

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

DATE: July 31 - August 1-2, 1991

LOCATION: Learning Resource Center, Room 123
Library Building
Flathead Valley Community College
Kalispell, Montana

REGENTS Mathers, Schwanke, Topel, Kaze, Boylan
PRESENT: Musgrove, Johnson
Commissioner of Higher Education John M. Hutchinson

REGENTS Regent Kaze, July 31
ABSENT:

PRESIDENTS Dennison, Carpenter, Daehling, Malone, Norman
PRESENT: Provost Easton;

PRESIDENTS None
ABSENT:

Minutes of Wednesday, July 31, 1991

The Board of Regents held an executive session/working lunch from 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. in the Board Room of the Student Administration Building, Flathead Valley Community College.

Beginning at 1:00 p.m., the Board of Regents held evaluations of Presidents and the Commissioner on the following schedule:

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1:00 - 2:30 p.m.

President William Daehling, Northern Montana College

2:30 - 4:00 p.m.

President Lindsay Norman, Montana College of Mineral
Science and Technology

4:00 - 5:30 p.m.

Commissioner of Higher Education John Hutchinson

The majority of the evaluation was conducted in open meeting and included a report by the President on the state of his campus, and a review of annual goals submitted at the last evaluation against the accomplishments and problems encountered in the past year. Goal statements for the coming year were also reviewed and discussed. At the request of the individual, a portion of each session was closed for discussion with the Board of matters where individual privacy clearly exceeded the merits of public disclosure.

The evaluation of the Commissioner followed a the same format excluding the state of the campus report.

Minutes of Thursday, August 1, 1991

The Board of Regents resumed the scheduled evaluations of the presidents as follows:

8:00 - 9:30 a.m.

President George Dennison, University of Montana

9:30 - 11:00 a.m.

President Bruce Carpenter, Eastern Montana College

11:00 - 12:00 Noon

President Michael Malone, Montana State University

The same evaluation format was used as in yesterday's evaluations.

The Board of Regents convened in open meeting at 1:00 p.m. Roll call was taken and it was determined a quorum was present.

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Chairman Mathers announced action on the Consent Agenda would be deferred to tomorrow's meeting.

President Carpenter, Eastern Montana College, introduced Ms. Terry Iverson, Interim Acting Vice President for Administration at Eastern Montana College.

President Dennison, University of Montana, introduced and welcomed aboard Dr. Jim Todd, Vice President for Administration and Finance at the University.

The Board recessed at 1:20 to reconvene immediately in concurrent committee meetings.

At 3:30 p.m., the Board of Regents and other interested persons toured the campus of Flathead Valley Community College.

Minutes of Friday, August 2, 1991

The Board of Regents reconvened in open session at 8:30 a.m with the same members present.

Chairman Mathers called for additions or corrections to the two sets of minutes before the Board. Hearing none, the minutes of the June 20-21, 1991 meeting and the July 2, 1991 Conference Call meeting were ordered approved.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Joint Meeting: Administrative and Budget Committees

At Chairman Mathers request, Regent Topel, Chairman of the Budget Committee, reported on the joint committee meeting. He explained the purpose of the joint meeting was to discuss continued land acquisitions by the University of Montana and Eastern Montana College. Both campuses operate under Board policies setting out designated land acquisition zones and establishing desired campus boundaries. Each campus has been acquiring property under those authorizations. Discussion was held on whether consideration should be given to a moratorium on property acquisitions, or changes made to the

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policies. The joint committee concluded that both EMC and the U of M would bring a report to the Board at a later date setting out what the assumptions were at the time the relevant policies were adopted; what changes, if any, there have been in those assumptions; and what changes in circumstances exist on the campuses. When the reports are received the Board will make a determination if changes need to be made to the policies, or whether there should be a moratorium on property acquisitions. In the interim, no offers will be negotiated to acquire additional property.

Report of the Administrative Committee

Capital Construction Items

Chairman Mathers reported the items on the Capital Construction Agenda were reviewed by the President of the unit submitting the items and discussed by the Committee. The items are deemed to be mostly routine, and the following recommendations are made:

Item 72-102-R0891, Conveyance of Easement for Sewer to City of Missoula; The University of Montana was recommended for approval. Regent Boylan so moved. The motion carried.

Item 103-R0891, Apply Floor Maintenance Coating and Install Isolation Cubicles for Animal Lab Facilities; Health Science Building; The University of Montana was recommended for approval. Regent Boylan so moved. The motion carried.

Item 72-501-R0891, Authorization to expend up to \$50,000 to contract for the construction of a storage building; Montana College of Mineral Science and Technology was explained to be a project that has been needed on Tech's campus for some years. The source of funding is plant funds and auxiliary funds generated by student building fees. The Committee recommended approval. Regent Boylan so moved. The motion carried.

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Policy Items

It was explained that Item 72-801-R0891, Reorganization of the Academic Administrative structure; Northern Montana College was requested to be moved from the action agenda to the submission agenda to be considered at the September 1991 meeting. The Committee concurred with that request. No action is required at this time on the item.

Action Agenda:

Item 72-001-R0891, Paul Douglas Teacher Scholars; 1991; Montana University System was presented to the Committee by Mr. William Lannan, whose office handles the awards to the scholars. The Board of Regents as the responsible state agency must approve the selection of the Paul Douglas Teacher Scholars. The scholarships are awarded to outstanding students who will enter the field of teaching. The following four students were selected for the awards for the 1991-92 academic year:

Joan Christine Bauman, Powell County High School
Beth Ann Deffinbaugh, College of Great Falls
Jill Renee Amundsen, Skyview High School
Laura M. Houtz, Flathead Christian School

First and second alternates were also selected; six students formerly awarded the scholarships have requested renewal of the awards for the 1991-92 academic year, and are also approved.

