

MINUTES
Montana Board of Regents Regular Meeting
September 19-21, 2007

Thursday, September 20, 2007

The Meeting convened at 8:30 a.m.

Roll Call indicated a quorum present.

These minutes were approved by the Board of Regents at the November 15-16, 2007 meeting in Bozeman, MT.

Regents Present: Lynn Hamilton chairman, Steve Barrett vice chair, Todd Buchanan, Clayton Christian, Lila Taylor, Janine Pease, Kerra Melvin, and Sheila Stearns *ex officio*.

Policy Advisor for Education Jan Lombardi represented Governor Schweitzer *ex officio*.

Absent Excused: Superintendent Linda McCulloch *ex officio*.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion by Regent Barrett to approve minutes of the July 2007 regular meeting and the August 2, 2007 conference call meeting passed unanimously.

Commissioner Stearns introduced Bill Macgregor, Director of Transfer Initiatives, Brad Eldredge, Director of Institutional Research, and Leah Tietz, Director of Workers Compensation, all in OCHE.

Student Regent Melvin introduced Kristiny Lorette, President of ASMSU-N, and President of MAS.

President Dennison introduced Provost Royce Engstrom of UM-Missoula.

President Hicswa introduced Shelly Weight, Dean of Academic Affairs at Miles Community College.

Chancellor Sexton introduced President Mace of Rocky Mountain College, and Jack Coppins, Superintendent of Public School District 2. He also announced that Stacy Klippenstein, Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs just completed his doctoral program.

SYSTEM ISSUES

INFORMATION

a. Concept Review; MSU-Bozeman: International Education Opportunity.

Dubai of the United Arab Emirates has solicited a partnership with MSU-Bozeman to offer a series of two-year degree programs in Information Technology, Computer Science, Computer Programming, and Business/Management/Accounting. These would be for workforce development as well as transfer. MSU-Bozeman will control the curricula which will be delivered on-site and on-line. It is possible that the on-line programs will be available to other students as well. Degrees will be awarded by MSU-Bozeman. All costs will be financed by the UAE. MSU-Bozeman will bring the full proposal to the Board at the January 2008 meeting for approval.

b. Postsecondary Education Policy and Budget Committee Agenda outline (PEPB).

PEPB is a sub-committee of the Education and Local Government Committee. Members are: Senators Bob Hawks and Jim Peterson, Representatives Robin Hamilton and Bob Lake, Regents Steve Barrett and Clayton Christian, and Jan Lombardi from the Governor's Office, staffed by Alan Peura, and Eddy McClure as Legislative Counsel.

First meeting is September 25:

- Review PEPB Work plan
- Review strategies and missions of two year education
- Per Legislative directive of 2007 review access to dental education in Montana
- Review and reaffirm Shared Policy Goals which comprise a large part of the Board of Regents Strategic Plan
- Accountability Measures to be developed and approved
- Transferability
- Distance education
- Student Assistance
- CAP (College Affordability Program)

- Review funding formula
- Bitterroot Valley CC
- P-20 Policy and Budget issues
- Strategic Role of 2-year Education
- 2011 Biennial Budget and accountability measures included in that budget

c. 6 mill levy update.

Commissioner Stearns indicated development of civilian leadership (non-state employees) on this issue is underway. A committee will be in place by November or December 2007.

d. Campus written Reports.

There were no comments on this item.

CONSENT

Appointment of Members to the Fire Services Training Advisory Council; MSU-Bozeman. **ITEM 136-2004-R0907**

Motion by Regent Barrett to approve passed unanimously.

BOARD DISCUSSION

Regent Hamilton introduced Victoria Clark of the Bitterroot Valley CC. Ms. Clark introduced Debra Rogala, Chair of Trustees Elect for the Bitterroot Valley CC.

Following a 15 minute recess, the meeting reconvened at 10:15 a.m.

