



**MINUTES**  
**Montana Board of Regents**  
**Montana State University - Bozeman**  
**November 17-18, 2011**

**Thursday, November 17**

The Board meeting convened at 8:15 AM.

Roll call indicated a quorum present. Regents present: Chairman Clayton Christian, Regents Todd Buchanan, Stephen Barrett, Joe Thiel, Major Robinson, Angela McLean, Paul Tuss, and Commissioner of Higher Education Sheila Stearns, *ex officio*. Governor Brian Schweitzer, *ex officio*, was excused, and Superintendent of Public Instruction Denise Juneau, *ex officio*, was represented by Steve York.

Regent Stephen Barrett moved approval of the September 21-22, 2011 board minutes as amended. Motion passed 7-0.

Comments by Chairman Clay Christian

Chairman Christian noted national themes at a recent WICHE conference of university systems working toward becoming more of a "system," as Montana has done, as well as the essentialness of prioritization of programs.

Chairman Christian recognized the Grateful National project honoring veterans and related events held at UM-Missoula.

MSU President Waded Cruzado recognized faculty and student groups for outstanding achievement.

System Issues Reports and Action

- Listening Session Themes

Commissioner Sheila Stearns highlighted themes from the fall 2011 listening sessions:

- ✓ The strong need for outreach to communities, most notably in northeast Montana. Commissioner Stearns recommended appointing a task force to reach the needs of the Sidney area, with President Cruzado and Deputy Commissioner John Cech co-chairing the task force committee.
- ✓ Affirmation of appreciation for faculty and students' engagement in research.
- ✓ Efficiency and common course numbering needs to be kept robust and up to date.
- ✓ Dual enrollment, alignment with K-12, and collaboration with K-12 needs to continue.
- ✓ Value of faculty.
- ✓ Keep telling the story of all the university system has to offer. Faculty and students are willing and eager to assist with messages to the legislature.

- Strategic Plan – Dashboard Indicator | Enrollment



Associate Commissioner Tyler Trevor gave a presentation on the 2011 enrollment report which indicated an overall increase of .3 percent increase, resulting in the highest enrollment in Montana University System history. He stressed that the system has hit its peak and has sustained the growth. Mr. Trevor explained the report reflects 15 credits, being taken by one or more students, equals one FTE (full-time equivalent). He highlighted comparisons between resident and nonresident students, and by institutional type, and noted that two year education enrollment has doubled over the past two years. Mr. Trevor highlighted the important role of advising for student success and retention. He said a taskforce has been formed to develop best practices and learning outcomes for advising.

Panel: MSU Campuses

- Topic: Goals, Plans, Challenges

MSU-affiliated campuses gave a presentation on student advising on their respective campuses. Some of the initiatives already occurring, as well as goals for future advising, included student orientation, transfer advising sheets, student support services, career advising, strong focus on retention, one-stop shop, advisors evaluating transfer coursework, financial literacy, approachability of advisors, peer advising, developing a culture of advising, how to evaluate the quality and effectiveness of advising, and online advising programs. The MSU campuses intend to hold a state-wide advising summit to enhance consistent and reliable professional and faculty advising.

## **ACADEMIC, RESEARCH, and STUDENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE**

### **CONSENT**

- a. Revision of BOR Policy 404 – Indirect Cost (F & A); OCHE *ITEM 153-104-R1111*
- b. Level II items (from September submission)

Board discussion followed with clarification that Associate of Applied Science degrees may require up to 72 credits, while Associate of Science or Associate of Arts degrees, which are transfer degrees, may require only 60 credits.

Public Comment:

Betsy Gains Quammen, MSU-Bozeman PhD student, spoke in support of the Chinese studies and the religious studies majors. (The religious studies major had been withdrawn from the agenda prior to the meeting.)

