

March 1-2, 2012

**ITEM 154-1013-R0312**

**Construct a Student Athlete Academic Center, The University of Montana – Missoula**

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**THAT**

Consistent with the provisions of MCA 18-2-102 and Board of Regents Policy 1003.7, the Board of Regents for the Montana University System authorizes The University of Montana-Missoula to implement steps necessary to engage both an architect and contractor to plan for, design, and construct a Student Athlete Academic Center.

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**EXPLANATION**

The Board granted approval for The University of Montana-Missoula to retain an architect to create the concept and schematic drawings for a Student Success/Athletic Department Facilities Modernization Master Plan. Authorization was received under Board ITEM 151-1005-R0511 at the May, 2011 Board meeting. This master plan was driven by deficiencies in facilities, affecting the welfare of student athletes, identified in a NCAA Self Study re-accreditation visit. The master plan is complete and attached. The construction of the Student Athlete Academic Center (the Center) will be the first step in the implementation of the master plan.

The Center will provide expanded and dedicated space for concentrated and monitored studying, as well as much-needed office space for athletic programs. Upon completion, the Center will serve over 300 student athletes. Student athletes will have access to a team of tutors and academic mentors in an environment that promotes academic achievement. The Center will provide access to a full-time academic advisor to provide on-the-spot academic counseling and support.

The project will be a two-level addition located in the “notch” on the west side of the Adams Center immediately south of the Student Recreation Center. This addition will also improve the appearance of the highly-visible Adams Center. The two-story façade will provide an opportunity to update and integrate the façade of the Adams Center main entry/ticketing office with the Student Recreation Center.

The preliminary budget recommendation provided by A&E Architects as part of the master plan is \$2.27 million. However, authority is requested for \$2.5 million given that the planning to date was schematic in nature.

Funding for the project will come from the following sources:

- \$2.4 million from private gifts (This amount has been raised to date)
  - \$100 thousand from Athletic Repair & Replacement Account (Plant Fund)
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**ATTACHMENTS**

Attachment 1 – Project Overview

Attachment 2 – Student Success Master Plan