

November 20-21, 2014

ITEM 165-2002-R1114**Authorization to Execute Lease for WWAMI program**

THAT

The Board of Regents authorizes Montana State University to execute a lease with Bozeman Deaconess Hospital to provide space to accommodate elements of MSU's WWAMI program.

EXPLANATION

1. Since 1973, the WWAMI Program has allowed Montana residents to be admitted to the University of Washington School of Medicine (UW). Students spend their first year of medical school at MSU, their 2nd year in Seattle, and their 3rd and 4th years at clinical training sites throughout the 5-state region (including at Bozeman Deaconess Hospital (BDH)). This Program provides Montana students with access to a top-ranked medical school (#1 in primary care for the past 20 years), and helps provide for the state's physician workforce (1 in 7 Montana physicians is now a WWAMI graduate). Recognizing the need for more physicians in the state, particularly in rural areas, the 2013 legislature increased the number of Montana students in each cohort of the Program from 20 to 30.
 2. In 2015, the Program will adopt a new curriculum that will have the students spend the first 18 months at MSU. That means there will be two cohorts of 30 WWAMI students at MSU each Fall. The new WWAMI curriculum will use small group active learning, which requires multiple classrooms, and will be much more clinical in content than what MSU currently teaches, so many of the required additional faculty will need to be physicians. Space for these WWAMI enhancements is not currently available on the MSU campus and neither is adequate study space to meet accreditation requirements.
 3. Bozeman Deaconess Hospital is in the process of building a new addition and has offered to lease a portion of the space to the MSU WWAMI Program. Locating the WWAMI students at the hospital will accommodate the Program's space needs and also make it easier to involve many practicing clinicians. In addition, UW has just approved a "clinical track" in Bozeman, which means WWAMI will have many 3rd year medical students doing clinical rotations at BDH. Locating 1st, 2nd, and 3rd year WWAMI students under one roof will facilitate additional integration of clinical and basic science teaching, which is a goal of the new curriculum.
 4. Bozeman Deaconess Hospital has offered to lease MSU approximately 12,000 square feet in its new building at \$16/square foot, inclusive of utilities and maintenance (\$192,000 annually). This amount will be appropriately managed within the WWAMI annual operating budget. The lease would be renewable in 4 or 5-year increments after an initial 4-5 year term. The expected lease start date is July 1, 2016.
 5. MSU expects to reimburse BDH for customization of the leased space, using WWAMI gift (donations) and reserve funding, with any remainder paid to BDH over the lease term. Should the lease not be renewed, BDH has offered to reimburse MSU for a reasonable portion of the leasehold improvement costs.
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ATTACHMENTS: None