Thursday, November 21, 2014

- Meeting convened at 8:00 AM.

Roll call indicated a quorum present. Regents present: Chair Paul Tuss, Regents Major Robinson, Jeff Krauss, Fran Albrecht, Martha Sheehy, Bill Johnstone and Student Regent Mariah Williams. Ex Officio members present: Commissioner of Higher Education, Clayton Christian; Superintendent of Public Instruction, Denise Juneau - represented by Mr. Steve York and Governor Steve Bullock - represented by Dr. Shannon O'Brien.

Chair Tuss welcomed all attendees and discussed current events taking place across the system. He noted the high number of students that are being served across the MUS, 47,000 full-time and part-time students in total, in addition to the record number of younger students getting an early start on future success; more than 2000 HS students enrolled in a college level class, a 96% increase from two years ago, and roughly 65% of these students are taking dual credit courses. He spoke to the innovation of dual credit and its ability to lessen the cost of college and shorten the time to degree. He addressed the meeting agenda and issues to be discuss.

Governor Bullock extended thanks to the Board and Commissioner for their continued service to the state of Montana and Higher Education. He noted his pride in the recent success that Higher Education has experienced including: securing $40 million dollars to establish and expand critical public/private partnerships in the fields of high-tech manufacturing, welding, and health care. These partnerships are bringing together the expertise in the education and business communities to expand opportunities for Montana students. Successful implementation of performance based funding measures to guarantee that when Montana students enter one of the state’s colleges or universities, they’ll know that they’re getting a world-class education, at an affordable price. He discussed the continued efforts to ensure Montana joins the 42 other states that provide early childhood education opportunities to our youngest learners, the schools of education have recognized the important role that they will play in ensuring we have teachers with the education, experience, and credentials to provide these learning opportunities. He also addressed the collaborative partnerships between the higher education community and the K-12 system; the number of high school students accessing dual enrollment courses, that allow them to earn college credit and gain valuable experience, has since doubled; through the Dual Enrollment Incentive Program, Montana continues working to expand these opportunities for Montana high school students. He discussed the guarantee that the MUS provides to ensure that Montanan’s have a deep pool of resources, tools, and talent to equip them for the jobs of today and tomorrow. He discussed the future for MT students, educators and economic opportunities. He noted his recently released budget which continues fiscal management for Montanans and making smart investments and expanding opportunities for workers, students and children. He noted this proposed budget includes a freeze on tuition for students attending an MUS school. He noted the budget includes investments in the facilities that students learn in. Through these investments we are investing in the future of economy for fulfilling
talented workforce through education, upgrades, and also providing jobs through construction and maintenance. He discussed the five pillars of Main Street Montana and the key role that higher education plays as well as future investments that must be made for the ultimate success of the economy. He addressed the upcoming legislative session and preparations being made and the ultimate difference that can be made together. He noted the integration of tribal colleges and the success that has been attained in this area along with the progress of veteran services. He extended his thanks for the continued commitment and responsibility of the MUS to ensure that every Montanan has the opportunity to access the promise of higher education.

President Engstrom welcomed all attendees. He commemorated the late Lynn Stocking and spoke to her accomplishments and many years of advocating on behalf of students across the system and at Missoula College. President Engstrom noted the majority of food being service at this meeting from the Farm for College program. He discussed the upcoming reception and events associated with the meeting.

Roll call and approval of minutes

a. September 17-18, 2014 Minutes

Regent Krauss motioned for approval. Motion passed 7-0.

PBS Presentation – William Marcus and Eric Hyppa

PBS presented an overview of their services to MUS and students across the state for the past 30 years. They covered the history of their incredible partnership with MSU and UM and the telling of Montana’s stories. They shared a video covering a variety of programs and events taking place across the state. They discussed their service to the entire state population and the specific areas of service that PBS provides. It was reported that 202,000 Montanans watch PBS each week. They discussed the impact that their service can have across the state based on the program/show/topic. One such area was improving early childhood education; PBS continues to work as a tool to address early childhood development and learning. They noted the number of products they provide to help including putting PBS into classrooms across the state as free resource for teachers. They noted the many opportunities for student involvement within PBS. William Marcus was recognized for his 40 years of service to PBS and Montana. Discussion followed about the ownership and governance structure to allow them to be successful in funding. Commissioner Christian noted the strong partnership the MUS holds with PBS, noting that the MUS has a successful business relationship with them and serve as the license holder for them; additionally, the MUS and BOR continue to lobby on their behalf.

