

**THE BOARD OF REGENTS  
OF HIGHER EDUCATION  
Montana University System**

**MINUTES**

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**DATE:** SEPTEMBER 22-23, 1994

**LOCATION:** OFFICE CLASSROOM COMPLEX—ROOM 114  
WESTERN MONTANA COLLEGE OF THE UNIVERSITY OF  
MONTANA  
DILLON, MONTANA

**REGENTS PRESENT:** JIM KAZE (CHAIRMAN), CORDELL JOHNSON (VICE  
CHAIRMAN), PAUL BOYLAN, JIM BROWN, COLLEEN CONROY,  
PAT DAVISON, AND KERMIT SCHWANKE; COMMISSIONER OF  
HIGHER EDUCATION JEFF BAKER; GOVERNOR MARC  
RACICOT (THURSDAY SESSION)

**REGENTS ABSENT:** KERMIT SCHWANKE (EXCUSED FOR FRIDAY'S SESSION)

**PRESIDENTS & CHANCELLORS  
PRESENT:** PRESIDENTS GEORGE DENNISON AND MICHAEL MALONE;  
CHANCELLORS LINDSAY NORMAN, SHEILA STEARNS, AND  
WILLIAM DAEHLING; ACTING CHANCELLOR RONALD SEXTON

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**THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 22**

Chairman Jim Kaze called the regular meeting of the Board of Regents to order at 11:00 a.m. Roll call showed that a quorum was present.

- ▶ **Regent Pat Davison moved that the Board approve the minutes from the July 7-8, 1994 regular meeting; the July 19, 1994 conference call meeting; and the August 25, 1994 conference call meeting as mailed to the Board members. The motion passed unanimously.**

**CONSENT AGENDA**

**Staff Items**

- a. **Item 84-1000-R0994—Staff; The University of Montana—Missoula**
- b. **Item 84-1001-R0994—Staff; Proposal to Honor Professor Nora Staael Evert; The University of Montana—Missoula**
- c. **Item 84-1002-R0994—Proposal to Honor Professor Vince Wilson; The University of Montana—Missoula**

- d. Item 84-1500-R0994—Staff; Montana Tech of The University of Montana
- e. Item 84-1500A-R0994—Staff; Montana Bureau of Mines and Geology
- f. Item 84-1600-R0994—Staff; Western Montana College of The University of Montana
- g. Item 84-1900-R0994—Staff; Helena College of Technology of The University of Montana
- h. Item 84-2000-R0994—Staff; Montana State University—Bozeman
- i. Item 84-2001-R0994—Post-Retirement Employment Contract, Bryon J. Bennett, Adjunct Professor, Mechanical Engineering; Montana State University—Bozeman
- j. Item 84-2002-R0994—Post-Retirement Employment Contract, Richard L. Brustkern, Professor, Civil Engineering; Montana State University—Bozeman
- k. Item 84-2003-R0994—Post-Retirement Employment Contract, William E. Larsen, Professor, Civil Engineering; Montana State University—Bozeman
- l. Item 84-2004-R0994—Emeritus Status, Richard L. Brustkern, Professor, Civil Engineering; Montana State University—Bozeman
- m. Item 84-2005-R0994—Emeritus Status, Michael D. Copeland, Associate Professor, Agricultural Economics and Economics; Montana State University—Bozeman
- n. Item 84-2006-R0994—Emeritus Status, Alan T. Jackson, Professor, Civil Engineering; Montana State University—Bozeman
- o. Item 84-2007-R0994—Emeritus Status, William E. Larsen, Professor, Civil Engineering; Montana State University—Bozeman
- p. Item 84-2300-R0994—Staff; Agricultural Experiment Station; Montana State University—Bozeman
- q. Item 84-2301-R0994—Emeritus Status, Thomas W. Carroll, Professor, Plant Pathology, Agricultural Experiment Station; Montana State University—Bozeman
- r. Item 84-2302-R0994—Emeritus Status, Charles F. McGuire, Professor, Plant, Soil, and Environmental Science, Agricultural Experiment Station; Montana State University—Bozeman
- s. Item 84-2303-R0994—Emeritus Status, Albert L. Scharen, Professor, Plant Pathology, Agricultural Experiment Station; Montana State University—Bozeman
- t. Item 84-2304-R0994—Emeritus Status, G. Allan Taylor, Professor, Plant, Soil and Environmental Science, Agricultural Experiment Station; Montana State University—Bozeman
- u. Item 84-2400-R0994—Staff; Extension Service, Montana State University—Bozeman
- v. Item 84-2700-R0994—Staff; Montana State University—Billings
- w. Item 84-2800-R0994—Staff; Montana State University—Northern
- x. Item 84-2801-R0994—Post-Retirement Employment Contract, Jean Kampf, Assistant Professor, Nursing; Montana State University—Northern
- y. Item 84-2850-R0994—Staff; Montana State University College of Technology—Great Falls

