COMMUNITY AND GLOBAL ENGAGEMENT FUNDS

ScholarWorks

ADVANCING THINKING AND SHARING KNOWLEDGE.

WHAT IT TAKES

The Campaign for MONTANA STATE UNIVERSITY
SHARING KNOWLEDGE TO BUILD THE FUTURE THE WORLD NEEDS NOW.

MSU’s students and faculty conduct leading research that tackles some of the world’s toughest challenges. Our commitment to advance thinking through groundbreaking research compels us to share that knowledge for the benefit of communities near and far. ScholarWorks does just that, taking new research and discoveries and making them instantly available to researchers and the public across Montana, our nation and the world.

WHAT IT TAKES TO BROADCAST MSU’S RESEARCH.

Seamlessly integrated into MSU’s library operations, ScholarWorks is a permanent digital archive that provides open access to world-class research. ScholarWorks creates endless opportunities for future collaboration between researchers and those who may utilize or benefit from their knowledge and discoveries. With funding to expand ScholarWorks, we will revolutionize the way MSU research is used to advance important developments around the globe.

OPEN ACCESS TO RESEARCH. PRESERVING MSU’S SCHOLARLY RECORD. $180,000 IN PRIVATE SUPPORT WILL MAKE IT POSSIBLE.
REACHING OUR COMMUNITIES.

ScholarWorks creates a knowledge infrastructure that benefits our students, faculty and the wider academic community. It also helps MSU engage the public by making its scholarly work readily available. With Internet search engines like Google and Google Scholar, MSU publications archived in ScholarWorks are just a few clicks away.

Recent graduates entering the workforce also benefit from access to their university’s archived knowledge allowing them to build upon their learning and drive economic development.

Privately funded support for ScholarWorks will enable MSU to:

- Increase its investment in resources to expand state-of-the-art tools, expertise and opportunities for exploration and creative activities.
- Accelerate the integration of learning, discovery and engagement.
- Facilitate work across disciplines.

ELEVATING MSU’S RESEARCH PROFILE.

ScholarWorks enables everyone around the world the opportunity to view and cite the full range of MSU’s scholarly work by loading a broad range of research, including seldom-published conference presentations and undergraduate papers.

ScholarWorks drives greater recognition of MSU researchers by increasing visibility of their publications. This in turn increases the university’s standing as a research institution. ScholarWorks ensures that MSU’s published research remains available to all without the barrier of publishers’ fees to obtain access.

Open access at Montana State University

| more than 100 years of research conducted at MSU |
| 8,000 MSU THESSES, DISSERTATIONS AND PUBLISHED ARTICLES CATALOGED IN SCHOLARWORKS TO DATE |
| 5,000 downloads of MSU research from ScholarWorks per week |

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More than a century’s worth of graduate theses and other research sits on the shelves of MSU’s Department of Agricultural Economics, read only on the chance that a professor might recall a specific piece of research and direct a student to it.

ScholarWorks changes that. For the first time, all of the department’s graduate theses and professional papers examining Montana’s vital agricultural economy are being digitized, eventually capturing the full body of research conducted by students and faculty in the department reaching back to 1909.

Where once seminal works, like Jeffery LaFrance’s award-winning 1979 master’s thesis, *Estimating the Aggregate U.S. Agricultural Supply Function*, gathered dust in a quiet hallway and were rarely referenced, they are now easily discovered through an online search. LaFrance is the world’s leading expert in the economics of food consumption, nutrition and consumer welfare and a distinguished professor at Washington State University and Australia’s Monash University, Clayton.

Now, students and researchers at Montana State and around the world will be able to access the full inventory of the department’s accumulated research with a few keystrokes, revitalizing its value. With ScholarWorks, the next generation of scholars will be able to build upon the hard, pioneering work of those who came before—much like the story of Montana’s own agricultural economy.