On motion of Regent Boylan, Item 72-001-R0891 was approved.

Chairman Mathers explained the following Item 7-002-R0175, Security Operations; Montana University System (REVISED) was revised in accordance with legislation passed in the last session granting campus security personnel the right to carry arms at times other than those specified in subsection 2(a). The revision requires the Board specifically approve a

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policy for the campus which indicates the times and conditions under which firearms may be carried. Further, student body government on the campus shall be given an opportunity to present its position on the policy to the Board prior to adoption, and the policy may not be amended except by action of the Board of Regents. The revised item is brought to the full Board without recommendation of the Committee. Regent Boylan expressed his objection to the revision, consistent with his position as a legislator.

Chief Counsel Schramm explained the policy as revised provides that the President of a campus will bring an item to the Regents should they want to change present practice. The statute is very clear that the decision as to who carries firearms at what hours on any campus is a Regental decision. The revision provides a mechanism to change present practice if a president so desires.

Regent Kaze asked if the Board is obligated to change its policy. Dr. Schramm responded probably not. If the opportunity to make the change is not provided that probably sends a message that the Regents are satisfied with the policy as it stands. An individual president could probably still come forward and request an exception to the policy citing authorization under the new statute. The statute did away with all specifications on carrying firearms on a campus. It now says campus security personnel may carry guns pursuant to Regents' policy. The only limitations that exist now are those in present Regents' policy. Present policy allows firearms to be carried between 5:00 p.m. and 8:00 a.m. and at any time when guarding money or other valuables.

Dr. Schramm noted the restrictions in present Regents' policy are exactly the restrictions that were removed from the statutes. One of the reasons for criticism of the old

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statute was that there were no exceptions. If, for instance, at 3:00 in the afternoon security is notified someone is brandishing a gun on the quad, they can't carry a firearm to confront that person. There needs to be provision for emergency situations. It was assumed those types of changes would be proposed in any individual policies brought to the Board, or at some future date present policy should be reviewed and revised.

Chairman Mathers then asked if Dr. Schramm's recommendation was that the policy before the Board be approved, and if the presidents feel additional changes should be made, the item be revisited at a future meeting. Dr. Schramm responded that was anticipated. Nothing prevents a president bringing in a requested exception if the policy is approved as proposed.

President Malone, MSU, agreed that this is as good a compromise of a policy with possibility of exceptions as there could be. The provision for consultation with the student body is important. The storage and transportation issues are major issues in their own right.

Chairman Mathers asked if anyone else wished to comment. Regent Johnson suggested amendment to Section 4, changing "each unit may establish" to "each unit must establish..." regarding storage and transportation of firearms. Dr. Schramm cautioned this is an existing policy. Regulations dealing with transportation and storage of firearms exist on all campuses now pursuant to this operation. No one is suggesting that be deleted. Whether this revision is approved or not, Section 4 remains the same.

Regent Johnson moved that Section 4 be amended to delete "may" and insert "must."

Chairman Mathers asked Dr. Schramm to speak to the amendment. Dr. Schramm explained that as the policy now

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stands, having rules governing transportation and storage of firearms at all units of the Montana Systems of Higher Education is optional. If that is changed to read "must", and an incident happens on one of the campuses that has not adopted a rule, one of the things that will be used against that unit is that the Regents had directed action to be taken, and it had not been done.

Commissioner Hutchinson spoke to the proposed change to Section 4. He noted the revision before the Board to amend Section 2(a) has been through the normal process, has gone through submission, has been discussed in committee, and is now in position to be either approved or disapproved. That amendment mirrors the statute and removes the System from cumbersome approaches that would be required if the presidents had to seek exceptions. As Dr. Schramm pointed out, it may be wise to revisit the entire policy at a later time, and the issue of "may" versus "must" could be considered at that time when the whole of the policy could be thoughtfully considered and brought through normal channels. He recommended the Board not attempt editorial or even more substantive changes at this juncture, but decide on the amendment, and if the Board wishes to reconsider the whole of the policy, so direct staff.

Regent Johnson concurred, and withdrew his motion to amend Section 4.

Regent Kaze stated his understanding was that if the change to Section 2(a) is not adopted, then the policy in full should be revisited because the issue of exceptions should be addressed. If this change is adopted, his understanding was that it places the campuses in a position to present to the Board for approval individual policies dealing with carrying firearms between the hours of 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Regent Kaze noted that philosophically he is opposed to the process,

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and may vote no, but would wait to make that decision until the policy was before him. The policy will not be revisited, however, if the revision currently under discussion is approved.

Chairman Mathers asked if all members of the Board were clear that the vote to be taken was for approval or disapproval of the new Section 2(b). Hearing no further discussion, he called for a motion.

Regent Topel moved Item 7-002-R0175 be approved as revised. A roll call vote was taken: Regents Topel, Schwanke, and Musgrove voted yes. Regents Johnson, Kaze, and Boylan voted no. The Chairman voted yes. The motion to approve carried.

Commissioner Hutchinson asked for clarification. Does the Board wish staff to review the balance of the language in the policy to see if other revisions need to be made? Regent Johnson requested such review. Staff was instructed to bring proposed changes for the Board's discussion at a future meeting.

