Fellowships at Montana State University

MSU is recognized as a top research university conducting more than $100 million in research annually, which places us among the top three percent of colleges and universities in the nation for research expenditures.

Sustaining our outstanding research enterprise requires recruiting and retaining talented faculty and students—in particular graduate students who are vital to MSU’s many and wide-ranging research programs. Fellowships for graduate students bolster MSU’s research infrastructure and provide incentive for more students to pursue master’s and doctoral degrees.

Private funding for fellowships and assistantships will allow MSU to become an even greater catalyst for economic prosperity as we prepare future generations of scholars and artists to tackle the challenges our world faces.

BY THE NUMBERS

$25,000
Annual cost of a fellowship

1,981
Students enrolled in graduate programs in fall 2015

23%
Increase in graduate degrees awarded over the past five years

FELLOWSHIPS ARE INVESTMENTS GENERATING RETURNS IN DISCOVERY, INNOVATION AND ECONOMIC PROSPERITY FOR FUTURE GENERATIONS.
THE OPPORTUNITY

You have the opportunity to make the difference in the life of a Montana State student with a gift designated for graduate fellowships and assistantships.

MSU programs of research are highly diverse and funds that support fellowships reflect that diversity providing a variety of electives as you consider your gift.

GRADUATE SCHOOL STUDENT SCHOLARSHIPS
HARLAN BYKER GRADUATE RESEARCH ASSISTANTSHIPS FOR CHEMISTRY
CHESTNUTT FAMILY GRADUATE SCHOLARSHIPS FOR NURSING
MONTANA STOCKGROWERS FELLOWSHIPS
PRESIDENT’S NATIVE AMERICAN EXCELLENCE ENDOWMENT
KOPRIVA FELLOWSHIP FOR LETTERS & SCIENCE
KENNETH E. TAIT GRADUATE FELLOWSHIP FOR ENGINEERING

IT TAKES INVESTMENTS IN GRADUATE FELLOWSHIPS

Fellowship gifts make a difference in the lives of many. Because graduate students assist with undergraduate teaching and conduct research, their work is significant in classrooms, labs and in their field of study where they also attend conferences and present research findings.

Commit to giving this year:
- $25,000 to support one-year of a fellowship.
- $75,000 to support a full-ride three-year fellowship.

Commit to giving forever:
- $550,000 to an endowment in support of an annual fellowship in perpetuity.

PARTNER WITH MSU IN SUPPORTING PhD STUDENTS

Designate your $25,000 gift to a PhD program and the Graduate School will match that investment by providing six tuition credits for the fellowship recipient.

ALAYNA CAFFREY

Alayna Caffrey, a doctoral student of microbiology and immunology wants to reduce the number of people dying from lung infections and discovered a molecule that’s critical for immunity.

In 2015 Caffrey published her findings in the online issue of *PLoS Pathogens*, one of the top scientific journals in microbiology. She also won first place for her presentation of the research at a national immunology seminar.

Caffrey, originally from Williamsport, Penn., earned her bachelor’s degree from Delaware Valley College. She came to MSU because she knew of immunologist Josh Obar’s biomedical research and his work in Cooley Laboratory. An award-winning scientist himself, Obar places a high value on mentoring and wants to help his students succeed in science.

In Obar’s lab, Caffrey researches the early immune response against a common mold called *Aspergillus fumigatus*. The mold causes severe lung infections in people with weakened immune systems.

While looking at the response of healthy immune systems to *Aspergillus fumigatus*, Caffrey discovered that a molecule called IL-1α is critical for recruiting white blood cells to an infection site.

Caffrey is a recipient of a 2015 Kopriva Graduate Student Fellowship.