

MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF REGENTS  
OF HIGHER EDUCATION  
MONTANA UNIVERSITY SYSTEM

July 21-22, 1980  
Billings, Montana

The meeting of the Board of Regents of Higher Education was called to order by Chairman James in the Library Conference Room, Eastern Montana College, Billings, Montana at 10:00 a.m. on Tuesday, July 22, 1980.

Regents present: Ted James, Mary Pace, Lewy Evans, Shelley Hopkins, Jeff Morrison, Lola Hansen, Jack Peterson. Regents absent: None. Also present was Commissioner of Higher Education John A. Richardson.

Chairman James called for additions or corrections to the minutes of the June 23, 1980 meeting. None being stated, the minutes were ordered approved.

Chairman James explained that the Capital Construction Committee had requested that the remainder of its meeting to place in priority order the long range building program for the 1981-83 biennium be held with the full Board. At the request of Lewy Evans, Chairman of the Capital Construction Committee, Regent Jack Peterson read the long range building program recommendations in priority order. Mr. Peterson moved the recommendations be approved.

President Bowers expressed concern at the priority of the Fine Arts facility at the University of Montana, and that the funds requested are for planning rather than construction. He stated that although he understood the rationale, the need for new buildings on all the campuses combined with the rapidly escalating costs of construction make it vital that new sources of funds be found for both new construction and maintenance. President Tietz concurred with the urgency of finding new sources of funds, and asked that MSU be granted authority to seek outside funds for planning the remodel of Lewis Hall and Cooley Lab. President Van de Wetering spoke to the need to place the addition to the Special Ed building at EMC on the list of priorities.

Regent Jack Peterson said that perhaps utilizing the Coal Tax Trust Fund to subsidize a one-time long range building program would have merit. Mr. Peterson requested that the campuses prepare new long range building proposals for presentation at the next Regents' meeting based on the concept that Coal Tax trust funds could be utilized on a pay-back basis.

Commissioner Richardson expressed his objections to the priority of the handicapped accessibility needs of the System and to the reduction of the amount requested to \$1 million, stating there is a need to show to the federal government and the legislature our good faith effort to be in compliance. After discussion, Lewy Evans moved that the amount requested for handicapped accessibility be amended to \$1,439,983 as recommended by the Commissioner. Motion carried.

Mr. Peterson's motion to approve the 1981-83 long range building program as shown on the attached list carried.

Jeff Morrison moved that Montana State University be granted authority to secure and expend outside funding in the amount of \$250,000 each for planning of Ryon Lab and the Engineering Science Research Center. Motion carried.

Mr. Evans stated that President Tietz reported to the Committee on the alternative energy facility at Montana State University, and would report to the Board at a future meeting.

Lewy Evans moved that Item 28-803-R0780, Naming of the Engineering Technology and Industrial Arts Building, Northern Montana College, be approved as recommended by the Capital Construction Committee. The motion carried.

Presentations were made to the Board on the future directions of the film and tv programs, and drama/dance, radio-tv and journalism programs at Montana State University and the University of Montana, respectively.

Chairman James recognized Professor Ronald Perrin, representing the University Teacher's Union and the Faculty Senate at the University of Montana, who spoke on the sense of urgency that is felt at UM regarding the Fine Arts facility.

Chairman James responded, stating that the Board has spent a great deal of time on its decision regarding the film and tv program, drama/dance, radio-tv and journalism, and that now that the decisions have been made

it is essential to approach the legislature and the public in a unified manner for implementation of those decisions. Chairman James reiterated the Board's belief that the University System is seriously underfunded both for buildings and for salaries, and endorsed Regent Peterson's suggestion that an attempt be made to utilize additional Coal Tax monies to alleviate some of the most immediate problems facing the University System.

The Board recessed for lunch at 11:40 a.m.

The Board reconvened at 1:15 p.m. with all members present.

Mary Pace stated that the Board wished to make a statement concerning the film and television, and radio-television programs at the two universities. Ms. Pace read the following statement, and moved that it be approved:

The Board of Regents during the past year has conducted a thorough review of the Film and Television program at Montana State University and the Radio-Television program at the University of Montana. Based on our review it is the considered opinion of the Regents that the two programs are sufficiently non-duplicative to warrant the continuation of both programs.

However, the Board of Regents is concerned regarding the future directions of both programs in order that they remain non-duplicative. Therefore the Board hereby directs both universities to bring before the Board any future significant changes in program offerings or directions before such changes are implemented. Further, the Commissioner of Higher Education is directed to monitor both programs to insure they remain non-duplicative.

Motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Richardson stated that in light of news reports the past weeks regarding federal grants to the University of Montana and Montana State University for the purchase of television equipment and to the Department of Administration to conduct a study of telecommunications in Montana he felt compelled to reiterate his personal views regarding any future relationships between the University System and a Montana-based public broadcasting system. The Commissioner indicated that he is not supportive of establishing a public television station at either university. He further indicated that he has discussed his position with the presidents of the two universities and they endorse his position. The Commissioner

expressed the view that if the state of Montana wants a public broadcasting system, a state entity entirely separate from the University System should be developed to achieve that end. The Commissioner further indicated that while the television-related programs at the two universities no doubt could contribute to public broadcasting through contracted services, no open circuit public television station should be located on either campus.

Jack Noble gave a progress report on the formula funding study and distributed copies of the final cost study of instructional programs within the University System. Mr. Noble reported that the estimated cost of producing the instructional cost study was \$50,000 and stated that the concept of developing a formula which takes into account student credit hour productivity by academic disciplines and student levels is valid, but the formula generated could be questionable. Forty peer institutions have been solicited for data, and forty campuses will be analyzed in the community college study. Mr. Noble commented on the shortage of staff resources to evaluate the data, and the time constraints imposed by the need to devise a workable formula prior to the 1981 legislative session.

