

Welcome to Faculty Senate!



Doug Downs
Professor, Faculty Senate
Chair
English

Leila Sterman
Professor, Faculty Senate
Chair-Elect
Library



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
- Please let others speak; everyone should get a chance to speak before someone else speaks twice.
- The public may address the Senate during the designated public comment period (2 minutes per speaker).
- Be kind: assume positive intent and generate goodwill.

Approval of FS Minutes from Sept 2, 2026

- Motion to approve?
- Second?
- Discussion?
- Those in favor of approval?
- Those opposed?
- Those abstaining?

Consent Agenda

Items on the consent agenda include undergraduate and graduate new course and course change proposals and any program proposals. All proposals are included in the meeting agenda with links to CIM pages for each proposal. Senators should review these items prior to meeting.

- Motion to approve the consent agenda?
- Second?
- Removal of any items for separate discussion?
- Those in favor of approval?
- Those opposed?
- Abstentions?

Greetings from Provost Beth Burroughs



Update from Latest Senate Leadership Meetings w/ President and Provost

- Strategic Plan area for improvement of employee experiences
- Willingness to re-develop campus-climate surveys of faculty and staff
- Beginning talks on restoring a faculty/staff ombuds office

Role of Faculty Senate

Faculty Senate is the chief governance body of the faculty of Montana State University

- Frames policies, procedures and standards of the Faculty Handbook
- Fosters a climate of academic freedom
- Promotes consistency in tenure, promotion in academic rank, workload, and salary
- Upholds faculty professional standards for ethics, privileges, and obligations
- Provides input on university affairs such as strategic planning, budgeting, curriculum, accreditation, and graduation requirements

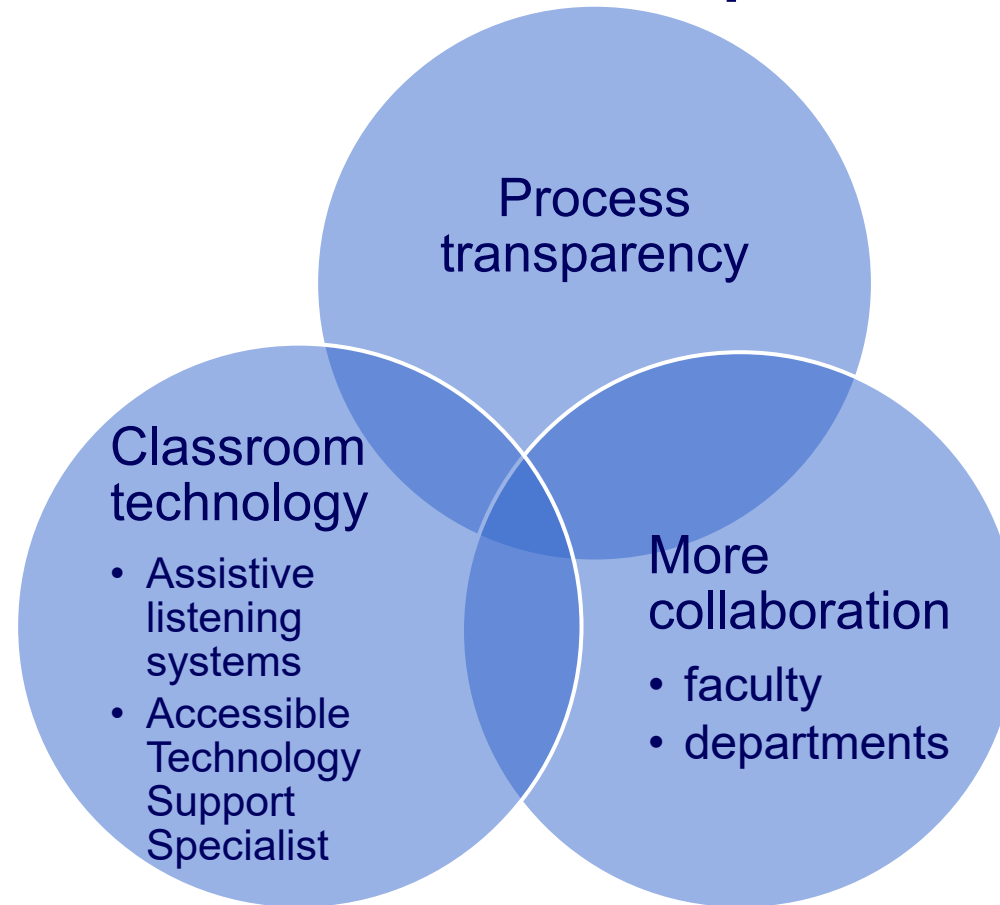
How do we do that?

