



MONTANA UNIVERSITY SYSTEM
Office of the Commissioner of Higher Education

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Memorandum

March 6, 2002

TO: Montana Board of Regents
FROM: Joyce A. Scott, Deputy Commissioner for Academic and Student Affairs
RE: Mission Statement for the University of Montana-Western

On the Submission Agenda for the Academic and Student Affairs Committee, you will find at Item h. *The Strategic Plan/Mission for the University of Montana-Western, 2001-2005*. Customarily, the Board of Regents acts to approve campus Mission Statements in accord with Regents' policy 219. Campus strategic plans are submitted only as information items and do not require Board approval.

In the document referenced above, the Board of Regents is asked to take action on this section only:

Mission Statement

The University of Montana-Western provides innovative interdisciplinary education through experiential learning that combines theory and practice. Western serves citizens of all ages with its academic, community-service, and lifelong-learning programs. As part of the global community, Western encourages diversity, international awareness, environmental responsibility, and mastery of technology as a gateway to the world.

This mission statement varies from the previous version in that it

- Does not restrict the level of academic degrees that the institution is authorized to award whereas the earlier version emphasized the institution's role in undergraduate education "...with its baccalaureate and associate degrees, a center for rural education, and lifelong learning programs for teachers, nontraditional students, and senior citizens."
- Does not indicate a campus specialization in teacher education.

Pc: Commissioner Crofts