



1300 West Park Street
Butte, Montana 59701
(406) 496.4868
Fax (406) 496-4387

To: Board of Regents

From: Johnny MacLean
Chancellor, Montana Technological University

RE: Campus Report for July 10, 2025, Board of Regents Meeting

Dr. Johnny MacLean has been appointed the *13th chancellor of Montana Technological University*. With a diverse background as a petroleum geologist, environmental scientist, geology professor, and executive administrator, Chancellor MacLean brings both industry insight and academic leadership to the role. He most recently served as the provost at the University of Montana Western.

Tammy Burke has been named the new *dean of Highlands College*. A seasoned educator and workforce development leader, Burke brings over 25 years of experience in higher education, corporate training, and community engagement. She most recently served as the production systems lead training analyst and workforce development liaison at Boeing Helena and previously held academic leadership roles at Helena College.

Highlands College has been named an *Opportunity College and University by the American Council on Education (ACE) and the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching*. This new classification, introduced in 2025, recognizes institutions that expand access and deliver strong economic outcomes by equipping students with the skills, credentials, and support needed to succeed in high-demand careers.

Jakob Nielsen, a third-year mechanical engineering student, has earned a prestigious *fellowship at Brookhaven National Laboratory*. He is one of 24 students nationwide selected to attend the *Nuclear Chemistry Summer School (NCSS)*. Nielsen began his research journey in the Montana Tech Nanotechnology Laboratory under Dr. Jack Skinner while still in high school. During the six-week program, he will tour nuclear and radiochemistry facilities, participate in a guest lecture series, and engage with leading experts from academia, medicine, industry, government, and the U.S. Navy. He will also receive a \$4,000 stipend and earn six college credits through Stony Brook University.

Captain Silver Beaty, who leads Montana Tech's ROTC program, was honored with the *2025 U.S. Army Cadet Command (USACC) Col. William W. Wood Commissioned Officer Instructor of the Year award*. Montana Tech's ROTC program launched in Fall 2024.

Dr. Md Hasan has received a \$199,927 *Engineering Research Initiative (ERI) grant* from the *National Science Foundation* for his project, "Harnessing Chaotic Dynamics for Remote Morphing of Magnetic Metamaterials." The ERI award supports young investigators in building research capacity at smaller, non-R1 institutions.

Montana Tech's intercollegiate athletics program has once again claimed the *Frontier Conference's George Bandy Memorial All-Sports Award*—its third consecutive win. The Orediggers tallied 105 points to edge out Carroll College by five. During the 2024–2025 academic year, Montana Tech captured conference titles in women's cross country, men's basketball, and women's track and field.