### **ACTION**

- a. Montana Institute on Ecosystems; OCHE *ITEM 153-103-R1111*

Deputy Commissioner Sylvia Moore noted that this is part of the EPSCoR grant (Experimental Program to Stimulate Competitive Research), and is an institute across the entire university system, a virtual institute, and involved extensive collaboration among the campuses. Regent Robinson proposed an amendment to the item, page 2,



Objectives #4, to include tribal college collaboration. Regent Buchanan, committee chair, and Deputy Commissioner Moore agreed to insert the amendment.

b. Mission Change; MSU-Bozeman *ITEM 153-2006-R1111*

President Cruzado explained that this focuses on the land grant mission and the importance of implementing the elements of learning, discovery, and engagement.

c. Resolution on Transferability; OCHE *ITEM 153-106-R1111*

Deputy Commissioner Moore stressed the importance of transferability and confirmed that this project is an ongoing partnership that will continue to go forward and focus on common learning outcomes.

Regent McLean noted the theme of transferability of credits is now embedded in discussions of high school teachers and counselors.

Associate Commissioner Trevor noted 8,000 courses have been given common course numbering throughout the transferability project. Regent Buchanan noted this is a good deliverable that has occurred.

### INFORMATION

a. Level I Memorandum (approved at OCHE)

There was no discussion on this item.

b. Update on American Indian and Minority Achievement

Brandi Foster, Director of American Indian and Minority Achievement (AIMA), OCHE, gave a presentation on minority achievement in Montana. She noted goals of increasing employment for minorities in the state, collaboration among the campuses, increased access and educational success, and development of strategic actions to achieve equity in educational outcomes.

Regent Angela McLean noted the efforts of K-12 education to embed the components of this work into school curriculum.

c. GEAR UP - New Award and New Approaches

Deputy Commissioner Moore noted GEAR UP (Gaining Early Awareness for Readiness for Undergraduate Programs) was recently awarded a seven-year, \$28 million grant. She noted that Sandy Merdinger, Director of GEAR UP, announced her retirement, effective the end of December, and commended Ms. Merdinger's outstanding service.

d. Affordability Taskforce Update

Associate Commissioner Trevor noted the affordability taskforce's examination of the total number of four-year degree recipients and their student debt load, adding that 63%



of MUS students graduated with student loans. He reported that more students are taking loans, and those students are borrowing higher amounts.

Bill Muse, UM-Missoula, noted that need based aid available to Montana students is very low and the state has been depending on federal Pell grants to meet the gap.

Jenifer Gursky, ASMUS President, spoke on funding, accessibility, decreased state funding, and the positive results from two-year education students transferring.

Commissioner Stearns noted committed efforts of her office focused on managing affordability and student debt. She said other states provide more need-based aid than Montana and they found that many Montana students are taking loans for living expenses as well.

Regent Barrett said a major issue regarding student debt is the number of years to college graduation.

e. Discussion on Developing PhD Programs at Montana Tech of UM

Chancellor Donald Blackketter spoke on the desire of MT Tech to provide doctoral education, dialog with MSU-Bozeman and UM-Missoula, current and potential funding, collaboration, and support of the MUS Strategic Plan and support for the state of Montana. He noted that five students have expressed interest in this program.

Discussion followed focused on the following points.

- ✓ MT Tech would like to come to the January board meeting with an action item for approval of offering PhD programs.
- ✓ Concern of duplication since material science programs already exist on other campuses.

Commissioner Stearns noted that her recommendation is for a small portion the \$300,000 appropriated to the MUS by the legislature for exploration of this topic to be spent on an independent study of the need and opportunity for collaborative engineering PhD programs in Montana. She added that the board does not have enough data yet to make a decision whether or not to move this forward.

Chairman Christian said board members need to know if there is something unique to only MT Tech that would indicate a need for this program, then the conversation is worth moving forward. If another campus can do the same work, then this should not move forward simply to just expand the system.

