

Spring Faculty Meeting
April 23, 2018
3:00 PM MG 204
Meeting Minutes

Agenda and Slides attached.

I. Welcome- Reminder from Scott Risser about the agenda and that the current faculty staff handbook states that quorum consists of “whoever shows up for the meeting” (attendance was not taken).

II. Action Items –

a. Approval of Graduates

Leslie Dickerson sent an e-mail to all faculty on April 23 with the list of students, and provided some copies during the meeting. The list has summer 2017, fall 2017, and spring 2018 graduates. Summer 2018 will be on next year’s list, with a few students who have an exception that are on the presented list. Once the list has been approved, it will be sent for printing. Students are still sending in applications, but they will not be in the program. Move to approve list and seconded. Motion passes.

b. Senate Seats Proposal- see attachment.

Request membership changes to remove general engineering and add civil and mechanical engineering. The addition changes what is considered quorum for faculty senate and gives engineering more seats and votes than other colleges. Motion to approve change and seconded. Motion passes.

III. Senate Activities (see attached slides for full list presented, with a full list in the agenda and minutes found on the website).

a. Approved Curriculum Changes from the CRC. Request to Change number v. to “Business and Information Technology”

b. Two new courses will be added to the gen ed core.

c. Senate Discussion of the following topics:

- a. A brief discussion on Complete College America was given, which is intended to improve retention and completion. The initiative identifies classes that students in a field need to pass in order to retain and complete (the example of pre-calculus for engineering students was given). The benefit of the initiative is that it takes less time and a higher level of graduation rate. The work includes academic degree mapping which may not exist for all degrees, as well as more active advising. Other activities include the use of math co-requisites and may include a more centralized scheduling system (as opposed to departmental scheduling). One comment was a recommendation to work with dual credit and

reaching out to high schools for college readiness. Comment that we do have some efforts in this area with OPI and locally with Bernie Phelps.

- b. The report for the student evaluation subcommittee was short, suggesting that the work is not complete and may need to be revisited.
 - c. The ASMT proposed a common hour, which was to have time on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 12:30 and 1:30 where no classes are held so that other activities such as meetings and other campus forums can take place. ASMT is still surveying members, and hope to have a more formal proposal for the faculty senate to consider. A comment was made regarding the times of the proposal, and that it may push back classes later in the day.
 - d. The underfunding of the Montana Tech library was discussed, including a \$100,000 shortfall in subscriptions alone. The faculty senate was called to assist to help with the understanding of the current situation. A comment was made about the availability of subscriptions switching to electronic, with the response that most are already electronic, and therefore no access would remain. Another comment was made regarding the state consortium as the solution, with the response that all libraries in the system are experiencing budget issues and that the combined efforts are not likely to improve the situation for at least ten years. The goal is to not lose accreditation, but to only reduce resources which may be a duplicate.
 - e. The process for Affiliated Faculty Member approval was briefly discussed, with the comment that it will officially be under the provost's purview.
 - f. The research integrity policy is also available with the Dean of Research.
 - g. The bookstore reviewed the inclusive access for textbooks, which can save money, but may have other limitations. Please contact either Laurie Vandell or Jason Parish for more information.
 - h. A budget overview was given, with others such as department chairs invited.
 - i. The Student Satisfaction Inventory is taken once every two years. Departments may be able to receive additional information by contacting Dean Vath.
- d. Recommended Emeritus Rank presented, with one more expected for the May meeting.
 - e. Montana Tech Teaching Community- three topics for the first three months of fall have been chosen. An effort will be made to see if we can receive teaching grants. Comment regarding the connection with the Instructional Improvement Committee, with the response that they have been contacted but no response was given.
 - f. Research Mentorship Program- first meeting has taken place, with the goal to increase research success rates and to foster interdisciplinary scholarship.

IV.WIRE Presentation of Formal Name Change- see attached document.

The challenge that the MT Tech has faced is that we are well known in Montana but not in other states. Other places consider us either in Missoula or a two year college. The problem has been the "of the University of Montana" after Montana Tech. The group reviewed similar

schools and names, and noted that everyone wants to keep Montana Tech and to add a more official name (but not branded as such). The term “institution” is used with similar schools, but the feedback has been negative for the term, as it does not convey that we are a PhD granting school. The term “polytechnic” was also not popular, but “university” is a popular term, and that other Tech schools have longer names. We will still use shared services and be branded as Montana Tech.

Comments by faculty included the name with engineering (out of the three names). The name would be in alignment with our history and would also distinguish us as a STEM school. Others also commented on the name with engineering. Another comment was made that some schools have the name of the location, with a recommendation to somehow add Butte to the name (with another comment that many do not know how to pronounce it).