- ▶ **Regent Jim Brown moved that the Board approve the Consent Agenda items. The motion passed unanimously. [Note: Item 84-2803-R0994—Authorization to Construct and Improve Parking Lot; Montana State University—Northern was moved from Capital Construction to the Administrative/Budget Committee's submission agenda.]**

The University of Montana—Missoula President George Dennison called attention to two items on the Consent Agenda: 84-1001-R0994 and 84-1002-R0994. He said these items involved naming academic facilities in honor of two people who made significant contributions to the university: Vince Wilson and Nora Staael Evert.

## COMMITTEE REPORTS

### ACADEMIC AND STUDENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

The Academic and Student Affairs Committee met at 9:00 a.m. in Room 114A of the Office Classroom Complex. Committee members present included Regents Cordell Johnson (chair), Jim Brown, Colleen Conroy, and Kermit Schwanke. Chairman Kaze asked Regent Johnson to present the committee's report to the full Board.

#### 1. Announcements

- a. Addition of a Chinese minor at The University of Montana—Missoula.
- b. Merger of the Department of Biological Sciences and the Department of Physical Sciences into the Department of Biological and Physical Sciences at Montana State University—Billings.
- c. Elimination of the Department of Military Science, the Special Program in Military Science, and the specialized courses in military science that serve only ROTC students.

Regent Johnson said that Dr. Richard Crofts, Deputy Commissioner for Academic Affairs, had been reviewing some of the committee's procedural matters and decided to deal with two levels of changes instead of three. Level I changes would be decided at the Commissioner's Office level and come before the Board as announcements. Level II changes would be those requiring Board approval through the notice of intent/submission/action process.

#### 2. Submission Agenda

Regent Johnson briefly reviewed the following submission items:

- a. Item 84-003-R0994—Recognition of Formal Training for Dentistry; Montana University System
- b. Item 84-004-R0994—Inventory of Academic Programs (NEW); Montana University System
- c. Item 84-006-R0994—Repeal of Certain Board of Regents Policies from the Montana University System Policy and Procedures Manual (Policies 311, 311.1, 312, 312.1, 313, 313.1, 314, 315, 315.1, 316, 316.1, 317, 318, and 319)
- d. Item 84-301-R0994—Approval of Proposal to Implement the Associate of Applied Science Degree in Criminal Justice; Flathead Valley Community College

Regent Johnson said Item 84-301-R0994 was the only submission item that raised questions concerning duplication of program offerings. He said Dawson Community College had developed a program in the same area, had been offering it for quite a few years, and suggested that FVCC's program would be unnecessary duplication. Regent Johnson said this proposal had not come forward on the notice of intent agenda because it had been misplaced during the time Dr. David Toppen left the Commissioner's Office and Dr. Crofts assumed the position of Deputy Commissioner for Academic Affairs. Regent Johnson said the problems surrounding this proposal would have to be resolved by the parties in question before the November 17-18 meeting in Missoula.

- e. **Item 84-302-R0994**—Approval of Proposal to Implement the Associate of Applied Science Degree in Substance Abuse Counseling; Flathead Valley Community College
- f. **Item 84-1603-R0994**—Authorization to Offer a Teaching Minor in Early Childhood Education; Western Montana College of The University of Montana
- g. **Item 84-2008-R0994**—Authorization for Montana State University—Bozeman to Establish the Center for Bison Studies to be Located in Its Veterinary Molecular Biology Laboratory; Montana State University—Bozeman
- h. **Item 84-2009-R0994**—Authorization for the College of Agriculture to Offer a B.S. Degree in Biotechnology with Options in Animal Biotechnology, Plant Biotechnology, and Microbial Biotechnology; Montana State University—Bozeman
- i. **Item 82-8501-R0394**—Proposal to Implement a New Associate of Applied Science Educational Program, Physical Therapist Assistant; MSU College of Technology—Great Falls

Regent Johnson said action on **Item 82-8501-R0394** had been deferred at the May 1994 meeting in Great Falls; the proposal had raised questions from The UM—Missoula. Regent Johnson said Provost Bob Kindrick at The UM—Missoula reported to the committee that the concerns had been resolved and The UM—Missoula was supporting the program.

