

May 19-20, 2016

ITEM 171-2812-R0516

Request Authorization for Student Activity Fee Increase, Radio Fee Change; Montana State University Northern

THAT

Consistent with BOR Policy 940.12.1 (Tuition and Fee Approval) and BOR Policy 506.1 (Student Participation in Fee Decisions) the Board of Regents of the Montana University System approves a \$0.20 per credit increase to the Montana State University Northern Activity Fee, and a change to a \$1.00 per credit fee (except from 12 to 18 credits where fees do not increase) to the Montana State University Northern Radio Fee.

EXPLANATION

The Montana State University Northern Activity Fee is currently \$4.08 per credit. The proposed \$0.20 increase to the Activity Fee will greatly enhance the ability of ASMSUN to provide quality entertainment and support to the student population by providing an extra \$4,000 to the Inner-Organizational Council, Program Council, and Recreation Council.

The duties of these councils are as follows: Inter-Organizational Council governs all clubs associated with MSUN in order to increase communication between clubs and to award money in times of need. Program Council is responsible for organizing student entertainment on campus including musicians, comedians, etc, and represents the largest expense of ASMSUN. Recreation Council governs all intermural sports on campus with the primary expenses of purchasing T-shirts for all students participating in intramural sports.

The Montana State University Northern Radio Fee is currently \$12.18 for every student taking 12 or more credits. The proposed change to \$1.00 per credit for all students will result in a \$0.18 decrease for the student taking 12 credits and provide KNMC an estimated \$2,000 additional funding per year to cover the costs of the streaming service, maintenance, and other associated costs of the radio station.

In the past, KNMC was only available to students who resided in the town of Havre because of limited broadcast range, so only full time students paid the fee. Now, KNMC has the ability to stream over the internet, allowing any student to tune in.

The above proposed fee changes were voted on by the student body at MSUN. The Document the students voted on is attached. 53% of the voters voted "Yes I approve the changes." Per ASMSUN bylaws, a sufficient number of the student body cast ballots.

With the current Activity Fee, ASMSUN receives on average \$81,000. With this proposed increase ASMSUN will receive \$85,000 assuming student numbers stay consistent. The extra \$4,000 ASMSUN receives will directly benefit students by providing higher quality entertainment and recreation.

With the current Radio Fee, KNMC receives an average of \$13,000 per year. The estimated new expenses related to the streaming service amount to \$2,228. The change to \$1.00 per credit except from 12 to 18 credits will allow KNMC to afford the service. The estimated increase of revenue for the Radio Fee is about \$2,000 depending on the number of credits students are taking.

Students rely on both of these fees for a wealth of opportunities. Without these changes, KNMC would have to abandon all progress made to bring the station into modern times and ASMSUN would not be able to offer monetary support to students and clubs in need.

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment #1 Proposed Fee Changes