

# Faculty Senate Agenda

December 1, 2021

- I. Welcome and Minutes (<https://www.mtech.edu/facultystaff/facultysenate/minutes/index.html>)

Approvals for November 17, 2021 Meeting Minutes

Introduction of Faculty Senators and other Attendees

## Action Items

- II. CRC Items: none at this time

## Informational Items

- III. Grad Council Information (see below)

## Discussion Items

- IV. Student Attendance Policy follow up from Dean's Council/Disability and Accessibility Coordinator
- V. Research Salaries (see pdf document)
- VI. Land Acknowledgement (see below)**
- VII. Items of interest for Alumni Board
- VIII. Communication at Tech (new app, weekly updates)
- IX. Changes to Moodle/other online tools
- X. Activities/Goals for the academic year:
  - a. Review of Faculty Staff Handbook
  - b. Faculty Satisfaction Survey
  - c. Combined Faculty Senate/Staff Senate Meeting
  - d. Strategic Planning
  - e. Other?
- XI. Scheduling for next semester

III. Grad council just passed the following changes, which should facilitate the 4+1 grad program:

--Decrease GPA requirement from 3.25 to 3.0

--Double count up to 9 credit hours towards UG+G degree [used to be anything greater than 128, which led to discrepancies between programs and difficulty for ES]

--Waive GRE (for MT students, and students from ABET- or US regionally-accredited programs)

VI. Good news! Our efforts to construct a Land Acknowledgement have progressed. Language is on the way that I would like to share with Faculty Senate as:

1. An informational item: how we got here, why do a land acknowledgement, upcoming steps.
2. A discussion item: what would the faculty senate like in terms of, at an appropriate time and once approved, rolling out the acknowledgement; and what other resources would be helpful at the instructional level for equity and inclusion of Native American students?
3. An action item: will the Faculty Senate support the language as written?

*DRAFT Statement*

“The lands on which Montana Technological University stand are a part of the ancient homeland and traditional territory of many Indigenous tribes, as places of hunting, travel, trade, and healing. We collectively acknowledge the Niimiipuu (Nez Perce), Piikani (Blackfeet), Seliš (Salish), and Agai-deka (Shoshone) peoples as original stewards. We pay respect and honor to the Nations and Peoples, as well as the land. By offering this Acknowledgement, we affirm Indigenous sovereignty and commit to serving the needs of American Indian and Indigenous peoples today and into the future.”