

# MONTANA ACADEMY OF SCIENCES

## 2015 ANNUAL MEETING

APRIL 20 - 11, 2015

MONTANA TECH OF THE UNIVERSITY OF MONTANA - BUTTE, MONTANA

PHIL JENSEN, PRESIDENT, MONTANA ACADEMY OF SCIENCES

JAMES BARRON, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, MONTANA ACADEMY OF SCIENCES

### INTRODUCTION

The Montana Academy of Sciences (MAS) was incorporated on the 20th day of March, 1961, as a non-profit, educational organization. The objectives of the Montana Academy of Sciences are to encourage interest and participation in the sciences and to promote public understanding of science and its contribution to society. The Academy accomplishes its objectives by conducting meetings of those interested in sciences and the education of scientists, by publishing contributions to scientific knowledge, by supporting research, by making awards to recognize accomplishments in science, by administering gifts and contributions to accomplish these aims, by assigning and cooperating with affiliated and other organizations with similar objectives, and by engaging in such other activities as deemed necessary to accomplish its objectives.

We held our 2015 Annual Meeting at Montana Tech in Butte, MT. on April 10 and 11. Over 100 registrants participated, viewing 29 contributed oral presentations and 20 poster presentations over the day and a half meeting. The abstracts from this meeting are included in this issue of the Intermountain Journal of Sciences for archival and reference purposes. The Board of Directors of MAS would like to thank the sponsors of our 2015 Annual Meeting:

Dr. Bob Wilmouth, President, Rocky Mountain College

Dr. Doug Coe, Dean, College of Letters, Sciences and Professional Studies,  
Montana Tech

Dr. Beverly Hartline, Vice Chancellor for Research, Montana Tech

Dr. Renee Reijo Pera, VP for Research, Montana State University

Dr. Beth Weatherby, Chancellor, University of Montana-Western

Department of Biological and Physical Sciences, Montana State University Billings