

Montana Tech – BOR Meeting – May 26, 2017

Montana Tech, through exemplary undergraduate and graduate education, workforce development, research, and service, builds on a strong heritage in engineering, science, and technology that blends theory with practice in meeting the changing needs of society and the responsible development and use of natural resources.



Montana Tech within the MUS

- September 2016 BOR meeting began the discussion on Roles and Missions Tech?
- Conversations and Special Focus work initiated by the Commissioner
- Proposed MUS Policy 219.1 in summary
 - High concentration of degrees granted, typically 75% in a single or set of related fields
 - Graduate level programs
 - Research in defined areas of focus
 - Admission policies that define specific and necessary preparation
- Montana Tech is not a Research Doctoral or Regional institution
- Montana Tech is a global, mission focused research and academic institution



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Montana Tech Special Focus Programs

• Science

- Collaborative PhD in Material Science
- Technology
 - Certificate of Science Pre-Apprenticeship Lineman
 - Certificate of Science Aerospace Welding
- Engineering
 - US ABET Accredited Undergraduate Programs
 - Geophysical Engineering 1 of 2
 - Metallurgical Engineering with emphasis on extractive metallurgy 1 of 4
 - Mining Engineering 1 of 13
 - Petroleum Engineering 1 of 20
- Mathematics
 - BS in Data Science
 - BS in Statistics
- Health
 - First BS in Healthcare Informatics in the United States
 - ABET accredited program in Occupational Safety and Health 1 of 9
 - ABET accredited program in Industrial Hygiene 2 of 18
 - BSN (Nursing) 1 of 2 in MUS



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Montana Tech's Reputation

- Recent accolades and recognitions include:
 - Top University for advancing America's Economic Progress (Edsmart.org)
 - #9 public university in the nation for return on investment (Wall St. Jor.)
 - #6 college in the nation for highest starting salaries (Washington Post)
 - ~90% placement rate in the completed major
- Tech Students are purposeful
 - Freshman to sophomore retention is the highest in the MUS at 84% (four-year)
 - Highlands College retention rate is the highest in the MUS at 61% (with Gallatin)
 - Average overall entering ACT is 24.4 & ACT Math is 26 in School of Mines and Engineering
- 57% of our students graduate in engineering
- 86% graduate in STEM+Health
- Over \$10M in annual research funding
- Specific admission standards for 4-year programs



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Faculty and Staff Special Focus Engagement

- In March-April 2017 an ad-hoc faculty/staff/admin committee was formed
 - WIRE Workgroup for Institution Realignment for Excellence and
 - Will meet regularly for as long as needed
 - Mission reaffirmation and realignment will lead to prioritizing resources
 - WIRE is composed of faculty and staff from all colleges and the Bureau
 - WIRE is committed to broad input, bold recommendations, and quality
 - Regular communication with the Tech campus community



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Concluding Remarks – Next Steps

- Montana Tech is a focused and specialized institution
- Campus WIRE process is in the initial stages
- Faculty are engaged and welcome this an opportunity
- This is not a mission change rather a mission affirmation and a commitment to a new level of focused excellence
- Montana Tech is fully engaged in the continued and improved efficiencies around shared services