Ratification of Collective Bargaining Contracts

Mr. Rod Sundsted, Director of Labor Relations and Personnel, reviewed the discussion held in the Administrative Committee concerning four collective bargaining agreements on which settlement has been reached, and which have been ratified by the appropriate union members. A fifth, with the MPEA, was ratified earlier by the Board in a conference call meeting. Mr. Sundsted explained the four remaining contracts are the AFSME unit at the Range Experiment Station in Miles City; the Teamsters contract at Montana State University; the machinists contract at MSU/UM/TECH; and the nurses contract at MSU. He noted that the economic settlements in those contracts were within the parameters established in House Bill 509, the pay bill passed in the last legislative session. All are two year contracts, July 1, 1991 through June 30, 1993.

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Hearing no further discussion, Regent Boylan moved the four collective bargaining contracts enumerated above be ratified and approved. The motion carried unanimously.

Report of the Academic and Student Affairs Committee

Announcements

Regent Kaze, Chairman of the Committee, reported that Dr. David Toppen, Deputy Commissioner for Academic Affairs informed the Committee that Ms. Sonia Cowen has accepted the position in the Commissioner's Office of Associate Deputy Commissioner for Academic Programs. She will begin work on September 9, 1991.

Dr. Toppen also reported on a meeting held with the Academic Vice Presidents on July 31 on the FVCC campus. Dr. Ron Sexton, Eastern Montana College, will review the University System's extended degree program and its status, and determine how that degree will fit within the other activities in the state including the downsizing discussion, telecommunications, etc. The AVP's will also be reviewing the concepts of academic educational centers, and the definitions involved in the process of establishing educational centers. The campuses provide off-campus delivery of educational opportunities. There will be an in-depth discussion and review of the existing policy. Dr. Toppen will bring back any suggested changes to present policy made by the AVP's.

The AVP's will also be examining admission standards in light of the commitment to quality effort. Telecommunications were also discussed by the AVP's. House Bill 30 had authorized METNet; they are embarking on the final stages of that network process. Over 250 satellite dish installations have been completed all over Montana in the K-12 setting in rural areas as part of the METNet program.

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Notice of Intent Agenda

Regent Kaze noted that the purpose of the Notice of Intent Agenda is to bring before the Committee and the Board potential programs that are being contemplated for development and implementation. It provides all interested parties an opportunity to review the proposals critically at the front end and determine if the campus should be encouraged to go forward and place the proposals on the submission agenda. The following two proposals were placed on the Notice of Intent Agenda at this meeting and appropriate reports received:

1. Program Title: Dental Hygiene
Credential to be Earned: Associate of Applied Science in Dental Hygiene
Institution: Great Falls Vocational Technical Center

Director Will Weaver, Great Falls Vocational-Technical Center, presented a report to the Committee giving the history and the status of the Center's efforts to develop the proposal to this point. Regent Kaze briefly reviewed the hiring of a consultant some time ago when three of the vocational-technical centers brought forward dental hygiene proposals. As a result of the consultant's report, the general conclusion was that the Great Falls Center should develop the proposal. Also, the Montana Dental Association has agreed to do a new survey of need and that survey is underway. There was discussion of questions of transferability to baccalaureate programs. That discussion will continue, and there is a potential of a future tie-in to the clinical facility that exists at Malmstrom Air Force Base.

2. Item 72-202-R0891, Authorization to offer courses in Great Falls on a one-time basis; Montana State University

Regent Kaze presented the background on the above item. MSU has been approached and has a defined group of approximately 20

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students of mostly professional educators in north central Montana who are interested in completing their Doctorate of Education degrees in adult and higher education. This group has been taking continuing education courses through Montana State University for some time. They would like MSU to offer the Ed.D. through courses offered in the Great Falls area and also with the meeting of some residency requirements on campus which they intend to accomplish through attendance during summer sessions on campus. Regent Kaze explained the important thing to note in this proposal is that the classes were started as a continuing education program under existing Regents' policy. The offering would only be made through the completion of these twenty students Ed.D. degrees. There was lengthy discussion in Committee. Some concerns were raised, but it was agreed at the Committee level that the proposal should proceed to the submission level.

Regent Topel asked if the classes were to be offered at the vo-tech, to what extent would that create problems with the deed restrictions on that facility.

Dr. Schramm responded if the College of Great Falls holds to the position it maintained in discussions a year or so ago, the assertion would be that the deed restrictions were violated. He noted the System has acquiesced in those conditions; there has been no acknowledgment of legal validity. The deed restriction on its face states only vocational-technical education may be offered on the site. Questions would have to be addressed as and if they occur. Dr. Schramm noted he would be as comfortable arguing that this offering is legitimate on that site as any program he could think of.

President Malone, MSU, noted while MSU believes this is the best site on which to offer the courses. However,

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they could just as easily be offered at the Great Falls nursing site. There are other places they could be offered.

President Daehling, NMC, stated he believed it appropriate to note that NMC was asked by the Air Force to remove some of the programs from Malmstrom Air Force Base because of the enrollment ratio. One of those programs was the master's degree in counseling and development. Arrangements to schedule NMC's coursework in that graduate program have been made with Director Weaver at the GFVTC. The schedule is being printed. President Daehling explained he has not yet been able to contact President Shields. He will continue to try to do so. There is also a committee meeting scheduled next week in Great Falls.

Regent Kaze noted again that the item is on the Notice of Intent agenda. Between now and the time the item appears on the submission agenda will provide some time for the questions raised above to be answered.