System Issues Reports and Action

b. Commissioner’s Report

Commissioner Christian commented on the progress made and efforts toward research, two-year leadership, advancing two-year education and TAACCCT grant to the ultimate benefit of students. He discussed the collaboration across the system and work with local legislators and businesses on these efforts. He noted that there is true collaboration and team work taking place across the MUS, to the ultimate benefit of the system. He noted his role on the WICHE Commission and the recent meeting that took place which focused on what is taking place on a national level. The main focus was the reauthorization act, an equalizing effort that started about 4 years ago and launched PELL and Stafford loans, and provided solid evidence that it may not happen. He discussed the impacts of
PELL, especially on two-year institutions and across the system. OCHE will continue to watch these changes and keep the board informed. He reviewed the system and submission process for item at the BOR meetings noting that there will be timeline revisions for the upcoming year. These changes will require a closer look at on campus processes in order for us as a system to be more responsive to business and industry needs, as well as, individual needs. He discussed CUPA and their data and noted the award they assign to the top CEO related to HR functions and progressive efforts; this year’s recipient was President Cruzado.

c. Fall Enrollment

Deputy Commissioner Trevor updated the Board on Fall enrollment across the MUS. He noted that Fall 2014 census FTE is down by 1.6% (-604 FTE) compared to Fall 2013 census. He discussed the trend line. He noted the unduplicated count of high school students that are enrolled in at least in one college course, showing an increase of 96%. He noted the number of catalysts that are driving this trend including K-12 teachers being the main driving force. He noted the impact of common course numbering on dual enrollment and the assurances it provides to high school students and parents that courses will transfer throughout the MUS. He discussed the difference in levels of opportunity for dual enrollment in rural and urban areas and the efforts to level this playing field. Discussion followed about the natural decline in Montana high school graduates and the financial impact of dual enrollment. Commissioner Christian discussed this strategy and its overall potential to bear fruit and profit as well as the great opportunity it provides for students. Regent Krauss discussed the dual credit incentive program and related costs as well as the importance of teachers and educators in rural communities, he also noted the tighter connection being formed and integration that is taking place through this program.

d. Campus Reports

e. Governor’s Report

f. OPI Update

Mr. Steve York represented the Superintendent’s office and updated the Board on the transitional efforts related to education. The smoother these transition processes, the better chance we have at successful student retention. He noted that the Board of Education recently adopted some reinventions and renewal of chapters for the administrative rules of Montana on educational licensure, professional education preparation standards for those prep programs across the state, and the adoption of pre-school accreditation standards. He discussed the heavy involvement among educational partners throughout the state and successful outcomes to form the Montana Educator Appraisal system for teacher and principal evaluation, noting the benefits associated with these evaluation tools. He shared updates related to Graduation Matters and efforts underway to ensure greater FAFSA completion. Discussion followed about current services being provided to educators across the state and communication efforts to ensure teachers know what resources are accessible to them, including dual credit teaching opportunities.

g. Other

Campus Introductions:
Great Falls College-MSU, UM-Missoula, and OCHE introduced new members of their faculty and staff.

Mansfield Center Presentation – Abraham Kim
Dr. Kim presented on the Mansfield Center noting the difference they are making across the world. He discussed the importance of educating young leaders on international ethics, cultures, experiences, etc. He noted that the Mansfield center focuses and encourages students to take advantage of global leadership and opportunity. He discussed the many great accomplishments that Mr. Mansfield provided to the state, country and world. Mr. Mansfield’s legacy is furthered today through the Mansfield Center and the number of opportunities that it provides to students. The mission of Mike Mansfield is focused on striving to promote US–Asia relations; in addition, focus on ethics and public affairs to help train future leaders. The impact of the Mansfield Legacy is achieved through international education via the American Youth Leadership institution, Confucius Institute, and the Montana Digital Academy. It is also achieved through community enrichment, Mansfield Conference on ethics, Mansfield global leadership podcast, being involved in economic development and furthering those partnerships as well as introducing Montana Businesses to Asia in order to further bridge opportunities. The ultimate goal of the Center is to be a leader and professional training center, be a leader in promoting US-Asia relations, serve as an international policy thinktank and act as a springboard to launch students to the world; ultimately, continuing to pass along the Mansfield legacy to the next generation. General discussion followed from the Board.

Staff and Compensation Committee

CONSENT

Staff Items

a. OCHE Staff; ITEM 165-100-R1114
b. UM-Missoula Staff; ITEM 165-1000-1114
c. UM-Missoula Employee Equity Interest; ITEM 165-1004-R1114 | Attachment #1
d. UM-Missoula Professor Emeritus – Docktor; ITEM 165-1005-R1114
e. UM-Missoula Dean & Professor Emeritus – Forbes; ITEM 165-1006-R1114
f. UM-Missoula Professor Emeritus – Luckowski; ITEM 165-1007-R1114
g. UM-Missoula Professor Emeritus – McKenna; ITEM 165-1008-R1114
h. MT Tech of UM Staff; ITEM 165-1500-R1114
i. MT Tech of UM Professor Emeritus – Wahl; ITEM 165-1502-R1114
j. MT Tech of UM Professor Emeritus – Macgregor; ITEM 165-1503-R1114
k. MT Tech of UM Professor Emeritus – Appleman; ITEM 165-1504-R1114
l. UM-Western Staff; ITEM 165-1600-R1114
m. UM-Western Chancellor/Professor Emeritus – Storey; ITEM 165-1606-R1114
n. MSU-Bozeman Staff; ITEM 165-2000-R1114
o. MSU-Bozeman Professor Emeritus – Knight; ITEM 165-2001-R1114
p. MSU-Northern Staff; ITEM 165-2800-R1114

Chair Tuss called for item b. UM-Missoula Staff; ITEM 165-1000-R1114 to be removed from the consent agenda and listed as action following this agenda

ACTION

a. UM-Missoula Staff; ITEM 165-1000-1114
Chair Tuss inquired about this new position. President Engstrom clarified that this position was the combination of two previous positions merging into one; creating net reduction in FTE savings of $70,000. He further clarified that there is no intention of backfilling either of these positions.

