THE BOARD OF REGENTS OF HIGHER EDUCATION Montana University System

MINUTES

DATE:

MAY 18-19, 1995

LOCATION:

HERITAGE HALL

MSU COLLEGE OF TECHNOLOGY—GREAT FALLS

2100 16TH AVENUE SOUTH GREAT FALLS, MONTANA

REGENTS PRESENT:

JIM KAZE (CHAIRMAN), CORDELL JOHNSON (VICE CHAIRMAN), PAUL BOYLAN, JIM BROWN, COLLEEN CONROY (THURSDAY ONLY), AND PAT DAVISON (THURSDAY ONLY); COMMISSIONER OF HIGHER

EDUCATION JEFF BAKER; GOVERNOR RACICOT (THURSDAY

AFTERNOON)

REGENTS ABSENT:

KERMIT SCHWANKE (EXCUSED)

PRESIDENTS & CHANCELLORS

PRESENT:

PRESIDENTS GEORGE DENNISON AND MICHAEL MALONE;

CHANCELLORS LINDSAY NORMAN, SHEILA STEARNS,

WILLIAM DAEHLING, AND RONALD SEXTON

THURSDAY, MAY 18

Chairman Jim Kaze called the regular meeting of the Board of Regents to order at 2:00 p.m. Roll call showed that a quorum was present.

Regent Davison moved that the Board approve the minutes from the February 27, 1995 conference call meeting and the March 23, 1995 regular meeting as mailed to Board members. The motion passed unanimously.

CONSENT AGENDA

Staff Items

- a. <u>Item 87-1000-R0595</u>—Staff; The University of Montana—Missoula
- b. <u>Item 87-1006-R0595</u>—Resolution Concerning the Retirement of Thomas Birch, Professor of Philosophy, College of Arts and Sciences; The University of Montana—Missoula
- c. <u>Item 87-1007-R0595</u>—Resolution Concerning the Retirement of John M. Crowley, Professor of Geography, College of Arts and Sciences; The

- University of Montana—Missoula
- d. <u>Item 87-1600-R0595</u>—Staff; Western Montana College of The University of Montana
- e. <u>Item 87-2000-R0595</u>—Staff; Montana State University—Bozeman
- f. <u>Item 87-2001-R0595</u>—Retirement of Norman D. Reed, Professor of Microbiology, Microbiology; Montana State University—Bozeman
- g. <u>Item 87-2300-R0595</u>—Staff; Agricultural Experiment Station
- h. <u>Item 87-2301-R0595</u>—Retirement of C. Walter Newman, Professor of Animal Science, Animal and Range Sciences, College of Agriculture; Agricultural Experiment Station
- i. <u>Item 87-2302-R0595</u>—Retirement of David E. Worley, Professor of Parasitology, Veterinary Molecular Biology Laboratory; Agricultural Experiment Station
- j. <u>Item 87-2400-R0595</u>—Staff; Extension Service
- k. <u>Item 87-2700-R0595</u>—Staff; Montana State University—Billings
- l. <u>Item 87-2800-R0595</u>—Staff; Montana State University—Northern
- m. <u>Item 87-2850-R0595</u>—Staff; MSU College of Technology—Great Falls

Capital Construction Items

- a. <u>Item 87-1001-R0595</u>—Foundation Replacement and Addition to Forester's Residence, Lubrecht Forest; The University of Montana—Missoula
- b. <u>Item 87-1002-R0595</u>—Construct Mediated Classroom, Urey Lecture Hall; The University of Montana—Missoula
- c. <u>Item 87-1003-R0595</u>—Construct New Intramural Recreational Fields, South Campus; The University of Montana—Missoula
- d. <u>Item 87-2002-R0595</u>—Authorization to Provide Painting for Residence Life and Family Housing Facilities; Montana State University—Bozeman
- e. <u>Item 87-2003-R0595</u>—Authorization to Repair/Replace the Athletic Floors in the North and South Gymnasiums of the Marga Hoseaus H & PE Center; Montana State University—Bozeman
- Regent Jim Brown moved that the Board approve all staff and capital construction Items on the consent agenda. The motion passed unanimously.

