

MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF REGENTS  
OF HIGHER EDUCATION  
MONTANA UNIVERSITY SYSTEM

DATE: April 12-13, 1984

LOCATION: Conference Room  
Montana University System  
33 South Last Chance Gulch  
Helena, Montana

REGENTS April 12, 1984  
PRESENT: Morrison, Pace, Keck, McCarthy, Redlin, Knight  
Commissioner of Higher Education Irving E. Dayton

April 13, 1984  
Morrison, Pace, Keck, McCarthy, Redlin  
Commissioner of Higher Education Irving E. Dayton

REGENTS April 12, 1984  
ABSENT: Hurwitz

April 13, 1984  
Hurwitz, Knight

PRESIDENTS April 12, 1984  
ATTENDING: Bucklew, DeMoney, Erickson, Acting President Knapp, Thomas

April 13, 1984  
Bucklew, DeMoney, Erickson, Vice President Malone (MSU),  
Carpenter, Thomas

PRESIDENTS April 12, 1984  
ABSENT: Tietz (on leave)

April 13, 1984  
Tietz (on leave); Acting President Knapp

Minutes of Thursday, April 12, 1984:

Chairman Morrison called the meeting of the Board of Regents of Higher Education to order at 10:35 a.m. Roll call was taken and it was determined that a quorum was present.

Chairman Morrison explained that this meeting was for the purpose of evaluating three of the System's presidents, their senior

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administrative staff, and the Commissioner of Higher Education. The order of the evaluations/discussions had been changed from that of the published agenda, and would follow instead the following order:

- 10:30 a.m. - noon -- President Thomas, Western Montana College
- 1:00 - 2:00 p.m. -- President Erickson, Northern Montana College
- 2:00 - 3:30 p.m. -- President DeMoney, Montana College of Mineral Science and Technology
- 3:30 - 4:00 p.m. -- Commissioner Dayton
- 4:00 p.m. -- Executive Session: Honorary Degrees; Collective Bargaining; Litigation

Chairman Morrison explained the procedures that would be followed in the evaluations. The Board will meet in open session with each of the presidents to discuss institutional goals. These discussions will include a report from the president on the state of the institution, and an opportunity for the Board and the Commissioner to ask questions. Following those discussions, the Board wished to discuss personal aspects of the performance of each of the presidents and top administrators on each of the three campuses. At that time each president would be given the opportunity to continue the discussion in open meeting or request that the meeting be closed.

President Robert Thomas, Western Montana College, distributed hand-outs entitled "WMC Enrollment, 1977-84" and "Western Montana College Program Highlights, 1979-1984." Each was reviewed and discussed. Strengths and weaknesses in the degree offerings were discussed. President Thomas noted that a goal of 1,000 students would allow Western Montana College to operate at the optimum level of performance for the institution in that it would suit the physical plant and the size of the community. Physical plant needs include a new student union building. A swimming pool would be highly desirable. Both of those would require outside funding as they could not be funded from fees collected from

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students of that size institution, even if the optimum number were reached. For the time period under discussion, President Thomas stated positive developments include establishment of the development program, enrichment of the faculty through the faculty vitality program, and the building of the facility at Birch Creek which has a good potential. Overall, President Thomas stated he believed that changing to the semester system has been a success. Commissioner Dayton noted that President Thomas should also be credited with improving the quality of student life and enhancing Western's reputation as a place students would like to be for four years. Dormitory improvements and programs have placed dorm enrollments in the black for the first time in twelve years.

On the negative side, President Thomas cited communication with the faculty and the timing of certain changes which he believed were necessary, but which were radical changes from the way the institution had operated in the past. Certain staffing imbalances and an unwillingness to put the campus through a retrenchment process in some areas for which there was economic justification to do so have caused problems.

In response to Chairman Morrison's question as to what President Thomas would like to see occur over the next year or two at Western, the President responded that he would like the institution to be authorized to grant a data processing two-year degree, then "tread water" programatically and do well with what is in place academically. Speaking briefly of the recent program review, President Thomas stated his belief that Western is now in a solid position to keep the curve moving up, with considerably more stringent academic requirements than has been Western's reputation in the past

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Chairman Morrison stated that at this point the Board would like to discuss personal aspects of the president's administration, and review of the administrators. He asked if President Thomas wished to waive his right to privacy in these discussions and continue in open session, or close the meeting. President Thomas replied he would prefer the meeting be closed, and he did not choose to waive that right.

The Board met in executive session with President Thomas from 11:30 a.m. to 1:40 p.m.

