



MONTANATECH WEEKLY UPDATE

May 5, 2025

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UPCOMING CAMPUS EVENTS

5/05: Late Night Breakfast (9:00 pm, Marcus Daly Dining Hall)

5/06: Pilates w/Katie (12:00 pm, HPER 140)

5/08: Weights w/Blaine (12:00 pm, HPER 140)

5/09:

Line Rodeo (9:00 am-12:00 pm)

Order of the Engineer (5:00 pm, Auditorium)

Chancellor's Reception for Graduates (6:00 pm-7:30 pm, SSC)

5/10:

Nurse Pinning (8:30 am, Auditorium)

Commencement (10:00 am/1:00 pm, HPER)

5/14: Advancing Tech Forum (2:00 pm, Copper Lounge)

5/15:

Les Cook Retirement Celebration (3:30 pm-6:00 pm, The Depot - 818 S. Arizona, RSVP [here](#))

5/20: Research Symposium (8:30 am-4:00 pm, Helena)

5/21-22: Board of Regents (Great Falls)

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LEGISLATIVE WEEK IN REVIEW

The final Montana University System Legislative Week in Review (April 28-May 2) can be read [here](#).



ONENOTE CLASS NOTEBOOK AUTOMATIC ROSTER SYNC RETIRING

Starting **April 23, 2025**, Microsoft will begin phasing out the automatic Canvas roster sync feature for OneNote Class Notebooks. This means new students will no longer be automatically added to Class Notebooks when they enroll in your Canvas course. Instructors will need to manually add students using the “Add or Remove Students” option in the Class Notebook tool within Canvas. Microsoft plans to share replacement options before August 2025. For full details and instructions, check out the article: [OneNote Class Notebook LTI: Retiring automatic Canvas roster sync](#). Questions? Visit [aka.ms/EDUSupport](#).



BIRD WATCHING

Join Ripple on **Wednesday, May 7** at the Steward Mine Yard at 7:00 am (birds get up early). Our partners at UM Bird Ecology Lab will demonstrate basic birding skills and identification. Together, we will learn how the Aspen Grove on

the Steward is supporting birds in Butte. For more information, reach out to Rayelynn Brandl at rbrandl@mtech.edu.



RESEARCH PROSPECTOR BOOT CAMP AND STIPEND

The Research Office will continue its “Research Prospectors” proposal boot camp in AY2025. The complete workshop consists of two elements: four one-hour online workshops and homework tasks which apply the concepts taught in the workshops. Content is geared toward first-year faculty but all faculty are welcome to attend; content includes improving proposal writing skills, building one’s academic brand, writing responsive proposals, and working effectively with the Research Office to submit proposals. Completion of the workshops and associated homework elements, which culminate in the submission of a white paper or a proposal to a funding agency, makes attendees eligible for a \$5,000 research stipend. The next workshop will be held via Teams in early May on the following Mondays and Wednesdays:

May 7, 12, 14 | 12:00 pm-1:00 pm

Contact Dr. John Bognar (jbognar@mtech.edu) for more information or to register.



LUNCH AND LEARN WITH AGILENT TECHNOLOGIES

The Montana Bureau of Mines & Geology is bringing Agilent Technologies, a global company specializing in life science, diagnostics, and applied chemical market solutions, to campus for a Lunch and Learn on their ICP-MS and ICP-OES analytical instrumentation. The presentation will take place on **Wednesday, May 14** from 11:00 am to 2:00 pm in the Big Butte room. The presentation will be helpful for anyone on campus interested in learning more about Agilent’s ICP-OES and ICP-MS instruments and software as well as discussing specific applications. To ensure sufficient lunch, please RSVP to Nancy.Kawai@agilent.com.

Modern ICP-OES and ICP-MS for the Quantitation of Metals in Complex Matrices

- **11:00 a.m.:** Grab your complimentary lunch and settle in!

- **11:15 a.m.:** “Overview of ICP-OES Capabilities for Rapid Elemental Analysis” – Nancy Kawai, Atomic Spectroscopy Account Manager
- **12:00 p.m.:** “Analyzing Real World Samples by ICP-MS and ICP-QQQ” – Emmett Soffey, ICP-MS Product Specialist
- **1:30 p.m.:** Q&A/Discussion



RETIREMENT CELEBRATION

You're invited to a retirement celebration for Chancellor Les Cook. RSVP to jjones16@mtech.edu or click here.

