Faculty Senate Agenda
January 25, 2022

I. Welcome and Minutes (https://www.mtech.edu/facultystaff/facultysenate/minutes/index.html)

Approvals for December 1, 2021 Meeting Minutes

Action Items

II. CRC Items: none at this time
III. Secretary Nomination
IV. **Faculty Satisfaction Survey (form committee)**
V. Rick Rossi Faculty Emeritus Recommendation (see attached)

Informational Items

VI. Research Buyout Policy (see attached)

Discussion Items

I. **Communication at Tech (new app, weekly updates)**
II. **Changes to Moodle/other online tools**
III. Items of interest for Alumni Board
IV. Foundation/Finance Information????
V. Activities/Goals for the academic year:
   a. Review of Faculty Staff Handbook
   b. Combined Faculty Senate/Staff Senate Meeting
   c. Strategic Planning
   d. Other?

ITEM # XXX

Request for authorization to confer the title of Professor Emeritus of Mathematics on Dr. Rick Rossi – Montana Technological University

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THAT

> Upon the occasion of the retirement of Professor Rick Rossi from the faculty of Montana Tech, the faculty wishes to express its appreciation for his years of dedicated and valued service to the institution, the Department of Mathematical Sciences and the state of Montana by recommending the rank of Professor Emeritus be conferred upon him by the Board of Regents of Higher Education.

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EXPLANATION

Professor Richard J. Rossi received his BS degree in Pure Math from California State University Sacramento in 1978, his MS in Statistics from Iowa State University in 1980, and his PhD in Mathematical Statistics with a minor in Applied Statistics from Oregon State University in 1988. After graduate school Dr. Rossi spent three years as an Assistant Professor of Statistics in the Department of Mathematical Sciences at Montana State University and three years as an Assistant Professor of Statistics in the Department of Statistics at Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo. In 1994 Dr. Rossi came to Montana Tech as an Assistant Professor of Mathematics in the Department of Mathematical Sciences. He was promoted to Associate Professor in 1996, awarded tenure in 1997, and promoted to Professor in 2000.

At Montana Tech, Dr. Rossi taught statistics, mathematics, and data science. He was the first statistician hired at Montana Tech and helped numerous graduate students and faculty with the statistical analysis of their research data. Dr. Rossi developed all of the current courses in applied statistics offered at Montana Tech, as well as the curriculum program for the Statistics Option in Mathematical Sciences and the degree in Data Science. He received the Rose and Anna Busch Award for Faculty Achievement in 2001 and was nominated numerous other times. Dr. Rossi served as Advisor to the Math Club for many years and received Advisor of the Year Award in 2005 for advising the Math Club; he also received the Advisor of the Year Award in 1999 for advising the Fly Fishing Club at Montana Tech.

Dr. Rossi served in numerous leadership roles within the college. He served as the Department Head for Mathematical Sciences from 1999 to 2014. As Department Head, he was able to start and grow a number of different programs. His efforts led to an increased number of majors in mathematics and statistics. Dr. Rossi also served as the Head of the Statistics Program from 2016-2018, and Co-Director of the Data Science Program from 2017-2022.

Dr. Rossi's research at Montana Tech has focused on applied statistics and data science. Dr. Rossi has published many collaborative peer-reviewed papers with faculty members in a wide variety of fields, he has directed 18 undergraduate research projects in mathematics and statistics, and he has given numerous presentations at local, regional, and national meetings. Dr. Rossi has written three books, all published by John Wiley & Sons, Inc., Theorems, Corollaries, Lemmas, and Methods of Proof (2006), Applied Biostatistics for the Health Sciences first edition (2010) and second edition (2022), and Mathematical Statistics: An Introduction to Likelihood Based Inference (2018). In 2013 Dr. Rossi was awarded the Lifetime Distinguished Researcher award.

Dr. Rossi's tenure at Montana Tech can be characterized as outstanding with significant service to the University and to the State for which he is to be commended. For these and numerous other contributions, the Department of

Mathematical Sciences are pleased to nominate Dr. Richard J. Rossi for the rank of Emeritus Professor of Mathematical Sciences at Montana Technological University