President Cruzado noted that, while there have been many conversations among the campuses, her understanding is that a group of faculty at MSU are already engaged in materials science, and the understanding regarding the funding from the legislature was to do a feasibility study, to have an objective approach. President Cruzado and Regent McLean agreed with Commissioner Stearns' recommendation.

Regent McLean spoke in support of expanding opportunities for the students and supported moving the conversation forward.



The board expressed concern about adding this program from an operational perspective and requested more information before moving this forward for a decision, including information on how a collaborative approach would work.

f. Update on Digital Learning Resources Project at UM

Provost Perry Brown, UM, noted digital books cost approximately 50% of the cost of paper textbooks, and explained that UM may eventually request approval from the board for a student fee to cover the cost. This is currently a pilot project at UM and they are examining national best practices. UM will have data on the project once the courses are completed.

g. NWCCU Core Themes; MSU-Northern and MSU-Bozeman

There was no discussion on this item.

h. Discussion of Long-term Financing Plan for Accelerated BSN Program

Due to time constraints, the Chair decided to delay discussion on this information item to a future meeting.

i. Academic Program Review

- MSU-Bozeman
- MSU-Billings
- MSU-Northern
- MSU-Great Falls COT
- UM-Missoula
- Montana Tech of The University of Montana

Regent Barrett requested reviewing the process to provide more information from the reports and to also indicate what programs are removed.

Deputy Commissioner Moore said the program reviews are of the most use to the campuses and are part of the quality control on the campuses. The type of review varies depending on campus resources, with some campuses hiring outside reviewers. Dr. Moore said the Chief Academic Officers will review the program review process to develop recommendations to the board.

Public Comment

- Miles Pennell, ASMT President, spoke in support of the development of a PhD program at MT Tech.
- Dave Beck, UM-Missoula, spoke of concern of the national trend of placing a larger percentage of the cost of higher education on the students.

Panel: UM Campuses

- Topic: Goals, Plans, Challenges

UM President Engstrom and the UM-affiliated campuses spoke on optimizing



opportunities for students and access. The campuses highlighted innovation occurring at their campuses including the Grateful Nation project in honor of veterans, campus days, best practices focused on target issues, strategic planning, virtual work, student advising, and a global leadership initiative.

**ADMINISTRATIVE, BUDGET AND AUDIT OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE**  
**INFORMATION**

a. Trust Lands Update

OCHE staff provided an update of the progress on the implementation of Senate Bill 409, which was passed by the 2011 Legislature and which revised the rate-setting process for trust land recreational sites which benefit our campuses, primarily Montana State University-Bozeman and Montana Tech of The University of Montana. Rules interpreting and implementing the law have been proposed. OCHE will provide comments on those rules in December. In January final rules will be proposed to the Land Board, which will then adopt final rules. MUS campuses can expect rate changes arising out of this new law and revised rules in late 2012 or early 2013.

Terry Leist, MSU Vice President for Administration, and Chancellor Blackketter, Montana Tech, provided their best estimates of the impact of Senate Bill 409, upon implementation. Vice President Leist estimated that student fees would have to go up \$35 per semester should the trust land proceeds decrease as expected; Chancellor Blackketter's estimate was that Montana Tech would have to increase student fees by approximately \$35 per year for every \$100,000 in reduction of land grant income.

b. Energy performance Contract Update; MSU-Bozeman

Vice President Leist said MSU intends to bring a request for \$8.7 million to the board for approval in January which will include several projects, taking 18-24 months for completion.

Regent Joe Thiel urged support of this project and moving this forward.

c. Audit Reports; OCHE

Deputy Commissioner Robinson noted the three financial audits with UM getting three recommendations and MSU receiving ten recommendations, including the MSU 2% tuition waiver issue. The OCHE audit included a clean opinion with zero recommendations.

d. Update on construction of a new dorm; MT Tech

Chancellor Don Blackketter noted that MT Tech has contracted with an architect and is in the beginning planning phase for the project, which is for a possible 200-bed facility.