Collective Bargaining Agreement

- a. Approval of Tentative Agreement with United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America
- After a brief review by Sue Hill, Director of Labor Relations and Personnel, Regent Davison moved approval of the agreement. The motion passed unanimously.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

ACADEMIC AND STUDENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

The Academic and Student Affairs Committee met at 9:15 a.m. in Rooms 106/107 of

the MSU College of Technology—Great Falls. Committee members present included Regents Cordell Johnson (chairman), Jim Brown, and Colleen Conroy. Chairman Kaze asked committee chairman Regent Johnson to present the committee's report to the full Board.

1. <u>ANNOUNCEMENTS</u>

- a. Regent Johnson reported on a breakout session held during the March AGB (Association of Governing Boards) conference in Seattle, which most of the Regents attended. The session addressed merging community colleges with university systems, and Regent Johnson distributed several brochures on the session to Dr. Richard Crofts, Deputy Commissioner for Academic Affairs, and the three community college representatives. Regent Johnson said although the recent legislation to do this in Montana did not pass, he would suggest they consider the merger again for the next legislative session.
- b. Level I Name Change approved at The University of Montana—Missoula College of Technology: <u>From</u>: AAS degree in Retail Management, <u>To</u>: AAS degree in Management.

2. <u>SUBMISSION AGENDA</u>

Regent Johnson briefly reviewed the following submission items:

a. <u>Item 27-001-R0480</u>—Higher Education Centers (REVISED 220); Montana University System

Regent Johnson said the College of Great Falls and Carroll College in Helena had some concerns with this policy, but discussions would continue to try to resolve those concerns before the July 1995 meeting in Helena.

b. <u>Item 87-002-R0595</u>—Repeal and Revision of Certain Board of Regents Policies Due to Change in Semester System; Montana University System

Regent Johnson said this item would repeal one policy and revise three older policies that were developed before the quarter system conversion to the semester system.

c. <u>Item 87-003-R0595</u>—Role and Scope Statements; Montana University System

Regent Johnson said these documents were completed in connection with the restructuring. Earlier role and scope statements were considered more as "snapshot" portrayals of the institutions, and these revised statements were more like mission statements.

Chairman Kaze said he was disappointed in the role and scope statements for Montana State University and The University of Montana as total universities. He said he did not see any of the cross-pollination that he felt they were moving toward in connection with the restructuring. He thought the mission statements of the universities as a whole ought to encompass something more than that presented. Chairman Kaze said the universities were more than simply sets of campuses.

Regent Davison said he felt they were missing a mission statement for the Montana University System as a whole.

Regent Johnson suggested that could be authored by the Commissioner's Office.

Commissioner Baker said a train of thought developing in higher education was that role and scope statements would be less important in the future. More important would be a campus' efforts to present a program that would be the most effective and efficient. The focus would be on the best delivery as opposed to simply defining territory. He said that should be kept in mind as they looked to the future.

Chairman Kaze said the term "multi-campus university" did not say much. He felt that should be defined for the consumer, the state, and the taxpayer. Goals to deliver educational opportunities everywhere in the state should be identified and explained, for example.

After further discussion, the Board concurred with the committee's recommendation to move <u>Items 27-001-R0480</u>, <u>87-002-R0595</u>, and <u>87-003-R0595</u> to the action agenda at the July 1995 meeting.

3. ACTION AGENDA

a. <u>Item 86-001-R0395</u>—Academic Program Review Recommendations—PHASE II; Montana University System

Regent Johnson said the Phase I recommendations had been approved at the March 1995 meeting, and the Phase II recommendations were now being brought forward for action.