MUS Directions:

Lumina Foundation survey on how public and parents look at higher education across the country found:

- Higher Education is a fundamental necessity
- Higher Education received high grades - worth the cost
- Colleges and Universities are teaching students what they need to know
- Widespread concern about college loans
- Opportunity to attend college is being threatened
- Sense of urgency for higher education reform is diminished by:
 - Despite rising costs, many believe those who really want the education can somehow get it
 - Most believe effort by students is more important than kind of school they attend
- Most parents are very worried about paying for college but believe they will find a way to do it
- All minority parents, including high income, are disproportionately concerned about lack of opportunity for qualified students
- Public opinion on higher education is "the bloom is off the rose" (growing warning signs of public discontent with higher education)
- Majority of public do not believe colleges need to choose between maintaining quality, extending access, and holding down costs
- Americans prefer reforms that do not sacrifice quality or limit access
- Community conversations highlights.
 - Many people, even students, are unaware of what the College Affordability Plan is
 - MUS does not communicate adequately with public on workforce development
 - K-12 collaboration needs to be strengthened
 - Believe on the right track with distance education
 - Funding for colleges and universities is not well understood by the public, faculty and staff

Plan 2010 progress.

- Topics for Discussion
 - Dramatically ease transferability
 - Remove regulatory obstacles for dual enrollment
 - Manage enrollment to stabilize under-utilized units – loosen tie between funding and FTE
 - Expand enrollment of non-traditional students – expand e-Learning
 - UM and MSU campuses should use a shared approach to recruit non-resident students
 - Strengthen two-year college connections
 - Examine credibility of name change for colleges of technology

- Promote honors programs for all two-year colleges
- Re-examine connection between MSU-Northern and Great Falls-College of Technology
- Consider renaming UM College of Technology
- Continue tuition cap for community/regional two-year education for two more years. Add three community colleges to extended tuition freeze for 2011 biennium
- Strategic tuition increases at six four-year+ units
- Implement recruitment/retention plan
- Consider establishing a MUS Foundation for public communication

Regent Pease reported that the K-C Task Force has met several times this year and set forth four areas of work for the next 18 months.

The priorities set forth are:

- 1) Implement a single system for educational data – OCHE will take the lead
- 2) Clarify connection between high school exit standards and colleges admission standards – OPI will take the lead
- 3) Adopt overarching dual enrollment policy statewide, establishing methods for developing, implementing, and monitoring dual enrollment in Montana post-secondary institutions – BPE will take the lead
- 4) Set reasonable but ambitious annual targets toward meeting 100% high school graduation, and provide incentives to schools for meeting them

Discussion points made:

- Name change for two year campuses might be superficial fix
- Keeping enrollment high may not be the best goal
- Rather than lowering the playing field, MUS should be raising the bar
- Rethink the funding model
- Listening sessions are suggesting that access and affordability are not the biggest issues, but rather effectiveness, efficiency, and quality
- Restructuring created collaboration to promote both quality and efficiency
 - Community colleges were not brought in sufficiently to better benefit Montana
- Mixing quality of students jeopardizes success of all students on a campus
- Need a plan at the system level that helps students succeed
- Economy is changing rapidly – system has inertia in dealing rapidly with changes
 - Necessary to balance responsiveness to industry with duplication of programs
 - Industry is starting to question how many programs they will need to support
- Montana's population is not as mobile as other states – low income
 - Eastern Montana is more place bound
- Need to change attitude – people from China and other far places come to this country for education – Montanans need to realize may have to move for college and then go back home
- Must make the link for K-12 that these skills articulate not only to college, but to the work force
 - If the link is not made, remediation will be ongoing
 - Long term family educational planning must begin in kindergarten
 - By third grade children must be able to read at level or it is usually too late
- "Grave error" to push the two-year side of higher education and not the graduate side – direct relationship in economic development with the graduate side – industry cannot import graduate students because they go elsewhere
- Problem with declining demographics of high school graduates
- Should learn to say no to prevent bad situations in the future – stop being all things to all people
- Must keep perspective on debt for education vs. same debt for consumer products

Recommendations:

