Montana State University has been granted chapter status by Sigma Xi

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Recommended Citation

University of Montana--Missoula. Office of University Relations, "Montana State University has been granted chapter status by Sigma Xi" (1964). University of Montana News Releases, 1928, 1956-present. 1350.
https://scholarworks.umt.edu/newsreleases/1350
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Montana State University has been granted chapter status by Sigma Xi, national honor society devoted to the promotion of scientific research, it was announced by Dr. Frank C. Abbott, academic vice president of the University.

"This is an honor for the University and is an affirmation of the high professional qualities of our scientific endeavors," Abbott said.

The MSU chapter is the 145th such group to be recognized on American campuses by Sigma Xi. As a preliminary step toward attaining chapter status, a Sigma Xi club was established on the campus in 1931 and the campaign to be recognized as a chapter was begun in 1956. According to Dr. Wayne P. Van Meter, president of the chapter, several unofficial visits to MSU were made by Sigma Xi national officials, followed by official visits and, finally, the chapter petition, which was filed last September. A national committee of 15 science leaders gave the chapter its approval last October and the society as a whole voted to grant the petition at its annual meeting held recently in Cleveland.

Dr. Van Meter explained that as between a club and a chapter, the society required a more stringent set of qualifications for chapters, including assurances that faculty, equipment and facilities were of a high order and that there was certainty that the institution could maintain a stable and profitable science program.

The MSU chapter currently has an enrollment of 39 members. Other officers include Dr. Arnold Silverman, vice president, Dr. J. J. Taylor, secretary, and Dr. M. J. Nakamura, treasurer. Members from the MSU student body will consist of graduate students who have the potential for making worthy and significant contributions to scientific research, Van Meter said.

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