Regent Topel stated his point is that he just understood President Daehling report that NMC is taking an action within the next month or so that will potentially put the System in conflict with the deed restriction. If that is the case, Regent Topel stated his preference is to know about it now rather than when the matter has proceeded to conflict.

Dr. Hutchinson mentioned he met last week with President Shields of the College of Great Falls. This whole question was revisited. Dr. Shields appears to be as anxious to move forward to some resolution as Commissioner Hutchinson stated he was. Dr. Shields was to draft a letter to the Commissioner's Office which will clarify the position of the College of Great Falls, and which will be consistent with the position they have taken in the past. There is, however, a better spirit of cooperation. Dr. Hutchinson said perhaps

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in the case of the offering of Northern in Great Falls, his understanding was that courses and programs at the graduate level that are not in direct conflict with those that might be offered by CGF are probably ones which can be negotiated with President Shields without serious problems or litigation resulting. The Commissioner suggested continuing dialogue with respect to the specific programs. If problems occur, decisions will have to be made to reach closure.

Level I Proposals

Regent Kaze noted Dr. Toppen reported Montana State University had submitted a request to the Commissioner's Office to rename its Department of Chemistry to the Department of Chemistry and Bio-Chemistry. Under Level I procedures, Dr. Toppen has authority to approve that request. He will complete his review and report back at a future meeting.

Regent Kaze reported also that Northern Montana College had requested changes in its catalog listings regarding civil engineering technology and construction engineering technology. Dr. Toppen concluded a higher level of review was needed. Efforts are underway to discuss this change with Montana State University and Montana Tech.

TWO-YEAR INSTITUTIONS CURRICULUM ITEMS

Action Agenda:

Regent Kaze reported after appropriate review and discussion, it is the recommendation of the Committee that Item 71-8001-R0591, Approval for Conversion of Two-Year Certificate Program in Electrical/Electronics Technology Program to an Associate of Applied Science Degree in Electrical/Electronics Technology; Butte Vocational- Technical Center be approved. He so moved. The motion carried.

Regent Kaze reported that Item 71-8501-R0591, Proposal to Convert the Approved Two-Year Certificate -

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Accounting Technician to an Associate of Applied Science Degree in Accounting Technology; Great Falls Vocational-Technical Center and Item 71-9001-R0591, Approval of Proposal to Convert the Three-Semester Certificate in Accounting to an Associate of Applied Science Degree in Accounting; Helena Vocational-Technical Center were considered concurrently by the Committee.

After some discussion about the titles of those two AAS degrees it was concluded by the Committee, with the consensus of the campuses involved, that each of them should be called an AAS degree in Accounting Technology. With that amendment to Item 71-9001-R0591, Regent Kaze moved approval of that item as amended. The motion carried.

Regent Kaze then moved approval of Item 71-8501-R0591. The motion carried.

Regent Kaze reported it was the consensus of the Committee that Item 71-9501-R0591, Approval of Proposal to Convert the Approved Two-Year Certificate in Retail Management to an Associate of Applied Science Degree in Retail Management; Missoula Vocational-Technical Center be approved. He so moved. The motion carried.

Report on Minnesota WUE Students Status

Regent Kaze reported the Committee received a report on the Minnesota Western Undergraduate Exchange Program. Minnesota has withdrawn from WICHE, the sponsoring agency for WUE. WUE is a mechanism by which those members can have students from those states attend other member states' institutions for a 50% surcharge over in-state tuition, rather than pay the full out-of-state tuition. There are Minnesota students in Montana, and Montana students in Minnesota institutions under the WUE program. Even though Minnesota has

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withdrawn from the sponsoring agency, WICHE, the Minnesota legislature has approved allowing Montana students to complete their programs in the Minnesota schools, including those applying for admission this fall. Montana would like to do something commensurate with that action for those Minnesota students in Montana. The Committee requests that Dr. Toppen be authorized to instruct the business and admissions officers throughout the Montana Systems of Higher Education to continue the WUE status for all existing Minnesota WUE students, including those complying and applying for admission this fall, through the completion of their baccalaureate degrees.

Regent Kaze moved that Dr. Toppen be authorized to make that communication to the business and admissions officers. The motion carried.

Addition to Agenda

The Committee also received a report from Dr. Toppen that the commitment to quality effort will include a quantification of such items as faculty workloads and student evaluations. The Operations Committee is looking to the campus' staff to gather this information. Letters have also been sent to the State Higher Education Executive Officers (SHEEO) organization across the United States to determine their approaches to student evaluation processes.

Report of the Budget Committee

Regent Topel, Chairman of the Budget Committee, reported two action items. Item 72-104-R0891, Blue Cross/Blue Shield Supplemental Health Insurance Fee Increase; University of Montana, would normally be approved as part of the Inventory and Validation of Fees document approved annually. These fees were not available at the time that document was prepared and is therefore brought forward at this time. The item proposes an increase of quarterly, summer, and

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semester optional fees as follows: Quarter from \$63 to \$74.50; Summer Quarter from \$99.00 to \$117.25; Semester from \$94.50 to \$112.00; Summer Semester from \$99.00 to \$117.25. The Committee recommended approval. Regent Topel so moved. The motion carried.

