josh Carter from Watertown, South Dakota, Zane Huttinga from Amsterdam, Montana, and John Ryter from Hamilton, Montana, each received the scholarship. MSU has now produced 67 Goldwater scholars and is tied for 9<sup>th</sup> in the nation for the number of Goldwater scholarships.

Montana State University was part of an international team that detected gravitational waves 100 years after Einstein predicted their existence. Led by physics professor and MSU eXtreme Gravity Institute co-director Neil Cornish, the team included faculty and graduate students. MSU has been a member institution of the LIGO Scientific Collaboration since 2007.

The nation's leading experts in vaccine development gathered at the MSU campus for the Maurice Hilleman Vaccine symposium. The symposium is named for Maurice Hilleman, a 1941 MSU graduate who saved the lives of millions by developing a wide array of vaccines.

MSU students continue to post acceptance rates to health professions schools well above the national average. MSU students recorded a 64 percent average acceptance rate over five years compared to the national average acceptance rate to medical school of 39 percent.

Two MSU students, who are active in their tribal communities, have won the prestigious Udall Scholarship from the Morris K. Udall and Stewart L. Udall Foundation. Montana Duke Wilson of Poplar, Montana, and Elva Faye Agnes Dorsey, of Browning, Montana, were selected as Udall Scholars in the Tribal Public Policy category.

Jessi L. Smith was a co-author of a paper published in the journal Science detailing a short, concise way to bring inclusion and equity to university female faculty in STEM fields at universities.

MSU's 2015 student body president recently earned two prestigious awards. Levi Birky, of Kalispell, received a Truman scholarship – given to college juniors with demonstrated leadership potential and commitment to public service, as well as a Newman Civic Fellow for community based advocacy. In addition, two other students, Joshua Carter and Montana Duke Wilson, were named Truman scholar finalists.

A MSU researcher studying farming practices that may decrease summertime temperatures recently received a \$500,000 CAREER Award from the National Science Foundation.

MSU's Jabs Hall costs significantly less per square foot to heat, cool and light than any other major building on campus, according to MSU's Facilities Services. The building's energy efficient features include an active solar wall, geothermal wells, and an exemplary stormwater management system.

S2 Corporation and MSU's Spectrum Lab have received a \$4.5 million, three-year subcontract from BAE Systems of Nashua, New Hampshire, to develop a next-generation electronic warfare technology demonstrator for the Office of Naval Research.

MSU's College of Nursing now offers an associate's-to-master's degree program in nursing, which takes five semesters to complete. All courses are taught by College of Nursing faculty, and they are offered using teleconference and video conference so that students may continue to live and work in their home communities.

The research of two MSU microbiologists into how bacteria fend off attacks from viruses is included in a new paper published in the scientific journal Nature. Their research brings to light an understanding of how bacteria differentiate virus' DNA from its own genetic material.