It is the intent of MT Tech to bring forth a request for additional authority to proceed further on the project. He noted the intent is to have this be a self-supporting facility.

### CONSENT

- a. Approval Request of Short Term Loans for IT Infrastructure Replacement Plan; MSU-Bozeman *ITEM 153-2005-R1111*
- b. Authorization to Expend Student Computer Technology Fees; UM-Helena COT *ITEM 153-1901-R1111*
- c. Local Executive Board Appointments; OCHE *ITEM 153-105-R1111*
- d. Revision of Board of Regents Policy 217.1, Local Executive Boards; OCHE *ITEM 153-112-R1111*
- d. Horsemanship Lease Agreement; UM-Western *ITEM 153-1601-R1111*

### ACTION

- a. Design a New Academic Classroom and Office Building – College of Business; MSU-Bozeman *ITEM 153-2003-R1111*

President Cruzado noted this building would be a College of Business, state of the art teaching facility. The item requests authorization to move forth with the planning process for the facility which has received a private donation to fund the cost of construction.

- b. Renovation of Wilson Hall Writing Center; MSU-Bozeman *ITEM 153-2002-R1111*

Vice President Leist, MSU, explained this is for an expansion and renovation of the writing center to provide a better learning environment and increased access for students.

- c. Design and Construction of Museum of the Rockies Planetarium Upgrade; MSU-Bozeman *ITEM 153-2001-R1111*

Terry Leist noted the Planetarium opened 20 years ago and is in need of an upgrade, including current technology needs. He told the board this project would utilize non-state funds from the reserves of the planetarium and fundraising.

- d. Repair Mechanical & Electrical Systems in Student Union Building; MSU-Billings *ITEM 153-2701-R1111*

Chancellor Rolf Groseth, MSU-Billings, said part of the funding will come from an intercap loan. MSU-Billings students agreed to use student building fees for this project as well.

- e. Curry Health Service Renovation; UM-Missoula *ITEM 153-1001-R1111*



## MONTANA UNIVERSITY SYSTEM

---

Assistant Vice President Rosi Keller, UM-Missoula, explained this project is being driven by student demand for services. She noted this utilizes the current space more efficiently. The majority of funding would come from an intercap loan.

f. Reorganization of MonTEC; UM-Missoula *ITEM 153-1011-R1111* |

Bob Durringer, UM-Missoula Vice President for Administration, explained that UM-Missoula has become the operator of MonTEC, due to the dissolution of the Missoula Area Economic Development Corporation (MEADC). This item requests approval of the new relationship between MonTEC and The University of Montana. He noted that UM will provide bridge financial assistance to MonTEC over the next two years to keep the organization moving forward.

g. Authorization to Name the University Theatre The George and Jane Dennison Theatre; UM-Missoula *ITEM 153-1012-R1111*

President Engstrom indicated this is in recognition of former President George and Jane Dennison. Former President Dennison took the lead in renovation of the theatre and it is the site of numerous activities. Given the Dennisons' contributions to the campus and the arts, this is the right thing to do. He noted a tragic accident in which Keith Dukes, an employee of the private construction company that built the facility, was killed on site and told the board a plaque in Mr. Duke's memory will be placed in the facility.

### Public Comment

- Blake Bjornson, ASMSU, spoke in support of the MSU action items.
- Pat Downing, President of the Board of Trustees, Museum of the Rockies, spoke in support of the Museum of the Rockies Planetarium upgrade.
- Miles Pennell, MT Tech student, referenced SB 409, urged the board to move forward with the cabin site issue and to recover this money and spoke in support of the new dormitory planning.
- Lisa Titus, Director of OneMontana, updated the board on the project focused on urban vs. rural issues in the state.

The board recessed at 4:45 PM for the purpose of Executive Session to discuss a personnel item.

### Friday, November 18

The Board reconvened at 8:45 AM.

