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Results, Rivalries, and Regalia

OCHE has responded to UM's program review pilot petitions, and the Office of the Provost will support each program through the next steps. This issue also shares a friendly food drive rivalry with MSU and the Commencement regalia deadline, along with events between now and November 6 that offer chances to connect with colleagues.



APR Update: OCHE Pilot Results and Next Steps

On October 20, the Office of the Commissioner of Higher Education (OCHE) responded to all 21 of UM's petitions in the Ongoing Program Review pilot: seven programs moved to Exempt, 13 moved to Monitor, and one was retained for review. Affected deans and departments have been notified. Read OCHE's response (PDF). The Office of the Provost will support each program completing the enhanced review pilot. Campus responses are due to OCHE by January 15, 2027, with an internal campus deadline of December 31, 2026.

UM's Academic Portfolio Review (APR) also covers areas outside OCHE's pilot. Interim reviews found that all new programs met their projected enrollment thresholds. Next, our office will contact programs about certificates and minors without an associated major that have had no enrollment in the last three years. Programs whose individual three-year enrollment trend meets OCHE's enhanced

review threshold will add a brief narrative to their Student Learning Assessment (launching in November) as part of this review.

Check your program's status on the APR Enrollment Dashboard (NetID required) and find resources on the Academic Portfolio Review website.

Read the full Academic Portfolio Review update

Can the Cats Returns Nov. 7 to 21

From Nov. 7 to 21, UM takes on MSU in the annual Can the Cats food drive and fundraising competition, supporting the Missoula Food Bank and the UM Food Pantry. It is the pantry's largest fundraiser of the year, and departments, units, and classrooms are welcome to join in.

Ways to take part:

- **Start a fundraising team.** Register your department or group via the link below, create a fundraising page, and bring some friendly Griz-Cat rivalry to your colleagues.
- **Host a food drive.** Organize a collection in your department or building. Registration closes Wednesday, Oct. 28. Register a Can the Cats food drive with the Missoula Food Bank
- **Donate at Campus Dining.** Give at the register or at football games.

Come up with your own rivalries or classroom challenges. Every effort helps. Let's show MSU how Grizzlies give back!

Questions? Contact Karen Schlatter.

Register a Can the Cats fundraising team

Faculty Regalia Orders Due November 14 for Commencement

Faculty are invited to participate in UM's Commencement ceremony on Friday, December 11, 2026, at the Adams Center. Additional details about faculty participation will be shared closer to the ceremony.

Faculty who plan to rent regalia can place orders by November 14, 2026, through the Faculty Cap and Gown Ordering site using:

- Customer Number: 25000519000
- Order Number: 5629316

Orders will ship to UM and be available for pickup the week of Commencement. Please keep these ordering details within the faculty community and do not share them with students.

Regalia Questions? Contact Ken Gather.

Learn more about Fall Commencement

EVENTS



Join the Virtual LEAD Training

LEAD Training: Making STEM Content Accessible

10:00 - 10:10 AM, Tuesday, Oct. 27, Virtual

Learn how to make math equations, scientific notation, graphs, and diagrams in your STEM course materials usable for every student. Can't attend live? A recording will be available after the session, and upcoming November trainings are listed on GrizHub.



RSVP for the Career Champions session

Career Champions Community of Practice (Session 2)

8:45 - 9:45 AM, Thursday, Oct. 29, UC 330

Faculty and staff from across campus gather to connect, explore career readiness resources, and share how their roles intersect with student career development, first as a full community and then in smaller circles for deeper discussion. Whether or not you attended the September kickoff, you are welcome, and an RSVP is optional but helps us plan for coffee, tea, and breakfast treats.



Accountability and Leadership: Elouise Cobell's Legacy in Native Women's Governance

1:00 - 3:15 PM, Thursday, Nov. 5, Payne Family Native American Center

Join a panel of Native women legislators, moderated by Senator Lea Whitford, for stories of leadership in the spirit of Elouise Cobell. The program opens with a prayer and honor song, with the panel running from 1:15 to 3:15 p.m. Supported by the Jeannette Rankin Foundation, AAUW, and American Indian Student Services.



Learn more about Indigenous Mentoring Program on GrizHub

Indigenous Mentoring Program (Part 2)

9:00 - 10:30 AM, Friday, Nov. 6, Employee Learning Space, Lomasson 2nd floor

Led by Professor Ciara Hansen, Director of INPSYCH, this session uses Attachment and Developmental Theories to explore how mentors can build a secure, culturally grounded base for Native students, including reflection on how historical assumptions shape cross-cultural mentoring. Participants will leave with practical ways to recognize and respond to students' needs with cultural humility and build trust.

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

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