- Help students make better decisions based on a better match of campus to particular skills and needs
- Review the current allocation model and find ways to help students make better decisions through the allocation of system resources:
 - Sharing of resources when collaborating
 - FTE has driven the funding model and created big problem
 - Request OCHE to provide options available on funding model and how they interplay with decisions before proceeding
- Board should grapple with role of two-year education and make it a more significant piece of higher education
 - Transferability – access to 2-year and dual enrollment – attitude is 2-year education is inferior – if system says it transfers, it must transfer - need to solve now
- 180 high schools in Montana with their own trustees – COMMUNICATE - unless they learn what is needed, the 30% remediation rate will not change
 - K-12 has its own system and MUS has its system – MUS needs to go to K-12 board meetings – school boards don't know there is a gap between what they are producing and what is needed in higher education –

- should not need to be remediated in college – if high school had to pay for remediation it would change
 - Faculty can connect with high school boards
 - Bridge courses and programs between high school and college
 - Discussion must include K-12 sector, Legislature, and the Governor's Office
 - Join ACHIEVE and American Diploma Project to align high school curriculum with college entry – 30 other states have done it - then talk to all 180 high school boards
- Consider partnering with Adult Basic Education system – door for many adults who want to go to college
- Ways to deal with challenge of place-bound:
 - Distance delivery
 - Block delivery of program taken to community
 - Load equipment and technology in a truck to spend a specified amount of time in a community to deliver a program – meet need and move on
- New focus could be:
 - Participation rates of 22 – 45 year old sector – Montana is 41st in nation for participation - they don't know higher education is for them
 - Those who did not graduate from high school or received GED
 - College graduates with desire to obtain a new degree after several years
- Pick two or three things to work on – let the others wait

Following a 15 minute break, the meeting reconvened at 11:35.

STUDENT REPORTS

The following students reported:

- Kristiny Loretz, President of ASMSU-N, and President of MAS
- Steve Olig, Vice President ASMT, for President Chris Mjelde
- Dustin Leftridge, President ASUM
- Tiffani Fehlmann, President ASMSU-B
- Tegan Molloy, President ASMSU
- Roy Tidzel, President ASMCC
- Linda Pattengale, Senator ASUM-W for Taylor Nahrgang, President

Meeting recessed at noon for lunch.

Meeting reconvened at 1:10 p.m.

Commissioner Stearns announced the Governor's Award for Excellence in Performance was received by the GEAR UP team in OCHE.

COMMITTEE REPORTS AND ACTION

Workforce, Research, and Economic Development Committee Report

ACTION

Research Agencies Equipment Funding. ITEM -136-120-R0907

Motion to approve by Regent Taylor passed unanimously.

Academic and Student Affairs Committee Report

Item a. of Information was taken out of order.

INFORMATION

a. Update on student loan issues.

Commissioner Stearns introduced Montana Deputy Attorney General Pam Bucy, who presented the report on the student loan industry in the state of Montana. The report is available on-line at <http://www.doj.mt.gov/news/releases2007/20070927studentloansurvey.pdf>.

In summary, there were no abusive practices found in Montana and Montana has a clean bill of health on this issue.

Results of the formal inquiry into the student loan business in Montana:

Other states comparators:

- The most egregious activity was kickbacks from lenders to institutions. That does not happen in Montana.
- Preferred lender lists are very limited, sometimes to one or two lenders. Others with preferred lender lists

that appear long actually have one lender that is set up to take all of the loans. Montana has extensive preferred lender lists with MSU-Bozeman listing 63 and UM-Missoula listing 69.

- A few financial aid officers elsewhere have such conflicts of interest as owning stock in preferred lenders, sitting on lender advisory boards, and accepting trips from preferred lenders. None of these conflicts exist in Montana.
- Lenders have sent lender personnel to staff campus financial aid offices. This does not occur in Montana.
- There were quid pro quo opportunity loans for high risk students – with the loss being paid by other students through higher service fees and rates. This does not happen in Montana.

Recommendations to Montana institutions:

- Campuses should prepare comprehensive guidelines on the criteria used to add or delete lenders from the preferred list.
- Campuses should note somewhere on their web sites that students can use lenders not on the preferred list.

