March 21, 2022

PUBLIC LECTURE

Montana Tech's Public Lecture Series will host Dr. Cathy Whitlock, Regents Professor Emerita in Earth Sciences at Montana State University and Fellow of the Montana Institute on Ecosystems, on **March 23, 2022 at 4:00 pm**. Her talk is titled, "Past, Present and Future Climate Change in the Greater Yellowstone Region." This presentation is available via ZOOM only.

INTERCOLLEGIATE MINING COMPETITION

The Intercollegiate Mining Competition will be held on **March 24-26** in Rolla, Missouri. Montana Tech will be represented by two teams, a Men's team and a Co-Ed team. The competition has been on hold for two years and the Montana Tech's Men Team is the defending champion and current host of the Sunshine Trophy.

STAFF SENATE ABOVE AND BEYOND AWARD

The Staff Senate wishes to invite you to participate in nominating a deserving staff member for the prestigious Above and Beyond Award. The award recognizes individual staff members who consistently go above and beyond to serve individuals and the campus community, making exceptional efforts to achieve Montana Tech's mission. Staff at Montana Tech are employees in non-teaching roles of various types in support of the educational, research, and service programs of the University. Some of them are in front-facing offices and others are hidden gems. Nominations are due by **March 27, 2022**. Rules and nomination forms are available here or on the Staff Senate website. Please honor a staff member for always going above and beyond by submitting a nomination. Chancellor Cook will announce the winner of the Above and Beyond Award at the Campus Awards Ceremony on April 19, 2022.

SUMMER SURF PROJECTS

The Undergraduate Research Program committee is accepting proposals for summer SURF

projects. The guidelines were emailed to the campus and can also be found on the research office website. The deadline is **March 31, 2022**.

SWE SWEET RACE
The Society of Women Engineers (SWE) at Montana Tech is sponsoring a 5k run or walk race on **April 9, 2022**. Half of the proceeds from this race will be donated to the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation, and the other half of the proceeds will help members of the Society of Women Engineers attend the annual conference for the Society of Women Engineers. Sign up here.

SOFTWARE REQUESTS
Are you are teaching a class in Fall 2022 and using a campus classroom or computer lab on the North Campus or Highlands College? If so, and you need any software besides Microsoft Office, Adobe Reader, Firefox, Chrome, and VLC media player, please submit a TECH SUPPORT ticket (https://mtech.teamdynamix.com/TDClient/1921/Portal/Requests/ServiceDet?ID=36966) BEFORE May 11, 2022 to request your software.

Computers are reimaged each summer, therefore just because the software was previously installed does not mean it will be there in the Fall – UNLESS you request it.

If your request is not submitted BEFORE May 11, your software may not be installed when the semester begins.

Why do I need to have my request in so early?
• The amount and type of software required may not run on the computer that is currently installed in the lab/classroom you are scheduled to use. If the lab/classroom you are intending to use does not have the specifications required, other arrangements need to be made.

• Podium computers in classrooms and computers in computer labs are re-imaged (re-built) every summer. This takes time and coordination. Not getting your software request in on time impacts our schedule significantly.

• Submitting a late software request may require computer support to put in overtime. This is not only expensive, but also does not guarantee that your software will be installed when you need it to be.

RANSOMWARE
Ransomware is a type of malicious software, or malware, designed to infect computers and encrypt files until a sum of money or other form of ransom is paid. After the initial infection, ransomware will attempt to spread to connected systems, including shared storage drives and other accessible devices.

Malicious cyber actors commonly distribute ransomware through phishing emails or "drive-by downloads." Phishing emails are messages that appear to be from a legitimate organization or a contact familiar to the victim, which can entice the user to click on a corrupt link or open

an infected attachment. A "drive-by download" is a program that automatically downloads from the internet without the user's consent and often without their knowledge. It is possible the corrupt code may run after download, without user interaction. After the code has run, the computer becomes infected with ransomware.

Why Should You Care?
Consequences of a ransomware attack can be severe, and there is no guarantee a user will recover their data, even if they chose to pay the ransom money. On a personal level, an infection can result in financial damage or disclosure of sensitive information. On an organizational level, ransomware can cause business operation disruptions, financial damage from a payout or costly investigations, and reputational damage causing loss of current or potential customers.

Additionally, the goal of ransomware is not always to get money but potentially to serve as a distraction for other malicious purposes. These distractions could be hiding a traditional attack against the network, covering traces of an earlier attack, providing cover while data is stolen from the network, or even limiting or destroying productivity of the system while the IT team is busy dealing with a very visible ransomware infection.

UPCOMING EVENTS

3/22 Movie: *Onward* │ 6:30 pm │Library Auditorium

3/23 Public Lecture Series: Dr. Cathy Whitlock │ 4:00 pm │ ZOOM

3/24 HOPES Mentor Session │ 3:00 pm-4:30 pm │ Register HERE
Scholars Reception │ 5:00-7:00 pm │ SSC
Movie: Onward │ 6:30 pm │Library Auditorium

3/25 Digger Con │ 9:00 am-4:00 pm

3/27 Staff Senate Above and Beyond Nominations Due │ Nominate HERE

3/31 HOPES Mentor Session │ 3:00-4:30 pm │ Register HERE
Spring Book Club (Chapter 6)│ 3:00 pm │ Copper Lounge
Deadline for Summer SURF Projects

3/9 SWE SWEet 5K walk/run │ 9:00 am │ Three Bears │ **Register** HERE.

4/14 HOPES Mentor Session│ 3:00-4:30 pm │ Register HERE.

4/19 Faculty/Staff Awards Reception │ 4:00 pm

4/21-23 27th Annual John "Jocko" Evans Technical Symposium and Golf Tournament

4/23 Miners Ball Auction

4/28 Techxpo │1:30-5:30 pm │ HPER
Spring Book Club (Chapter 9 & 10) │ 3:00 pm │ Copper Lounge

4/29 Tech Day │ 9:00 am-4:00 pm