**INFORMATION**

a. Discussion of faculty salaries & market data – OCHE, UM-Missoula & MSU-Bozeman presenters  
   - Concept of "market" and impact on institutions  
   - Current market-based decision making  
   - Relative market data across the MUS

Terry Leist, Martha Potvin, Perry Brown and David Shively presented on the concept of market and its impact on campus; current market-based decisions with regard to faculty salary and how as a system might we move forward toward objectively identify market pressures and needs.

Provost Potvin noted the factors that have caused low faculty salaries compared to market. One cause is a history of trying to hire faculty at the lowest possible salary followed by incremental raises that did not keep up with increases in the market. Another is the need to pay close to market rates to attract new faculty. As a result, incoming faculty have salaries closer to market than faculty at higher ranks-who have been with us a while and whose salaries increments have not kept them close to market. Another is that until two years ago, when individuals earned a promotion in rank, they received a standardized flat-dollar salary adjustment. Those fixed increases disadvantaged faculty with higher salaries (STEM and business) because the percent increase to their base was lower than faculty with lower salaries. The university now makes promotion pay raises a percentage increase instead of a flat-dollar increase. She discussed the loss of faculty to other institutions and efforts to retain top faculty through increased base salaries and increased retention offers. She discussed the use of survey codes to match faculty positions accurately to external comparators and make salary decisions on the basis of that data. This multipronged approach has been very helpful in alleviating salary inversion. Analysis need to be conducted on a campus by campus basis.

Provost Brown discussed the need for the best and brightest faculty, and associated costs with recruiting and retaining them. He noted the competition with other schools. Dave Shively emphasized from a faculty standpoint that the concept of a market is very real. Faculty members are increasingly aware of and interested in long-term retirement benefits. He referenced a 2006 MUS report that noted the employer contribution to retirement was lower than that of the employee. He noted that a revised, updated report with newer data would be very helpful. Provost Brown stated that they hire as close to the market when possible and when funds are available. He noted that there have been vacancies despite these efforts due to continued pushing and advances in the market. Benefits continue to be an issue and challenges of spousal and partner accommodations. Efforts to identify people who are highly marketable are put forth for adjustment requests to assist in filling vacant positions when available. He described complexities associated with this approach. He noted the use of inversion/compression funds to help balance these costs and adjustments.

Deputy Commissioner McRae described efforts by OCHE and the Board to address these issues. Chair Tuss asked about the situation at affiliate campuses outside of Missoula or Bozeman. Campus leaders from affiliate institutions described market pressures and non-competitive faculty salary levels at their campuses.
Commissioner Christian explained the MUS needs to start looking at a broader conversation of how many people are employed, the impact on budget and employee-to-student ratios, capacity, and other factors that interplay.

Academic, Research, and Student Affairs Committee

BOR Education-Mission Review-Lee Thornton

Dr. Thorton presented on the review of campus missions. He stated that the BOR is the primary source of quality for an institution and should be considered as the guardians; similar to acting as the bookends for the accreditation process. An institution has a widely published mission statement which is approved by the governing board, this articulates a purpose appropriate for an institution of higher learning, gives direction for its efforts, and derives from, and is generally understood by, its community. The institution defines mission fulfillment in the context of its purpose, characteristics, and expectations. Guided by that definition, it articulates institutional accomplishments or outcomes that represent an acceptable threshold or extent of mission fulfillment. He spoke of the five standards associated with the accreditation logic model. These include Standard 1: mission and core themes; Standard 2: resources and capacity; Standard 3: Planning and implementation; Standard 4: assessment and improvement; and Standard 5: mission fulfillment. While standard 1 is focused more on the theory, standards 2 and 3 focus on the treatment; standard 4 focuses on measurement and 5 incorporates difference all of which feeds back to continuous improvement. Changes in mission itself should be a collaborative process with contributions from all stakeholders. Ultimately changes to the mission are up to the Board. From a governance point of view the board establishes, reviews regularly, revises as necessary, and exercises broad oversight of institutional policies, including those regarding its own organization and operation. Commissioner Christian stated that this is the heart of the Board of Regents and its responsibilities. He encouraged having defined plans of action and holding a mission accountable in order to use resources appropriately and effectively.

Deputy Commissioner Moisey discussed the current board policy which requires mission review for every three years and noted the intention behind it to ensure that the mission is staying on course.

