

January 10-11, 2008

**ITEM NO. 138-1002-R0108** **Approval to establish a dual B.S. degree in International Field Geosciences with University College Cork (Ireland) and Potsdam University (Germany)**

**THAT:** In accordance with Montana University System Policy, the Board of Regents of Higher Education authorizes The University of Montana – Missoula to establish a dual B.S. degree program in International Field Geosciences with University College Cork (Ireland) and Potsdam University (Germany).

**EXPLANATION:** The University of Montana currently offers a Bachelor of Science degree in Geosciences with options in Geology, Environmental Geology, and General Geology. In two separate approval requests, we seek permission to change these degree options to a B.S. in Interdisciplinary Geosciences, designed to be as flexible as possible, and a B.S. in Geosciences with tracks in 1) Earth History, Evolution, and Resources and 2) Water, Climate and Environment. In this proposal request, we seek permission to add a third degree in International Field Geosciences, to be established as a dual degree with University College Cork in Ireland and Potsdam University in Germany. In addition to meeting the requirements of the proposed B.S. degree in Geosciences, the dual B.S. degree in International Field Geosciences will require a year abroad experience with time spent at both European partners and will focus specifically on field-based learning opportunities. Approximately \$1M in extramural funding for the establishment of this degree has been awarded by the Transatlantic Joint Degree Consortium Project. This amount includes \$408,000 to The University of Montana and €204,000 to each of the two European partner institutions for student and faculty mobilization overseas.