

Welcome to Faculty Senate!



Rob Maher
Professor, Faculty Senate Chair
Electrical & Computer
Engineering



Doug Downs
Professor, Faculty Senate
Chair-Elect
English

Faculty Senate Meeting Reminders

- Faculty Senate is an open and public meeting
- Please, only Senators speak in the meeting, unless you are specifically called on by the Chair or Chair-elect to speak
- Please let others speak; everyone should get a chance to speak before someone else speaks twice.
- Public may address the Senate at end of the meeting during public comment.
- Be kind: always assume positive intent.

Approval of FS Minutes from October 8, 2025

- Do I have a motion to approve? Second?
- Any discussion?
- All those in favor of the motion indicate by saying aye
- Those not in favor of the motion indicate by saying nay
- Any abstaining?

FYI Updates

- Annual Founder's Day faculty award nominations due Nov. 15.
- Annual Faculty Symposium: Wednesday, October 29, 11:30-1:30PM

"Mapping Success: mentoring and advising as pathways to student self-discovery"

Please join us for this fall's faculty symposium. We will explore how mentors and advisors support students throughout their academic journeys, with a specific focus on how students become more adept at self-reflection throughout this journey. We will have faculty and staff presentations, a student panel, and time for questions and group discussion. The goal for attendees is for everyone to leave with ideas and strategies for use with students to enhance self-reflection as a vital life-long skill for growth.

- Faculty Excellence Grant proposals due October 31.

Undergraduate Courses and Programs

- New Undergraduate Courses-Second Reading
 - [EDU 480](#) : Personalizing Learning with Competency-Based Education
 - [EMEC 456](#) : The Science and Engineering of Outdoor Sports Gear
- New Undergraduate Courses-First Reading
 - [CSCI 431](#) : Hypermedia Systems
 - [EMAT 352](#) : Mechanical Engineering Materials
 - [LS 398](#) : Internship: Supervised Professional Experience with Faculty Mentor

- Undergraduate Course Changes-Second Reading
 - [HEE 430](#) : Instructional Design in Health Enhancement
 - Change in credits from 3 to 1
 - New learning outcomes
 - Changes to prereqs
- Undergraduate Course Changes-First Reading
 - [GPHY 329](#) : Environment and Society
 - Changes to learning outcomes

- Undergraduate Course Inactivations-First Reading
 - [PHSX 435](#) : Astrophysics
 - PHSX 435 was converted in 2022 to ASTR 476, which is now an ongoing course.
- Undergraduate Program Inactivations-Second Reading
 - [FDEN-OPTION](#) : Hospitality Management-Food Enterprises
 - Students did not enroll in this option, but were interested in some of the coursework. A certificate of Food Enterprise is being proposed.

Graduate Courses and Programs

- New Graduate Courses-Second Reading
 - [EDU 580](#) : Personalizing Learning with Competency-Based Education
 - [EDU 593](#) : Graduate Study Abroad
- New Graduate Courses-First Reading
 - [EIND 594](#) : Seminar
 - [EMEC 556](#) : The Science and Engineering of Outdoor Sports Gear
 - [LRES 538](#) : Plant Community Ecology of the Northern Rocky Mountains
 - [MEDS 516](#) : Integration I
 - [MEDS 517](#) : Integration II
 - [MEDS 518](#) : Integration III

- Graduate Courses Changes-Second Reading
 - [NRSG 620](#) : Advanced Pharmacology II-FNP
 - Title changed from Adv Pharm II
 - New learning outcomes
 - [PSYX 505](#) : Psychology of Teaching and Learning
 - Title changed from Teaching of Psychology
 - Credit change from 1 to 3
 - Changes to learning outcomes