CONSENT

a. Level II Memorandum (from September submission)
b. Honorary Doctorate; MSU Bozeman

ACTION

a. Regents Professor Nomination; UM Missoula (Action to be taken as a Committee of the Whole) ITEM 165-1003-R1114 | Attachment #1 | Attachment #2

Chair Tuss noted that the Board will act as a committee of the whole and vote on this particular item. President Engstrom spoke to the prestige of this award. Dr. Ragan Callaway was recognized for his outstanding service to the University of Montana. This nomination is in appreciation for his contribution to the field of ecology.

b. Mission Review; MT Tech of UM ITEM 165-1501-R1114 | Attachment #1 | Attachment #2
Provost Abbott shared the mission statement of MT-Tech “To meet the changing needs of society by supplying knowledge and education through a strong undergraduate curriculum augmented by research, graduate education and service.” Core themes include: education and knowledge, student achievement, engaged faculty and the Montana Tech Community. He discussed the many unique aspects of MT-Tech including that they are the only institution in the US that maintains the full range of minerals and energy engineering degree programs that are accredited by ABET. He discussed the exemplarily undergraduate education and 100% placement on the NCLEX RN exam. He reviewed the academic profile noting the collaborative Ph.D. He further discussed the student profile, noting their academic success, job placement and average starting salaries. He discussed the enrollment, exemplary workforce development, and exemplary service. He noted the increase in campus growth. He discussed campus research and expected continuation and increases in this area and discussed the accolades and notable rankings the institution has achieved.

c. Mission Statement Revision; MT Tech of UM

Provost Abbott stated requested, on behalf of Montana Tech, Board approval to revise its Mission Statement from: “To meet the changing needs of society by supplying knowledge and education through a strong undergraduate curriculum augmented by research, graduate education, and service.” To: “Montana Tech, through exemplary undergraduate and graduate education, workforce development, research, and service, builds on a strong heritage in engineering, science, and technology that blends theory with practice in meeting the changing needs of society and the responsible development and use of natural resources.” The revised mission statement was developed by Tech’s Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities (NWCCU) steering committee. The revised mission statement has been vetted by the Deans Council, the Chancellor’s Cabinet, the Faculty Senate, and the Associated Students of Montana Tech (ASMT).

d. Mission Review; UM Western

Provost Ulrich reviewed the history of the institution and its progress to date. He noted the timeline for development of the new strategic plan and mission statement including a strategic plan and renewal of mission statement in November of 2011. He shared the current mission statement: “The University of Montana-Western differentiates itself and achieves academic excellence by sustaining a culture of concentrated experiential education. The Core themes include 1. Improve undergraduate education and experiential learning. 2. Support student success and completion, 3. Foster campus efficiency and stewardship of resources. He noted the enrollment growth of 41% and 74% retention rate. Additionally they have experienced an 80% increase in degree recipient and a 96% rate of course completion for first-time freshmen. They have experienced an increase of 55% in their graduation rate and 80% of graduate employment placement.

e. Mission Statement Revision; UM Western

Provost Ulrich noted that during a periodic review of its mission statement, The University of Montana Western decided a change was desirable to better reflect Montana Western’s focus on maximizing the opportunities for concentrated experiential learning through Experience One Scheduling as well as other methodologies. UM-Western believes its proposed, revised Mission Statement better reflects its well-developed niche in the Montana University System and broader region. The University of Montana Western’s current mission statement is: “The University of Montana Western provides
innovative interdisciplinary education through experiential learning that combines theory and practice. Montana Western serves citizens of all ages with its academic, community service and lifelong learning programs. As part of the global community, Montana Western encourages diversity, international awareness, environmental responsibility and mastery of technology as a gateway to the world." Montana Western is seeking approval to revise the mission statement to: “The University of Montana Western differentiates itself and achieves academic excellence by sustaining a culture of concentrated experiential education.”

f. Approval of Core Themes; UM Western *ITEM 165-1604-R1114*

Provost Ulrich noted the following core themes that were developed for submission with Montana Western's Year One report on Standard One: Mission, Core Themes and Expectations, which was submitted to NWCCU in March of 2011. The Core Themes underwent full review and received approval on the Montana Western campus in 2010-11. While some of the goals and objectives associated with the core themes have changed since 2011, the core themes have not been modified. They serve as the scaffold for Montana Western’s 2014-15 Strategic Plan: Experience the Difference. 1. Continuously improve undergraduate education and experiential learning. 2. Maximize campus-wide support for student success and completion. 3. Foster responsible campus efficiency and stewardship of resources.

g. Mission Review; MSU Billings *ITEM 165-2702-R1114 | Attachment #1 | Attachment #2*

Provost Pagano noted the institutional mission of MSU-B, “Strong commitment to teaching excellent, support for individual learning, engagement in civic responsibility, and intellectual, cultural, social and economic community enhancement. Their core themes include: cultivating teaching excellence, providing an environment for learning, promoting and engaging in civic responsibility and enhancing the community. He further discussed the number of academic programs and unique campuses and offerings. He discussed the student base and noted the diversity it holds.

h. Mission Review; MSU Northern *ITEM 165-2802-R1114 | Attachment #1 | Attachment #2*

