



MINUTES Montana Board of Regents Meeting

March 1, 2007

The full Board convened at 10:05 A.M.

Roll Call indicated a Quorum present.

Regents Present: Steve Barrett, Vice Chairman, Todd Buchanan, Lynn Hamilton, Chairman, Clayton Christian, Heather O'Loughlin, and Janine Pease. Also present were Commissioner Stearns, Governor Schweitzer, and Superintendent McCulloch all *ex officio*.

Regents Absent: Lila Taylor, excused.

Regent Barrett Moved approval of the Minutes of the November 2006 meeting as amended, and the January 2007 meeting. Approved 6-0.

Governor Schweitzer welcomed the newest Regent, Todd Buchanan. He recalled the agreement which the Regents and his office had reached in September, 2006 called the College Affordability Plan (CAP) in which the MUS will not raise tuition for the next two years if the Legislature provides \$50M new money to the System. It is now half way through the Legislative Session and he is not so confident in the outcome. He indicated they needed to stand together in support of the CAP. He promised his office will stand beside the University System and he wants the System to stand beside his office to be sure the resources are available. He challenged the Board and the University System to be innovative, and to try bold new ideas even if they should fail in some of them.

INTRODUCTIONS

Chancellor Gilmore introduced Dr. Doug Abbott Vice Chancellor of Academic Affairs at Montana Tech of The University of Montana.

Chancellor Capdeville announced that Dr. Cheri Jimeno is leaving MSU-Northern to become a President in the New Mexico University System

Chancellor Storey announced that Dr. Tom Yahraes will be leaving The University of Montana-Western to accompany his wife to New Mexico.

Dean Moe introduced Interim Associate Dean for Academic Programming, Dr. Joe Shaefer, and Interim Associate Dean for Instruction and Assessment Dr. Heidi Passeck at Montana State University-Great Falls College of Technology.

MUS ISSUES AND CHALLENGES

Commissioner Stearns requested the Board give consensus affirming support of the CAP proposed by the Governor.

The Board reaffirmed its support for CAP.

c. Legislative Update

Commissioner Stearns – HB 807 (the new Education Budget Bill) – Initiatives: Transferability Data System, Enhance Distance Learning, Equipment and Technology in High Demand Fields, Work Force Training in High Demand Fields, Tribal College Assistance; HB 13 (Pay Plan); HB 131 and HB 63; LRBP; Super Computer in Butte; Northern Tier; HB 335; HB 19 (Morrill Trust Lands); SR 4 (Confirmation of new Regent appointments); SB 12 (Community College Funding); SB 412 (Athletic Facility Construction); SJR (International)

a. MUS Issues and Challenges – Campus CEOs

Commissioner Stearns – K-12 Partnerships; Dual Enrollment; Assessment Alignment; Indian Education for All (Regional Learning Project); Writing Proficiency (shortage of scorers); Transferability; Persistence;

Linda McCulloch – Commonality in Strategic Plans; K-12 Bills; HB 809; Indian Education for All; Speech Language Pathology Program

Jan Lombardi – K-12 Budget

Chancellor Capdeville – Infrastructure and Facilities; Collaboration; Outreach; Articulation with Canadian School; Niche Programs; Declining Demographics

Chancellor Storey – Student Success surveys;

President Dennison – Outreach to Tribal schools; Dual Enrollment; Native Languages; Tribal Histories; Tribal Strategic Plans; Tribal Forestry Program; Tribal Judges College; Safe Schools Project.

Chancellor Gilmore – Engineering Licensure changes (added 30 Credit Hours); Certificate for Lineman Apprenticeship.

President Hicswa – Faculty and Staff Recruitment and Retention; Compensation for Faculty and Staff.

Chancellor Sexton – Student Networking on-line (loss of privacy).

STUDENT REPORTS

The following students presented reports

Andrea Helling, President ASUM, and MAS

Chris Mjelde, President ASMT

Whitney Wines, President ASUM-W

Kevin Majewski President ASMSU-B

Samantha Clausen, President ASMSU-N

AJ Hernandez, President ASMSU-GF

J.T. Hinman, President ASUM-Helena

Cole Arthun, President ASMSU

Regent O'Loughlin acknowledged the quality of the student leadership over the past year.

