

# Deliberately Distinct: Intentional Today, Impactful Tomorrow

*From Vision to Action: Planning for a Lasting Impact*

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Advancing Tech Forum

May 14, 2025

**MONTANA**  
TECHNOLOGICAL UNIVERSITY

The background of the image features a repeating pattern of crossed hammers in a light gray color. The hammers are arranged in a grid-like fashion, with each hammer's head pointing towards the top-left and bottom-right corners, while the handle points towards the top-right and bottom-left corners.

**WELCOME AND  
THANK YOU!**





# **A LOOK BACK AT OUR VISION**

## FROM 2019

RECRUITMENT/ENROLLMENT | STUDENT SUCCESS | TELLING OUR STORY  
POSITIONING OURSELVES FOR THE FUTURE



# SETTING THE STAGE

## Leadership Transition (2019)

- Assuming the 12th Chancellor role with four key mandates:
  - Grow enrollment.
  - Enhance student experience.
  - Expand university awareness and branding.
  - Position the university for the future.

## Key Milestones Before 2019

- **2017:** Special Focus University designation.
- **2018:** Name change to Montana Technological University.
- **2018:** Academic program realignment.







# KEY FOCUS AREAS

- **Enrollment and Academic Strength**
  - Data-driven strategies to increase student numbers.
- **Student Success**
  - New initiatives for academic and personal support.
- **University Branding**
  - Enhanced storytelling to align mission and outreach.
- **Long-term Sustainability**
  - Strategic planning for infrastructure and fiscal health.



# STRATEGIC INITIATIVES

- **Formation of Strategy Teams (2019)**
  - Focus areas: recruitment, success, marketing, campus revitalization.
- **Comprehensive Planning Efforts**
  - Strategic Enrollment Plan.
  - University-wide Strategic Plan.
  - NWCCU Institutional Accreditation.
  - Institutional Master Plan for campus facilities.
  - \$100M capital campaign feasibility study.





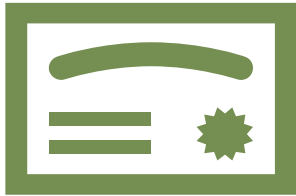


# STRATEGIC PLAN FOR THE FUTURE

- **Mission and Vision**
  - **Mission:** Developing leaders and advancing STEM fields for societal benefit.
  - **Vision:** Becoming the institution of opportunity and innovation.
- **Values – students are the reason we exist!**



# GOALS AND METRICS



## Student Success

KPIs for enrollment, retention, completion, experiential learning, and career outcomes.

Benchmarks using peer institutions and national standards.



## Programs of Distinction

Focus on interdisciplinary collaboration and industry partnerships.



## Campus Ecosystem

Inclusive campus culture, modernized infrastructure, and professional development.

