

Resolution #1
Of the
Associated Students of Montana State University Billings
Supporting the Yellowstone Science and Health Building

WHEREAS ASMSUB recognizes that the 1.3 million dollar academic fees, which was already collected, is needed for the Yellowstone Science and Health Building.

WHEREAS ASMSUB recognizes that the current plan is to use the fees for the temporary relocation of the labs and other related costs during the building construction and renovation.

THEREFORE, LET IT BE RESOLVED that the Associated Students of Montana State University Billings supports using the 1.3 million dollars in already collected academic fees for the Yellowstone Science and Health Building project.

****Please see attached comments from students.**

Dated this 9 day of December, 2019

Members voting in favor:	<u> 11 </u>
Members voting against:	<u> 0 </u>
Members voting abstention:	<u> 0 </u>

Signature:



Savannah Merritt
Student Senate President
Montana State University Billings Administration,

MEMORANDUM

December 4, 2019

TO: Ms. Savannah Merritt
President
Student Senate

FROM: Susan L. Simmers
Vice Chancellor for Administration and Finance

RE: **Survey of Student Opinion
Yellowstone Science and Allied Health Building
Relocation of Classroom and Laboratory Space**

The Yellowstone Science and Allied Health Building construction is underway. To complete the construction on time, Montana State University Billings must fund a plan to relocate classrooms and laboratories, due to changes controlled by the state architect and engineering department. A committee has been working on this issue since August 2019 to develop an affordable plan with minimal impact to our students.

Lectures will be rescheduled into other rooms on campus, labs will be fully utilized at City College and temporary labs will be constructed. The College of Education Building will be used to house the temporary labs.

MSUB will utilize up to \$1.3 million of academic fee funds for the temporary relocation of the labs and other related costs. Cost includes but not limited to, equipment, design, construction, moving cost, and reversion of the space back to its original purpose at the end of the construction period.

Board of Regents Policy 940.3 Mandatory Fees, requires the University to conduct a survey of student opinion when utilizing more than \$200,000 in Academic Building Fees and then provide documentation of the survey to the Board of Regents to obtain spending authority for the project.

As a follow up to the meeting with Chancellor Edelman and I on December 2, 2019, I am requesting that a survey be conducted among the student senate. Please, reported back to me with the results by December 6, 2019.

Student Senate President
Montana State University Billings Administration,

After some discussion, the Associated Students of Montana State University Billings unanimously approved the use of funding from the Academic Building Fee in order to complete the construction of the Yellowstone Science and Allied Health Building, and the restricting of other campus classrooms that is needed.

During the discussion, some concerns were raised.

1. What will happen with the old equipment after the new building is constructed? We were made aware that there will be new equipment for the labs, but the old equipment is still of value and could potentially be repurposed.
2. Was there ever a survey that went out to the students who are affected by this to see how they would feel about having evening labs at Rocky? This is not the first choice of location, but if this option is significantly cheaper it is worth investigating.
3. How will this change affect summer research conducted by students and faculty? There are numerous opportunities for students over the summer within the science building, will those opportunities be supplemented?
4. The City College has a different class schedule for the timing of classes, will that be taken into consideration for students that have full schedules? Most Science students have their schedules back to back, how will that work with this transition?
5. What will the transportation to and from City College look like for these labs? There are currently bus passes for students through the MET Bus that takes them between the campuses, but the schedule is not always flexible for students with tight schedules.

The Associated Students of Montana State Billings agree that spending additional money from the Academic Building Fee is the current best option for our students, but there are still concerns.

Thank you for your hard work on this large project and for putting the needs of the students first.

Savannah Merritt
ASMSUB President
asmsub_pres@msubillings.edu
Montana Associated Students Treasure