

# Montana Tech Faculty Senate Meeting Minutes

**Date & Time:** April 8, 2026 9:00am

**Location:** Copper Lounge

## Attendance

**Senators:** Senators in attendance included Foued Badrouchi, Chris Roos, Chris Gammons, Gary Wyss, Dave Gilkey, Doug Galarus, Atish Mitra, Shihua Brazil, Charlie Faught, Sebastian Perduss, Alan English, Nathan Huft, Andrew Traut, Sudhakar Vadiraja, Matt Egloff, Naim Rashid, Scott Juskiewicz, Bryce Hill.

**Guests:** Guests attending the meeting included Tim Elgren, Provost; Heather Skocilich; Registrar, Joe Cooper; Dean of Students, Rick LaDouceur; Academic Standards Committee, Layne Sessions; Director of Facilities, Ron Sherman; Custodial Manager.

## Meeting Agenda

### I. **Welcome and Minutes –**

The meeting commenced at 9:00 a.m. and a quorum was established. Senator Hill presented the minutes from the March 27, 2026 meeting. Senator English moved and Senator Faught seconded a motion to adopt the minutes of the March 27, 2026 Faculty Senate meeting. The motion carried.

The minutes of the January 30, 2026 Faculty Senate meeting will be updated to reflect the changes made concerning CRC items on March 27, 2026

### **Action Items**

### II. **Emeritus Presentation- Prof. Douglas Abbott**

Prof. Tim Kober presented two emeritus applications for Douglas Abbott. One for the time Doug was the Provost and the other for Professor of Business and Information Technology. There was a discussion of Doug's service to the campus. A question was asked if the Board of Regents voice should be used in the application. It was noted the voice of the BOR should not be used in the application. A motion was made to approve both applications with the voice of the BOR being removed. The motion was seconded and carried.

### III. **CRC Items**

CRC items will be discussed later in the meeting under discussion items.

## **Information Items**

### **IV. Employee Relations Committee: Tasks and Reports**

Senator Juskiwicz, a member of the ERC, asked if the Senate would like a report from the ERC once a semester. The Senate confirmed it would be a good idea to have the ERC report to the Senate what the committee is working on at the beginning of the Fall and Spring semesters, beginning in the Fall of 2026.

### **V. Academic Standards Committee: Tasks and Reports**

Prof. Rick Ladouceur, a member of the Academic Standards Committee, presented on the question of what is the procedure for after a decision is made in the appeal process and why a written report is not submitted to the affected faculty member.

During the grades appeal process the committee votes on a recommendation and forwards the recommendation to the Provost, the committee does not make the final decision in the appeals process, this is determined by the Provost. Prof. LaDouceur and Provost Elgren explained there is protected information and individuals in this process, thus a written report cannot be submitted to the faculty member. The Provost can provide the faculty member involved with a summary of the process but not a detailed report because of confidentiality surrounding the process. The language that states a report will be filed with the faculty member will be removed from the Grade Appeals Process policy.

## **Discussion Items**

### **VI. Campus Cleanliness**

Ron Sherman, Custodial Manager, presented to the Senate about campus cleanliness. When Ron was hired there was a disparity on campus with the cleanliness of buildings and a need to improve the training custodial staff receives. The campus is following the Association of Physical Plant Administrators, (APPA) cleanliness levels. Currently the campus sits at levels three and four for cleanliness, Level 3-Casual Inattention and Level 4-Moderate Dinginess. Ron would like the campus to reach a level two, Level 2-Ordinary Tidiness. One of the reasons the campus is not at a Level 2 is custodians being short staffed. If one custodian calls off a shift it means three buildings will not be properly cleaned that day. Hopefully, facilities will be able to hire two additional custodians in the near future. If anyone has questions please contact Ron Sherman.

## VII. CRC

Senator Roos who is the chair of the CRC reported that a Vice Chair, Nathan Huft, had been elected by the CRC. All items presented at the last CRC meeting passed and one more meeting is scheduled for the semester. A motion was made and seconded to pass the CRC items; the motion carried.

How are CRC items distributed to departments was brought up. It was reported the CRC communicates with Department Heads and CRC department representatives also communicate this information to their departments.

The following amendment to the Broadband Technology CAS was presented to add the green items. A motion was made and seconded to accept the changes; the motion carried.

### Broadband Technology CAS

- M105 Contemporary mathematics OR M 121 College Algebra OR M 11 - Technical Mathematics (3cr)
- Writ 100 or WRIT 101 OR WRIT 121 - Introduction to Technical Writing (3cr)
- BGEN 105 - Introduction to Business (3cr) OR HEO 100 Commercial Truck Driver
- CAPP 131 - Basics MS Office OR CAPP 156 - MS Excel (3cr)
- ECIV 102 – Introduction to Construction Management (3cr)

Total of 15 credits

We were asked to add the following “OR” classes in green. Are we able to change this? Or will this delay the approval process from the MUS? We could also go through as it is and amend in the near future if that’s easier?

The following are CRC items Senator Juskiwicz received from the Registrar to post to Senate Meeting Minutes. These items need to be posted to the minutes to meet requirements set for by the accrediting body NWCCU.

Highlands College- Behavioral Health Tech CAS changes and additions, NEW COURSE- AHHS 112 Foundations of Community and behavioral Health, Foundations of Healthcare Cert- add AHHS 112, Associate of Science elective level credit level change, Automotive Tech curriculum change Remove SPRIN option, Welding Tech changes/additions, Line Program- Math add 1 Cr, remove from other course- wait until next CRC meeting.

CLSPS/BIOL- Biology LO update, EHS LO update

LCME/OSH- OSH online

LCME/GEOE- GEO curriculum changes NEW COURSE GEOP-429

LCME/CS- CSCI 361 change pre-req from CSCI 135 to CSCI 232

LCME/EE BS- Update BS EE curriculum order NEW COURSE- EELE 446 Wireless Systems Analysis, NEW COURSE- EELE 477 Digital Signal Processing

LCME/EE MS- Update MS EE curriculum, the required class is EELE 537 instead of 538, many more 5XX, ELEE 537 Random Signals update description, NEW COURSE- EELE 546 Advanced Wireless System Design, NEW COURSE EELE- 551 Power Electronics, NEW COURSE- EELE 557 Advanced Power System Protection, NEW COURSE- EELE 577 Advanced Digital Signal Processing

## VIII. **Full Faculty Meeting**

The full faculty meeting will be held in the Copper Lounge at 2:00pm on April 17, 2026

## IX. **Annual trainings and research compliance -**

This topic will be placed on hold until Fall 2026

## X. **For the Good of the Order –**

Provost Elgren informed the Senate the A.I. working group has been working on a training session for the campus. The session will be based around the book Teaching with A.I. The authors of the book will be on campus the week before Fall classes. Individuals will be able to pick up a copy of the book at the library to prepare for the session. A notice will be sent to campus when the books are available. In addition, the Monday after graduation on of the others will hold a webinar with the campus to assist us in preparing for the training session in August. The Provost also mentioned the MUS is developing a closed chat AI, ChatMT.ai that will be available to all in the near future.

A motion to adjourn was made and seconded, the motion carried the meeting adjourned at 10:00am.