The next step will be to receive more feedback, send recommendations to the chancellor, and to send to the Board of Regents as early as May to begin the process.

V. Faculty Feedback

- a. Chancellor Blacketter provided some comments on the state of Tech.

First, Tech has a balanced budget for next year, with some layoffs and retirees. The chancellor commented that he is not “100% happy” with how money is being spent, and that spending needs to be “right sized” to handle fluctuations (such as those found in natural resources). Re-organization may have to occur.

Applications for fall are up, with effort towards increasing the yield on acceptance and placement. Two large gifts over \$500,000 have been given, which will go towards scholarships (one an endowment and another to be spent more rapidly). As a school, we will be looking at “price points” for students to increase placements. Scholarship award date is May 1st. The chancellor reminded faculty to call students to help make a difference in placement (the chancellor personally called those that have been awarded the chancellor’s scholarship). We are also working to have more students visit campus to increase placement.

Commented that WIRE has been an outstanding group, and that may not be able to make a mistake on the three choices for a name. He also asks for our patience and understanding in the process.

Comment that three CLSPS dean candidates will be on campus on May 1, May 7, and May 10, and to provide feedback.

The 6 mill levy will be on the November ballot, with the recommendation to vote. Tech receives 14% of the amount.

The chancellor invited everyone to attend the Saturday afternoon gala, with students and others who will be performing. The event is an opportunity in the arts.

Techxpo is this coming Thursday, with an awards reception in the afternoon. The chancellor expressed intrigue regarding the learning and research communities.

Lastly, the chancellor asked everyone to be patient regarding program prioritization. It will be a long process that will take at least another year. The PPC is still learning how to perform the tasks and are being very transparent. As part of the campus community, the chancellor recommends to get involved and to provide feedback and recommendation to the group.

- b. Scott Risser presented preliminary information regarding the faculty senate survey. Currently 39% return rate, with one more reminder to be sent. Comments were placed in different categories for future work for the senate (some of which may not be within the purview of the senate's charge, such as salaries). Comment made that votes of confidences may be problematic, as it lowers moral and the difficulty of finding replacement. A comment was made about the concern of academic honesty.
- c. With the review, the question of what should the Faculty Senate do and talk about next year was asked. The group suggested the following:
 - a. Can we take the feedback and data from the survey to add value and to determine the value of being a special focus university (and what does that mean)? In other words, how can we add value to the work of the name change, etc. towards improvements such as increase graduation and retention rates.
 - b. A comment was made that most committees do have items that are either accepted, rejected, or modified, but other items that are pushed aside that are talked about but never resolved. The request was to review how to make certain items more actionable instead of remaining unresolved.
 - c. The surveys may not be representative. A recommendation to have high level of collegiality and professional attitude was discussed, with comments regarding the high level that is occurring during faculty senate and other meetings.
 - d. A recommendation to revise the faculty staff handbook was put forth to address inconsistencies.
 - e. A recommendation to continue work on student evaluations, including shortening the evaluation.
- d. Dr. Risser was elected to serve another term as chair, Dr. Capoccia was elected to serve as vice-chair, and Dr. Faught was elected to serve another term as secretary. Dr. Risser also noted that the meetings are public, and that non-senators may attend and make motions.



Spring Faculty Meeting

April 23rd, 2018

3 p.m.

MG 204



Agenda



- I. Welcome
- II. Action Items – Approval of Graduates and Senate Seats Proposal
- III. Senate Activities
- IV. WIRE Presentation of Formal Name Change
- V. Faculty Feedback

I.

Welcome and Reminders

You can find information concerning Senate Activities here:

Main Page: <http://www.mtech.edu/about/facultysenate/>

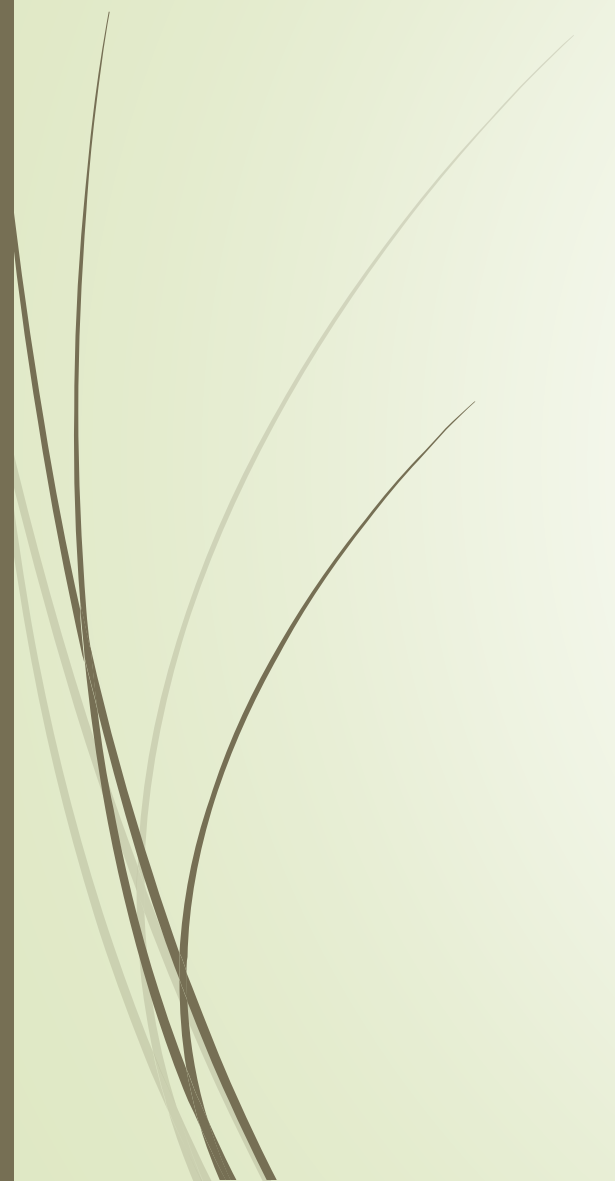
Agenda: <http://www.mtech.edu/about/facultysenate/agendas.htm>

Minutes: <http://www.mtech.edu/about/facultysenate/minutes/index.htm>

Senators: <http://www.mtech.edu/about/facultysenate/senators.htm>

II.

Approval of Graduates



Senate Membership Proposal

Current	Proposed
<p>Article III. Membership (Art. III, Sec.1 replaced by following according to faculty action 10/21/2011. Revised according to faculty action 4/24/2016.)</p> <p>SECTION 1:</p> <p>The Faculty Senate shall consist of 26 members composed as follows:</p> <p>School of Mines and Engineering Faculty.....9 Senators College of Letters, Science, and Prof. Studies Faculty..... 9 Senators Highlands College Faculty.....4 Senators Research & Library Faculty.....3 Senators Adjunct Faculty.....1 Senator</p> <p>The representation shall be subdivided and elected at the department level as follows:</p> <p><u>School of Mines and Engineering</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1.Electrical Engineering 2.Geological Engineering 3.Geophysical Engineering 4.General Engineering 5.Metallurgical and Materials Engineering 6.Environmental Engineering 7.Mining Engineering 8.Petroleum Engineering 9.Safety Health and Industrial Hygiene 	<p>Article III. Membership (Art. III, Sec.1 replaced by following according to faculty action 10/21/2011. Revised according to faculty action 4/23/2018.)</p> <p>SECTION 1:</p> <p>The Faculty Senate shall consist of 27 members composed as follows:</p> <p>School of Mines and Engineering Faculty.....10 Senators College of Letters, Science, and Prof. Studies Faculty..... 9 Senators Highlands College Faculty.....4 Senators Research & Library Faculty.....3 Senators Adjunct Faculty.....1 Senator</p> <p>The representation shall be subdivided and elected at the department level as follows:</p> <p><u>School of Mines and Engineering</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1.Electrical Engineering 2.Geological Engineering 3.Geophysical Engineering 4.General Engineering 4.Metallurgical and Materials Engineering 5.Environmental Engineering 6.Mining Engineering 7.Petroleum Engineering 8.Safety Health and Industrial Hygiene 9.Civil Engineering 10.Mechanical Engineering

Senate Activities

- a. Approved curriculum changes in the following programs and courses:
 - i. Behavioral/Mental Health Technician
 - ii. Biological Sciences
 - iii. Materials Science
 - iv. Safety Health & Industrial Hygiene
 - v. Business Information Technology
 - vi. Mining Engineering
 - vii. Civil Engineering
 - viii. Environmental Engineering
 - ix. Geological Engineering

- b. Approved recommendations for additional courses in the General Education Core:
 - i. Contemporary Mathematics – M 105 (Mathematics)
 - ii. Science and Technology in World History – HSTR 207 (Humanities & Fine Arts)

