



MINUTES
Montana Board of Regents
Montana State University - Northern
May 24-25, 2012

Thursday, May 24, 2012

The Board meeting convened at 8:30 AM.

Roll call indicated a quorum present. Regents present: Chairman Angela McLean, Regents Todd Buchanan, Joe Thiel, Major Robinson, Paul Tuss, Jeffrey Krauss, Pat Williams and Commissioner of Higher Education Clayton Christian, *ex officio*. Governor Brian Schweitzer, *ex officio*, and Superintendent of Public Instruction Denise Juneau, *ex officio*, were excused.

Regent Paul Tuss moved approval of the March 30, 2012 conference call meeting minutes. Motion passed 7-0.

Regent Major Robinson moved approval of the April 27, 2012 conference call meeting minutes. Motion passed 7-0.

Chair Angela McLean noted that members of the board have been deeply troubled and concerned about the recent news reports pertaining to the sexual assaults at the UM-Missoula campus. The board expects that transparency and cooperation continue and directed the commissioner to work on restoring public trust. The board specified they want the public fully aware of steps taken and what is currently happening, which has already been insisted on by President Engstrom and agreed upon with the chair and commissioner.

Board members noted the need to know what has happened and why, but stressed the need to refocus as a system to see what can be done with policies and procedures, to address jurisdictional issues to assure students are safe, take methodical steps to improve safety and noted the importance of how to work together with the authorities as these forms of complaints come forward and how can the university system best help the victims. The Commissioner's office will also help clarify the legal complexities. The board requested receiving information from the campuses regarding what action is taking place from this point forward.

Commissioner Clayton Christian stressed that student safety is the highest priority. He noted the importance of communication and transparency and assured the board that his office would continue to work with the campuses as expeditiously as possible. Commissioner Christian noted that President Royce Engstrom has been deeply concerned and insisted from the beginning he wanted to bring to light the sexual assaults and would be transparent. He noted that President Engstrom did so in order to help protect students, and that, in going public and being open and transparent, he did so to encourage any other victims to come forward with reports. It is going to take a needed cultural shift, including changing personnel and policies. Commissioner Christian stated full confidence that President Engstrom is doing the right thing. Part of the process is to identify ways we can do things better.



In the interest of transparency and keeping the board informed, President Engstrom updated the board on the status of the sexual assault situation at the UM campus. Progress on this matter included the status of the campus investigation, the status of involvement in the federal investigation, changes that have occurred and communication efforts. He noted that seven students involved are no longer with the university and will not be permitted to return; the campus has taken action in each of these cases and there have been consequences for each of the students. He reminded the board that action by the campus needs to take place through due process.

President Engstrom noted the university has been fully cooperative with the federal Department of Justice investigation and that the university will be receptive to recommendations. The university will also be fully compliant and cooperative with the investigation by the federal Department of Education that has recently been initiated. He strongly stressed that he is committed to doing what is right for the students involved and to being proactive.

Steps taken at the UM campus include: an enhanced mandatory educational program with online instructions; a new student athlete code of conduct; a cooperative program with Missoula as a means to help clarify the reporting for sexual assaults; mandatory reporting requirements by employees; adding additional security; submission of a grant application to add an additional position to the sexual assault program; consultation with national experts; and possibly employing a crisis intervention expert.

President Engstrom noted that they held community and campus forums, worked with a student forum, and have responded to requests from the press, while also complying with confidentiality. He acknowledged that this has required some unpleasant and controversial decisions to be made, but assured the board that throughout this, he will continue to move forward with the business of the university. President Engstrom said he is open to any advice by the board and commissioner; if there are aspects that the board thinks need to be handled differently, he would like to know what those are.

Commissioner's and System Report

- FY12 Enrollment Report

Associate Commissioner Tyler Trevor gave the enrollment report on the annual average FTE, which comprises fall and spring enrollment. He noted the enrollment growth in the MUS leveled off in 2012 after three years of accelerated growth. He pointed out that resident undergraduate enrollment witnessed the largest decline of 404, yet non-resident undergraduates experienced the largest increase of 286. Two thirds of the growth in resident student enrollment in the past ten years occurred at the two-year campuses. The largest decline in resident FTE occurred at the community colleges. While there are fewer high school graduates, the MUS enrollment has increased at a time when there are fewer high school graduates.

President Waded Cruzado requested for the regents to take a look at the distribution of funding on a yearly basis to enable them to plan accordingly, but Commissioner Christian reminded the board that the decision to make funding allocation changes is approved every two years and if a substantial change in funding is to occur, a phase-in



process is included which does enable the campuses to plan.

- Strategic Plan - Dashboard Indicator | Retention

Associate Commissioner Trevor reminded the board this is the detailed information that the system office uses in order to create reports for the individual campuses. He noted this dashboard indicator tracks first-time full-time students and also measures one-year transfer students.

- Smart Buildings Initiative Update

Students Zach Brown, MSU and Bryn Hagfors, UM, gave a presentation on improving efficiencies on campuses to conserve energy, reinvest savings, and provide opportunities for student engagement. The intent is for the energy efficiency upgrades to be self-sustaining over time. The projects will focus on equipment and personnel, student, faculty and staff engagement, accounting procedures and how to retain the savings within the MUS. They noted that they will create a task force to consider challenges and opportunities, how to measure success and marketable outcomes, and to develop a system-wide project with outreach to affiliate campuses.

STAFF AND COMPENSATION COMMITTEE MEETING

Committee Members: Regents Major Robinson, Chair, Pat Williams, and Angela McLean

DISCUSSION

Compensation Focus Group

Regent Major Robinson spoke on the report compiled as a result of the Compensation Focus Group on the impact of compensation in recruitment and retention efforts. He noted he would like to continue these discussions and added that the next phase of this group's focus is to continue to have broader discussions with the stakeholders.

