DEPARTMENT OF CHEMISTRY AND BIOCHEMISTRY CHAIR
MONTANA STATE UNIVERSITY
Montana State University is Montana’s leading research institution. Attracting and retaining renowned scholars who are passionate about advancing meaningful research is critical to fulfilling our role as a Carnegie classified institution with “very high research activity.” It is also vital for MSU to build upon its “engaged university” Carnegie designation with faculty who are equally passionate about preparing and mentoring students for a lifetime of success.

Building upon the exceptional research being conducted at MSU today, this Chemistry and Biochemistry Chair will raise the scope and visibility of the University’s research and help garner even greater national and international recognition for faculty and student accomplishments. In fulfilling this role, the Chair will support individual research programs and foster greater cross-collaboration among researchers – within the department, across campus, and with other research institutions. The Chair will also lead the department to better connect their work with industry, governmental agencies, non-profits and our communities.

ELEVATING RESEARCH PROGRAMS

Montana State University’s Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry offers the largest graduate program in the state of Montana, with more than 70 full-time graduate students. Home to the Thermal Biology Institute, the CoBRE Center for the Analysis of Cellular Mechanisms, and the Center for Bio-Inspired Nano Materials, the department is one of the top schools in the country in terms of federal support for chemical research and development, surpassing even Princeton and Yale.

MSU is committed to providing undergraduate and graduate students with opportunities for learning and discovery through hands-on research and service-learning experiences. Faculty leaders understand how critical this is for ensuring students are prepared to address the complex challenges of the future. The Chemistry and Biochemistry Chair will support faculty members in their efforts to seamlessly integrate curricular and co-curricular experiences to more fully engage students.

The scope of the research conducted by this Chair will raise the academic profile of the department and the University, enhancing our regional, national, and international standing and attracting other scholars and high-performing students to work and study at Montana State. Great professors attract the best students, who are motivated to learn from and work alongside teachers and researchers who will challenge and inspire them.
REACHING OUR GOALS

Guided by an ambitious Strategic Plan, Montana State University seeks to attract and retain faculty of national and international recognition who significantly increase the number of faculty scholarly projects undertaken with undergraduate and graduate students.

The Chemistry / Biochemistry Chair will successfully advance the University’s strategic goals, enabling:

- More undergraduate and graduate degrees to be awarded in STEM-related fields;
- Increasing numbers of students have curricular experiences that integrate learning, discovery, and engagement;
- More graduate students to present at national symposiums;
- MSU undergraduates and graduates to publish more articles in high-profile academic outlets;
- MSU to recruit and retain more nationally and internationally recognized faculty;
- Average faculty salaries to rise to 80% of representative peer market average;
- MSU to increase the percentage of graduates who are employed full-time in their fields or positions of their choosing;
- MSU to increase the percentage of graduates pursuing advanced degrees.

MSU: A PUBLIC UNIVERSITY LEADING THE WAY

Montana State University was founded on a visionary idea—that access to higher education for students of all backgrounds is critical to the social and economic development of our state, our nation, and our world, and that scholarship and research matter greatly in everyday life.

Today, thanks to the work of many minds and hands across the generations, MSU stands tall by each of these measures. In recent years our faculty members, the lifeblood of MSU, have led us into the nation’s top tier of research institutions with discoveries and the application of new insights to critical issues. We serve our students and maintain our vibrant intellectual community only as we continue to attract and retain our teacher-scholars in order to sustain our prominence in research.

With the establishment of endowed professorships and chairs, we confirm our commitment to our research priorities and create advanced programming that benefits our students and the communities we serve. **Endowment gift** – a contribution made with donor-imposed stipulation that the principal be invested permanently. A portion of the investment income is used for purposes specified by the donor.

**Endowed Chair** – funds available to the University through a combination of professorships, grants, and other awards; up to 50% of spendable income may be used for compensatory purposes and up to 40% of total compensation paid to an individual by the university may be derived from the professorship. The balance of available funds is intended to offset non-compensatory expenses associated with related programming.

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