From: Office of the MSU Provost
Subject: November 2026 Message from the Provost
Date: Thursday, November 12, 2026 8:29:51 AM
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MONTANA STATE UNIVERSITY | Office of the Provost

Dear Colleagues,

As the end of the semester comes fast upon us, I hope you are finding that whatever goals you set at the beginning of the semester for your own teaching, research, and outreach are coming to fruition. I've said it before—the value you provide in the classroom and in research and creative spaces is the foundation of the success of Montana State University. I'm proud to work alongside you at this premier R1 research institution that is committed to our open-access mission. I learn something new whenever I get to spend time with members of our campus, whether in scheduled department visits, in attending lectures, or just in casual conversations across campus. Even when your days are fully scheduled, may you all find ways to share some time with your colleagues on campus.

Next week, Montana State will host the Montana University System Board of Regents for their November meeting in the SUB ballrooms. The agenda will be posted in advance of the meeting, and I hope you will join whichever sessions interest you. I'll draw your attention to the Thursday after lunch session at which the Board will honor a Montana State faculty member as the newest MUS Regents Professor, and to the Thursday morning session at which our new Strategic Plan will be announced. The sixteen projects that make up our Strategic Plan will focus our work as we improve the student experience, advance academic excellence, strengthen partnerships across Montana, and invest in how we work together. You'll have more opportunities in the coming weeks to learn about the plan and to identify your specific role in the projects.

Finally, our collective mental health and wellbeing are important to prioritize. To increase your comfort and knowledge in working with students in distress, please consider taking the online Signs of Suicide training or attending the in-person suicide prevention training hosted by CAPS on Tuesday, November 17th from 12:00-1:00 pm in the Student Wellness Center. Use this link to register in advance and for more details. I also encourage each of you to take time to care for yourselves. There are services to support your own mental health and wellbeing through our EAP and wellness resources.

Best Wishes,



Dr. Elizabeth Burroughs | Executive Vice President and Provost
Montana State University
Tel. 406-994-4371

Upcoming Events
Nov. 19-20: Board of Regents meeting, SUB ballrooms
Dec. 18: Fall 2026 Commencement
Jan. 12: First day of Spring semester
Jan. 26: Provost's Distinguished Lecture with Dr. Andrea Litt at Museum of the Rockies