On motion of Jack Peterson, the following items were approved as recommended by the Budget Committee:

Item 28-102-R0780, Student Blue Cross Fee Increase, University of Montana

Item 28-201-R0780, Authorization to Institute a Mandatory Health Fee for Upper Division Nursing Students Assigned to the Butte and Great Falls Extended Campuses through Montana State University

Item 28-601-R0780, Increase in Board and Room Rates for Fiscal 1981 for Western Montana College

Mary Pace reported that the following items were received by the Curriculum Committee for consideration at a future meeting:

Item 28-103-R0780, Authorization for Minors and Emphases within Academic Majors, University of Montana

Item 28-701-R0780, Authorization to Grant a Bachelor of Science Degree with a Minor in Computer Science, Eastern Montana College

Item 28-802-R0780, Authorization to establish a Higher Education Center at Malmstrom Air Force Base, Great Falls; Northern Montana College

Item 28-4001-R0780, Authorization to grant a one-year certificate program on Farm and Ranch Management, Miles Community College

Mary Pace moved that the following items be approved as recommended by the Curriculum Committee:

Item 27-201-R0480, Authorization to Grant the Degrees of Master of Science in Environmental Engineering and Master of Science in Environmental Health Engineering, Montana State University

Item 27-207-R0680, Authorization of Departmentalization in the School of Business, Montana State University

Item 27-702-R0480, Authorization to Grant a Bachelor of Science Degree with a Major in Aviation Operations, Eastern Montana College (REVISED)

Item 27-702-R0680, Authorization to Grant a Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Science Degree with a Major in Economics, Eastern Montana College

Item 27-2001-R0680, One Year Program in Petroleum Technology, Dawson Community College

The motion carried.

Commissioner Richardson reported that the background documents and materials relating to the Carson H. Vehrs, Jr. claim submitted to the University of Montana have been made available to the members of the Board for their analysis and review. Jeff Morrison moved that the claim of Carson H. Vehrs, Jr., for \$92,688.88 for attorney's fees, claimed loss of income and other sums as detailed in an enclosure to the letter to George H. Mitchell, dated October 3, 1979, be denied. Motion carried.

Commissioner Richardson reported that a staff workshop has been scheduled for August 1, 1980 in the Commissioner's office to prepare for the 1981 legislative session, to be followed in early September by a Presidents' workshop for the same purpose. The Board of Regents' workshop has been tentatively scheduled for November 15 and 16, 1980. The location of the Regents' workshop will be determined in the near

future and the Board and the press will be advised.

Commissioner Richardson reported that the campus budget hearings have been scheduled before the Regents' Budget Committee on August 21 and 22, 1980 in Helena. The Commissioner also presented the following proposed schedule of meeting dates for the Board of Regents for the next twelve months:

September 8, 1980	April 13, 1981
October 31, 1980	May 22, 1981
December 8, 1980	June 26, 1981
January 23, 1981	July 31, 1981
March 6, 1981	September 14, 1981

Commissioner Richardson stated that the Legislative Finance Committee visits to the campuses have been tentatively scheduled in October. When itineraries are set, the Regents will be informed.

Commissioner Richardson reported that the organizational meeting of the Montana Higher Education Student Assistance Corporation would be held on July 29, 1980 in Helena. At the Commissioner's request, Bill Lannan gave a status report on the Guaranteed Student Loan program. Mr. Lannan stated that the Department of Education signed off on the agreements which established the guarantee agency on June 13, 1980, and that workshops have been held across the state for lenders and financial aid officers. The increased number of applications to be processed by the financial aid offices was noted, and Regents expressed concern that the turn-around time to process applications must be closely monitored.

Commissioner Richardson asked Dr. Dayton to report on the Theatre Arts Option, Eastern Montana College. At the conclusion of the report the Board referred the item to the Curriculum Committee for review.

The Council of Presidents, Faculty Association and Student Advisory Council had no report.

On motion of Jeff Morrison, the following items were approved:

- Item 28-100-R0780, Staff, University of Montana
- Item 28-101-R0780, Resolution Concerning the Retirement of Walter C. Schwank, Professor of Health and Physical Education, University of Montana
- Item 28-200-R0780, Staff, Montana State University

- Item 28-400-R0780, Staff, Cooperative Extension Service
- Item 28-500-R0780, Staff, Montana College of Mineral Science and Technology
- Item 28-510-R0780, Degrees, Montana College of Mineral Science and Technology
- Item 28-600-R0780, Staff, Western Montana College
- Item 28-700-R0780, Staff, Eastern Montana College
- Item 28-710-R0780, Degrees, Eastern Montana College (1979)  
Degrees, Eastern Montana College (1980)
- Item 28-800-R0780, Staff, Northern Montana College
- Item 28-801-R0780, Retirement of William E. Lisenby, Associate Professor of English, Northern Montana College
- Item 28-810-R0780, Certificates and Degrees, Northern Montana College
- Item 28-901-R0780, Staff, Office of Commissioner of Higher Education (addition to the agenda)
- Item 28-501-R0780, Changes in Tenure, Montana College of Mineral Science and Technology, was deferred for action at the September meeting.


Mary Pace moved that the gubernatorial appointment of Van H. Barron, Havre, Montana to the Northern Montana College Executive Board be confirmed. Motion carried.


Mary Pace moved that the gubernatorial reappointment of Victor Miller, Billings, Montana to the Eastern Montana College Executive Board be confirmed. Motion carried.

Chairman James stated the Board had received a written request from President Bowers for an executive session which would be held immediately upon adjournment of the full Board.

The meeting adjourned at 2:00 p.m.

APPROVED:

  
Chairman, Regents of Higher Education  
Montana University System

  
Secretary