MAY 2020

As this unconventional and extraordinary semester comes to a close, we will reflect on the changes we have seen in the ways we work, live, and teach and what lessons we can bring forward with us to our next semester.

To keep up with updates and messages from the Graduate School, visit our Announcements page.

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The Grad School Help Desk Newsletter is here to help you with dates, funding opportunities, upcoming workshops, and graduate events. Let us know if there is anything you’d like to see or anything we missed.

Sincerely,
The Graduate School

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**May 1 EXTENDED** Last day for comp exam or thesis/dissertation defense for Spring 2020 graduates

**May 1 EXTENDED** ETD Approval Deadline

**May 1** Last day of classes.

**May 4-8** Final Examinations

**May 8** Spring Semester Ends

**May 9** Virtual graduation celebration (see below)
**WORKSHOPS & EVENTS**

**Virtual Graduation Celebration with the Graduate School**
Saturday, May 9 at 9am  
**Where:**

The Graduate School will be hosting a virtual celebration for those graduate students finishing their degree this Spring. The ceremony will be viewable on [MSU’s YouTube channel](https://www.youtube.com) on **May 9 at 9am**. We look forward to celebrating the achievement of our graduate students.

**CPS – Virtual connection space just for Graduate Students**
Weekly, Wednesdays at 12pm  
**Where: Virtual**

The Covid-19 pandemic is impacting graduate students in unique ways. Uncertain about the funding and research opportunities for the summer and fall? Struggling with loneliness, a lack of structure, frustration at not knowing what the future holds? Worried about money? You are not alone! Connect with peers and learn ways to navigate this uncertain time.

Email [laura.thum@montana.edu](mailto:laura.thum@montana.edu) for the link to attend. For further information about all of CPS connection spaces, visit [CPS’s page](https://www.cps.montana.edu).

**CPS – Virtual support space for parents**
Weekly, Wednesdays at 3pm  
**Where: Virtual**

Feeling overwhelmed with being a student remotely while ALSO trying to home school and take care of your child(ren)? You are not alone! Please come to a group for MSU students who are also parents trying to juggle multiple roles. Connect with others in a similar situation, learn some tips to manage, and most importantly, take an hour to focus on you! View [CPS’s page](https://www.cps.montana.edu) or email Laura.Thum@montana.edu to attend or for more information.

**MSU Library Due Date Notice and Changes**
Changed from May 8 to August 31  
**Where: MSU Library**

The due date for many library items currently checked out by undergraduate and graduate students will be changed from Friday, May 8 to Monday, August 31 at noon. The library’s return drop is always open, and items can be returned there at any time. Due dates for technology checkouts have not been changed. Please get in touch with the library via the [Ask the Library webpage](https://library.montana.edu) for assistance related to tech item returns.

**CMD Registered Nursing Virtual Career Fair for Montana**
Thursday, May 7 – Saturday, May 10  
**Where: Online**

Students and alumni at your nurse education program are invited to participate in the [CMD Registered Nursing Virtual Career Fair for Montana](https://www.cps.montana.edu/careerfair).
Practicing RNs and LPN/LVNs, as well as students currently enrolled in education programs within the state are encouraged to pre-register. This digital recruiting event brings together hospitals, healthcare systems, and practice groups seeking Registered Nurses and Practical Nurses for immediate hire across Montana.

**Online Appointments with the Writing Center**
Where: Online

The Writing Center is here to support you and your writing in real time! Graduate students can make an online appointment with a tutor. For information on how to make an online appointment and what to expect when it’s time to meet the tutor online, please watch this video from the Writing Center.

**WriteNow Summer Session Beta**
May 17 – August 8, 2020 (12 Weeks)

Registration for WriteNow Summer Session Beta is now open! The National Center for Faculty Development & Diversity hosts this new program exclusively for graduate students and postdocs, offers 12 weeks of access to the WriteNow platform and timer for increased writing productivity, goal setting, and community support. Cost: $145; Registration closes May 8.

**FUNDING & FELLOWSHIPS**

**Department of Health and Human Services – Centers for Disease Control – Comprehensive Suicide Prevention**
**DEADLINE: May 26, 2020**

This Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) supports implementation and evaluation of a comprehensive public health approach to suicide prevention. Such an approach includes strong leadership as the convener of multi-sectoral partnerships; prioritizes data to identify vulnerable populations and to better characterize risk (e.g., relationship, job/financial, mental health problems) and protective factors (e.g. connectedness, hope, resilience) impacting suicide; leverages current prevention practices and fills gaps by selecting multiple and complementary strategies with the best available evidence using CDC’s Preventing Suicide: A Technical Package of Policy, Programs, and Practices; rigorously evaluates the overall approach and individual activities; feeds data back into the system for quality improvement and sustainability; and effectively communicates results.

**National Environmental Education and Training Program**
**Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)**
**DEADLINE: May 29, 2020**

The purpose of the National Environmental Education and Training Program is to deliver environmental education (EE) training and long-term support to education professionals across the U.S. in the development and delivery of environmental
education and training programs and studies. Under this competition, one cooperative agreement is expected to be awarded to a U.S. institution of higher education, a not-for-profit institution or a consortium of such institutions. The total estimated funding for the first year of the award (FY 2020) is $2,175,500. For planning purposes, funding for years two and three should be estimated to be $2,175,500 per year, subject to the availability of funds and other applicable considerations.

Joint FY20 Bioenergy and Advanced Manufacturing FOA BOTTLE: Bio-Optimized Technologies to keep Thermoplastics out of Landfills and the Environment
Department of Energy

DEADLINE: June 18, 2020

DOE's Bioenergy Technologies Office (BETO) develops technologies that convert domestic biomass and waste resources into fuels, products, and power to enable affordable energy, economic growth, and innovation in renewable energy and chemicals production. DOE's Advanced Manufacturing Office (AMO) develops technologies that drive energy productivity improvements in the U.S. manufacturing sector, efficiently utilize abundant and available domestic energy resources, and support the manufacture of clean energy products with benefits extending across the economy. This Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) will support high-impact technology research and development (R&D) to enable the development of technologies that overcome the challenges associated with plastic waste.

For more funding opportunities, visit MSU's Research Funding Opportunities or the Graduate School's Funding & Fellowships webpage.

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Follow us on Social Media for more news and events!

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