MONTANA STATE UNIVERSITY
Staff Senate Retiree Membership Procedure

Introduction and Purpose:

The purpose of Staff Senate is to promote and provide for improved working conditions and the professional welfare of the classified employees of Montana State University (MSU) by: facilitating communication and cooperation between the classified staff of MSU Bozeman and Associated Students of MSU (ASMSU), MSU administration, Faculty Senate, Professional Council, all appropriate Montana University System (MUS) organizations, including Montana University System Staff Association (MUSSA), and the Board of Regents (BoR); representing the classified employees of Montana State University (MSU) on university committees and other appropriate MSU organizations; promoting the improvement of higher education in the State of Montana; assisting in the development of staff training programs and policies; and carrying out such other goals and activities as the Staff Senate determines to be consistent with the purpose of the Staff Senate, the administration of MSU Bozeman, and the promotion and practice of shared governance.

Policy:

The Staff Senate’s Retiree Membership Procedure is the process of including a MSU Retiree Association retired MSU classified employee to sit as a member on the Staff Senate.

Procedures:

I. Eligibility. All retired classified employees of Montana State University Bozeman are eligible for membership.

II. Retiree Membership and Selection. The Alumni Foundation, on behalf of the MSU Retiree Association, requested a retired MSU classified employee to sit as a member on the Staff Senate in 2016. The MSU Retiree Association, an association inclusive of all faculty and staff, and supported by the MSU Alumni Foundation and the MSU Provost Office, serves the interests of both MSU and its retirees. Senate membership approved inclusion of a retired classified representative at the October 19, 2016 Staff Senate meeting.

The MSU Retiree Association will recommend one (1) classified retiree. The Staff Senate membership will confirm and approve the recommended representative on a year by year basis with an unrestricted number of renewable terms. The newly confirmed and approved representative will be considered to be an “Appointed Member” of Staff Senate as defined in the Staff Senate Bylaws Article III Membership, Section 3.3 Appointed Members.

III. Responsibilities of the Appointed Retiree Members. The transition into retirement poses many challenges. The MSU Retiree Association seeks to provide MSU retirees with the opportunity to engage and reconnect on campus through volunteer opportunities, as well as resources to provide guidance on benefits, finances, health and a range of other topics.
The addition of a retired classified employee on the Staff Senate would enhance the effectiveness of the Senate when providing council to the President and Board of Regents on matters concerning classified staff. The retired representative would serve as an advocate for the benefits, interests, and needs of retirees and can offer useful advice to administrations contemplating changes for the institution in general or for retirees in particular and serve the interests of both the institution and the retirees, thus providing mutual benefits.

IV. Web links and references.
   a. Staff Senate [http://www.montana.edu/staffsenate/](http://www.montana.edu/staffsenate/)
   b. MSU Retiree Association (1/2017 under construction [http://www.montana.edu/retired/](http://www.montana.edu/retired/))