"MSU Billings faculty was extremely helpful in my development: teaching me correct evaluation techniques and rehab methods, ensuring ample exposure to injury care and management, giving me confidence to pursue a career in athletic training."
—Chris Cornish

TRAINING CHAMPIONS IS POSSIBLE

CHRIS CORNISH

M.S. Athletic Training, MSU Billings 2008
Certified Athletic Trainer, Corrective Exercise Specialist

Director of Sports Medicine, Seattle Sounders
Seattle, Washington

As the Director of Sports Medicine for the Seattle Sounders Major League Soccer team, Chris Cornish knows what it takes to create national Champions - and his education at MSU Billings opened the door. Cornish entered MSUB as an International Student from England, earning his Master's Degree in Athletic Training while playing soccer for the Yellowjackets. After graduating in 2008, the Seattle Sounders hired Cornish as Athletic Trainer, naming him Head Trainer in2016 and Director of Sports Medicine in 2017.

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"Engaging students in the field has been some of my favorite work. The qualitative research we conduct has a footing in both Science and Humanities. It's the story of how people want to shape their world, and water tells an interesting story."
—Dr. Susan Gilbertz

REINVENTING THE RIVER IS POSSIBLE

SUSAN GILBERTZ, PH. D

Professor of Geography and Environmental Studies, MSU Billings

For some, it's poetry in motion, for others, a conduit for recreation—for all of us, it is the stuff of life. Dr. Susan Gilbertz has spent a lifetime exploring the makeup and functionality of Montana's waterways. Her nationally-acclaimed research on both the Yellowstone River and Milltown Dam project helped shape policy and opinion about water quality, access and technology. Her credentials are impressive, and she's taught all over the world, yet actively chooses to instruct eager minds at MSU Billings.

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"In addition to the inordinate amount of time my professors offered me, I was also given opportunities to work on diverse projects including Laser Induced Breakdown Spectroscopy (LIBS). Being exposed to a variety of laboratory settings as an undergraduate gave me confidence when I began graduate level research."
—Casey Kennedy

REVOLUTIONIZING THE SOLAR INDUSTRY IS POSSIBLE

CASEY KENNEDY

B.S. Chemistry, Physics Minor, MSU Billings 2015
Pursuing a Ph.D. in Physical Chemistry at MSU

It was Dr. Stuart Snyder, a physics professor at MSU Billings, who turned Casey Kennedy's most difficult subject into her passion. Kennedy graduated from MSUB in 2015 with a B.S. in Chemistry and minor in physics. She is now a graduate student at MSU where she has been the recipient of numerous awards, including a Graduate Research Fellowship from the National Science Foundation. Kennedy will receive $34,000 for each of three years to conduct research aimed at understanding how electrons move through disordered semiconductors. Implications for this research will aid in the development of efficient and cost effective solar cells.

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"I love microscopy—looking at things on a cellular level within a landscape only few can see. The intricacies are fascinating because this is where life happens."
—Dr. Lynn George

CHAMPIONING A CURE IS POSSIBLE

LYNN GEORGE, PH. D.

Assistant Professor Molecular Biology, MSU Billings

Familial dysautonomia. It's a neurodevelopmental and neurodegenerative disease that most of us have never heard of. But, on a molecular level, it possesses the same complex associated with ALS, also known as Lou Gehrig 's disease. After receiving a three-year $332,000 R15 grant from the National Institutes of Health, Dr. Lynn George and her students are seeking to better understand the molecular complex that causes the disease to potentially develop a breakthrough. Additionally, this research process has ignited interest and enthusiasm in the realm of neuroscience at MSU Billings.

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"One of the reasons I was accepted into veterinary school was because of MSUB. I was able to get the education I needed to pursue my dream job.
- Dr. Kayla Erickson

ACHIEVING YOUR DREAM JOB IS POSSIBLE

DR. KAYLA ERICKSON

B.S. Biology, Chemistry Minor, MSU Billings 2008
Doctorate Degree Veterinary Medicine, Washington State University 2015

Veterinarian
Best Friends Animal Hospital
Billings, Montana

When she was young, Dr. Kayla Erickson had an affinity for animals. "Everyone wants to be a vet as a kid, and I never outgrew that dream. At the time, neither of my parents had a college degree," Dr. Erickson said. Kayla's parents both worked, and took turns completing degrees at MSU Billings while raising five daughters. "They fed my drive to become a veterinarian and be successful," she said. Today, Dr. Erickson enjoys her work as a veterinarian and spending time with her five-year-old German Shorthair Pointer, Tye.

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