ITEM 144-102-R0809 Modification of Board Policy 940.6, Fee Deferment

THAT: The Montana Board of Regents of Higher Education modifies its policy on tuition and fee deferment to allow for greater flexibility in establishing payment plans on student accounts.

EXPLANATION Board of Regents policy 940.6, Fee Deferment, sets forth specific timelines within which students must pay fees. The first 25% of fees are due upon registration, while the final payment is due within 90 days after classes begin. In addition, policy 940.6 specifies certain administrative and late charges, as follows:

• A charge of \$30 per semester is specified for deferred installment plan enrollment;

• A late charge of \$15 per installment is specified for payments not made by the due date.

Due to difficult economic conditions, the MUS wishes to offer students and parents more flexible payment options than are currently allowed under existing policy. For this reason, policy changes are proposed which will eliminate the specific timelines and charges set forth in policy 940.6.

MUS campuses perform a review of student receivables each month, and strive to minimize uncollectable accounts. All of the campuses have procedures in place to ensure that students who are behind in their installment payments are not allowed to register for classes or receive transcripts.

Because the installment late payment fee and installment payment plan charges are also approved as part of the review of fees under policy 940.12.1, specific administrative and late charges should not be identified in policy 940.6, on fee deferment.

ATTACHMENT: Proposed Board of Regents' policy 940.6, as revised.