Regent Topel reported the next item is an addition to the agenda. Flathead Valley Community College requests a \$.50 per credit parking fee between one and twelve credits, and 19 credits and over. FVCC is experiencing a substantial shortage of available parking. One half of the cost of construction of the additional parking lot will be reimbursed from the new fee. The fee is a permanent fee however. The fee has been approved by the FVCC Board of Trustees, and Regent Topel noted more importantly in his mind, the fee was approved by FVCC student government organization. The Committee recommended approval. Regent Topel so moved. The motion to approve the additional parking fee at FVCC was approved.

Campus Plans to Expend Reverted Appropriations - HB 454

Montana State University

Missoula Vocational-Technical Center

Great Falls Vocational-Technical Center

Regent Topel explained that House Bill 454 authorized units not to have to revert certain unexpended funds at the end of the fiscal year. The funds can be held over, with reports made to the Board on how the funds will be expended. It was the decision of the Committee that action on the reports listed above be deferred until all units' submissions are received.

Update: Negative Fund Balances

Regent Topel referenced the report to be made to the Interim Finance Committee which the System will be making in September regarding any negative fund balances that have existed in excess of two years. That information is not available at this time. The report will be made at a future meeting.

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Consent Agenda

Chairman Mathers noted action on the Consent Agenda was moved to this point to allow discussion of some of the items listed on that agenda. Before that action is taken, Regent Topel wished to speak to the Board of Regents' Consent Agenda.

Regent Topel stated questions have arisen as to exactly what the Consent Agenda is, what it means, and how it operates. The confusion seems to occur because the legislature has a consent agenda, and what they term "consent agenda" is different than the Regents' Consent Agenda. The Regents' Consent Agenda is merely a listing of items on which the Regents are prepared to vote without further discussion. It is not intended to be an acknowledgement that there will be no dissenting votes. If there are items on the Consent Agenda that a Regent would like to sequester for further discussion, any Regent has the right to make such a request. If that occurs, the item(s) will be removed from the Consent Agenda, and either placed in the appropriate committee or be discussed by the full Board.

Chairman Mathers noted that is what occurred in this meeting. Some Regents wished further discussion on several of the items, and the Consent Agenda was moved to this point in the agenda for to provide opportunity for that discussion before moving the Consent Agenda for approval.

Regent Musgrove then moved the following items on the Consent Agenda be approved:

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| Item 72-100-R0891, | <u>Staff; University of Montana</u> |
| Item 72-101-R0891, | <u>Resolution Concerning the Retirement of</u> |
| | <u>Lyle Berg, Professor of Education;</u> |
| | <u>University of Montana</u> |
| Item 72-200-R0891 | <u>Staff; Montana State University</u> |
| Item 72-201-R0891, | <u>Resolution on the Retirement of Professor</u> |
| | <u>Edward W. Anacker; Montana State University</u> |
| Item 72-300-R089, | <u>Staff; Agricultural Experiment Station</u> |
| Item 72-400-R0891, | <u>Staff; Cooperative Extension Service</u> |

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- Item 72-401-R0891, Resolution on the Retirement of George H. Erickson, Choteau County Extension Agenda; Montana State University
- Item 72-402-R0891, Resolution on the Retirement of Beverly B. Wallace, Gallatin County Extension Agenda; Montana State University
- Item 72-500-R0891, Staff; Montana College of Mineral Science and Technology
- Item 72-500A-R0891, Staff; Montana Bureau of Mines and Geology
- Item 72-600-R0891, Staff; Western Montana College of The University of Montana
WITH ADDENDUM setting the salary of Provost Michael Easton at \$71,500 for FY 1991-92
- Item 72-700-R0891, Staff; Eastern Montana College
WITH ADDENDUM as amended
- Item 72-710-R0891, Degrees, 1991; Eastern Montana College
- Item 72-800-R0891, Staff; Northern Montana College
- Item 72-810-R0891, Certificates and Degrees, June 1991; Northern Montana College
- Item 72-900-R0891 Staff; Office of Commissioner of Higher Education
(WITH ADDENDUM)
- Item 72-7500-R0891, Staff; Billings Vocational Technical Center
(WITH ADDENDUM)
- Item 72-8000-R0891, Staff; Butte Vocational Technical Center
(WITH ADDENDUM)
- Item 72-8500-R0891, Staff; Great Falls Vocational Technical Center
- Item 72-⁹⁰⁰⁰~~850~~-R0891, Staff; Helena Vocational Technical Center
- Item 72-9500-R0891, Staff; Missoula Vocational Technical Center
- Item 72-002-R0891, Approval of Eligibility for Professional Development Leave for FY 1991 in accordance with the terms of Regents' Policy 801.7
(WITH ADDENDUM to add Vice President for Student Affairs Edward Whipple to category "C" in Northern Montana College's listing)

Old Business

Report on Commitment to Quality Effort

Commissioner Hutchinson reported a good deal has occurred since the Havre meeting of the Board regarding the Commitment to Quality effort. The Presidents' Council met; three major accomplishments of the Presidents are: (1)

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finalization of procedures to be used for the year of planning; (2) establishment of composition of the "Operations Committee", the committee that will perform the day-to-day procedural efforts attached to the Commitment for Quality; and (3) development of a charge to the Operations Committee.

A second major occurrence at the request of the Presidents' Council was preparation of an editorial to be run in as many newspapers as possible throughout the State of Montana. The editorial explains in some detail what the Commitment to Quality effort is, what will be done, and what is hoped to be accomplished over this year of planning.

The third occurrence was establishment of a planning framework which clearly specifies the roles and responsibilities of the Presidents' Council, the Office of Commissioner of Higher Education, the Board of Regents, the Operations Committee, and the campuses and their presidents.