The meeting recessed for lunch at 12:00 p.m. and reconvened at 1:05 p.m.

- b. Update Report – LAD Performance Audit – Res. & Development
Assistant Commissioner Conover gave a brief update indicating the Audit produced nine recommendations. A Policy change will be presented to the Board in response to Recommendation # 6. Additionally, the Board will be provided with copies of the '08 budgets that were submitted to the Congressional offices.

- d. **Approval of Appointments to Local Executive Boards** ITEM 134-108-R0307

Motion by Regent Barrett on Item d. approved 6-0.

COMMITTEE REPORTS AND ACTION

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE REPORT

INFORMATION

- a. **Montana Healthcare Workforce Advisory Committee Report and Recommendations**

Dr. Arlene Parisot provided an overview of the Report and Recommendations.

ACTION

- a. **Call for Election for the organization of a Community College District in Ravalli County** ITEM 134-102-R0307

Chief Legal Counsel Catherine Swift explained the laws on procedures to create a community college. The next school election is May 8 and the community college district must be included in the six school district elections.

Committee Motion by Regent Pease approved 6-0.

- b. **RFP: NP-9053 – Equipment and Technology in High Demand Fields** ITEM 134-103-R0307

Committee Motion by Regent Pease approved 6-0.

- c. **RFP: NP-9054 – Workforce Training in High Demand Fields** ITEM 134104-0307

Committee Motion by Regent Pease approved 6-0.

ACADEMIC AND STUDENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE REPORT

ACTION

- a. **Approval of Operational Rules for the MUS General Education Core.** ITEM 133-102-R1106

Committee Motion by Regent Hamilton approved 6-0.

- b. **Approval of Operational Rules for Provisional Admissions.** ITEM 134-101-R0307

Committee Motion by Regent Hamilton approved 6-0.

Following a 10-minute break, the Board reconvened at 2:50 p.m.

- c. **Approval of America's Professor Project, The University of Montana -** ITEM 134-1004-R0307

Regent Hamilton moved deferral of item c. to the May, 2007 meeting.

There was discussion of the potential complications associated with such a long delay. Regent Hamilton revised her motion to defer for not more than four weeks providing time for the campus to bring forward better documentation, and completed conflict of interest documents. A Conference Call meeting will be called at that time. Approved 6-0.

Level II Items

- d. **Option in Inequality and Social Justice, The University of Montana-Missoula** ITEM 134-1001-R0107

There was extensive discussion on non-compliance of this item with Regent's Policy 303.10 that requires a 3-year disclosure of plans for academic programs by all campuses. There is a penalty attached to this policy providing grounds for the Board to deny approval of this program.

Regent Christian moved approval of item d. Failed 2-4 with Regents Barrett, Hamilton, O'Loughlin, and Pease opposed.

- e. **Certificate in Entertainment Management, The University of Montana-Missoula** ITEM 134-1002-R0107

