UNIVERSITY OFMONTANA UNIVERSITY SYSTEM BOARD OF REGENTSMONTANACAMPUS REPORT

November 2024

Enrollment at the University of Montana's four-year flagship campus jumped nearly 6% this fall – the largest rise in 15 years.

UM is launching the state's **first public occupational therapy program**. The first students will begin the new program in fall 2025.

The **<u>Grizzly Marching Band</u>** is hitting a high note with growing membership.

UM was chosen for a \$600,000 federal grant to <u>deliver cybersecurity education</u> to teachers and students in a five-state region.

The University's **Surgical Technology Program ranks** among the top 10 nationally.

UM grads recently **sold their tech startup, Pathlabs**. It was one of the largest such sales in state history.

UM recently acquired a 200-piece modern art collection.

Scientists at UM's Flathead Lake Biological Station helped discover an **iron deficiency in the ocean's "twilight zone."**

UM student Mason Derendinger works for a Missoula tech company, attends business college classes and collaborated with a UM paper about <u>how students use generative AI</u>.

Emily St. John Mandel, **bestselling author of the novel "Station Eleven,"** presented a lecture at UM. "Station Eleven" is this fall's Griz Read for incoming UM students.

Five recipients recently were chosen for <u>UM's Distinguished Alumni Award</u>. Additionally, Loren and Michele Hansen were honored with the University's <u>Bucklew Service Award</u>.

UM's School Psychology Program recently earned the <u>highest level of accreditation approval</u> from the National Association of School Psychologists.

UM athletic training student Audrey Missildine is back working on the Griz sidelines after working an **internship with the NFL's Buffalo Bills**.

Nicole Lopez, a UM biology doctoral student, has completed groundbreaking <u>research on</u> <u>antler evolution</u>.

Law student Craig Rigdon, a woodworker in his first career, <u>carved and created his own table</u> for his UM legal studies.

UM's Mansfield Center earned a \$10 million grant to strengthen ties with Southeast Asia.