Provost Rugg shared the MSU-Northern mission statement: "MSU Northern, a teaching institution, serves a diverse student population by providing liberal arts, professional and technical education programs ranging from certificates through master's degrees. The university promotes a student centered and culturally enriched environment endorsing lifelong learning, personal growth and responsible citizenship. The university partners with a variety of community and external entities to enhance collaborative learning, provide applied research opportunities, stimulate economic development and expand student learning experiences." Their vision statement reads: “Montana State University-Northern will be known for its supportive, student-centered environment in which a unique mix of academic programs are responsive to local, regional, and state workforce needs, offered in an atmosphere that promotes student success.” He discussed the diverse student population and large percentage of Native American population as well as the reputation for training the teachers of Montana. He noted the variety of academic programs that are provided and the technical programs that they offer. He discussed the applied research opportunities that are provided. He noted the promotion of a student-centered environment; specifically the 14:1 teacher-student ratio and the continued expansion of student learning experiences. He noted the recognition the institution has received for the stimulation in economic development they provide through various programs.
i. Policy 940.20 Revision; OCHE ITEM 165-104-R1114 | Attachment #1 | Attachment #2

Deputy Commissioner Moisey proposed revisions to Policy 940.20 in order to reduce the current non-resident student rate from no less than 200% to no less than 125% of resident tuition rate for students enrolled in online programs (a degree or certificate program in which 80% or more of the total program is delivered online). This policy imposes no ceiling for the non-resident tuition rates for enrollments in online programs, nor does it prohibit the campus from utilizing, as appropriate, the Western Undergraduate Exchange program tuition rate for qualified non-resident students who are studying solely online. Non-resident students who are admitted to a campus-based program, who are also taking online courses will be assessed the tuition and fees at the full non-resident rate for all courses, plus the addition of any applicable Non-mandatory eLearning or online delivery fee.

INFORMATION

a. Level I Memorandum

Deputy Commissioner Moisey detailed the approval process related to these items and noted that they are approved at the OCHE office and simply reported here as information items. He clarified that these are vetted through the CAOs.

b. Level II Memorandum (for action in March)

Deputy Commissioner Moisey noted that this is a two-meeting process; first submitted as informational and then again for action at the next meeting. He briefly touched based on each request.

c. Student Affairs Update – Financial Literacy Education Program Update - R. Muffick, B. French, C. Beck

Ron Muffick, Director of Student Affairs updated the Board on recent efforts towards financial literacy education. Carina Beck of MSU shared the efforts taking place at MSU specifically the collaboration with campus community and focusing on student debt. They offer individualized support, targeted outreach and integration with the Student Success center. They are experiencing improved student outcomes through communication, understanding and action. Brian French shared the UM goals associated with financial literacy which include: reducing student loan default rates and reducing the amount of student loan indebtedness. They strive to integrate financial education with student success and making financial wellness part of the UM culture. Future plans include data-driven outreach to financially at-risk students, improved student loan entrance counseling and continued use of videos to reach students. In addition there are plans for an expansion of training for employees and assessing program effectiveness.

d. AIMA Update – B. Foster

Brandi Foster, AIMA Director discussed the past and current enrollment processes for American Indian students. She discussed retention rates, noting that the rates vary per campus. She further discussed the graduation rates for certificate, associate and bachelor levels. Degree production is an indicator and shows that there hasn’t been much growth since 2006-2007. A workgroup has been convened to address these issues. Plans include to map current programs, projects and initiatives to determine connections and opportunities to enhance connections; ensure clear messaging regarding
diversity through current policy and recommendations for future policy; identify and suggest opportunities to engage campus communities in learning about equity and inclusion; identify best practices for recruitment, orientation and retention for students, faculty and staff; identify structured opportunities for cross-cultural collaboration and professional development; review current data and identify areas for deeper analysis and opportunities for further research and ultimately make recommendations to the Board to help define our responsibilities under Indian Education for All in a measurable and meaningful way.

e. MSU Billings Academic Program Prioritization Update-M. Pagano

Provost Pagano and Dean Duin discussed the preliminary results and recommendations that were made for the academic program prioritization project 2013-2014. They noted that a resource committee reviewed the findings and determined that the human resource gains that would be recovered as a result of accepting these current actions. They covered the impact that programs underwent including: removal, changes to, and continuation of. Out of 160 programs that were reviewed, 90 were recommended to maintain; 36 were recommended to grow; 15 were recommended to integrate and 19 were recommended to phase out. Ultimately the decision for final recommendations lies with the Chancellor and Cabinet. Discussion followed regarding how these actions relate to the MUS strategic plan and OCHE’s involvement in this process.

f. Academic Program Review
   i. MSU Bozeman
   ii. MSU Billings
   iii. MSU Northern
   iv. Great Falls College MSU
   v. UM Missoula
   vi. MT Tech of UM
   vii. UM Western
   viii. Helena College

Deputy Commissioner Moisey stated that these were the results of the program review process; which are reviewed once every seven years. These also include campus recommendations.

Public Comment:

Cindy Garthwait, AAUW Representative spoke in support of sexual assault prevention efforts across the system related to Title IX.

Diane Sands, Missoula Senator and former AAUW Policy Director spoke in support of addressing sexual assault on a statewide basis and promoted conducting a systemic study about the issue of sexual assault across the system at a legislative level.

Kate Dinsmore & Jessica Hawn, from the Idaho-Montana Chapter of the American Society of Landscape Architects requested Board support for establishing an accredited landscape architecture program at Montana State University.