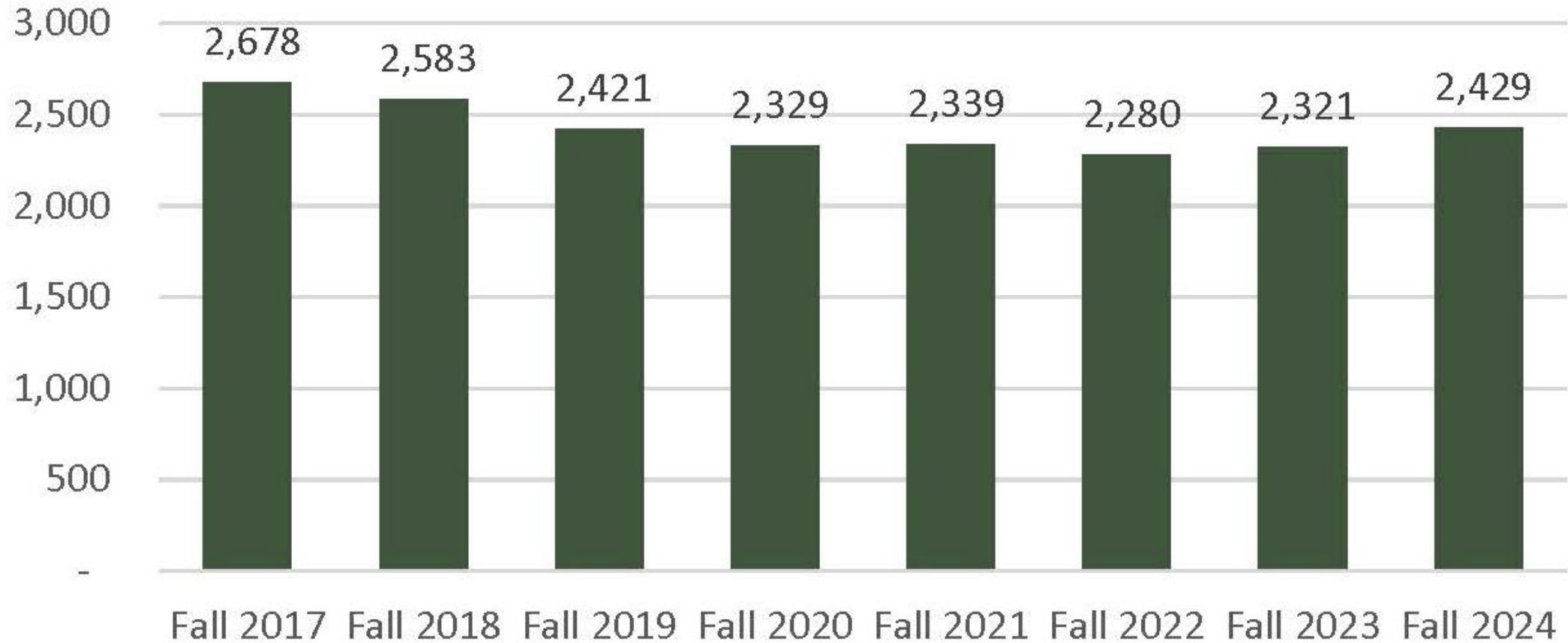




# OUTCOMES

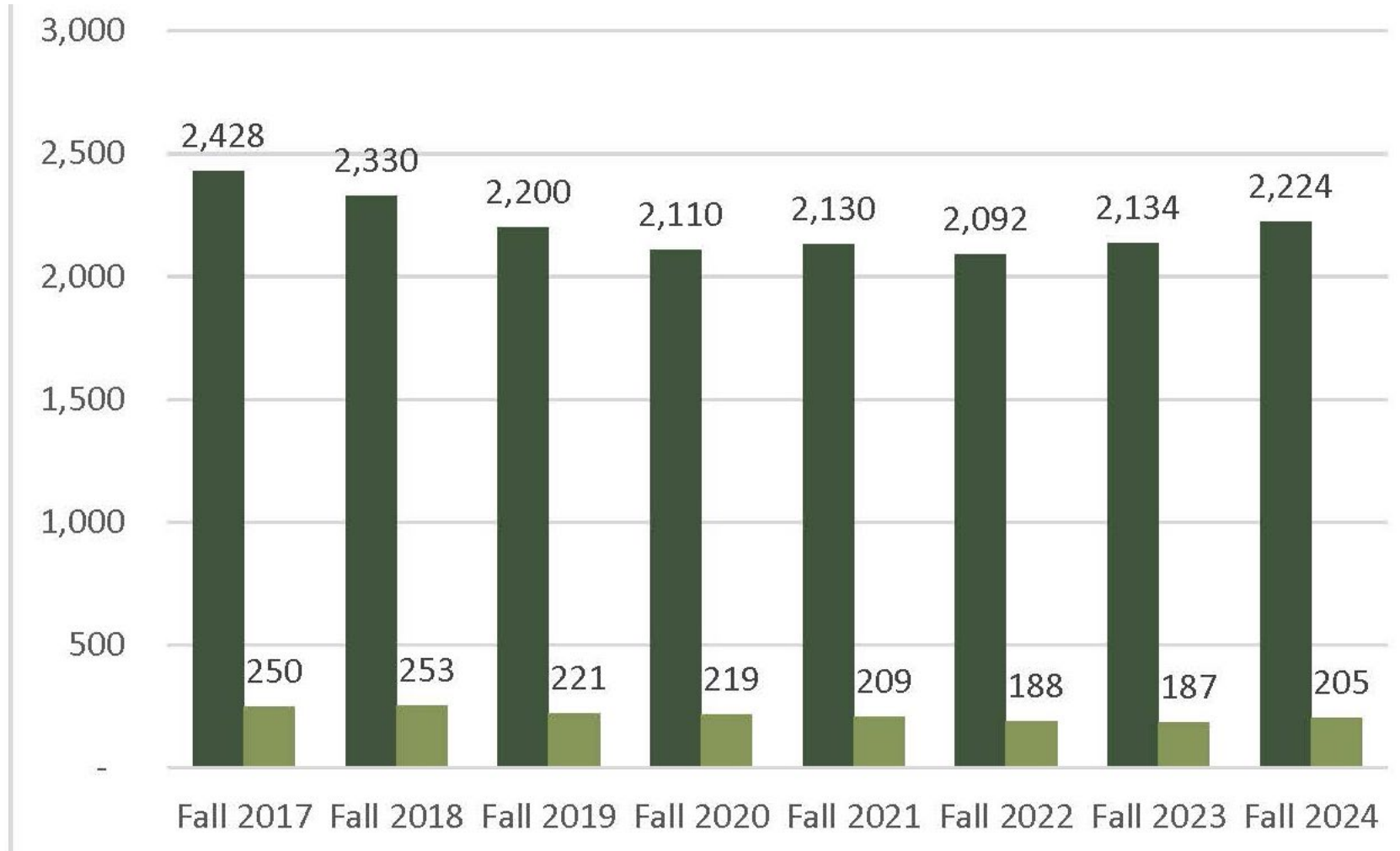


# FALL HEADCOUNT

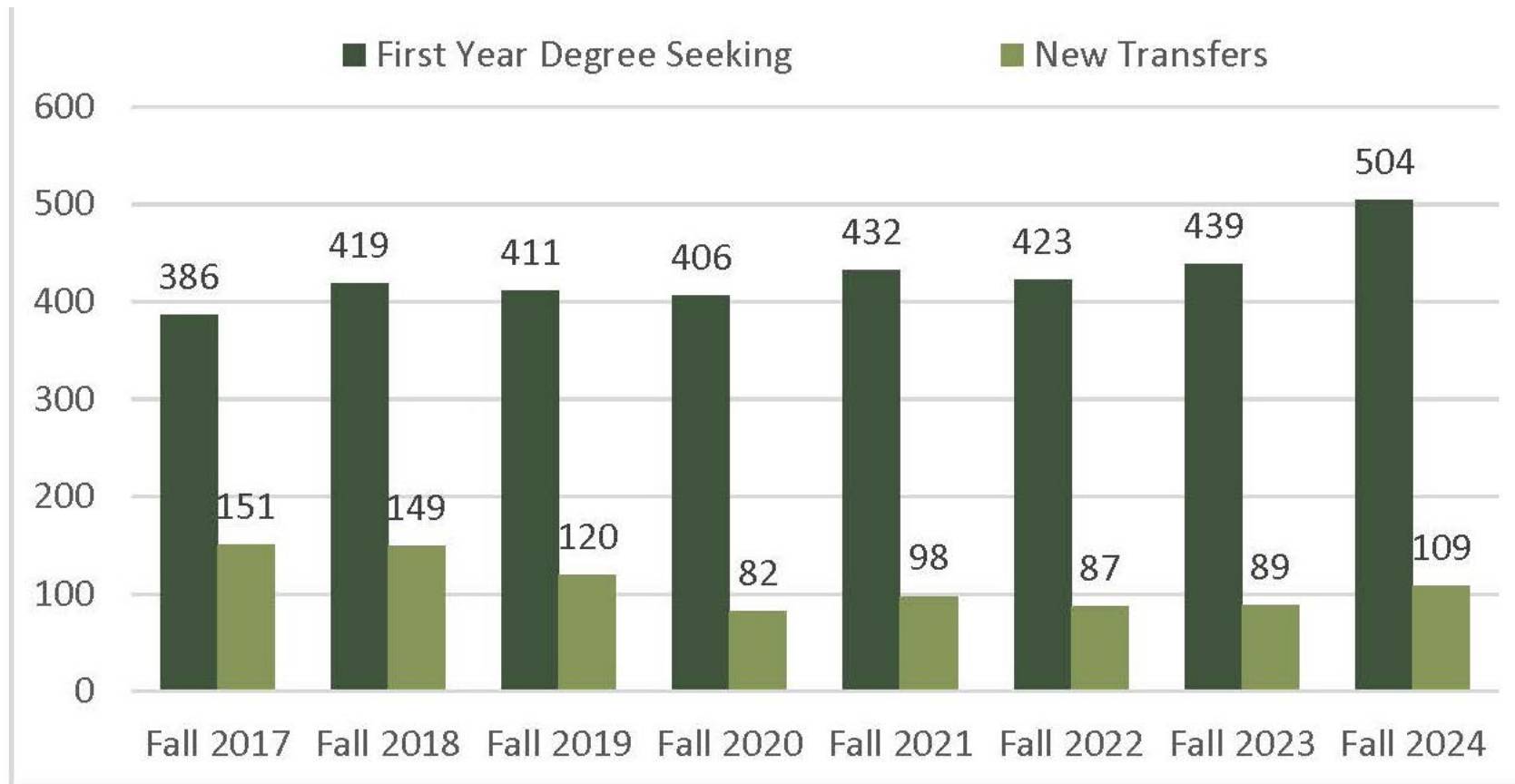




# FALL UNDERGRADUATE & GRADUATE HEADCOUNT



# FALL FIRST YEAR & TRANSFER HEADCOUNT





# ENHANCING THE STUDENT EXPERIENCE

- Welcomed a class exceeding 500 first-year students for the first time since 2008
- Witnessed a nearly 5% increase in overall enrollment
- Added a Food Pantry, Casual Clothing Closet and Career Closet
- 24/7 online mental health services
- Record growth at the Career Fair
- Increased demand for on-campus living
- \$1 million renovation Dining Hall
- Amplified on campus programming





# CELEBRATING STUDENT SUCCESS

- 6 students awarded Barry M. Goldwater Scholarships
- 1<sup>st</sup> student Fulbright Scholar
- 14 team Frontier Conference championships
- Three consecutive Frontier Conference All Sports Bandy Awards
- Addition of men's and women's cross-country and track & field programs
- 5 Frontier Conference Track & Field Championships
- Outdoor Tech Program added
- Success seen with many club competition teams
- Prospector Program reinvigorated





# ACHIEVEMENTS AND DISTINCTIONS



## Historic Gifts

Ryan and Lisa Lance donated \$31M, while Lesar Family Foundation contributed \$7M for nursing programs.

## Research Partnerships

Secured over \$20M in workforce grants and established agreements with industry and the Department of Defense.



## New Programs

Introduced Ph.D. in Earth Science and Engineering, Restoration Ecology, Construction Management, and Welding Technology.



## Student Success

Proudly featured six Goldwater Scholars and the first Student Fulbright recipient; 13 conference championships won. Two Bandy Memorial All-Sports Trophy Awards.



## National Recognition

Achieved top retention rates, best ROI, and lowest graduate debt in Montana.