- Faculty Senate meetings are run in accordance with the rules contained in the current edition of Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised, and the Faculty Senate bylaws.
- Senate Steering sets the agenda for meetings. Any senator may suggest items for the agenda.
- Reviews proposals from various university bodies for feedback or approval.
- MSU Open Meetings Policy: “right to observe the deliberations of all public bodies or agencies of state government and its subdivisions, except in cases in which the demand of individual privacy clearly exceeds the merits of public disclosure.”
 - https://www.montana.edu/policy/open_meetings/
- If something is unclear, please ask. Procedure should not be an impediment to thoughtful action.



ODS Fall 2026 Faculty Senate Updates

Ease of Access Updates



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Policy revisions October 7, University Council

Student Accommodations and
Appeals

Personal Care Attendant
(PCA) Policy and Procedure



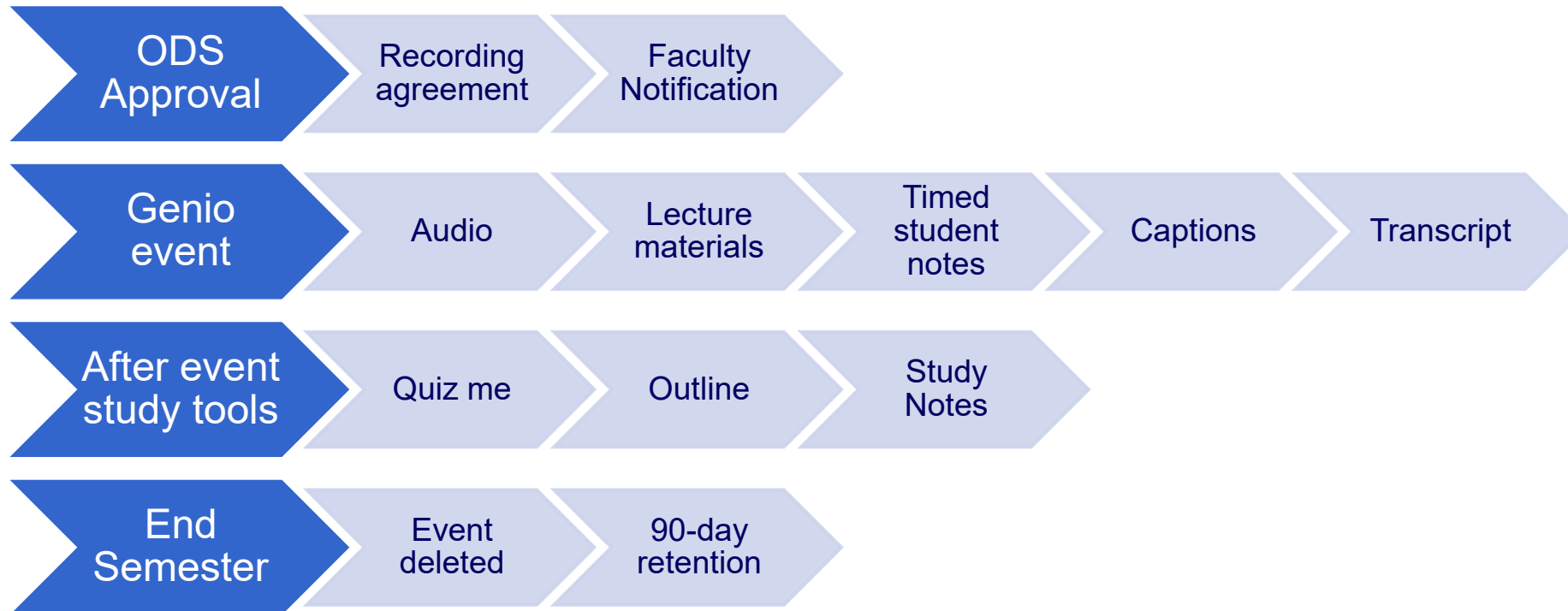
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Lecture Recording and Peer Notetaking Accommodations

Purpose	Differences	Determined	Why the increase in Genio
• removes barriers: • processing • organizing • attending • mobility	• live learning: • captions • transcript • recording flag	• interactive process with student and ODS	• values • empowering independence • consistency • engagement • legal obligation



How does Genio work?