Public Comment:

Marco Ferro, MEA-MFT, spoke in support of these efforts and for continuing these discussions. He noted the cost of failed searches for positions at the campuses. He spoke on the MUS total current unrestricted budget growth versus the growth of current unrestricted budget allocated to MUS contract faculty salaries.

John Snyder, MSU-Northern faculty, spoke on the concern of low salaries, resulting in challenges in recruitment and retention.

Curtis Smeby, MSU-Northern faculty, voiced concern of compensation levels and noted the MUS as a whole is underfunded as compared nationally.

Commissioner Christian noted the importance for the presidents and the campuses to manage their own budgets. He said the Board and the commissioner's office would set the percentage goal and then let the campuses make their own decisions regarding



employment offers, which need to fall within the guidelines. The commissioner's office will work to bring ratios forward for recommendations to the board.

Associate Commissioner Kevin McRae noted there are dedicated faculty on the campuses and that every campus develops their own data indicating that their campus has the most urgent low salaries in the system. He urged the board and OCHE to develop a mode, using data from comparable institutions, to be used as a guideline in budget planning and allocation plans.

Regent Krauss requested information on the allocation model Mr. Ferro referenced and the source of funding.

Commissioner Christian noted the level of wages in Montana overall and agreed that overall budgets have increased, partially due to reporting requirements. He reminded the board that the university system competes nationally which creates a challenge in Montana. Associate Commissioner McRae reminded the board that every time the university system recruits for a faculty position, they are competing nationally.

Regent Williams noted concern of the level of compensation in the university system overall and suggested the need for an innovative and aggressive approach.

Regent Buchanan agreed on the need for innovation.

Public Comment:

Jeff Renz, UM faculty, spoke on failed searches at the UM campus and positions left vacant for multiple years due to failed searches.

Jennifer Gursky, ASUM, spoke in support of compensation for faculty and staff.

Regent Robinson noted that compensation is a high priority for the board and that they will continue to put together an action plan to address the needs.

CONSENT

Staff Items

- a. MSU-Bozeman *ITEM 155-2000-R0512*
- b. MSU-Northern *ITEM 155-2800-R0512*
- c. UM-Missoula *ITEM 155-1000-R0512*
- d. MT Tech *ITEM 155-1500-R0512*
- e. UM-Western *ITEM 155-1600-R0512*
- f. Professor Emeritus of Economics: Fleck; MSU-Bozeman *ITEM 155-2001-R0512*
- g. Professor Emeritus of Plant Pathology: Jacobsen; MSU-Bozeman *ITEM 155-2002-R0512*
- h. Professor Emeritus of Educational Theory and Practice and Mathematics: Metheny; MSU-Billings *ITEM 155-2701-R0512*
- i. Professor Emeritus of Hydrogeology: Miller; MT Tech Bureau of Mines and Geology *ITEM 155-1501A-R0512*



- j. Professor Emeritus of Geology: Berg; MT Tech Bureau of Mines and Geology *ITEM 155-1502A-R0512*
- k. Professor Emeritus of Business Technology: Olson; UM-Missoula *ITEM 155-1005-R0512*
- l. Professor Emeritus of Communication Disorders: Boehmler; UM-Missoula *ITEM 155-1006-R0512*

ADMINISTRATIVE, BUDGET AND AUDIT OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE

CONSENT

- a. Extend Authorization for Parking Projects; MSU-Bozeman *ITEM 155-2010-R0512*
- b. Replace Auditorium Seating and Writing Surfaces – EPS Building; MSU-Bozeman *ITEM 155-2011-R0512*
- c. Extend Authorization for Painting Projects; MSU-Bozeman *ITEM 155-2012-R0512*
- d. Student Computer Fee Allocation; MSU-Billings *ITEM 155-2702-R0512*
- e. Campus Lease Tennis Facility; UM-Missoula *ITEM 155-1001-R0512*
- f. Expend Student Computer Fees; UM-Helena COT *ITEM 155-1901-R0512*
- g. Parking Lot Repair; UM-Helena COT *ITEM 155-1902-R0512*
- h. Information Technology BOR Policy 1302 Revision; OCHE *ITEM 155-101-R0512*
- i. Authorization to Expend Student Computer Fees; MT Tech *ITEM 155-1501-R0512*
- j. Security and Law Enforcement Operations, BOR Policy 1006 Revision; OCHE *ITEM 155-105-R0512*
- k. Amended Leases Agreement with AT&T; UM-Missoula *ITEM 155-1010-R0512*
- l. Local Executive Board Appointments; OCHE *ITEM 155-110-R0512*

ACTION

- a. Interdisciplinary Science Building; UM-Missoula *ITEM 155-1002-R0512*

Vice President Bob Durringer explained that the science building had been partially completed with the intent of obtaining grant funding to assist with the completion. The original grant was not awarded to UM and they now, therefore, are requesting authority to complete the project.

Commissioner Christian said the intent is also to retire the debt sooner if grant funding becomes available.

- b. ASUM Office Remodel; UM-Missoula *ITEM 155-1003-R0512*



President Engstrom offered his full support of this project.

Jennifer Gursky, ASUM, said the current space did not meet the needs of the group and the remodel is needed for student services functions and to provide one-stop assistance. The design space is flexible to meet future needs.

- c. Increase Authorization to Construct ADA Modifications; MSU-Bozeman *ITEM 155-2006-R0512*

Terry Leist, MSU-Bozeman VP for Administration and Finance, explained this is phase 2 that includes some ADA modifications that need to be made. This item increases existing authority.