Thursday, May 15 | 3:30 pm to 6:00 pm | The Depot (818 S. Arizona)



RIPPLE VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Volunteers are needed for Ripple's Watershed Science Program. The field season is in full swing, and if you are passionate about sharing science and the story of our watershed with Anaconda, Deer Lodge, Philipsburg, and Butte Central Elementary students by running a macroinvertebrate sampling, a water quality testing, or riparian assessment station, please consider volunteering on **May 15, May 19 and May 29**. Field trips times are from 8:00 am to 12:00 pm. Do you need to be an expert? Absolutely, Not. The most important thing a volunteer can have is enthusiasm. The Ripple Staff will train you at a station to ensure you are prepared to help lead students. If you have a particular station you are interested in, let us. Please sign up through our website, cfwep.org/volunteer or contact Tammy Gordon at tgordon@mtech.edu or 406.496.4136.



MEDIA SERVER BEING DECOMMISSIONED

Please be advised that Montana Tech I.T. is decommissioning the media server at media.mtech.edu. This will occur on **May 15, 2025**. If you have files on this server, please retrieve them prior to May 15, 2025. Moving forward we recommend the use of [Canvas](#), [Teams](#), Panopto, or [Onedrive](#) for storing and sharing your files. Please contact the I.T. help desk through our

website <https://kb.mtech.edu> or by phone at 406-496-4244 if you need help retrieving your files or using the recommended services.



STORMWATER FESTIVAL

Are you ready to make a splash in your community? Ripple and our amazing partners are hosting the **Stormwater Festival** at Father Sheehan Park, and we need passionate volunteers like YOU to make it a success!

May 22 | 9:00 am to 1:30 pm | Father Sheehan Park

Together, we'll inspire and educate **300 local elementary students** about the importance of stormwater in their community. Help us run fun, interactive stations that bring science to life for these young learners!

How to Get Involved: Reach out to Tammy Gordon at tgordon@mtech.edu to sign up or learn more.



TRIO SSS SPRING NEWSLETTER

Big things have been happening with our TRIO SSS students this year! Read all about their accomplishments in our Spring 2025 Newsletter here. As you wrap up another great year, please continue to refer students to TRIO Student Support Services—we are always taking applications! Questions can be directed to TRIO SSS Director Carissa Johnson at cjohnson25@mtech.edu or 406-496-4289.



PASSWORD REQUIREMENTS HAVE CHANGES

Please be advised that the next time you change your password, you will be required to have a minimum of **15** characters.

Remember the following when you choose your new password:

- Cannot reuse previous passwords

- Cannot contain username or real name
- Must contain three of the four following categories:
 - Uppercase letters: A-Z
 - Lowercase letters: a-z
 - Numbers: 0-9
 - Special characters: !, @, ?, etc.

This change has been made because it is a cyber security best practice. Studies show it takes approximately 5 minutes for a hacker to crack an 8 character password (with our current requirements), and 77 million years to crack a 15 character password (with our current requirements).

For more information, please see this article: <https://tech.co/password-managers/how-long-hacker-crack-password>. For those of you that would like an easy way to remember your passwords, we recommend setting up a password manager like KeePass: [Article - KeePass Setup and Instructions](#)



CAMPUS HEATING SYSTEM UPGRADE

Construction continues on the campus heating system upgrade, installing a tunnel system, new steam supply piping, and condensate return piping. The road between the Steam Plant and the Facilities building, as well as the front and north side of the Mill Building, and the raised mulch landscape area in the courtyard are closed. A temporary fence has been installed around the work area. Demolition and excavation will begin shortly.

Throughout this phase, pedestrian access to buildings on the upper quad will be limited. Access to the CBB, Museum, Main Hall, Mill Building, and Engineering Hall should be via their east and south-facing entrances on Montrose Street. The paved areas between Main Hall and the Mill Building, Main and Engineering Hall, and the road between the Mill and Facilities buildings will be closed to both pedestrian and vehicle traffic. This work will also impact vehicle access to the Mineral Museum and the west side of the Facilities building.

An ADA-accessible pedestrian path into the front of the Mill Building is available during construction hours for persons needing ADA access, when requested, and available to all pedestrians during non-construction hours.

During this period, faculty, staff, students, and visitors accessing these

buildings are encouraged to park in the tiers. The Mineral Museum visitor parking spots below the Facilities Building will be unavailable. However, the handicap accessible parking spaces outside the Museum Building will remain available for Mineral Museum visitors.