Regent Johnson said **Item 84-2802-R0994**—Authorization to Offer a Baccalaureate Degree in Computer Information Systems at the MSU—Northern Great Falls Facility; Montana State University—Northern had been withdrawn from the agenda. The committee agreed it could be re-submitted in January 1995 as a submission item.

Regent Johnson said the committee recommended that **Items 84-003-R0994, 84-004-R0994, 84-006-R0994, 84-301-R0994, 84-302-R0994, 84-1603-R0994, 84-2008-R0994, 84-2009-R0994, and 82-8501-R0394** be moved to the action agenda at the November meeting; the Board concurred..

### 3. **Action Agenda**

Regent Johnson briefly explained the following action items:

- a. **Item 84-205-R0794**—Authorization for Montana State University to Create a Western Transportation Institute for Advanced Rural Transportation Technology, Research, and Education; Montana State University—Bozeman
  - ▶ **Regent Johnson moved that the Board concur with the committee's recommendation to approve Item 84-205-R0794. The motion passed unanimously.**
- b. **Item 84-702-R0794**—Authorization to Change Names of Schools; Montana State University—Billings
  - ▶ **Regent Johnson moved that the Board concur with the committee's recommendation to approve Item 84-702-R0794. The motion passed unanimously.**

The Board recessed at 12:00 noon for lunch and reconvened at 1:05 p.m.

Chairman Kaze introduced Stan Nicholson from the Bureau of Business and Economic Research at The University of Montana—Missoula. Mr. Nicholson said he had been asked by Bureau Director Paul Polzin to provide the Regents with a brief presentation of a paper prepared by the Bureau at the Regents' request at their September meeting. Mr. Nicholson said that Doug Young from the Department of Agricultural Economics and Economics at Montana State University—Bozeman also helped prepare the paper. The paper (on file) was titled "CI-66 and CI-67: Concept, Context, and Consequences." Mr. Nicholson also referred the Regents to two other papers (on file): "Legal and Fiscal Policy Impact Analysis of Revenue Limitation Laws Adopted by Popular Voter Initiative in Several States with Potential Applicability to Montana Constitutional Initiatives 66 (CI-66) and 67 (CI-67)" by Rodney K. Smith and David Aronofsky; and "Tax and Spending Limits for Montana? Criteria for Assessing Current Proposals" by Robert G. Natelson.

Mr. Nicholson said the paper prepared by the Bureau attempted to explain the initiatives in plain language, contrast them with similar measures in other states, and put them in the context of Montana. The paper also outlined the potential consequences on higher education if the initiatives were approved by the voters. Mr. Nicholson briefly reviewed the paper's major components.

During the discussion that followed, questions were raised on when the initiatives would go into effect if they were approved, whether initiatives 66 and 67 were more restrictive than similar measures in other states, and concern that no automatic provisions were built into the initiatives for population growth, inflation, etc.

Governor Racicot said the initiatives were a frontal assault on representative governance. He said he could see people being pitted against each other, with the weakest being cut from the herd. He said Montanans had a long history of working together. They had candid views and were making tremendous progress in moving toward the next millennium. Governor Racicot said he thought the initiatives would tear away that fabric in a way that would set them up for failure—pitting north against south, east against west, regents against one another, etc.

Regent Davison noted that the information prepared for the Board should be distributed as widely as possible in order to educate people about some of the issues that had been raised and the potential consequences of the initiatives. He said the investment in time, energy, and resources had been made to have the information compiled, and it should be distributed as soon as possible.

After further discussion, Commissioner Baker suggested that his staff draft a resolution to reflect the Board of Regents' position on the initiatives. He said the Regents could consider it at Friday morning's session.

Chairman Kaze asked that Commissioner Baker work with the campuses to decide the best way to summarize the information and have it distributed as widely as possible in order to educate people. He said the Board would consider a resolution on the initiatives during Friday's session.

The Board recessed at 2:05 p.m. for the Board of Education meeting (a joint meeting between the Board of Public Education and the Board of Regents). The Board of Education meeting was followed by a presentation in the auditorium by Ernest L. Boyer, President of the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching. Dr. Boyer spoke on "Faculty Roles in Learning and New Models for Measuring Productivity."

**FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, 1994****ADMINISTRATIVE/BUDGET COMMITTEE**

The Administrative/Budget Committee met at 9:00 a.m. in Room 114B of the Office Classroom Complex. Committee members present included Regents Pat Davison (Chair), Paul Boylan, and Jim Kaze. Chairman Kaze asked Regent Davison to present the committee's report to the full Board.

Regent Davison asked Chief Legal Counsel LeRoy Schramm to give a brief explanation of the following two items:

**1. Submission Agenda****a. Item 43-002-R0484—Residency Policy; Montana University System (REVISED 940.1)**

Chief Counsel Schramm said this change in the residency policy focused on how the system treated high school graduates who were not United States citizens—primarily foreign exchange students. Read literally, the current policy would give foreign exchange students residency by exception, although that had not been the practice. Chief Counsel Schramm said the amendment to the policy would deny residency status to that class of individuals.

**b. Item 50-001-R0186—Eligibility for WICHE, WAMI, and Minnesota Dental Programs; Montana University System (REVISED 504.3)**

Chief Counsel Schramm said the main thrust of this residency change was to do away with the three-year requirement for WICHE/WAMI. He said since the general policy had been changed so that someone could not gain residency while being a full-time student, it did not seem necessary to have a special length of time to qualify for WICHE/WAMI.

**c. Item 84-1601-R0994—Authorization to Establish a Student Athletic Fee; Western Montana College of The University of Montana**

Regent Davison said this item had been moved to the submission agenda from the action agenda because the students at Western Montana College had not yet had a chance to vote on the fee.

**d. Item 84-2803-R0994—Authorization to Construct and Improve Parking Lot; Montana State University—Northern**

Regent Davison said this capital construction item had been moved to the submission agenda from the Consent Agenda.

Regent Davison said the committee recommended that Items 43-002-R0484, 50-001-R0186, 84-1601-R0994, and 84-2803-R0994 be moved to the action agenda at the November meeting; the Board concurred.

**2. Action Agenda****a. Item 84-002-R0794—Repeal of Certain Board of Regents Policies from the Montana University System Policy and Procedures Manual (Policies 273, 275, 276, 278, 279, 730.1, 730.2.1, 730.2.2, 730.3, 730.3.1, 730.4, 730.5, 807.1, 807.2, 807.3,**

961.1, 961.2, 961.3, 961.4, 1002.2, 1051, 1052, and 1907.2)

- ▶ **Regent Davison moved that the Board concur with the committee's recommendation to approve Item 84-002-R0794. The motion passed unanimously.**

**b. Item 84-001-R0994—Budget Amendment-FY95; Montana University System**

Associate Commissioner for Fiscal Affairs Rod Sundsted briefly explained Item 84-001-R0994, a \$11,085,652 budget amendment request, and directed the Regents to two charts in the agenda item that represented the amendment's major components and the allocation by institution and by program.

Regent Davison noted that of the \$11 million amendment, \$5.8 million resulted from the tuition increase. The remainder, \$5.2 million, represented good enrollment management. Regent Davison said this was the direct effect of some of the changes that had been implemented and the management of enrollments.

Chairman Kaze said the \$5.2 million went to some of the issues they heard a lot about—for example, charging non-resident students nearly the full cost of their education and a change in how they were treating WUE students. He said they were actually generating additional money for the system but wanted to emphasize that it was not taxpayer money.

**c. Item 84-101-R0994—Program Transfer-FY95; Office of the Commissioner of Higher Education**

Mr. Sundsted said Item 84-101-R0994, along with Item 84-001-R0994, had been incorporated into the operating budgets, the next item on the agenda. This particular item concerned the shortage of authority to extend federal revenue available in the Perkins and Eisenhower programs. The programs had insufficient authority in FY95 to match the federal funds available, and the Guaranteed Student Loan Program had excess authority that could be transferred to these programs. Mr. Sundsted said Item 84-101-R0994 proposed to move that authority among the programs. He said the statute allowed transfers that did not exceed 5 percent of the total agency budget; this request represented .3 percent. The statute also authorized the Board of Regents as the body to approve program transfers.

Chairman Kaze emphasized that this item was not a transfer of money but instead a transfer of authority to spend money.