- d. MSU Refunding Bond Issue; MSU-Bozeman *ITEM 155-2007-R0512*

Terry Leist explained this request for MSU to refund bonds issued in 2004. This is a refinancing of bonds that will not extend the due date of the original bonds or incur additional principal borrowing (there will be financing costs related to the transaction). Terry stated that MSU uses a 3% net present value and currently that type of savings on the interest rate is available. He stated MSU will work on the timing of the refunding with OCHE. The item authorizes the Chair of the Board of Regents, the Commissioner of Higher Education, the MSU President and MSU VP for Administration and Finance to execute such documents that may be required to consummate the issuance of the Series N 2012 Facilities Revenue Refunding Bonds.

President Engstrom spoke in support of this request for MSU, noting this could result in tremendous savings for the campus.

- e. Student Fee Proposal – Two Separate Fees Instead of One; MSU-Bozeman *ITEM 155-2009-R0512*

Terry Leist explained that this request is to split the current fee, to segregate the ASMSU Newspaper fee portion. He assured the board this is not a new fee and does not result in a fee increase.

Public Comment:

Kia Abby, ASMSU, spoke in support of this fee separation and noted the importance of maintaining the fee.

Blake Bjornson, MSU student, commented that this item would guarantee this specific fee amount to the publication as opposed to the current method of this fee going into the ASMSU budget, then being granted to the newspaper with the amount fluctuating.

- f. Increase Authority for Design and Construction Expansion to HPER Building; MT Tech *ITEM 155-1502-R0512*

Chancellor Blacketter, noted this request is for increased spending authority to renovate, design, construct and expand the Health, Physical Education and Recreation



(HPER) building. He clarified that the funding for the increased parking listed in the item will not come from the students, but will come from the parking fees.

Commissioner Christian pointed out the history of this project, which originally came to the board as a \$4M project, but was sent back to the campus to reduce. It appears this is coming back in pieces that come in as lower amounts but then gradually equal the original amount.

Regent Williams noted that the board needs to be made aware of the total cost in the beginning. He said this item does not include the repair to the swimming pool, which may come back to the board at a later date as well.

Commissioner Christian said the board has to be made aware of the whole picture in the beginning and noted the parking lot should have been included in the original planning.

Chancellor Blackketter assured the board no student funds would be used.

Regent Buchanan recalled the earlier conversations, and noted this is an additional expense. He said this has been visited before. Blackketter clarified that this request ends the project and assured the board that the campus would not come back to the board again for any more expansions to this building.

g. FY 13 Tuition Rates; FVCC *ITEM 155-305-R0512*

Commissioner Christian explained that the FVCC board sets their budget and tuition annually, which is why this tuition request is being brought to the board at this time.

President Jane Karas noted the intent of their trustee board is to set the tuition level annually in order to ensure that there will not be a large tuition increase to enable the students to plan accordingly.

Regent Robinson asked about the history of the tuition increases at the FVCC campus.

Commissioner Christian noted the board has chosen to keep the tuition levels at the two-year level at a lower rate and that the community colleges' tuition rates have been slightly above the level set for the MUS campuses. He encouraged the board to support this tuition increase request to FVCC.

h. Authorization to Secure INTERCAP Loan; FVCC *ITEM 155-304-R0512*

President Karas said FVCC and donors are raising some funds for this project This item is requesting authority to apply for an INTERCAP loan.

i. MontPIRG Fee Assessment; UM-Missoula *ITEM 155-1008-R0512*



President Engstrom spoke in support of this fee request for MontPIRG, a public interest research group. He said the fee was approved two years ago as a refundable fee, where students could apply for a refund of the fee. The students have worked to put the same fee in place, but in a “refusable” format. Now when students register, they can choose to decline this fee. Under those conditions, President Engstrom urges support.

Commissioner Christian explained that the board policy states that tuition and fees are to be acted upon every other year except in extenuating circumstances. Since this is a student driven fee, the decision was made to allow this fee to be placed on the BOR agenda. Commissioner Christian noted that the board can either move to pass the fee or move to deny the fee due to the fact that it is out of sequence. Commissioner Christian said this is the only fee assessed that goes directly to a student organization.

Students Patrick Grey, and Haynes Hanson, UM, explained the mission of MontPIRG is to involve students in community issues and public interest.

Commissioner Christian directed the students to get in sync with board policy and the timeline of requesting fee approvals.

Board members spoke in support of the “opt-out” option of this fee.

Regent Krauss cautioned the group to not exclude students who don’t agree with their position on issues.

Regent Buchanan demanded that the students get this fee in sync with the other fee approval process timelines, to be approved every other year.

- j. Associated Students of the University of Montana (ASUM) Activity Fee; UM-Missoula ITEM 155-1009-R0512

Public Comment:

Jen Gursky, ASUM, said expectations of services have changed, resulting in the need for this fee.

Patrick Grey, ASUM, spoke in support of this fee.

Regent McLean voiced concern of approving this fee that is not in sync with the fee approval cycle.

Regent Buchanan noted it is very clear in policy that the board visits fees every other year and encouraged the regents to adhere to the policy in which they approve fees every other year. Board members agreed.

Executive Budget Development and Legislative Planning

- k. Present Law / Pay Plan Discussion; OCHE ITEM 155-107-R0512



Commissioner Christian noted the present law adjustment is a compilation of work done with the campuses, with campuses having input with how the numbers are put together and will be submitted to the governor's office for inclusion in the executive budget. He said this comprises the funding that would be required to maintain current services. Commissioner Christian noted that the highest priority is to support faculty and staff. He added that the budget estimates were submitted to the governor's office prior to May 8 and that OCHE was moving forward with continued discussions with the governor's office.

I. Long Range Building Program (LRBP); OCHE *ITEM 155-108-R0512*

Commissioner Christian noted that the LRBP list was compiled with input from the campuses. He stressed that these are prioritized, with some of the items being listed on the list for several years and gradually moving up the list. Commissioner Christian said once the board approves the list, then it will be given to the governor's office in July for inclusion in the executive budget. For projects that have been on the list previously, costs are adjusted accordingly regarding possible changes in cost projection. He noted that the projects on the list have been thoroughly vetted.