- f. **Certificate in Computer Systems Technician**, The University of Montana-Missoula
ITEM 134-1003-R0107
- g. **Minor in Gerontology**, The University of Montana-Missoula ITEM 134-1004-R0107
- h. **Certificate and Associate of Applied Science degree in Carpentry**, The University of Montana-Missoula ITEM 134-1005-R0107
- i. **Certificate in Entrepreneurship**, The University of Montana-Missoula ITEM 134-1006-R0107
- Committee Motion by Regent Hamilton on items e. – i. approved 6-0.
- j. **Bachelor degree in Communicative Disorders**, The University of Montana-Missoula
ITEM 134-1008-R0107
- k. **Master degree in Speech-Language Pathology**, The University of Montana-Missoula
ITEM 134-1009-R0107
- Committee Motion by Regent Hamilton on items j. and k. approved 6-0.
- l. **Center for Advanced Supramolecular and Nano Systems**, Montana Tech of The University of Montana ITEM 132-1502-R0706
- Committee Motion by Regent Hamilton approved 6-0.
- m. **Minor in Latin American and Latino Studies**, Montana State University-Bozeman ITEM 134-2006-R0107
- Committee Motion by Regent Hamilton approved 6-0.
- n. **Bachelor degree and minor in Outdoor Adventure Leadership**, Montana State University-Billings ITEM 134-2702-R0107
- Committee Motion by Regent Hamilton.
Regent Barrett indicated this was not an appropriate subject for a BA, although it might work as a Certificate, but he would vote for it at this time, asking for further discussion of such items in the future.
Approved 6-0.
- o. **Bachelor degree in Political Science**, Montana State University-Billings ITEM 134-2703-R0107
- p. **Teaching option in Political Science**, Montana State University-Billings ITEM 134-2704-R0107
- Committee Motion by Regent Hamilton on items o. and p. approved 6-0.
- q. **Certificates of Applied Science in Automotive Technology and Welding Technology**, Montana State University-Northern ITEM 134-2801-R0107
- Committee Motion by Regent Hamilton approved 6-0.
- r. **Certificates of Applied Science in Accounting Assistant, Dental Assistant, Health Information Coding Specialist, Medical Billing Specialist, and Medical Transcription**, Montana State University-Great Falls College of Technology ITEM 134-2851-R0107
- Committee Motion by Regent Hamilton approved 6-0.
- s. **Certificate of Applied Science in Welding Technology in Bozeman, Montana**, Montana State University-Great Falls College of Technology ITEM 134-2852-R0107
- Committee Motion by Regent Hamilton approved 6-0.
- INFORMATION**
- a. Legislative update on issues that impact academic & student affairs.
Report given to the Committee.

- b. Update on mental health conversation.
 - UM provided an update on its suicide prevention program.
 - Campuses are collaborating on best practices on suicide prevention
- c. Report on Aviation Program in Bozeman, MSU-Great Falls College of Technology.
 - Enrollments are good
- d. Additional Information on Policy 940.29, post-baccalaureate students.
 - Recommendations for amendments will be brought to the May 2007 meeting.

CONSENT

- a. Level I memorandum.
There were no comments on Item a.

ADMINISTRATIVE, BUDGET AND AUDIT OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE REPORT

ACTION

- a. **Revision of the Montana University System Honor Scholarship Policy – ITEM 134-107-R0307**
Commissioner Stearns asked that the Minutes reflect Regent Taylor's continuing concern about this change on behalf of the many small schools in the state, which might receive fewer scholarships.

Committee Motion by Regent Barrett approved 6-0.
- b. **Authority to Purchase Property; MSU-Billings – ITEM 134-2701-0307**

Committee Motion by Regent Barrett approved 6-0.
- c. **Authorization for Campus Parking Projects; MSU-Bozeman – ITEM 134-2006-0307**

Committee Motion by Regent Barrett approved 6-0.
- d. **Financing Plan for Construction of New Research Facility; MSU-Bozeman – ITEM 134-2004-0307**

Committee Motion by Regent Barrett approved 6-0.
- e. **Spending Authority for Student Facilities Projects; MSU-Bozeman – ITEM 134-2007-0307**

Committee Motion by Regent Barrett approved 6-0.
- f. **Naming the Animal Resource Center “William J. Tietz Hall”; MSU-Bozeman - ITEM 134-2005-0307**

Committee Motion by Regent Barrett approved 6-0.
- g. **MSU – Ag Coalition Report**

Committee Motion by Regent Barrett for adoption of the recommendations, with the Commissioner to contact the coalition to let them know they are working on it approved 6-0.

INFORMATION

- a. Audit Reports
 1. UM-Missoula Financial Audit – June 30, 2006 (Unqualified Opinion)
 2. MSU-Bozeman Financial Audit – June 30, 2006 (Unqualified Opinion)
 3. MGSLP Financial Audit – June 30, 2006 (Unqualified Opinion)
 4. Montana Tech Foundation – June 30, 2006 (Unqualified Opinion)

Regent Barrett indicated these were all clean audits.

- b. MUS Self-Funded Workers Comp Program Update
- Administered by Missoula County.
 - Claims Administrator is Intermountain Claims.
 - Aggressive claims management has resulted in savings to MUS of \$800,000/year.
 - Program has Excess Insurance to cover any claims over \$500,000.
 - May take administration in-house with hired Administrator to handle.
 - Plan to develop loss-control programs.
 - Plan to purchase tools to reduce accidents and claims.

