

# 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 during the designated public comment period.
- Be kind: always assume positive intent.

# Approval of FS Minutes from March 4, 2026

- 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

- Registrar starts pre-registration for SU26 and FL26: March 25
- AI Faculty Symposium, 8:30AM-5:00PM: March 26
- Investiture of President Brock Tessman: faculty procession
  - Thursday, April 2, 2026; arrive SUB 233/235, 2:30PM, in full regalia
  - [RSVP requested](#) by Monday, March 23, 2026
- [MSU Outreach and Engagement Council FY27 Outreach and Engagement Seed Grant](#) – due April 5
- [Strategic Plan Listening Sessions for faculty](#):
  - Wednesday, April 15, 3:15-4:15 Harrison 123 (special for Faculty Senate, but all faculty invited)

# FYI Updates (cont.)

## *Advance notice:*

- **STARTING FALL 2026:** Senate meetings will be moving back to LJ 346  
(We will still meet here in Harrison 123 for our April 8 and April 22 meetings)

# Undergraduate Courses and Programs

- Undergraduate Courses and Programs

- New Courses-**Second Read**

- [ARTH 350](#) : Celtic and Viking Art and Legacy
- [ARTH 467](#) : Museums and the Ancient World: Pompeii as Museum
- [NASX 460IH](#) : Indigenous Environmental Humanities

- New Courses-First Read

- [ARTH 475](#) : Professional Paper
- [BIOH 497](#) : Educational Methods: Human Biology
- [EQUH 215](#) : Weanling Training and Development
- [EQUH 310](#) : Horsemanship 3
- [IDSN 193](#) : Interior Design Study Abroad
- [NUTR 420](#) : Food Innovation & Entrepreneurship
- [SFBS 452](#) : State of the Food Environment

## • Undergraduate Courses and Programs

- Course Changes-First read
  - [PSYX 100IS](#) : Introduction to Psychology
    - Credit change from 4 to 3
- New Programs-**Second Read**
  - [-BS](#) : Bachelor of Science in Agricultural and Biosystems Engineering
  - [-C](#) : Food Security Certificate
- Program Changes-First Read
  - [BEHA-CTS](#) : Certificate of Technical Studies in Behavioral Health
    - Reduction in credits from 29 to 18
  - [MEDI-CAS](#) : Medical Assistant
    - Change in credits
    - Change in modality
- Program Inactivations-**Second Read**
  - [AMER-BA](#) : Bachelor of Arts in American Studies
    - Low enrollment in major

# Graduate Courses and Programs

- New Courses-First Read
  - [BCH 527](#) : Introduction to Structural Biology: Transmission Electron Microscopy
  - [PHSX 564](#) : Current Topics in Space Physics
- Course Changes-First Read
  - [BIOE 526](#) : Symbiosis for Teachers: Eat, Prey, Love
    - New learning outcomes
  - [COUN 592](#) : Independent Study
    - Rubric change from HDCO
    - New learning outcomes
  - [M 518](#) : Statistics for Teaching
    - New learning outcomes
  - [M 581](#) : Numerical Solution of Partial Differential Equations I
    - New learning outcomes
  - [NUTR 598](#) : Internship
    - Addition of learning outcomes
    - Change in modality
  - [STAT 501](#) : Intermediate Probability and Statistics
    - New learning outcomes
  - [STAT 509](#) : Stochastic Processes
    - New learning outcomes
  - [STAT 528](#) : Statistical Quality Control
    - New learning outcomes
  - [STAT 578](#) : Response Surface Methodology
    - New learning outcomes

- Program Changes-First Read
  - MSDS-MS : Master of Science in Statistics - Data Science Option
    - Degree name change from MS in Data Science
    - New outcomes
    - Changes to program details

# Public Comment

(Two minutes per person)

# Information Updates

- Campus Assessment Response Evaluation (CARE) referral:  
“Please submit a CARE Referral if you are concerned about the wellbeing of someone in the campus community or someone who may be a danger to themselves or a danger to the community.”