## STAFF AND COMPENSATION COMMITTEE

### INFORMATION / DISCUSSION

a. Commissioner Search Update

Regent Major Robinson noted an executive search firm, Greenwood Asher & Associates, is assisting with the search for the commissioner of higher education, due to



Commissioner Stearns' pending retirement. Betty Asher met individually with the regents recently to determine qualifications and skills needed for the position and joined in listening sessions in several Montana cities regarding the attributes desired for the position.

b. MUS Workers Compensation Obligations

Leah Tietz, Director of Workers Compensation, OCHE, noted new provisions of the MT Workers' Compensation Act passed by the 2011 Legislature require MUS to make additional efforts to facilitate stay-at-work/return-to-work for injured employees. Stay-at-work/return-to-work (saw/rtw) is the process of getting workers back to productive work as soon as safe and appropriate to do so following a work related injury, even if they are not yet able to perform 100% of their regular work duties. The MUS Work Comp Program is drafting policies and procedures to bring the MUS into compliance with the new requirements when they take effect July 1, 2012.

Director Tietz expects to come back to the BOR with recommended revisions to current BOR Policy 713.2. She requested support from the BOR and the campus CEOs as the WC Program engages campus departments to collaborate on the planning and implementation of return to work assistance to best meet campus needs and meet the new statutory requirements. Efforts by the MUS to get employees back to work as soon as safely possible following an injury are aligned with current BOR policy, MT public policy and MT statute.

c. Faculty/Staff Recruitment and Retention *Kevin McRae, OCHE*

Kevin McRae, OCHE, noted recommendations for the regents to consider and plan early in the biennial process in the planning for any possible initiatives on recruitment and retention. He requested guidance from the board for including faculty and staff input on recruitment and retention issues in developing the budget for the next biennium.

Commissioner Stearns recommended holding an event early in 2012 for a special analysis as the regents put together budget priorities. In addition to faculty and staff, every campus CEO is dealing with the challenges of recruitment and retention and have made it a priority for the board to include budget funding for compensation. Commissioner Stearns requested the campuses gather data on recruitment and retention options. The board agreed with the recommendation and for moving forward with planning for this event.

Public Comment:

- Marvin Lansverk, MSU Faculty, spoke in support of holding such an event and noted the challenge of increased faculty vacancies.
- Marco Ferro, MEA-MFT, expressed appreciation to OCHE and the BOR for moving this forward and the attention focused on recruitment and retention issues. Mr. Ferro offered to assist in the effort.
- Kevin Thane, MSU Staff Senate, spoke in support and appreciation of the board's attention and effort to compensation issues.



Regent Robinson will work with the commissioner's office to move this effort forward. Regent McLean requested having a student representative involved in this effort.

## CONSENT

### Staff Items

- a. UM-Missoula *ITEM 153-1000-R1111*
- b. MSU-Billings *ITEM 149-2700-R1111*
- c. Professor Emeritus of Mathematical Sciences: Rick Billstein; UM-Missoula *ITEM 153-1003-R1111*
- d. Professor Emeritus of Health and Human Performance and Education: Sharon Dinkel Uhlig; UM-Missoula *ITEM 153-1004-R1111*
- e. Professor Emeritus of History: William E. Farr; UM-Missoula *ITEM 153-1005-R1111*
- f. Professor Emeritus of Political Science: Louis D. Hayes; UM-Missoula *ITEM 153-1006-R1111*
- g. Professor Emeritus of Physics and Astronomy: James P. Jacobs; UM-Missoula *ITEM 153-1007-R1111*
- h. Professor Emeritus of Psychology: Lynne Koester; UM-Missoula *ITEM 153-1008-R1111*
- i. Regents Professor Emeritus of History: Paul Lauren; UM-Missoula *ITEM 153-1009-R1111*
- j. Professor Emeritus of Industrial Technology: Robert Shook; UM-Missoula *ITEM 153-1010-R1111*
- k. Professor Emeritus of Curriculum and Instruction: Rhea A. Ashmore; UM-Missoula *ITEM 153-1014-R1111*

### Labor Agreements

- a. Montana State University Tenure-Track Faculty; OCHE *ITEM 153-108-R1111*
- b. Montana State University Non-Tenure-Track Faculty; OCHE *ITEM 153-109-R1111*
- c. Montana State University Northern Faculty; OCHE *ITEM 153-110-R1111*

Kevin McRae explained the first two labor contracts (items a & b) are the new MSU contracts and noted that contract "c", MSU-Northern Faculty, was not agreed upon, therefore, Item 153-110-R1111 is withdrawn from the agenda at this time.

