



Office of the Chancellor MONTANA TECHNOLOGICAL UNIVERSITY

1300 West Park Street
Butte, Montana 59701
406496.4868
Fax (406) 496-4387
lpcook@mtech.edu

To: Board of Regents

mtech.edu

From: Les Cook
Chancellor, Montana Technological University

RE: Campus Report for January 6, 2022, Board of Regents' Meeting

- Dr. Craig Elliott has been hired as Montana Tech's first vice chancellor for student affairs and dean of students. Elliott comes from Samuel Merritt University in Oakland California where he served as the assistant vice president for student affairs/dean of students and assistant professor. Previously Dr. Elliott held appointments at San Jose State, St. Mary's College, and Stony Brook University. He holds a bachelor's degree from St. Mary's College, a master's in educational and counseling psychology from the University of the Pacific, a Ph.D. in transformative learning and change from the California Institute of Integral Studies, and has completed Harvard's Institute of Educational Management. Dr. Elliott will begin on January 10th.
- Business Insider, a financial and business news website, recently featured Montana Tech alumnus Mark Mariano, now with Rampart Solutions, and Biological Sciences professor Dr. Stella Capoccia in their video series World Wide Waste. The online segment reports on the Waterfowl Protection Plan at the Berkeley Pit in Butte, Montana. Titled, "Meet the Man who Shoots at Birds all Day to Keep them Off a Toxic Pit," has reached close to 9.5 million views and is on pace to be the most viewed video segment in the series. The segment can be viewed [here](#).
- Montana Tech was ranked by Best Accredited Colleges as the number three best mechanical engineering bachelor's program in the United States, just behind Michigan Technological University and New Mexico Institute of Mining and Technology. There are 393 ABET-accredited programs in the U.S. Montana Tech prepares students for in-demand, high-paying careers in aerospace, manufacturing, semiconductor, HVAC, petroleum, and mining fields and boasts an 88.4% career outcome rate.
- Best Accredited Colleges named Montana Tech's electrical engineering program to their ranking list of the Best Electrical Engineering Bachelor Degree Programs in the United States. The program landed in the number 10 spot out of 423 ABET-accredited undergraduate programs in the U. S. The ranking considers data around financial aid awards, quality of education, faculty, campus resources. Tech's program offers a 10:1 student-to-faculty ratio with high starting salaries after graduation.
- Montana Tech was named the top college in Montana for Bachelor's and Master's degree programs by UniversityHQ which compiled a list of over 4,000 schools and ranked them amongst their peers to present a fact-based picture to help students make their best decision for college.
- Professor Emeritus Hsin-Hsiung has been accorded the prestigious honor of the 2022 Frank F. Aplan award. Dr. Huang taught and performed research in the Metallurgical & Materials Engineering Department at Montana Tech for 40 years before retiring in 2021. The Aplan Award recognizes engineering or scientific contributions that further the understanding of coal and/or mineral engineering technology.

- Montana Tech recognized Troy Springer, Construction Technology, and Jason Brown, Mechanical Engineering with the 2021 Distinguished Student Veteran Award during a November ceremony. The award recognizes student veterans and active military members for their exemplary contributions to campus and leadership in the classroom.
- The National Strength and Conditioning Association (NSCA) has approved and recognized Montana Tech's Exercise and Health Sciences Program through the NSCA Education Recognition Program (ERP) for three years. By pursuing and achieving NSCA recognition, Montana Tech's program has demonstrated it meets the requirements to prepare students for the Certified Strength and Conditioning Specialist certifications.
- Montana Tech student Baylie Phillips, chair of ASMT's Campus and Community Committee, spearheaded the campus' first Food Wars event. Twenty-four campus departments and clubs competed to collect the most food during the week before Thanksgiving. The committee had a goal of collecting 500 items. In the end, more than 6000 items (over 4,000 pounds of food) were donated and distributed to the Montana Tech Food Pantry, Butte Emergency Food Bank, Butte Rescue Mission, Salvation Army, and Butte School District. The winning faculty/staff team was Highlands College and the student club winners were the American Society of Civil Engineers, Baja, and the Business Guild.
- Montana Tech's Volleyball team received an at-large entry into the 2021 NAIA Women's Volleyball National Championship in Sioux City, Iowa. The team won a game and lost a game before being eliminated in the tiebreaker for their pool.
- Montana Tech placed 11th in a field of 36 teams at their first NAIA National Cross Country Championship. Senior Becca Richtman placed fourth in the women's 5,000-meter competition.