

From: Deputy Commissioner John Cech  
To: Board of Regents

Please see below for an executive overview of the Level II items that are proposed for your review and action at the November 2017 meeting of the Board of Regents. These items have been submitted by the campuses and reviewed by the Chief Academic Officers of the Montana University System and community colleges. OCHE staff has reviewed the items and provided a short analysis below relying on information submitted by the campuses. For more information and specific details on each item, please see the supporting documentation included on the Academic, Research, and Student Affairs Committee agenda.

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**The University of Montana Missoula**  
**Updated Vision and Core Themes**

The University of Montana Missoula requests approval of an updated vision and core themes. Five core themes were developed through the recent process of creating a new strategic vision, which utilized the input of thousands of stakeholders across UM and Montana. These core themes will form the foundation of the University's Year One report due to NWCCU in spring 2018 and are aligned with the MUS Strategic Plan. The five core themes are: 1) Engage students where they are, 2) Invest in people, 3) Partner with place, 4) Reinvent the heart of the curriculum, and 5) Foster knowledge creation and innovation.

*OCHE Staff Recommendation: Approve*

**The University of Montana Missoula**  
**Establish a Center for Translational Medicine**

The University of Montana Missoula proposes to establish a Center for Translational Medicine. Biotechnology is one of the fastest growing sectors in Montana; however, the majority of new biotechnology hires are from outside the state due to a lack of appropriately trained students. The Center will engage UM departments including Biomedical and Pharmaceutical Sciences, Chemistry & Biochemistry, Division of Biological Sciences, Mathematical Sciences, Computer Science and the School of Business Administration, and will establish relationships with other MUS faculty and staff with an interest in translational medicine. The Center will provide a centralized resource for translational science (pre-clinical study design, medicinal chemistry, GLP/GMP scale-up and process chemistry, formulation development, assay qualification and validation, safety assessment), intellectual property (data integrity and management, patent strategy, portfolio review, market analysis), and regulatory and pharmaceutical industry partnerships (licensing, CRAs, spin-off companies).

The Center for Translational Medicine will be fully supported through grants, contracts, licensing or corporate partnerships. No state funds are requested and no similar MUS programs exist. The center is not proposing to start a new academic program but instead will coordinate with existing colleges and departments.

*OCHE Staff Recommendation: Approve*

**The University of Montana Missoula**

**Retitle the School of Business Administration to the College of Business**

The University of Montana Missoula requests approval to retitle the existing School of Business Administration to the College of Business. "Administration" is an antiquated term rooted in business disciplines initially relating to secretarial support and commerce training. Many business schools have abandoned the term as the curriculum and business practice have modernized over time. The School of Business is one of the largest professional schools at UM and would like to move to a College designation. The retitling will not impact the three existing academic departments or the administrative structures and will not require resources.

*OCHS Staff Recommendation: Approve*