An inaugural meeting of the Operations Committee was held last week. Two fundamental components were identified to be worked on in the assessment phase. The assessment phase is to be completed between now and the end of this calendar year. The components are (1) a self study, portions of which are to be completed and into the Commissioner's Office by the first of October; other portions are due October 15. The self study consists of a series of protocols developed by the Commissioner's Office with revisions made by the Operations Committee, and further revisions will be made by several campus groups. There will be a comprehensive analysis and data collection on academic programs, academic support systems, student services including athletics, counseling, financial aid, admissions, registrars office, directors, etc. Institutional support will also be examined, as will operations and maintenance of plant, faculty workloads, and admissions standards.

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The second broad component will be a comprehensive review and discussion of System architecture to be completed by January 1, 1992 to determine that we have the best possible arrangement of our institutions, including the senior institutions, community colleges, and vocational-technical centers. The goal is to be certain there is clear understanding of the articulation and transfer environment, of the commitment to access and outreach; tribal college relations will be examined, and a host of other things will be examined under this category.

The Operations Committee has two representatives from each of the campuses. Commissioner Hutchinson noted that as Chairman of the Operations Committee and the Presidents' Council he provides interface between those two groups. The recommendations of the Operations Committee will go forward first to the Presidents' Council for review, and from there to the Board of Regents who are the final authority in whatever actions are taken.

Dr. Hutchinson reported next on a meeting held with the Montana Committee on American Indians in Higher Education. There has been concern expressed by this group because of discussions held on admission standards, and whether or not the Commitment to Quality effort will maintain and preserve the System's commitment to minority students which has been such an important hallmark of the work of this Board in the past. Commissioner Hutchinson stated he tried to give that group every assurance publicly, and will do so again as many times as needed, that this Commitment to Quality effort is not in any way intended to cut against the commitment to cultural diversity and the achievement in this particular case to American Indians in higher education.

Dr. Hutchinson reported on upcoming meetings related to the Commitment to Quality effort. The next meeting of the Operations Committee will be September 13, 1991 in

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Helena. He pledged to continue go to any community meetings made available to him to discuss the System's efforts with the public so they are fully apprised of this effort. The effort is underway; the campuses have some assignments now; there is excellent cooperation on the part of all involved.

Chairman Mathers called for questions on the Commitment to Quality effort. Hearing none, he stated the Board's appreciation to all involved in this major undertaking and the quickness with which the effort has begun.

New Business

Commissioner Hutchinson noted the next three reports are some of those that have been planned for presentation to the Board for some time. Dr. Toppen will make the reports.

Centers of Excellence

Dr. Toppen stated the report on Centers of Excellence is the result of a joint effort of the research vice presidents and the Commissioner's Office. He distributed a brief interim summary of the activities occurring on the various campuses with respect to the establishment of centers of excellence that are identified by the state and funded by the Montana Science and Technology Alliance.

Dr. Toppen provided a brief history of the establishment of the centers. In 1987 the Montana Science and Technology Alliance received an appropriation from the legislature to fund a \$600,000 commitment to finding a center on one of the university campuses that would be devoted to scientific research and technology enterprise. In the course of the deliberations it was determined that a single \$600,000 center of excellence was not politically preferable to three \$200,000 centers of excellence distributed across the campuses of MSU, Montana Tech, and the U of M. Subsequently, an additional \$200,000 was obtained to establish a center on the Eastern Montana College campus.

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Dr. Toppen distributed and reviewed a report (on file) that contained a list of centers of excellence at the four campuses. These centers constitute a substantial commitment on the part of the State - the original \$800,000 and several hundred thousand additional dollars of general fund monies and monies from the Coal Trust have been invested to establish these centers with the expectation they would lead to developing technology and enterprise that would in time become centers that were capable of paying back to the State the investment that was made in their creation.

Dr. Toppen noted the report provides the opportunity for the Board to reflect on what has been accomplished by the centers over the past several years. All of them are viable; all have triggered and stimulated research in a variety of areas; all continue to obtain funding from the State through the Montana Science and Technology Alliance. As the centers have grown, so has the commitment of the Science and Tech Alliance and so has the relationship with the central office. Dr. Toppen reviewed the interinstitutional emphasis of the centers, and the memberships of the Boards of Directors of the centers. All of the centers have received extramural funding, and it is anticipated that the centers will increase the ratio of extramural to state funding to the point they become self sufficient. The goal of the centers is to ultimately develop new technologies and new businesses for the State.

Dr. Toppen concluded the report with the request that over the next year, each of the centers be given an opportunity to present their works to the Board of Regents as the agenda of the Board finds open time. He noted a technicality associated with the presentations also. While the centers are funded by the State through MSTA, not one of the

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centers has been formally approved in their present context as campus centers. They have been approved indirectly through inclusion of their names in the language of the mission statements of the various campuses. As the individual presentations are made to the Board, Dr. Toppen said he would like at that time to seek approval of them for inclusion in the inventory of centers on the campuses.

Federal EPSCoR Program

Dr. Toppen distributed and reviewed a report titled "National Initiatives Supporting System-wide Science and Engineering Research and Development in Montana - Summary and Status Report, July, 1991." He began review of the document by noting in the report just given no mention was made of the extremely important center at Montana State University, the Engineering Research Center. The centers described in the previous report are state designated centers in which those internally within Montana have looked for areas of expertise, identified them, and funded their growth. On the much larger scale, however, the federal government in the form of the National Science Foundation, has created a program which identifies potential excellence at the national level, and has so identified the Engineering Research Center at MSU. At some later juncture, Dr. Toppen noted he would like Director Characklis and President Malone to make a presentation on the accomplishments of that center. It is truly a marvel, and a wonderful tribute to the faculty and their accomplishments at MSU. It reflects extremely well on all in the University System and is an entire program that has been built around a unique and interesting application of biofouling and biomediation with engineering applications.

