

Family newsletter

MSU Satellite To Accompany NASA Mission Into Space

It's official. A small research satellite that Montana State University students built to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the first successful U.S. satellite will ride into space this fall on a NASA launch. Calling it "a historically huge moment," [David Klum-par](#), director of MSU's [Space Science and Engineering Laboratory](#), said this will be the first time that an MSU satellite will be launched from the United States. It will also be the first time that miniature satellites made at any U.S.



university will fly on a NASA mission. MSU's satellite is one of three that will accompany the NASA mission. NASA announced Tuesday that the three satellites are scheduled to be launched in late November with Glory, a climate mission to measure the sun's energy output and the distribution of tiny airborne aerosol particles. The other university satellites were made at the University of Colorado and a consortium of Kentucky universities. The satellites are expected to be launched on the Taurus XL launch vehicle from the Vandenberg Air Force Base in Santa Maria, Calif. To read more [click here](#).

Shelly Hogan is New Director of the MSU McNair Scholars Program

When Shelly Hogan first came to Montana State University as a student 17 years ago, she never imagined herself as a scholar. "I was a first-generation college student and from a lower income Montana family and really believed that the outstandingly scholastic and privileged students were the ones who went on to earn Ph.D.s," said Hogan from her office in Montana Hall. Yet, Hogan did recently earn a doctorate -- hers is in food science from Virginia Tech -- and is now helping other bright MSU undergraduate students from underrepresented backgrounds earn graduate degrees. Hogan is the new director of the MSU McNair Scholars Program, a support program that serves low income, first-generation college students as well as students from minority backgrounds who intend to go on to graduate school. MSU recently was awarded the \$880,000 U.S. Department of Education Ronald E. McNair post-baccalaureate program. The national fellowship program is named for a nationally recognized physicist and a NASA mission specialist astronaut who died in the explosion of the space shuttle Challenger in 1986.



Important dates and deadlines

- March 3-** [What can I do with a major in Fish and Wildlife Management](#)
- March 5-** [Men's Tennis Vs. MSU Billings](#)
- March 6-** [Men's Tennis Vs. Idaho](#)
- March 7-** [Men's Tennis Vs. Montana](#)
- March 6-** [Men's Basketball Big Sky Tournament 1st round](#)
- March 9-** [Men's Basketball Big Sky Tournament Semi finals](#)
- March 10-** [Men's Basketball Big Sky Tournament Finals](#)
- March 10-** [What Can I do with a major in Community Health](#)
- March 11-** [Women's Basketball Big Sky Basketball Tournament](#)
- March 12-** [MSU Friday](#)
- March 13-** [Residence Halls Close](#)
- March 15-19-** Spring Break
- March 21-** [Residence Halls Open](#)
- March 21-** [Women's Tennis Vs. Sacramento State](#)
- April 2-** University Day No School
- April 4-** Easter
- May 3-7-** Finals Week
- May 8-** [Commencement 2010](#)

Academic spotlight

College of

NURSING

College of Nursing

MSU's College of Nursing is a vibrant, dynamic environment with faculty members committed to excellence in education, research, and service. The College has been educating nurses since 1937 and has maintained continuous national accreditation since 1949. Within this period of time, the College has evolved as a cutting edge national leader in nursing education. Students are provided a diverse learning environment within the College that prepares them to be quality-minded professional healthcare providers.

Connect

College of Nursing graduate students now have an option available to them to pursue a degree as a nurse practitioner in family psychiatric mental health. This graduate option will make mental health nursing education accessible to nurses throughout Montana and will improve mental health care for rural populations.



Create

The College of Nursing was recently awarded a Helene Fuld grant to provide additional undergraduate scholarships. Since many students work while attending school, receiving a scholarship can ease some financial burden allowing students to stay more focused and be successful. Most undergraduate nursing students are eligible to apply for this scholarship. Award decisions are based on both merit and need.

Serve

Faculty members immerse students in community-oriented course activities. For example, in N477 (which is a course focused on the well-being of the community) students assisted a local health department with the developmental stages of a community awareness program regarding healthy eating when dining out. In the same course, students have also participated in a Kidney Early Evaluation Program (KEEP) with a local area agency.

Excel

Each fall upper division nursing students are involved in delivering over one thousand flu vaccinations as part of the Montana State University employee wellness fair.

This hands on experience helps students excel in their clinical skills and connects them with faculty and staff.



