



MONTANA UNIVERSITY SYSTEM
Office of the Commissioner of Higher Education

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March 9, 2004

MEMORANDUM

TO: Montana Board of Regents
FROM: Roger Barber, Interim Deputy Commissioner for Academic and Student Affairs
SUBJECT: Final Level I Approvals and Announcements, March 2004

This memorandum is intended to inform you of the Level I changes in academic programs that have been approved in the Office of the Commissioner of Higher Education since the last meeting of the Board of Regents. If you have any questions, I would be happy to answer them with the help of my colleagues in academic affairs.

Montana State University-Billings:

ITEM 122-2707+R0304: Montana State University-Billings has requested that the name of the College of Education and Human Services be changed to the College of Education. At the March 2003 meeting, the Montana Board of Regents authorized the creation of a College of Allied Health Professions for the MSU-Billings campus. The documents submitted to the Board, at that time, listed programs within the institution that would be moved to the College of Allied Health Professions. Some of those programs were affiliated with the College of Education and Human Services. Those programs have been officially moved to their new home, and the remaining programs in the College of Education are tied directly to teacher education, preparation and development. The new name accurately represents the more focused mission of the College of Education at MSU-Billings.

ITEM 122-2708+R0304: Montana State University-Billings has asked for authority to award a certificate in Clinical Practice in its Master of Science degree program in Rehabilitation and Mental Health Counseling. The certificate was requested by the Montana Board of Social Work Examiners and Professional Counselors to facilitate review of licensure applications from graduates in the Masters degree program. With that certificate, the Social Work Examiners Board will be able to verify that students have met the academic coursework and internship standards established by the Board for licensure purposes. Since the certificate will draw on existing coursework and faculty in the Master of Science degree program, the institution does not expect to expend additional resources to implement the credential.

ITEM 121-2704+R1103: Montana State University-Billings filed a Notice of Intent to terminate its teaching minor in computer science at the November 2003 meeting of the Board of Regents. That Notice of Intent was included in the Level I memorandum distributed to the Board at the November meeting. All of the steps in the termination process have been completed; and Montana State University-Billings has filed a program termination checklist with the Office of the Commissioner of Higher Education. Sixty (60) days have also elapsed since the Notice of Intent was included in the November 2003 Level I memorandum. The teaching minor in computer science is, therefore, withdrawn.

[ITEM 121-2705+R1103](#): Montana State University-Billings filed a Notice of Intent to terminate its bachelor of arts degree in business administration, accounting option, at the November 2003 meeting of the Board of Regents. That Notice of Intent was included in the Level I memorandum distributed to the Board at the November meeting. All of the steps in the termination process have been completed; and Montana State University-Billings has filed a program termination checklist with the Office of the Commissioner of Higher Education. Sixty (60) days have also elapsed since the Notice of Intent was included in the November 2003 Level I memorandum. The bachelor of arts degree in business administration, accounting option, is, therefore, withdrawn.

Montana State University-Northern:

[ITEM 122-2801+R0304](#): Montana State University-Northern has asked that three (3) of its four (4) academic colleges be consolidated into one unit. Under that proposal, the current College of Arts & Sciences, College of Education and Graduate Studies and College of Nursing would become one college, with the following new name: College of Education, Arts and Sciences and Nursing. The existing College of Technical Sciences would continue. Under this new organizational structure, graduate programs would report directly to the provost and senior vice chancellor. In the past, those programs were part of the College of Education. The institution intends to appoint two (2) full-time deans to administer the Colleges. In addition, a director of nursing will be selected to administer that program. Three (3) department chairs will be recommended by their faculty colleagues to assist with the administrative responsibilities associated with this organizational restructuring. According to the Level I proposal, administrative costs at the institution will be reduced with this new organizational alignment.

The University of Montana-Missoula:

[ITEM 122-1011+R0304](#): The University of Montana-Missoula has requested that the name of its three (3) Master of Arts degrees in Foreign Languages and Literatures be changed to *Modern Languages and Literatures*. The University awards the graduate credentials in three different languages: French, Spanish or German. The titles are similar to the new name of the department, which was changed to the Department of Modern and Classical Languages and Literatures at the January 2004 meeting of the Montana Board of Regents.

[ITEM 122-1013+R0304](#): The University of Montana-Missoula has requested that the name of the Health Studies option, in the Bachelor of Science degree in Health and Human Performance, be changed to *Health Enhancement*. The name change reflects the terminology currently being used for K-12 teaching certification in the State of Montana.

The University of Montana-Western:

[ITEM 122-1601+R0304](#): The University of Montana-Western has requested permission to offer an Associate of Applied Science degree in Natural Horsemanship with two (2) options: Natural Horsemanship Science and Natural Horsemanship Business Management. The new degree program will be offered in cooperation with La Cense Montana, an 80,000-acre horse training operation and cattle ranch located about five (5) miles from The University of Montana-Western campus. Under the procedures approved by the Montana Board of Regents, Associate of Applied Science degree programs “. . . offered in cooperation with. . . private or public sector partners and the decision point to offer the program is not consistent with the regular Board of Regents program approval process. . .” may be submitted as Level I proposals. Such programs will only be approved for two years. The University of Montana-Western has asked for this accelerated review and approval procedure, so the program can be implemented in Fall 2004 and the institution can immediately include the new program opportunity in its recruiting materials and institutional publications.

The University of Montana-Helena College of Technology:

[ITEM 122-1012+R0304](#): The University of Montana-Helena College of Technology has asked that the name of both its Associate of Applied Science degree and certificate program in Ag and Industrial-Diesel Technology be changed to *General Diesel Technology*. It has also requested that the name of its Associate of Applied Science degree and certificate program in Truck-Diesel Technology be changed to *General Diesel Technology*.

Dawson Community College:

[ITEM 122-201+R0304](#): Dawson Community College requests permission to offer its two-year certificate program in Farm/Ranch Business Management in Glasgow, Lewistown, Miles City and Plentywood. The program and its coursework are only offered to individuals who are currently engaged in an agricultural production unit and who have direct responsibility for the financial records of that unit. Eight (8) “agricultural units” will have to enroll in the certificate program at a particular location, before the program will be available at that distant site. The term “agricultural unit” is used, because Dawson’s experience with the program on its own campus has included several two-person teams from one operation, like spouses or parents and children.

Miles Community College:

[ITEM 122-401+R0304](#): Miles Community College requests permission to offer its Associate of Science degree in Nursing in Sidney and Glendive. The program was offered in both of those communities from 1991-1995. With the interest and assistance of the Glendive Medical Center and the Sidney Health Center, Miles Community College would like to reinstate the program at those two off-campus sites. The institution hopes to build a program in each community that will graduate eight (8) RN nurses every year. The proposal was reviewed and approved by the State Board of Nursing at its January 2004 meeting.