Regent Johnson said the committee recommended postponing action on the master's program in Engineering Mechanics at MSU—Bozeman until the July 1995 meeting. He said the academic officers who attended the committee meeting agreed with all the recommendations.

- After a brief review of the recommendations for each institution, Regent Johnson moved that the Board concur with the committee's recommendation to approve Item 86-001-R0395 with the exception of MSU—Bozeman's master's program in Engineering Mechanics, which would be acted on at the July 1995 meeting. The motion passed unanimously.
- b. <u>Item 86-1002-R0395</u>—Approval of Proposal to Convert the Present Bachelor of Science Degree in Physical Therapy to a Master of Science Degree; The University of Montana—Missoula
- After brief discussion, Regent Johnson moved that the Board concur with the committee's recommendation to approve <u>Item 86-1002-R0395</u>. The motion passed unanimously.
- c. <u>Item 86-1601-R0395</u>—Authorization to Offer a Teaching Minor in Earth Science; Western Montana College of The University of Montana

- Regent Johnson moved that the Board concur with the committee's recommendation to approve <u>Item 86-1601-R0395</u>. The motion passed unanimously.
- d. <u>Item 86-301-R0395</u>—Approval of Proposal to Implement the Associate of Applied Science Degree or Certificate of Completion in Medical Assistant; Flathead Valley Community College
- Regent Johnson moved that the Board concur with the committee's recommendation to approve <u>Item 86-301-R0395</u>. The motion passed unanimously.

ADMINISTRATIVE/BUDGET COMMITTEE

The Administrative/Budget Committee met at 9:15 a.m. in Heritage Hall of the MSU College of Technology—Great Falls. Committee members present included Regents Pat Davison (chairman), Jim Kaze, and Paul Boylan. Chairman Kaze asked committee chairman Regent Davison to present the committee's report to the full Board.

1. <u>SUBMISSION AGENDA</u>

Regent Davison reviewed the following submission item:

a. <u>Item 87-004-R0595</u>—Repeal of Certain Board of Regents Policies from the Montana University System Policy and Procedures Manual; Montana University System

The Board concurred with the committee's recommendation to move <u>Item 87-004-R0595</u> to the action agenda at the July 1995 meeting.

2. <u>ACTION AGENDA</u>

a. <u>Item 21-003-R0778</u>—Appeals; Montana University System (REVISED 203.5.2)

Regent Davison said the committee was deferring action on <u>Item 21-003-R0778</u> until the July 1995 meeting.

b. <u>Item 86-1006-R0395 (Revised version)</u>—Authorization to Establish a Mandatory Student Radio Fee; The University of Montana—Missoula (including the College of Technology)

Regent Davison said ASUM President Jennifer Panasuk had presented a business plan (on file) to the committee for the proposed station and was available to answer any questions.

Regent Davison moved that the Board concur with the committee's recommendation to approve the revised version of Item 86-1006-R0395. The motion passed unanimously.

- c. <u>Item 86-1501-R0395</u>—Authorization to Establish a Student Athletic Fee; Montana Tech of The University of Montana
- Regent Davison moved that the Board concur with the committee's recommendation to approve <u>Item 86-1501-R0395</u>. The motion passed by a vote of 5 to 1; Chairman Kaze voted against the motion.
- d. <u>Item 87-1502-R0595</u>—Authorization to Increase the Building Maintenance and Use Fee and Building Fee; Montana Tech of The University of Montana
- e. <u>Item 87-1504-R0595</u>—Authorization to Increase the Student Union Building Fee; Division of Technology of Montana Tech

Regent Davison noted that the increase in the student union building fee at the Butte Division of Technology had not been approved by the students. Since the fees would be used for maintenance of buildings and ongoing programs, however, the administration felt the fee increase should be approved despite the students' opposition.