Senate Activities

- c. Heard discussions on the following topics:
 - c. Complete College America (Cvath@mtech.edu)
 - d. Student evaluation subcommittee (Gsouthergill@mtech.edu)
 - e. Proposal of a Common Hour (ASMT.president@mtech.edu)
 - f. Underfunding of Montana Tech Library (SJuskiewicz@mtech.edu)
 - g. Creating a process for Affiliated Faculty Members (Bhartline@mtech.edu)
 - h. Created the option for programs to have a required “core” set of classes required to be taken at Tech (DTrudnowski@mtech.edu)
 - i. Reviewed Research Integrity Policy (Bhartline@mtech.edu)
 - j. Inclusive Access for Textbooks (LVandel@mtech.edu)
 - k. Budget Update (Bwright@mtech.edu)
 - l. Student Satisfaction Inventory 2017 & 2019 (Cvath@mtech.edu)
 - m. Changes to Faculty/Staff Handbook (MEgloff@mtech.edu)

III.

Senate Activities

- d. Recommended Emeritus Rank:
 - d. John Morrison
 - e. Hsin-Hsiung Huang
 - f. Bill Drury
 - g. Bill Spath

Senate Activities

e. Creation of a Montana Tech **Teaching Community**

- i. The Montana Tech Faculty Senate shall establish a community of practice for pedagogical improvement. In the spring of 2018 the Faculty Senate shall appoint a leadership team to plan the structure, content, and schedule for this community. This team shall utilize evidenced-based best practices in higher education as guidance for this planning. Thereafter, the leadership team shall be appointed annually each April by the Faculty Senate from the full-time faculty, with special consideration given to Rose and Anna Busch Award recipients and Teaching Merit Award winners. This community will be open to all Montana Tech faculty beginning fall 2018.
- ii. Members: Thomas Camm, Katie Hailer, Julie Hart, Hilary Risser, and Bill Ryan
- iii. Sample Activities:
 - *“Finding your voice as an instructor”* Syllabus design, setting expectations, choosing course policies, choosing effective activities for class time, working with accreditation, etc.
 - *“Giving Timely Feedback”* Writing good exam questions, different types of feedback that can be provided, communicating grades to students, etc.
 - *“What to do when things go wrong”* How to get honest feedback from students, how to adapt when grades on an assignment are too low, what to do when you are behind, etc.

Senate Activities

- f. Creation of a Montana Tech **Research Mentorship Program**, *partnership with Sigma Xi*
 - i. The Montana Tech Faculty Senate shall establish a mentorship program for fostering interdisciplinary scholarship and increasing successful research. In the spring of 2018 the Faculty Senate shall appoint mentor leaders to plan the structure, content, and schedule for this community. This team shall utilize evidenced-based best practices in higher education as guidance for this planning. Thereafter, these lead mentors shall be appointed annually each April by the Faculty Senate from the full time faculty, with special consideration given to Distinguished Researcher Award recipients and Research Merit Award winners. This mentorship program will be open to all full-time Montana Tech faculty beginning fall 2018.
 - ii. Members: Jerry Downey, Amy Kuenzi, Trisha Southergill (ex-officio), Ron White, and Katherine Zodrow
 - iii. Work with incoming and research-oriented junior faculty (as identified through Seed Grant proposals) on developing activities/program.

IV.

History of Montana Tech Names

- ▶ 1900 – founded as the *Montana State School of Mines*
- ▶ 1965 – Name is changed to *Montana College of Mineral Science and Technology*
- ▶ 1994 – During reorganization of the Montana University System, *Montana Tech* becomes affiliated with the *University of Montana* and is renamed *Montana Tech of the University of Montana*

IV.

Name Change Process

- ▶ Summer 2017: WIRE researched names of institutions across the United States that have similar scopes and missions. This research was used to generate a list of possible names
- ▶ October 2017 – January 2018: WIRE asked for and received feedback on the list of possible names
- ▶ March 2018: WIRE revised the list of possible names using feedback gathered
- ▶ April 2018: WIRE began collecting feedback from a wide range of groups including both on campus and off campus stakeholders

IV.