Pam Bucy cautioned that higher education is a small group of people in Montana which makes the risk of conflict of interest very high. All the groups are interconnected, with Regents sitting on the Boards of both SAF and MHESAC. So many hats are worn by individuals that some effort should be made to lessen the risk of losing sight of where their fiduciary responsibility belongs with each position. Efforts should be made to distinguish the roles of each group. She did find that MHESAC offers the best rates in the country to Montana students.

The Commissioner will provide the Regents with a report on the fiscal responsibility the Board holds for SAF and MGSLP.

Bruce Marks, Director of MGSLP, reported that due to federal changes, revenue for lenders will be reduced, but Pell Grants are going up. Their loan default rate has recently dropped to 2.8%.

Workforce, Research, and Economic Development Committee Report

CONTINUED

INFORMATION

- a. Strategic Directions- Emerging Trends & Issues Related to 2 Year Education.

Presentation made in Committee. There were no questions on this item.

- b. An Historical Perspective on Two-Year Postsecondary Education in Montana: “Where Do We Go From Here?” — Prepared by Postsecondary Education Policy and Budget Subcommittee.

Presentation made in Committee. There were no questions on this item.

- c. Montana Economic and Workforce Update.

Brad Eldridge, Coordinator of Institutional Research, OCHE provided a synopsis of the state *Labor Day Report 2007* with main point being the tight labor market in Montana.

Academic and Student Affairs Committee Report

CONTINUED

ACTION

- a. Exception to Policy 301.12, Aviation Technology, UM-Helena.

ITEM 136-103-R0907

Motion by Regent Hamilton to approve Item a. passed unanimously.

- b. Compliance report on Policy 301.12, Undergraduate Degree requirements. **ITEM 136-104-R0907**

Motion by Regent Hamilton to approve Item b. passed unanimously.

- c. Recommendation on College Preparatory Program exemptions. **ITEM 136-106-R0907**

Regent Barrett supported this item.

Regent Pease expressed concern over this item.

Motion by Regent Hamilton to approve Item c. passed 6-1 with Regent Pease opposing.

Level II Items

- d. Minor in Health Communication, MSU-Billings. **ITEM 136-2701-R0707**

Motion by Regent Hamilton to approve Item d. passed unanimously.

- e. Certificates of Applied Science in Network Infrastructure and EMT – Intermediate 99, MSU-Great Falls COT. **ITEM 136-2851-R0707**

Motion by Regent Hamilton to approve Item e. passed unanimously.

- f. Bachelor of Science in Athletic Training, UM-Missoula. **ITEM 136-1002-R0707**

Motion by Regent Hamilton to approve Item f. passed unanimously.

- g. Department of Educational Leadership and Department of Counselor Education, UM-Missoula. **ITEM 136-1003-R0707**

Motion by Regent Hamilton to approve Item g. passed unanimously.

- h. Montana Center for Work Physiology and Exercise Metabolism, UM-Missoula. **ITEM 136-1004-R0707**

Motion by Regent Hamilton to approve Item h. passed unanimously.

- i. The College of Letters, Sciences, and Professional Studies, Montana Tech-UM. **ITEM 136-1503-R0707**

Motion by Regent Hamilton to approve Item i. passed unanimously.

- j. Certificates of Applied Science in Bookkeeping, Small Business Entrepreneurship Technology, Computer Assistant, Carpentry, Machine Tool Technology, Welding Technology, and Office Assistant, UM-Helena COT. **ITEM 136-1901-R0707**

Motion by Regent Hamilton to approve Item j. passed unanimously.

- k. Associate of Applied Science degree in Electrical Technology, Flathead Valley Community College. **ITEM 136-301-R0707**

Regent Hamilton brought forward from committee a motion for approval of Item k.

Discussion indicated:

- FVCC started working with business and industry in 1997 on this project
- They reached agreement with the Department of Labor in 2005
- Program was listed as a priority in career clusters
- FVCC obtained equipment through the competitive grant process
- This program duplicates the program at MSU-N
- FVCC already has a certification program which gets students into the workplace
- The Commissioner's office recommends against approval of this item
 - Montana has a limited number of students
 - These programs are equipment intensive
 - This is an apprenticeable program
 - Campuses have promised repeatedly that they will not duplicate apprenticeable programs
 - MSU-Northern broke new ground with these kinds of programs, and its creativity should be rewarded by giving its electrical program some protection
- The Regents face a paradox in responsiveness to industry versus non-duplication of programs

Public Comment:

Pat Weiss, Governor's Economic Development Office, spoke in support of the item.
Mark Maki, Department of Labor, spoke in support of the item.