### Public Comment:

- Professor Sandy Osborn, MSU-Bozeman, spoke on the opportunity of the collective bargaining agreement process and gratitude for the efforts throughout the process.
- Kari Cargill, MSU Non-Tenured Faculty, spoke in appreciation of the collective bargaining agreement process.
- Marco Ferro, MEA-MFT, spoke in support and appreciation for the MUS efforts in collective bargaining on the MSU-Bozeman campus.



Regent Mclean moved approval of the consent agenda staff items a-k and labor agreements a-b (removal of c). Motion passed 7-0.

### **ACTION**

Appointment of Regents Professor: Richard Bridges; UM-Missoula  
*ITEM 153-1013-R1111*

President Engstrom introduced Professor Richard Bridges, noting he is an outstanding professor and has excelled at every aspect of research, teaching, and service. Nomination for the appointment of Regents' Professor is a rare appointment reflecting rigorous review on several levels on the campus. President Engstrom urged approval of Professor Richard Bridges as regents' professor.

Regent Robinson moved approval of ITEM 153-1013-R1111. Motion passed 7-0.

Professor Bridges spoke in appreciation of the recognition, noting good leadership on the campus, blending good research with education, collaboration, communication, and working as a team.

#### Public Comment

- Blake Bjorson, ASMSU, spoke about ASMSU, student involvement, success and retention efforts, and a potential future BOR item, a future fee request to fund the MSU student newspaper, the Exponent.

### **TWO-YEAR EDUCATION and COMMUNITY COLLEGE COMMITTEE**

Deputy Commissioner John Cech recognized the upcoming departure of Dean Joe Schaffer, MSU-Great Falls COT, and his outstanding commitment and leadership. Dean Schaffer has announced his resignation from the position of Dean of MSU-Great Falls COT to accept a position in Wyoming.

### **INFORMATION**

#### a. Update on Comprehensive Mission Committee

Deputy Commissioner Cech updated the board on extending the comprehensive two-year mission to the colleges of technology and the next steps to create opportunities for citizens in Montana. He noted that headcount has more than doubled at the Montana colleges of technology over the past decade.

Deputy Commissioner Cech noted themes that emerged from listening sessions:

- Changing the organizational culture and the rebranding process are opportunities to promote COTs as affordable access to higher education.
- Expanding the comprehensive mission is important and includes university transfer, adult-friendly programming, flexible programming, and partnerships
- Funding, facility issues, and sustainability concerns.



- Expanding services to support students, such as support services and outreach to veterans.
- Engaging business and industry.
- Embedded COTs have unique issues to address, such as coordination of services, university partnership; affiliation with the parent campus is important.
- Flexibility and responsiveness.
- K-12 coordination efforts in dual enrollment and addressing perceptions and misperceptions.

Dr. Cech noted he has been asked by Presidents Cruzado and Engstrom to expand Strategy #1 (extending the comprehensive two-year mission), to include: Gallatin College Programs, Bitterroot College Programs, MSU-Northern, and UM-Western. He said a retreat will be held in December at MSU-Bozeman which will focus on: 1) mission expansion; 2) rebranding; and 3) new naming ideas for the College of Technology. In addition, each of the COTs will present their draft campus plans for expanding the comprehensive two-year mission at their respective campuses.