The Board convened in open session at 1:50 p.m. for discussion with President James H. M. Erickson, Northern Montana College. Two documents distributed to the Board previously were reviewed concerning President Erickson's institutional goals. They were: "State of the College" Address, September 22, 1983, and "President's Report", Faculty Meeting, November 17, 1983. President Erickson concluded his institutional report, noting that the unprecedented support of the last legislature in funding a program modification to provide a new mainframe computer and the supplemental appropriation which has been invested in new technological equipment, plus the outstanding community support which made the new Farm Mechanics Building a reality, have provided the opportunity to make Northern the finest technologically-based school in the Northwest. These evidences of support, combined with an excellent, dedicated faculty, will make that effort a reality in the years to come.

Chairman Morrison stated that speaking for himself, and on behalf of the Board, President Erickson was to be commended for the changes made at Northern during the years of his presidency. The college is well run and its physical appearance has changed dramatically for the better, which contribute greatly to the positive atmosphere of faculty and students. Chairman Morrison expressed the Board's pleasure with the success of Northern Montana College and its president.

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Chairman Morrison stated that at this time the Board would like to discuss the personal aspects and goals of the president's administration, and review of the administrators. He asked if President Erickson wished to waive his right to privacy in these discussions and continue in open session, or close the meeting. President Erickson replied he would prefer the meeting be closed, and he did not choose to waive his right to privacy.

The Board met in executive session with President Erickson from 2:15 to 2:40 p.m.

The Board reconvened in open session at 2:45 p.m. for discussion with President Fred DeMoney, Montana College of Mineral Science and Technology. President DeMoney distributed copies of the "Challenge Plan, Status Summary as of 3/31/84" (on file). President DeMoney reviewed the document and responded to Regents' questions. With regard to the Engineering Laboratory/Classroom building which is part of the Challenge Plan, he noted that bids are out and are scheduled to be opened on May 2, 1984. Groundbreaking on the facility is scheduled on May 12. While enrollments are up, President DeMoney reported, they are not as high as anticipated. Montana Tech's Foundation was discussed. The President stated he believed the Foundation to be in good financial order, with sound management and a good accounting system. Overall, President DeMoney stated he believed relations with the community were good.

Chairman Morrison stated that at this time the Board would like to discuss the personal aspects and goals of the president's administration, and review of administrators. He asked if President DeMoney wished to waive his right to privacy in these discussions and continue in open session, or that the meeting be closed. President DeMoney replied he would prefer the meeting be closed, and he did not choose to waive his right to privacy.

The Board met in executive session with President DeMoney from 3:20 to 4:00 p.m.

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At the conclusion of President DeMoney's evaluation, the Board met in executive session to consider honorary degree candidates submitted by Montana College of Mineral Science and Technology, the University of Montana, and Montana State University.

Commissioner Dayton chose not to waive his right to privacy, and that evaluation was held in executive session.

The Board recessed at 6:00 p.m. to reconvene on Friday, April 13, 1984 at the conclusion of the meeting of the State Board of Education.

Minutes of Friday, April 13, 1984

Chairman Morrison called the regularly scheduled meeting of the Board of Regents to order at 10:30 a.m. at the conclusion of the meeting of the State Board of Education. He stated that the Board was unable to complete the executive session scheduled on Thursday, April 12, 1984 on collective bargaining and litigation and would therefore recess for those discussions. The Board met in executive session on those subjects from 10:30 a.m. to 11:05 a.m.

The Board reconvened at 11:10 a.m. Roll call was taken and it was determined that a quorum was present. Chairman Morrison stated that without objection all matters on the committee agenda would be heard by the full Board and no separate committee meetings would be held. He also stated that the scheduled election of officers would be deferred to the May meeting.

Chairman Morrison called for additions or corrections to the minutes of the last meeting. None were stated, and the minutes of the March 1-2, 1984 meeting were ordered approved.

Chairman Morrison explained that because bond counsel and underwriters present to respond to questions on Item 43-202-R0484 were tied to airline schedules, a request had been made to revise the agenda and take action on that Budget Committee item at this time. Jack Noble,

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Deputy Commissioner for Management and Fiscal Affairs, reviewed the item, explaining that the resolution was consistent with what was approved by the Board at the last meeting, but now contains the interest rates and amounts. Approval of this final resolution is necessary as part of the 1984 Revenue Series bond sale which will provide funds for additional married student housing at Montana State University and refund certain outstanding indebtedness of the Board previously issued for the benefit of Montana State University. Vice President Thomas Nopper, Montana State University, Michael W. McCall, Bond Counsel of Borthwick & McCall, Cheyenne, Wyoming, and Ronald B. Kaiser, Municipal Underwriter of Boettcher & Co., Denver, Colorado, were present to respond to questions. In response to Regents' questions, it was explained that the bond closing date is set on April 26, 1984 in Helena, and will be coordinated with the Chairman. The call for bids on the construction project has been issued, and bids will probably be opened in early May, 1984. It is anticipated that the additional married student housing will be available in the fall of 1985.