Dr. Toppen began his review of the report by stating the National Science Foundation has treated Montana

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very well. The formation of the Engineering Research Center was made possible through is a \$5 million grant from the NSF. In addition, Senator Crippen's bill provides the requisite match for the continued support of the center at MSU through this biennium.

Dr. Toppen explained the terminology of EPSCoR (Experimental Program to Stimulate Competitive Research) has been heard for almost a decade. It was created by the NSF some years ago to stimulate competitive research in states for which there had not been adequate per capita expenditure of NSF research funds over time. Montana was identified as one of the original five EPSCoR states, "poverty stricken in terms of fundamental scientific research" were the words used at that time. Out of NSF's initiative was born the program called MONTS (Montanan's On a New Track for Science). Gary Strobel was the mentor of MONTS and continues in that role. MONTS, for many years the only program of the EPSCoR variety, has been so well received by congressional delegations that other federal agencies now want to participate and see states that have historically not participated in their programs get involved, too. NSF has found a model which seems to work very well. NSF's original five states have expanded to nearly twenty. Other federal agencies that would like to get involved in these programs include the Environmental Protection Agency, National Institutes of Health, Department of Energy, and others.

Dr. Toppen explained the report before the Board summarizes who it is that will be acting on behalf of the entire University System in dealing with MONTS issues. The report lists the federal agency, the Montana program, program leader, funding, status, and summary.

At the conclusion of his review, Dr. Toppen stated that the evolution of the federally funded, EPSCoR-like environment has been done in an atmosphere of enormous collegiality among the campuses. There is evidence of a strong

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spirit of cohesion among the System's scientists as they work together throughout all of these scientific enterprises.

State Science and Technology Plan

Dr. Toppen distributed copies of the State Science Plan to members of the Board and explained its evolution. While the National Science Foundation has been extraordinarily impressed with the quality of Montana's research and the efficiency with which scientific research is carried out with outdated and prehistoric equipment, that organization believes that kind of effort cannot continue without a gubernatorial, legislative and Regental commitment to the establishment of the State Science and Technology Plan. Dr. Toppen reviewed the development of the State Science Plan from its inception through completion, and provided a listing of the members of the State Plan's Board of Directors which includes members of national repute. Dr. Toppen asked that the Board read the executive summary contained in the Plan, and reviewed with the Board the summary of what the plan calls for the System to do.

Chairman Mathers commended Dr. Toppen for the quality and the content of the reports, and stated the Board looks forward to having the Directors of the Centers and the Presidents of the units make additional reports on the activities of the Centers at future meetings as time will allow.

Presidents' Salaries FY 1991-92

Regent Kaze moved approval of the following salaries for presidents of the senior institutions for FY 1991-92:

\$94,340 for the Presidents of the University of Montana and Montana State University

\$83,210 for the Presidents of Eastern Montana College and Montana College of Mineral Science and Technology

\$74,820 for the President of Northern Montana College.

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Chairman Mathers called for discussion of the motion.

Regent Boylan moved that the salary of the President of Northern Montana College be segregated from the motion. Regents Schwanke and Boylan voted yes. Regents Topel, Kaze, Musgrove and Johnson voted no. The motion to segregate failed.

The question was called on Regent Kaze's motion to set salaries for the presidents of the five units. The motion carried, with Regent Boylan voting no.

Commissioner's Salary FY 1991-92

Regent Topel moved Commissioner Hutchinson's FY 1991-92 be set at \$95,400. The motion carried unanimously.

Students Report

Mr. Kirk Lacy, President of the Montana Associated Students reported he will begin his statewide tour of the higher education system. Appointments have been made with student leaders on each campus; the goal is to increase involvement and membership of the student governments of the community colleges and the vocational-technical centers in the organization of the Montana Associated Students.

Mr. Lacy reported on the annual National Association of Campus Activities student government workshops. This year one of those workshops is being held on the campus of Eastern Montana College. It is an honor for both EMC and Montana to have this kind of recognition. Chairman Mathers asked Mr. Lacy to take to that organization greetings from the Board of Regents. The Board is very pleased to host that group on the campus at EMC.

Mr. Lacy concluded his report with the announcement that the Montana Associated Students statewide workshop has been set on September 7, 8, and 9, 1991 in Missoula.

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Information will be sent to the Regents as it is developed. The students would welcome Regent participation.

Statement of Chairman Mathers

Chairman Mathers stated at this time he wished to interject a statement into the regular order of the meeting. A rumor spreading in the Butte community has come to the Chairman's attention that alleged he made certain statements related to the President's office at Montana College of Mineral Science and Technology. Speaking specifically to President Norman at this point, Chairman Mathers stated he wished it to be known that at no time had he talked to any member of the Butte population as a whole. He had not discussed the Presidency of Montana Tech with any one other than to respond to a call by a newspaper reporter from the Butte Standard questioning whether certain actions have been taken regarding the President of Montana Tech. Chairman Mathers stated he assured the reporter the actions in question had not been taken. Representative Quilici called Chairman Mathers on the same issues. He was also assured there was no truth to the allegations. Chairman Mathers stated he wished to make it absolutely clear he does not operate in that manner, and to the people of Butte, and the Butte Standard in particular, he wanted it understood that at no time has any member of this Board of Regents or this Chairman said anything to anyone outside the confines of this public meeting as it relates to the Presidency of Montana Tech. He hoped this statement would put such rumors to rest.