## In Summary

Celebrating significant academic milestones and student achievements at our institution.



# MORE THAN LIKES: BUILDING CONNECTION THROUGH OUR SOCIAL STORY



NOTE: Timeframe January 17, 2024-January 17, 2025





# MORE THAN LIKES: BUILDING CONNECTION THROUGH OUR SOCIAL STORY



## LinkedIn

- Surpassed 17,000 followers for this year.
- Gained 2,635 followers in 2024 (7 per day).
- 13,534-page views, and 6,659 unique visitors.
- Content that seems to be most popular was spring graduation stories and spring MNews stories.

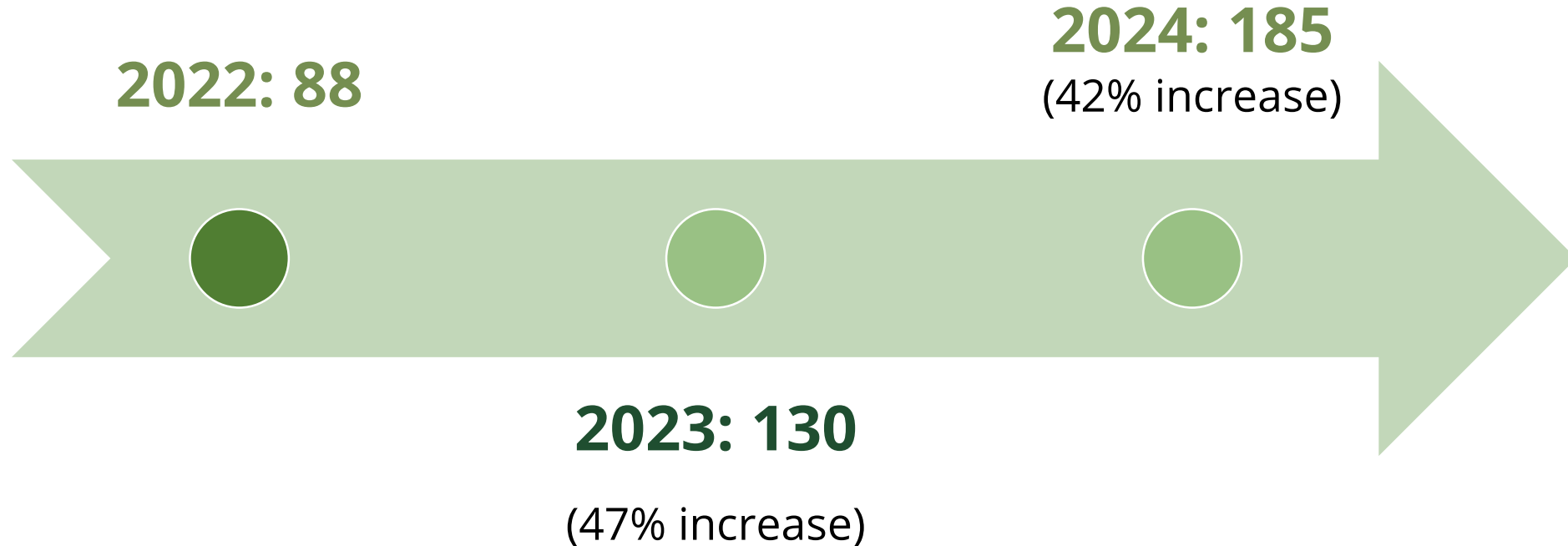
## Other highlights include:

- 653,778 (Impressions)
- 11,252 (Reactions)
- 416 (Comments)
- 137 (Reposts)