UM President Engstrom noted that the UM-Missoula COT construction project was put forth in the last legislative session in a truncated form. In consultation with legislators and OCHE staff, it was decided to put forth a \$32 M estimate as a more realistic portion of the building to be built, which is for the entire project, based on the architect's design estimate. President Engstrom said the infrastructure costs associated with the building are included in this proposal as well.

Chair McLean assured the board of the high level of input by the campuses throughout the process.

Regent Robinson noted that the list says a lot about the importance of the UM COT project and shows level of commitment to that facility.

President Engstrom commented on the balance; if you look over a long period of years, you will notice a good balance of dollar amounts for each side of the campuses. He stressed the importance of having some give and take with the full expectation that over an extended period of time, there is a balance between major projects.

m. Legislative Initiatives; OCHE

Commissioner Christian noted the top priority on the list is for support of faculty and staff and urged approval to move it forward as the top priority.

Tyler Trevor spoke on the affordability taskforce final report because the report is basically the priority list for the initiatives. He noted the taskforce used data points to develop recommendations to create system initiatives that were also adopted into the MUS Strategic Plan. He explained this allows the system to take incremental steps forward regarding student debt load. Mr. Trevor spoke about the average loan amounts for MUS students and noted that over a ten-year period of time, the level of student



loans has increased over 100 percent, increasing by \$100 million overall. He said there is a clear, direct correlation between affordability and degree attainment.

Associate Commissioner Trevor said there is a need to increase tuition assistance for low and moderate income students; to provide a system-wide, coordinated and collaborative financial literacy effort; and increase centralized default efforts. He stressed the need for a coordinated approach to financial literacy to connect existing campus and system efforts. Mr. Trevor said the initiatives include a request for a support position for a tracking system, research and analysis.

Regent Buchanan noted the high increase in student debt load and stressed the crucial need to encourage students to increase their credit load to 15 - 18 credits with the intent of reducing time to graduation for students, resulting in large financial savings for students in the long run since they would reduce the amount of time they would be paying rent and other expenses. He spoke in strong support of alternative delivery methods and the importance of providing financial literacy to students.

Regent Robinson agreed with Regent Buchanan and noted the affordability and the financial literacy components go hand in hand together. Associate Commissioner Trevor noted that this has not been addressed this strongly as a system before. Commissioner Christian noted that the board can make a large difference in the time to degree effort, resulting in substantial savings for students and families.

Regent Krauss suggested combining financial literacy with the dual credit information to help speed up the time to degree attainment.

Mr. Trevor addressed the remaining initiatives including providing a complete mission at the colleges of technology and finalizing the name changes; proceeding with the integrated information system to improve student access, provide for seamless enrollment, allow for use of a universal admission application, and realize administrative efficiencies; increasing WWAMI expansion for ten additional slots; developing a collaborative vet program which follows a similar model as the WWAMI program with the intent that those students will come back to Montana to provide services; and developing the Montana Energy Institute to work collaboratively on energy development in a responsible manner, using both traditional and alternative sources of energy.

Regent Buchanan clarified that the board is not making budgetary commitments at this time, but rather are making budget recommendations. He requested continued discussion on the affordability issues discussed.

Public Comment:

Marco Ferro, MEA-MFT, urged the board to work on additional possible compensation options other than just the pay plan.

INFORMATION

- a. MSU-Northern Deferral



MONTANA UNIVERSITY SYSTEM

Terry Leist, MSU, noted this is a result of an advance MSU gave to MSU-Northern. Chancellor Limbaugh has asked for deferral of the last two payments for two years, at which time Northern will repay the amount to MSU-Bozeman.

b. Native American Center Basement Planning; UM-Missoula

President Engstrom noted that the basement the Native American Center is ready to be finished and this item is proposing to build the space in honor of Eloise Cobell. The space will include GIS and theatre lecture arrangements for educational purposes. This proposal needs to go before UM's faculty senate for approval before it comes to the board for approval. President Engstrom noted that UM has worked with Ms. Cobell's family who are in support of naming this space after her. President Engstrom noted the intended name is "The Eloise Cobell Land and Culture Institute."

Board members spoke in support of this project and in honoring Eloise Cobell in this manner.

c. Audit Reports:

- MSU-Billings Foundation – June 30, 2011 – Unqualified
- MSU-Northern Foundation – June 30, 2011 – Unqualified
- UM-Western Foundation – Dec. 31, 2010 – Unqualified
- MSU-Bozeman Foundation – June 30, 2011 – Unqualified
- UM-Missoula Foundation – June 30, 2011 – Unqualified
- Montana Tech Foundation – June 30, 2011 – Unqualified
- Yellowstone Public Radio/KEMC-FM – June 30 – Unqualified

d. Authority Reports – Building Projects; UM Campuses

e. Authority Reports – Building Projects; MSU Campuses

f. Campus Affiliated Foundations, BOR Policy 901.9

Commissioner Christian explained that OCHE has worked closely with the foundations on this policy and have formed a taskforce that includes people with the commissioner's office and the foundations to work through the complicated issues. The intent is to seek board approval at the September 2012 board meeting.

Regent Krauss requested being kept informed as this progresses.

TWO-YEAR EDUCATION & COMMUNITY COLLEGE COMMITTEE

INFORMATION

Statewide Workforce Development Taskforce Update

President Cruzado and Deputy Commissioner John Cech co-chaired the taskforce and updated the board on the process and steps taken. There is an acute need for training and educational programs related to workforce training and education programs in eastern Montana which can be addressed by utilizing current services. The challenge is



delivering in a creative manner without sacrificing quality. President Cruzado and Dr. Cech noted the university system needs to meet the needs in eastern Montana and to compensate the campuses for delivering services. They noted they will be reaching out to industries and businesses on the offerings that the MUS can provide. President Cruzado told the board they have already included the tribal colleges in the efforts and that the needs are so immense that they will need the tribal colleges' involvement to meet the needs.

