



**MINUTES**  
**Montana Board of Regents**  
**OCHE Office**  
**January 11, 2018**

**Thursday, January 11, 2018**

Meeting convened at 10:00 AM.

Roll call indicated a quorum present. Regents Present: Fran Albrecht, Chair; Bob Nystuen, Vice Chair; Paul Tuss; Martha Sheehy; Casey Lozar; Bill Johnstone; and Chase Greenfield. Ex officio members included: Commissioner of Higher Education Clayton Christian; Ex officio Governor Bullock was represented by Ms. Siri Smillie, and Ex officio Superintendent Arntzen was excused.

Welcome and Comments by Chair Albrecht

Chair Albrecht welcomed all attendees and spoke briefly about the agenda and items that will be discussed and voted upon during the meeting.

Approval of Minutes

- November 16-17, 2017 Meeting Minutes

A motion for approval of the November 16-17, 2017 meeting minutes was made by Regent Sheehy; motion passed 7-0.

Commissioner's Report

Commissioner extended condolences to the MSUB campus for the unexpected loss of Dr. Krista Mougey, she will be missed by students, faculty and the Billings community. He mentioned the "Year in Review" communication that was sent in late December, this communication highlighted the many successes the MUS enjoyed throughout 2017. He spoke of the excellent work at MSU, related to their bonds and the high score on global bond ratings they received. The MSU campus has done a good job preserving these ratings. Commissioner Christian officially welcomed President Seth Bodnar in his official role as President of the University of Montana. He noted that the search process began in December of 2016 and was well embraced, highly visible, transparent and concluded in a successful higher for UM. He extended sincere thanks and heartfelt appreciation to Dr. Sheila Stearns for her serving as UM's President throughout the last year, her leadership during the transitional period has been very successful and helpful to students, campus, and the Missoula community. He extended thanks and appreciation to Ms. Jane Baker for her assistance and work at Helena College also. Commissioner Christian also welcomed Ms. Blair Fjeseth and Mr. Joe Thiel to the OCHE office. He acknowledged Dr. Kirk Lacy as new CEO/Dean at Helena College UM. He noted the posted campus reports and in addition to the MUSSA report for review.

Regent Nystuen provided a brief update on the efforts to date, related to the 6 Mill Levy. He noted the good start underway and the work by MEA-MFT related to matching contributions received towards this campaign. Currently, the group is looking across the



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state for contributions for MEA-MFT to match. He noted recent events associated with the Montana Chamber of Commerce and a discussion about the 6 Mill Levy with the greater business community. He explained that efforts have been focused on fundraising and conducting a public opinion poll to help craft a campaign strategy, budget development, strategic communication plans, etc. They are currently encouraging people to show their support through making contributions. He challenged all BOR members and campus leaders, across the system to donate. Discussion followed, no action was taken.

Regent Johnstone asked for a brief update on the status of collective bargaining arrangements and agreements and where they stand in the process. Deputy Commissioner McRae answered that productive bargaining is currently underway, he noted the unusual biennium in terms of how the state finances have gone; the 25 agreements are not yet completed but they are currently experiencing good productive bargaining. Mr. McRae was hopeful that tentative agreements could be brought forth at March or May meetings for the Board's review and approval. Discussion followed.

President Waded Cruzado of MSU informed the Board and meeting attendees that MSU went before the NWCCU recently to hear questions and comments about the recent accreditation report and overall had a very successful visit. She welcomed Dr. Neil Moisey as the new Provost at MSU-Northern. She mentioned the upcoming meeting for the search committee for a Chancellor at MSU-Billings.

- Campus Reports
- MUSSA Report
- Other

### CONSENT

- a. Request for Approval of Proposed Revision to BOR Policy 1004.1 – Naming of Buildings; OCHE *ITEM 178-102-R0118 | Attachment #1*
- b. Ratification of UM-Western Use Agreement for Lease of a Facility for the UMW Natural Horsemanship Program; UM-Western *ITEM 178-1601-R0118 | Attachment #1*
- c. Request for Approval of Operating Agreement between Helena College and the Helena College Foundation, Inc.; Helena College *ITEM 178-1902-R0118 | Attachment #1*
- d. Request for Approval of Operating Agreement between the University of Montana and the University of Montana Foundation; UM-Missoula *ITEM 178-1002-R0118 | Attachment #1*
- e. Request for authorization for Montana State University-Billings Foundation to enter into an Operating Agreement with Montana State University-Billings; MSU-Billings *ITEM 178-2702-R0118 | Attachment #1*
- f. Request for Authorization to Renovate the Marga Hosaeus Fitness Center; MSU-Bozeman *ITEM 178-2001-R0118 | Attachment #1*



Staff Items

- a. OCHE; *ITEM 178-100-R0118*
- b. MSU Bozeman; *ITEM 178-2000-R0118*

Regent Lozar asked about delegated authority for staff item b. Deputy Commissioner McRae explained that the action and subject of tenure has always been separate from the subject of faculty hires and faculty pay. Tenure is recommended by the university and then approved by the Board which is why they will continue to be presented before the Board for review and approval. Discussion followed.

