Thursday, January 18, 2007

The full board convened at 8:00 a.m.

Roll Call indicated a quorum present.

Regents present: Chair Lynn Hamilton, Vice Chair Stephen Barrett, Lila Taylor, Clay Christian, Mark Semmens, Heather O'Loughlin, Janine Pease, and Commissioner Steams ex officio.

Jan Lombardi, Education Policy Advisor represented Governor Schweitzer.

Also Present:

ACTION

a. Distance Learning Tuition and Fees
The Committee Recommended approval of Item a.
Discussion covered:
- student activity fees will be taken up by the Committee on Fees
- Schedule of fees does not necessarily preclude development of new programs
- Activity Fee is a positive opt-in item
Item a. approved 7-0

b. Expansion to Washington-Grizzly Stadium; The University of Montana – ITEM 134-1007-R0107.
Regent Semmens moved approval of Item b. as amended
The Student Resolution in support of this item was provided. The student athletics fee was negotiated down from $42 to $10 per semester.
Approved 5-2 with Regents Hamilton and Taylor dissenting.

CONSENT AGENDA

   a. Certificate in Practical Nursing, Flathead Valley Community College
   b. Resolution on International Studies

Administrative/Budget
   a. HPER Building Bleacher Project, Montana Tech of The University of Montana
   b. Transfer of Property from the Helena School District # 1; The University of Montana-Helena College of Technology
   c. Computer Fee Proposal, Montana State University-Billings
Staff and Compensation
a. Revise Effective Date Of Vehicle Safety Policy 1910; Montana University System
b. Approval of University System/Employee Joint Venture Under MUSP 407, Orser and Pittendrigh; Montana State University-Bozeman
c. Approval of University System/Employee Joint Venture Under MUSP 407, Gray and Goodsell; Montana State University-Bozeman
d. Office Commissioner of Higher of Education
e. Montana Tech of The University of Montana – ITEM 134-1500-R0107 As amended
f. Authorization to Confer the Title of Professor Emeritus of Anthropology upon Leslie Davis; Montana State University-Bozeman
g. Authorization to Confer the Title of Professor Emeritus of Biology upon Ernie Vyse; Montana State University-Bozeman
h. Montana State University-Billings

Regent Barrett moved approval of the Consent Agenda
Approved 7-0

INFORMATION and DISCUSSION

- Commissioner’s Report Link

Commissioner Stearns gave updates on:
- Governor's Homework assignments
- OCHE's Legislative Web Site
- Strategic Plan
- Possible change in administration of MUS self funded Workers Comp

- Update on MGSLP (Montana Guaranteed Student Loan Program)

Mr. Bruce Marks gave an overview of the Montana Guaranteed Student Loan Program as well as its relationship to the Student Assistance Foundation, Montana Higher Education Student Assistance Corporation and The Office of the Commissioner of Higher Education.
See Presentation Link

Following a 15 minute break the Board reconvened at 10:00 a.m.

- Update on SAF (Student Assistance Foundation) and MHESAC (Montana Higher Education Student Assistance Corporation)

Jim Stipich gave the history of the Student Assistance Foundation and Montana Higher Education Student Assistance Corporation, and the growth it has seen which he projects continuing in the future.
See Presentation Link

PUBLIC COMMENT

Ms. Joyce Silverthorn of the Montana Indian Education Association addressed the Board on non-beneficiary funding at the Tribal colleges and Indian Education For All.

Commissioner Stearns announced there will be no change in the date of the March Board of Regents meeting.

With no further business to come before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 11:10 a.m.

Posted to the WEB on
January 26, 2007

Approved by the Board of Regents on
3-1-07

Sherry Rosette
Board Secretary

Lynne Morrison-Hamilton
Board Chair

The Board of Regents next meet February 28-March 1, 2007.