



Montana State University Family Newsletter

The Montana State University Parent/Family Association is pleased to announce the creation of a monthly newsletter which can be accessed by parents, families and friends across the country and world. This newsletter will be posted online and emailed to the parent listserv on the last Friday of each month.

We are in the process of establishing an editorial board, made up of parents, to help us determine the type of news and updates that are most important to YOU. If you are interested in participating on this board, please contact Jodie DeLay at 406.994.2502 or via email at jdelay@montana.edu.



This first issue is just a sneak peak at what you will find in the future. Our goal is to include important dates, information about activities on campus and in the community, and support articles for you to use as you deal with having a loved one in college. In addition, we will feature each academic college, various faculty, students activities and more so that you may truly become part of the Montana State University family.

We look forward to working with you to enhance your MSU experience.

Sincerely,

Jodie DeLay
Assistant Director of MSU Public Relations

Important Deadlines & Dates

March 10-14	Spring Break
March 21	University Day (no classes)
March 24	Advising begins for continuing students planning to register for summer and fall semester—please encourage your student to visit his/her advisor! http://www.montana.edu/wwwgs/advising.html
March 31thru April 17	Check schedule—Fall registration for continuing students! http://www.montana.edu/registrar/pdfs/WebRegistration.pdf
April 18	Last date to drop spring classes with a W, requires signature of instructor & advisor.
May 2	Payment deadline for Summer term
May 2	Last day of classes
May 5-9	Final exams
May 9	Last meal in residence halls - dinner at Miller Dining Complex
May 10	Residence Halls close at noon
May 10	Commencement—Check this link for details! http://www.montana.edu/registrar/commencement/

The Academic Spotlight

Each issue, we will spotlight an academic college or center, a specific faculty, staff and/or student, or a program or activity related to MSU's unique academic culture.

April 15, 2008 25th Annual Student Research Celebration *Encourage Facilitate Support*

(Formerly, Undergraduate Scholars Conference)



8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. in the SUB Ballrooms

Graduate and undergraduate students from all disciplines will present the results of their research, scholarly and creative activities. Local legislators and other VIP's (Commissioner of Higher Education, representatives from local companies, etc.) will also attend.

Schedule:

9:00 – 12:30 Poster Session I

1:30 – 5:00 Poster Session II

“The experience we are getting, goes far beyond anything we would learn in the classroom. We’re preparing ourselves for the career world, and having a good time doing it.” ~ Matthew Dalbey, former conference participant, business marketing

THE USP ~

The Undergraduate Scholars Program (USP) is dedicated to helping students pursue scholarly activities in all disciplines by providing funding to students who undertake an investigative or creative project in collaboration with a faculty mentor. We encourage you talk with your student about opportunities.

The process is easy!

<http://www.montana.edu/usp/pages/applystepon.html>

Four Steps

Step 1:

Write a Proposal

Step 2:

Complete an Application Form

Step 3:

Submit Your Application

Step 4:

Complete your Project with a Report and Presentation

Priority deadlines for research funding for Summer 2008:

March 21 (INBRE)

March 28 (USP)



David Stepler, Montana State University biochemistry major and USP scholar, working in an anaerobic chamber with anaerobic bacteria.

ON-CAMPUS LIVING

This section will highlight Residence Life, ASMSU and other clubs and activities that happen on campus, and is designed to help you feel a part of our campus community.



The Hosaeus Recreation Sports and Fitness Center is OPEN!

Parents and families are welcome to use this incredible new facility during campus visits! Guest passes can be purchased at the Sports Recreational and Fitness Office or the Equipment room. The fee is: \$7.00 per guest visit; a week pass for \$20.00, a 2-week pass for \$35.00, a 3-week pass for \$45.00, or a one month pass for \$60.00 (lockers not available, users may use shower facilities but must provide their own towel). For more information, visit www.montana.edu/getfit

ELECTION EXHIBIT!! A public reception will be held at 1 p.m. Thursday, March 27, for a new Montana State University exhibit that contains chads from the 2000 presidential election, historic ballot boxes and a signed speech by President John F. Kennedy. The exhibit on the history of voting technologies will be in the northwest corner, main floor, of Wilson Hall through the fall semester. Visitors are welcome any time the building is open, generally from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Friday.



Troy Lodmell of Malta, MT was one of 39 [Award for Excellence Winners](#)

OFF-CAMPUS LIVING

This section will highlight concerts, lectures, recreational opportunities and other events happening in the beautiful Gallatin Valley. The purpose is to give you a sense of the quality of life in this community.

- March 20** [Discrepancies in US Health and Healthcare](#)—Café Scientifique
6:00 pm at Ferraro's Fine Dining Restaurant
Sponsored by Montana INBRE and the College of Letters and Science
- March 25** ["Building Vital Communities from the Inside, Out"](#)
SUB Ballroom D, 7:00 PM by Dr. John Kretzmann, PhD
- March 26** [Broadway in Bozeman Presents: Little Women](#)
- March 31** College of Business Scholarship Banquet
- April 1** Entrepreneur Day—SUB Ballrooms
- April 9** Maya Lin Lecture—7:00-8:30 @ Linfield Hall
- April 16** Nobel Peace Prize Laureat, Shirin Ebadi, 7:30 SUB
- April 20** Bozeman Job Service "Job Fair" - @Fairgrounds
- April 25&26** Earth Week Celebration – details in next issue
- April 28** Jane Goodall Lecture—6:00 pm @Fieldhouse

[FULL MSU CALENDAR OF EVENTS](#)



What's up with my kid?

In this space, we will include articles from experts which might be helpful to better understand your college student and all the factors that come with letting a child grow. We'll also include information about MSU programs which can be of assistance to you and your student.

Calendar of Student Issues—Created by MSU First Year Initiative

Many students voice some of the kinds of concerns listed below during the last half of spring semester. If your student seems to be under extra stress, or not quite him/herself, consider asking them about these issues. Sometimes just talking things through can make all the difference.

March

- Mid winter sickness—colds/flu.
- Roommate conflicts may resurface due to cabin fever.
- Seniors are often anticipating graduation but worrying about jobs.
- Some students begin worrying about living arrangements for the following year.
- Drug and alcohol use sometimes increases around this time.

April

- Academic pressures may build, especially if the student has been procrastinating.
- Often students will begin worrying about summer job or internship pressures and opportunities.
- Financial strains may increase due to spring break, job search and time of quarter.
- Weight loss often becomes a concern with spring and warm weather approaching.
- Spring fever may cause students to be rowdy, and potentially lead to missing classes.



May

- Anxiety may develop as a result of academic concerns.
- Seniors sometimes panic about graduation and not having a job or a lack of job openings in the field.
- Stress may increase over large workload and desire to spend time with friends before summer.
- Anxiety can develop for couples who are parting for the summer.
- Final exam pressures.

Parent/Family Association Update

The PFA is currently in the middle of its annual Phonathon to raise funds to support parents, families and students. **Thank you** for your generous donations. We are nearly to our goal of \$65,000. Please remember to send your pledge back as soon as you can. The **PFA Board** meeting to allocate the funds is tentatively set for Saturday, April 26th, but may be moved to April 19th. All are welcome. Please contact Jodie DeLay for an agenda and details. In addition, please feel free to forward your thoughts on this newsletter and priorities for the upcoming year to the contact information below.

**Questions, comments, concerns? Contact us at the
Office of Communications and Public Affairs:
(406) 994-4571 or e-mail us at: jdelay@montana.edu**