

July 10, 2008

ITEM NO.: 140-1002-R0708

Approval to Create an Undergraduate Minor in Mountain Studies

THAT:

In accordance with Montana University System Policy, the Board of Regents of Higher Education authorizes The University of Montana – Missoula to create an undergraduate minor in Mountain Studies.

EXPLANATION:

The University of Montana currently offers no formal academic program in Mountain Studies, a scientific field emerging at national and international levels. As a result of student interest and demand, the Department of Geography has taken the lead to coordinate this minor program. The minor in Mountain Studies would represent a consolidation and expansion of The University of Montana's offerings in this area. The minor curriculum is designed to complement students' disciplinary focus with scientific, systematic, and region-based knowledge and training. It is in the State's best interest to create this minor in order to make a unique offering to Montana students and to remain responsive to the needs of students, Montanans, the region and the nation.