Chancellor Rolf Groseth noted that the COT campuses are to bring an outline to the retreat summarizing where they are in terms of their plan of moving toward the comprehensive mission. They are to present these draft plans to the board in January 2012, followed by the presentation of final plans to the board in March 2012.

Steve York, OPI, spoke in appreciation of work with K-12, and noted the commitment of K-12 to work closely with the MUS on this.

Regent Robinson encouraged collaborating with the tribal colleges to expand the impact to all of Montana.

The two-year committee members demonstrated consensus for expanding Strategy #1 to include Gallatin College Programs, Bitterroot College Programs, MSU-Northern and UM-Western.

### b. Discussion of Statewide Workforce Development Issues

Deputy Commissioner Cech addressed goal #2 of the BOR Strategic Plan regarding responsiveness to meet workforce needs in the state. He noted that enrollment at Montana's two-year colleges is still less than half of the national average. Dr. Cech gave a presentation focused on the population concentrations in Montana and the workforce needs from Western Montana to the Bakken Reserve in northeastern Montana. He noted that due to the natural resource development, northeastern Montana is experiencing a changing economy, increased workforce needs, challenges and opportunities.

Dr. Cech noted that workforce training needs to: be regionally-based and customized to the needs of area employers; well-designed and adaptive; inter-coordinated; workplace-oriented; life-long; offer flexible scheduling; offer on-line opportunities; and provide "stackable" credentials. He recommended bringing recommendations to BOR in March 2012, including identifying short and long-term needs and partnerships.



Commissioner Stearns recommended appointing a task force to meet the workforce needs in northeastern Montana, to be co-chaired by President Cruzado and Deputy Commissioner Cech. Other members of the task force will include, but not be limited to the MSU campuses, Pat Wise of the Office of the Governor, working together with MCC and DCC since they are physically close to this area, and tribal colleges. Dr. Stearns emphasized the tremendous need in northeastern Montana, noting that the area is in crisis mode, and therefore, this needs to be done collectively.

The board demonstrated consensus to work on this plan and to create a task force to address the workforce needs in northeast Montana.

Dean Bingham, UM Helena COT urged utilizing existing two-year resources to meet these needs.

Regent McLean suggested moving forward with the task force, and noted that involvement of the K-12 community is critical. She noted the need to respond with certificates and continue to develop pathways.

Panel: Community College Presidents

- *Goals, Plans, Challenges*
- *Workforce Development Issues*

Presidents Jane Karas, FVCC, Stefani Hicswa, MCC, and Jim Cargill, DCC, noted projects on their campuses including: business partners, degree audit development, advising and workforce efforts, and the needs in eastern Montana in response to the energy industry expansion.

Discussion followed focused on the action plan for DCC with respect to the site visit chaired by Deputy Commissioner Robinson:

- The plan/report has been shared with the DCC trustees, in addition to President Cargill.
- DCC recently provided a plan to OCHE in response to the specific areas of concern noted in the report sent to DCC.
- Concern was noted that some may be blaming many of the problems at the community colleges on the Banner program, most notably since extensive resources have been offered to MCC and DCC for implementation of Banner, in the form of extensive training provided, Legislative funding for Banner implementation, and OCHE support throughout the entire process.
- The need to work with DCC on fiscal control and responsiveness, Banner, and HR challenges.
- DCC cannot by itself meet the needs of Northeast Montana; therefore, Commissioner Stearns is appointing a task force, to be co-chaired by Deputy Commissioner John Cech and President Waded Cruzado, MSU.

The board looks forward to outcomes from DCC's action plan.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS and ACTION**

a. **STAFF and COMPENSATION COMMITTEE REPORT**

*All action for this committee was taken during the committee meeting.*



b. **ACADEMIC, RESEARCH, and STUDENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE REPORT**

**ACTION**

- a. Montana Institute on Ecosystems; OCHE *ITEM 153-103-R1111*

Deputy Commissioner Moore noted that she added tribal to the item, per Regent Robinson's request. Regent Buchanan moved approval of ITEM 153-103-R1111. Motion passed 7-0.