Friday, November 21

8:30 AM Board Reconvenes
Administration, Budget and Audit Oversight Committee

CONSENT

a. Policy Revision 201.7; OCHE ITEM 165-101-R1114 | Attachment #1

b. Authorization to Renew the Lease of the Joseph M. Hartmann Memorial Ranch to Fred Itcaina; Montana Agricultural Experiment Station; MSU-Agricultural Experiment Station ITEM 165-2301-R1114

c. Authorization to Expend Student Computer Fees; MSU-Northern ITEM 165-2801-R1114

ACTION

a. Authorization to Execute Lease for WWAMI program; MSU-Bozeman ITEM 165-2002-R1114

Terry Leist MSU – Vice President of Finance presented the request for authorization for Montana State University to execute a lease with Bozeman Deaconess Hospital to provide space to accommodate elements of MSU’s WWAMI program.

b. Authorization for Construction of the Washington-Grizzly Champions Center; UM-Missoula ITEM 165-1001-R1114 | Attachment #1 | Attachment #2 | Attachment #3

Mike Reid UM - Vice President of Finance presented the request for authorization to construct the Washington-Grizzly Champions Center with a total value of up to $14 million and to finance up to $5.0 million of the cost of the project; 2) to lease land to the UM Foundation in accordance with MCA 20-25-309; and 3) to name the facility the Washington-Grizzly Champions Center in accordance with BOR Policy 1004.1. Discussion followed.

c. Authorization to Build Out of Shelled Space in the Interdisciplinary Science Building (ISB); UM-Missoula ITEM 165-1002-R1114 | Attachment #1

Mike Reid UM - Vice President of Finance presented the request for authorization for UM to build out approximately 4,220 sq. ft. of currently shelled space in the Interdisciplinary Science Building in accordance with Board of Regents Policy 1003.7, the Board of Regents of the Montana University System.

d. Authorization to Proceed with Issuance of Series N 2015 Refunding Revenue Bonds; UM-Missoula ITEM 165-1010-R1114 | Attachment #1 | Attachment #2

Mike Reid UM – Vice President of Finance present the request consistent with MCA 20-25-402 (Borrowing by the Regents), The Board of Regents of the Montana University System to authorize The University of Montana to proceed with the issuance of the Series N 2015 Refunding Revenue Bonds up to $21.0 million and adopts the Bond Resolution for the Bonds. Regent Johnstone
excused himself from any discussion related to this item due to a potential conflict of interest with DA Davidson.

**INFORMATION**

a. Revision of BOR Policy 901.9 – Campus-Affiliated Foundations; Montana University System Foundation; OCHE / Attachment #1

Commissioner Christian discussed the consideration for the creation of an MUS Foundation to accommodate system-wide gifts. The change to policy 901.9 is intended to permit the Commissioner's Office to establish an MUS Foundation to act as a pass through entity for the convenience of donors when giving to one or more of the existing foundations does not practically work for their donation. The MUS Foundation would not actively seek donations or utilize the donations for the system office, but only for the campuses in fulfilling the purposes of the gift. Commissioner Christian clarified that action is not being taken at this meeting. Discussion followed regarding governance and potential perceived conflicts of interest.

b. Energy Conservation Projects, Chemistry Biology Building and Engineering Laboratory Classroom Building; MT-Tech of UM

Michael Allen – MT Tech Director of Facilities spoke to the interest in entering into an Energy Performance Contract to implement energy saving modifications to facility systems and components in the Chemistry Biology Building, and the Engineering Laboratory Classroom Building. Montana Tech has selected McKinstry Energy & Facility Solutions of Missoula MT, to perform initial energy studies and analysis of possible energy saving solutions in these two building. The EPC will use initial information collected by preliminary energy and building use audits for analysis to determine if a self-funded construction project is possible.

c. Discussion on Governor Bullock’s Proposed Budget

Commissioner Christian lead a discussion on the proposed budget as it relates to higher education covering the tuition freeze, proposed pay plan, etc. He discussed the substantial support for higher education that the Governor has proposed. He noted that while tuition can be frozen, expenditures cannot. Present Law adjustments are consistent with the figures requested by the MUS and are sufficient to move forward. He recapped the requests from the last session and noted the requests for this session. Discussion followed regarding PBF, LRBP and deferred maintenance.

Two-Year Education and Community Colleges Committee

**INFORMATION**

a. Brief Overview of $15 million dollar US DOL TAACCCT IV Montana HealthCARE Grant

Deputy Commissioner Cech and Dean Baker presented on the Montana HealthCARE Grant. The purpose of this grant is to create access and streamline healthcare training opportunities across the state. They noted the 19 additional consortium partners. Goals include bringing additional training and successful employment for students. There are ten strategies for the program which include
integration for job forecasting, apprenticeship program, review and redesign of curriculum and involvement of a lattering concept and the creation of a common nursing curriculum. Dean Baker shared the outcomes to be measured and noted the staff involved. Discussion followed.

b. Prior Learning Assessment Background for Spring Policy Recommendations

Sue Jones, Director of Two-Year Mission Integration and Chancellor Nook provided an update regarding the Prior Learning Assessment Background for Spring policy recommendations. She discussed the process behind PLA and Montana’s growing need for more workers with higher education credentials. Sue pointed reviewed data on workforce age Montana adults, ages 25-64, who may be able to benefit from PLA as an avenue toward a higher education credential. Sue also reviewed the work of the PLA Taskforce and noted that there is a draft of a statewide PLA policy that has been produced. The Taskforce will continue to refine the draft and work with faculty and staff groups to seek input before the final version is brought forward to the Board of Regents.