- After further discussion, Regent Davison moved that the Board concur with the committee's recommendation to approve <u>Items 87-1502-R0595</u> and <u>87-1504-R0595</u>. The motion passed unanimously.
- f. <u>Item 87-1503-R0595</u>—Authorization to Increase the Student Activity Fee; Division of Technology of Montana Tech

Regent Davison said the students at the Butte Division of Technology voted against this fee increase, and the committee's recommendation was that the item not be approved.

Chairman Kaze noted that <u>Item 87-1503-R0595</u> would be considered dead for lack of a motion to approve.

- g. <u>Item 87-1601-R0595</u>—Increase in Student Health Fee; Western Montana College of The University of Montana
- Regent Davison moved that the Board concur with the committee's recommendation to approve <u>Item 87-1601-R0595</u>. The motion passed unanimously.
- h. <u>Item 87-2005-R0595</u>—ASMSU Activity Fee; Montana State University—Bozeman
- i. <u>Item 87-2006-R0595</u>—Increase in Student Health Fee; Montana State University—Bozeman
- ► Regent Davison moved that the Board concur with the committee's recommendation to approve <u>Items 87-2005-R0595</u> and <u>87-2006-R0595</u>. The motion passed unanimously.
- j. <u>Item 87-2801-R0595</u>—Increase Student Union Use Fee; Montana State University—Northern

- Regent Davison moved that the Board concur with the committee's recommendation to approve <u>Item 87-2801-R0595</u>. The motion passed unanimously.
- k. <u>Item 87-2851-R0595</u>—Approval to Increase Associated Student Fee from \$3 Per Semester to \$5 Per Semester; MSU College of Technology—Great Falls
- Regent Davison moved that the Board concur with the committee's recommendation to approve <u>Item 87-2851-R0595</u>. The motion passed unanimously.
- l. <u>Item 87-001-R0595</u>—Inventory and Validation of Fees; Montana University System

Regent Davison said this item involved the approval of tuition and fees for 1996 for all campuses, tuition and fees for 1997 at The University of Montana—Missoula, and tuition only for 1997 at Montana State University—Bozeman. He said the fees at MSU—Bozeman had not been established for 1997 and would be brought forward at a later time. The only change to the item was in the student activity fee at the Montana Tech Division of Technology by virtue of the Board's previous action on Item 86 fee indicated would remain at \$3. Regent Davison said the average increase in tuition on the larger campuses was 7 percent. On a combined weighted average for the entire system, the figure was a little more than 8 percent. He noted that the tuition proposals the Board was approving were the same proposals that had been presented at the January and March meetings, and they were the same proposals presented to the legislature.

- After discussion, Regent Davison moved that the Board concur with the committee's recommendation to approve Item 87-001-R0595 with the exception of the student activity fee increase requested by the Montana Tech Division of Technology in Item 87-1503-R0595. The motion passed unanimously.
- m. <u>Item 87-2701-R0595</u>—Allocation of Student Equipment Fees; Montana State University—Billings
- Regent Davison moved that the Board concur with the committee's recommendation to approve <u>Item 87-2701-R0595</u>. The motion passed unanimously.
- n. <u>Item 87-1004-R0595</u>—Grant of Easement to the City of Missoula for Sewer Connection, Family Housing Complex; The University of Montana—Missoula
- o. <u>Item 87-1005-R0595</u>—Grant of Easement to Montana Power Company for Existing Transmission Line; College of Technology of The University of Montana
- Regent Davison moved that the Board concur with the committee's recommendation to approve <u>Items 87-1004-R0595</u> and <u>87-1005-R0595</u>. The motion passed unanimously.

- p. <u>Item 87-1008-R0595</u>—Prescott House Renovation and Campus Drive/Parking Improvements; The University of Montana—Missoula
- After brief discussion, Regent Davison moved that the Board concur with the committee's recommendation to approve <u>Item 87-1008-R0595</u>. The motion passed unanimously.
- q. <u>Item 87-1501-R0595</u>—Authorization to Accept a Gift of Land from West Butte Metals, Inc., a Montana Corporation; Montana Tech of The University of Montana
- After brief discussion, Regent Davison moved that the Board concur with the committee's recommendation to approve <u>Item 87-1501-R0595</u>. The motion passed unanimously.

