**FACILITIES AND OTHER RESOURCES**

**Montana State University (MSU) – Overall Environment**

Montana State University was established under the 1893 land grant directives to serve students by providing high quality technical and agricultural training that proved relevant to the region. Faculty were directed to offer specialized outreach and education to the public. Montana State University has significant research success in energy, agriculture, health and biomedicine, and the environment. MSU is ranked as "research high" by the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching. Research expenditures routinely exceed $100 million per year with a majority of the funding coming from the National Institutes of Health and other federal agencies. This ranking confirms the dedication and superb quality of the researchers at MSU who take advantage of the ability to conduct pioneering research in a unique learning environment.

The Office of Research and Economic Development (RED) is under the direction of Dr. Renee Reijo Pera, internationally recognized stem cell scientist. The Office of Research and Economic Development is responsible for administering MSU's thriving research enterprise; research ventures on campus receive an unprecedented level of support through the provision of administrative support, specialized training, seed funding, and grant assistance. The office oversees the following areas: Office of Research Compliance, Office of Sponsored Programs, and Technology Transfer Office. The Office of Sponsored Programs (OSP) at MSU is a service-focused central office that manages all financial reporting, compliance and other related tasks for all sponsored activity at MSU. OSP’s main goal is to provide administrative support for all sponsored and creative programs so researchers can truly focus on their projects. The staff of OSP, comprised of ten professional Fiscal Managers and a Pre-Award Specialist, takes a comprehensive managerial approach and engages in the award life cycle from the time a funding source is identified to the close out of a grant or award.

The Renne Library at MSU is the second most heavily used building on campus after the Student Union Building. The MSU Library offers research and information resources to the institution's students and faculty, as well as serving Montana citizens and the State's business community. The MSU Library has a full range of library collections and services for students and faculty, including over 140 public computer workstations, printers, scanners, technology-rich group study rooms, and quiet study areas. Knowledgeable librarians and staff provide assistance using the collections, access to online information resources, and instruction for individuals and groups. The MSU Library's collections support teaching, learning and research at MSU, with particular emphasis in the fields of agriculture, science, health, and technology. A wealth of information is available around the clock both on and off campus via the Library's website, including the online catalog, electronic indexes and databases, and many full-text E-journals and E-books. The library boosts 921,609 books and documents. The library is also a major interlibrary loan lender to Montana Libraries and can get electronic interlibrary loan materials in one day. Personalized one-on-one research assistance is available to students on a drop-in basis at the research center desk, or online via E-mail or chat from one of 18 librarians. The Library also offers research consultations where students may make an appointment to meet with a research and instruction librarian who will thoroughly explore research options relating to a specific assignment or class.

**Montana State University (MSU) – Biomedical Research Environment**

MSU hosts a number of programs that directly engage in or support biomedical research and provide faculty and students excellent research opportunities. The integration of learning and discovery is a hallmark of the undergraduate experience at Montana State University, which offers every student a hands-on research or creative project in his or her sophomore year. MSU has become a model university for combining these two critical aspects of higher education. Currently, Montana State University offers 55 master's degree options, 34 doctoral degree options including one specialist program. The WWAMI Medical Education Program, a multi-state medical education program, transitions students to the University of Washington - School of Medicine for primary care physician training. Health-related topics are of interest to a number of departments such as Nursing, Health and Human Development, Psychology, Engineering and Sociology. Faculty are encouraged to work collaboratively and crossdisciplinarily particularly when problems prove to be complex and enduring. This model of mentored collaboration has been facilitated successfully through the Montana INBRE program, a five-year award by the National Institute of General Medical Sciences (NIGMS), a division of the National Institutes of Health.

Faculty at MSU report high levels of support from long-standing institutional programs and ready access to excellent cutting-edge facilities and resources to support their projects. The Center for Faculty Excellence, funded by the Provost’s Office, offers seed grants, peer review, and ongoing training related to teaching, research, and service excellence, while the Office of Research and Economic Development offers bridge funding, new faculty start-up support, and internal grant funding. Faculty and students have access to cutting edge facilities and resources in which they may conduct research such as the Functional Genomics Core Facility, and the Image and Chemical Analysis Laboratory (ICAL). Some other helpful resources include the Human Ecology Learning and Problem Solving (HELPS) Lab, a facility offering a variety of technologies for conducting social and behavioral research by facilitating interviews, message-based experiments, focus groups, and Web, mail, phone, and mobile surveys. Affiliated with MSU are the Montana Office of Rural Health (MORH) and Montana Area Health Education Center (AHEC). These programs work closely with faculty to engage in rural health projects. Also noteworthy is the Center for Biofilm Engineering, a National Science Foundation funded research center that focuses on research and education relevant to industry, health, and the environment.

**Montana State University (MSU) – Project-specific Resources (Administrative Core, Training Core, Community Engagement Core, Project 4)**

**Department of [dept]**

**Laboratory:** Detail.

**Office and Computing:** Detail.

**Animal Facility:** The MSU IACUC employs the use of Animal Welfare Regulations CFR, Title 9, Chapter 1, Subchapter A, Parts 1, 2 and 3 along with The Guide for the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals to assure the University policy and Assurance to the Office for Laboratory Animal Welfare (OLAW). The University's Animal Care Program and Animal Resources Center are fully accredited by the Association for Assessment and Accreditation of Laboratory Animal Care (AAALAC) International, a voluntary peer review process. (cited from <http://www.montana.edu/orc/iacuc/overview.html>). This facility is located in the newly built, state of the art, Cooley Building (http://www.montana.edu/mbi/facilities/index.html).

**Other:** Detail.