On motion of Regent McCarthy, Item 43-204-R0484, Resolution Authorizing the Issuance and Sale of Board of Regents of Higher Education, Montana State University Revenue Bonds, Series 1984, to finance the construction of certain Married Student Housing for Montana State University and the refunding of certain outstanding indebtedness of the Board, heretofore issued for the benefit of Montana State University, and paying costs incidental thereto, and the execution of an Indenture of Trust and closing documents in connection therewith; Montana State University, was approved.

By-Laws and Policy Committee  
Submission Agenda:

The following two items were briefly reviewed by Dr. Dayton who explained they are the first stages of implementing the item related to personnel on the action agenda:

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Item 43-004-R0484, Adoption of Department of Administration Personnel Policies and Procedures; Montana University System

Item 20-004-R0478, Vacation leave; non-faculty staff; Montana University System (TO BE REPEALED)

Both items were received for consideration at a future meeting.

Commissioner Dayton explained that Item 34-104-R1281, Collection and Remission of Fees for Student Non-Profit, Non-Partisan Organization, University of Montana (REVISED) was submitted to delete the sunset provision. Chairman Morrison questioned why that provision was being deleted, noting it was his understanding that the original item contained the sunset provision to assure that it would be voted on again at the end of the two-year period. Regent Redlin stated her understanding was that the item was approved for a stated period because the Board had had no previous experience with the organization, and wanted to be sure there would be a review in case of difficulties. Since to her knowledge none have surfaced, she felt the safeguards built into the policy were sufficient to remove the sunset provision. President Bucklew spoke briefly on the reasons for submitting the item in its current form, and expressed his and the students' willingness to submit it in any form the Board preferred. He also noted that the item is now on the submission agenda, and when it is presented for action a report will be submitted which he believed would address the concerns stated by the Board. The item was received for consideration at a future meeting.

Action Agenda:

Item 42-005-R0384, Personnel Policies; Montana University System (REVISED) was reviewed by Commissioner Dayton. He explained that the System previously followed the policy of following Department of Administration personnel policies unless a specific exemption was taken. This item reverses that practice, and provides that the System will follow only those Department of Administration personnel policies that are specifically adopted. The item was submitted on the advice of legal

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counsel, who felt the prior policy placed the System in a vulnerable position. On motion of Regent Keck, the item was approved.

Item 18-002-R1077, Admission Requirements; General Policies; Montana University System (REVISED) was discussed. The revision adds a new paragraph (9) which gives individual units formal authorization to put special conditions on enrolled individuals who appear to be a risk to the campus or the people thereon. Legal counsel has endorsed the revision as providing a good defensive legal procedure. After brief discussion, Regent Keck moved that the item be approved. The motion carried.

Item 42-004-R0384, Montana Associated Students; Montana University System (REVISED) was explained by Regent Keck as being a revision of the policy previously submitted by the students, which was prepared by the students working with the Commissioner's office. She asked if any students present wished to speak to the item, or had any objections to it. No objections were stated. On motion of Regent Keck, the item was approved.

The next two items on the action agenda were considered concurrently. Both implement the holiday exchanges previously authorized by the Board.

On motion of Regent Pace, Item 43-103-R0484, Authorization to Exchange Holidays for the 1984-85 Academic Year; University of Montana was approved.

On motion of Regent Keck, Item 43-601-R0484, Authority for Western Montana College to adopt the holiday exchanges authorized by the Board of Regents; Western Montana College, was approved.

Item 43-503-R0484, Reorganization of Central Administrative Structure and Related Functions; Montana College of Mineral Science and Technology, was approved on motion of Regent Keck. The reorganization becomes effective July 1, 1984. The explanation for the reorganization is set out on the item.