Chancellor Blackketter recommended also looking at the long-term big picture of degrees needs in the long run in eastern Montana.

Deputy Commissioner Cech presented a summary of noncredit training programs which are available on behalf of Montana's two-year colleges and programs. Dr. Cech noted MSU Northern Chancellor Limbaugh and MCC President Hicswa are working to prepare a brochure highlighting the training opportunities.

CONSENT

Rescission of BOR Policy 971.1 - Vocational Technical Education
Tuition Rates; General; OCHE *ITEM #155-104-R0512*

Deputy Commissioner Cech noted this policy relates back to the former "Vo-Tech" tuition rates which no longer apply.

ACTION

Renaming Five Colleges of Technology, Gallatin College Programs,
and Bitterroot College Program; OCHE *ITEM #155-106-R0512*

Deputy Commissioner Cech noted the history leading up to proposing this resolution and of the need for rebranding.

Dr. Cech provided the Board with an overview of the work involving the expansion of opportunities through Montana's two-year colleges beginning in 2005 following the Shared Leadership Initiative and continuing every BOR meeting since then through the two-year education and workforce committee report.

Dr. Cech also reviewed the Board's historic decision in May 2011 when it approved Montana's first ever comprehensive two-year mission which was created from the ground up involving faculty and staff and co-chaired by Dean Bingham and then Dean Joe Schaffer. In addition, the Board approved in August 2011, a 25 month timeline for extending that vision to the five COTs including the rebranding and renaming of them by 2013. In November 2011, the effort was expanded to include two-year programs which today's vote will not include Bozeman and Hamilton.

Deputy Commissioner Cech provided an overview of the input which had been received from well over 2,000 people including faculty, staff, students, and community, business,



and industry members pertaining to the recommended names for the five COTs and two-year programs in Bozeman and Hamilton including:

- 14 campus and community listening sessions: Billings, Bozeman, Butte, Great Falls, Helena, and Missoula
- Six statewide two-year leadership retreats focused on mission expansion
- 18 conference calls with two-year leaders convened
- Statewide two-year education and rebranding summit (100 plus faculty, staff, students, administration, and community)
- Wide array of presentations have been made (MEA, Missoula City Club, SHRM, State Adult Education Association, MHWAC, Big Sky EDA, and other organizations)
- Launched College!NOW Facebook and Blog
- Six focus groups conducted: Billings, Bozeman, Butte, Great Falls, and Missoula
- Student surveys conducted – 354 received
- Community surveys conducted – 951 received
- Local newspaper public opinion survey – Independent Record
- Business survey completed (100 participants)
- Individual Campus engagement efforts included:
 - Campus discussions
 - Faculty meetings
 - Student meetings
 - Staff meetings
 - Community meetings/civic groups
 - On-line surveys
 - Presentation sheets
 - Internal surveys
 - Straw poll opportunities
 - Electronic bulletin board
 - Student government discussions
- Continuous media engagement through press releases and frequent updates

Dr. Cech said now is the opportunities for the board to clearly articulate to all of Montana that we have robust colleges of technology and two-year programs. He noted this proposal is more than a rebranding exercise; it is to ensure that Montana is no longer the last state in the nation in utilization of two-year education. In addition, he emphasized the new names will ease confusion about whether the colleges are two-year or regional universities citing comments from the recent MSU Great Falls COT NWCCU evaluators who stated the unofficial name, “MSU Great Falls” was potentially confusing students as it sounded very similar to other regional university names such as “MSU Billings.”



Regent Tuss moved to segregate the rebranding of the MSU Great Falls College of Technology and that it be considered with a resolution to be brought to the Board of Regents no later than Friday, June 29, 2012. Included in this motion, he asked that it be resolved that the Board will only consider a final suggested name that is consistent with the naming framework approved on March 2: "Place, Mission, Affiliation." He stated he was making this request out of respect for the importance of listening to all stakeholders affected by the important improvements in the two-year education system in Montana. He noted the Board has already listened a great deal, through community surveys, listening sessions, focus groups, and a great deal of communication with the community leaders in Great Falls. He noted great progress has been made and this will help ensure that this progress continues in all the communities involved, including Great Falls. The board agreed by consensus to allow Regent Tuss' motion to proceed for final action the following day.

Commissioner Christian pledged to work with the Great Falls community to see if a resolution can be reached, recognizing the Board may still be considering the same name in June.. Regent Buchanan voiced recognition that the board may not come to a resolution with all the stakeholders.

Regent Robinson said this has been a very comprehensive effort to move the colleges of technology into the next era. He noted it is important to take the right amount of time, yet continue to move forward.

Regent Williams provided the following comments: "We have learned that changing names is a difficult process and the public often resists it. Whether you are changing the name of a street, or a mountain, or a river, or a swamp, the public likes to cling to the old names. And, that's understandable, but in this instance, because of the comprehensive nature of what I understand to be a very long process here, well-considered and studied, name changes do seem to be appropriate. One of the main things I wanted to know when I first came on the board with regard to this issue was (1) has appropriate time been taken and (2) has the public been fully informed. I've looked closely at it and have talked to several people, both in Great Falls and in other cities, and people here on the board as well as the staff. And for my part, I'm satisfied that this board, long before I got on it, has avoided the midnight slam dunk and tried its best to bring each of the administrators and the public from various cities affected in the conversation."

