

# MONTANA STATE UNIVERSITY

BOZEMAN | BILLINGS | NORTHERN | GREAT FALLS COLLEGE

CAMPUS REPORT | Board of Regents Meeting | May 15-16, 2024



## MONTANA STATE UNIVERSITY BILLINGS

The [MSU Billings Powwow presented the theme Resilient Relatives for its 54th annual event](#). The powwow featured Head Woman Dancer Taylor Medicine Horse, a nursing student from the Crow and Northern Cheyenne Tribes, and Head Man Dancer Waycen Owens-Cyr, an accounting and finance student from the Fort Peck Tribe.

The Office of International Studies hosted [U.S. Ambassador to the Slovak Republic, Gautam Rana](#), for a guest lecture as funded by the UNDERGRADUATE International Studies and Foreign Languages Program grant from the Department of Education. Rana is career member of the Senior Foreign Service and has represented United States as a diplomat since 2002. His visit continues a longstanding cultural connection between Billings and Bratislava, Slovakia.

MSU Billings received [Gold designation as a 2024-25 Military Friendly](#) and Military Spouse Friendly School. The designations underscore the university's efforts in creating educational pathways for the military community and its commitment to serving veterans, veteran spouses, and military-affiliated students.

[College of Business student Waycen Owens-Cyr](#) lead a team of students to a top three placement in their category at the American Indigenous Business Leaders Business Plan Competition. Competing institutions included Montana State University, Fort Lewis College, Heritage College, and the University of Alaska Fairbanks.

[Susan Gilbertz, Ph.D. has been selected](#) as the Dean of the College of Business, effective July 1, 2024. She has served as Interim Dean since July 1, 2023, and for the prior two years as Interim Associate Dean. Her steady leadership will ensure continuity of focus on the academic mission of the college.

[The Library hosted former MIT engineer and Emmy-nominated television host Emily Calandrelli](#), *The Space Gal*, as part the of the spring 2024 Library Lecture Series titled "Stellar Insights." She addressed the importance of science literacy, benefits of space exploration, and challenges women face in STEM careers.

The Men's Basketball and Women's Basketball teams emerged as GNAC conference champions. [Men's Basketball](#) earned an NCAA Division II Regional Tournament appearance. [Women's Basketball](#) secured a record-setting 28 wins reaching the NCAA Division II Sweet Sixteen.

Kola Bad Bear was named a nation-wide top six player in the Women's Basketball NCAA Division II All-American first team. Head Women's Basketball Coach Kevin Woodin received the GNAC Coach of the Year for the second consecutive year. Jalen Tot was named Men's Basketball GNAC and West Region Player of the Year along with Head Men's Basketball Coach Luke Fennelly being named GNAC and West Region Coach of the Year.

The [6th annual 'Jacket Giving Day](#) surpassed previous years by raising over \$115,000 from more than 350 donors. Every contribution from giving day will directly enhance the student experience at MSU Billings.