- Graduate Courses Inactivations-Second Reading
 - [GEO 583](#) : Applied Geological Hydrology
 - Course hasn't been taught since Fall 2007; no faculty member to teach it anymore.
- Graduate Courses Inactivations-First Reading
 - [CSCI 581](#) : Computational Thinking Tchrs
 - This course will no longer be offered due to low student enrollment. Both MSSE and the Computer Science department have agreed upon its inactivation.
- Graduate Program Changes-Second Reading
 - [MOSE-MS](#) : Master of Science in Science Education
 - Changes to learning outcomes

Kirk Lubick

MSU Associate Vice President for Research Integrity & Compliance



Proposed revisions to the
[MSU Research Misconduct Policy](#)

MSU Research Misconduct Policy Revision

Research Misconduct

- "***Research misconduct***" means fabrication, falsification, or plagiarism in proposing, performing, or reviewing research, or in reporting research results.
 - Fabrication is making up data or results and recording or reporting them.
 - Falsification is manipulating research materials, equipment, or processes, or changing or omitting data or results such that the research is not accurately represented in the research record.
 - Plagiarism is the appropriation of another person's ideas, processes, results, or words without giving appropriate credit.

Research Misconduct Background

- Federal Regulation since 1985: “Health Research Extension Act”
- 42 CFR PART 93: Defines the expectations of institutions regarding Research Misconduct and responsibilities of reviewing a research misconduct case.
- MSU last revised its Research Misconduct Policy in November 2023
- 42 CFR PART 93 has been updated, and changes must be incorporated into Institutional policy by January 2026.

Research Misconduct Process

Process:

1. Receipt and Preliminary Assessment of Allegation
2. Inquiry
3. Investigation
4. Decision

MSU's Research Misconduct Policy Changes

Updates were made based off of NIH's Office of Research Integrity (ORI) Guidance Document and discussions with ORI.

42 CFR Part 93 Updates

Updates to 42 CFR Part 93	Proposed MSU Research Misconduct Policy Section
Subsequent Use Exception (within six years of when the allegations were received)	- Added Section 200.00 (Applicability Section)
Confidentiality (Concept of “need to know clarified)	- Added Section 500.01 (Confidentiality Section)
Interview Transcripts (Interviews must be transcribed and the respondent must have access to interview transcripts)	- Added to Sections 500.03, 700.09, 800.05, 800.09, - Added Section 800.08 (Interviews Section)
Inquiry (changing from 60 to 90 days) and Investigation (changing from 120 to 180 days).	- Added to Section 700.09 (Inquiry Report and Investigation Report 800.09)

42 CFR Part 93 Updates

Updates to 42 CFR Part 93	Proposed MSU Research Misconduct Policy Section
Inquiry and Investigation Report Requirements (additional information required in both reports)	- Added to Sections 700.09 (Inquiry Report and Investigation Report 800.09)

Additional Policy Updates

Required Components of 42 CFR Part 93	Current MSU Research Misconduct Policy	Proposed MSU Research Misconduct Policy
900.00 Decision	- Current policy states it's the decision of the Research Integrity Officer (RIO)	- Changed decision to VPRED and RIO will be involved in Advisory Committee.
900.03 Student Sanctions	- Current policy states the Dean of Students makes the sanctions for undergrad and grad students.	- Sanctions made by the Grad Dean and Dean of Students for grad students and undergrad students, respectfully.
900.00 Appeal	- Current policy has an appeal process that allows for a 10 day appeal to the VPRED.	- Appeal is now specific to the proposed sanctions.

Proposed Appeal

Proposed Language:

The determination of VPRED with respect to research misconduct and corrective actions is binding. The appeal of any disciplinary determination will be handled in accordance with the applicable academic, student, or staff personnel policy or collective bargaining agreement.

Further Questions & Discussion?

Research Misconduct Policy

Information Updates

- Board of Regents Level II proposal ITEM xxx-2013-R0326:
"Request to modify the name of the Center for American Indian and Rural Health Equity"
- Proposed change:
Center for American Indian and Rural Health *Equity* (CAIRHE)
to
Center for American Indian and Rural Health *Excellence* (CAIRHE)
Rationale: CAIRHE is in its 11th year as a grant recipient in the Centers of Biomedical Research Excellence (COBRE) program with NIH's National Institute of General Medical Sciences (NIGMS). Modifying the CAIRHE name to include "Excellence" represents a closer alignment with not only its major funder but also its work and reputation throughout the state.
- Motion to approve?