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Item 43-002-R0484, Residency Policy, Montana University System (REVISED) was reviewed by Dr. Weinberg. He explained that some changes have been made to the policy since it was originally placed on the submission agenda, and those changes are indicated in upper case. The effective date of the new residency policy is October 15, 1984. It is the belief of the admissions personnel that it would be best to continue to operate under the old policy through fall enrollment 1984. The policy provides a "grandfather" clause for persons taking action under the old policy. The Regents also received, with their agenda material, the proposed manual for administration of the policy, and the student manual. The student manual will undergo considerable more review. The operations manual has been reviewed, but will be refined through use. Dr. Weinberg explained that he would like guidance from the Regents to ascertain if the student manual addresses the Regents' concerns in delivering the necessary information to the students. He noted there is a sign-off form which will be provided to the students which states the information on obtaining residency status has been received and is understood, and which directs the students to the admissions offices if they have questions.

Dr. Weinberg responded to Regents' questions on the policy and the manuals. Chairman Morrison stated that the Regents' main concern was to have something in place that was clear to both the students and the admissions officers for the establishment of residency for fee purposes. He asked if student governments had reviewed the proposed item and manuals. Dr. Weinberg responded that the material was sent to those organizations, but no response has been received. Chairman Morrison stated that he would prefer that those organizations be contacted again for comment prior to adoption of the student manual. Commissioner Dayton commented that "use testing" will also prove or disprove the student manual, and that it probably will undergo revisions.

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Regent Redlin questioned the equality of the indicators which set the 12-month period running, which are listed in section (3)(a). Dr. Weinberg responded to that concern and others stated by the Regents. At the conclusion of the discussion, it was the consensus of the Regents that the revised policy and the manuals should make the determination of in-state residency status for fee purposes much more understandable for admissions officers and students. Dr. Weinberg was commended for his preparation of the materials. On motion of Regent McCarthy, Item 43-002-R0484 was approved.

Item 42-003-R1283, Telecommunications Policy; Montana University System, was reviewed by Commissioner Dayton. He explained that as a result of extensive discussion at the last meeting of the Regents, the proposed television policy was completely rewritten and broadened to deal with telecommunications in general. The rewritten policy encourages units to make appropriate use of telecommunications technology, with Board control and direction exercised through approval of license applications.

In discussion, Chairman Morrison suggested that section (e) under "Procedures" be amended to read "Evaluation of impact on other units in the system and on their communities and the state." This amendment would clarify that if the state becomes involved in public television, the System will cooperate and that the Board in its evaluation of System proposals will consider the impact on the community involved and the state. Regent Pace objected to the amendment, stating her preference that the Board restrict itself to management of the units of the University System, and deal with outside problems if they arise. Regent McCarthy supported the amendment, stating her belief that in this instance the Board should have a wider focus.

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Regent McCarthy moved that Item 42-003-R1283 be approved as amended. The motion carried, with Regent Pace voting no.

Budget Committee

Jack Noble, Deputy Commissioner for Management and Fiscal Affairs, explained that the first two items on the agenda are planned expenditures of the computer fee funds collected from students under Board Policy 940.23. Mr. Paul Dunham, Director of Research and Services, was asked to comment.

Mr. Dunham stated that since the computer fee was enacted, the System has collected just over \$700,000. Both proposals before the Board will provide substantial improvement in instructional computing services to students.

Mr. Dunham reviewed Item 43-203-R0484, Authorization to Expend Student Computer Fees at Montana State University, concluding that he recommended approval with the stipulation that the consultant contract funding outlined in section (4) come from some source other than the computer fee. He noted that it was his understanding that Montana State University intended to modify the list of expenditures in the item to make that change. He also called the Board's attention to the fact that the Montana State University item authorizes expenditures for one year only.

Next Mr. Dunham reviewed Item 43-104-R0484, Authorization to Support Instructional Computer Facilities, University of Montana. This item involved fees to be collected over a two-year period. Details were provided in the attached proposal. Mr. Dunham recommended adoption with certain stipulations.

In the discussion of the two items, Vice President Malone, Montana State University, and President Bucklew, University of Montana, responded to Mr. Dunham's comments and recommendations. Reasons why Montana State University believed a consultant study would be helpful were explained.

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Regent Redlin asked if the survey proposed by Montana State University might not be too limited in that it does not address what is being done by other units in the area of computer acquisitions and planning. She suggested that a system survey might be more beneficial and more cost-efficient. It was noted that the unique configuration of each of the units make that difficult to accomplish. The Commissioner also explained that many of the concerns expressed by Regent Redlin are addressed by Paul Dunham working regularly with the computer center directors in the System to address communication and equipment compatibility issues. President Bucklew objected to the provisions suggested to be added to University of Montana's item by Mr. Dunham, stating he believed the proposal outlining the expenditures of the computing fee is fair and appropriate, and gives the University the flexibility it needs for the two-year project.