Motion to approve passed on 5-2 vote with Regents Hamilton and Taylor opposing.

Regent Hamilton reported a student had testified before the Committee encouraging recognition of the Native American Studies minor.

Following a 10 minute break, the meeting resumed at 3:20 p.m.

INFORMATION continued

b. Preview of admissions/placement/remediation policies.

The mathematics proficiency standard will be revised from 18 on the ACT to 21 or 22 on the ACT. A provisional standard will be incorporated into the policy. The mathematics proficiency standard and the writing proficiency standard comprise the new remediation policy. This package will be shared with the campuses for input, as well as the K-12 community for their information. After further revision, the policy will be brought back to the Board for approval.

c. Teacher education accreditation.

MSU-Bozeman is considering moving their teacher education program from NCATE (National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education - <http://www.ncate.org/>) accrediting group to TEAC (Teacher Education Accreditation Council - <http://www.teac.org/>), a new accrediting group. There are some concerns about the differences in standards and the effects on students. Those with concerns are urged to contact MSU-Bozeman.

d. Indian Education for All: MSU-Bozeman's recent grant.

This information will be available on MSU's website.

e. Distance education initiatives from the OCHE/campus match program.

Tom Gibson, OCHE gave an overview of his report and thanked the campuses for their efforts in on-line learning.

f. Update on nursing programs

1. Recent decisions by the State Board of Nursing.

Concerns of the State Board of Nursing on the Missoula College of Technology and the Helena College of Technology campuses for the 2 year RN programs based on the model nursing curriculum:

- No qualified Director of nursing in place
- Requisite number of, and qualifications for nursing faculty
- Missoula given go ahead by State Board
- Helena postponed its program for a year
- State board may have concerns with model curriculum

2. Report on Practical Nursing at Flathead Valley Community College.

Approval of FVCC PN curriculum in January was conditional due to three of their pre-nursing courses in the program being out of compliance with the model curriculum. They were to return to this meeting to show they are now in compliance. However, based on discussions they are still out of compliance and need to work with OCHE to get in compliance.

CONSENT

Level I memorandum.

Motion by Regent Hamilton to Accept Level I approvals passed unanimously.

Staff and Compensation Committee Report

ACTION

Multiple-year contracts for non-tenure-track faculty; revise BOR Personnel Policy 711.3. **ITEM 136-105-R0907**

Committee sent this item back for revisions. It will be on the Agenda for the November 2007 meeting for Board approval.

INFORMATION

Report from the Recruitment and Retention Task Force.

Kevin McRae, OCHE, provided a synopsis of the report. Recommendations of the Task Force are:

- Active salary planning in executive budgeting process
- Enhanced benefits in dependent partial tuition waiver

- Assist with housing costs
- On-campus or near-campus child care
- Increased support of graduate programs
- Better summer session support
- Continued enhancement of employer contribution to ORP
- Faculty Start-up packages
- Merit pay
- Better conditions and contract terms for non-tenure track faculty
- Employment opportunities for qualified spouses
- Phased retirement options
- Seasonal work opportunities
- Enhanced training
- Flexible work schedules

The Recruitment and Retention Task Force unanimously agreed that the MUS needs to address retention and recruitment difficulties immediately to avoid future problems of hiring.

Regent Christian recommended starting with an incremental process to address the recommendations.