Public Comment on the Naming Item:

- Gene McAllister, President of the University of Great Falls pledged to work with the MUS pertaining to the renaming of the MSU Great Falls COT. He noted concerns of naming it Great Falls College due to the close location and similar mission of the two campuses.
- Bob Nominson, Chair of the University of Great Falls Board of Trustees, said he had no objections other than to the use of the name "Great Falls College." He requested that the current recommended name not be



adopted and that the UGF be involved with the effort of renaming the COT to minimize confusion between the two campuses.

- Charlie Brown, ASMSU-Great Falls, urged the board to think about the mission and what will help the students get a job upon graduation.
- Judy Hay, Student Affairs office at MSU-Great Falls COT, noted that the attention to the naming shows the importance of their campus and emphasized the importance of mission at their campus.
- Steven Wurz, MSU Great Falls COT student, spoke on the distinct mission of the college of technology campus and the name change and process. He described how the Great Falls COT provided him with the opportunity to move forward with only an eighth grade education and a GED to earn his associates degree and enroll at MSU in Bozeman to pursue his bachelor's in nursing. He expressed appreciation to the board for prioritizing and supporting two-year education as strongly as it has. He reminded the board that the name "Great Falls" has been part of the name of the campus for decades.
- Suzanne Wearing, former MSU-Great Falls COT employee, urged the board to be mindful of the two-year comprehensive school and spoke in support of keeping the current name.

Public Comment on Other Topics

- Todd Hanson, Bullhook Community Health Center, spoke on the workforce development outreach efforts in eastern Montana, specifically on the healthcare training needs in the area. He spoke in support of the initiative involving the use of space in Donaldson Hall at MSU-Northern and believed that the Bullhook Community Health Center can provide some of the training and collaboration. He said he believes the \$5M grant their organization has received could be accomplished in the Donaldson Hall at the MSU-Northern campus.

The meeting recessed at 5:50 PM.

Friday, May 25, 2012

The board reconvened at 8:30 AM.

ACADEMIC, RESEARCH, and STUDENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

CONSENT

- a. Level II items (*from March submission*)
- b. Family Education Savings Program Savings Account Product
ITEM #155-102-R0512

ACTION

- a. Board of Regents Policy 507 - Title IX *ITEM #155-103-R0512*



Deputy Commissioner Sylvia Moore noted this policy reinforces existing campus policies and practices and helps assure consistency across all MUS campuses. She explained this policy requires all employees to take responsibility for a safe environment, provides policy guidance for reporting to law enforcement, and notes confidentiality guidelines.

President Engstrom noted this system approach provides for more cohesive responsiveness across the system.

INFORMATION

a. Level I Memorandum (*approved at OCHE*)

Deputy Moore noted the MSU item that decreased the required number of required credit hours for a four-year education degree from 128 to 120. This is a significant change and reflects one of the goals of the ARSA 2011-12 work plan.

b. Fundamentals of Police Science concentration in the Associate of Arts degree *ITEM #155-1004-R0512*

Provost Brown noted that this would allow law enforcement personnel to more readily pursue a degree in criminology in Montana by providing a new pathway for professionals in law enforcement to earn 18-credits towards an AA degree – for their studies at the Montana Law Enforcement Academy.

Deputy Commissioner Moore commended UM COT for this partnership effort that recognizes and gives credit for prior learning by adults.

c. Doctoral Education at Montana Tech Discussion *Final Panel Report*

Chancellor Blacketter noted that MT Tech's intent is to have the board authorize a materials science PhD program on three campuses – MSU, UM-Missoula, and MT Tech. He noted that a panel was invited to MT Tech for the purpose of reviewing faculty, facilities and students as they relate to the proposed PhD program in materials science. Chancellor Blacketter said the goal is to use MSU faculty as support in the graduate programs. He acknowledged that MT Tech struggles with the number of students expressing intent to participate in the program.

Regent Thiel questioned the need for this program due to the low number of students in the program.

Dr. John Neumeier, MSU faculty, told the board that faculty has not been able to consider fully whether to collaborate on this degree.

Deputy Commissioner Moore noted that MSU has been working on this. In June 2011, Dean Robert Marley sent an e-mail to Provost Potvin requesting that she ask The University of Montana campus to slow the process for bringing the PhD in Materials Science to the BOR. Dean Marley acknowledged that it would take time to move the



proposal through faculty approval processes, and he hoped to have all those processes completed by January 2012. Provost Potvin forwarded Dean Marley's request to Provost Brown, and the proposal has yet to come back to the BOR.

Regent Thiel questioned Chancellor Blackketter regarding the reason MT Tech brought this forward to the board. Chancellor Blackketter said MT Tech wants to move in that direction.

Regent Robinson said that before moving this forward, he wanted additional information regarding the impact on the rest of the system, capacity, faculty, resources, space, and logistics.

d. Update on American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) Review of Proposed PhD Program in Materials Science

Deputy Commissioner Moore noted that the review is scheduled for the end of July and will include visits to all three involved campuses. The AAAS report will be made available to the BOR in late August.

e. Annual Governor's Best and Brightest Scholarship Report
Summary | Report

Deputy Commissioner Moore distributed the report, emphasized the executive summary, and acknowledged the hard work of the personnel in Student Financial Services who had managed the scholarship and prepared the reports.

f. E-books Pilot Update

Provost Perry Brown, UM, updated the board on the history of the E-books project which began with the UM bookstore as a pilot program. He explained that students can get their textbooks online, resulting in substantial cost savings. Provost Brown noted that the E-books offer substantial options beyond straight text. He stated that UM will need to talk to the board in the future about how to recover the cost for these books, such as possibly implementing a course fee. The pilot program has worked well.

Bryon Thornton, manager of the UM bookstore, noted that this also allows for the opportunity to identify students that are struggling, due to software that accompanies the books.

John Neumeier, MSU faculty, noted an online system he used for a semester. When asked for evaluation, the students were unanimously negative about the use of the online text.