**NOTE:** *We started consistently posting in January of 2024.*

# AMPLIFYING OUR STORY: REACHING MORE WITH EXPANDED CONTENT

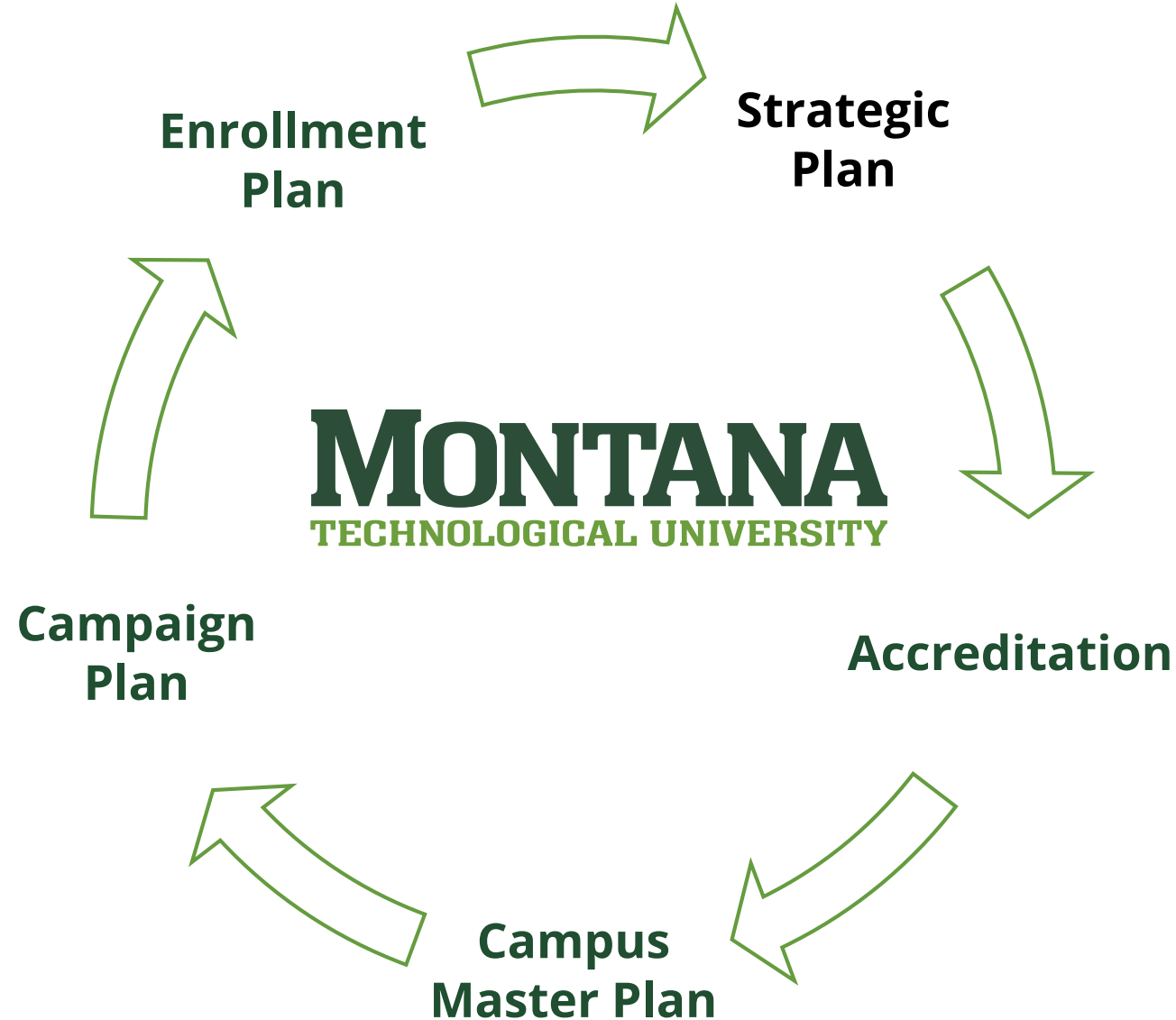
Homepage/News items:



**Note:** This does not include MNews stories. If we have another 40% increase in 2025, we'll be hitting 259 posts per year.



