

Associated Students of MSU GF-COT

July 9, 2004

Board of Regents
Salish-Kootenai College
Pablo, MT

Commissioner Stearns, Mr. Chairman, members of the Board:

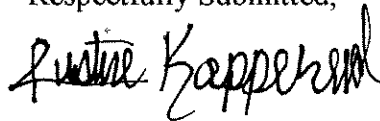
MSU Great Falls-College of Technology is nearing the end of the Summer 2004 semester. The last day of summer classes will be July 23rd.

The first class to graduate from the Dental Hygiene program scored among the top 15 schools in the country on their written exams.

Our senate is currently planning events for 2004-05. Events will be advertised outside of the college to draw more people in. On June 31, 2004, at MSU Great Falls-College of Technology's first Leadership Team meeting, the Associated Students presented a list of activities to be instituted next year to create greater student involvement. The list which was viewed by faculty, staff, administration, and students was well-received. The first event of 2004-05 will be a concert held at MSU Great Falls-College of Technology on September 10th, 2004. The concert features a country music band called the Montana Ponies, based out of Great Falls.

The college is in the midst of planning for a night of baseball, to be held August 8th at Legion Park. Our students, staff, administration, and teachers are all involved with promoting this project.

Respectfully Submitted,



Justine Kapperud
President

Montana Tech of The University of Montana-Butte

Student Report

Submitted: July 8, 2004

- Montana Tech – Butte is having a slow summer, most of the senators elected are new and most of them are spread out making communication difficult. With the senators I have been in contact with ideas for this coming year are being formulated and feel like we are getting a good start for the year.
- ASMT's executive board has been communicating with each other in hope of formulating an outline of what we expected to get done this school year, along with a draft of the senators and students that will make up our comities for this following year.
- Tech's main focus is on freshman and new student orientation this summer. ASMT is also concentrating on the organizing and preparations needed for September's Regent meeting, which will be held at Montana Tech in Butte.
- I'm personally looking forward to the first meeting with the senators of ASMT to share and discuss the ideas being brought forward by MAS.

Respectfully submitted by,



Matt Larson
ASMT-President
Montana Tech of The University of Montana- Butte



Access & Excellence

**Associated Students of Montana State University-Billings Student Report:
Presented by President Adam Lucido to the Montana Board of Regents of Higher
Education on July 9th, 2004—Salish Kootenai College – Pablo, MT.**

Chairman Foster, members of the board, Commissioner Stearns: Good Morning!

Once again, I'm Adam Lucido, representing the Associated Students of Montana State University-Billings and before I begin, I would just like to thank you all for allowing this opportunity for student reports.

Summer at Montana State University-Billings. I have the propensity to want to go ahead and begin by telling you that it has been a quiet summer at Montana State University-Billings—but who am I kidding. Even in the summertime it seems that our student body is willingly active and keeping quite busy. Next week marks the final week of the second of three summer class sessions—the overall response from students concerning our summer session classes again being exceptionally positive. Within this time, I'm pleased to report that our Associated Students have been on-board and in full-swing this summer, meeting every month, already planning important events such as our lobbying efforts, a sign project and initiatives to both equip all MSU-B students with the resources to get involved in November's election and to empower them to head to the polls. It has indeed been a great summer at MSU-Billings.

To celebrate the transition into a final session of summer classes, the Associated Students and the Student Activities Board will host our annual 'Summerfest' extravaganza next week—an event for students currently taking classes at MSU-Billings, along with our prospective students and incoming freshmen and the other member of our extended family, the community of Billings.

A couple of noteworthy projects are underway within our residence halls. Just last month, the security of the residents at Montana State University-Billings was even further heightened as both of our halls were equipped with palm-scanning entrance technology. When often times a change like this encounters certain degrees of friction as students adjust to a new procedure, the response at MSU-Billings concerning this project has been overwhelmingly positive—our residents feel safer—this is an amazing accomplishment. In addition to ensuring the highest degree of safety to our residents, our residence halls are also in the process of being retrofit with a new sprinkler system for fire emergencies.