COMMITTEE REPORTS, DISCUSSION & ACTION

a. **ADMINISTRATIVE, BUDGET, and AUDIT OVERSIGHT
COMMITTEE REPORT**

CONSENT



- a. Extend Authorization for Parking Projects; MSU-Bozeman *ITEM 155-2010-R0512*
- b. Replace Auditorium Seating and Writing Surfaces – EPS Building; MSU-Bozeman *ITEM 155-2011-R0512*
- c. Extend Authorization for Painting Projects; MSU-Bozeman *ITEM 155-2012-R0512*
- d. Student Computer Fee Allocation; MSU-Billings *ITEM 155-2702-R0512*
- e. Campus Lease Tennis Facility; UM-Missoula *ITEM 155-1001-R0512*
- f. Expend Student Computer Fees; UM-Helena COT *ITEM 155-1901-R0512*
- g. Parking Lot Repair; UM-Helena COT *ITEM 155-1902-R0512*
- h. Information Technology BOR Policy 1302 Revision; OCHE *ITEM 155-101-R0512*
- i. Authorization to Expend Student Computer Fees; MT Tech *ITEM 155-1501-R0512*
- j. Security and Law Enforcement Operations, BOR Policy 1006 Revision; OCHE *ITEM 155-105-R0512*
- k. Amended Leases Agreement with AT&T; UM-Missoula *ITEM 155-1010-R0512*
- l. Local Executive Board Appointments; OCHE *ITEM 155-110-R0512*

Regent Krauss moved approval of the consent agenda items a-l. Motion passed 7-0.

ACTION

- a. Interdisciplinary Science Building; UM-Missoula *ITEM 155-1002-R0512*

Regent Tuss moved approval of ITEM 155-1002-R0512. Motion passed 7-0.

- b. ASUM Office Remodel; UM-Missoula *ITEM 155-1003-R0512*

Regent Robinson moved approval of ITEM 155-1003-R0512. Motion passed 7-0.

- c. Increase Authorization to Construct ADA Modifications; MSU-Bozeman *ITEM 155-2006-R0512*

Regent Tuss moved approval of ITEM 155-2006-R0512. Motion passed 7-0.

- d. MSU Refunding Bond Issue; MSU-Bozeman *ITEM 155-2007-R0512*

Regent Buchanan moved approval of ITEM 155-2007-R0512. Motion passed 7-0.

- e. Student Fee Proposal – Two Separate Fees Instead of One; MSU-Bozeman *ITEM 155-2009-R0512*

Regent Robinson moved approval of ITEM 155-2009-R0512. Motion passed 7-0.



MONTANA UNIVERSITY SYSTEM

- f. Increase Authority for Design and Construction Expansion to HPER Building; MT Tech *ITEM 155-1502-R0512*

Regent Thiel moved approval of ITEM 155-1502-R0512. Motion passed 6-1, with Regent Buchanan voting no.

- g. FY 13 Tuition Rates; FVCC *ITEM 155-305-R0512*

Regent Krauss noted the community college communities made the choice to support their local community colleges. He said he would typically choose to approve half of what is proposed in these situations, but will support this for one time only.

Regent Williams moved approval of ITEM 155-305-R0512. Motion passed 6-1, with Regent Buchanan voting no.

- h. Authorization to Secure INTERCAP Loan; FVCC *ITEM 155-304-R0512*

Regent Robinson moved to approve ITEM 155-304-R0512. Motion passed 7-0.

- i. MontPIRG Fee Assessment; UM-Missoula *ITEM 155-1008-R0512*

Regent Tuss asked if MontPIRG is currently funded. The students responded no, MontPIRG is not currently funded. He also expressed concern that this came out of the timeline for requesting fee approval with the BOR, which clearly state that new fees are to be approved every two years. Regent Tuss stressed that he wants a firm commitment from MontPIRG that they will not again ask for any fee approval that is out of sync with the BOR policy.

Regent Tuss moved to approve ITEM 155-1008-R0512 with the condition that MontPIRG not come to the BOR again in the future out of sync with the BOR fee approval timeline, which is every two years. MontPIRG will come back to the BOR in one year to get in sync with the BOR timeline requirement.

Regent Buchanan noted that this fee timeline is because it is BOR policy and stressed the importance of following the BOR policies. He stressed that this fee request should not even be allowed on the agenda. He requested that they provide guidance to the students to adhere to the board policies. Regent Buchanan noted extenuating circumstances refer to something with a higher level of interest and participation and the MontPIRG fee does not qualify.

Regent Robinson noted that the MUS works within a biennial system and works to budget accordingly. He recognized that MontPIRG has done a lot of work on this with the opt-out, and while he is in favor with this, Regent Robinson is in favor of doing this in the correct timeline from this time forward.

Regent Tuss clarified that the students do not have to take this before the students again in one year, but would have to bring it back to the BOR in one year to be in sync with the fee approval cycle from this point forward. In the future, they also need to hold the student votes as per the student policies.



Public comment:

- Jennifer Gursky, ASUM, proposed writing ASUM policies specifying that the student groups have to be in sync with the BOR policies.

Motion passed 4-3 with Regents Robinson, Krauss and Buchanan voting no.

- j. Associated Students of the University of Montana (ASUM) Activity Fee; UM-Missoula ITEM 155-1009-R0512

Public Comment:

- Kiah Abby and Lindsay Murdock, ASMSU, urged support of this item.
- Patrick Grey, ASUM student, spoke in support of this item and recommended the ASUM align their ASUM policies to be in sync with the BOR timelines.

Regent Thiel moved approval of ITEM 155-1009-R0512. Motion passed 4-3, with Regents Robinson, Krauss, and Buchanan voting no.