# POSITIONING MONTANA TECH FOR THE FUTURE



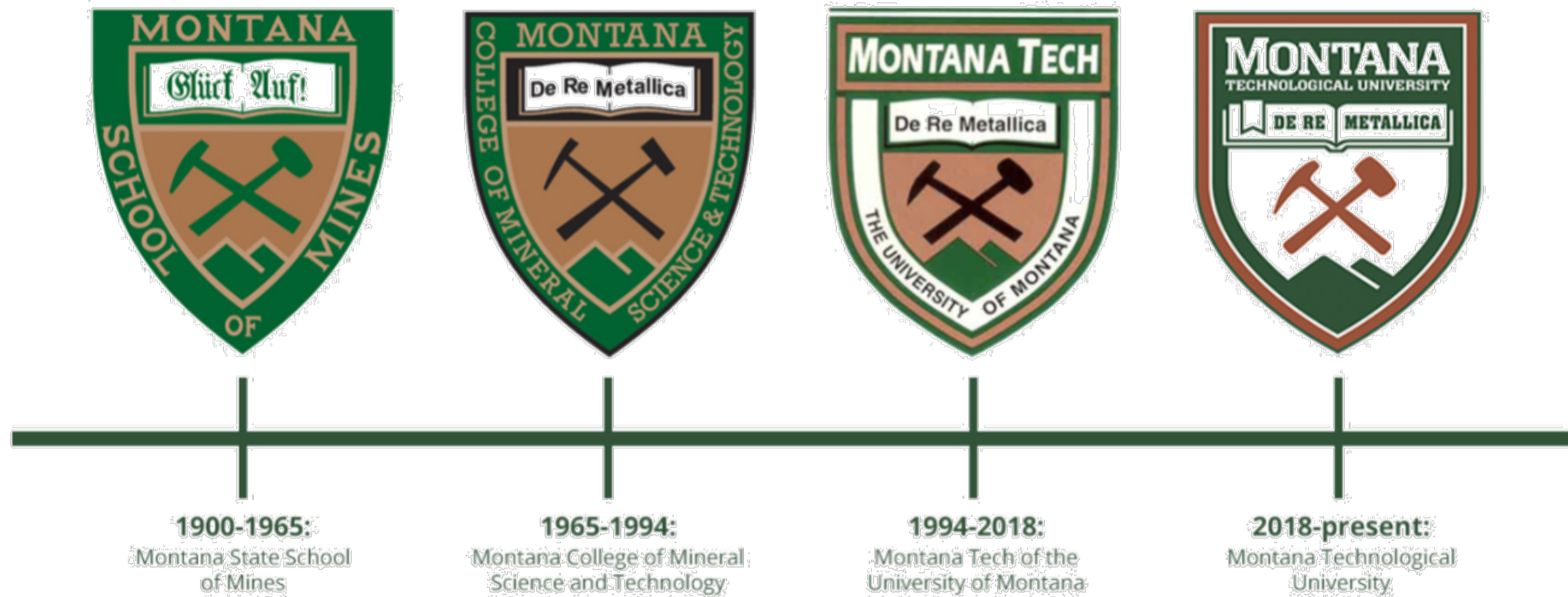
# THE PATH AHEAD

## Priorities for 2024–2025:

- Addressing accreditation feedback and achieving institutional KPIs
- Launching new micro-credentials
- Advancing the campus master plan
- Feasibility study/campaign planning
- Highlands College Dean selection
- New Chancellor begins
- Moving into capital campaign
- Planning for 125 year anniversary



# CELEBRATING 125 YEARS



# CELEBRATING 125 YEARS

- Commemorating our past, honoring our present, envisioning a future of innovation and excellence.
- We invite you to join us on this historic journey.
- Engage campus, alumni, friends, and the community.