Discover

Each of the College of Nursing's four campus sites are equipped with adult and baby patient simulation labs. The environment provided by the simulation labs is proving to be truly invaluable for students and is a safe alternative to helping them discover their abilities in a clinical setting.

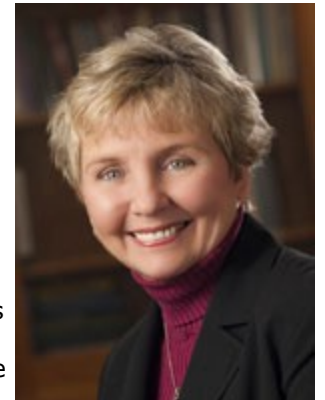
Our college offers a variety of educational programs that prepare our graduates for the exciting, rapidly changing world of health care. This website will provide you with information about those different programs as well as about the college and faculty in general.

The college has four main campuses and one outreach site. Our baccalaureate program is offered at each of those sites but follows the same curriculum. The educational experiences offered to students at the different sites may vary somewhat, but are always excellent and consistent with the curriculum. Our statewide master's program prepares nurse practitioners and educators through distance delivery methods. One meeting a year is held on the main campus in Bozeman.

Faculty in the college are not only excellent teachers but also accomplished researchers. The range of their scholarly interests is broad but mostly focuses on rural health. The activities of scholars are supported by the Office of Research and Scholarship within the college.

Our students are high achievers and are well prepared for professional practice. Graduates of the baccalaureate program consistently pass the NCLEX licensing examination at a rate well above the national average. Every single one of the graduates from the family nurse practitioner program has passed the national certification exam on the first try.

If you are interested in joining us as a student or a faculty member, do not hesitate to call or e-mail. We would be eager to tell you more about the college and nursing as a career.



Helen Melland, PhD, RN

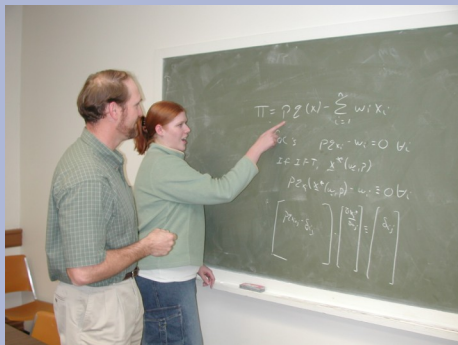
Dean and Professor

Campus Resources

Math Learning Center

The Department of Mathematical Sciences manages a **free** drop-in tutoring center open Fall, Spring and Summer Sessions.

This Math Learning Center(MLC) provides tutoring services for most 100 and 200 level math courses as well as STAT 216 and 217.



Fall and Spring Semester

Math Learning Center Hours:

- 8:30am - 9:00pm Monday-Thursday
- 8:30am - 2:00pm Friday

Student Use:

- A valid Cat Card is REQUIRED for admittance.
- All students currently enrolled in an appropriate math course are encouraged to use the MLC.

Staffing:

- MATH 100 level course assistance:
Monday - Friday 9am - 2pm.
- STAT 216 / 217 assistance:
Mondays & Thursdays 9am - 4:00pm
- MATH 200 level course assistance:
Monday - Thursday 2pm - 4:30pm and 6 - 9pm.
- During the dinner hour (4:30-6pm) the MLC is staffed by undergraduate students trained in tutoring algebra.

Summer Semester

Math Learning Center Hours:

- 8:30am - 11:30am Monday through Thursday

Hi Craig here; You may be wondering why I am including the Math Learning Center in a newsletter that is directed toward parents. We include these types of things so that the parents know what type of resources are available to your kids. I have personally used the Math Learning Center multiple times throughout my time at MSU. I have used it both for Calculus and Statistics. It has been an amazing asset for my classes and is great when studying practice problems before a test or just getting some help on some of those tough homework problems. There is usually at least one person there that can help with whatever level of math you are in or at least direct you to someone that can help.