Mark Nook, Chancellor of MSU Billings, and Dr. Stephen Lodmell, Professor, Division of Biological Sciences at UM Missoula, and Chair, Faculty Senate expanded on the academic side of PLA as well as the positive research results regarding impact on students in the realm of persistence and completion.

c. Scaling of EdReady Statewide Update

Robert Currie, Director of Montana Digital Academy stated that the $2.4 million gift from the Washington Foundation is being used to field test and rollout EdReady throughout Montana to all students in grades 7-12 and higher education. He discussed the two distinct cases for EdReady which include: using it in the classroom as a companion in a concurrent usage to augment instruction and allow the teacher to provide more differentiation. The other option is to use it as preparation for placement assessment. He discussed the current EdReady enrollment breakdown and regions across the state that it is being used. Commissioner Christian extended thanks to the Phyllis and Dennis Washington Foundation for their support of this initiative.

ACTION

a. Presentation of Montana HealthCARE Budget – Request for Expansion of Spending Authority of Campuses; OCHE ITEM 165-103-R1114

Deputy Commissioner Cech presented the request for authorization for t to Missoula College UM as fiscal agent and to the following consortium members for fiscal year 2015: Great Falls College MSU, City College MSUB, Gallatin College MSU, Montana State University Northern, Bitterroot College, Helena College UM, Highlands College at MT Tech, Flathead Valley Community College, Miles Community College, University of Montana Western. The U. S Department of Labor through its Trade Adjustment Assistance Community College and Career Training Grants Program (TAACCCT) has awarded a four-year consortium grant totaling $14,988,587.00 to Missoula College-UM, Great Falls College, City College, Gallatin College, Montana State University Northern, Bitterroot College, Helena College, Highlands College, Flathead Valley Community College, Miles Community College, University of Montana Western, Blackfeet Community College, Chief Dull Knife College, Salish Kootenai College, and Stone Child College. The grant consortium is titled, Montana HealthCARE (Creating Access to Rural Education). The project offers TAA-eligible, veteran and other low-skilled
student populations an opportunity to access accelerated training anywhere in the state. The project will create statewide healthcare pathways to simplify the process for earning a career certificate or degree in the healthcare industry; systematically address Montana’s nursing shortages and provide accelerated pathways to completion of nursing programs; increase student success by providing services that better prepare adult students for success in the curriculum, accelerate credential completion, coach students in education pathway navigation, and provide access to distance education; and engage the healthcare industry, education, workforce programs, and other stakeholders to improve workforce development strategies by improving on-the-job training and apprenticeship opportunities. This systemic approach allows our two-year college system to serve dispersed TAA-eligible populations with accelerated training well aligned with industry needs and taught by our state’s best faculty. Missoula College UM is the fiscal agent and will draw down all funds for this federal grant.

COMMITTEE REPORTS, DISCUSSION & ACTION

Staff and Compensation Committee

CONSENT

Staff Items

a. OCHE Staff; [ITEM 165-100-R1114
b. UM-Missoula Staff; [ITEM 165-1000-1114
c. UM-Missoula Employee Equity Interest; [ITEM 165-1004-R1114 | Attachment #1
d. UM-Missoula Professor Emeritus – Docktor; [ITEM 165-1005-R1114
e. UM-Missoula Dean & Professor Emeritus – Forbes; [ITEM 165-1006-R1114
f. UM-Missoula Professor Emeritus – Luckowski; [ITEM 165-1007-R1114
g. UM-Missoula Professor Emeritus – McKenna; [ITEM 165-1008-R1114
h. MT Tech of UM Staff; [ITEM 165-1500-R1114
i. MT Tech of UM Professor Emeritus – Wahl; [ITEM 165-1502-R1114
j. MT Tech of UM Professor Emeritus – Macgregor; [ITEM 165-1503-R1114
k. MT Tech of UM Professor Emeritus – Appleman; [ITEM 165-1504-R1114
l. UM-Western Staff; [ITEM 165-1600-R1114
m. UM-Western Chancellor/Professor Emeritus – Storey; [ITEM 165-1606-R1114
n. MSU-Bozeman Staff; [ITEM 165-2000-R1114
o. MSU-Bozeman Professor Emeritus – Knight; [ITEM 165-2001-R1114
p. MSU-Northern Staff; [ITEM 165-2800-R1114

Regent Krauss motioned for approval of consent items a, c-p. Motion was approved 7-0.

Item b. UM-Missoula Staff; [ITEM 165-1000-1114 was segregated out for Action. Regent Albrecht motioned for approval of item b. UM-Missoula Staff; [ITEM 165-1000-1114. Motion approved 7-0.