- c. FY 2006 Athletic Report (Athletic Income Details, Athletic Expense Comparisons, Student athlete information, including participation and graduation rates)

These reports can be viewed at <http://www.montana.edu/ocheftp/March-2007/>.

- d. Fee Committee Report

The Fee Committee will bring revised Policies reflecting their recommended changes for Board approval at an upcoming meeting.

- e. Review Board Direction Regarding Tuition & Fees
- Cost of Living increases will be acceptable.
 - Increases in excess of cost of living will need documentation from the campuses.
 - New fees will need documentation from the campuses.
 - Recommendations on fees will be brought to the Board at the May/June meeting.

- f. Distance Education Conversion; MSU-Bozeman

Montana State University-Bozeman informed the Board they will be bringing Budget changes in their Distance Education enrollment similar to those submitted by the University of Montana-Missoula.

CONSENT

- a. **Authority to Lease Space for MSU Alumni Association; MSU-Bozeman – ITEM 134-2008-0307**
- b. **Authorization to Expend Student Equipment Fees; UM–Helena College of Technology – ITEM 134-1902-R0307**

Committee Motion by Regent Barrett on items a. and b. approved 5-0 with Regent Pease out of the room.

STAFF AND COMPENSATION COMMITTEE REPORT

ACTION

- a. Discussion of employee compensation issues for Fiscal Years 2008 and 2009
- Committee was updated on HB 13 and HB 95.
 - Raises and labor negotiations must remain within CAP guidelines.
 - Increases will follow the State Pay Plan of 3% with .6% for market, performance, and merit adjustments.
- b. Discussion of Recruitment and Retention Task Force
- Announcement of formation of Task Force.
 - Should not take time to convince of problem.
 - Address issues with innovative ideas other than financial.
 - Tailor to each campus community.
 - Maintain internal equity.
 - First meeting is March 16, 2007.
 - Report to the Board at the May 2007 meeting.
 - Substantive recommendations at the September 2007 meeting.

CONSENT

Staff Items

- a. Authorization to Confer the Title of Professor Emeritus of Social Work Upon John Spores; The University of Montana - Missoula – ITEM 134-1002-R0307
- b. Authorization to Confer the Title of Professor Emeritus of Economics Upon Richard L. Stroup; Montana State University-Bozeman – ITEM 134-2001-0307
- c. Authorization to Confer the Title of Professor Emeritus of Horticulture upon Dr. Nancy Callan; Montana State University-Bozeman – ITEM 134-2002-0307
- d. Authorization to Confer the Title of Professor Emeritus of Architecture upon Jerry Bancroft; Montana State University – Bozeman – ITEM 134-2003-0307
- e. Authorization to Confer The Title of Professor Emeritus of Sociology upon Professor Joe W. Floyd; Montana State University – Billings – ITEM 134-2705-0307
- f. Authorization to Confer The Title of Professor Emeritus of Finance and Economics upon Professor Farzad Farsio; Montana State University – Billings – ITEM 134-2706-0307
- g. Staff; MSU Northern – ITEM 134-2800-0307

Committee Motion by Regent Christian on all staff items approved 6-0.

Labor Agreements / Other

- a. Approval of tentative Agreement with Montana Tech Faculty Association ITEM 134-106-R0307 (Full Contract)
- b. Approval of University System/Employee Joint Venture Under MUSP 407 - Thompson; The University of Montana – ITEM 134-1005-R0307
After pulling Item b. from the Agenda, UM opted to replace it.
- c. Approval of University System/Employee Joint Venture Under MUSP 407, Babbitt; MSU Bozeman – ITEM 134-2009-0307

Committee Motion by Regent Christian on items a. – c. approved 6-0.

With no further business to come before the Board, the meeting recessed and the Board went directly into Executive Session to discuss Honorary Degrees at 4:30 P.M.

The meeting adjourned at 5:00 P.M.

Posted on

Approved by the Board of Regents on

April 5, 2007

(Date)

(Date)

Sherry Rosette
Board Secretary

Lynn Morrison-Hamilton
Board Chair

The next meeting of the Board of Regents will be held May 30-June 1, 2007 at Miles Community College.