

March 5-6, 2015

**ITEM 166-1001-R0315**

**Authorization to Complete Research Space at 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor Interdisciplinary Science Building (ISB) – University of Montana - Missoula**

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**THAT**

In accordance with Board of Regents Policy 1003.7, the Board of Regents of the Montana University System authorizes the University of Montana – Missoula to expend up to \$1,500,000 for the Completion of Research Space on the 3rd Floor of Interdisciplinary Science Building.

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**EXPLANATION**

The Interdisciplinary Science Building was designed to be a catalyst for stimulating high levels of research in the natural sciences on the Missoula campus. Due to limited funding, the initial construction included three and a half floors of shelled out space. As funding became available, the intent was that the unfinished floors would be completed to house faculty labs, offices, and core facilities for research within and between disciplines.

In the November 2014, the Board of Regents approved the build out of space in ISB to house the principal investigator and his research team to conduct activity awarded under a \$45 million cooperative agreement award from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

Fortunately, The University of Montana – Missoula – has secured another grant for \$8.2 million from NASA. The Facility and Administrative returns from this grant allows for the build out of additional 7,600 sq. ft. of shelled out space on the 3rd floor of ISB. This new space will house faculty and research scientists associated with Montana’s NASA Astrobiology Institute, as well as faculty and research scientists engaged in NSF-sponsored research in the areas of Evolutionary Genetics and Genomics. This project seeks to complete construction of labs and offices required for the research team.

Cost of the project is estimated at \$1.5 million and will be financed with an InterCap loan over 5 years. The Facilities and Administrative (F&A) revenue from the grant will support the annual debt service which is estimated at \$322,870 @ 2.5% or \$309,059 at the current 1.0% rate.

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**ATTACHMENTS**

Attachment 1 – Project Overview