- b. Mission Change; MSU-Bozeman *ITEM 153-2006-R1111*

Regent Buchanan moved approval of ITEM 153-2006-R111. Motion passed 7-0.

- c. Resolution on Transferability; OCHE *ITEM 153-106-R1111*

Regent Buchanan moved approval of ITEM 153-106-R1111. Motion passed 7-0.

**CONSENT**

- a. Revision of BOR Policy 404 – Indirect Cost (F & A); OCHE *ITEM 153-104-R1111*  
b. Level II items (from September submission)

Regent Barrett moved approval of consent items a & b. Motion passed 7-0.

The discussion on Information Item "h" was delayed due to lack of time. Deputy Commissioner Moore will work with the board and respond to MSU regarding the guidance from the board.

c. **ADMINISTRATION, BUDGET, and AUDIT OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE REPORT**

**CONSENT**

- a. Approval Request of Short Term Loans for IT Infrastructure Replacement Plan; MSU-Bozeman *ITEM 153-2005-R1111*  
b. Authorization to Expend Student Computer Technology Fees; UM-Helena COT *ITEM 153-1901-R1111*  
c. Local Executive Board Appointments; OCHE *ITEM 153-105-R1111*  
d. Revision of Board of Regents Policy 217.1, Local Executive Boards; OCHE *ITEM 153-112-R1111*  
e. Horsemanship Lease Agreement; UM-Western *ITEM 153-1601-R1111*

Regent Mclean moved approval of items the consent agenda. Motion passed 7-0.



**ACTION**

- a. Design a New Academic Classroom and Office Building – College of Business; MSU-Bozeman *ITEM 153-2003-R1111*

President Cruzado introduced Mr. Jake Jabs, an MSU alum and successful businessman who donated \$25 million for the construction of a new College of Business building. President Cruzado urged support of Item 153-2003-R1111.

Mr. Jake Jabs addressed the board, noting the timing was right and provided an opportunity for him to help energize the college with this donation. Mr. Jabs wants the building to be state-of-the-art and wants to encourage other alumni to contribute.

Regent McLean moved approval of ITEM 153-2003-R1111. Motion passed 7-0.

- b. Renovation of Wilson Hall Writing Center; MSU-Bozeman *ITEM 153-2002-R1111*

Regent McLean moved approval of ITEM 153-2002-R1111. Motion passed 7-0.

- c. Design and Construction of Museum of the Rockies Planetarium Upgrade; MSU-Bozeman *ITEM 153-2001-R1111*

Regent McLean moved approval of ITEM 153-2001-R1111. Motion passed 7-0.

- d. Repair Mechanical & Electrical Systems in Student Union Building; MSU-Billings *ITEM 153-2701-R1111*

Regent McLean moved approval of ITEM 153-2701-R1111. Motion passed 7-0.

- e. Curry Health Service Renovation; UM-Missoula *ITEM 153-1001-R1111*

Regent McLean moved approval of ITEM 153-1001-R1111. Motion passed 7-0.

- f. Reorganization of MonTEC; UM-Missoula *ITEM 153-1011-R1111*

Regent McLean moved approval of ITEM 153-1011-R1111. Motion passed 7-0.

- g. Authorization to Name the University Theatre The George and Jane Dennison Theatre; UM-Missoula *ITEM 153-1012-R1111*

Regent McLean moved approval of ITEM 153-1012-R1111. Motion passed 7-0.

**Public Comment:**

Michael Dill, MSU-Bozeman student and ASMSU student lobbyist, commented on decreased funding from the past legislative session and urged continued proactive efforts with legislators for funding for higher education.

The meeting adjourned at 12:00 PM.



**Approved by the Board of Regents on**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Sheila M. Stearns  
Commissioner of Higher Education  
and Secretary to the Board of Regents

\_\_\_\_\_  
Clayton Christian  
Chair, Board of Regents