



Greetings campus,

It seems like last week, we were gearing up to begin the fall semester while feeling a bit anxious and not knowing what would lie ahead. Here we are at the beginning of our eighth week, and while there is obvious uncertainty around us, I think we can be encouraged about our progress and optimistic for the future. As noted last week, through everyone's efforts our active COVID-19 cases appear to be stable.

These are good signs, but we can't let down our guard and have to remain vigilant about masking up, distancing, paying attention to our health, and limiting interaction with others. You can view the latest dashboard [here](#).

As you have heard me say numerous times, the coronavirus is a distraction, but we will not let it be a deterrent to moving forward. In this edition of the Chancellor Check-in, I think you'll agree this is far from the case. Our students and faculty at Highlands are creating parts for NASA; we received official accreditation for both civil and mechanical engineering; launched our inaugural cross-country team; began the initial steps towards our new strategic plan; and hosted a record-breaking Day-One giving event while celebrating 120 years of Montana Tech and the achievements of faculty, staff and our unbeaten Digger golf team. There is much to be proud of, and I am gratified for all that we do and accomplish as the Montana Tech family.

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Congratulations to the Civil and Mechanical Engineering Departments for receiving official accreditation notice from the Engineering Accreditation Commission of ABET. ABET accreditation assures that our programs meet standards to produce graduates ready to enter critical technical fields leading the way in innovation and emerging technologies and anticipating the public's welfare and safety needs.

ABET noted that Tech's Civil Engineering program features strong industry collaborations and incorporates industry professionals into the curriculum. Students are prepared to graduate with industry connections and experience.

ABET acknowledged the Mechanical Engineering Department's strengths are the faculty with their extensive industry experience and high-quality, top-tier research labs. Students are prepared to succeed in professional practice and have unique pathways to graduate programs.

Thank you goes out to all who worked on the accreditation process.

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Faculty and students from the Precision Machining Program at Highlands College provided parts that will head to NASA's International Space Station on SpaceX 21. SpaceX 21 is a

commercial resupply service mission to the International Space Station slated for this November. NASA contracted the mission that will be flown by SpaceX.

Our faculty and students produced a one-handed tape dispenser and a seat track attachment from NASA's blueprints and materials. The parts were then created on the Hass CNC machines in the Machine Shop at Highlands. Tolerances for the parts as specified by NASA were exceeded by the machining process. All measurements were checked and verified for each part on the shop's CMM machine and were completed before the due date.

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**RECORD BREAKING DAYONE**

Thank you to all who took part in this year's giving event, DayOne, on the 10th and 11th of September. DayOne celebrates Montana Tech's history and future. It is an opportunity for our students, departments, programs, clubs, and initiatives to raise funds in focused areas.

This year's event raised nearly \$200,000 over two days from 726 donors. These numbers represent a 21% increase in dollars raised and a 73% increase in our 2019 event participation. It's also important to note that this year featured over \$44,000 in matched funds for our DayOne projects provided by private donors. Thank you to all who participated in DayOne 2020. We look forward to celebrating next year!

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# CONGRATS *Congratulations* **Congratulations** Margie Pascoe

A big shout out and congratulations to Margie Pascoe for receiving the National Association of Foreign Student Advisers (NAFSA) Region II Gene Smith Award. The distinguished service award is given to an individual member, institution, business, or agency to recognize 20 years or more of service and contributions.

Margie's contributions to Montana Tech's international students and the community are immeasurable. She began working at Montana Tech in 1983. She has served as an administrative assistant in student affairs, foreign student advisor, and currently serves as the Director of International Services. Margie is our international students' biggest advocate. She helps international students ensure they achieve their academic goals and works tirelessly to ensure they succeed in their pursuits at Montana Tech.

Margie will receive the award on Wednesday, October 14th. Congratulations Margie! We are all proud of you!

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The Office of the Commissioner of Higher Education selected 14 faculty members and instructors for the Montana University System's Teaching Scholars program. Two Montana Tech faculty members, Hilary Smith Risser and Glen T. Southergill, received the honor. The program recognizes faculty members who have made exemplary contributions to teaching and learning at their institutions. The teaching scholars will be challenged throughout the coming year to develop and share strategies to enhance student learning and success.

Congratulations, Hilary and Glen. We value all you do.

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Our men's and women's golf teams recently completed their most successful fall season in the school's history. The men's team won 3-out-of-the-4 Frontier Conference tournaments this fall and won the Frontier Conference season title for the first time ever. The Orediggers had three different players earn individual titles in Trey Hoagland, Sean Ramsbacher, and Brady Cady. Montana Tech will have three first team all-conference performers and two players on the second team. Montana Tech's women's team placed a pair of ladies on the all-conference team with Tanna Campbell on the First Team and Skyler Martin on the second team.





The Montana Tech cross country team has established itself as a solid program in just their first year competing. The team placed third at the Frontier Conference Rumble hosted by Carroll College in September. Senior transfer Becca Richtman placed first in the women's race. Both men's and women's teams took third at the Frontier Conference Preview Meet on September 11 in Havre. Richtman won the women's field, and freshman Averi Parker finished in sixth place. The men's team was led by Ian Barville, who placed eighth.

Last week, Richtman was named the NAIA Women's National Runner of the Week after breaking her school record at the Frontier Conference Rumble. She also received the Frontier Conference Women's Runner of the Week.

Next up, the team will compete at the Rocky Mountain College Invitational on October 9.



In September, Career Services held its 1st Annual Fall Digger V-Fair. The event saw many students participate with good conversations through 976 chats with 54 employers from

various industries! It was very different from previous in-person events, but it helps fulfill our mission of connecting students with employers.

Students are encouraged to take advantage of all opportunities to meet with potential employers. In October and early November, there are several in-person and virtual events happening. This year's unprecedented unemployment numbers may be challenging for our new graduates. Career Services is here to help navigate the proactive job search. Take advantage of the many resources provided online and in-person.

In a few weeks, Career Services will launch The Outcomes Survey® for students graduating this fall. Thank you for your continued support! If you have accepted an internship or full-time position, remember to share the details in DR 2.0.



We recently launched the search for our next Vice Chancellor for Research and Dean of the Graduate School. Dr. Beverly Hartline will retire in December after serving in the role for the past eight years. We are incredibly thankful for Dr. Hartline's commitment to Montana Tech.

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Our new Montana True brand has launched, and we couldn't be more excited about its potential. The brand, which is all about the Montana experience, showcases our surroundings' beauty and encourages everyone to get out and take advantage of all that Butte and Montana have to offer. You are encouraged to incorporate the brand into all you do. Below are a few ideas:

1. Incorporate our [new logos, colors, and fonts](#) in your documents.
2. Download and use the new branded [PowerPoint templates](#).
3. Order [business cards, letterhead, envelopes, and note cards](#).
4. Download the official university [email signature](#).
5. Use the branded [Zoom backdrops](#).

Please reach out to the Marketing and Communications Department if you need help or have questions.



**Mark your calendar for the next Advancing Montana Tech Forum.**

Thursday, October 15, 2020

3:00 pm to 4:00 pm

Library Auditorium or via Zoom  
Topics will be enrollment, budget, and advancement.

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