Academic, Research and Student Affairs Committee
CONSENT

a. Level II Memorandum (from September submission)
b. Honorary Doctorate; MSU Bozeman

Regent Robinson motioned for approval of items a. and b. on the consent agenda. Motion approved 7-0.

ACTION

a. Regents Professor Nomination; UM Missoula (Action to be taken as a Committee of the Whole) ITEM 165-1003-R1114 | Attachment #1 | Attachment #2

Regent Albrecht motioned for approval of action item a. ITEM 165-1003-R1114; motion passed 7-0.

b. Mission Review; MT Tech of UM ITEM 165-1501-R1114 | Attachment #1 | Attachment #2

Regent Albrecht motioned for approval of action item b. ITEM 165-1501-R1114; motion approved 7-0.

c. Mission Statement Revision; MT Tech of UM ITEM 165-1506-R1114

Regent Sheehy motioned for approval of action item c. ITEM 165-1506-R1114; motion approved 7-0.

d. Mission Review; UM Western ITEM 165-1603-R1114 | Attachment #1 | Attachment #2

Regent Williams motioned for approval of action item d. ITEM 165-1603-R1114; motion approved 7-0.

e. Mission Statement Revision; UM Western ITEM 165-1605-R1114

Regent Robinson motioned for approval of action item e. ITEM 165-1605-R1114; motion approved 7-0.

f. Approval of Core Themes; UM Western ITEM 165-1604-R1114

Regent Albrecht motioned for approval of action item f. ITEM 165-1604-R1114; motion approved 7-0.

g. Mission Review; MSU Billings ITEM 165-2702-R1114 | Attachment #1 | Attachment #2

Regent Krauss motioned for approval of action item f. ITEM 165-2702-R1114; motion approved 7-0.

h. Mission Review; MSU Northern ITEM 165-2802-R1114 | Attachment #1 | Attachment #2

Regent Williams motioned for approval of action item h. ITEM 165-2802-R1114; motion approved 7-0.

i. Policy 940.20 Revision; OCHE ITEM 165-104-R1114 | Attachment #1 | Attachment #2

Regent Robinson motioned for approval of action item i. ITEM 165-104-R1114; motion approved 7-0.

Administration, Budget and Audit Oversight Committee
CONSENT

a. Policy Revision 201.7; OCHE ITEM 165-101-R1114 | Attachment #1

b. Authorization to Renew the Lease of the Joseph M. Hartmann Memorial Ranch to Fred Itcaina; Montana Agricultural Experiment Station; MSU-Agricultural Experiment Station ITEM 165-2301-R1114

c. Authorization to Expend Student Computer Fees; MSU-Northern ITEM 165-2801-R1114

Regent Krauss motioned for approval of consent items a.-c.; motion approved 7-0.

ACTION

a. Authorization to Execute Lease for WWAMI program; MSU-Bozeman ITEM 165-2002-R1114

Regent Johnstone motioned for approval of action item a. ITEM 165-2002-R1114; motion approved 7-0.

b. Authorization for Construction of the Washington-Grizzly Champions Center; UM-Missoula ITEM 165-1001-R1114 | Attachment #1 | Attachment #2 | Attachment #3

Regent Albrecht motioned for approval of action item b. ITEM 165-1001-R1114; motion passed 7-0.

c. Authorization to Build Out of Shelled Space in the Interdisciplinary Science Building (ISB); UM-Missoula ITEM 165-1002-R1114 | Attachment #1

Regent Johnstone motioned for approval of action item c. ITEM 165-1002-R1114; motion passed 7-0.

d. Authorization to Proceed with Issuance of Series N 2015 Refunding Revenue Bonds; UM-Missoula ITEM 165-1010-R1114 | Attachment #1 | Attachment #2

Regent Robinson motioned for approval of action item d. ITEM 165-1010-R1114; motion passed 6-0, 1 abstention. Regent Johnstone recused himself from voting on this item.

Two-Year and Community College Education Committee

ACTION

a. Presentation of Montana HealthCARE Budget – Request for Expansion of Spending Authority of Campuses; OCHE ITEM 165-103-R1114

Regent Krauss motioned for approval of action item a. ITEM 165-103-R1114; motion passed 7-0.

Public Comment:
Dr. Shively made clarifications on budget figures discussed yesterday.

Meeting Adjourned at 12:20pm

Approved by the Board of Regents on

1-6-2015
Date

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

1-6-2015
Date

Paul Tuss
Chair, Board of Regents

Other than the meeting starting time, times listed are approximate. In addition, agenda items may be rearranged unless an item is listed as having a "time certain." Action may be taken on any item listed on the Board or Committee Agendas. Public comment is welcome on all items. The Board of Regents will make reasonable accommodations for known disabilities that may interfere with an individual's ability to participate. Persons requiring such accommodations should make their requests to the Office of the Commissioner of Higher Education as soon as possible before the meeting to allow adequate time for special arrangements. You may call or write to: ADA Coordinator, P. O. Box 203201, Helena MT 59620-3201, 406-444-6570, 1-800-253-4091 (TDD)