At the conclusion of the discussion, Jim Pickett, Vice President for Fiscal Affairs at Montana State University, requested that Item 43-203-R0484, be amended so that the final sentence in paragraph (4) reads as follows: "Total project cost of \$39,000 is to be paid out of appropriated funds." On motion of Regent McCarthy, Item 43-203-R0484 was approved as amended.

On motion of Regent Pace, Item 43-104-R0484, was approved.

The Board recessed at 12:00 noon and reconvened at 1:10 with the same members present.

Chairman Morrison stated that the Residency Appeal before the Board would be heard at this time. Assistant Chief Counsel Larry Weinberg reviewed the facts pertinent to the appeal as contained in the Commissioner's memorandum to the Board dated April 2, 1984 (on file). Mr. Michael H. Helvey, the appellant, was present. Counsel Weinberg recommended that the Board sustain the Commissioner's decision of December 9, 1983 denying Mr. Helvey in-state classification for fee purposes, but direct Montana State University to grant Mr. Helvey in-state status for fee purposes as of April 13, 1984 because the deficiencies are now corrected and he is eligible for that classification at this time.

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Mr. Helvey spoke briefly regarding his appeal, and responded to Regents' questions.

Regent McCarthy moved that the Board uphold the Commissioner's decision of December 9, 1983 denying Mr. Hevley in-state classification for fee purposes. The motion carried. Regent McCarthy then moved that Mr. Helvey be granted in-state classification for fee purposes in the Montana University System effective April 13, 1984. The motion carried.

Budget Committee (continued)

Mr. Noble reviewed Item 43-005-R0484, Resolution Authorizing the Chairman of the Board of Regents to Ratify the Financial Advisor Contract with Evensen Dodge, Inc. on behalf of the Board; Montana University System. He explained that the Department of Administration has created a bonding advisory council comprised of members from the executive agencies that issue bonds, and legislative members. Chairman Morrison is the member from the Montana University System serving on that committee. After interviews, Evensen Dodge, Inc. was selected to provide the consulting services to debt issuing agencies and boards of the State of Montana. Terms and costs of the consulting services were explained by Mr. Noble. On motion of Regent Pace, the item was approved.

Item 43-201-R0484, Authorizing consolidation and name change of Student Union Building and Health Service Fees at Montana State University was reviewed. Mr. Nopper, Montana State University, responded to questions. The purpose of the consolidation and name change is set out in the explanation on the item. On motion of Regent McCarthy, the item was approved.

Mr. Noble reviewed Item 43-001-R0484, Administrative Salary Scale, 1984-85; Montana University System. He explained the survey of peer institutions as set out more fully in his memorandum to the Commissioner dated March 29, 1984 (on file). Mr. Noble concluded that it was his belief that the survey lends credence to the internal integrity of the Montana University System administrative salary schedule. He also noted that the item approves administrative salary parameters, not individual salaries. On motion of Regent Pace, the item was approved.

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Capital Construction Committee

Mr. Bill Lannan reviewed each of the following Capital Construction items presented by the University of Montana, and recommended approval:

Item 43-101-R0484, Replacement of Field House Bleachers;  
University of Montana

Item 43-102-R0484, Planning for New Printing Facility;  
University of Montana

Item 43-105-R0484, Handball/Racquetball Court Replacement and  
Repair; University of Montana

Item 43-106-R0484, Residence Halls Mechanical Repairs;  
University of Montana

Item 43-107-R0484, Residents Halls Maintenance;  
University of Montana

Item 43-108-R0484, Residence Halls Carpeting and Draperies  
University of Montana

President Bucklew explained that each of the items was part of the University's on-going responsibility to up-grade and maintain facilities. Policy requires that these be brought to the Board for approval, but they are basically house-keeping items.

On motion of Regent Redlin, Items 43-101-R0484, 43-102-R0484, and 43-105-R0484 were approved

On motion of Regent McCarthy, Items 43-106-R0484, 43-107-R0484, and 43-108-R0484 were approved.

Mr. Lannan reviewed Item 43-110-R0484, Authorization for the sale by the University of Montana of a tract of land to the Montana Department of Highways and to the President of the University of Montana and the Director of the Montana Forest and Conservation Experiment Station (hereafter MFCES) to take all steps necessary to effect the sale; University of Montana as set out on the item, and recommended approval. On motion of Regent Redlin, the item was approved.