**d. Item 84-002-R0994—Operating Budgets; Montana University System**

Mr. Sundsted said Item 84-002-R0994 included operating budgets of all fund groups for the institutions and agencies of the Montana University System for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 1994. He said the Board of Regents was required to approve an operating budget by October 1 of each fiscal year.

- ▶ **Following discussion, Regent Davison moved that the Board concur with the committee's request to approve Items 84-001-R0994, 84-101-R0994, and 84-002-R0994. The motion passed unanimously.**

**e. Item 84-201-R0994—Authorization to Expend Excess Tuitions 1993-94; Dawson Community College [information item; no action necessary]**

**f. Item 84-1003-R0994—Property Acquisition, Sheehan Majestic Building; The University of Montana—Missoula [withdrawn from the agenda]**

- g. **Item 84-1501-R0994**—Acceptance of Gift of Real Property; Montana Tech of The University of Montana
- ▶ Regent Davison moved that the Board concur with the committee's request to approve **Item 84-1501-R0994**. The motion passed unanimously.
- h. **Item 84-1602-R0994**—Increase in Authorization to Replace the Roof on the Physical Education Complex; Western Montana College of The University of Montana
- ▶ Regent Davison moved that the Board concur with the committee's request to approve **Item 84-1602-R0994**. The motion passed unanimously.
- i. **Item 84-2010-R0994**—Authorization to Collect an Intensive English Language Institute Fee; Montana State University—Bozeman
- j. **Item 84-2011-R0994**—Authorization to Modify the Media and Theatre Arts Equipment Rental Fee; Montana State University—Bozeman
- k. **Item 84-2012-R0994**—Authorization to Collect a Graduate Student Orientation Fee; Montana State University—Bozeman
- ▶ Regent Davison moved that the Board concur with the committee's request to approve **Items 84-2010-R0994, 84-2011-R0994, and 84-2012-R0994**. The motion passed unanimously.
- m. **Item 84-2013-R0994**—Authorization to Expend Student Computer Fees; Montana State University—Bozeman
- ▶ Regent Davison moved that the Board concur with the committee's request to approve **Item 84-2013-R0994**. The motion passed unanimously.
- n. **Item 84-2014-R0994**—Authorization for Montana State University—Bozeman to Enter into a Four-Year Lease with Montana Deaconess Medical Center in Great Falls to be Used by the College of Nursing; Montana State University—Bozeman

Regent Davison said **Item 84-2014-R0994** concerned the renewal of a current lease agreement. The space in question had been improved and upgraded. He said they were dealing with a situation where they would have to pay more of a fair market value rate, which was still favorable for the space and service involved. Regent Davison noted that the lease agreement had been reviewed by legal counsel.

- ▶ Regent Davison moved that the Board concur with the committee's request to approve **Item 84-2014-R0994**. The motion passed unanimously.
- o. **Item 84-2701-R0994**—Change Name of News Media Services to Office of University Relations; Montana State University—Billings
- ▶ Regent Davison moved that the Board concur with the committee's request to approve **Item 84-2701-R0994**. The motion passed unanimously.
- p. **Item 84-2702-R0994**—Authorization to Establish a Student Athletic Fee; Montana State University—Billings



Regent Davison said that 59 percent of the students voting on the athletic fee at MSU—Billings voted in favor of the fee, while 41 percent voted against it. He said the fee included the students at the College of Technology, although those students did not vote in favor of the fee. Regent Davison said the college had a good turnout for the vote, with 16 percent of the students voting.

- ▶ **Regent Davison moved that the Board concur with the committee's request to approve Item 84-2702-R0994. The motion passed unanimously.**
- q. **Item 84-1004-R0994—Approval of the Four Plus Two Year Plan That Resulted from the Collaborative Negotiations Process at The University of Montana and Approval of 1993-1997 Collective Bargaining Agreement [withdrawn from the agenda]**
- r. **Item 84-2804-R0994—Approval of 1993-1995 Collective Bargaining Agreement with Northern Montana College Federation of Teachers [withdrawn from the agenda]**
- s. **Item 84-005-R0994—Approval of 1993-1995 Collective Bargaining Agreement with Vocational-Technical Educators of Montana**

Sue Hill, Director of Personnel and Labor Relations, briefly reviewed the two-year (one-year retroactive) agreement and the process that lead to the final agreement. She said although the faculty approved the agreement, the employer would end the biennium with an unfunded liability with respect to salary increases due the vocational-technical faculty.