MONTANA TECH

Branded Name
Remains

Scope of a
University
(AAS, BS, MS, PhD)

Special Focus
Designation

Shared Services
Continue

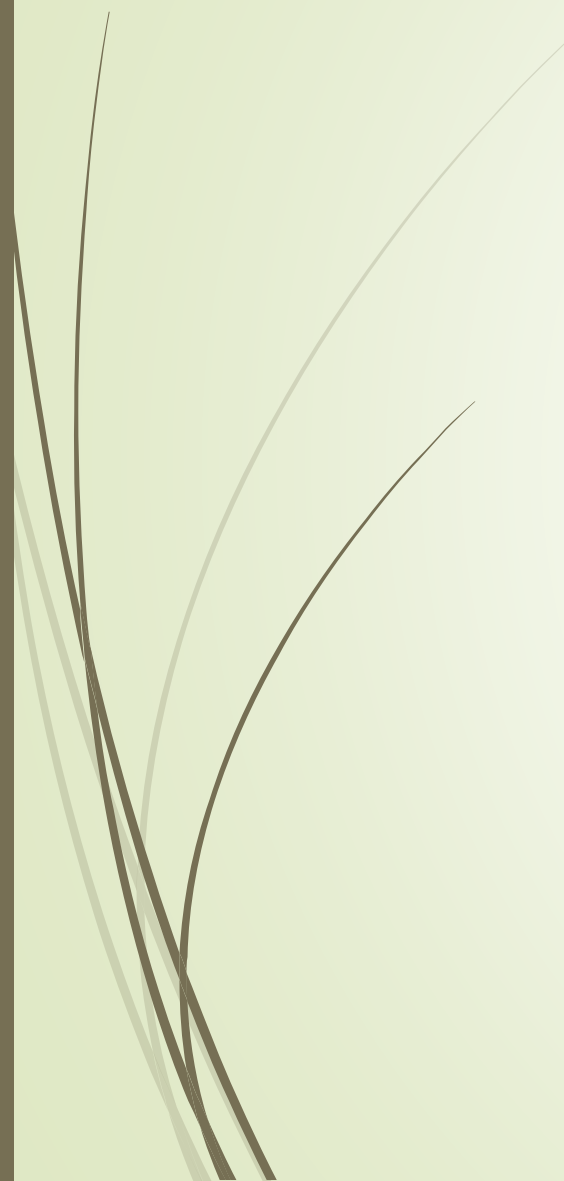
IV.

Branded Name – Montana Tech Proposed Formal Name List -

- Montana University of Science and Technology
- Montana Technological University
- Montana University of Science, Engineering, and Technology

v.

Faculty Feedback



Faculty Senate of Montana Tech of the University of Montana
 Membership proposal 4/23/18

Current	Proposed
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WIRE: Name Change Feedback
March-April 2018

Background:

At the May 2017 meeting, the Montana Board of Regents (BOR) approved a fourth institutional classification for higher education units in the state. This new classification, **Special Focus Four-Year Universities**, of which Montana Tech is the only unit, was added to the previous three classifications: Two-Year Colleges, Four-Year Regional Universities, and Research Doctoral Universities. Prior to its new classification, Montana Tech was included in the Four-Year Regional Universities classification.

As a response to its new institutional classification by the BOR, Chancellor Blacketter formed **WIRE** (Workgroup for Institutional Realignment for Excellence) in late March 2017. The charge given to WIRE by Chancellor Blacketter was to “define what it means for Montana Tech to be classified as the only Special Focus Four-Year University in the state.” The 13-member committee comprised of faculty, staff and administrators, met with a wide range of campus entities to discuss the impact of the new classification. Since April of 2017, WIRE has met with numerous groups both on and off campus to create a set of recommendations for Chancellor Blacketter.

During these early meetings, WIRE realized our name “Montana Tech of the University of Montana” invoked a regional scope that is not reflective of our role as a Special Focus Institution. **The brand Montana Tech is who we are and this will be unchanged.**

Process:

WIRE began the name change process by researching the names of institutions across the United States with similar scopes and missions. From these names of other institutions, WIRE generated a list of seven names.

From October 2017 to January 2018 online surveys were sent to faculty and staff, Industrial Advisory boards, and alumnae/alumni requesting feedback on the institution name. WIRE also discussed the name change face-to-face as we met with on-campus groups along with regarding our other recommendations. We compiled the results of our own research, the surveys, and the feedback from the we received at campus meetings and made several determinations. While “Polytechnic” is a common part of names for science and engineering focused institutions (e.g. Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University), the Montana Tech community did not want to include Polytechnic as part of our new name. Names that included “Institute” (e.g. Georgia Institute of Technology) were common, but members of the Montana Tech community preferred names that included “University” instead. The feedback we have received allowed us to refine the list to the following three names:

- Montana Technological University
- Montana University of Science and Technology
- Montana University of Science, Engineering, and Technology

Next Steps:

We are currently seeking feedback from our constituencies and the community about these three name options. WIRE will meet with campus leadership groups for students, faculty, staff, alumnae/alumni, and the foundation. We are also seeking feedback from the community.