Executive Budget Development and Legislative Planning

- k. Present Law / Pay Plan Discussion; OCHE *ITEM 155-107-R0512*

Commissioner Christian noted this is to ratify the pay plan and present law to move forward with the governor's office for inclusion in the executive budget.

Public Comment:

- Marvin Lansverk, MSU, urged continued support and advocacy for faculty and staff compensation.

Regent Robinson moved approval of ITEM 155-107-0512. Motion passed 7-0.

- l. Long Range Building Program (LRBP); OCHE *ITEM 155-108-R0512*

Regent Robinson stressed concern regarding the cost for facilities, and encouraged the board to balance new buildings with the need for faculty and staff compensation. He noted that when recruiting employees, the quality of the buildings is also a factor considered by potential employees.

Regent Krauss noted that the buildings don't come as a one-time cost and require continual maintenance and upkeep and sometimes the O&M adds to the discrepancy of compensation for employees. He reminded the board that there are on-going costs associated with new building and because of that, he will choose to support faculty and staff compensation rather than a new building.

Christian acknowledged good points made. That's why Compensation Focus Group is important and to keep in mind what attracts students and faculty – good buildings are important too. There has to be a balance. He noted we need to take a holistic view on how it all works together.



Regent Buchanan reminded the board that these are budgetary recommendations, not budgetary orders and that the board needs to have the flexibility to adapt as the process moves forward.

Commissioner Christian stressed the need to focus future renovations on energy efficiency in order to reduce long term costs and realize energy savings. He noted that his office is already working on unified messages for legislators and will devote time early and often to get the message out.

Regent Tuss stressed that better compensation for employees and better facilities should not be exclusive of each other.

Regent Tuss moved approval of ITEM 155-108-R0512. Motion passed 7-0.

m. Legislative Initiatives; OCHE

Commissioner Christian noted that the legislative initiatives include present law as well as faculty and staff compensation. He suggested having a presentation at a future board meeting focused on what campuses are doing for veterans.

Regent Robinson moved approval of the legislative initiatives. Motion passed 7-0.

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

CONSENT

- a. Level II items (*from March submission*)
- b. Family Education Savings Program Savings Account Product
ITEM #155-102-R0512

Regent Buchanan moved approval of the consent agenda, items a-b. Motion passed 7-0.

ACTION

- b. Board of Regents Policy 507 - Title IX *ITEM #155-103-R0512*

Regent Buchanan moved approval of ITEM 155-103-R0512. Motion passed 7-0.

c. **STAFF and COMPENSATION COMMITTEE REPORT**

CONSENT

Staff Items

- a. MSU-Bozeman *ITEM 155-2000-R0512*
- b. MSU-Northern *ITEM 155-2800-R0512*



- c. UM-Missoula *ITEM 155-1000-R0512*
- d. MT Tech *ITEM 155-1500-R0512*
- e. UM-Western *ITEM 155-1600-R0512*
- f. Professor Emeritus of Economics: Fleck; MSU-Bozeman *ITEM 155-2001-R0512*
- g. Professor Emeritus of Plant Pathology: Jacobsen; MSU-Bozeman *ITEM 155-2002-R0512*
- h. Professor Emeritus of Educational Theory and Practice and Mathematics: Metheny; MSU-Billings *ITEM 155-2701-R0512*
- i. Professor Emeritus of Hydrogeology: Miller; MT Tech Bureau of Mines and Geology *ITEM 155-1501A-R0512*
- j. Professor Emeritus of Geology: Berg; MT Tech Bureau of Mines and Geology *ITEM 155-1502A-R0512*
- k. Professor Emeritus of Business Technology: Olson; UM-Missoula *ITEM 155-1005-R0512*
- l. Professor Emeritus of Communication Disorders: Boehmler; UM-Missoula *ITEM 155-1006-R0512*

Regent Robinson moved approval of consent agenda, items a-l. Motion passed 7-0.

d. TWO-YEAR and COMMUNITY COLLEGE COMMITTEE REPORT

CONSENT

Rescission of BOR Policy 971.1 - Vocational Technical Education Tuition Rates; OCHE *ITEM #155-104-R0512*

Regent Thiel moved approval of consent agenda ITEM 155-104-R0512. Motion passed 7-0.

ACTION

Renaming Five Colleges of Technology, Gallatin College Programs, and Bitterroot College Program; OCHE *ITEM #155-106-R0512*

Regent Tuss moved approval of an amendment: I move that the rebranding of the MSU-Great Falls College of Technology be considered with a resolution to be brought to the Board of Regents no later than Friday, June 29, 2012. Included in this motion, let it be resolved that the Board will only consider a final suggested name that is consistent with the naming framework approved on March 2: "Place, Mission, Affiliation." I make this motion out of respect for the importance of listening to all stakeholders affected by the important improvements we are making in the two-year education system in Montana. We have already listened a great deal, with community surveys, listening sessions, focus and a great deal of communication with community leaders in Great Falls. Regent Thiel seconded the motion. Motion passed 7-0.



Regent Thiel moved approval of ITEM 155-106-R0512 as amended. Motion passed 7-0.

Election of Officers

Regent Tuss nominated Regent Angela McLean as chair of the board. Motion passed 7-0.

Regent Tuss nominated Regent Todd Buchanan as vice chair of the board. Regent Buchanan declined the nomination as well as additional requests to reconsider.

Regent Tuss nominated Regent Robinson as vice chair of the board. Motion passed 7-0.

Public Comment

Dean McGovern, Montana Campus Compact, said MT Campus Compact is committed to foster civic engagement.

Jennifer Gursky, ASMUS, presented a Student Advocate of the Year Award given to Dan Carter, MSU Billings.

The meeting adjourned at 12:30 PM.

Approved by the Board of Regents on

Date

Date

Clayton T. Christian
Commissioner of Higher Education
and Secretary to the Board of Regents

Angela McLean
Chair, Board of Regents