Regent Davison said he wanted to make it clear that they were entering into an agreement that would commit them to a liability at the end of this fiscal year (June 30, 1995). At that time, they would owe an additional salary amount because of the experience requirement granted in the vo-tech faculty contract. Regent Davison said the committee had decided that while they were willing to enter into that agreement, the funds for the salaries would have to come from existing funds rather than through a request for additional money.

- ▶ **After further discussion, Regent Davison moved that the Board concur with the committee's request to approve Item 84-005-R0994. The motion passed unanimously.**

### 3. Other

#### a. Fee Waivers

Regent Davison said Rod Sundsted had distributed Schedule 4 in the operating budgets document (on file) and a list of system fee waivers included in the fee waivers policy (on file). Regent Davison said he had raised this topic for discussion because he thought the Board should examine those fee waivers. He said there were approximately \$6.1 million in fee waivers for FY 95. He wanted to know what made up the fee waivers, who was receiving them, and how that level of fee waivers had been reached. He said fee waivers would be discussed further at the November meeting.

Regent Johnson said he would like to receive more information on fee waivers before the next meeting.

**b. Fort Missoula Land Sale**

Regent Davison said the Board had listened to a presentation from Gerard Berens of the "Save the Fort" group from Missoula that was concerned about the process used to sell the Fort Missoula land. Mr. Berens had updated the committee on discussions underway with the Land Board, and he asked that the Regents rescind their 1993 action concerning the land sale. Chief Legal Counsel Schramm also gave the committee an update of how he viewed the ongoing issue, and he recommended that they not take any action at that time. He pointed out that discussions were ongoing, the developer had appealed to the Supreme Court concerning a zoning issue, and the Land Board was discussing the proper authority for selling the land. Regent Davison noted that the committee concurred with Chief Counsel Schramm's recommendation.

Chairman Kaze said that with the number of parties now involved in the issue, it likely would take some time to resolve. He said he had asked Chief Counsel Schramm whether, in his judgment, the Board had done anything intentionally to commit any type of fraudulent or illegal act, and he was satisfied that the Board had not.

**NEW BUSINESS****a. Item 84-007-R0994—Resolution by the Board of Regents Opposing Adoption of Constitutional Initiative 66 and Constitutional Initiative 67 [item number assigned after meeting]**

Chairman Kaze said the Commissioner's staff had drafted this resolution at the Board's request from the previous day.

Commissioner Baker said in drafting the resolution they had taken into consideration the discussion held the previous day on the report prepared by the Bureau of Business and Economic Research and incorporated the key points of that paper into the resolution.

During the discussion that followed, questions were raised on whether the Board, through its leadership role in higher education, should take a formal stand on the initiatives and their potential impacts on higher education; how the information on the initiatives should be distributed to the public; how to emphasize that the information was being provided as an educational tool only; how other states dealt with similar initiatives; how students could help in the efforts to educate people; and how best to summarize the factual information into a bulleted, more understandable form.

Commissioner Baker said they would enlist the authors' help to summarize the information into a brief statement of the initiatives' potential effects on higher education. That information would be distributed with a letter stating the Board of Regents' position on the initiatives.

In response to a question from Chairman Kaze, Chief Counsel Schramm said that while adopting the resolution was appropriate, they needed to be careful of how the information was distributed and the source of the funds used to pay for the distribution.

Commissioner Baker said they would be careful to focus on the education aspect only. They would not be telling people what positions to take but instead would provide factual information and communicate that the Regents took a formal stand against the initiatives.

- ▶ **After further discussion, Regent Davison moved that the Board approve Item 84-007-R0994. The motion passed unanimously.**

b. **Item 84-008-R0994—Resolution by the Board of Regents Opposing Preliminary Recommendations of the Governor's Task Force to Renew Montana Government in Regard to Higher Education Governance [item number assigned after meeting]**

Chairman Kaze said this resolution concerned the Governor's Task Force to Renew Montana Government's preliminary recommendations in regard to reorganization of K-12 and higher education in the state.

Commissioner Baker said this resolution addressed that part of the task force's preliminary recommendation to eliminate the Board of Regents and the Commissioner's Office and put in place a director of education who would report directly to the governor, along with a new department of education that would consolidate higher education and K-12. Commissioner Baker said he thought it was important to explain why this recommendation was not a good idea for higher education in Montana. He said he had outlined his concerns about the preliminary recommendations in a September 13 response to the task force, and the resolution in question mirrored that response.