3. <u>OTHER</u>

a. Direct Lending: Federal Family Education Loan Program and Federal Direct Student Loan Program Report — Bill Lannan, Director, Guaranteed Student Loan Program

The Board heard a presentation from William Lannan, Director of the Montana Guaranteed Student Loan Program. To supplement his presentation, Mr. Lannan distributed several handouts (on file) for the Regents' information: (1) a comparison of the FFELP (Federal Family Education Loan Program) and the FDSLP (Federal Direct Loan Program); (2) the loan cycle involved under both programs; (3) the state-administered student loan program's cohort default rate, FY92 (5.00%, lowest in the nation); (4) the guaranty agency recovery rates for defaulted Stafford loans, FY92 (17.35%, sixth in the nation); (5) the Montana Guaranteed Student Loan Program (MGSLP) sources of operating funds as percentage of budget; (6) program operations and uses of funds as percentage of budget; and (7) summary information on the MGSLP's loan volume, default rates, and recovery rates based on federal fiscal year October 1 through September 30.

b. Direct Lending: <u>Item 87-2004-R0595</u>—Federal Direct Student Loan Program Progress Report; Montana State University—Bozeman

The Board heard a presentation from Dr. Allen Yarnell, Vice Provost for Student Affairs at MSU—Bozeman. Dr. Yarnell reviewed the progress report in Item 87-2004-R0595 and distributed MSU—Bozeman's responses (on file) to 20 questions from the Commissioner's Office concerning the university's experience with the direct loan pilot program during the past academic year. Dr. Yarnell called the Regents' attention to several of the responses.

After Mr. Lannan and Dr. Yarnell concluded their reports, Chairman Kaze asked whether there were any questions.

George Dennison, President of The University of Montana—Missoula, said he understood that the Board already made the decision that the institutions could enter the direct lending program for the fall of 1996.

Regent Davison said that was correct, but if the Board did not feel the experience at MSU—Bozeman was positive, it would not recommend the other campuses go forward.

Commissioner Baker said the commitment was made pending review of where they were in the application process, taking into considering MSU—Bozeman's experience, and also being aware of the developments currently taking place in Congress.

President Dennison said all the campuses of The University of Montana had applied for and been admitted to the direct lending program for the fall of 1996.

Don Kettner, President of Dawson Community College, pointed out that the current student loan program was competitive and operated on an equal footing with the federal government. He wondered why they would want to move 60 or 70 jobs from Montana to Washington, D.C., to administer a program when Montana's program had such a good track record. He also noted that the income made by the state's local lenders would go to Washington, D.C.

Regent Johnson said he agreed, but the direct lending program seemed to be working well. He said his concern was about congressional action and the program's future.

Commissioner Baker pointed out that they were being asked to compare programs that were not equal. Direct lending was in its infancy but had a strong commitment from the federal government to make it work. However, the Department of Education, which administers the program, was under pressure to be disbanded through several proposals in Washington. Though they had the beginning of a program with great potential, the future was unknown. The Montana student loan program is a full-scale program that has worked, although it could be better. Commissioner Baker said they could not make a fair comparison.

Mr. Lannan said the comparison could only be made on the front end of the programs at that time—the delivery of funds to the student borrower. They should keep in mind, however, the ability of the Department of Education and its contractor to deal with students in a civil manner during the repayment process. Mr. Lannan said large organizations tended to deal with individuals in an impersonal manner. He noted that his office provided student borrowers personal contact and help with problems. Mr. Lannan pointed out that they should be concerned with both the front and back ends of a student loan program.

Chairman Kaze said they should continue to move ahead with caution, keeping in mind the best service to the student.