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A message from Montana State University - Office of Disability Services

In using Genio Notes, you acknowledge that you have read and understood [Montana State University - Office of Disability Services recording policies](#)



 Home

 Collections

 Tasks

 Search

 Trash

 New Event

Sort by: Created  

[Untitled Event](#)

September 8th 2026,
8:49 PM



Student View with
recording agreement reminder

Genio Most Used Features

- Transcript
 - Review after and organize their own notes
 - Attend fully in class
- Live captions
 - Hearing, processing, attending
- Recording
 - Flag gaps in understanding
- No AI use in class through the platform
 - Study Tools can take up to 10 minutes to load, after transcript available:
 - Study Notes
 - Quiz Me
 - Outline



Addressing Security Concerns

- File encryption in transit, and at rest
- Non-sharable
- No training of AI Models
- AI is non-generative, and not web-based
- Intellectual property rights don't transfer
- Students can't export or edit recordings

Please bring concerns about
implementing accommodations to ODS
not students.

Genio AI Ethics, Security, and IP Faculty Training



<http://genio.co/faculty>

BLANKET BANS ON THE CLASSROOM RECORDING ACCOMMODATION

A Compliance Guide for Institutions of Higher Education

ALISON S. MUNDEN*

Abstract

This article evaluates blanket prohibitions on the classroom recording accommodation in institutions of higher education (IHEs). Recent publications have identified policies prohibiting students from using this accommodation, even when approved by their institutions' accessibility coordinators. This analysis illustrates the legal risks arising from such blanket prohibitions through interdisciplinary study of legal frameworks, sociocultural dynamics, and learning science. IHEs eager to reduce their institutional exposure can train personnel on compliant responses to recording accommodation requests and use simple statistical monitoring to identify and respond to persistent denials. This article clarifies legal obligations and identifies best practices for higher education leaders navigating this underresearched yet important accessibility issue.

Faculty protections in place through MSU

- Opportunity to consult on accommodation
- Recording Classroom Activities Agreement
- Code of Conduct
 - 330.02 (1) - Misuse of AI
 - 330.02 (8) - Improper recording or dissemination of instructional content
 - 330.02 (9) - Improper use of copyrighted materials
 - 330.15 - Illegal conduct



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Other Resources to follow



ODS Lecture Recording Agreement

Disability Services -> Policies & Procedures

- Genio Notes Faculty FAQ
- Genio Demo at Friday Drop-In hours
- Proposed - Faculty Accessibility Advisory Board



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Questions?



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Update on Digital Accessibility Action Planning

- A committee is developing training and support for CFE to offer
- Faculty should prioritize next semester's course materials plus any specifically needed accommodations this semester
- See Digital Accessibility updates at <https://www.montana.edu/accessibility/digital/>
- Rule of 5 [Principles] on website
- Guide for creating accessible PDF's for canvas: <https://www.montana.edu/ecat/accessibility/pdf/>

University Committees in Need of Members

- Digital Accessibility Committee—developing guidelines and support materials to help faculty update digital resources for accessibility; next meets Mon. Sept. 28 @ 3p.
- ADA Facilities Advisory Committee—scheduled to meet monthly and only meets when there are agenda items. Actual meetings are rare.
- Computer Fee Allocation Committee (CFAC)—two faculty openings. Chaired by Vice-Provost Sobek.
- CORE Committee
- Others?

QCORE Level II Board of Regents Proposal – Second Reading

- Votes in the reviewing path are “Recommendations to the BoR to Approve” the proposal.
- Historically the university has not forwarded such proposals to the Regents without a recommendation to approve from Faculty Senate.
- The review path for Centers is
 - Academic Council (unanimously voted to approve at Sept. 11 meeting)
 - Faculty Senate (concurrent consideration w/ Academic Council)
 - University Executive Team (vice presidents and president)

Principles for Senate Consideration of Centers

From 2020 draft (not finalized or implemented) guidelines for Senate review

https://www.montana.edu/facultysenate/final_interim_center_review_guidelines_129_20_draft.html:

- **Accurate designation** (the Center is named what it does)
- **Contribution to University mission:** potential significant contributions to teaching/research/outreach; potential to enhance MSU's reputation; enhances diversity, equity, and inclusion; plans for assessing contribution
- **Governance:** ensure research/academic/curricular independence and compliance with MSU policies; specify internal and external advisory / review boards; keep hiring processes independent from external funding sources; publicly report funding and expenditures.
- **Financial Stability:** plan to become self-supporting over a 3-5 year period, contingency plan for potential major funding shortfalls

Discussion and Vote

- Do I have a motion regarding the QCORE proposal?