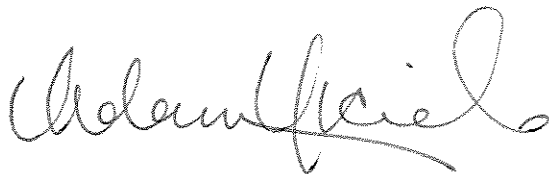
Again, our students are pleased with the efforts being made to ensure their safety. This project should be completed by the middle of next month.

I'd like to recognize a guest with me this morning that I have not had the chance to introduce to you yet. This is Connie Summers, ASMSU-B's new Political Action Director—an amazing addition to our team. It has been discussed at several of our MAS luncheons the importance of empowering students at all campuses to get out and vote in the November election. Connie has been instrumental in attaining this goal, already developing plans for potential forums and voter drives and receiving 5,000 voter registration cards to ensure every student at MSU-Billings celebrates their right to vote in the November election. Some potential ideas range from a Political Action Week, one month before the election, to bringing in businesses and members from the Billings community to help promote our cause to even organizing a march to downtown for our throng of registered student voters to personally turn in their voter registration cards. I am excited to report to you in September our progress and, on behalf of the Associate Students of Montana State University-Billings, personally invite you all to our prospective events.

Finally, there is one thing about being a student at Montana State University-Billings that I am just too proud of not to report on—and that is our Online Program. In 1997, our program began with an enrollment of 37. Just last spring, that enrollment has skyrocketed to 2900 students registered with three credit courses. Not only do we offer a myriad of courses instrumental in fulfilling requirements for certain programs, but we currently furnish students with **ten** options for baccalaureate degrees along with three masters programs. We have offered up to 150 courses within our program with at least 70 instructors who have participated in online instruction. Virtually every part of the state of Montana has taken advantage of this amazing opportunity, along with different states and countries. Forty percent (40%) of our online students are not from the Billings area—of the sixty percent (60%) who are, forty percent (40%) of these students claim that higher education would not be at all possible for them without our online program. MSU-Billings' commitment to Access and Excellence shines through our amazing online program, and as a student obtaining one of my degrees exclusively online, I truly appreciate and celebrate the success of our online program.

On behalf of the Associated Students of Montana State University-Billings, I thank you again for this opportunity and commend you all on a great last couple of days. We thank you for your time and comments yesterday at the luncheon and hope that you all have a great rest of the summer here in our beautiful state. **Thank you!**

Adam Lucido
ASMSU-Billings President



Associated Students of Montana State University
Bozeman, MT

Student Report:

Submitted July 8, 2004

Currently in Bozeman, it has been a fairly quiet summer. The ASMSU Senators have been requested to look over our current Bi-Laws and make corrections to them, leaving them grammatically correct as well as up to date with our current needs.

The recently approved Renovations of the Strand Union Building, Health and PE Complex, and building of the new Black Box theater are underway. There will be a hiring committee at the beginning of the school year for the Health and PE Complex. Currently, applications are being accepted for Montana architects to fill this position.

ASMSU has partnered with Bridger Bowl, a local ski mountain, to again make available the "Ride On" Pass. With this pass, students are able to purchase a specific number of lift tickets for a discounted price. This was a particularly great achievement as Bridger Bowl raised its lift prices but promised the same price given last year to MSU students.

With the Orientation Sessions constantly gathering throughout the summer, ASMSU has sponsored many events for these incoming students. Some examples include a comedian, free movie from our ASMSU Films committee, and a magician and hypnotist for the next groups. All students attending Orientation at MSU have also filled out voter registration cards.

Montana State University has also recently challenged the University of Montana to a voter registration contest. Many ideas have been brainstormed for this challenge, as Montana State University will most certainly win.

Respectfully submitted by,



Lauren Krnavek
ASMSU Vice President
Montana State University—Bozeman



Associated Students of The University of Montana
University Center - Suite 105 #0072
Missoula, Montana 59812-0072

Office (406) 243-2451
Fax (406) 243-5430

Commissioner Stearns and members of the Board of Regents:

Although relatively few students are on campus this summer, ASUM has been busy. We have taken part in all three of the orientations that have taken place this summer, giving incoming freshmen an opportunity to explore the many ways that they can get involved during their careers at UM in both ASUM and the student groups we sponsor.

