Emerging Scholars Grants

PUSHING STUDENTS FURTHER AS THEY REACH THEIR POTENTIAL.

WHAT IT TAKES
The Campaign for MONTANA STATE UNIVERSITY
INVESTING IN STUDENTS’ POTENTIAL.

At Montana State University, we are committed to helping students realize their potential for academic and professional success. Our talented, engaged faculty members seek out the potential in their students and work with them to advance their academic achievements. With focused mentorship and tailored hands-on experiences, these “teacher-scholars” help promising but often marginalized students recognize and bring to life their own potential in ways that create knowledge and propel them toward a brighter future.

DISCOVERING WHAT WE’RE CAPABLE OF MAKING POSSIBLE.

Emerging Scholars Grants help faculty to build on MSU’s long history of discovering and developing talent among our students and across all disciplines. These privately funded grants enable faculty to serve as catalysts in unlocking student potential, offering opportunities for students to grow beyond even their own expectations.

UNIQUE OPPORTUNITIES FOR GROWTH. DEDICATED FACULTY MENTORSHIP. $5 MILLION OF PRIVATE SUPPORT WILL MAKE IT POSSIBLE ACROSS MSU.
RECOGNIZING AND ENCOURAGING UNTAPPED TALENT.

Many MSU alumni can trace their path to success back to a single faculty member who saw and ignited the spark of potential within them. This acknowledgment and support from faculty often enables students to succeed beyond the traditional measures of academic performance, scholarly research or campus involvement.

SUPPORTING STUDENT SUCCESS.

Each year, MSU carefully selects faculty-nominated students who will benefit from the research, international study and service-learning opportunities created by Emerging Scholars Grants. As support for this grant making program grows, MSU will dramatically increase the numbers and quality of its Emerging Scholars, developing as many as 70 students each year who will become models for others to follow, molding them into leaders among their peers and encouraging fellow students to discover the potential within themselves.

Privately funded support for Emerging Scholars Grants will enable MSU to:

- Expand beyond-the-classroom experiences including internships, independent study projects and research activity.
- Grow the number of graduates pursuing advanced degrees.
- Increase the percentage of graduates employed full-time in their field or in positions of their choosing.
- Expand international study and community engagement opportunities for students.
- Double the number of students participating in cross-cultural study, work or service experiences, incorporating both academic preparation and post-experience reflection.

The impact of Emerging Scholar Grants to date:

- 28 Emerging Scholar Grants awarded
- 22 Faculty mentors engaged
- 31 Distinct majors represented
- $69,325 in grants made to MSU students
ROGER MILLER

At MSU, Roger found himself confronted by the unique storytelling challenges inherent in sports journalism. While both faculty and professional staff at MSU recognized Roger’s potential and his strong willingness to learn, the finer points of sports photography fell outside of the MSU photography program’s scope.

An Emerging Scholars Grant provided Roger with the additional experience he needed to advance his skills and confidence to the next level, funding his participation in the highly-regarded Peter Reed Miller sports photography workshop. There, Roger learned how to frame, crop and edit his photographs to capture the essence of the stories he needed to convey.

The portfolio he built during the workshop earned him a spot in the Nikon sponsored Sports Shooter Academy program, where he learned from award-winning photojournalists, laying the groundwork he’ll need to succeed in his chosen profession.

FLYNN MURRAY

As one of only six graduate students affiliated with MSU to receive a prestigious National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship in 2014, Flynn Murray is now poised to take full advantage of her own potential.

Unlocking that potential was one of the primary goals of the Emerging Scholars Grant her professor, Dr. Sarah Codd, nominated her to receive in 2013.

Since attending the Peter Reed Miller Workshop, Roger has exhibited new confidence in his own ability to be a successful sports photographer.

Stephanie Kern, Student Success Mentor

Despite the challenges she faced, I can confidently place her in the top one percent of students I have encountered in my academic career.

Professor Sarah Codd

With the support of her $3,000 Emerging Scholars Grant, Flynn, who has been confined to a wheelchair since an auto accident left her paralyzed mid-way through her university studies, participated in groundbreaking research to develop and evaluate a more environmentally friendly paving material. Her hands-on experience confirmed her desire to pursue her doctorate in civil engineering at MSU. The research also gave her the chance to work closely with her mentors, Sarah Codd and Michael Berry, who encouraged her to apply for the NSF fellowship, valued at nearly $100,000 over three years.

Why it matters.

I can confidently place her in the top one percent of students I have encountered in my academic career.

Professor Sarah Codd

Learn more about how to write your own page of Montana State University history.