

**Heard, Julia**

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**From:** Office of the MSU Provost <provost@montana.edu>  
**Sent:** Monday, February 12, 2024 8:01 AM  
**Subject:** Celebrating Faculty Achievement!



**MONTANA**  
STATE UNIVERSITY

Office of the Provost

Dear Colleagues,

As we approach the fourth week of classes, it's striking to contemplate the strong momentum driving student persistence, faculty accomplishments and ongoing research endeavors. The return of students to campus this spring at retention rates reaching record-breaking levels, underscores the unwavering dedication and resilience of our faculty community. Thank you for your focused efforts and tireless work – none of this would be achievable without you!

I urge you to leverage the [Early Alert program](#) as a proactive measure to identify students who may be encountering academic challenges at an early juncture. Your observations play a pivotal role in recognizing students who may benefit from additional support and academic guidance. It is well acknowledged that timely intervention significantly enhances the efficacy of the support we extend. Last semester, the concerted efforts of nearly 300 faculty members at MSU led to the referral of 1,481 students for services and support, underscoring the tangible impact of our collective commitment to student success.

In recent weeks, we've been announcing recipients of the [Founders Day Faculty Awards](#). Each day, a new honoree is revealed on the main banner of the MSU website. These acknowledgments will culminate in a special ceremony on Founder's Day, Feb. 16, at 8:30 a.m. I warmly invite you to join me at this breakfast ceremony in Inspiration Hall to celebrate these exceptional faculty members, whose outstanding achievements and contributions exemplify the tripartite mission of MSU. A delectable assortment of breakfast treats, including the renowned Culinary Services bacon, will be served at no cost.

Additionally, at noon on Founders Day, we will recognize 40 outstanding student awardees alongside their respective faculty or staff mentors at the [Founders Day Awards for Student Excellence](#). This event serves as a testament to the collective commitment to student success and academic excellence within our community.

Continuing this theme of celebration and accomplishment, I am pleased to invite you to the next [Provost's Distinguished Lecture](#), taking place TOMORROW (Feb. 13, 7:00 p.m.) at the Museum of the Rockies. Dr. Jayne Downey, professor in the Department of Education, will discuss *Rural Education in a Changing World*, drawing upon her wealth of experience and expertise in this area. I encourage your attendance for what promises to be an enriching discourse, with a nice reception immediately following the lecture.

I hope that you will take some time to celebrate with us this month. Faculty are the cornerstone of our university, and it is both a privilege and an honor to collaborate and serve alongside each of you.

Best regards,



**Dr. Robert L. Mokwa | Executive Vice President and Provost**

Montana State University

Tel. 406-994-4371

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**Upcoming Events:**

**Feb. 13**, 7:00 p.m., Jayne Downey, Provost's Distinguished Lecture, Museum of the Rockies

**Feb. 16**, 8:30 a.m., Founder's Day Faculty Awards, Inspiration Hall

**Feb. 20**, noon, [Backward Course Design workshop](#), CFE

**Mar. 19**, 7:00 p.m., Chere LeClair, Provost's Distinguished Lecture, Museum of the Rockies

**Apr. 16**, 7:00 p.m., George Haynes, Provost's Distinguished Lecture, Museum of the Rockies

**May 10**, Spring Commencement, Brick Breeden Fieldhouse

Office of the Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost

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