

From: [Office of the MSU Provost](#)
Subject: October 2026 Message from the Provost
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MONTANA
STATE UNIVERSITY

Office of the Provost

Dear Colleagues,

The semester is in full swing, and I hope you are all enjoying the opportunities we have to expand our students' horizons through our teaching and the opportunities we have to advance human knowledge through our research and creative activity. You've likely seen the announcements about our record enrollment, graduation rates, and research expenditures, which are testaments to the value you provide in the classroom and in research and creative spaces. I'm proud of our position as a premier R1 research institution that is committed to our open-access mission, and I feel fortunate to work alongside you all.

I want to ensure that the current requirements about accessibility of course materials don't escape your notice. Soon you'll receive information from MSU's Digital Accessibility Committee about training and tools that are available to address the [digital accessibility](#) of electronic course materials. Ensuring accessibility is not just a matter of compliance; making materials accessible removes barriers to learning and is part of fulfilling our teaching mission. I appreciate that making course materials accessible requires a different kind of course prep than you might have needed to engage in before. Work with your department head or director to identify what other training or tools you might need – we're here to help look for solutions.

As the semester progresses, I hope you will find time to spend with your colleagues discussing ideas that inspire you. That might be at formal events like the Provost's Distinguished Lecture Series, which kicks off on November 3 at 7 pm in Reynolds Auditorium in Howard Hall, featuring Dr. Jason Bolte. That might be at one of the many sabbatical report presentations – keep an eye on the MSU Today calendar as these are announced; they are a great chance to extend a "welcome back" to our colleagues returning from sabbatical and to learn from the fresh perspectives they bring. Or, that might be at an informal event like our Fall Faculty Tea. Please join me on Thursday, October 15, from 3 – 5pm in the Leigh Lounge in the SUB to enjoy some refreshments and each other's company. I hope I will see you there!

Best Wishes,



Dr. Elizabeth Burroughs | Executive Vice President and Provost

Montana State University

Tel. 406-994-4371

Upcoming Events

October 15, 3:00-5:00 pm: Faculty Tea, Leigh Lounge, Strand Union Building

November 3, 7:00 pm: Provost's Distinguished Lecture featuring Dr. Jason Bolte,
Reynolds Auditorium

Dec. 18: Fall 2026 Commencement

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