Public Comment: the following spoke in support of the recommendations in the report:

- Eric Burke, MEA-MFT
- Shannon Taylor, MSU Faculty Senate
- Sarah France, Classified Staff Council

CONSENT

Staff Items

- a. Staff: OCHE. **ITEM 136-100-R0907**
- b. Staff: UM-Missoula. **ITEM 136-1000-R0907**
- c. Professor Emeritus of Education, L. Dean Sorenson: UM-Missoula. **ITEM 136-1001-R0907**
- d. Professor Emeritus of Education and Home Economics, Audrey Peterson: UM-Missoula. **ITEM 136-1002-R0907**
- e. Professor Emeritus of Education and Home Economics, Marlene Bachmann: UM-Missoula. **ITEM 136-1003-R0907**
- f. Professor Emeritus of Forest Biometry, Hans Zuuring: UM-Missoula. **ITEM 136-1004-R0907**
- g. Professor Emeritus of Wildland Recreation Management, Stephen F. McCool: UM-Missoula. **ITEM 136-1005-R0907**
- h. Staff: Montana Tech-UM. **ITEM 136-1500-R0907**
- i. Staff: UM-Western. **ITEM 136-1600-R0907**
- j. Staff: MSU-Bozeman. **ITEM 136-2000-R0907**
- k. Staff: MSU-Billings. **ITEM 136-2700-R0907**
- l. Staff: MSU-Northern. **ITEM 136-2800-R0907**
- m. Staff: MSU-GF CoT. **ITEM 136-2850-R0907**

Motion by Regent Christian to approve Items a. – m. passed unanimously.

Labor Agreements

- a. Montana Public Employees Association. **ITEM 136-108-R0907**
- b. Printers and Communication Workers Union. **ITEM 136-109-R0907**
- c. Plumbers and Pipefitters. **ITEM 136-110-R0907**
- d. Pacific Northwest Council of Carpenters. **ITEM 136-111-R0907**
- e. Montana District Council of Laborers. **ITEM 136-112-R0907**
- f. International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers. **ITEM 136-113-R0907**
- g. Maintenance Painters Union. **ITEM 136-114-R0907**
- h. AFSCME (Miles City). **ITEM 136-115-R0907**
- i. Vocational Technical Educators of Montana. **ITEM 136-116-R0907**
- j. Operating Engineers (Bozeman motor pool). **ITEM 136-117-R0907**
- k. MSU–Billings Faculty. **ITEM 136-118-R0907**

Motion by Regent Christian to approve Items a. – k. passed unanimously.

Administrative, Budget, and Audit Oversight Committee Report

Regent Barrett indicated the combined system budget which would be considered the following day is in the amount of

\$1.18 billion, which is a \$60 million increase over the previous year. The state portion of the budget accounts for \$200 million of the \$1.18 billion. The University System leverages state funds five times in order to operate. The system serves a head count of 40,000 to 50,000 students and employs a head count of about 10,000.

- a. Office Building Lease for Grant Funded Programs; MSU-Bozeman ITEM 136-2001-R0907
Motion by Regent Barrett to approve Item a. passed unanimously.
- b. Short Term Loans for Continuation of Multi-Year IT Infrastructure Replacement Plan; MSU-Bozeman. ITEM 136-2003-R0907
Motion by Regent Barrett to approve Item b. passed unanimously.
- c. Campus Parking Permit System; UM-Helena. ITEM 136-1901-R0907
Motion by Regent Barrett to approve Item c. passed unanimously.
- d. College Savings Bank InvestorSure CD. ITEM 136-102-R0907
Regent Buchanan expressed reservations about using this type of investment tool.
Motion by Regent Barrett to approve Item d. passed 6-1 with Regent Taylor opposing.
- e. Governor's Postsecondary Scholarship Program, Policy 501.3. ITEM 136-101-R0907
Motion by Regent Barrett to approve Item e. passed unanimously.
- f. Annual Tuition and Fees for eLearning, Policy 940.20. ITEM 136-119-R0907
Public Comment:
Unnamed student supported the item.
Regent Taylor requested a report from the campuses in the fall of 2008.
Motion by Regent Barrett to approve Item f. passed unanimously.
- g. Exchange of Lots Adjacent to the North Campus; Montana Tech-UM. ITEM 136-1502-R0907
Motion by Regent Barrett to approve Item g. passed unanimously.

