



MONTANA TECH WEEKLY UPDATE

December 4, 2023

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UPCOMING CAMPUS EVENTS

12/04: Late Night Breakfast (8:00 pm, Dining Hall)

12/05: Weights (12:00 pm, HPER)

12/07: Pilates (12:00 pm, HPER)

12/07-08: CFWEP Online Auction

12/08: Line Rodeo (9:00 am-12:00 pm, Highlands)
Order of the Engineer (5:00 pm, Library Auditorium)
Chancellor's Reception for Graduates (6:00 pm, SSC)

12/09: Nurse Pinning (9:00 am, Library Auditorium)
Commencement (11:00 am, HPER)
MBB vs Grizzlies (1:00 pm, Adams Center)

12/12: Holiday Brunch (9:00-11:00 am, Marcus Deli)
Pilates (12:00 pm, HPER)

12/14: Weights (12:00 pm, HPER)
Chancellor's Holiday Gathering (5:00-8:00 pm, Chancellor's
Residence)

12/19: Pilates (12:00 pm, HPER)

12/21: Weights (12:00 pm, HPER)

01/10: Turnitin Training (3:00-4:30 pm, Eng Hall 106)



ROD JAMES

Rod James, professor emeritus, passed away this weekend. We will share more details about services as soon as possible. Please keep the James family in your thoughts and prayers.

MEN'S BASKETBALL VS UNIVERSITY OF MONTANA GRIZZLIES

The Montana Tech men's basketball team plays the University of Montana Grizzlies on **Saturday, December 9** at 1:00 pm in Missoula at the Adams Center. A pre-game social will take place at Red's Bar (217 S. Ryman Street) from 10:30 am to 12:00 pm. All friends and family are invited to attend. Please RSVP here.

CFWEP VIRTUAL AUCTION

The Clark Fork Watershed Education Program of Montana Tech will host a virtual auction starting at 6:00 am on **December 7**, through **December 8**, at 8:00 pm. Interested bidders can access the virtual auction on CFWEP's Facebook event page or their website at [CFWEP.org](https://cfwep.org). The auction is a fundraiser for CFWEP to continue serving students and teachers throughout Montana, especially those in the Clark Fork Watershed. CFWEP provides experiential research opportunities for students, both within classrooms and alongside Montana's streambanks. Their place-based approach to science has inspired many to pursue STEM careers, earning the program many regional and national awards. Auction items include a behind-the-scenes tour of banding songbirds with avian scientists, a beginner's trap shooting experience, handmade leather purse, relaxing spa services, hot springs and golfing retreat, student summer camps, and much more. Do your Holiday shopping by supporting Montana students. For more information about CFWEP, to preview the auction, or to make a donation, visit <https://cfwep.org/> or contact Tammy Gordon at tgordon@mtech.edu or 406-496-4136.

CALL FOR SPRING 2024 RAMP PROJECT PROPOSALS

The Undergraduate Research Committee is pleased to open the call for proposals for the Spring 2024 Session of the Research Assistant Mentorship Program (RAMP). This program is for freshman, sophomore, and junior-level researchers (less than 90 credits of completed coursework) that have not yet participated in formal URP funded research. Ideally, full-time faculty members will assemble teams of 3 undergraduate researchers for spring semester research projects. Proposals (3 pages max) should be drafted by faculty mentors and submitted to urp@mtech.edu no later than **12:00 p.m. on Friday, December 15, 2023**. Full details for proposal submission can be requested from urp@mtech.edu. No late proposals will be accepted. You can also find this information on the Research Office [website](#).

NEW IRB SUBMISSION SYSTEM TRAININGS

Beginning **January 1, 2024**, the University of Montana IRB will begin to use the web-based system Cayuse Human Ethics for managing human subject research studies. Cayuse Human Ethics is an electronic protocol management platform that is cloud-based, user-friendly, and secure. Cayuse Human Ethics will be used to prepare and submit all initial human subjects research studies, as well as make

modifications, request renewals, and report incidents. Cayuse HE training sessions will be offered **via Zoom** on **December 6**, 10:00 am-11:00 am. Register [here](#). Registration links can also be found on the UM IRB Cayuse HE homepage. You can also schedule a one-on-one or small group training session by emailing irb@umt.edu. Please include the date and time you are wanting to schedule your training. To find out more information, click [here](#).

SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL FURRY FRIENDS

The Campus Store is accepting donations to benefit the Chelsea Bailey Animal Shelter. Donations include: new and used towels, non-clumping litter, treats, new and used blankets, dry or canned food, and toys. Drop donations to the Campus Store by **December 15**.

IT/PROCUREMENT CHANGES

Effective immediately, any technology-related purchase, including software, hardware and software subscriptions will be prohibited on the ProCard. Moving forward, any Procard [software](#) and [technology](#) purchase requests will be made through IT via GrizMart, the primary channel for procurement needs. Effective immediately, Accounts Payable will not reimburse for any technology-related purchase from out-of-pocket (personal) expenses. We encourage you to explore cost-effective options by leveraging existing University /State Term Contracts and procurement channels (Grizmart), thereby promoting a more sustainable approach to technology acquisitions.

FIRST-GENERATION SURVEY

Montana Tech and TRIO Student Support Services are asking all faculty, staff, and students to complete this [short survey](#) to help us better serve the First-Generation population of Montana Tech.

CYBERSECURITY AWARENESS CAMPAIGN GRAND PRIZE WINNER

The IT Department would like to thank everyone who actively participated in our Cybersecurity Awareness campaign. The Grand Prize winner was Nursing student Moriah Reich. She won a 4-Pack of Apple AirTags.

SECURING HIGHER ED: TIPS FOR LEARNING SAFE ONLINE

Phishers often send links via email or text that look legitimate, but once clicked on, allow them to steal your information. Email attachments that contain malware are also popular vessels for cyber mayhem. The easiest way to avoid these scams is by not clicking the links or attachments. Instead, open another tab, and go to the website of the company in the email or link to see if the information presented matches the official source. As a general rule, never open links or

download attachments from unknown senders. Emails from known senders that contain links or attachments without any context are also bad news. [Learn more.](#)



AI OPPORTUNITIES AT UM

Montana Tech faculty and staff are invited to two upcoming opportunities at the University of Montana designed to enhance UM's capabilities related to artificial intelligence (AI) – a January 16 [AI Innovation Symposium](#) and a [call for Flagship Fund proposals](#) focused on generative AI.

The past few years, we've seen rapid advancements in AI technology and the widespread adoption of powerful AI tools in numerous fields. As a university community, it is incumbent on us to understand AI's positive potential, to understand and address its potential dangers, and to channel its transformative power to enhance teaching, learning, research and operations here at UM.

To this end, we will build a university-wide AI initiative that:

- Coordinates efforts across departments and disciplines.
- Identifies and implements effective AI solutions to enhance university operations.
- Adapts the UM curriculum to prepare students for an AI-integrated world.
- Fosters an environment where AI is a catalyst for innovation in research.

The opportunities are as follows:

AI Innovation Symposium: Transforming the Future at the University of Montana

First, you are invited to join an all-day symposium on Jan. 16 to learn about the impacts of AI in higher education, as well as explore opportunities to innovate and enhance our educational and operational effectiveness. The symposium will feature a series of discussions and break-out groups focused on five key areas of potential opportunity to leverage AI capabilities:

1. Curricular Integration
2. Personalized Student Support
3. Operational Efficiency
4. Enrollment and Advancement
5. Research and Innovation

Please save the date and register for the [University of Montana AI Innovation Symposium](#).

Flagship Fund Call for Proposals

In addition, we seek ideas from members of the UM community to build the University's internal capacity to use generative artificial intelligence (AI). To that end, the Office of Strategic Planning and Implementation invites proposals for one-year grants of up to \$10,000. Proposals may be for individuals or teams in any sector to amplify existing areas of understanding, to adopt new ways of work, to pilot AI tools or to participate in professional development. OSPI encourages proposals that demonstrate cooperation across offices or areas of expertise, that benefit cohorts rather than individuals and that carry a broad impact. Faculty and staff interested in submitting proposals are strongly encouraged to participate in the Jan. 16 campus-wide AI Innovation Symposium as an opportunity to help sharpen their proposal ideas and connect with others engaged in similar thinking. Proposals will be due on March 1. Funding will be available for these projects in the 2024-25 fiscal year. For more information on the Flagship Fund criteria and submission process, please [visit the Flagship Fund webpage](#).