Recommendation of Regent Topel on Presidential Salaries

Regent Topel asked the Board to consider breaking new ground concerning presidents' salaries. He asked the Board to consider awarding on an annual basis bonuses for merit for extraordinary performance. The bonus would be awarded for

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performance over and above that which would be normally expected in terms of a president's job performance. Regent Topel stated he would envision the bonus would be a one-time award and would not be part of the president's regular salary. Each year a decision would be made on how many, or if any, such bonuses would be awarded. He asked a study be made of the merits of such a procedure for the Montana University System. If it is deemed appropriate, consideration of awards would be made next year based on this year's performance.

Chairman Mathers called for additional comments. Hearing none, he noted this is a proposal which the Board would like to examine. Over the coming year outlines could be developed on how this might be accomplished. It is breaking new ground in Montana, but the Board believes it is worth consideration. The Board hopes by having this preliminary discussion in public meeting any criticism of the public or other entities that such a proposal is being considered can be allayed.

Regent Boylan asked if the bonuses would be determined by evaluation or some other process. The Chairman replied guidelines would have to be established, and that will be part of the study and future discussion.

Addition to Consent Agenda

Chairman Mathers noted for the record an addendum to Item 72-600-R089, Staff; Western Montana College had not been included in the Consent Agenda. On motion of Regent Musgrove, the addendum was approved.

Commissioner's Report

Commissioner Hutchinson expressed his own, the Board's, and the Presidents', and the staff's appreciation to President Fryett and his staff at Flathead Valley Community College for superb facilities housing the Board of Regents'

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meeting. All have enjoyed the warm hospitality and helpfulness of all the staff. Everyone looks forward to another meeting on this beautiful campus.

Dr. Hutchinson commented on the presidential evaluation process completed this year. It is an improvement over the past process, producing a stronger set of evaluations. There are further refinements some Board members want. Those will be brought to the Board in September.

The Commissioner noted the addition to his staff of Dr. Sonia Cowen, who will be joining the Commissioner's staff in September as Associate Deputy Commissioner for Academic Programs, was reported earlier in the Academic and Student Affairs Committee Report. All are looking forward to Dr. Cowen's arrival. She is an experienced and capable academic administration.

Another appointment to Commissioner's staff was reported. Dr. Jane Karas has joined the office as the Gender Equity Coordinator. Dr. Karas also comes to us with extremely high recommendations. She is a welcome addition to the office.

Commissioner Hutchinson expressed sincere appreciation to Student Regent Brad Musgrove for his willingness to continue to serve beyond the term of his appointment. The Governor's office has informed the Commissioner's office that a new student Regent will be appointed before the September 1991 meeting. A more appropriate fete will be conducted for Regent Musgrove at a future meeting.

Dr. Hutchinson reported the dispersion of deferred maintenance and handicap access funds awarded to the System by the last Legislature will occur at the September 1991 meeting. The staff recommendation will be brought forward through the Council of Presidents.

Dr. Hutchinson concluded by reporting he would attend the State Higher Executive Officers meeting in

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San Francisco, beginning tomorrow, August 3. A major discussion item at that meeting will be what is occurring around the country relevant to reductions and trimming of the sails of university systems in the wake of budget shortfall. The Montana System's Commitment to Quality effort falls very much within that topic, and Dr. Hutchinson noted he hoped to fold any other states' recommendations that are appropriate into the System's effort.

Campus Reports

President Malone, MSU, introduced the new ASMSU President, Todd Casey, and the Vice President, Darrell Stevenson. In addition, President Malone reported MSU was the recipient more than a month ago of a \$500,000 grant from the Boeing Corporation which will be applied to an endowed or enhanced chair in engineering. MSU is the second largest source of employees for the Boeing Corporation.

President Malone also reported MSU was informed today it is to be the recipient of a \$5 million grant from the National Science Foundation. The acronym is ASSIST, and it is a partnership with nearly 20 Native American Colleges - three-fourths of all those institutions in the United States. It is a pipeline concept from K-12 through college, and will affect all Native American students in Montana regardless which unit they attend. It is believed to have enormous potential for those students in the next five years. The Board will be kept informed.

President Dennison, the University of Montana, reported reaffirmation of increased enrollments at both the University (up about 15%) and the Dillon campus (up 25%) for the Fall Quarter. It speaks of the continued attractiveness of those two campuses.

President Kettner, Dawson Community College, reported an extensive administrative reorganization on that

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campus. President Fryett, FVCC, reported the successful negotiation of that campus's first master contract for part-time faculty. Sue Hill completed that successful negotiation. While she has resigned her appointment at FVCC, Sue will continue to negotiate contracts for Flathead Valley through approximately October 1. The campus will miss Miss Hill. Dr. Fryett also reported that the semester conversion process is continuing. FVCC plans implementation of the semester system in August 1992. Dr. Fryett also reported that the College was pleased to have hosted this meeting, and had enjoyed both the company and the opportunity to show to the Regents and others in the System Flathead's attractive new campus.

At the conclusion of other staff introductions and reports, the Chairman called for additional questions or comments. Hearing none, the meeting was adjourned. The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Board of Regents will be held on September 19-20, 1991 in Helena, Montana.