(Motion to recommend that the Board of Regents approve the QCORE proposal, or other motions)

- Do I have a second?
- Discussion
- Call the question: those in favor, opposed, abstaining?

Council and Committee Updates

Graduate Council

- Graduate tuition waivers are mid process, the graduate school is working on the process itself for the future.
 - while they will be sorted and no late fees will be charged, if there are funds being drawn from grants that have not been pulled and the grant is close to an end date, please contact the graduate school.
- Degree Works is scheduled for a significant upgrade and will be unavailable Friday, September 18th at 5pm - Sunday, September 27, 2026. While the functionality remains largely the same, the user interface will change significantly.
 - If advisors need to add a note to allow students to apply for graduation this semester, that needs to be in by Thursday at 5PM.
- The Duration of Stay rules we stayed in court the day before they were to go into effect.
 - International students still need to follow more restrictive interpretations of **curricular practical training (CPT)**.

JAGS (Joint Academic Governance Steering)

- Provided input to OCHE on BoR Policy 710.2.2 Termination of Faculty for Cause to clarify and update language (no change of policy itself).
- Approved the Senate-approved version of Professional and Ethical Conduct Policy with minor amendment for accuracy in referring to the name of the appeals process.
- Agenda for coming months: Policies up for regular review include
 - Faculty Responsibilities
 - Extending Tenure Review Period
 - Faculty Personnel Files
 - Faculty Modified Duties
 - Annual Review
 - OCHE is also asking for input on Corrective Action and Discipline policy and Grievance Procedures policy.

Other Committee Reports

- MUSFAR (Montana University System Faculty Association Representatives): Leila and Doug are MSU representatives and Doug chairs the committee this year.
 - Provides cross-campus faculty interaction
 - Provides direct faculty channel to OCHE (Deputy Commissioner Joe Thiel) and Regents (via breakfast with Regents at BoR meetings)

Faculty Affairs Committee

From Rob Maher, committee chair, regarding sabbatical applications:

“The ‘Broader Impacts’ response should not address the prior Strategic Plan elements, but instead should address: How will the proposed work benefit MSU and achieve desired public goals beyond pure academic discovery? For example, describe the potential institutional, national, and/or international impacts in public welfare, education, and economic sustainability.”

FYI Items

- **Provost Search Committee** is announced—22 members including 10 faculty, great team. Will update as able.
- **Jones Hall** Grand Opening: Fri 9/18, 3 p.m.
- **Sustainability Summit**: Tues 9/22, all day; Auden Schendler keynote, 5:30 p.m.
<https://www.montana.edu/sustainability/summit/>
- **994 Journeys: Dave Miller**, Dept. of Mechanical and Industrial Engineering. Mon. 9/28, 4-5 p.m., SUB 233. <https://www.montana.edu/research/events/994-journeys.html>
- **Faculty Senate Lunch with President – Weds Oct. 14, noon**. Will distribute survey to get a headcount and dietary restrictions
- **Dyslexia Symposium (DXI)** is looking for suggestions for student panelists – Oct. 22. <https://www.montana.edu/dxi/>

Upper Seven Law & MSU present

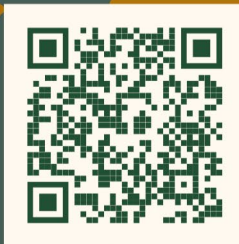
The Montana Constitution Roadshow

**an engaging presentation about
the Montana Constitution in
celebration of Constitution Day 2026**

**Thursday, September 17 at noon
in Inspiration Hall**

Norm Asbjornson Hall, W Grant St., Bozeman, MT

Montana State University



Senate-Sponsored Faculty Discussion Sessions

- **Next session Oct. 7, topic TBD**
- Same time / same place (Weds 3:15-4:30, LJH 346)
- All faculty welcome!
- Topics in the faculty interest, announced in advance
- Perspective, input, deliberation toward Senate initiatives
- May include guest speakers relevant to topic
- Propose topics to Senate leadership (Doug, Leila, Steering Committee members Dave McWethy, Jen Boles, Myleen Leary, Pat Secor) at any time

Senate Open Discussion

Public Comment

(Two minutes per person)

Do I have a motion to adjourn?

Second?

Next regular meeting: **September 30, 2026**