

May 2026

ITEM 224-1502-R0526

Authorization to Confer the Title of Provost Emeritus on Dr. Douglas M. Abbott – Montana Technological University

THAT

Upon his retirement and after 13 years of distinguished service to the students, faculty, staff, and alumni of Montana Technological University and to higher education in the State of Montana, it is proposed that the Montana Board of Regents confer upon Douglas M. Abbott the title of *Provost Emeritus*.

EXPLANATION

Dr. Abbott began his career at Montana Technological University in 1988 as a Visiting Assistant Professor of Business. He was promoted to Associate Professor in 1994, granted tenure in 1995 and was promoted to Professor in 2004. During his tenure at Montana Technological University, Dr. Abbott served in the following positions: professor, student advisor, assistant football coach, Department Head, Dean, Provost/Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs, and Interim Director of Physical Facilities. In the private sector, Doug has worked as a Mineral Economist at MSE Technology Applications, Inc. and as a Principal Investigator/Commercialization Specialist for the National Center for Appropriate Technology (NCAT). He is also a highly regarded Forensic Economist, having worked on over 300 cases, testifying in over 30 of them.

Doug was Provost/Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs from 2007 -2020. He served chancellors Gilmore and Blacketter. During his time in administration, the campus saw unprecedented growth in a number of different areas. Doug and his fellow team members were able to accomplish the following achievements in the areas of Academic Portfolio Growth, Campus Infrastructure, and Campus-Wide Initiatives:

Montana Tech Academic Program Portfolio Growth (partial list, in no particular order)

- Bachelor of Science in Electrical Engineering.
- Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering.
- Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering.
- BSN (Nursing) four-year degree.
- PHD in Materials Science.
- PHD in Earth Science and Engineering.
- Bachelor of Science in Statistics.
- Bachelor of Science in Data Science.
- Bachelor of Applied Science in Construction Management.
- Bachelor of Science in Applied Health and Safety Science (Exercise Science).
- Certificate of Applied Science and Associate of Applied Science in Construction Technology.
- Certificate of Applied Science in Welding Technology.

- Certificate of Applied Science in Machining Technology.

Campus Infrastructure Projects (partial list, in no particular order)

- *Natural Resources Building (NRB)* construction.
- *Undergraduate Research Center (URC)* construction.
- *Natural Resources Research Center (NRRC)* construction.
- *Living Learning Center/Student Success Center (LLC/SSC)* construction.
- *Allied Trades Building* Construction.
- *Health Sciences Building (HSB)* remodel.
- *HPER* renovation.

Campus-Wide Initiatives (partial list, in no particular order).

- *Special Focus* designation.
- Negotiated the initial and all subsequent MTFA Collective Bargaining Agreements (CBA).
- Negotiated the MTYFCA CBA (South Campus) six times.
- Successful NWCCU (regional) Accreditation visits.
- Successful ABET (Engineering) Accreditation visits.
- Successful CCNE (Nursing) Accreditation visits.
- Successful IACBE (Business) Accreditation visit.
- Creation of the Undergraduate Honors program.
- Faculty Development Grant Initiative.
- Annual Program Reviews for the Board of Regents.
- Highlands College Two-Year Comprehensive Mission Expansion Plan.
- Hired numerous deans and vice-chancellors.

After 13 years of distinguished service to the students, faculty, staff, and alumni of Montana Technological University and to higher education in the State of Montana, we ask that the Montana Board of Regents confer upon former Montana Tech Provost/Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs Douglas M. Abbott the title of Provost/Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs Emeritus.

ATTACHMENTS

None.