Mr. Lannan reviewed Item 43-701-R0484, Expansion of Scope and Increase in Expenditure Authority, Parking Lot Projects; Eastern Montana College as set out in the explanation on the item, and recommended approval. On motion of Regent Redlin, the item was approved.

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President Erickson presented Item 43-801-R0484, Naming of the Library Building, Northern Montana College. The item authorizes naming the library building constructed in 1980 at Northern Montana College the Vande Bogart Library in honor of the first president of Northern, who served in that position from 1929 until 1951. On motion of Regent McCarthy, the item was approved.

Commissioner Dayton reviewed Item 43-003-R0484, Cooperation with the Attorney General's Office in preparation of the Long Range Building Program; Montana University System. The Attorney General has indicated his intention to submit a long range building program request for the construction of facilities for the Law Enforcement Academy and Forensic Laboratory and has asked a number of the units of the University System to cooperate in preparing materials to show how that institution would relate if the facility were located in the unit's vicinity. The campuses would feel better about engaging in those kinds of discussions if they had approval for such discussions from the Regents. It was emphasized that this facility is not part of the System's long range building program requests, and the item specifies that no commitment of University System land or other facilities for this project would be made without prior approval of the Regents. On motion of Regent Keck, the item was approved.

Vice President Thomas Nopper, Montana State University, distributed a "Status Report for Board of Regents, April 13, 1984, MSU/AAKER Land Exchange" (on file). The exchange involves a quarter section of land directly south of Hadleigh Marsh Laboratory, and has been a matter of concern to Montana State University for some years in the event the land adjacent to the lab was developed. The concern was both that for the impact development could have on research activities and the health problems that residents could possibly encounter through transmission of disease by domestic pets acting as carriers between their owners and animals under treatment at the facility. If the proposed land exchange

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is effected, it will provide a buffer zone between the laboratory property and land available for private development. Mr. Nopper concluded his report noting that at this time the land appraisal process has been initiated and Montana State University plans to present an Item authorizing the exchange at the May meeting of the Board.

Vice President Nopper next presented a "Status Report for Board of Regents, Johnson/Wilson Brick Repair" (on file). The report set out the three major problems submitted by the architects retained to determine the scope of the problems, and the solutions that Montana State University, the consultants and the Architecture and Engineering Division of the state have agreed are necessary to address major safety hazards, deterioration and reduction of risk. It was noted that because the total cost is significantly greater than the current appropriation level, Montana State University intends to proceed with the most critical items of repair this summer and hope that funds for the remaining work can be obtained during the next legislative session.

Mr. Craig Roloff, Facility Planning, Montana State University was present and responded to Regents' questions concerning the consultants' report. Mr. Clarence Hester, of the state's Architecture and Engineering Division, was also present.

Mr. Bill Lannan of the Commissioner's staff presented a status report on major maintenance projects authorized by the 1983 legislature under HB 833 (on file). Mr. Lannan noted that the estimated cost of the listed projects was \$50,000 more than was appropriated, and the University of Montana reduced their original list by \$50,000 according to Regental action. Mr. Lannan stated that most projects will be bid during the next 90 days.

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Chairman Morrison noted that the Board will be closely scrutinizing the bid documents, and any available funds will be allocated to the University of Montana as discussed previously.

The schedule of the Long Range Building Program Campus visits and deadlines for submission of materials were discussed. The Long Range Building Program requests from the campuses are due in the Commissioner's office on April 25, 1984. Campus presentations will be made to the Regents at the May 17-18 meeting so priorities can be established for action by the Regents at the June meeting. Regents' availability for the campus visits was discussed, and a tentative schedule was developed. The Commissioner's staff will prepare the schedule of visits, and send the schedule to the Regents.

Commissioner Dayton explained that the Council of Presidents had not set a meeting date in May, pending decisions on the campus visits for the long range building program. Now that the schedule has been developed, it was agreed that the May meeting of the Council of Presidents would be held on May 7, 1984 in Helena.

Curriculum Committee

Submission Agenda:

The following items were received for consideration at a future meeting:

- Item 43-109-R0484, Authorization of Telecommunications Center; University of Montana
- Item 43-502-R0484, Authorization of a Center for Energy and Mineral Research; Montana College of Mineral Science and Technology
- Item 43-3002-R0484, Approval of the Associate of Applied Science Degree in Nursing; Flathead Valley Community College

Commissioner Dayton asked that the record reflect that Item 43-109-R0484, Authorization of Telecommunications Center; University of Montana will be on the Curriculum Committee Action Agenda at the May meeting. Anyone wishing to make comments on the item should do so as soon as possible.

