



OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
MONTANA STATE UNIVERSITY

University Council Minutes

September 2, 2026 | 8:30 AM – 10:00 AM | SUB, Alumni Legacy Lounge

Members:

President Brock Tessman, Dean Adams, Fran Albrecht, Justin Arndt, Richard Badenhausen, Sreekala Bajwa, Mike Becker, Jennifer Brown, Beth Burroughs, Matt Caires, Leon Costello, Doug Downs, Christine Foreman, Leanne Frost, Stephanie Gray, Jeannette Grey Gilbert, Brian Gillespie, Alison Harmon, Stefani Hicswa, Emma Hoegh, John How, Ryan Knutson, Chere LeClair, Terry Leist, Matthew Lovern, Sally Mudiamu, Kim Obbink, Kellie Peterson, Doralyn Rossmann, Tricia Seifert, Sarah Shannon, Cody Stone, Steve Swinford, Will Thomas, James Tobin, Brad White, Scott Williams, Ben Wilson

Members Absent: Brian Gillespie, Jeannette Grey Gilbert, Chere LeClair, Luke Schalewski

I. Call to Order

Meeting called to order at 8:30am

II. Approval of Minutes for August 19, 2026

*Motion to approve by Sarah Shannon
Second by Stephanie Gray
Unanimous Approval*

III. University Wide Information/Announcements

*M Photo / Student Kickoff Event
Athletics Success
Appreciation for Dean Shannon after retirement announcement
Welcome to new folks
Emma Hoegh
Jennifer Brown
Strategic Plan Update*

IV. Public Comment (30 minutes)

No public comment

V. Old Items

a. **Project Fee Assessment Policy**

*John How, Associate Vice President, University Facilities Management
Richard Rudnicki, Director, Planning, Design, and Construction*

*Motion to Table until the spring made by Dean Adams
Second by Terry Leist
Unanimous Approval*

VI. New Items

a. **Student Accommodations and Appeal Policy**

Wendy Guido, Director, Disability Services

Jennifer Glad, Associate Legal Counsel

Presented the policy changes and answered questions

b. **Personal Care Attendant Policy**

Wendy Guido, Director, Disability Services]

Jennifer Glad, Associate Legal Counsel

Presented the policy changes and answered questions

VII. Informational Items

a. **2026 Dyslexia & Innovation Symposium**

Jeffrey Conger, Professor, School of Art

Sarah Pennington

Presentation and questions

VIII. Updates

MSU Northern – Orientation for faculty, staff, and students; fill all vacant faculty positions; happy to be here

Great Falls College – Otter Week; orientation;

MSU Billings – Start classes next Wednesday; last week had Centennial Kick-off event;

Strategic Plan framework built out – Magic Makers, Stubbornly yours, uncommonly united with community, Built Differently for student success; see many at BOR in Billings in a couple of weeks;

MSU Northern will present an update next Univ. Council meeting

River Runs Through It page to stage event at Duck Pond tomorrow at 7:00pm

October 6 – Research on the Road (Red Lodge)

November 9 – Centers and Core Day

September 11 – Pop-up concert in Asbjornson Hall – MSU Choral, Stoneback and Graff – 25th anniversary of 9/11 at 1pm

September 8 – Closing Shakespeare in the Parks in Grant Park

September 10 – Mountains and Miles 5k – run, walk, volunteer

Herrick Hall – 100th Birthday – Friday, September 25th Open House

Monday, September 28 – Executive Director of the Rural National Education Association and

Why Rural Matters – being here for distinguished lecture – Inspiration Hall @ 5:30pm

MSU Debut last week – biggest/best ever to date - - Paint the M in a couple of weeks

Homecoming Parade at 10am and Serenade at Holy Rosary

MRJCON Bozeman – September 18 @ 3pm

MRJCON Billings – September 23 @ 10am

MRJCON Kalispell – October 12 @ 3pm

MRJCON Missoula – October 13 @ 1pm

Gianforte Hall Grand Opening – September 10 @ 1pm

September 22 – Sustainability Summit @ 6pm

MSUAF Collegian will be in the mail – 95,000 alums and friends

There will be a conversation that may happen about University Council updates to structure Orientation tonight and first Senate meeting tomorrow

IX. Adjourn

Meeting adjourned at 9:41am