A motion for approval of the consent items a. -f. and staff items a. – b. was made by Regent Tuss, motion passed 7-0.

**ACTION**

- a. Adjustments to 2019 Biennial State General Fund Allocations; OCHE *ITEM 178-101-R0118 | Attachment #1*

Deputy Commissioner Trevor presented this item before the board for approval of adjustments to 2019 Biennial State General Fund Allocations due to statewide budget reductions. He noted that the Montana University System received 1% reductions to state general fund appropriations in both FY 2018 and FY 2019. The reductions are applied to MUS Educational Units and the Community Colleges as codified in HB 2 following the 2017 Special Session of the Montana Legislature. Total adjustments to MUS budgets amount to approximately \$2.2M for each year of the biennium. Discussion followed.

A motion for approval of action item b. Item 178-101-R0118 was made by Regent Johnstone, motion passed. 7-0.

- b. Request for Approval of Updated Core Themes; UM-Missoula *ITEM 178-1001-R0118*

Associate Provost Nathan Lindsay of UM presented the request before the Board of Regents of Higher Education to approve the University of Montana-Missoula's mission and core themes. He explained that the University of Montana-Missoula developed five core themes through the process of creating a new strategic vision. This vision came out of an inclusive, transparent, and data-informed process that involved thousands of stakeholders at UM, in Missoula, and across 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. Discussion followed.

A motion for approval of action item b. Item 178-1001-R0118 was made by Regent Nystuen. Motion passed 7-0.

- c. Request for Approval of Mission Statement Revision; Helena College *ITEM 178-1901-R0118*

Dean Baker presented the request for a minor revision of the College's Mission statement. Helena College welcomed NWCCU evaluators to campus in April 2017 for



the comprehensive Year 7 visit. With the completion of that 7-year cycle, Helena College has the opportunity to refine its Core Themes, Objectives, and Indicators of mission fulfillment, as well as to update its ten-year strategic plan. To align the Mission, Vision, Strategic Plan, and Core Themes a minor adjustment to the Mission Statement is proposed. The addition of the words “high quality” as it applies to lifelong educational opportunities makes explicit that which was formerly implicit. Furthermore, the word “to” is to be changed to the word “for” to improve readability of the mission statement. No substantive revision of the mission statement is proposed, but these refinements will assist the College in connecting its important guiding documents in material ways.

A motion for approval of action item c. Item 178-1901-R0118 was made by Regent Greenfield; motion passed 7-0.

d. Level II Campus Proposals RE Program/Center/Institutes | Executive Summary | Supporting Documentation

Deputy Commissioner Cech spoke to the process related to these submissions. Each campus spoke to their respective requests. Discussion followed.

A motion for approval of action item d. Level II items was made by Regent Lozar; motion passed 7-0.

**INFORMATION**

a. Intent to Plan Proposals (October & November)

Deputy Commissioner Cech discussed the process behind these approvals; noting that they include minor changes and are approved at the Commissioner’s Office via direction of the board.

Public Comment  
None made.

Chair Albrecht decided to convene an executive session. She determined that the matter of discussion relates to matters of individual privacy and that the demands of individual privacy outweigh the merits of public disclosure. Executive Session convened at 12:30PM.

Executive Session

- MSU Honorary Doctorate #1
- MSU Honorary Doctorate #2

Informal Planning Session



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Meeting adjourned at 1:00 PM.

Approved by the Board of Regents on

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

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Clayton T. Christian  
Commissioner of Higher Education  
and Secretary to the Board of Regents

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Fran Albrecht  
Chair, Board of Regents

Other than the meeting starting time, times listed are approximate. In addition, agenda items may be rearranged unless an item is listed as having a "time certain." Action may be taken on any item listed on the Board or Committee Agendas. Public comment is welcome on all items. The Board of Regents will make reasonable accommodations for known disabilities that may interfere with an individual's ability to participate. Persons requiring such accommodations should make their requests to the Office of the Commissioner of Higher Education as soon as possible before the meeting to allow adequate time for special arrangements. You may call or write to: ADA Coordinator. P. O. Box 203201. Helena MT 59620-3201. 406-444-6570. 1-800-253-4091 (TDD)