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Action Agenda:

Deputy Commissioner for Academic Affairs Carol Krause stated that without objection Item 43-3001-R0484, Approval of the Lincoln/Flathead Valley Community College Service Region; Flathead Valley Community College, would be moved to the action agenda. The item had been discussed at a previous meeting, and no objections were stated to the request. On motion of Regent Pace, the item was approved.

Chairman Morrison stated that Item 42-002-R1283, College Preparatory Program; Montana University System, would be discussed at this meeting, but action would be deferred to the May meeting of the Board to give interested persons the opportunity to submit comments or be present at the May meeting, and to give time for further discussion in the Council of Presidents.

Dr. Krause spoke to the information accumulated so far in response to the college preparatory program, noting that the foreign language requirement appeared to be the most controversial. However, it appears that only about seven percent of the high schools in Montana do not offer a foreign language at this time. Dr. Krause reviewed the wide dissemination the proposal has received, noting that it was sent to every high school superintendent and chairman of the board in the state, and opportunity for comment was had statewide on the "School Night for Excellence" meetings held on February 14. The Office of Public Instruction and the Board of Public Education have been involved in the development and discussion of the proposal. Dr. Krause stated that what is needed now is for the Regents to decide if they want to move in this direction, and if so, how staff should proceed.

Regents concerns with specific areas of the proposal were discussed. These included increased costs to high schools to provide the program, providing feedback to the high schools on performance of graduates to

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show effectiveness of the program, whether the proposal restricts access, and others. President Bucklew suggested that necessary revisions to the proposal be made by Dr. Krause working with the Chief Academic Officers of the System. These could be discussed at the May meeting of the Council of Presidents and brought forward in the proper form to the Board for discussion at the Regents' meeting.

It was noted that the proposal is intended to provide positive incentives for students to take stronger preparation for entering college without putting limitation on access. From information gathered it appears the resources are now available to high school students, but are not utilized. Having the college preparatory program in place and well publicized should help address the number of recent high school graduates who require remedial classes in college. Commissioner Dayton also noted that having the program in place should favorably impact minority access in that the information would be easily available to them to enable them to know exactly what they would be expected to have completed prior to entering college. The program is intended to be a recommended college preparatory program, not a high school graduation program.

Chairman Morrison stated at the conclusion of the discussion that Item 42-002-R1283 will be on the Regents' action agenda at the May meeting. Dr. Krause working with the Chief Academic Officers will prepare revisions for discussion in the Council of Presidents meeting in May. Notices will be sent to interested persons who wish to provide in-put or be present at the May meeting to make presentations.

On motion of Regent McCarthy, each of the following gubernatorial re-appointments to local executive boards was confirmed:

Eastern Montana College - Nicholas R. Cladis  
Northern Montana College - Susan E. Watson  
University of Montana - Phillip D. Campbell

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Montana State University - Tanya A. Cameron

Western Montana College - Tedd Stanisich

Montana College of Mineral Science and Technology-Arthur J. Korn

Each person listed above has served previously, and is re-appointed for a three-year term which expires on the third Monday in April, 1987.

Commissioner's Report

Commissioner Dayton expressed appreciation to the Montana State University School of Architecture faculty who provided the exhibit currently on display in the Regents' Conference Room. Commissioner Dayton noted this completes a three-year cycle of nine exhibits presented by students and faculty in the System. He added it is hoped that the units will be interested in additional exhibits, as they are much appreciated by all those who have an opportunity to view them.

Commissioner Dayton noted that three interesting and worthwhile conferences are scheduled in the System in the coming months. They are: (1) at the University of Montana, April 19-20, 1984, The China Hands Conference; (2) at Eastern Montana College, May 3-4, 1984, Sex Equity in Higher Education, and (3) at Eastern Montana College, June 18, 19, 20, 1984, A Critical Examination of American Higher Education. He encouraged participation by interested persons in any or all of these excellent conferences.

Regent Pace requested that some time be set aside at a Regents' meeting in the near future for discussion of the preamble and basic philosophy for revision of the role and scope statement of the System. This will be placed on the agenda at the soonest meeting possible after legislative preparation deadlines are met.

The Council of Presidents, Superintendent of Public Instruction, Board of Public Education, and Faculty Association had no reports.

