

Academic Affairs

Newsletter



Fresh Starts and First Addresses

This week's newsletter covers what's new for the semester ahead: streamlined grading with Gradescope, updated Canvas tools, and a reminder to care for student wellbeing. Plus, mark your calendar for President Shinn's first State of the University address.



Simplify Grading with Gradescope

Gradescope, an AI-assisted grading platform integrated directly into Canvas, is now available campus-wide for fall. It streamlines and standardizes grading across assessment types, including bubble sheets, handwritten problem sets, typed homework, exams, and programming files, while helping instructors manage rubrics and deliver consistent, actionable feedback more efficiently.

Join a 10-minute live virtual training, Automate Grading with Gradescope, on Tuesday, August 25 at 2pm. Can't attend? The session will be recorded and posted to the Learning Experience & Design Teams channel. [Explore the Assessment Toolkit Series on GrizHub](#) for this and other upcoming trainings.

Questions? Contact jeanie.castillo@umontana.edu.

[Download the Gradescope Setup Instructions](#)

Microsoft Education in Canvas

The transition to the new Microsoft Education tool in Canvas is now complete, and courses requiring updates have been migrated. If you experience any issues accessing Microsoft OneDrive files or other Microsoft content in your Canvas courses, [submit a Canvas support ticket](#) for assistance.

For help using Microsoft Education within Canvas, review guidance on the [Educational Technologies and Innovations webpage](#) or [schedule a one-on-one session with an Instructional Designer](#).

Questions? Contact tanna.kincaid@umontana.edu.

[Educational Initiatives and Innovations webpage](#)

Help Connect Students to Wellbeing Support

As faculty and staff, you play an important role in helping students thrive. Wellbeing Support Coaches provide free, one-on-one peer support for students looking to strengthen wellbeing, build healthy habits, and navigate the challenges of college life.

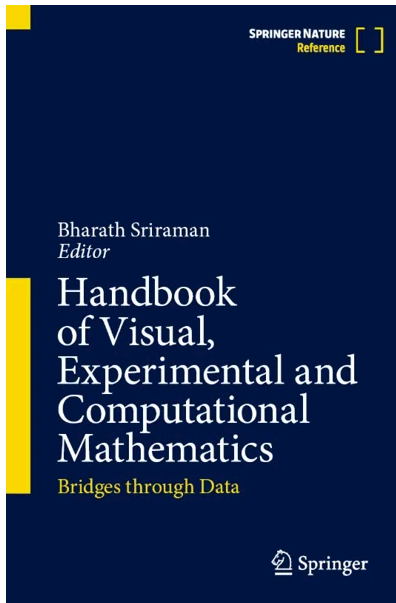
Coaches can help students with stress management, sleep, time management, procrastination, nutrition, movement goals, and connecting with campus resources. Appointments are available in person or via Zoom.

If you know a student who could benefit, you can refer them through the [online wellbeing referral form](#), a Wellness alert in Navigate, or a warm handoff in person, by phone, or by email.

A personal recommendation from a trusted faculty or staff member can make a real difference and often encourages students to take advantage of available support. Thank you for partnering with us to help students build resilience and thrive at UM.

Questions? Contact wellbeing@mso.umt.edu.

[Online Wellbeing Referral Form](#)



UM Professor Publishes International Mathematics Handbook

Bharath Sriraman, Professor in the Department of Mathematical Sciences, has published the Handbook of Visual, Experimental and Computational Mathematics: Bridges Through Data. The nearly five year project spans two volumes, more than 1,800 pages, and over 70 chapters contributed by 167 scholars across 18 countries and five continents.

The Handbook explores how visualization, computation, and data driven experimentation work alongside classical proof in fields ranging from number theory and topology to epidemiology and sports analytics. Several UM colleagues contributed chapters, including John Bardsley, Jonathan Graham, and Leonid Kalachev in Mathematical Sciences, and Erin Landguth in Public and Community Health Sciences, along with UM alumnus Johnathan Bush, now on faculty at James Madison University.

This is Sriraman's third edited handbook for Springer Nature.

[View the Handbook on Springer's website](#)



EVENTS



**10 Minute Teaching
and Tech Tips**

[Access the AI in the Classroom Training](#)

LEAD Training: AI in the Classroom

10:00-10:10 AM, Tuesday, August 11, Virtual

Get up to speed in just 10 minutes. This quick session covers what instructors need to know about setting clear AI use expectations with students, plus a first look at Microsoft Copilot tools available for teaching.

**Course Building
Workshop**



[Learn More about the Canvas Course Building Workshop](#)

LEAD Training: Canvas Course Building Workshop

10 AM - 12 PM, Wednesday, August 12, LA/Eck Hall 102

This in-person workshop offers hands-on experience building and updating your course(s) in Canvas. It opens with 45 minutes of instruction, followed by Q&A and one-on-one support with an instructional designer.



State of the University Address GrizHub Event

State of the University Address

8 - 10:30 AM, Friday, August 21, Montana Theatre, PAR-TV Bldg.

The campus community is invited to President Shinn's first State of the University event, to be followed by a reception.



SUBMISSIONS

Use the AA Newsletter Submission Form button below to share your content with the Academic Affairs sector. To be considered for next Monday's newsletter, submissions need to be received by Friday at 10:00 AM.

AA Newsletter Submission Form

University of Montana, 32 Campus Drive, Missoula, MT 59812

[Manage preferences](#)