Information Updates: Grad Council

Today's meeting considered the research misconduct policy and gave further consideration of Pres. Tessman's visit to the council two weeks ago, including in terms of the search for the new Graduate Dean.

Informational Updates: Other council reports?

Information Update / Senate Discussion

- Discussion of First Amendment, free speech in and out of the classroom, and possible special programs for faculty
- Context:

[Texas A&M fires professor after viral video, raising free speech concerns](#)

The termination came the day after a state lawmaker shared the clip and accused the professor of perpetuating “DEI and LGBTQ indoctrination.”

Higher Ed Dive, 9/10/2025

[Montana professor still sidelined for Kirk comments](#)

A criminal justice professor at Montana State University-Northern remains on leave for her social media comments about Charlie Kirk, the conservative figure who was assassinated earlier this month. Nearly two weeks after the university took action, faculty have yet to be notified how the administration is handling the situation, according to a local union representative.

Montana Free Press, 9/24/2025

[MSU-B profs placed on leave after raising concerns about prison program, students left scrambling](#)

Students say administrators have left them without support, after faculty say they were muzzled for whistleblowing by new provost

Daily Montanan, 10/3/2025

Remarks received from President Tessman (10/13/2025)

Montana State University vigorously supports the freedom of speech and expression. These rights are fundamental to the exchange of ideas that is the heart of our educational mission as a university.

Free speech is protected by policy at the university and Board of Regents levels, including but not limited to [MSU's freedom of expression policy](#), the [Board of Regents' policy on academic freedom](#), and the [Commissioner of Higher Education's directive on political activity of public employees](#). Of course, the right to freedom of speech is also protected by state and federal law, most notably in our federal and state constitutions. Know that MSU will follow its policies and those laws.

The university also has resources available to teach students, faculty and staff about these rights. A great source of information is [MSU's Free Speech website](#), which offers guidance for students and others in exercising their rights on campus. In addition, MSU's legal counsel, Kellie Peterson, and the interim vice president for communications, Mike Becker, are willing to give presentations to groups on the First Amendment and to answer questions. Please feel free to reach out to them to ask about availability.

Again, Rob, thank you for writing. I appreciate the opportunity to engage with Faculty Senate and your leadership.

Regards, Brock

Example
from
2006:

University Communications / MSU News /

MSU hosts forum on academic freedom March 27-28

from MSU News Service

MARCH 14, 2006



Bozeman - Montana State University will examine the issues surrounding contemporary academic freedom during a two-day conference, "Without Interference -- Academic Freedom in the 21st Century," scheduled March 27-28 at MSU and the Museum of the Rockies. It is free and open to the public.

Presented by MSU Provost David Dooley and the MSU-based Burton K. Wheeler Center, the conference will examine recent controversies surrounding the place of politics in the classroom and, the place for academic policy and intellectual freedom on a university campus. Those issues have been in the news recently as conservative lawmakers across the country have introduced academic bill of rights legislation inspired by a campaign by conservative activist David Horowitz.

"This will address some critical issues that all of us will grapple with over the next several years," Dooley said.

The conference will examine whether the American Association of University Professors' policy on academic freedom, written in 1940, is out of date. The conference will also examine the rights, protections and responsibilities outlined in the policy and the academic rights of both professors and students.

Information Update / Senate Discussion

- Discussion of First Amendment, free speech in and out of the classroom, and possible special programs for faculty
 - Desired programming? Format? Timing?

Information Updates

- Small-group discussion
 - Noteworthy accomplishments for you and your colleagues?
- Report out

Senate Open Discussion

Public Comment

(Two minutes per person)

Do I have a motion to adjourn?
Second?

Next meeting: November 5, 2025