On Wednesday, July 7, we had the first hearing of Flint v. Dennison. As you may know, our former president, Aaron Flint, has filed a suit against the University and ASUM alleging that our expenditure limits on student elections violate his first amendment rights. US District Court Judge Donald Molloy has promised a ruling on Mr. Flint's motion for a preliminary injunction before school starts in the fall. I would like to thank all of the people involved in the case, including Dr. David Aronofsky, Dr. Leroy Schramm and Attorney Brenda Wright for their amazing work. They are a truly incredible (and intimidating) legal team.

ASUM Student Resolution Officer Heidi Goettel, a law student at UM, has jumped into her new role with both feet. She is currently working with students to resolve more than five academic complaints against faculty members. I also must say that I have gained newfound respect for this process and the rights it affords both students and faculty members. For a short time I acted as Interim Resolution Officer, and I can now fully understand the work it takes to advance a process that makes The University of Montana run smoothly with a minimum amount of tension.

This summer has also been an opportunity to prepare for next year. Here are a few things to look forward to from ASUM in the upcoming year:

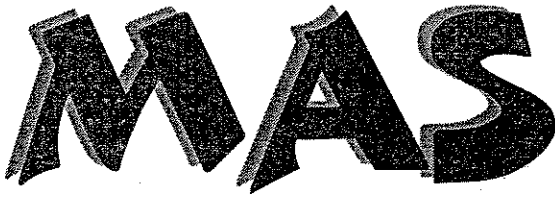
- A comprehensive voter registration/Get Out the Vote effort.
- Candidate forums for local and statewide races.
- New ideas, in cooperation with UM administration, for making our campus safer.
- Increased student involvement in the oversight of the athletics department and the deficit reduction plan.
- A full review and revision of ASUM By-Laws.
- A strong possibility of expansion of the ASUM Childcare program to better meet the needs of students at the College of Technology campuses.

ASUM is looking forward to another successful year, and more opportunities to improve student life at UM.

Respectfully submitted,



Gale L. Price
ASUM President



Montana Associated Students of the Montana University System

The Montana Associated Students is composed of the following organizations:

The Associated Students of Montana State University Bozeman, MT

The Associated Students of the University of Montana Missoula, MT

The Associated Students of Montana Tech of UM Butte, MT

The Associated Students of Montana State University-Billings Billings, MT

The Associated Students of Montana State University-Northern Havre, MT

The Associated Students of Western Montana College of UM Dillon, MT



Dawson Community College Glendive, MT

Flathead Valley Community College Kalispell, MT

Miles Community College Miles City, MT



Great Falls College of Technology Great Falls, MT

Division of Technology of Montana Tech Butte, MT

Missoula College of Technology Missoula, MT

Helena College of Technology Helena, MT

Commissioner Stearns and members of the Board of Regents:

First and foremost, the Montana Associated Students would like to congratulate Student Regent Kala French on her appointment to the Board.

MAS enjoyed two special guests at our July meeting. Josh Vanek and Chris Bolin, both of Montana Campus Compact, presented two very distinct opportunities for students to get more involved. Mr. Vanek explained that he would like students to work with other members of the campus community to ensure that all available Americorps scholarship funding is being utilized. Mr. Bolin made the student leaders in MAS aware of an opportunity to collaborate with the Raise Your Voice program, which educates students on how to become more civically engaged.

The lawsuit that MAS filed against Governor Martz has been resolved. Judge Honzel ruled that MAS was not entitled to the forms of remedy requested, but left the question of whether the Governor has the authority to extend the Student Regent's term unanswered. Upon advice of our attorney, MAS will not appeal.

The MAS website is nearly complete. It will include meeting information and agendas, our contact information, minutes from the MAS meetings and, eventually, our mission statement, which we are currently drafting, and information regarding MAS programs. We may also be posting the Student Regent's newsletter on our site as well.

Finally, MAS has begun taking solid steps to put together coordinated lobbying effort. Over the next few weeks, we will be exploring the finer details and starting to take action. We hope to hire a lobbyist to represent all students of the Montana University System by October. We will also be putting together a program to create student liaisons, or Ambassadors, to each individual legislator. These students will be in charge of presenting information and following up with their legislator. We look forward to coordinating with the Regents and other members of the MUS to put together what Regent Semmens aptly termed "a common songbook" so that everyone in the University System can be singing the same tune during the legislative session.

Respectfully submitted,

Gale L. Price

Interim MAS President