INFORMATION

- a. Audit Reports.
An audit report in OCHE will be forthcoming at the November 2007 meeting.
- b. Montana University Research and Education Network.
The last Legislative session provided funding for dark fiber acquisition by the University System. Certain definitions limited the use of this fiber and rather than compromise the University System, they probably will not use the funding, and will review other funding sources.
- c. Response to Report from Agriculture Review Panel; MSU-Bozeman.
 - Long term issues
 - MSU agreed with recommendations except for a specific lobbyist for agencies
 - One recommendation is for OCHE to address the overhead costsThe Board will re-address this item at the November 2007 meeting.
- d. FYE 2007 Negative Fund Balances Report – Frieda Houser, OCHE.
Deferred to Friday morning Budget discussions.
- e. FYE 2007 Outstanding Debt Report.
The system is in an appropriate position on payback sources for outstanding debt. The committee accepted the report.

- f. South Campus Master Plan; UM-Missoula – President Dennison, UM.

Regent Barrett summarized the process UM followed on this plan. There were several opportunities for the community members to comment and make recommendations in the process. This item will come back to the board at the November meeting for approval.

The Presentation will be sent to all Regents by President Dennison.

- g. Campus Peer Comparative Information.

This information will be sent to all Regents by Mick Robinson, OCHE.

CONSENT

- a. Foundation Operating Agreement; UM-Western. ITEM 136-1601-R0907
b. Expend Reverted Appropriations; UM-Western. ITEM 136-1602-R0907
c. Student Computer Fee Allocation; MSU-Great Falls. ITEM 136-2851-R0907
d. Student Equipment Fee Allocation; MSU-Great Falls. ITEM 136-2852-R0907
e. Construct “Think Tank” Coffee Shop; UM-Missoula. ITEM 136-1007-R0907
f. Data Center Remodel Project; Montana Tech-UM. ITEM 136-1501-R0907

Motion by Regent Barrett to approve Items a. – f. passed unanimously.

Public Comment

There was no public comment.

The meeting recessed at 4:50 p.m.

Friday, September 21, 2007

The meeting convened at 8:35 a.m.

- a. MUS Financial Data Warehouse Presentation.

Mick Robinson, OCHE on behalf of the Board of Regents, awarded Certificates of Appreciation to the following individuals who worked long and hard on the development of the Data Warehouse.

UM-Missoula

Brenda Avery
Julie Cannon,
Tom Domingo
Steve Henry
Karen Hunt
Rosi Keller
Val Lockridge
Mac McComas
Karen Moore
Diane Norem
Gary Tretheway
Peter Weckesser

MSU-Bozeman

Kathy Attebury
Sheron McIlhattan
Kevin Ward

Montana Tech of UM

Marlene McMillan

MSU-Billings

LeAnne Anderson

Rosi Keller, UM-Missoula demonstrated the Data Warehouse, highlighting its capabilities. Among its many tools, are a handbook that outlines commonality with a search function, and rapid creation of reports based on any number of criteria.

- b. Operating Budget Presentation and Approval.

Mick Robinson, OCHE advised the operating budgets before the Board for approval are in the amount of \$1.18 billion. Frieda Houser, OCHE, the Community Colleges, and System Campuses presented their budgets.

- Due to changes at federal level, GSL will probably lose \$1 mil in revenue each year beginning October 2007
- MUS owns 66% of all state facilities and deferred maintenance is under-funded
- Unemployment Insurance has increased 80% over the past several years (30% during the past year) due

- to statewide increases at some small campuses
- Discussion of pros and cons of bringing community colleges into MUS worker comp program – apparently no statutory restriction on including them
 - Textbooks can be 25% of cost of education
 - Rethink non-resident tuition for competitiveness
 - Through good stewardship, work to change OTO funding to permanent part of budgets

Following a 15 minute break, the meeting reconvened at 10:45 a.m.

Motion by Regent Christian to approve Operating Budgets approved unanimously.

The Board recessed at 12:20 p.m. and went directly into Executive Session.

The meeting adjourned at 1:00 p.m.

Posted on

October 16, 2007
(Date)

Approved by the Board of Regents on

(Date)

Sherry Rosette
Board Secretary

Lynn Morrison-Hamilton
Board Chair

The next Board meeting will take place on November 15-16, 2007 at MSU-Bozeman.