



UM and MSU both earn prestigious designation as research universities

The University of Montana in Missoula and Montana State University in Bozeman have achieved “R1” designations for their research programs. The “R1” classification is conferred by the Carnegie Classification of Institutions of Higher Education organization based on factors including research expenditures, staffing, and number of doctorates awarded.

“Montana State’s successes in research are thanks to the efforts of many people across our campus and across the state of Montana,” said university President Waded Cruzado. “We are fortunate to have a group of dedicated individuals and partners who understand the intrinsic value of research and the creation of art. These endeavors, as we have said for years, can change lives and benefit our communities and society.”

“Earning R1 validates the impressive research and hard work of many outstanding people at the University of Montana,” UM President Seth Bodnar said. “This classification puts us in good company among the top research institutions in the world. UM has become many things during its 129-year history, and now we can add to that our status as a nationally and globally known center for research. This should help us attract even more world-class faculty, as well as the undergraduate and graduate students who will learn from them.”

MSU announced in September that, for the third year in a row, it had recorded an all-time high for research expenditures, with more than \$193 million for the fiscal year ending in June 2021. That was a 16% increase over the previous year’s record, as reported to the National Science Foundation. Research expenditures at MSU have topped \$100 million per year for more than a decade.

Research spending at UM has soared in recent years. The \$55 million reported in fiscal year 2014 swelled to a UM-record \$138 million this past year. UM is known for its work in wildlife biology, forestry, pharmacy, chemistry, climate change and more. In 2020, the vaccine research by UM’s Center for Translational Medicine landed the University on a list titled “Best Universities Solving the Coronavirus Pandemic.”

Read more about the UM designation -- <https://www.umt.edu/news/2022/02/020722r1r1.php>

Read more about the MSU designation here -- <https://www.montana.edu/news/21829/montana-state-among-top-u-s-research-universities-in-carnegie-classification>

The Montana BioScience Alliance congratulates both universities on this achievement.

The Montana BioScience Alliance serves as a hub for Montana’s biotechnology companies, entrepreneurs, laboratories, hospitals, clinics, and universities to commercialize, grow, and sustain globally competitive bioscience companies — ultimately to create high-quality jobs and economic opportunity in Montana.

For more information, visit www.montanabio.org, call us at 406-896-5876, or email us at info@montanabio.org