After further discussion, Regent Davison thanked Mr. Lannan and Mr. Yarnell for their reports.

c. Report on the Implementation of a Uniform Program of Health Insurance for All Montana University System Students — Dave Evenson, Director of Benefits, OCHE

The Board heard a presentation from Dave Evenson, Director of Benefits. Mr. Evenson reviewed his May 18, 1995 memo to the Board of Regents (on file) in regard to a

unified health insurance program. He asked the directors of the student health service centers on the Bozeman and Missoula campuses for their comments. Mr. Evenson said he would also ask for some direction from the Regents as to the approach they were taking.

Dr. Jim Mitchell, Student Health Services Director at MSU—Bozeman, said the process had been difficult to discuss in abstract, and they needed to have something on paper that had gone through a bidding process and included realistic price tags. He said it took longer than they would have liked but had at least allowed them to have a plan on the table. Dr. Mitchell reviewed the advantages of a systemwide plan, including (1) putting all the students who need health insurance in one risk pool to spread the risk and thereby lower individual premiums; (2) spreading the administrative costs over more students than with a smaller pool; (3) better bargaining power with insurance carriers by having all students in the system who need insurance (estimated at 10,000) in one pool; (4) affordability for students by having the same costs if they transfer among campuses, thereby eliminating problems with preexisting conditions; (5) better plans for the smaller campuses and colleges of technology; and (6) familiarity by health care providers around the state with a standard student plan.

Dr. Nancy Fitch, Student Health Services Director at The UM—Missoula, pointed out that students usually did not purchase health insurance until it was too late. She said they were frequently underinsured and encountered problems with preexisting conditions when transferring among campuses. Dr. Fitch said the only way to have an affordable insurance plan for students was to spread the risk, and the only way to do that was to make it mandatory on some level. She noted that there was considerable room to sit down with all the campuses and reach a common benefit package. If cost was a concern among some of the campuses, it could be reduced by shrinking the benefit package, which would still be better than no plan at all. Dr. Fitch said she looked forward to working with the students from the other campuses and reaching a consensus on an agreeable plan. However, she suggested waiting until the next academic year for implementation.

Regent Davison said the Board had met with student representatives during lunch, and the students indicated they would like to be involved in the discussions concerning a systemwide health insurance program. He said the students raised some good issues and suggested those be addressed as discussions continued. He said he appreciated the efforts of everyone working together on the issue, and a unified approach would ultimately make the difference.

The Board recessed at 3:30 p.m.

FRIDAY, MAY 19

The Board reconvened at 8:30 a.m. Chairman Kaze noted that Regents Conroy and Davison were excused from Friday's session but that a quorum of four Regents remained.

NEW BUSINESS

a. Appeals

Chief Legal Counsel LeRoy Schramm said the Board had received materials on the

appeal by Mr. Doug Giebel, including Mr. Giebel's appeal to the commissioner, the commissioner's decision, Mr. Giebel's appeal to the Board, and a letter to Mr. Giebel from the commissioner. The Regents were being asked whether they wanted to accept the appeal. If so, a hearing would be set for the next meeting. If not, they would be upholding the commissioner's decision. Though neither side typically presented substantive arguments at that stage of the process, Chief Counsel Schramm said he was available for questions, along with the appellant and his legal counsel, who were also at the meeting.

Regent Johnson said he had reviewed the material, noted that the appeal was not filed in a timely manner, and said he found nothing to suggest the Board should entertain the appeal. He moved that the appeal be denied.

After brief discussion, the motion to deny the appeal of Mr. Doug Giebel and thereby uphold the commissioner's decision passed unanimously.

b. Benchmarking

President Dennison distributed a report to the Board that provided an update on the benchmarking process that UM has participated in for the past three years. President Dennison reviewed the progress to date and highlighted the definitions of operational benchmarking; the types of benchmarking; related, ongoing, and improvement processes at The University of Montana; and functions/processes included in the benchmarking survey. President Dennison also distributed FY94 comparative summaries for (1) Montana Tech, Western Montana College, and public comprehensive universities; and (2) The University of Montana—Missoula and public research universities.

