RESEARCH FEST!

OCTOBER 29, 2026
CRAFT LOCAL
5:30 PM



MONTANA
STATE UNIVERSITY
BILLINGS



Posters

Examining Factors Affecting Student Burnout at a Regional Comprehensive University
Dr. Melinda Aley, Communication

Identifying Community-Driven Rural Health Solutions: Phase II of the Joliet Rural Access to Care Project
Dr. Lacy Bangert, Health Services & Human Performance

Diane Glancy: Placemaking to Restor(y)ation?
Austin Bennett, City College – General Education

Contours of Experience: A Topographic Inquiry with Mt. Fuji
Dr. Ryan Butler, Health Sciences and Human Performance

RNAseq Reveals *S. aureus* Utilizes SaeR/S on Human Neutrophil Function
Dr. Madison Collins, Biological & Physical Sciences

The Spatial Persistence of Water Quality Metrics on the Yellowstone River, 2024-2026
Dr. Michael Cuddy, Biological & Physical Sciences

The Nucleolus as a Nexus of Disease in ALS
Dr. Lynn George, Biological & Physical Sciences

Catalytic and Antimicrobial Activity of Green-Synthesized Silver Nanoparticles from Banana Peel Extract
Dr. Hashini Hearath, Biological & Physical Sciences

The effect of vision training on reading speed and accuracy
Dr. Kylie Izzi, Health Sciences and Human Performances

Crossroads of Change: Climate, Energy, Environment & Migration in Algeria
Dr. Elizabeth (Beth) Nelson, Social Sciences and Cultural Studies

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"Service Guarantees Citizenship": Starship Troopers, the Hero Fallacy Paradox, and the Performative Patriotism of the Trump Regime
Dr. Paul Pope, Social Sciences & Cultural Studies

Researching Robin Hood
Leigh Ann Ruggiero, English, Philosophy & Modern Languages

CEO Compensation and Gender Impacts on Earnings Management
Dr. Debra Schoenfeld, Business Administration

The Battle Within
Aaron Schultz, University Honors Program

Beyond Formal Preparedness: Experiential Resilience Among Small Businesses at the Sturgis Motorcycle Rally
Dr. Anna Talafuse, Business Administration
Dr. Heather Thompson-Bahm, Business Administration

Internships as Social Infrastructure: Social sustainability and community resilience through a College of Business internship program.
Dr. Heather Thompson-Bahm, Business Administration
Dr. Jessie Perius, Business Administration

Drones Across Disciplines: From Sensors and Fire Science to STEM Education
Dr. Elaine Westbrook, Educational Theory & Practice
Alan Lohof, Nursing, Health and Public Safety
Taig O'Donnell, Nursing, Health and Public Safety
Heather Slezak, Transportation and Welding – Metal Fabrication

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Readings/Performances

Excerpt from a work in progress (Montana stories)
Austin Bennett, University Honors Program

My Mother in Two Registers: A Haunted Memoir
Dr. Melanie Reaves, Educational Theory & Practice

"The Wait" and excerpts of "Maranatha"
Leigh Ann Ruggiero, English, Philosophy & Modern Languages

ResearchFest! Schedule

5:30	**Welcome Remarks** *Provost Lee Vartanian* **Agenda Review** *Emcee Dan Carter*
5:40	**Presentation**
5:55	**Posters**
6:30	**Presentation**
6:45	**Posters**
7:10	**Presentation**
7:25	**Closing Remarks**
7:30	**Tear Down**

SAVE THE DATE

Student Research Symposium
MSUB Glacier Room (SUB)
Friday, April 23, 2027

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