March 5, 2010 marks the anniversary of the Downtown explosion that shook Bozeman

"The Downtown Bozeman explosion on March 5, 2009 will inevitably mark a significant day in Bozeman's history. Not only was there loss of a beloved life, historically significant downtown structures and many jobs, homes and an immeasurable amount personal items but it also created a void in our community's city center. As many of the businesses directly affected by the explosion re-open and the buildings begin to re-build, it creates an opportunity for the community to heal and start a new chapter in the future of Downtown Bozeman." Ellie Staley, Program Director, Downtown Bozeman Partnership

"Directly across the street from the Downtown Partnership office is a constant reminder of what happened: a gap in Main Street's fabric that once was filled with historic buildings and iconic businesses. One of the most memorable aspects of the event was the immediate and unwavering response to this disaster by the entire community. All of their efforts were at the very least tremendous and at the very best heroic. The disaster and subsequent adversity has been nothing short of a monumental challenge, but these events have strengthened the community's commitment to Downtown Bozeman." Chris Naumann, Executive Director, Downtown Bozeman Partnership

Moment of Silence to be held at 10 AM March 5, 2010

The Downtown Bozeman Partnership is inviting the community of Bozeman, Montana to participate in a moment of silence at 10am on March 5th, 2010 to honor and remember the losses experienced on March 5th, 2009, as a result of the downtown Bozeman explosion.

If you are in Downtown Bozeman at 10am on March 5th, 2010, you are encouraged to step outside your office or place of business and onto Main Street in order to share in this moment with your neighbors.

If you are not located in downtown, please observe this moment of silence regardless of your location.

The massive explosion and subsequent fire on March 5, 2009 that destroyed a significant portion of the 200 block of East Main Street, will be remembered as not only the most dramatic event of 2009 but most certainly of the decade and perhaps in the entire history of downtown. The catastrophic event destroyed five buildings and damaged many more. Ten businesses suffered losses and were displaced. And most tragic, a precious life was lost.

With a ground swell of community support, downtown and Bozeman immediately began putting the pieces back together. To date, the American Legion has already begun to rebuild. Plans have been submitted for the F&H Building, future home to the Rockin' R Bar, the Pickle Barrel, and a new location for Santa Fe Red's. Others are finalizing plans for their new buildings. Many of the other businesses have relocated and reopened or are planning to do so soon. By the 2nd anniversary of the explosion every displaced business hopes to be back in operation; a truly impressive feat.



Thanks to everyone that has sent in their pledge for the phonathon. We appreciate your contribution. If you haven't sent yours in yet its not to late!

Community Spotlight

Question & answer

How can my son or daughter get help with scholarships?

If your son or daughter needs help finding information about the types of scholarships that they can apply for or tips on applying for those scholarships you (or your child) can call the Financial Aid Office at 406.994.2845 or by checking out the website [here](#).



The office of financial aid website has any information that you would need for scholarships. If you would like to take a look at the current scholarships being offered and their requirements [click here](#).

The financial aid office can also help with other money issues including loans and grants.

When are the newest graduation details going to be posted?

NOW!

The main ceremony will begin Saturday May 8th at 10am. Students who are graduating need to be at their appropriate location by 9:15am. Certain Baccalaureate college ceremonies will be taking place before the main ceremony and others will be after.



Before: College of Nursing Friday May 7, @ 10am

College of Agriculture Saturday May 8, @ 8am

College of Education and HHD Saturday May 8 @ 8am

After: All begin approximately at 11:45am

Colleges of Arts and Architecture, Business, Engineering, Letters and Science and University College.

For more information [click here](#)



Congratulations to all of the students that are graduating this Spring! Good luck on the rest of your careers!

Parent/Family Association update

Hello fellow PFA members,

As you read this issue of the newsletter we'll be within a few weeks of the start of Spring Break, or the mid-point of the semester. Our students are getting ready to take mid-terms and starting to think about the end of the semester. Many students are starting to look for summer jobs or looking for a permanent position to follow graduation, many while they're home on break. Others are planning to go on a week of relaxation in some warm-weather location or to go skiing. Others are heading to an alternate spring break opportunity to work on houses for Habitat for Humanity or another service project. There are many more choices for our students than when we went to college.

One of the other "rites of spring" is completion of FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) forms so your student is considered for financial aid for the 2010 - 2011 school year. Many work-study jobs and scholarships are tied to the information you provide in the FAFSA form. Make sure you know the deadlines of each state for filing of the form to be considered for the maximum amount of aid. The FAFSA form is on-line at www.fafsa.ed.gov and it's free to apply. The form's easy to complete but make sure you have your and your student's information on wages earned in 2009 and assets such as bank accounts, investments, etc. before starting. One thing I found this year in completing the form - don't know if this is a new feature or not - is if you have more than one child in college next year there's an option to have the system populate the parent financial data and contact information in the second and subsequent forms. That's nice!

Remember that this newsletter is for the parents and families of MSU students.

We're looking for suggestions for future articles and questions for the Q&A section.

Please send any suggestions and/or questions to either Jodie DeLay at jdelay@montana.edu or to me at jesslinger@asce.org.

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