Among the issues discussed during the discussion that followed were potential savings through exemption from state procedures (handout distributed by UM (on file) indicated that Oregon could save \$18 million by being exempt); accountability; a comparison of UM administrative salaries with per capita states; student participation in benchmarking; and exploring the option of systemwide benchmarking in areas such as admissions and financial aid.

Chairman Kaze thanked President Dennison for the report.

COMMISSIONER'S REPORT

Commissioner Baker said he was responsible for conducting evaluations of the university presidents every two years. He recently spent a day on the Missoula campus meeting with various groups to discuss President Dennison's activities and performance. Commissioner Baker said President Dennison's evaluation was positive, and he wanted to commend him on the work he was doing at UM. Restructuring was being accomplished in an exemplary manner, and the people of Montana had reason to be proud of President Dennison's performance.

Commissioner Baker said he also wanted to thank Bob Frazier from The UM—Missoula and Marilyn Wessel from MSU—Bozeman for their work during the legislative session. He said they worked with the student interns and lobbyists and were excellent representatives of their campuses and the system as a whole.

Concerning agency funding, Commissioner Baker said they were in the process of dealing with the agency faculty issue through strategic planning, shared governance, or a collaborative negotiations process and would be reporting on that at a future meeting.

STUDENT REPORTS

President Dennison noted that the May meeting was Jennifer Panasuk's last as president of ASUM. Matt Lee was the new president.

MSU—Northern Chancellor Bill Daehling announced that Jennifer Obie would be representing MSU—Northern again as president next year and as the new president of MAS (Montana Associated Students).

Chairman Kaze said the meetings the Regents have had with the students for the past year during the noon hours were extremely helpful and productive, and the Regents looked forward to working with the students during the upcoming year.

MSU—Billings Chancellor Ron Sexton introduced Dawn Dawson as the new student body president at MSU—Billings.

MSU—Bozeman President Michael Malone introduced Toby Morris as the new ASMSU president, and Jack Drumheller as the interim provost replacing Dr. Mark Emmert.

CAMPUS REPORTS

MSU—Bozeman President Malone distributed two articles from the *Lewistown News-Argus* concerning opportunities through the MSU campuses for central Montanans who want to work toward obtaining a college degree and a broader education while staying in Lewistown.

The UM—Missoula President Dennison said that in conjunction with the commissioner and the governor, they were proposing a conference for September 1995 focusing on "Quality, Access, and Cost: The Financial Future of Public Higher Education in the West." The invitees would come from the western United States. President Dennison reviewed the schedule (on file), which he distributed to the Board, and noted that 10 spots were being held open for the MSU campuses. The conference cost of \$57,040 would be provided by private funds.

Dr. Walt Nolte from Flathead Valley Community College distributed an article from *The Daily Inter Lake* in Kalispell concerning Wendy Burns, an FVCC student who was the first and only college student in Montana history to be named to the All-USA Academic First Team for Community and Junior Colleges.

Chairman Kaze announced that Miles Community College President Jud Flower was retiring and thanked President Flower for his many years of service to Miles Community College and to the Montana University System.

Chairman Kaze also announced that Student Regent Jim Brown had fulfilled his term on the Board and was attending his last meeting. Chairman Kaze presented Regent Brown with a plaque and thanked him for his service on the Board.

Chairman Kaze said he wanted to give a special thanks to Dean Will Weaver and his staff at the MSU College of Technology—Great Falls for hosting the Board meeting and the associated functions.

With no other business to come before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 9:45 a.m.

Mailed to the Board of Regents on

June 23, 1995

(Date)

Rose M. Bond

Secretary to the Board of Regents

Approved by the Board of Regents on

(Date)

Jim Kaze, Chairman

Board of Regents of Higher Education