As new information becomes available or changes are being made, the Facilities website here will be updated and information will be posted in the Weekly Update. A campus access map can be found [here](#).



MICROSOFT AUTHENTICATOR SET UP FOR NEW PHONES

Do you need to move your multi factor authentication information to a new phone? Follow the instructions [in this article](#) to set up the app correctly and avoid login issues. If you've lost or broken your old phone or no longer have access to the device where your MFA was set up, the IT Helpdesk will need to reset it for you. This can be done after verifying your identity with a physical photo ID in person in MG110 or via a Teams meeting.



WI-FI TROUBLES

Limit IP Address Tracking and Campus Wi-Fi: Understanding iOS 17.2's Default Setting

With iOS 17.2, Apple enabled "Limit IP Address Tracking" by default for Wi-Fi networks. This feature, while intended to enhance user privacy, can conflict with campus network security protocols and safeguards, especially where private relays are blocked.

Potential Issues on Campus Wi-Fi:

- Inability to access certain campus resources.
- Interrupted or unreliable internet connectivity.
- Failure of security systems to detect and prevent threats.
- Difficulty in troubleshooting network problems.

Campus Policy: Due to the potential disruptions and security risks, the campus network requires that "Limit IP Address Tracking" be disabled while connected to the campus Wi-Fi.

How to Disable "Limit IP Address Tracking" on Campus Wi-Fi:

- **Open the Settings app** on your iPhone or iPad.
- **Tap on Wi-Fi.**
- **Tap the "i" icon** (information icon) next to the campus Wi-Fi network you're connected to.
- **Toggle the "Limit IP Address Tracking" switch to the off (gray) position.**

Important Note: Disabling this feature is necessary for maintaining the security and functionality of the campus network. Please comply with this policy to ensure a safe and reliable online experience for everyone. If you have any further questions or concerns, please contact the IT help desk.



IT HELPDESK STUDENT EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

Montana Tech's IT Helpdesk is hiring student employees for Technical Support I positions. We have one immediate opening and two summer positions with potential for extension. This role offers hands-on experience in IT support, including phone/email assistance, ticketing system management, and web maintenance. Flexible hours to accommodate class schedules. To apply, send your resume to Prashanth Kattela Chandrashekar at

pkattelachandrash@mtech.edu. More details: [Montana Tech Career Services](#).



JOB OPPORTUNITIES WITH FACILITIES

The Physical Facilities department has on campus job opportunities for students during the summer from May 12 through mid-August. The pay rate offered to students in these jobs will be \$14.50 per hour. We have job opportunities in groundskeeping and also in exterior window cleaning. We would encourage you to apply if you would like to work on campus, and enjoy working outdoors, performing campus beautification tasks. Take pride in helping beautify this wonderful campus. Please contact Layne Sessions by phone at 406-475-2578, or through email at lsessions@mtech.edu to express your interest.



2025 FISCAL YEAR-END PROCUREMENT INFORMATION

Fiscal Year End (June 30, 2025) is rapidly approaching. Your cooperation and timely processing of year-end purchases is important and appreciated in order to ensure that funds are spent in the appropriate fiscal year & that we have adequate time to process requests

No later than May 1, 2025: Submit requests for purchase orders for items less than \$10,000 to Erica Rude in Accounts Payable. Purchase Orders for next Fiscal Year (FY26) will not be issued until July 1, 2025

No later than June 13, 2025: Complete all Procard transactions for FY25 prior to June 13, 2025. June 14th-June 30th will be a purchasing blackout period (Procards cannot be used Unless you are in travel status)

You can start using your Procard for FY26 expenses on July 1, 2025

No later than June 13, 2025: Submit FY25 Invoices to Accounts Payable by June 13, 2025 @ Noon

Please understand that if the above deadlines are not met, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to process requests in this fiscal year, regardless of the source of funding (such as contract and grant funding). If you are planning a request to start or renew a contract or purchase in July or August, please adhere to the deadlines above to ensure timely processing of such requests.

We appreciate your support and look forward to a smooth and successful 2025 Fiscal Year End. For assistance or clarification on any of the above information, please contact:

Kelsey Kerbs: KKerbs@mttech.edu or (406) 496-4376

Carleen Cassidy: CCassidy@mttech.edu or (406) 496-4252

Erica Rude: ERude@mttech.edu or (406) 496-4377

