



**MONTANA UNIVERSITY SYSTEM**  
**Office of the Commissioner of Higher Education**

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**MEMORANDUM**

January 15, 2004

**TO:** Montana Board of Regents  
**FROM:** Roger Barber, Interim Deputy Commissioner for Academic and Student Affairs  
**SUBJECT:** Level II Submissions

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Several new academic proposals have been submitted by the campuses of the Montana University System, under the Level II approval process. Those proposals will be reviewed by the academic officers, in January, and will move to the action agenda for the Montana Board of Regents at subsequent meetings. The new proposals include the following:

**The University of Montana–Missoula:**

➤ **[Item No. 122-1009-R0104](#)**

The University of Montana-Missoula requests permission to offer an interdisciplinary Minor in Nonprofit Administration. The new minor is proposed by the Department of Political Science, and includes coursework from several other departments including communication studies, psychology, recreation management, sociology and business. The minor program could complement several areas of study at The University of Montana-Missoula, and would help to prepare students for careers in the nonprofit sector. The minor will also build on the nonprofit certification program currently in place at the institution through American Humanics, Inc.

➤ **[Item No. 122-1021-R0104](#)**

The University of Montana-Missoula requests permission to offer an interdisciplinary Master of Arts degree in Intercultural Youth and Family Development. Perhaps the first of its kind anywhere, the proposed degree would prepare students for employment with international aid organizations, with special emphasis on the intercultural perspectives that are important in that kind of work. The degree would also include a one or two-year supervised field placement with such organizations as the Peace Corps or VISTA.

➤ **[Item No. 122-1001-R0104](#)**

The University of Montana-Missoula requests approval of a Doctorate of Philosophy degree in Anthropology, with specialization in Cultural Heritage Studies and Historical Anthropology. The Department of Anthropology plans to train doctoral students who focus on cultural heritage studies, with an emphasis on cultural resource management and historical anthropology. The program will include coursework on the greater Northwest and Native North America, and has the potential of attracting a broad spectrum of students, including Native American and ethnic minority students.

➤ **Item No. 122-1004-R0104**

The University of Montana-Missoula seeks permission to establish a new Doctorate of Philosophy degree in Biomolecular Structure and Dynamics. Interdisciplinary in nature, the proposed degree would utilize the faculty and course offerings of the Divisions of Biological Sciences, Chemistry and Pharmaceutical Sciences; and would emphasize the structural and functional aspects of biology at the molecular level. According to the program proposal, Biomolecular Structure and Dynamics is the intellectual meeting ground for students and faculty in the disciplines of chemistry, biology and biomedical science, and is an area of priority for federal research funding.

➤ **Item No. 122-1003-R0104**

The University of Montana-Missoula and Montana State University-Bozeman request approval to establish new Master of Science and Doctoral degree programs in Neuroscience. The programs will be a collaborative effort between the Department of Biomedical and Pharmaceutical Sciences of the School of Pharmacy and Allied Health Sciences at The University of Montana-Missoula and the Department of Cell Biology and Neuroscience at Montana State University-Bozeman. The programs are a natural result of the exponential growth in the area of neuroscience that has occurred on both campuses. The collaboration will enable the two campuses to create a nationally competitive graduate program in neuroscience, while taking advantage of innovative conferencing technology that will allow classes to be held simultaneously on both campuses.

➤ **Item No. 122-1005-R0104**

The University of Montana-Missoula requests approval to establish the Montana Avian Science Center within the Division of Biological Sciences. Building on The University's reputation in the field of avian biology, the Center would promote and conduct avian research, increase its bird monitoring partnerships with public and private agencies, develop collaborative efforts with other avian research and monitoring programs, enhance educational opportunities in bird research, and disseminate the results of those various activities.

➤ **Item No. 122-1008-R0104**

The University of Montana College of Technology-Missoula seeks approval to convert its currently approved Associate of Applied Science program in Practical Nursing to a Certificate program in Practical Nursing; and to offer an Associate of Science degree leading to licensure as a Registered Nurse. This proposal was on the submission agenda, for informational purposes only, at the November 2003 meeting of the Montana Board of Regents. Because of questions about the proposal from the Chief Academic Officers, the College of Technology agreed to carry the item over to the January 2004 submission agenda.

➤ **Item No. 122-1007-R0104**

The University of Montana College of Technology-Missoula requests permission to convert its option in Medical Assisting in the Associate of Applied Science degree in Medical Office Technology to an *Associate of Applied Science degree in Medical Assisting*. The degree program would also move from the Department of Business Technology to the Department of Health Professions. The purpose of the proposed conversion is to stimulate program growth through a greater degree of association and collaboration with the other allied health professional programs in the College of Technology. The program change will also hopefully provide students, faculty and the Missoula community with a more comprehensive allied healthcare education.

**Montana State University-Bozeman:**➤ [Item No. 122-2014-R0104](#)

Montana State University-Bozeman requests approval to offer a Minor in Military Studies. If approved, the minor will give the two Reserved Officers Training Corps programs at the institution more leverage in recruiting and retaining students. The minor program would not only prepare cadets for active military service, but would also provide them with the opportunity to study the United States military. MSU-Bozeman would become one of 46 universities in the United States that offer such a degree, if the program is approved.

➤ [Item No. 122-2013-R0104](#)

Montana State University-Bozeman and The University of Montana-Missoula request approval to establish new Master of Science and Doctoral degree programs in Neuroscience. (See Item No. 122-1003-R0104, under The University of Montana-Missoula, above, for more details about the collaborative proposal.)

**Montana State University-Billings:**➤ [Item No. 122-2703-R0104](#)

Montana State University-Billings wishes to implement a Minor in International Studies. The proposed minor will draw on existing coursework to create a program that provides a strong foundation in international studies, foreign languages, and intercultural communication. The minor will complement and enhance any academic major at MSU-Billings, and will prepare students for today's global economy.