# CELEBRATING 125 YEARS



Reflect ✕ Create ✕ Celebrate

## 2025-2026 TIMELINE

### September 2025

DayOne 9/10-9/12  
Campus Kick-Off 9/12  
Tech FB v. RMC 9/13  
Board of Regents 9/17-9/18  
Career Fair 9/25  
Mining 125th Celebration 9/25-9/27

### October 2025

Homecoming Week 9/29-10/4  
Walk to School Day 10/1  
SHIH 50th Celebration 10/2-10/4  
Foundation Board Meeting 10/2-10/4  
Distinguished Alumni 10/3  
Tech FB v Dakota State 10/4  
Energy Panel with Bob Morris and Scott Tinker week of 10/6  
Highlands Exploration Day 10/6  
Family Weekend 10/18  
Make A Difference Day 10/25  
Digger Athletic Hall of Fame 10/24  
Tech FB v Mayville State 10/25

### November 2025

Fall MNews  
Advancing Tech Forum TBD  
Tech FB @ RMC (Billings Tailgate Event) 11/1  
Veterans Day 11/11  
Tech Day 11/14  
Tech FB v Valley City State 11/15  
Thanksgiving 11/27

### December 2025

Giving Tuesday 12/2  
Campus Stroll TBD  
Ice Sculpting Contest TBD  
Line Rodeo 12/12  
Order of the Engineer 12/12  
Nurses Pinning 12/13  
Fall Commencement 12/13

### May 2026

Spring MNews Nursing 20th  
TBD Advancing Tech Forum  
TBD Techspies TBD Line  
Rodeo 5/8 Order of the  
Engineer 5/8 Nurses Pinning  
5/9 Spring Commencement  
5/9 Billings Golf Tournament  
TBD

### April 2026

Jocko Evans SPE Symposium TBD  
Foundation Board Meeting TBD  
Miner's Ball and Digger Auction TBD  
Scholars Reception TBD  
Faculty Staff Awards TBD  
Techxpo 4/23  
Early Impact Alumni Awards 4/23

### March 2026

Tech Day 3/6  
St. Patrick's Day 3/17  
Industry Advisory Board Summit TBD

### February 2026

Advancing Tech Forum TBD  
Career Fair TBD  
SME Salt Lake Event 2/24  
Engineers Week 2/22-2/28

### January 2026

Spring Semester Begins 1/12  
Sno Flinga - Ice Rink on Leonard Field 1/30-1/31

### June 2026

Highlands Golf Tourney TBD  
Campus Plant-In (125 Design) TBD  
Metallurgical and Materials  
Summer Camp TBD

### July 2026

July 4th Parade (Custom Float) 7/4  
Folk Festival TBD  
Digger Scramble Golf Tournament TBD

### August 2026

New Student Orientation TBD  
Fall Semester Begins TBD  
Copper Game TBD

### September 2026

DayOne 9/9-9/11  
Energy Symposium 9/8-9/11  
125th Celebration Gala 9/12

### Year Long Elements

Tech on Tour Events  
Chancellor Introduction Tour  
Alumni and Friends Podcast  
Connections Email Newsletter  
Industry Advisory Boards

# YOU'RE INVITED TO CELEBRATE WITH ME



*Join us for a  
Retirement Celebration!*

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**Thursday, May 15, 2025**

**3:30 pm – 6:00 pm**

**The Depot – 818 S. Arizona, Butte**

*(Please, no gifts.)*

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**IT'S TIME TO TAKE LES TO THE TRAIN STATION**

*Please RSVP to Jodie Jones at [jjones16@mtech.edu](mailto:jjones16@mtech.edu)*

**SCAN HERE  
TO RSVP**



**MONTANA**  
TECHNOLOGICAL UNIVERSITY



A man in an orange t-shirt and a black and white baseball cap is cheering with his right fist raised high. He is wearing sunglasses and a lanyard with a badge that says "DIGGER". The background shows a large crowd of people in orange clothing, suggesting a sports event. A building with "X DIGGERS X" is visible in the background.

# ROLL DIGGS!

## MONTANA

TECHNOLOGICAL UNIVERSITY