Regent Davison suggested that perhaps they should wait until the task force made its final recommendations before passing a resolution.

Discussion followed on whether the Board should pass a resolution at that time on the preliminary recommendations or wait until the task force made its final recommendations.

- ▶ **Regent Johnson moved that the Board adopt Item 84-008-R0994, emphasizing that the resolution addressed the task force's preliminary recommendations concerning only the governance of higher education. The motion passed unanimously.**

The Regents took a ten-minute break at 10:15 a.m. When they reconvened, Chairman Kaze said they would discuss a paper prepared by Commissioner Baker titled "Defining the Future" (on file).

## **COMMISSIONER'S REPORT**

a. **Defining the Future—A Dialogue with the Regents**

Commissioner Baker said he had prepared "Defining the Future" as a working paper for ongoing discussions. He said it focused on three components essential to any meaningful dialogue about higher education and the changes it would face in the future: (1) the vision or direction they were heading; (2) accountability not only within the academic community, but also in terms of the students and the general public—communicating what they intended do and how well or not they were achieving those goals; and (3) financing—not just the amount, level, or mix, but what they were going to do in the future to build greater stability and predictability into their financing for better campus planning. He said the discussion at that time would focus primarily on financing.

Among the issues the Regents addressed during the subsequent discussion were lump-sum funding for the Regents to distribute among the campuses; using enrollment projections and the cost of education as the bases upon which to distribute funds among the campuses; methods used to project enrollments; emphasizing quality as the Board's number one priority; student access to the system as opposed to access to a particular campus; student access to a campus as opposed to access to a particular program; using management tools such as entry requirements, graduation guarantees, and access to classes to help students graduate more quickly; physical capacities not only of the campuses but also housing capacities; and student financial aid considerations. The Board heard comments from The UM—Missoula President Dennison, MSU—Bozeman President Malone, Deputy Commissioner for Academic Affairs Richard Crofts, and Senator Chuck Swysgood.

## STUDENT REPORTS

MAS President Justin Lee thanked the Regents for holding their meeting on the Western Montana College campus and for their ongoing lunch meetings with the students. Mr. Lee said MAS was undertaking a restructural look at its mission statement, goals, and activities and had set up an October retreat to discuss what form that restructuring should take. He said the students would appreciate any input from the Regents.

Chairman Kaze and Regent Davison agreed that the luncheon meetings with the students were beneficial.

## CAMPUS REPORTS

### a. The University of Montana—Missoula

President Dennison distributed (1) The University of Montana campus brochures; (2) the ADA Team Self-Evaluation and Transition Plan Progress Report; and (3) an integrated budget for The University of Montana campuses that showed more detail than those in the system's budget book. He also reported on Montana's success in the new effort toward volunteerism to stimulate civic involvement on the part of students as well as all citizens. President Dennison said the governor established a committee that had developed a statewide plan and submitted a request for funding from a national corporation. Montana was far more successful than any other state and, as a result, \$2 million was coming into the state. That will fund 200 people who will be doing projects all across the state. President Dennison said those people funded can earn up to about \$5,000 a year for two years toward their tuition. He said the national chair of the organization had agreed to visit Montana in May 1995.

### b. Montana State University—Bozeman

President Malone distributed (1) a list of the search committee members for the chancellor position at MSU—Billings; (2) a quick reference directory of the Montana State University campuses; (3) a needs assessment for the Great Falls area; (4) information on the MSU INFO and MSU System Update; and (5) examples of the "Imagine That!" series appearing in weekly newspapers and some daily newspapers.

President Malone introduced Rob Specter from Iowa, the new Vice President for Administration on the Bozeman campus. Mr. Specter replaced Jim Isch.

### c. Montana Tech of The University of Montana

Chancellor Norman said that Montana Tech had previously been recognized by *U.S. News & World Report* as one of the top 15 regional universities in the western United States, which was a tribute to the schools' students, faculty, alumni, and others. Chancellor Norman announced that the September 26, 1994 issue of *U.S. News & World Report* ranked the schools according to best value versus quality. In that issue, Montana Tech was ranked number 1 in the west as producing the highest quality at best cost and the most efficient use of proceeds to deliver that cost. Chancellor Norman said that rank was out of 500 schools in the west.

Before adjourning, Chairman Kaze and Commissioner Baker thanked Chancellor Sheila Stearns and her staff for hosting the Board of Regents meeting on the Western campus.

With no other business to come before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 12:05 p.m.