Dr. Matt Caires  
*Dean of Students*



Dr. Amber King  
*Asst. Dean of Students*



Kate Emmerich  
*Asst. Dean of Students*



**MONTANA**  
STATE UNIVERSITY

Dean of Students

# MSU CARE Program

Matt Caires, Dean of Students

Amber King, Asst. Dean of Students

Kate Emmerich, Case Manager

# Brief History

- 2011: DOS, UPD and CAPS
- 2014: Added 1.0 FTE
- 2018: Created two teams
- 2023: added a 1.0 FTE Case Manager

*Thanks BFF!*

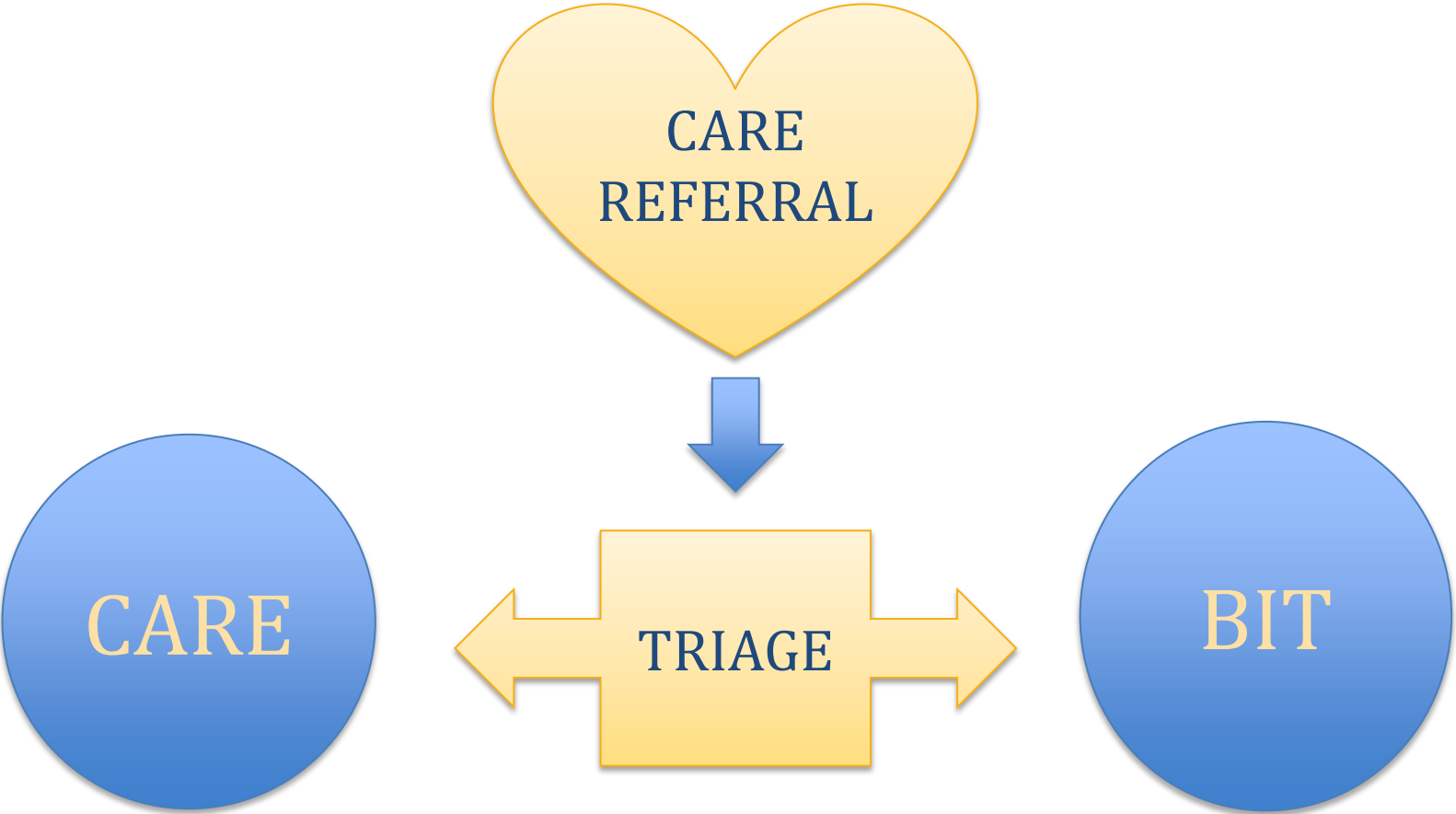


# The MSU CARE Program

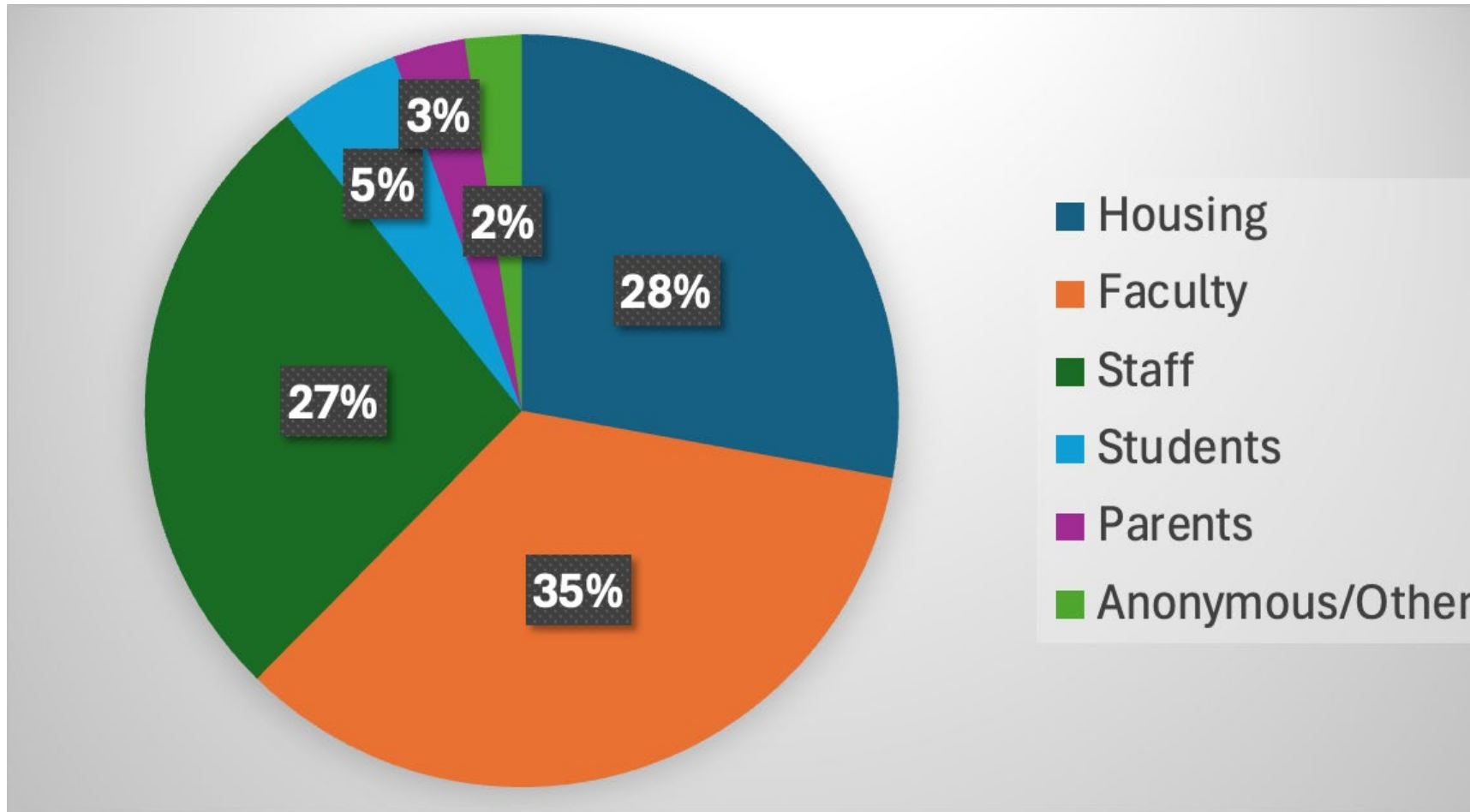


- What is a CARE referral?
- Who are we?
  - Two teams
- How do we Case Manage?
- How can you help us CARE?

# CARE Process



# CARE Cases by Referral Sources



# *Questions?*



# Information Update: Student Code of Conduct

- Current draft distributed to Senators this week
- Section 330.02 Academic Misconduct
  - Note new section on AI:

**“Artificial Intelligence (AI)** – Using artificial intelligence tools, automated systems, or similar technologies in a manner that violates course or assignment requirements, misrepresents authorship, substitutes for a student’s own work, or undermines the assessment of learning. This includes failure to disclose AI use when disclosure is required or using AI tools where such use is prohibited.”

- Faculty Senate members with questions can contact:
  - Senior Assistant Dean of Students Erin Macdonald Peck ([erin.macdonald3@montana.edu](mailto:erin.macdonald3@montana.edu))
  - Associate Dean of Students Bill McKenney ([billmckenney@montana.edu](mailto:billmckenney@montana.edu))

# Information Updates: Faculty Senate Bylaws

## Committee:

- Doug Downs (chair)
  - Jen Boles
  - Susanne Cowan
  - Chris Posbergh
  - Sara Rushing
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- First reading of revised bylaws today (March 25)
    - Questions, comments, concerns?
  - Second reading/ratification will be at our next meeting (April 8)

# Information Updates: proposed Ethics and Professional Standards Policy (first read)

## CURRENT policy in effect (since 2017):

The faculty and university administration are responsible for assuring the highest ethical and professional standards and behavior in:

- a) working with undergraduate and graduate students, including the elimination of [discrimination](#) from the classroom and entire university community,
- b) working with faculty and staff,
- c) performing their contracted responsibilities, including the employment and use of graduate assistants or adjunct faculty and staff,
- d) working with public and private agencies, organizations, and businesses,
- e) preventing [conflicts of interest](#) and reporting work done outside the university,
- f) conducting peer review,
- g) conducting research and creative activity, ( See, e.g. [Research Misconduct Policy](#))
- h) adhering to standards for [biosafety](#), research utilizing [human](#) and [animal](#) subjects, and the use of [radioactive](#) materials,
- i) respecting confidentiality and privacy in the use of information systems (see [Enterprise Information Technology Policies](#)),
- j) respecting copyright and patent requirements,
- k) respecting confidentiality and privacy in personnel decisions, including search committee discussions,
- l) participating in university planning and governance, and
- m) reporting alleged breaches of ethical standards.

# Proposed Ethics and Professional Standards (cont.)

## 1. Introduction and Purpose

The faculty members of Montana State University maintain an academic environment which embraces high standards of ethical and professional conduct. This policy establishes expectations for the manner in which faculty members carry out their professional duties and obligations as outlined in the Faculty Responsibilities Policy.

The essential attributes of professional academic life at Montana State University include adhering to official policies and professional codes; exhibiting honesty, fairness, and accountability in professional work; avoiding harm to the reputation and well-being of colleagues and students; and respecting the privacy and personal dignity of others.

# Proposed Ethics and Professional Standards (cont.)

## 2. Ethical and Professional Standards

In carrying out their teaching, scholarship, service and public engagement responsibilities, faculty members at Montana State University are expected to:

- a) Act with honesty, fairness and impartiality.
- b) Treat students, colleagues, staff, and campus community members with dignity, civility and respect, being mindful of the power imbalances inherent in faculty-student and faculty-staff interactions, and maintaining professional boundaries that support students' learning, personal growth, and academic achievement.
- c) Foster an environment free from harassment, bullying, and intimidation, and seek to de-escalate interpersonal conflicts.
- d) Fulfill responsibilities conscientiously, reliably, and within the scope of their expertise.
- e) Avoid bias or favoritism in their professional roles, properly disclose and manage potential conflicts of interest, and otherwise anticipate and mitigate circumstances that could lead to the perception of bias or favoritism.

# Proposed Ethics and Professional Standards (cont.)

- f) Respect the confidentiality of student records, personnel matters, search committee deliberations, peer review, and other sensitive information. Such information shall only be accessed for bona fide purposes in the faculty member's professional capacity, not stored or transmitted in a non-confidential manner, and never disclosed except through approved procedures. This includes adherence to applicable privacy laws, university policies, and the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA).
- g) Exercise academic freedom responsibly and in such a way that does not undermine student learning or the University's education and research mission.
- h) Responsibly steward University resources, grants, contracts, and public funds.
- i) Ensure a safe working environment by following safety regulations, establishing safety procedures and conducting training within their scope of authority.
- j) Be informed of and follow the letter and spirit of university policies as well as federal and state requirements applicable to their work.

# Information Updates: proposed Student Learning Outcomes Assessment Policy (first read)

## Summary of changes:

“The 2026 iteration of the policy clarifies unit responsibilities and provides more detailed and specific faculty expectations to align with current practices and emphasizes the need for faculty participation in assessment of all programs. The updated policy clarifies and expands the administrative responsibilities to outline a more robust administrative support structure. The policy updates to current best practices by establishing a practice of assessing each SLO at least every 3-years, differentiating undergraduate and graduate reporting requirements, reiterating the need for transparency by publicly posting assessment plans and report summaries, providing more explicit guidance for accredited programs, and strengthening the reminder that assessment is for continuous improvement and must not be used punitively.”

# Information Updates: Council reports?

# Call for nominations/expressions of interest: Faculty Senate Chair-Elect for 2026-2027

- Election planned for next meeting (April 8)
- Please let Rob Maher or Doug Downs know
- See bylaws: Article IV. Officers
- Chair-Elect obligations will start at the first meeting of the Fall semester
- Chair-Elect receives monetary support of teaching, research, and service as a fund equivalent to 35% of AY salary. These funds cannot be used for faculty salary, but can be used for course buy-out, equipment, travel, etc. Chair-Elect also receives one-month summer salary (2027).
- (Chair receives fund equal to 60% of AY salary, and one month summer salary)

# Senate Open Discussion

Do I have a motion to adjourn?  
Second?

Next meeting: April 8, 2026