Mike Stoeckig, outgoing ASMSU President and Vice-Chairman of the Student Advisory Council, discussed changes in the structure and organization of ASMSU during his year as president. He presented a copy

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of the newly-developed ASMSU Policy and Procedures Manual to the Regents, and expressed his pleasure in working with the Regents over the past year.

Darrel Bowers, out-going ASMT President, introduced the new slate of ASMT officers, and stated he also enjoyed the opportunity of working with the Regents in the past year.

Chairman Morrison expressed the Board's appreciation to the out-going student officers for the effective communication they provide among the Regents and the student organizations, and thanked them for the time and effort they contribute in attending meetings and providing student views on various issues.

Chairman Morrison stated that in response to recent matters which have occurred at Western Montana College, the Board wished the following statement to be reflected in the record regarding the no-confidence vote of the faculty:

"The Board of Regents was recently advised of a vote of no confidence taken by the faculty of Western Montana College. With respect to that vote and as a matter of general policy, the Board wants to make it very clear that it does not intend to accede to any such vote nor will it consider such a vote as a mandate for any form of personnel action by the Board. The Board's personnel evaluations, policies and decisions will not be dictated by such faculty votes.

The Board of Regents expects that matters of legitimate concern to our faculties will continue to be brought to the attention of campus Presidents in a fair and candid manner. The Board desires that every effort be made to satisfactorily resolve such matters on the local campus and if applicable, that collective bargaining procedures be followed. If the foregoing procedure has been utilized and serious problems remain unresolved, the Board obviously desires that it be made aware of the circumstance. It will continue to be committed to assisting in the resolution of legitimate faculty concern--but never under the cloud of a faculty vote of no confidence."

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On behalf of the Board, Regent Pace then read the following statement into the record with regard to the meetings held with President Thomas and the Board's continued commitment to Western Montana College:

"Yesterday the Board of Regents met with President Robert Thomas and reviewed the current status of Western Montana College. The Board has been and remains committed to supporting Western, and is particularly concerned that the College offer quality academic programs to its students. During recent years the Board has authorized additional programs at Western in order to increase the options available to students, and to provide a richer academic environment. The Board is strongly supportive of the efforts of the administration to improve the quality of the faculty and the academic offerings. With these goals in mind, the Board recently mandated a review of certain portions of the academic program, and endorses the proposed changes in the graduate program. The institution is moving on the right course, and we look forward to it achieving the goals which have been set out."

Regent Pace then stated that as Chairman of the Curriculum Committee and on behalf of the full Board she wished to express the appreciation of the Regents to Dr. Evelyn Hively, Vice President for Academic Affairs, Western Montana College, for her excellent efforts on behalf of the College in doing what she was directed to do by the Regents and the Commissioner. The excellent program review and resulting recommendations have strengthened Western Montana College academically, and Regent Pace and the Board want everyone at Western Montana College to know that Dr. Hively is expected to continue in those efforts.

Regular Agenda

On motion of Regent Keck, the following items were approved:

Item 43-100-R0484, Staff, University of Montana

Item 43-200-R0484, Staff, Montana State University

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Item 43-300-R-484, Staff, Agricultural Experiment Station  
Item 43-400-R0484, Staff, Cooperative Extension Service  
Item 43-500-R0484, Staff, Montana College of Mineral Science  
and Technology  
Item 43-500A-R0484, Staff, Montana Bureau of Mines and Geology  
Item 43-501-R0484, Staff, Montana Bureau of Mines and Geology  
Item 43-600-R0484, Staff, Western Montana College  
Item 43-700-R0484, Staff, Eastern Montana College

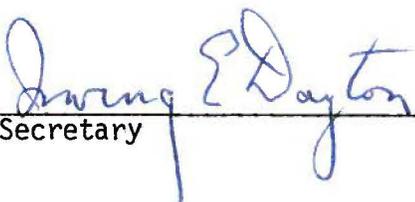
Chairman Morrison stated that the Board had been unable to complete its evaluation of President Thomas, Western Montana College, on Thursday, and would do so at this time. He asked Dr. Thomas if he wished to waive his right to privacy and continue the evaluation in open meeting, or that the meeting be closed. Dr. Thomas responded that he did not choose to waive that right, and he preferred the meeting be closed.

The regular meeting of the Board of Regents adjourned at 3:50 p.m. The Regents reconvened in executive session from 4 to 6 p.m. to complete the presidential evaluation of Dr. Thomas.

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Board of Regents will be held on May 17-18, 1984 in Helena, Montana.

APPROVED:

  
Chairman, Board of Regents of Higher  
Education, Montana University System

  
Secretary